

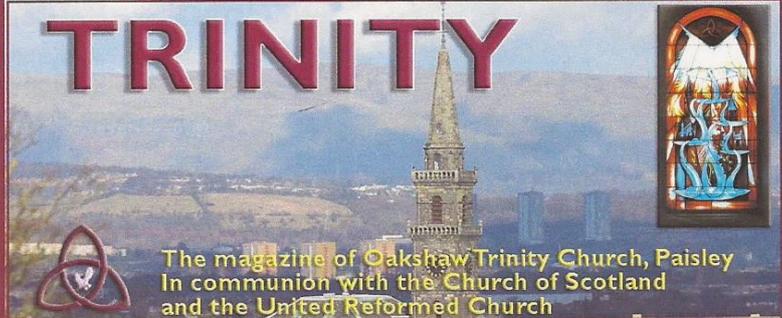
**Autumn
2020**



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www.facebook.com/oakshawtrinity
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TRINITY



The magazine of Oakshaw Trinity Church, Paisley
 In communion with the Church of Scotland
 and the United Reformed Church

From the Minister

A warm welcome to our Autumn edition of Trinity. Who would have thought that we would still not be worshipping in our church buildings, yet here we are. A few weeks back, many of you would have heard the First Minister saying that places of worship can open for limited services. Sadly, it was only when we marked out our sanctuary that we realised just how limited the legislation and restrictions put us under. In consultation with the Kirk Session, we have decided to continue with the on-line services that we, and many others have been enjoying since lockdown. I know that this is not an ideal situation, but as the Elders will tell you, being back under the current restrictions and distancing with no singing or communal praying, together with sitting on the unpadded pews would not have inspired much in the way of worship as we knew it pre-lockdown. History and scripture remind us that often the Church can be at its strongest when facing difficulties. The certainty and advantage is that God will not forsake us, or as Paul said in his letter to the Philippians:

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.”

Please do take heart from this and know that together in faith, we can be strong.

Loving God, we know not what the veiled future holds for us in her folded hands. Yet, to you our God, we pray your constant presence in the midst of all change, and in this we shall all be safe. Remember the sorrowing of those who have suffered and those who mourn the death of loved ones, and let the living find the light of your presence through Christ. Amen.

Rev.. Gordon



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News From The Pastoral Assistant

The **trypraying** booklet is a 7-day prayer guide being used by many to pass on to friends and family with these few words of encouragement: “Why don’t you try praying for a week and see what happens in your life?” **trypraying** is an Edinburgh-based initiative which in recent years has gone national. It has been used by God to bring the power and reality of prayer



into the lives of people who until then would have said they don’t “do” religion. Oakshaw Trinity Church is about to become part of this campaign. The banner and the weather-proof free booklet dispenser will soon be affixed to our railings (just as they are on this photo from the Church well known to me). Let us pray that the people who walk past the Church will help themselves to this little booklet, and discover that faith in Christ praying is for all of us.



Welcome to Our Church

During the lockdown material for worship is available on the church website oakshawtrinity.org.uk and on the church Facebook page facebook.com/oakshawtrinity

On the website Oracle and the Order of Service is under the Menu option ‘News/Oracle’ and the hymns and other music the Menu ‘Music’. We are grateful for the team of volunteer who provide this service for us.

Wynd Centre

At the time of writing, the Centre unfortunately remains closed. However, the Directors are working towards the reopening of the Wynd efficiently and safely when permitted to do so.



Church Role

Deaths:

- 26/04/20 Margaret Simpson
- 21/05/20 Emma McKenzie
- 21/05/20 Sally McKay
- 27/05/20 Donny MacDonald
- 01/06/20 Mary Dow





I hope you are all well and enjoying making your masks. Below there is a photo of our own Jimmy Walker sporting a nice tartan mask. We look forward to seeing your own creations when in time, we do begin to return to church.



Margaret Armstrong

Education Mission EcoCongregation Committee - Reflections

“We can’t hear you; you are still on mute” may be the defining phrase of 2020, as we became familiar with Zoom conversations during the past four months of lockdown and separation. Someone on screen is saying something important, but the little red microphone symbol is crossed out, and all we can see is the person talking, but no sound coming out. They are mute. And, across the world, many people are mute and have no voice - the powerless, the oppressed, the minorities. We see them, but we do not hear their sounds of pain, anger or terror. The Uighurs of China herded like cattle in detention camps, the swollen masses of refugees in the camps of Syria or Bangladesh, with COVID spreading like wildfire, children suffering from preventable diseases, persecuted Christians. Closer to home, the elderly or lonely trapped in their homes, fearful of going out. All these voices are mute. Yet Jesus said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear”, and in Proverbs, we are told to, “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed...speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice”. May we remember those who are muted, not by technology, but by poverty, oppression and natural calamities, and uphold them in our prayers. On the Eco side of things, Fiona has been sharing in various Zoom updates and meetings over lockdown.



Jim McDougall



Girls' Brigade

We are still in very strange times and are unable to meet on a company night. As leaders we have been catching up on Zoom monthly and until beginning of July we were meeting on Zoom with the girls' every Thursday evening. A few girls joined in and we had various different events such as Den building, Stop the Bus, Bring me, Bake off, Simon says and we even managed a game of Bingo! We hope to be back in August, initially online and are looking forward to the day when we can see all the girls again

Karen Peacock
Captain 2nd Paisley



Boys' Brigade

I had hoped that by the time you read this, BB might be up and running. It's a strange time for us all. We have been keeping in touch and giving out tasks. I visited and passed on goodie bags that the boys all looked very grateful for. It was lovely seeing their smiling faces. The company boys visited the Men's Club and just loved it. They certainly enjoyed all the chat and it's a good grounding for them. We thank the Men's Club very much for their warm welcome. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Janice McCallum
Acting Captain 14th Paisley

Guides

Due to COVID-19 the Guides will not be starting back in August as planned. At the moment we don't have any indication of when this will change, as we need to wait for guidance/ approval from Girlguiding UK & the Scottish Government.

We have now re-booked our guide camp at South Newton for April next year and we remain hopeful that we can get back to normal guiding activities soon.

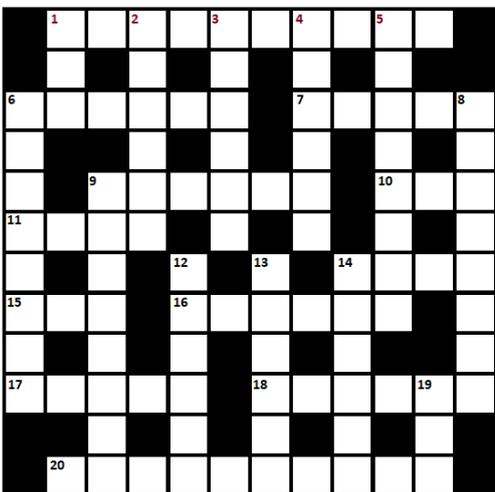
Please stay safe and well.

Linda Kelly
Captain




The Sunday School's summer event is a bug hunt through the bible and also one in the garden or park. The children have been invited to participate in painting their favourite mini beast on a rock competition. There will be a small chocolate themed gift for all who participate and a larger gift for the winner of each age category. Age groups 2-5, 6-11 & 12-16. To take part, send a photo to oakshawchurch@gmail.com with your name, the age group you are in and the name of your creation.

Edith Muir, Co-ordinator



Across

- 1 Remorse (10)
- 6 Consecrate (6)
- 7 Break a Commandment (5)
- 9 Make a hole (6)
- 10 Pot (3)
- 11 What Ai became (4)
- 14 This initially watered the earth (4)
- 15 Samuel's mentor (3)
- 16 Small river (6)
- 17 Mount that Moses climbed (5)
- 18 Prophet in David's time (6)
- 20 Biblical garden (10)

Down

- 1 Take flight (3)
- 2 One of the twelve (6)
- 3 All living things (6)
- 4 Response (6)
- 5 Guardians of Eden (8)
- 6 The father of Levi (8)
- 8 Grow (8)
- 9 Forbearance (8)
- 12 Second longest book (6)
- 13 Statue metal (6)
- 14 Sister of Lazarus and Mary (6)

Youth Committee

In times past, I would have been informing you of what had taken place during our outings and trips. Sadly, our plans, like many others had to be cancelled or put on hold. When things begin to ease and we can get back to our various groups, we will be informing you of something that we can all take part in and enjoy. Keep safe and well.

Neil Armstrong



Rainbows & Brownies

We are currently waiting for direction from the Girl Guiding Association but hope to return to our normal fun packed Friday nights when the schools return in August. Learning from the pandemic we will be exploring the themes of 'doing more with less' and the 'circular economy'. Over the last decade a focus on health and safety has played rogue to our environment and the planet as a whole and in reality a healthy environment has a far greater impact on people's health and wellbeing. We look forward to keeping you updated with our activities.

Elizabeth Halliday 

8 O'clock Club

The committee send their good wishes to all our members and hope you have remained safe and well.

Due to current restrictions, we regret that we are unable, at the moment, to organise a Syllabus for the new session. We shall be keeping this under review and hope to meet up again in the not too distant future. Please refer to Oracle or Church Website for up to date information.

Church Fundraiser



During lockdown many of you have been telling us that you have been baking some recipes both old and new. We think that it would be a good idea if you could share some of these - preferably the successful ones and we will compile and publish these in our own Oakshaw Trinity Cook Book. Please submit these by either email or post to Isabel Pearson.



The Friendly Hour

A message to all our members... It's difficult to believe that five months have passed since we all had to go into lockdown. The whole experience has been really strange for everyone, some more so than others. Many have found keeping in touch with friends a great help through sharing thoughts and feelings. Practical help from neighbours and family have been amazing. Anxiety through isolation has been helped in other ways. We will keep in touch and look forward to our first get together.

From Isabel Gray and Committee

A Huge And Heartfelt Vote Of Thanks



Since lockdown, we have been enabled to worship, sing and pray albeit alone, yet together through our Facebook and Website pages. The style and impact of this has grown from the minister producing our weekly Oracle with his usual Sermon Notes to the style we have today with David and at times with vocals from his son Calum recording the hymns and Sheena, Anne and Jessie typing the hymn words. Sheena and Linda then put them onto our media platforms for many to enjoy. Special thanks have to go to Sheena, Linda Anne and David for their dedication throughout this time. Our thanks also go to our band of Readers and to the Session Clerk and his team of Anne, Catriona and Gordon for volunteering their time to ensure that we have been able to send you this edition of Trinity and all the other notifications. Thanks also must be given to our Elders and indeed to you; for all the phone calls and offers of help that have been



Important Information About Returning To Worship - John McKenzie Session Clerk

When We Return:

1. If you are feeling unwell, please stay at home.
2. Bring & Wear your own Face Covering.
3. If arriving by car, remember the 2m rule.
4. Please use the Hand Sanitizer before being asked to enter the church.
5. Please lift your own Order of Service, if there is one as you enter.
6. Please sit in any seat that is marked with a Tick using the centre ones first.
7. When leaving the church, those sitting in the centre will leave by the Main Door and those on the side pews will leave by the side doors.
8. Please take your Order of Service away with you.
9. On leaving the church, once again please use the Hand Sanitizer.
10. Once out of the building, do not stand at the doors, please just simply make your way back home.

The Choir

Singing in the Choir is not only about commonality and harmony for many it is a source of wellbeing and positive thoughts. The guidance for Choir does not allow us to sing together during this time which is sad, we hope this will speedily conclude.

However as like many members we are enjoying David Murray playing for us on the Church Facebook, this helps us to sing our own parts and also helps with sight reading. We all hope to be able to bring harmony back to you all whenever this time of isolation concludes.

Catriona Muirhead



Dear Friends,

I hope that this note finds you all safe and well in this surreal time. Who would thought that just four months ago when Coronavirus first appeared that we would find ourselves in a situation that kept us out of our place of worship and looking to find alternative ways to meet.

We have been extremely fortunate that we have some very talented people in our midst and to that extent we have been able to enjoy an abbreviated version of our normal Sunday worship, with Oakshaw Oracle available, being able to listen and hopefully join in singing along with the hymns on our Facebook page , to everyone involved in keeping us up to date, we owe a large vote of thanks.



Now , hopefully that we are beginning to think about returning to worship, albeit still under restrictions as to how many people can meet ,and still with social distancing, and all the other measures that are in place, we can begin to plan for the future and a return to worship at Oakshaw Trinity. Please continue to keep safe and well and I look forward to being able to return to meet and enjoy a chat over coffee. *God Bless,*

John

Property Committee - Sandra Wilson Convener

Covid-19 Update

I write as your Property Convenor, but also with my experience as a Health and Safety Officer for a large company with the joint concern of how we, as a church, cope with this life or death virus and the legal responsibilities that are associated with this if, and when we return to church.

Clearly we must all adhere to the instruction that if you feel unwell, even with cold - do not go out. Both denominations exhort that those over the age of 70 will have to consider carefully their action when mixing with others. Those with underlying health conditions would be best advised not to come to church for the time being or while restrictions remain.

If using the car park you will have to ensure that you keep 2 metres apart from others. The 2 metre rule applies to anyone standing, sitting, or moving around both inside and outside the building.

The Scottish Government advises that unless you normally share a vehicle with people from other households or support bubbles for essential journeys it is recommended you find a different way to travel so that you can maintain social distancing. All congregations must ensure they have procedures in place to deal with emergencies including how to deal with a Covid-19 incident. This is an abstract of advice that run to 40 pages



Crossword Answers

Across: 1 Repentance, 6 Ainoit, 7 Steal, 9 Pierce, 10 Urn, 11 Heap, 14 Mist, 15 Eli, 16 Stream, 17 Sinai, 18 Nathan, 20 Gethsemane.
Down: 1 Run, 2 Phillip, 3 Nature, 4 Answer, 5 Cherubim, 6 Alphaeus, 8 Lengthen, 9 Patience, 12 Isaiah, 13 Bronze, 14 Martha, 19 Axe.
Bible BiblePuzzles.org.uk

Birthday Chocolates

Due to the Coronavirus the Elders have been unable to deliver the chocolates to those who have had an 80th, 90th and every birthday after 90. To mark these birthdays, cards have been sent to the members. Keep safe & well.

Sandra Hamilton



Church Directory

Minister	Rev, Gordon Armstrong BD FIAB BRC Cert. CS	0141 887 4647 Press 3
Session Clerk	John McKenzie	Church Office
Treasurer	Isabel Pearson	Church Office
Fabric Convener	Sandra Wilson	Church Office
Church Office	Catriona Muirhead	0141 887 4647 Press 3