

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS**  
**The Online Alpha running from 8 September to**  
**24 November on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm.**

**Try Alpha Online**



No need to go out on a cold evening as winter approaches – just join in from the comfort of your home.

Anyone interested can register, or find out more, from Ann Dunsire at [ann1010@btinternet.com](mailto:ann1010@btinternet.com).



**Messy Church** *Update from Joan Cape*



Our first Messy Church of the new session takes place on Sunday 4th September – just too late for us to tell you all about it this time round.

Over the next three months we'll be looking at some "heroes" of the Old Testament – we start with Abraham, and learn some key parts of his story....more of this next month.



Our next sessions are on Sundays:

- October 2nd
- November 6th
- December 4th.

Please pray for the families who come along, and the team who make Messy Church happen; also that more will hear of this outreach and come and join us.

More details from Joan Cape 674276, or follow us on Facebook



**Thursday 15 September: Coffee, biscuits and a chat**

Coffee and Chat will resume on the 15 September and run weekly until the 8th December.

**Open to All. This is an opportunity for members and friends to enjoy time together.**

**Pop in and bring a friend on Thursday 10-12 for 10 mins or 2 hours.**

**This will be an opportunity for members and friends to get together.**

**Pop in Thursday 10 -12 for 10 mins or 2 hours and enjoy coffee and a chat**



## Trinity Community Diary

4 September & 2 October 3.30pm - 5.00pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
4, 11, 18, & 25 September 7.15 pm	Sunday evening Prayer Meeting - Church Hall
5, 12, 19, 26 September 7.30pm to 9.00pm	Monday Bible Study group - Zoom. Contact 674276 for joining details.
7 September 10.45am	Friendship Group - Church Hall
8, 15, 22, 29 September 7.30pm	Alpha online (Zoom) , Contact Ann Dunsire for details
13 September 7.45pm	Kirk Session Meeting - Church Hall
14 & 28 September 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Church Hall
15, 22, 29 September 10.00am to 12 noon	Coffee Biscuits, chat. Church Hall
26 September 7.30pm	Ecumenical Prayer Meeting - Sacred Heart Church

**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



Welcome to our September monthly newsletter.

The blistering hot weather has passed, just like the holiday season.

Our lead story shows the damage following the sanctuary ceiling collapsing above the organ. We await permission to go inside the organ to assess the damage.

Activities are restarting after the summer break, with the Quiz night taking the lead with a light hearted evening across all the churches in Penicuik, meeting friends old and new.

Rev Peter Wood moves on to his new work in pioneer and new housing, having helped South Church and the merger of PSAH and StM. His ministry with us has been a great support to our minister John Urquhart. Peter never seems to lose his calm approach, even when the presentation systems, computers, projectors etc fail during a service. He can paint a picture in your mind through his words alone, a gift that we were privileged to experience. We wished him well on his new venture.

The 'What's On' calendar is starting to fill up again, with alpha moving to the online space, making it easier to join.

Remember our Sunday morning services start at 10.30am, and you can catch up on past services through our [podcast channel](#)

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

## The day the ceiling came crashing down

**After 250 years of service the ceiling above the organ decided enough was enough.**

Early in August Agnes Ovenstone and Margaret Black walked into the sanctuary to be met with great lumps of plaster across the floor in the pulpit area, and a great hole in the ceiling above. Something not quite right, looking a bit serious.



That is what you can see, but damage inside the organ has yet to be surveyed, the area presently deemed unsafe until stabilised and repaired.

A tarpaulin has been placed across the pipes to help catch any further falls.

## So what to do now?

Two scaffolding towers, one each side of the organ will be built and a walkway between them, above the organ created. The organ pipes below will be covered to protect them from further falls of plaster and rubble. The ceiling damage will be 'cut back' to find a stable joist / rafter on each side of the hole you see. Suitable plaster board will be fixed into place and a skim of plaster on top to finish the repair, ready for painting. At this point we should be able to return to the sanctuary for our Sunday worship.

This accident is unfortunate as we had just restored part of the organ immediately below the fall of plaster, and Eileen had played it for one service on July 10th.

Once the area is safe Graham McDonald, Gordon Macdonald and myself will survey the internals of the organ, to assess the damage and create a plan to repair any damaged items, and remove rubble and dust from the pipes and mechanism. It will take some time to repair but we are confident that the organ will return to service as soon as possible.



Light from the skylight on the roof shines through the ceiling



## Quiz Night - 17 August Report from Agnes Ovenstone



The teams gathered on Wednesday 17 August for the first Quiz night since 2019. We organised ourselves into four teams from Trinity Community church, one team from Sacred Heart, one team from St James the Less and one mixed team from Trinity and Sacred Heart.

Each team chose a name for themselves, so we had: Bunch of Fives, Five Amigos, Fabulous Five, Thick as Bricks, Galaxy, Scotch and Scouse, Shamai, and Scallop Shells. Agnes Ovenstone and Kathleen Downey read the questions and kept the scores.

Categories of questions covered; General Knowledge, History, Scottish Literature, Bible, Food and Drink, Film and TV, Sport, Geography, and Scotland.

A lot of laughter from the teams as they tried to fathom some of the answers (No Googling on your phone allowed!). At the half way point we were refreshed with tea and coffee plus a spread of home baking. Then it was heads down again for the final sets of questions.

### A few sample questions

What children's book character has grannies island and grandma mainland? Answer: Katie Morag

Which Hebrew leader was married to Zipporah? Answer Moses  
In what year was BBC2 launched? 1964

In what sport has Edinburgh's David Florence won three Olympic silver medals? Canoeing

What does the Scottish word "fantoosh" mean? Fancy

The winning team was Scallop Shells from St James.



## Trinity Community Church



**QUIZ NIGHT**  
**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August**  
**at 7.30pm**  
**in the Church Hall**  
**Kirkhill Road**  
**Light Refreshments**  
**Free Entry**



Kathleen Downey presented Gillian Little with the winning trophy, Smart Alec bear.



## Thank You and Farewell to Peter Wood

Following the Sunday 28 August service a farewell thank you to Rev Peter Wood took place as he leaves us to take up a new role in Musselburgh and Wallyford.

Rosie Townsley presented a range of small gifts for Peter in appreciation of his nearly 3 years, yes believe it or not, 3 years he has been ministering in Penicuik.

Peter arrived to temporarily fill the vacancy at Penicuik South Church after the Rev Ian Cathcart left for pastures new in the west of Scotland.

Plans however change and Peter continued in his role following the decision to join Penicuik South Church with Penicuik St. Mungo's. Peter, along with St. Mungo's minister Rev John Urquhart, formed a team led by Rev Graham Duffin, involving the kirk sessions of both churches.

The outcome of that work resulted in Penicuik Trinity Community church worshipping in the St. Mungo's church building, which officially opened on 7 April 2022.

Peter was also one of the founding members of Penicuik Forest Church. The Forest Church movement invites folks to seek and to enjoy God through nature.



Rosie displays gifts during the presentation

The Forest Church in Penicuik has a monthly gathering, attracting folks who do not at present go to church but enjoy the outdoors.

A special after service tea featured lots of home baking and a special cake with Peter all over it. We wish Peter well in his new venture and will always welcome him should he choose to visit us in the future.



Novelty cake toppings on the home baking