

CHURCH FLOWERS

For some time, Pam Shanks looked after the church flowers in St Mungo's, ensuring that there were always flowers in the church on Sundays, as well as using her skills to do something special for times like Christmas, Easter and Remembrance Sunday. Pam also made arrangements for the flowers to be given to someone who would appreciate them. For a number of months during the pandemic, when no visiting was possible, Pam took on the job of posting cards to people who might normally have received flowers from church.



Pam has decided that it's time for her to retire from all of this: we take this opportunity to say a big "Thank you" to her for all that she has done, as well as to the volunteers who have helped with both providing and delivering the church flowers.



Since we re-opened after Covid, we have been doing things a little differently: a small team has been looking after the flowers, dealing with the ever changing Covid restrictions which have affected everything from who could have access to the church premises and how best to deal with delivering things to people's homes. Thankfully, the situation is now much more normal. We have also united with the congregation of Penicuik South and Howgate, and have also welcomed a number of members of the congregation of Glencorse Church, which as you will know closed at the end of 2021. And so, we are in process of working out a new system of doing these things.

Margaret Barry has agreed to be responsible for the week to week organisation of this valuable part of our ministry. Flowers are for celebrating good things, as well as giving encouragement at sad or difficult times; they are for marking significant birthdays or anniversaries, or simply providing a little comfort to the lonely or housebound. If you know someone, whether or not a church member, who might appreciate some flowers, please speak to Margaret, who would also be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to donate towards the cost of flowers, or help with this ministry in any other way (putting the flowers into church on a Sunday, delivering flowers). [You'll find Margaret in church most Sundays, or you can contact her on 07413 766002.](#)

Friendship Group - TUESDAY 7 June 10.45am



'What a friend we have in Jesus'-encouraging faith through friendship with Jesus and each other.

Meets in the Church Hall. Includes a short period of worship as well as coffee/chat: all welcome.

For help with transport contact Margaret Webster 672347

Trinity Community Diary

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 June 10.00 am to 12 noon	Alpha in the Trinity Community - Church Hall
2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 10 am to 12 noon	Coffee & Chat morning - Church Hall
5 June 11.00 am	Sunday KIP Joint CofS service - Penicuik North Kirk.
05 June 3.30 pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
05 June 7.00 pm	Ecumenical Pentecost Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - Sacred Heart Church
5, 12, 19, 26 June 7.15 pm	Sunday evening Prayer Meeting - Church Hall
6, 13, 21, 28 June 7.30 pm	Monday Bible Study Group (Zoom)
7 June 10.45 am	Friendship Group - Church Hall
18 June 10 am to 12 noon	Summer Fayre - Church Hall & Garden if sunny
Cancelled for June, during Alpha	Wednesday Housegroup / Bible Study - Church Hall
26 June 2022	Trinity Community Monthly Communion Service

Christian Aid Week 15th to 22nd May



James Black
PCT Christian Aid Week 2022
Penicuik churches have a long history of working for Christian Aid because of our commitment to justice

A huge thank you to everyone for their donations to Christian Aid ! At the time of writing we have the fantastic total of **£1066.15** And we're not done yet ! Some people will have donated online and some envelopes will still come in!

Many thanks to everyone who provided baking for the teas - especially the ladies of the Guild who gave many goodies after their lovely afternoon tea on May 14th, and everyone who baked again for the teas on the 22nd. In total the teas produced **£169.60**

And not least - thanks to all who came and ate up the cakes , scones and pancakes and donated more !

Well done Penicuik Trinity Community Church!

And the Winner Is.....



The somersaulting doggie amused everyone wherever it went.

The winner of the competition to name our furry friend was drawn by David Hogg, assisted by the ever able Janis, at the after service tea and coffee in the church hall on Sunday 22nd

Liz Chisholm chose the winning name 'Cookie'.

A box of chocolates accompanied Cookie to its new owner. Obviously a sweet tooth little doggie.....



David calls winning ticket number

Remember Services Start 10.30 am from 12 June



Our new website <https://www.penicuiktrinitycommunity.church> has now launched. 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

Church mouse

From the mouse of Editor's PC



Welcome to this first edition of **TC News**

We welcome John back from his 'pilgrimage' to the Camino de Santiago, or the Way of St. James, an ancient pilgrimage trail originating in medieval times, culminating at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. I'm sure he has many tales to tell of the journey.

Remember that from 12 June onward we start Sunday services at 10.30am.



In this issue we also report the good work for Christian Aid Week, Messy Church, and an update from your Session Clerks,

Looking forward we have the Summer Fayre, and beyond, supporting Blythwood Trust. Time to look out those knitting needles!

We are still on the lookout for a church logo, and a snappier name than TC News? Let the editor know your ideas please. All ideas welcome.

Jim Paterson
Newsletter Editor

penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela *Based on Facebook diary of Nick Bowry*

Our minister Rev John Urquhart together with the Rev Nick Bowry, joined a group of pilgrims heading for Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, north western Spain.

Why there, what makes it so special?

Santiago de Compostela is the capital of Galicia, in northwestern Spain.

The city has its origin in the shrine of Saint James the Great, now the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, as the destination of the Way of St. James, a leading pilgrimage route since the 9th century.

Our 'pilgrims' arrived in Madrid on Sunday 15th then train to A Coruña on the northwest coast of Spain. John had flown direct to Santiago on Friday. A short bus ride to Ferrol where all twelve met up.

First day Monday 16th the pilgrims split into three groups based on pace. John and Nick enjoyed the walk, ideal weather 18 degrees and overcast, to nearby Neda some 10 km. A short walk to break them in.

Tuesday and it was due south to Pontedeume, crossing the 205m high headland between the two estuaries Ría de Ferrol and Ría de Ares. A little longer at 14 km, but wet weather made it feel like back in Scotland!

Scottish weather continued on Wednesday for the walk to Betanzos, some 20 km through early mist and drizzle clearing as they ascended to 680m this time, and a warmer 20°. Starting to get tougher!

Fourth day Thursday and at 25 km (15 miles), ascending 890m, to Hospital de Bruma, the toughest so far, passing the halfway point to Santiago: 22° and light breeze, great views. This is more like it.

Day cinque (as Nick reports). Friday is the longest stage, but as they were gently descending (but still with 340m of ascent) it was less of a challenge than yesterday. The group were all in good spirits and were looking forward to the day's walk to Sigüeiro. The weather showed the temperature riding to a pleasant 23 degrees.

Saturday, dia seis on el Camino Inglés. A pleasant 10 mile 16 km walk into Santiago. A cool morning but the forecast was for up to 30 degrees by lunchtime. Our first sight of the cathedral spires at the Praza de Obradoiro. A place to realise you 'have made it'. A time of emotional release for many. A place of greeting friends.

And then the midday pilgrim mass. Our pilgrims were in luck, the massive botafumerio was swung today. It is still a magnificent sight that can bring people to tears.

A lovely evening together, with some young pilgrims we met along the way: Ukrainians, Spaniards, Portuguese, Italians. What impressed me was their lack of concern for where people came from. They welcomed each person into their group with no concern for nationality. There is so much to learn this: the example of European friendliness.

The pilgrimage complete, time for goodbyes and the return home. An experience that will never be forgotten and many friendships made on the journey.

I'm sure John will have many more stories to tell.



Sunday 8 May: God really did come back *Report by Joan Cape*



In our May session, we looked back to Jesus' death and resurrection, and the promise that he made to his friends – that he would never leave them. We had a look at two different stories telling of times when he came back and spent time with those friends, and thought about how he helped them (and us) to understand what he meant when he said that he would never leave them. A treasure hunt helped us to remember all the things God has given us in his creation, but also helped us understand that sometimes we have to look at things a bit differently if we are to see them: so we hunted for something bendy (most found a flower on a stalk, some a wee soft twig), something you can eat (some carefully hidden pieces of fruit), something soft, something you can build with, and so on. This month again we were joined by some new people – a Mum who hadn't managed along previously, and two new families – so our "Guess who" game was very appropriate. As various members of the team hid behind the stage curtains and replied to questions using only the words "Yes" and "No" it became clear that sometimes it's not so easy to know who's talking without a lot of clues. Some were easy: "Do you have hair?" asked when the person in question is bald, is a bit of a give away!

Our first story was that of the Emmaus Road, acted out very ably by some of our young folk as the story was read. Making an Emmaus Road biscuit proved very popular (crackers/assorted spreads, and jelly babies if you are interested), as did making some unleavened bread, which was taken home at the end, to eat remembering that the bread is a symbol of Jesus, and that it was in breaking bread with Jesus, doing something familiar, that the men on the Emmaus road realised just who was with them!



Then on to a fishy story helped by a short film, telling the story of when Jesus' friends, missing him sadly, and downcast after a night when they had caught no fish, were slow to realize that the man telling them to try again, doing it a bit differently, was in fact their friend Jesus. And in sitting talking to him they learned not only what his plan for them was, but that he would indeed never properly leave them.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3md399yBEI>
Making wiggly paper fish proved a great hit, if a bit of a challenge, as did making an aquarium using paper plates and lots of bits and pieces. But perhaps the two biggest "hits" were making foil boats and seeing how many marbles we could get into them before they sank and trying to

"catch" balls in a box (rather than fish in a net) divided into sections, each worth a different number of points. In both of these cases, the gusty wind in the garden just added to the fun!

The Easter story is above all a story of hope: the hope that comes from knowing Jesus and having him in our lives, from knowing he walks with us every step of our life's journey. It won't all be easy, it won't all be happy – but despite what might happen we'll know that He is there supporting us, helping us to get through whatever life throws at us. And when, like the disciples in our two stories, we feel lost, and can't seem to find him, if we open our eyes and our ears, he comes to us in different ways, just at the right time, helping us to remember that with him by our side, we can deal with all things.



Please continue to pray for;

- * the families who've come along to Messy Church (for some, this is their only connection with any sort of church) – that they would come to know Jesus and understand the depth of His love for us all
- * our team of helpers from across the churches – that we would grow in number, and be sustained in energy and enthusiasm
- * ways that are attractive to local families to make known what Messy Church is about and draw them in

Like 'Messy Church Penicuik' on Facebook and be kept up to date with everything that's happening

Next meeting: Sunday 12th June at 3.30pm.

Information from Joan (674276 OR capefamily@talktalk.net)

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)

Guild Afternoon Tea - Saturday 14 May *Report and pictures by Agnes Ovenstone*

The Guild held an afternoon tea on Saturday 14th May which was originally planned for 14th March 2020 but due to the pandemic had to be cancelled with two days notice but finally it happened and there were even people who still had their original tickets from two years ago!

They had decided not to take their money back then as we thought it would only be a three or four month postponement. It was, however, worth it as it was a hugely successful afternoon with over 70 people present.

We were even asked when the next one would be! Something for the Guild to consider.



Everyone said how great it was to be out and about meeting friends again. It was great for us members of the Guild to be almost back to normal enjoying bringing people together for which we thank our Lord.

On behalf of all the members I would like to thank everyone who came to support us at the afternoon tea and we look forward to seeing you again.

We are at present filling up our syllabus for the new session which begins in September.

70 Quiz entries were received, and....
The winner of the quiz is Janis Hogg



Hats Gloves and Scarves - Supporting those in far off places



As we embrace the coming of summer, and with it the warmer weather and sunshine, Christmas seems a long way off.

Our church has for many years supported the Blythwood Care Shoe Box Appeal

which every Christmas sends woollen hats, gloves, scarves and blankets to eastern Europe where winters are bitterly cold and many people, adults and children, are desperately poor, and in need of warm clothing.

If you find some spare time, dig out those knitting needles and start on that gift that will later this year bring a smile to someone, whom you will never know, but will be forever grateful for your kindness and thoughtfulness. Can't knit? Perhaps you can buy a pair of woolly gloves to donate?



Christine Jackson, our appeal coordinator, can help with information and assistance.



Any donations gratefully received. These can be handed in at the church hall on Friday 17th June between 2pm and 4pm or Saturday 18th June from 9 am or any Sunday morning at the church. For further information contact Agnes Ovenstone 672387

From the Session Clerks *Neil Cape & Rosie Townsley*

When our new congregation was formed at the beginning of April, we agreed that key office bearers should act jointly for the first 6 months. Neil and Rosie had agreed that Neil should take the Minutes of Kirk Session meetings (one of the jobs of a Session Clerk)...but then Neil developed Covid 3 days before our first joint Session meeting in April, in person rather than by Zoom, so Rosie ended up having to take the Minute for that meeting. We are still working out how to share the other things that Session Clerks have to do, which in many cases are simple (but necessary) administrative jobs. However, we have made some progress in forming the committees or groups that will make our new congregation work. Gordon MacDonald will lead the Fabric Committee, and Joyce MacLean will lead the Finance Committee. We employ a Treasurer to keep our accounts, but Joyce is the person to contact if you need help with finances; we do now have joint bank accounts, but these things take time to work through the system. Margaret Webster and Wilma Wilson will deal with pastoral care; the Minister will head up the Mission group; Agnes Ovenstone and Kathleen Downey are looking after the Social side of things; Jim Paterson will continue as Safeguarding co-ordinator; and various other small teams were set up, for example, to organise welcomers at the church door each Sunday.

You may be aware that we have had two 'discussion' meetings on Saturday mornings, one in March and the other in early May, to work out our priorities in building a congregation that is 'Multi-generational, Mission Focussed and Pastorally Attentive', as laid down in the Basis of Union. These meetings involved the elders, and also people engaged in the activities of the congregation(s). We came up with several priority areas to work on, so look out for invitations to participate. The priorities are (in no particular order): work in schools (with New Housing Group); Thursday coffee (including restarting the Craft Group); Church family events (eg beetle drive, quiz); Investigating gifts and talents; Unifying the church roll; Parents and toddlers group; Space outside the front of the church; Prayer ministry (streets and church). If one (or more) of these areas is of interest, please contact Neil or Rosie to find out who you need to speak to.

Finally, St Mungo's had a system of Freewill Offering envelopes, which will continue. Those of you who have used their envelopes should be issued with new ones automatically, but if you don't get any, or if you'd like to start using envelopes, please contact Agnes Ovenstone or Neil Cape. For most of the congregation, regular giving is by Standing Order through your bank – please contact Joyce MacLean (677714) for details of how to do this, and for how to give by Gift Aid. Former members of St Mungo's don't need to change anything as the new congregation is keeping the old bank account number, so Standing Orders will be transferred automatically; former members of Penicuik South & Howgate will need to contact their bank in order to set up a new Standing Order.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of us – that's a very important part of being a Session Clerk..keeping people informed. Neil Cape (674276) and Rosie Townsley (679103).

The Beatitudes

The Rev John Urquhart commenced our study of the Beatitudes on Sunday 8 May, which the Rev Peter Wood continued as he led our services during John's pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in north western Spain.



He introduced us to the Beatitudes, a series of blessings declared by Jesus during His "Sermon on the Mount", found in the Gospels of Matthew. In contrast to the 10 Commandments given to Moses, Jesus gives the encouraging promises of the Beatitudes, listing the values in life which will lead to prosperity and salvation.

John on Sunday 8th opened the series with 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' Peter followed on the 15th and 22nd with 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted', and 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth'.

You can use our podcast videos to catch-up or revisit these services



Sunday 8 May https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VAEKncY_MQ
Sunday 15 May <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xIRn9XUyQQ>
Sunday 22 May <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkW5aWq1g9w>

John will continue the series on his return Sunday 29 May.

You can see all our services and notices on our new YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCasG-0nYG0opYzFhaDon2sw>

