

# Interchurch Quiz Night – 17 March



7.30pm in the Trinity Community church hall on Kirkhill Road.

A must date for your diary.

The Quiz night returns on Friday 17 March. With questions covering a wide range of subjects there is surely one that you know the answers to.

Put the date in your diary to join in the fun.

We will be rotating the top scoring pairs after each round so every team has a good chance of gaining the top score.

Smart Alec, our trophy Teddy Bear will be watching and presented to the winning team

Sunday 19 March – after morning service

*Soup Lunch Sunday*

*3rd Sunday each month*

March will see the launch of our new monthly 'Soup Lunch Sunday', held in the church hall after the morning service. On the third Sunday of each month you will be able to enjoy a bowl of soup while catching up with friends.

If you are able to help with the preparation and serving of the meal, would you please contact Agnes Ovenstone, Kathleen Downey, Christine Jackson or Margaret Black

Put the 19<sup>th</sup> March in your diary now.

## Turkey / Syria Earthquake appeal

A Total of £921.40 donated and sent to Christian Aid

A Big Thank You to all who donated

Thank you for all your kind donations.

Amazing response to support the rescue and recovery work in Turkey and Syria

Janis Hogg (Christian Aid coordinator)

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

## Trinity Community Diary

5, 12, 19, 26 March 7.15 pm	Sunday evening Prayer Meeting - Church Hall
6, 13, 20, 27 March 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details from Capes 674276
8,15, 22, March 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Church Hall (committee room)
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 March 10.00am to 12 noon	Coffee and Chat (Warm Spaces) - Church Hall
12 March 2.00 - 4.00pm	Gather on the Green : Foster Road
17 March 7.30pm	Interchurch Quiz Night - Church Hall
19 March 12.30pm	Soup Lunch Sunday - Church Hall (After the morning service)
20 March 2.00pm	Guild - Erskine: Caring for Veterans since 1916. - Church Hall
23 March 8.00pm	Ecumenical Prayer Meeting: North Kirk (PNK) - Café Area
26 March 3.00pm	Forest Church - Meeting point: Car park outside Aaron House
26 March 3.30pm to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall



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](mailto:penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com)

## Church mouse

From the mouse of Editor's PC

This month our Trinity Community diary lists a growing number of activities for you to join in. Something for everyone.

The Joint service at PNK this month introduces us to the 'Growing Young' initiative.

Messy Church continues to explore the women in Jesus' genealogy. Looking at Ruth in the February event.

A social get together for the Quiz Night is always an excuse for a bit of light fun. Kate Downey and Agnes Ovenstone will be busy thinking up some brain teasers no doubt.

The Guild have some good presentations lined up. Unfortunately some have been delayed due to speakers falling ill. I know the feeling, having just recovered from my first Covid infection.

Looking forward to our Soup Lunch on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and every third Sunday in the month.

Midlothian is supporting refugees from the war in Ukraine, and we update you with how we can help.

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

## Growing Young: Introduction - 5 March

The joint service with Penicuik North Kirk in March 2023 is an introduction to Growing Young.

Twelve churches in the new Presbytery of Lothian and the Borders (including groups from Trinity Community Church and PNK) are just about to start on a two-year course on Growing Young.

This particular course is aimed at churches with few or no young people. We wanted to share this news with all of you.

There are six core commitments of churches aiming to grow young. These involve things which change what is sometimes the unconscious culture of the local church. Simply expressed, these are:

- enabling others to take responsibility, rather than keeping all authority in the hands of a few;
- seeking to empathise with the young people of today, rather than judging or criticizing them;
- taking Jesus' message seriously and welcoming young people into a Jesus-centred way of life;
- becoming a warm community, aiming to have good relationships with each other and friendships between generations;
- making young people and their families a priority in church life, through supporting, resourcing, and involving them in all aspects of our congregation;
- enabling young people to be good neighbours locally and globally, rather than simply condemning the world outside our walls.

I hope over time we will unpack the meaning of these commitments.

John Urquhart



## Warm Spaces

Keep Warm and enjoy each other's company

St. James the Less

'Neighbour-hood Natters'  
Tuesday 10am to 12 noon

Penicuik Trinity Community

'Coffee & Chat'  
Thursday 10am to 12 noon

Penicuik North Kirk

'Open Door to a Warm Space'  
Friday 2pm to 4pm



Ecumenical Prayer Service  
Thursday 23 March

8.00pm in PNK Café Area

**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)



## Midlothian Support for Ukraine Refugees

We are all aware of the war in Ukraine, and the resulting exodus of refugees to 'safe' countries.

Scotland is welcoming displaced people from Ukraine. We are providing financial aid and have provided medical supplies to Ukraine. The UK, and Scotland in particular have extended the hand of help and friendship to families and individuals looking for somewhere safe to live. Midlothian now have 137 Ukrainians living in the county.



### Aparthotel Accommodation Dalkeith:

Plans are underway to the feasibility of opening Dalkeith Aparthotel to accommodate up to 70 Ukrainian people in 33 two bed rooms and one -4 bed room. This is to facilitate the move of people from a West Edinburgh hotel which is closing.

### Housing is just the start of supporting Ukrainian refugees

Capacity for our GP, schools & other supports dependant on the demographics of those moving in. Cooking facilities: which are yet to be built and their suitability to provide cooking space for up to 70 guest? Support for those living in the Aparthotel – which could be supported short term via Edinburgh Council in terms of a Drop-in service only, to support our staff.



Midlothian will only receive a proportion of the tariff through reconciliation dependant on how long they have been in Scotland before coming to Midlothian. At the 13 week point the Local Authority where they are residing can claim tariff, e.g. if a person has been on the boat or hotel for 10 months – Midlothian will receive the balance of a 2 month proportion of funding. All new arrivals to Scotland from January 2023 are subject to a reduced tariff (from £10,500

to £5,600).

### Other Current Pressures:

End of Hosting: Ukrainians currently being hosted in Midlothian & coming to the end of their hosting agreements looking for social housing or private rental accommodation in the area. Private Matches: number still increasing for those Ukrainians arriving to hosts in Midlothian through Home Office visa applications.

**Scottish Super Sponsorship** – many thousands still waiting in hotels for accommodation with hosts/ social housing or Private rental accommodation. **Closure of Boats:** MS Ambition in March in Glasgow and the move of 1500 people across Scotland & closure of MS Victoria in June with dispersal across Central belt.



### Integration into the Community

Midlothian provide help to refugees with Benefit applications, Bank accounts, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) lessons 1:1, online or group work. Registration with GP / Dentist / Optician / Health Screening and Vaccinations. Registration with school provision. Any other supports/ social activities, and support to find employment / translate qualifications / source training & development.

**Scotland has taken in more than 7,000 Ukrainians seeking refuge since the Russian invasion, two-thirds of whom applied under the super sponsor scheme. The Scottish government committed to welcoming 3,000 people when it launched the programme in March 2022.**

[Read the full status of Ukrainian Refugee support in Midlothian here](#)

## Guild - 6 February: Pilgrimage Walk - John Urquhart & Nick Bowry

We reported back in June 22 of the pilgrimage our minister Rev John Urquhart together with the Rev Nick Bowry, and a group of pilgrims headed for Santiago de Compostela in Galicia in north western Spain.

Nick presented their travels to the Guild on Monday 6 February. Telling us about the route the 'pilgrims' took, often on rough narrow tracks, some over high hill ranges, in all weathers.

John spoke of the theological view of 'pilgrimage' in a reformed church.

You can read the full story of their travels in the June TC News. Simply click on the TC News Archive on our website and then [June 22 issue](#).

Agnes Ovenstone thanked Nick and John for their interesting talk



## Guild 20 March - Erskine



Erskine provides unrivalled support to Veterans in Scotland, through three care homes and a Veterans Village, comprising of 44 cottages, an Activities Centre, five Assisted Living Apartments and 24 Transitional Supported Apartments.

Hear about the work of Erskine across Scotland. <https://www.erskine.org.uk/>

## World Day of Prayer - Friday 3 March Penicuik North Church



Our sisters in Taiwan are sending us blessings with the service they have prepared for World Day of Prayer 2023. Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. The women of Taiwan share the issues faced geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future.

Let us join with them as we give thanks for the beautiful island and people of Taiwan and encourage one another in our faith just as Apostle Paul did in his letters.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at **PNK** on Friday March 3 2023 people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Taiwan.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

For further information and resources, see the WDP website: [wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)



## Messy Church: February 26th - Report by Joan Cape



**This month our look at the women in Jesus' lineage, as listed in Mark's gospel brought us to the story of Ruth. It's a short story, just four chapters in the Old Testament, and yet we can learn a lot from it.**

Many of us know the story of the young widow from the land of Moab. Her mother-in-law Naomi, no longer young and her husband and sons dead, decided that she should return to the land of Judah where her people came from. Ruth, despite Naomi's efforts to persuade her to the contrary, left her own people and went with her mother-in-law to Judah, even though she, from Moab, might not be very welcome. Working in the fields, gathering barley, she met Boaz, who was to become her husband; their son, Obed was the father of Jesse, who in turn was the father of David, the great king who was an ancestor of Jesus.



Sometimes it's hard to grasp what the whole story for the day is as we move from activity to activity – so this time everyone started by collecting a set of puzzle pieces which, when glued to a sheet of card, set out the story in words and pictures, which some had fun colouring in.

Loyalty to Naomi meant walking the road to Bethlehem with her - we thought about the meaning of Ruth's words: wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you live, I will live; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God as we made sets of walking feet...each foot has to go where the other goes, just as Ruth went with Naomi. It's amazing what can be made with drinking straws, sticks, cardboard tubes, and lots of sellotape and patience.

Barley was the focus for much of what we did – it was central to the story, central to life in that part of the world – and few of our young folk had any idea what it is! So, we made barley soda bread to find out what it tasted like.



We saw how heavy a bushel of barley is – the amount the gleaners gathered in the fields – and tested how much we could carry on our backs: 10 kilos was the heaviest load the youngsters managed.

We made a soup mix to give to someone we care about, as we thought of Ruth gathering the barley so that both she and Naomi could eat. And we imagined how hard it might be to

find stray ears of corn among the weeds at the edge of the field, as we tried to find grains of barley in a tub of sand.

Making paper braids was a visible sign of "sticking together"...weaving in three colours was a demonstration of the fact that two people working together might be better than one, but with a third (God) in the mix it's so much better: a rope with three strands cannot be broken. Do you know where to find that verse\*??

Making popcorn (for fun!) set us up well for our celebration: this song <https://youtu.be/79KUTX-hE18> provided a wonderful reflection, with even the youngest children watching spellbound.

A race to see how well we could gather up a lot of (paper) ears of barley ensured everyone had an appetite for meatballs and pasta, followed by pancakes, fruit and yoghurt.



**Next time: March 26th: Mary  
\* Ecclesiastes 4: 12**

