

## SU East and Midlothian news update: Prayer Points

Give thanks for:  
The SU Holiday Clubs that ran over the summer and the success of the Wee Celebration and for the funds raised.



Pray for:  
The SU Group running at Musselburgh Grammar School and the group starting soon at Lasswade High School.  
The ongoing efforts to restart groups in other schools.

That over the Christmas period many children and young people will encounter Jesus and consider His significance.

Derek Harley - Local Ministry Coordinator East and Midlothian  
SU Scotland Day of Prayer - SU Scotland's Day of Prayer takes place on Thursday 19th January.

East and Midlothian Prayer Gathering - St John's and Kings Park Church in Dalkeith have kindly agreed to host an East and Midlothian prayer gathering at 11am on Wednesday 16th November. Please do join us if you can as we pray for SU ministry across the region.

For further information contact Agnes Haggart

## Beetle Drive - 21 October



Members from churches across Penicuik turned out for the TC Beetle Drive on Friday 21 October. Agnes Ovenstone and Kathleen Downey explained the rules, kept order, and scores.



Each table hosted two teams of four, with each team consisting of two partners. The 'Beetle' has 12 parts, 1 body, 6 legs, 1 head, 2 eyes, and 2 antennae or feelers, giving a maximum score of 12 for a complete beetle. To start you must roll a 2 on the dice to obtain a body. Without a body you can't attach a head, legs etc. If one partner rolls a 2 both members win a body. The winning pair of players move on to the next team, but their partnership splits into another pairing, so you met everyone by the end of the evening.

The first stage consisted of 10 rounds, taking about an hour up to the tea break, complete with home baked cakes and scones. By the time the chatting was over the second stage managed only a further 5 rounds, such was the now hilarity and laughter in the hall.

Christine Jackson won the top prize, with Gillian Little collecting the 'booby' prize! A fantastic fun way to meet friends, old and make new friends as well.



All change organised confusion



Christine Jackson



Gillian Little

## Trinity Community Diary

2 November 10.45am	Friendship Group - Church Hall
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 November 7.30pm	Alpha online (Zoom) , Contact Ann Dunsire for details
3, 10, 17, 24 Nov 10.00am to 12 noon or longer if needed	Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
4 November 7.30pm	Penicuik Community Choir Annual Concert - Church Hall (£5)
6, 13, 20, 27 November 7.15 pm	Sunday evening Prayer Meeting - Church Hall
6 November 3.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
7, 14, 21, 28 November 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Contact Capes 674276
8 November 2022	Kirk Session Meeting - Church Hall
9, 16, 23, 30 November 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Church Hall
12 November 2022 10.30am (Saturday)	Forest Church Walk. Meet at Roslin War Memorial. 5+ miles.
13 November 10.45am for 11am 2 minute silence	Remembrance Service - Church
19 November. 10.00am to 12 Noon	Christmas Fayre -Church Hall (Many stalls and Refreshments £4)
20 November 2.00pm	Forest Church: Tree Dressing. Meet at the Bridge in Lowrie's Den

**Pastoral Care** - Please remember that we are always here for church members and for anyone in the community, and you are welcome to phone (in confidence) at any time for a chat, prayer, or to source other help or to request a visit; Either: John Urquhart (01968 382116; Margaret Webster (01968 672347 or 07761 096 472) or Wilma Wilson (07719 665505)



You can read the extended version of this newsheet, with full length features, and more colour photos at St. Mungo's website Our website <https://www.penicuiktrinitycommunity.church>. To sign up for an eCopy of this newsletter to be sent direct to your inbox, saving paper and other resources, just ask on an email to [penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com](mailto:penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com)

## Church mouse

From the mouse of Editor's PC



This month we update you on the sanctuary ceiling repair, completion for Remembrance on Sunday November 13.



If you can knit or crochet poppies please speak to Agnes Haggart or Joan Cape

All fun and games at the Beetle Drive with friends from other Penicuik churches joining.

Christmas Fayre is our next 'social' event so date for your diary.



Mark Wells our Penicuik Citizen of the year presented the work he manages for FFF at the Harvest Service, and Christine Jackson thanked everyone for the hats, gloves, scarves and knitting for Blythwood Care which was also on display.

You can catch up on past services through our [podcast channel](#)

Jim Paterson  
Newsletter Editor  
[penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com](mailto:penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com)

## Church Ceiling Repairs started - photos Gordon Macdonald & Graham McDonald

In September we reported the ceiling fall in the church sanctuary, and the proposed moves to effect a repair.



Before starting work on the ceiling our organ repairer David Loosley inspected the fairly extensive damage to the organ internals and along with Gordon Macdonald, Graham McDonald and myself we agreed to remove ALL the pipes that extend into the main church.

We would leave the pipes inside the portico, which go as far back as the double front doors you see between the pillars. If you opened the front doors today you would be confronted with a 'wooden wall', more like a huge shed. This surrounds the



organ, filling what was the main entrance before the organ was installed.

Several hundred pipes were removed, each one we up ended to let the plaster

that had fallen inside to escape. This included some of the big wooden bass pipes which David only recently refurbished.

Each pipe sits in a windchest, which fills with air from the bellows. When a key is pressed a pneumatic valve opens and air flows up the pipe to make the note 'sound'. A bit like blowing a whistle you mouth is the windchest, your lungs the bellows, and tongue the valve. When your tongue is over the mouth of the whistle it is silent. Now imagine plaster dust falls into the whistle, and your lying on your back. When your tongue moves the dust falls into your mouth. This is what happens when you remove pipes with debris inside, it falls into the

windchest (aka your mouth!) David's technique to mitigate debris falling into the windchest is to keep a vacuum hose right at the point the pipe enters the windchest when he removes the pipe. Not infallible but works most times.

The pipes that need repairing (a few hundred) are away to David's workshop to be repaired, straightened and re-soldered where split. David is a man of many talents, having built and repaired many an organ in his long life.



The pipes out exposed the debris on the floor of the organ, this was bagged up and removed after the repair to the ceiling completed.

Finally the remaining soundboard has been covered over with a waterproofed blanket, thick polythene and ply to protect it. We even sheeted over the wallboard to prevent any more rubbish getting in.



### Now the good news.

The repair team have commenced, this past week erecting the scaffolding towers, one to the left of the organ, the other inside the organ, taking care not to build it on any of the organ elements. The top has been repaired first with plasterboard and a plaster 'skim', ready for painting. When completed the scaffolding will be removed.

The goal is to have the painting complete in time for the Legion Remembrance service on 13 November, so its all hands to the pumps as they say. Your prayers will be most welcome,

Thereafter we will clear the debris from the organ floor, then David will return to refit and the repaired organ pipes replaced and the whole instrument regulated and tuned.

Then the organ will be available to lead our praise once again.



## Harvest Service Stories of Love and Care 23 October

Report by Jim Paterson

On display at front of the church hall for this year's Harvest service was a wide range of fresh, canned, and dried foods, donated by members of the congregation. At the rear of the church hall was a magnificent display of knitted Hats, Gloves, scarves, cardigans etc,



knitted or bought again by members of our congregation.

As the service proceeded John introduced the 'Stories of Love and Care' highlighting the two displays we were looking at.

We heard that the knitted ems were destined to join the Blythswood Care 'shoebox' appeal heading for eastern Europe at the end of this month.



We watched a short video showing where they end up in Romania, helping those with little, of all ages, receive something to keep them warm in the bitter winters they experience. You can watch that video at <https://youtu.be/jvz8arlg1re>, and see the many other east European countries Blythswood Care go to with their shoeboxes.

Project Organiser Christine Jackson wants to thank everyone who spent hours knitting, and those who bought items, for donating to this annual support for those much worse off than us, in far flung parts of God's world.

John then introduced Mark Wells, of Food Facts Friends Community Hub in Penicuik who talked about the work they do.



### Community Pantry

can be purchased for £3.50 each week, and exchange of these tokens, each item literally a 'token' of the original value price in the retail shops. Vegetable and fresh food is all FREE, as are pet foods.

The Community Café serves tea and coffee, being a 'Warm Place' for those with little or no heating, fighting the rising cost of living 'heat or eat' challenge. Some of the food is made up to give to the Ambassadors at Ladywood

Leisure Centre who provide similar support to those in their area.



In return they provide some of the meals in ready-made form, to Mark's Hub to be used for 'Community Meals,' which together with homemade soup from the Ambassadors and Penicuik Storehouse is another resource in his battle to relieve cost of



living rises anxiety, in a rising number of people in our community.

Where food is approaching, at, or just past its sell by date, it is offered free in trays outside the hub, to anyone who wants to take some. The Community Fridge indoors offers chilled foods that can be taken to help feed families. Midlothian Council provide free sanitary products and condoms.

The Men's Wellbeing Group A relaxed informal atmosphere providing a safe environment to speak openly. Men that are finding it difficult to talk about your feelings, are having social anxieties, just need a bit of companionship, or just need someone to talk with? They meet like-minded men in the group and can share and be supported by the group. Feedback shows that members feel more confident being part of the group, that nobody judges them at the group, and the group is a safe place to talk.



Mark is supported by other charities who provide help in running, such as Children 1st, Citizens Advice Scotland, Health in Mind, and social Security Scotland.

Finally, Mark in moving on from Foodbank has renamed that part of his operation to **Food Sharing**, removing the perceived stigma of having to use a 'foodbank,' especially in these current difficult times. Mark received a round of applause from the congregation, for his presentation and the work he does.



John opened his Reflection talking of a 'minor poet', so minor he couldn't remember his name. This led nicely into the earlier reading by Jennifer Ruddick from Joel, second of 12 Old Testament books that bear the names of the 12 Minor Prophets.



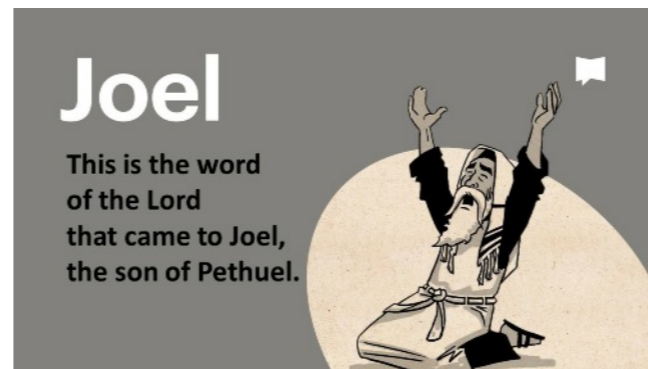
We don't know when Joel lived. Various guesses have been made, spanning 700 years! Joel never mentions a king, so that sounds like the time when the people returned from exile in Babylon, after the monarchy had ended. Joel speaks about the temple, so we think he lived in or near Jerusalem, where the temple had been partially rebuilt after being destroyed by the Babylonians. A date around 500 BC might be not too far off, but it's only a guess.



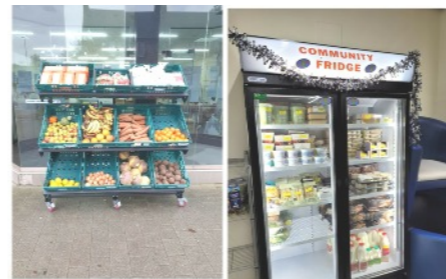
Joel describes the defining event of his times and that's not one we can date. This was the locust invasion. Locusts could wipe out most of a year's harvest. Seeing God's hand in this disaster, Joel called Judah to turn from their sins and get right with God. He called people to a deep engagement

with God: to tear their hearts, not just their clothes. We too might need to ask God to reveal where we've gone wrong personally or as a church, when we are at such a low ebb.

David Hogg led our second reading from Romans, and the Prayer for other people and ourselves. We joined with John for the closing Prayer of Commitment, followed by the Blessing.



You can watch the full Harvest service <https://youtu.be/1UNcp8fJe9A>



## Gift day: Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 November 2022

Our Gift Day is an opportunity to offer gifts of thanksgiving back to God for his goodness to us and to our world.

When each of us makes a commitment to be a church member, we make a promise 'to give a fitting proportion of [our] time, talents and money for the church's work in the world.' It is left to the individual conscience to decide prayerfully, faithfully and in an informed way what that should be.

The apostle Paul speaks about the fund he was gathering for the impoverished church in Judea. This was an extra collection over and above what was required for the normal running of the churches across the Mediterranean. He writes to the congregations in Corinth:



You should each give, then, as you have decided, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

At Trinity Community Church, we seek to be honest and accountable in our use of the money you have dedicated to God's work. We are grateful for your considered response.

Please continue to remember Trinity Community Church in your regular giving and, if you can, increase it.

**Here are ways in which you can donate your Gift:**

**1. You can put your gift in a sealed envelope and take it to the church hall on Sat 19 Nov from 11am to 12 noon.** There will be an opportunity for tea, coffee and biscuits. **Please put "Gift Day: Nov 2022"** on the envelope and put your name and address inside. (If you're a taxpayer, Gift Aid can be claimed on behalf of Trinity Community Church if you add "Please Gift Aid it").

**2. If you are attending Sunday worship on Sun 20 Nov**, you can bring your gift in a sealed envelope (marked **"Gift Day: Nov 2022"** and with your name and address inside) and put it in the offering basket. If you're a taxpayer, Trinity Community Church can claim Gift Aid if you write "Please Gift Aid it" beside your name and address.

**3. Please post a cheque** (payable to 'Penicuik Trinity Community Church') to **Joyce MacLean, 11 Balfour Terrace, PENICUIK EH26 0LY**. Please put **"Gift Day: Nov 2022"** on the back of the cheque. Include your name and address inside. If you're a taxpayer, Gift Aid can be claimed by Trinity Community Church if you add "Please Gift Aid it".

**4. If you have access to online banking**, you can pay your donation directly to the church account, putting your **surname** and **"Gift Day"** in the reference box. Here are the details you will need:

Penicuik Trinity Community Church  
Bank of Scotland; sort code: 80-22-60; account number: 17528366

Thank you for expressing in this way your gratitude to God.

John Urquhart (Minister) and Joyce MacLean (Finance Convener)

## Wanted: Data Protection Officer

As a congregation we need to be aware of our responsibilities for data protection.

We are looking for someone who would be happy to learn about these, and be able to point people in the right direction if they have questions, for example 'How long do we have to keep records of.....?'

Are you happy to access the Church of Scotland website (where there is all the information needed) and keep up-to-date something that can be done from the comfort of your own home?

Please contact Neil Cape (674276)



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