

Hats, Gloves, Scarves - 29 October



The church hall was filled with knitted hats, gloves and scarves, donated by members of the congregation, destined for the Blythswood Care 'Shoebbox' appeal .

Each year members spend hours knitting items, with others buying to add to the display that is sent to Blythswood Care. This is their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary having distributed over 2.5 million boxes over the years.

Organiser Christine Jackson announced that this year **over 1000** items had been donated, the highest number ever in all the years we have been supporting this charity work, to keep people we will never know in a far off land warm this winter.

Watch this year's Blythswood video to see where they go and how they help across eastern Europe, with Ukraine one of the latest countries visited.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISerDTsJQPY&t=3s>



FOOD, FACTS, FRIENDS

As many of you will know some of the churches in Penicuik volunteer to manage the café at FFF on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month.



I have taken over the rota from Rosie and am looking for additional folks who would be able to give 2 hours on a Saturday morning, hopefully once every 3-4 months if I have enough volunteers.

We make tea and coffee, hand out whatever snack people want to eat and participate in conversations. We are not permitted to talk about our faith but this still gives us an opportunity to communicate with the folks of Penicuik and become better acquainted with people.

If you would care to be a part of this, or need additional information to make up your mind, please call me on 01968 677714.

Many thanks. *Joyce MacLean*



Cleaner Wanted



Cleaner, 3 hours per week (normally 8am - 11am), split between church and hall. Day of week has been Wednesday but can be moved to suit.

Interested in this paid position?

Contact Neil Cape or Agnes Haggart for full details

If you know anyone who might be interested in taking on this paid role, please pass on these details.

Trinity Community November Diary

5 November 3.30 to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
5, 12, 19, 26 November 7.15pm	Sunday evening Prayer Meeting - Church Hall
6 November 2.00pm	Guild 'Sepsis FEAT' presentation by Ruth Fox - Church Hall
6, 13, 20, 27 November 7.15pm	Housegroup - On Zoom [ Call Sheena for details 07810 477597 ]
6, 13, 20, 27 November 7.30pm	Bible Study by Zoom [contact Joan or Neil Cape for details (674276) ]
7, 14, 21, 28 November 10.00am to 12 noon	Housegroup - [contact Mary Darling 01968 660585 for details]
7, 14, November 10.00am to 3.00pm	Youth Alpha (aimed at 11 - 17 year old)
7, 21 November 7.30pm	Housegroup - [ Contact Carol Macintosh for location details]
8, 15, 22, 29 November 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Church Hall
8, 15, 22, 29 November 7.30 to 9.30pm	Housegroup - Meet in Church Hall [Kate Downey for details]
9, 16, 23, 30 November 10.00am to 12 noon	Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
12 November 10.45am	Remembrance Service - Note earlier start time.
18 November 10.00am to 12 noon	Christmas Fayre: Many stalls & Refreshments - Trinity Community Church Ticket £4
19 November 11.00am Service	Compassion Sunday. Guest speaker from Compassion UK
20 November 2.00pm	Guild ' Pioneers Chocolate Heaven' Project - Church Hall
6 December 10.45am	Friendship Hour - Church Hall [for help with transport call Margaret Webster 672347]



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)

GUILD 95th Anniversary

The PTCC Guild led the Sunday 15th October service. Agnes Ovenstone told the congregation the then St. Mungo's Guild was formed in 1928, now celebrating their 95th anniversary.

Taking the theme of knowing the key elements, or ingredients to follow in the fellowship of Jesus Christ, Agnes used the example of using the key ingredients to make an item for a meal. A dish can have a variety of ingredients, but must have the key ingredients if it is to result in what was asked for. To explain this to our congregation Agnes was joined by Christine Jackson, Margaret Black, Jenny Ramage and Margaret Barry to make a dish for our "meal". In front of our "cooks" was a table full of ingredients, all



covered by a cloth Christine was asked to gather ingredients for leek and potato soup, Margaret Black a carrot cake, Jenny apple pie, and Margaret Barry Quorn and red wine sauce. Each then looked under the cover to retrieve the ingredients for their "dish", after which Agnes asked what they had found. Christine had a carrot and potato, for her leek and potato soup! Margaret B found cake mix and an apple, for her carrot cake? Jenny, for her apple pie found pie mix and a leek! Margaret Barry was



so pleased as she found her Quorn and a bottle of red wine, for her Quorn and red wine sauce.

Agnes in judging their attempts , pointed out that nobody, apart from Margaret Barry, got the right ingredients for their dish. The first wrong choice had rippled through leading to others choosing the wrong ingredients, apart from Margaret Barry who was quick to report 'I got mine' at every opportunity. Choosing the wrong ingredients may allow you to make a tasty dish, but not what you were asked to make.

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)

Agnes then asked our 'cooks' to look at the other items left on the table to see which items make the key ingredients to follow Jesus. The Bible was found first, our manual for living, next the empty cross, the symbol of Christ's resurrection, followed by the bread and wine, a symbol of Jesus' sacrifice and covenant, the fellowship and hospitality of his believers. Finally loose change and pencils, a sample of symbols of items to help us help others.



The bible reading from Acts 2: 42-47 titled 'The Fellowship of Believers' was read by Helen McCall.

Agnes returned for the Reflection , expanding on our 'key ingredients' theme, using recipe books as her example. We were shown a range of recipe books, old and new, many familiar to the long time bakers in our congregation. Some were well worn with greasy finger marks, others with fallen pages taped back in. You can make anything from the recipes in these books, add or change ingredients, but you won't end up with the correct 'dish' unless you use the ingredients and quantities that the book tells you.

Luke is talking about this at the end of Acts 2 which Helen read to us. The disciples were full of the Holy Spirit, after their Pentecostal experience, with people joining them all the time, full of energy and enthusiasm. Ina McLaughlin using texts from John 4 v24, 1 Thessalonians 5 v16-17, 1 John v18, Worship, Prayer Action.

Rev John Urquhart led the Guild Prayer, followed by Ann Dagleish leading the Prayer for Others and Ourselves.

The service concluded with a view of the current Guild Projects, supporting The Vine Trust, and Home for Good.

Following the service a lunch was served to the congregation who took time to talk together about what they had heard and seen that morning.

You can watch this service at ....

[https://youtu.be/O0TpR5qOK9s?si=eOaSVd3KhZ\\_09oyQ&t=356](https://youtu.be/O0TpR5qOK9s?si=eOaSVd3KhZ_09oyQ&t=356)





## Guild Team JAK - 16 October Report by Jenny Ramage



# TEAM JAK



The speaker was Allison Barr, Jak's mother who is very involved in running the charity TEAM JAK.

Jak was a young teenager when he was diagnosed with a rare form of lymphoma and at the age of 15 through his experience saw the need for emotional, social and practical support and before he sadly died set up TEAM JAK to help other young people after diagnosis with cancer.

Jak's dens in Livingston and Aberdeen and Pop ups in Fife, Glasgow and the Lothians provide a haven for young people from 0 – 25 together with their families and friends. This gives a sense of normality during and after treatment with activities including support groups, counselling, music and alternative therapies.

Allison involved us all in a hand therapy helping us to relax, breathe and then smile! For those in hospital there is hospital outreach with visiting, crafts, games and music therapy. There is also emotional support through Bag of Worries and bereavement support for all the family.

TEAM JAK's aim is to Create Smiles and Ease the Journey – a tremendous legacy that Jak has left the young people in Scotland. <https://www.teamjak.org.uk>



A big thank you to our congregation, donating to date £387 to the Middle East appeal

## Harvest Service – 8 October by Jim Paterson



Our Harvest Thanksgiving service on Sunday 8 October took place in the church hall. The food donations were on display at the front of the hall near the stage. Our minister John thanked everyone who had donated and those who had set up the hall for the service.

Joan Cape spoke at the All Age Talk, recalling her childhood in Milnathort, an agricultural area. Later in Arbroath it was fishing with agriculture in the background. Arriving in Penicuik Joan found the Harvest service date being flexible, not occurring until the last congregational farmer member had gathered in their crops.

How things have changed, many foods now being bought some from places far away. However harvest has been celebrated since biblical times, providing food we can eat and seed we can use to grow next years crops. Deuteronomy includes an instruction from God to leave some of the grain standing, for the benefit of people who had none and could easily fall into 'food poverty', an all familiar term we still hear today.

Messy Church had looked at where our food comes from. The labels on the produce no longer list where in the world they come from. Searching it out was eye opening, lentils from Canada, rice from India, Vietnam and Pakistan. Myanmar and Australia all provide food for us in the UK. Coffee from parts of central Africa and South America. International trade is nothing new. We still have to care for those in our society who do not have enough. The collection on display will be shared with the PNK foodstore, and FFF, because the bible calls us to share as part of our worship and love for God and our neighbours.

You can hear Joan talk more about harvest at <https://youtu.be/7qTLrXg8YXU?feature=shared&t=354>



## Prayer Walk - from Sheila Anderson

Every Thursday morning at 10am a group of folk from various Penicuik churches meet to walk and pray.

Sometimes we walk a couple of miles and other times we walk 100 yards.

Sometimes we stop and pray together and sometimes we pray as we walk. God is part of our conversation and there is usually quite a lot of that. Some of us go for a coffee afterwards but that part is optional.

If you would like to find out more or join us any Thursday morning speak to Sheila Anderson or Ann Dalglish.



## Youth Alpha - Report by Ann Dunsire

Youth Alpha recommenced on Tuesday 31st October following on from the October mid-term break.

Many thanks to everyone who stood in for Caroline Toms and myself while we were both on holiday, covering the evening of Tuesday 10th October and the Holy Spirit day on Saturday 14th October, both in terms of being there and providing food on these dates.

Caroline and I were delighted to be back with the young people on the 31st and catching up with them on all that's been happening over this time.



## Messy Church 1 October Report Joan Cape



Last month we looked at 'Building up', using the Old Testament story of rebuilding Jerusalem after things went badly wrong – the city had been destroyed, and the people taken into exile - as a basis for thinking about our world, and how to make it a better place for us all to live in.

The activities were examples of how things can be built up, with God's help:

- We planted cress seeds – to grow and provide food
- We thought about the different materials you could use to build things, and made rubbings to show the different textures....in order to put together a prayer wall
- We thought about a peaceful city – and made some doves of peace out of feathers and sparkles, thinking about peaceful places



## From the Kirk Session Report by Neil Cape

There's quite a lot to report from our October meeting – things which involve everyone. In no particular order:

- replacing the pews with chairs turns out to be more complicated than we thought, so work on this will start in the new year
- we discovered that we are responsible for the Bell Tower in the graveyard, and have been instructed to make it safe. We await the surveyor's report
- as you may have noticed, the church heating is working again – a new pump has been fitted.
- we hope to start work on the Committee Room in the hall – awaiting a planning decision on new windows, as we're in the Conservation Area
- we still need a new cleaner (**please make this known**), and in the meantime we're looking for volunteers to help clean the hall and church each week – please see Neil Cape or Agnes Haggart if you can help
- we're also looking for volunteers to help with the sound and video in the church (and hall) – training is available, please speak to Jim Paterson
- can you help to put away tables and chairs on a Sunday after coffee? Please just do what you can! And we are also looking for volunteers on a rota basis to put out the tables and chairs in the hall – contact Neil Cape
- we have a new photocopier – the old one was 12 years old and has served us well
- First Aid training is available for anyone, especially those involved in activities in the hall. Please speak to Neil if you'd like to be included.

The 'Chat about Church' meeting on Saturday 21st October went well, despite the weather. Around 20 people came to discuss various aspects of church life. A report will go to the next Session meeting. Look out for the next meeting in 2024, and come with your ideas and comments.

### Did you know.....?

- a copy of the agreed Kirk Session Minutes is available to read at the back of the church
- we now have a Data Policy – pinned on the board in the church lobby, and posted on the website
- also in the lobby, to take away – copies of the latest edition of TCNews and Prayer Guide, and if you don't already have one, copies of the Members' Directory.
- Agnes Haggart is our new Food Hygiene Officer – please check with her if you're thinking of serving food in the hall.
- the Minister is still accepting completed 'Growing Young' questionnaires on empathising with young people – please fill yours in if you haven't already done so, or request another if you've lost yours!
- The Session House (the room at the top of the stairs in church) has been redecorated for use as a meeting room – thanks to all those who helped with this.

Neil Cape (674276, [tccsessionclerk@gmail.com](mailto:tccsessionclerk@gmail.com))

- We turned a leaf into a bird! This helped us to talk about how different plants and creatures work together to make a good place to live
- We made a compass, using a cork and a magnetised needle – this could be used to show us the way to go....and we put our homes on a map of Penicuik to show how a map and compass work. In the story we heard how the people came to the temple to worship God – how do we find our way to worship God in Penicuik?
- And (to go outside) we made an enormous 'bug hotel' out of odds and ends, with lots of places for small creatures to live and shelter in amongst cones and twigs – and thought about people who don't have a place to live, or to shelter. That was quite a messy activity!



Messy Church wouldn't be the same without a REALLY messy activity – we used shaving foam and food colouring to make a 'rainstorm' in a glass of water...and that took us back to the first activity, and the need for rain to grow our food...which was also important in rebuilding Jerusalem.

For our meal we continued the building theme by building a burger (meat or veggie) with apple pie and ice cream to follow.

This month our theme is Light and dark – you'll be welcome to come and see what we get up to.

Sunday 5 November 3.30 to 5.30pm

Sunday 5 November 1530 to 1730  
Church Hall

Messy Church is a way of being church for families and others. It is Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration. No need to book. Just come along

