

St James the Less Church invites you to a

STRAWBERRY TEA

Scones with jam and cream
Tea, coffee and cakes
Stalls & Tombola

Live entertainment from
talented musician Margo Falconer

Saturday 14th June 2025

Trinity Community Church Hall,
4 Kirkhill Road EH26 8HX
2pm - 4pm
£8 per person

For tickets, contact Marion Mather
07795 033090
Scottish Charity SC011288

Trinity Community Church Guild Afternoon Tea

Saturday 7th June, 2-4pm



Ticket £7



Ticket only

Tickets available from any Guild member, and every Sunday morning at church



29th July - 1st August in Trinity Community Church Hall

if you are interested in being part of the "dive team" or the "support (prayer) team" then please see **Agnes Haggart or Ruth Aird.**

Planned Guests for Heart of the Matter June 2025

<https://www.heartofthematter.biz/>




Date	Guest	
1 June	Donna Ewing	Founder of The Wee Hours
8 June	Daniel McHale	Captain of The Loanhead Boys Brigade
15 June	Steve Younger	School Chaplaincy Project Leader: Christian Values in Education
22 June	Gold 49	
28 June	Janet Spence	Chaplain St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral Edinburgh

Weekly Broadcasting Schedule
 Black Diamond FM 107.8: Sunday 9 am. and 7 am. (repeat)
 Crystal FM 107.4: Sunday at 11 am., 12 midnight, Sunday, Tuesday 11am.
 Alive FM: 107.3: Sunday 12 noon, Tuesday 1 am.
 All above on FM and online

Trinity Community Diary

1 June 7.00pm	Presbytery Praise - in church sanctuary, with the Rev Keith Mack
8, 15, 22, 29 June 7.15pm	Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. - Church Hall
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird rutheaird@outlook.com
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
3, 10, 17, 24 June 7.30pm	Tuesday Youth Bible Group (TYBG) - Contact (3 & 10) Caroline Toms 07507 640373. (17 & 24) Ann 07974 605590 or Andrew 07580 593504
3, 10, 17, 24 June 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
3, 10, 17, 24 June 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
04 June 2025	Friendship Hour - Details contact Margaret Webster 07761 096472
5, 12, 19, 26 June 10.00am to 12 noon	Thursday Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
7 June 2.00pm to 4.00pm	Guild Afternoon Tea - Church Hall
8 June 3.30 to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
11, 18, 25 June 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Details Margaret Webster 07761 096 472
15 June - after morning service	Annual Congregational Meeting - in church immediately after morning service.
28 June 10.00am - 12 noon	Trinity community Summer Fair - Church Hall

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)



TC News

JUNE 2025

Newsletter of Penicuik Trinity Community Church

You can read this newsletter at Penicuik Trinity Community Church website <https://www.penicuiktrinitycommunity.church>. To sign up for an eCopy of this newsletter to be sent direct to your inbox each month, saving paper and other resources, just send a request email to penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com

Penicuik Churches support Christian Aid Week

This years Christian Aid week ran from 11 to 17 May. The theme focused on the impact of climate change on families in Guatemala, through the eyes of Aurelia and Amelia. The climate crisis is leaving parents fighting to feed their children, crops devastated, and entire villages displaced. In every climate disaster, people living in poverty feel its impact hardest.



Guatemala is the largest economy in Central America. However, it faces many social problems and is one of the poorest countries in Latin America. The income distribution is highly unequal with 54% of the population of Guatemala living in poverty.



You can watch Aurelia and Amelia Christian Aid video at <https://youtu.be/Do3nW-cVAMs>

All the Penicuik churches ran fund raising activities, with Janis Hogg, our Christian Aid coordinator, bringing the " Bucket" to take your donations each Sunday morning. Your generosity raised over **£800!**

Following on Penicuik North Kirk's coffee morning on the 17th May our church ran

Christian Aid; Grand Coffee Morning Saturday 24th May



Janis offers her enormous thanks to everyone who donated goods and baking and very great thanks to Christine, Margaret Barry, Ina McLaughlin and Margaret Black who set up on Friday and were there working hard on Saturday too. Not forgetting Agnes Haggart who hoovered and mopped the floors on Friday afternoon!

A very special thanks to those who came for coffee and filled the hall with chat and good cheer ! Janis reported at the morning service on Sunday that **£397.10** was raised at the event, and some of the home baking was available for donations after the service.

We still have the spectacular PNK organised Duck Race to come on Sunday June 8th. Gordon MacDonald noted that we will need some rain before then as the burn is somewhat dry, making it a duck walking (or is that waddle) race!!



Christian Aid Grand Duck Race

2 pm on 8 June in Montgomery Park in the burn opposite the North Kirk in support of Christian Aid.



Messy Church - 11 May *Report Joan Cape*

“Who is my neighbour?”

This month we used some materials from Christian Aid to talk about the question “Who is my neighbour?” To start with we “met” Aurelia, the lady from Guatemala who featured on this year’s Christian Aid publicity. First of all we found out where her country is – in Central America. We learned that it’s a land of many volcanoes, and talked about what it might be like living near to a live volcano – we decided that we’re quite happy not to have any live volcanoes near us! We looked at some pictures of Aurelia’s family – she and her many children all living in one very small house along with Grandad, and Dad working far away from home in order to earn the money to provide for his family.



We heard about how the women in the village have to work hard on the land, trying to grow crops to feed the family and to sell to supplement their limited income – and of the challenges brought by climate change. And we learned how the gifts of money which we give help Aurelia and others like her in life changing ways, providing education and equipment to make compost to improve the soil, to find ways of storing water, and by using their crops to make profit – by learning to make chocolate. And we learned that although they are very far away, people like Aurelia are our neighbours, just like the people who live next door!

Mention of chocolate made us hungry – so we decided to try to make our own. Coconut oil, cocoa powder, honey and a little vanilla essence – we melted and mixed, and soon had a trayful of chocolates setting in the fridge. What would they taste like?



Then it was outside into the garden where we made volcanoes. First we had to paint some card to create our hillside, then built our volcanoes round empty bottles into which we poured some washing up liquid, baking soda and food colouring. To this we added some slightly diluted vinegar....and stood back. Our pictures how how well this worked.

Back in the hall, we learned that the national bird of Guatemala is the quetzal. Under David’s guidance some wonderful birds were created, from toilet tubes and tissue paper, flying around on the end of a string. Then out again. Carrying buckets of water from the hall to the garden showed us that it really is hard

work having to carry water from where you find it to where you need it though the youngsters quickly worked out that it became much easier when they worked together to share the load. Then we tried to fill an empty bucket from our full ones – using cups which were easy to carry. But it took a long time – and quite a lot of water got lost on the way!



Once more in the hall we thought about neighbours using a story from Bible: acting out the story of the Good Samaritan got us thinking about how help doesn’t always come from the obvious sources, and how important it is to get our priorities right. We know Jesus is always there to help us, but we have to remember that sometimes we have to be Jesus for other people, and respond to their needs.

Time for tea – after pizza and salad, the chocolates were brought out and tasted with some trepidation. Everyone agreed they were very good (surprisingly!), and took the recipe home.

Next time: Sunday June 8th. It’s Pentecost, so no prizes for guessing what we’ll be thinking about. But if you have any good ideas for relevant crafts/activities just let me know. And if you want the chocolate recipe, just ask.

Monday May 19 7.30-9pm

Penicuik Trinity Community Church

Your church hosted an ACORN update to members from across the Penicuik Churches Together (PCT) on Monday May 19th.

Paul Haringman, Acorn National director (Scotland) led an interactive session on helping us become God detectives through the Acorn practice.

The "ACORN" spiritual practice focuses on connecting with God's work in other people through simple, caring conversation. It involves individuals asking God to connect them with someone outside their immediate circle, obeying that call, and then reporting and noticing God's work together with others. The acronym represents Ask, Call, Obey, Report, and Notice.

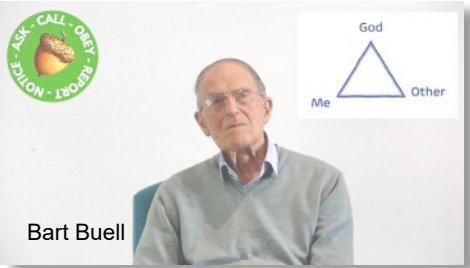
The core idea is to recognize that God is already working in the world, and our role is to join in that conversation by connecting with others and sharing what we see. This practice is about simple obedience and faith, rather than complex strategies, and it is designed to help individuals grow in their faith and witness to God's work.

What is God doing in the other person?

simplified
Engel Scale
-10 No God framework
-9 Experience of emptiness
-8 Vague awareness of Christianity
-7 Interest in Christianity
-6 Awareness of the Gospel
-4 Experience of Christian love
-3 Aware of personal need
-2 Grasp of implications of the Gospel
-1 Challenge to respond personally
0 Repentance and faith
+1 Evaluation of the decision
+2 Learning the basics of the Christian life
+3 Functioning member of local Church
+4 Continuing growth in character, lifestyle and service
+5 Effective sharing of faith and life

Paul used the Engel scale, developed by James F. Engel, as a way of representing the journey from no knowledge of God, through to spiritual maturity as a Christian believer. The model is used by Christians to emphasise the process of conversion and the various decision-making steps that a person goes through in becoming a Christian.

We watched a video clip featuring Bart Buell explaining the relationship with God, Me and the other person. What God is doing in me going out, and what God does for the other person, encouraging them to listen. A triangular relationship.



We listened to an encounter of 'Me' meeting an 'other' person, Linda, and how God works in that relationship. The listeners then formed into small groups to discuss where on the Engel scale the relationship was, and what future steps to follow.

To find out more about ACORN speak to Rev John Urquhart anytime

Penicuik Churches Together: Songs of Praise - Tuesday 27 May

Tuesday evening Trinity Community church hosted a Songs of Praise event with some 45 members from Trinity, Penicuik North Kirk (PNK), Sacred Heart church, and St. James the Less church raising their voices to a selection of hymns chosen by members of each church.

The event was the result of a meeting of the ministers as a service where selected members of each of the churches would choose a favourite hymn and record a short video of themselves explaining their choice and why it was special to them. We would then sing that hymn as a church together. Each of the churches presented two members, resulting in eight members and songs for the evening.

The Rev Nick Bowry from St. James the Less introduced the evening, setting the scene. The programme was split into two parts with Nick returning after the first half to reflect on the theme. Rev Graham Astles concluded the evening after the second half finishing with the Blessing.

Tea, coffee and refreshments were provided in the church after this inaugural Songs of Praise event.

Songs that were selected. Watch this service at <https://youtu.be/3xo4lyZ62qY>

David Aird TCC	In Christ alone my hope is found	Kathleen Hill SH	Be Still My Soul
Kim Darling TCC	This Little Light of Mine	Jean Sztul-Belda SH	How Great Thou Art
Lisa Conlan PNK	Make Way, Make Way	Shannon Forbes StJL	My Peace I Give You (Taizé)
Fiona Charleson PNK	Be Still for the Presence of the Lord	Rachel Crease StJL	Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



Our Journey of Faith and Mission

Arma & Talatu Sallau

After our wedding in December, 2020, we made the decision to settle in Kaduna State, Nigeria. Our hearts were stirred with a desire to live and witness to the largely unreached Muslim population in northern Nigeria. This was a decision made out of our desire to serve the Lord in this context.



From domestic workers to colleagues and students, we made many friends in Kaduna. At the core of our mission was a prayerful longing to see God's kingdom advance among Muslims and unbelievers. We have both been disciples through the Navigator missionaries during our time on campus, and we often prayed for God to use us as His vessels.

A few years later, we sensed the needed to further our education and develop professionally. We believed that doing so would give us better access to the communities we felt called to reach. We applied to various institutions both within Nigeria and abroad. Surprisingly, the only doors that opened were those leading to the UK.



Initially, we struggled with the outcome. Why the UK? How could this be part of God's plan for reaching the nations we felt called for? We prayed, spoke with mentors, and ultimately chose to walk forward with open hearts, trusting that God could use us in any context, even one far from what we could think or imagine. Throughout that season of uncertainty, we anchored ourselves in Philippians 4:6–8:

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Indeed, we experienced God's peace. In every step of the process, we felt God's calming presence.

Shortly after attending Penicuik Trinity Community Church, we heard about Youth Alpha and the youth weekly meetings at Ann and Andrew Dunsire. We were more than excited to join a small group of people learning about God. Small Group Bible studies had shaped our faith profoundly in the past. And becoming part of a small study group and the entire church community felt like home. We've experienced the warmth, love, service and truth of Jesus through the people we've met here. In such a short time, we've been welcomed, given opportunities to learn, and truly feel like part of a family.

Our character is continually being shaped through these meetings and the church. We've seen Jesus at work through the youth group. And we are inspired to serve, remembering the words of Jesus in Matthew 20:28:“The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Some key passages that have guided us throughout this season; Matthew 28:19 : The Great Commission: we are called to make disciples of All nations

Acts 17:26–28: Reminds us that God appoints the times and places where we live, so that we might seek Him and find Him.

We do not believe we are here by accident. We are here according to God's plan, and we believe that God will use us for His glory. We are thankful for this new chapter and excited about what God will continue to do. May we be found faithful wherever He leads us. Amen.

Arma, Talatu and Amira.