



CATHCART TRINITY CHURCH

FOLLOWING JESUS CHRIST • GLORIFYING GOD • SERVING OTHERS



By Ceitidh Macdonald

NEWSLETTER Winter 2021

LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER

As I think back to last Christmas, it's incredible to reflect on the restrictions under which we were living. Visits to our families and friends were curtailed, restaurants and cafes were closed. In church, we were limited in the numbers of worshippers that could attend, and we were not able to sing - either in the building or out caroling in the community. Compared to previous Christmases, it felt oddly quiet.

While Covid 19 has not gone away, this year has the potential to be noisier and busier. As I write that last sentence, I know that there will be a variety of thoughts and feelings about that. Some of you were grateful for the opportunity to stop and have a simpler quieter Christmas last year. Others spent time looking forward to the freedom and opportunities that 2021 would bring. Some others of you felt both grateful for a quiet Christmas, but longed to be able to do more.

As I reflected on this increased busyness and noisiness, the phrase "The first Christmas wasn't really all that silent a night" popped into my head.

I think sometimes I have a sanitized view of what things were like in that stable. I attempt to sing gently, "The cattle are lowing", thinking of a gentle sound that happens to wake baby Jesus – but the dictionary tells me alternatives for lowing are bellow or a low deep moo. I somehow manage to over-look the fact that Bethlehem was crammed full of people to participate in Caesar's census. It would have been chaotic. People crammed in everywhere.

How many people do you think managed to walk past the place where Jesus was born without a clue of what had just happened? How many people would have noticed the cries of the newborn King over the sound of the animals making the noises that animals do while they wondered "Who has put a human baby in our feeding trough?" The answer is not many.

It would have been easy to overlook what went on in that stable in Bethlehem, to ignore who had arrived on the scene amid all the noise. And that is true again this year.

However, as followers of Jesus it is our calling to choose to focus on Christ in the busyness and noisiness. To tune our ears to hear the angel song “Glory to God in the highest”, and like the shepherds to tell those around us “We have met our Lord Jesus, the promised King. Will you come and meet this Jesus with us?”

“So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.” Luke 2:16-20

With my love and Christmas greetings,

Alasdair

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Deaths

Margot Stewart, Isobel Morrison, Anne McColl,

Disjunctions

Alan and Ruth Scott, George Phillips

Baptisms

Bonny and Fergus Campbell

AFTERNOON TEAS



In the course of the next year you will receive an invitation from your elder to afternoon tea in the Buchanan Hall.

This will be an opportunity to chat to some other members in your elder's district and to share in sandwiches, sausage rolls and home baking. These afternoons will generally be on a Thursday or Saturday. First tea is on Thursday 16th December so watch out for your invitation! For those unable to attend we will hopefully deliver "a wee carry out" so that everyone feels included. We look forward to these.

Fiona Jones



The time for Messy Church has drawn to a natural close. Like so many other activities, Messy Church was abruptly halted by the arrival of Covid 19 and the subsequent lockdown of March 2020. However, unlike some other ventures, Messy Church did not transpose well into the virtual

world online where many of its vital elements were lost and the engagement with some families became impossible.

The team has reflected with thankful hearts, looking back at how God has been at work over these past five years. Forming and working together as a team has been an intrinsic part of this work. People with diverse talents and personalities from both our Partnership churches have come together, moved out of their comfort zones together, learned from one another and, as a result, have grown together. Faith has been nurtured and creativity brought to life even in those who didn't realise they had any!

**"There is a time
for everything, and
a season for every
activity under the
heavens"**

What are we thankful to God for? We are grateful for the relationships forged with the families who have come through our doors, some of whom had never set foot in church before, and yet many recognised they were in, as one young boy exclaimed, "The Jesus Place"! We are so thankful for the seeds planted in those lives as they learned through crafts, through fun and games, through sharing meals and conversations round the table, and in the Celebrations of Worship, about the God who loves them with an everlasting love and His Son Jesus, through whom they too can experience life in all its fullness.

The importance of seeing families learning together and carrying on their faith conversations from month to month, inspired the development of the Family Service during lockdown, and fired our desire to continue All Age Worship.

Our thanks to everyone from both churches who supported Messy church in prayer and in practical ways, to the core team for all their imaginative planning, to the kitchen team for the lovely meals, to one another for all the fun and laughter, and to Wilma for her enthusiastic and faithful leadership.

Although Messy Church has come to an end, the need for us to connect with the folk in our community with the love of Jesus remains as strong as ever. May God grant us the opportunities, and may we grasp them in obedience.

Gay Morrison

THROUGH THE WEEK WITH ...



MONDAY:

Creative Sessions/The Vibe and CYMP Book Group

We've had 3 sessions so far and 14 young people have attended. Fiona from Spider Arts leads the sessions and has created a bespoke 8 week programme. www.spiderarts.co.uk

The CYMP Book Group continues and the next one meets on Monday 6 December at 8pm on Zoom.
www.goodreads.com/book/show/57882029-god-is-not-a-white-man

TUESDAY:

Youth Club, Illuminate and Kaio

The afternoon **Youth Club** at Cathcart Trinity has started back. 13 young people from P4 to P7 have attended across the first 2 sessions.

Illuminate: youth discipleship for P7-S4. We are currently using the Energize, Urban Saints resource called Christian Lifestyle. 9 young people regularly attend. www.energize.uk.net/series/18

Kaio: youth discipleship for S5+. We are using the Fruitfulness on the Frontline material along with others from Cathcart Baptist Church. After watching the DVD together on Zoom, we have a conversation as **Kaio**. 8 young people regularly attend.
www.licc.org.uk/ourresources/fruitfulness

WEDNESDAY:

Cosy Cafe at Hillpark Secondary is hoping to start back in January 2022 but just for first years. The Hillpark chaplaincy team are hoping to resume meetings in the next few weeks.

THURSDAY:

Renew Wellbeing – afternoon youth sessions at Cathcart Baptist.
Renew Wellbeing cafe space is now open. See page 8

FRIDAY:

Equip, Movie Nights and Starlight Cafe

Equip West by SU Scotland is now back to running in person events. Cara and Murdo are on the **Equip West** team. Several young people from Cathcart attend the event.

www.suscotland.org.uk/what-we-do/equip/equip-events/equip-west/

Monthly **Movie Nights** have started back and have been well received and attended. We will possibly hold a Christmas movie day on Thursday 23rd December.

Starlight Cafe! The first one was on Friday 5th November and greatly appreciated by all ages. Next one planned for Friday 10th December from 7.00 to 9.00pm. A coffee van is situated at the Gateway carpark for a few hours.

SATURDAY:

Monkey Business for primary age children has met once since the start of term and we are finding that using the outside space is much better. We have scheduled a Monkey Business for Saturday 4 December at CBC from 3pm to 5pm.

SUNDAY:

Fusion – joint bible class sessions

Fusion Breakfasts remain a regular feature and will continue this year. This is allowing teenagers to participate in worship at their home fellowships. We are planning to meet as **Fusion** group at morning service time on Sunday 21st November.

Cara Wightman
radiatecathcart@aol.co.uk

Journey to Renew Wellbeing Centre (Cathcart, Glasgow)



Cara Wightman and the Renew Wellbeing Team at Cathcart.

Renew Wellbeing Cathcart was launched on Thursday 28 October 2021. Before the launch there was a significant journey and a stirring of the Holy Spirit amongst several people about the need to pray and the importance of looking after our own wellbeing. This was fuelled even more by lockdown. A small group met together for months before Canopy 2020 to pray and support and chat through the possibilities of creating a safe space for people. (Canopy 2020 is the Baptist Union Annual Conference)

Canopy 2020 introduced us to Ruth Rice and Renew Wellbeing. The concept of Renew Wellbeing was one that we felt would work in our local context. Three local churches already work together with Cathcart Youth Ministry Partnership, and already have established “joined up thinking.” The three churches are Cathcart Baptist Church, Cathcart Trinity Church of Scotland and Cathcart United Free Church. “Joined up thinking” prompted conversations and a realisation that each partnership church wanted to do “something” for our community. This “something” was about prayer, being together, drinking coffee and making things.

March 2021: several people across the partnership churches attend the online training and read Ruth Rice’s book: *Slow Down, Show Up*

and Pray. We decided to do a trial run at our weekly Summer Holiday Club café. Every Friday morning and afternoon in July we had the Jungle Java café in the gardens of a church. The café was for parents/carers of young people at the holiday club and for the local community and created a much needed opportunity to connect again in person in a safe outside space. The café also had a pop up prayer gazebo which created an opportunity to use the rhythms of prayer. The prayer space was hugely encouraging and for those who chose to engage with it found it to be incredibly special and helpful to them.

September 2021: a core team met to work through the online training and work out how to do Renew Wellbeing in our context. Ruth Rice has been incredibly supportive throughout the whole journey and we are delighted to have officially launched our Renew Wellbeing space to the public.

So far we have had two sessions and these have been a great blend of some the things that the partnership churches did before lockdown like The Shed Project and the working in the garden and also having a safe space for people to try new skills like learning to crochet a poppy. The rhythms of prayers have been integral to this time as they give it meaning and allow people to pause and be still. We are looking forward to how the Renew Wellbeing space develops as we launch our Renew Wellbeing Youth space this month and continue exploring new times and spaces in the future.



'I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD.'

Psalms 104:33 & 34
(NIV)



There is no one no matter who they are
no matter where they are
no matter how young
no matter how old.

There is no one no matter their successes
no matter their failures
no matter how very rich
no matter how tragically poor.

There is no one no matter how great their strength
no matter how profound their weakness
no matter if they wield power
no matter if lost and forgotten.

There is no one no matter how religious
no matter how profane
no matter if comfortable
no matter if living with pain
no matter if all alone
no matter if loved by many.

There is no one no matter who they are
no matter where they are
who isn't in personal constant desperate immediate
need for divine grace.

No one is excepted
no one is omitted
everyone is alike
all live the same drama
all have but one hope:
grace

Grace is a thunderous, expansive, powerful, and life-altering word. Other than God, there is no more important word that the human mind could consider, and the mouth could speak.

Grace is the ultimate spiritual game-changer. It is the one thing that has the power to change you and everything about you. There simply is nothing comparable to God's grace.

Grace explodes into your life in a moment but will occupy you for all of eternity. You could dig into grace every day of your life and not reach the bottom of its power and glory.

Grace is the bottomless, treasure-laden mine of divine help. In his famous hymn, John Newton really did choose the best word ever to describe God's grace: amazing.

Grace is why God sent his Son into this world, to do for us what we could not do for ourselves - to transform us from what we are (sinners separated from him) into what we are becoming (Christ-like and with him forever).

Because you are God's child, grace is something you'll never deserve but can always expect.

Grace is a tool that God uses to transform you, but it also defines the nature of his relationship to you.

Grace will devastate you while giving you peace of heart and rest of soul you have never experienced before.

Grace will require you to confess your unworthiness but will never, ever make you feel alone and unloved.

Grace will remind you again and again that you have no ability whatsoever to earn God's favour, but it will dispel your fear of not measuring up.

Grace will confront you with the reality that you are way less than you thought you were while it comforts you with the promise that you can be way more than you ever imagined. Grace will call you to examine yourself with honesty and humility but free you from being paralyzed by fearful introspection.

Grace will ask you to admit to your catalogue of weaknesses while at the same time empowering you with newfound strength.

Grace will keep reminding you of what you are not, so you will receive God's welcome to what you can now be.

Grace will make you sadder than you have ever been in your life and give you cause for joy and celebration that nothing or no one can take away.

Grace will blow up your little kingdom of one while it introduces you to a much better, more glorious King.

Grace will work to expose your blindness while it gives you eyes to see.

Grace will drive you to the end of yourself while it holds before you the promise of fresh starts and new beginnings.

Grace is a person, and his name is Jesus.

QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. How has the grace of God transformed you? Be specific. Look back on your life and rejoice.
2. What sinful evidence did you provide this past week that reveals your ongoing need for rescuing grace? Is there anyone in particular that you owe an apology to?
3. How has grace "devastated" you? What has it exposed about your heart that you don't want to admit? What weaknesses are you still trying to avoid or ignore?
4. How has grace provided you with identity, peace, and strength? Be specific. How has grace helped you endure the most difficult storms of life with confidence, courage, and rest?
5. Where is grace inviting you to participate in the work of the King? What aspects of *your* selfish kingdom must grace dismantle first that are getting in the way?

This content was originally posted by its author Paul Tripp on
www.paultripp.com



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 19 December

11am Nativity at Cathcart Trinity
Early evening Carol Singing in Cathcart UF Garden

Friday 24 December

6:30pm Christmas Eve Service at Cathcart Trinity

Saturday 25 December

11am Christmas morning at Cathcart Trinity

Sunday 26 December

11am Morning Service at Cathcart Trinity
11am Morning Service at Cathcart United Free

**There will be no evening services on
19 & 26 December 2021 and 2 January 2022**



CHRISTMAS CARDS

There will be an opportunity to write your Christmas Greetings to the congregation on a very large Christmas card available in the vestibule in December. Instead of giving individual cards, this is a chance to send a message to everyone and make a donation, in lieu of cards, to Lodging House Mission.



GIFTS FOR OTHERS

SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER



Once again, we have the opportunity to reach out to children and young people in Glasgow whose Christmas may not be the happiest: situations affected by poverty, broken relationships etc. Our gifts have been well received in past years and have shown that people do care.

It feels even more important this year given the difficulties some families have experienced over the past year. Here are some ideas for gifts:

Gifts for Church House (for children aged 8 – 12)

games, toy, puzzles, construction toys, stationery, selection boxes, annuals etc.

Gifts for Barnardo's (for young people 16+)

make up, after shave, hair gel, stationery, fashion jewellery, purse, photo frame, nice mug, fluffy blanket, chocolate, gift vouchers, small electrical gadgets etc.

Please do not wrap your gift, but include a gift bag or wrapping paper. Bring your gift along to church on **Sunday 12 December**

If it is not possible for you to be at church on the 12 December and you would like your gift included, please be in touch.

Thank you

Linda Burke – 07870269546
(L829burke@btinternet.com)

WIDER WORLD MISSION

In September and October, the morning service considered some “Big Questions” which some children had asked. We need our church to have commitment in some way or other to obey Jesus’ command to take the gospel into all the world. If that is to happen here are some further “Big Questions” for us to consider and to answer individually.



HAVE YOU A PERSONAL LIVING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS?

If we are to be a church committed to taking the gospel to every corner it must begin with each of us. Only when we have each personally committed ourselves to Jesus, received forgiveness and come into fellowship with Him and been made new by the Holy Spirit can we be involved in world mission.

HOW DO YOU MAINTAIN THAT RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS?

Do you spend a little time with Jesus each day - reading the Bible and talking to Him in prayer? Have you a daily routine? - a Bible reading plan? If not try the various Bible reading notes by Scripture Union or download Lectio 365 app for your phone. Begin a daily habit of spending time with God and of course worshipping together on Sunday at morning or evening service or both!!!

HOW COMMITTED ARE YOU TO THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER?

Obviously to maintain any relationship, communication is vital – so talking to God every day needs to be part of our day. But the Bible makes it clear that praying together is an essential part of our Christian experience. God loves it when 2 or 3 of His people spend time in prayer. Paul tells us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. So what keeps the vast majority of church members away from the prayer meetings? What keeps you away?

HOW DO YOU SEE YOURSELF FULFILLING JESUS' COMMAND TO TAKE THE GOSPEL EVERYWHERE?

Obviously not everyone can leave this country and go with the gospel but if we love Jesus we need to find some way of obeying His command. It might be that you commit to sharing the gospel with family, neighbours and workmates. It might be that you adopt a missionary you know and get involved with them - praying for them - receiving their prayer letters - supporting them financially - attending a missionary conference or prayer meeting - getting a missionary magazine. Which of these is your choice?

IF YOU ARE NOT INVOLVED AT THE MOMENT IN ANY OF THE ABOVE, WHAT IS YOUR EXCUSE?

"I'm too old to be involved" "Someone else needs to do it, just not me." "People have to find their own way to God" "These days we have to be tolerant and not force ourselves on people of another faith" or some other excuse. The bottom line is that there is no excuse.

These days we need to listen again to what God says:

**"There is no other name but the name of Jesus
whereby people can be saved"**

Acts 2:21

"Go and make disciples of all nations"

Matthew 28:19

BIG QUESTIONS DEMAND A BIG RESPONSE!

WHAT WILL YOURS BE?

WIDER WORLD MISSION WEEKEND

Our Wider World Mission Weekend was held on 30 and 31 October. The theme of the weekend was “Do we still need missionaries today?”

Of course, with millions of people throughout the world without any contact with any Christian the answer is “Yes. Missionaries are needed today.” We had 4 people come to help us look at this question. Rev R Maclean is the Scottish Secretary of UFM, the organisation with whom Catherine works. Then there was Ben and Liz Griffin who had formerly worked in Burkina Faso and now work in digital ministry. Also there was Philip Rose who works as Scottish Rep of OM

The weekend began with the first in person Prayer Breakfast we have had for many months – it was lovely to share breakfast (prepared by Fiona, Margaret and Ruth) and to pray together. At the evening meeting where attendance was a bit disappointing, Murdo our part-time youth worker, started us off with a quiz. Then during the meeting Liz was interviewed about how she became a missionary and her husband Ben shared with us the new digital work UFM is doing. It was so exciting to hear of how small micro chips that can fit in a phone can be loaded up with complete Bibles to be read or listened to by people some who cannot read and also loaded with all kinds of teaching material in all kinds of languages. These chips can of course be shipped into countries where missionaries are not allowed.

Sadly on Sunday morning a family emergency arose for Ben and Liz and they had to leave at once for home. Wilma took over in the UF church and Willie filled the pulpit in Cathcart Trinity in the evening. A family breakfast was held on the Sunday morning with a good number of young people and their families. They then attended the first half of the morning service taken by Linda and Katie and then had time with Philip Rose who shared about the work of OM on the ships they run. We also saw short videos sent by Catherine and Imran. Please continue to be faithful in prayer for them.

IMRAN'S UPDATE

Imran seems to be impossibly busy these days. As well as his regular teaching in a local Bible Seminary he had an invitation to teach a "Mission and Evangelism" course in a big seminary. It was a big group of 60 students. He and Nagina have been invited to take part in a two week training course in Turkey. They are currently waiting on visas. The big new work for Imran is that he is heading up the work amongst Afghan refugees. Currently they are helping 130 but the numbers are growing. So please pray for this ministry.

CATHERINE'S UPDATE

Catherine has been a little under the weather recently so please continue to pray for her health. She continues her work sharing stories from the Bible with local women and sees glimmers of understanding and interest in some of their lives. This work is slow and sees many disappointments as people drop out of classes for one reason or another. Themes being discussed are those of honour and shame – where the Muslim mindset is different from Christian thinking.

CATHCART OMF PRAYER MEETING

The monthly prayer meeting takes place 1pm-2.30pm at 33 Tankerland Road (Willie and Katie's home). The next meeting will be on Friday 3 December when we hope to have David Knight who worked in China for a number of years with us. Please put the date in your diary and think about coming.

Willie Black

GLASGOW STREET PASTORS 2020-2021

Hello from Cathcart Trinity and UF Street Pastors!



We put some thought as to how we could continue patrolling during 2020 as the streets of Glasgow became very different. So, we began doing day patrols in July 2020 and this continued for some time. Those who were out connected with many people who needed a range of support or who wanted a listening ear. While patrol times changed work continued by *Listening, Caring and Helping* those we met.

August 13th 2021 was an important night! We were all very pleased to be back to our usual times of being out on the streets or on duty at safe zone. A usual shift for us is to meet at St George's Tron at 9.30pm. We gather what we need or set up safe zone, have a time of prayer and devotions together, connect with our prayer pastors who are on duty for the night and set off at 10pm. Our shift continues until 4am (ish) depending on the needs of those we are with. Our prayer is always to come alongside people and show love and care in the way that Jesus cares for each one of us. Each shift is different. We may spend a few moments with someone, or it can be a few hours. We may listen, pray, give practical help and so much more.

Each one of us will keep a memory of individuals we have met. For me, I remember the first person who came into safe zone on August 13th. The safe zone team and first aiders as well as the Police Officers, who had brought the person in, all worked together to provide the help that was needed. I felt God affirming that it was the right thing to be on duty again. I am pleased to tell you that the person was settled and was safely taken to hospital.

Please pray for the streets of Glasgow – for the light in sometimes dark situations, for peace on our streets, for those who work in the night time economy, for Police Scotland and for those out as Street Pastors on a Friday and Saturday night. Thank you.

Linda Burke

UPDATE FROM KIRK SESSION

Over the course of the last couple of years, we have all become aware that we are living through a season of reshaping. Across society, life feels different from what it was in 2019. We hear the Prime Minister talking of “Building Back Better”. Here as Church we have been reminded that God is always doing something new. In fact, God is making all things new – including us.

As the Elders and Ministry Team leaders have met together, we have had to acknowledge that there are aspects of our pre-Covid practices that should be altered or stopped. At the same time, we see new ministries spring up – such as Renew Wellbeing, the Family Service and the use of the Church garden as a place of blessing to our congregation and community.

In both Kirk Session meetings and in the prayer session during Sunday morning worship where I asked you to write a prayer on a building block, the theme of unity kept coming up. We have been reminded that we need to be united as we go forward into this next period of our life together as God’s Church in Cathcart Trinity. United by the vision we share: Following Jesus Christ; Glorifying God and Serving Others.

During one of our discussions about how the Kirk Session should interact with our Ministry Teams the image of a bike wheel with spokes meeting in the centre was shared. In this image, the Kirk Session is at the centre, the Ministry Teams are the spokes giving structure and the congregation (all of us) is the whole wheel. This image captures the sense that we are meant to be united in common purpose and need support and communication lines open between one another as we move forward together.

To that end the Kirk Session decided that there should be closer interaction between the Kirk Session and Ministry Teams and from there, better lines of communication with the Congregation to allow us all to be informed about what is going on and to participate in these ministries.

We further resolved that at every meeting of the Kirk Session, our Ministry Teams should be grouped into four over-arching groups for discussion: Worship, Outreach, Growth and Support. The intention in this is to give our Teams more encouragement and support, and to allow better inter-team working and help us all get involved.

For your information, these are our current teams, listed under their Kirk Session discussion group.

WORSHIP GROUP	OUTREACH GROUP	GROWTH GROUP	SUPPORT GROUP
Worship (services, music)	Community (CT & UF)	Pastoral Care and KIT	Hospitality
Worship Support (tech)	Garden	Youth and Children (CT& UF)	Communication
	Renew Wellbeing (CT, UF & CBC)	Christian Growth/ Prayer (CT & UF)	
	Wider World (CT & UF)	<i>Family(pop up group)</i>	
	<i>Alpha (pop up group)</i>	Stewardship	

Already core purposes for the short term have emerged. These are re-engagement, pastoral care and stewardship. Again, for your information here are some of the actions we will be doing over the next 6 months (you will see that some of them have already been initiated).

Engage in a review of Sunday morning worship:

- include different persons in the Bible readings and prayers
- reintroduce weekly notices
- introduce testimonies in our services of worship
- fellowship over tea and coffee

Share opportunities to get involved in serving the community

- create a garden care team
- organise Christmas in the Church Garden
- participate in Renew Wellbeing

Church Family opportunities

- Relaunch Sofa Groups
- Organise afternoon teas for Elder Districts over the next year
- Create a photoboard of elders and team leaders
- Highlight opportunities for all of us to be involved in ministries in the church and in our partner organisations.

This is a list that will be added to as Kirk Session and Ministry Teams continue to meet and is intended to be reviewed by the congregation in March at the time of our Annual Stated Meeting - when we will discuss together our priorities for the following 6 months.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to me or to any of the elders.

Alasdair



Cathcart Trinity has agreed to provide volunteers to serve food at the Overnight Welcome Centre between Monday 24th January – Sunday 30th January 2022. The service will be based in a city centre hotel

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Iain Duff – iainduff@ntlworld.com

SAFEGUARDING AT CATHCART TRINITY

It is so good to see activity around our church with organisations meeting up. As Safeguarding Co-ordinator, I am available to support organisations to discuss safeguarding good practice or any other safeguarding matter.



Perhaps you are looking for new volunteers who may need a PVG for their role – if so, please contact me and this can be done.

Keeping our church a safe place for everyone, is something that is for all of us to be part of. Please do not hesitate to be in touch with me if you, at any time, have any safeguarding concerns.

Thank you.

Linda Burke 07870269546
(L829burke@btinternet.com)



SUMMARY ACCOUNTS FOR THE 9 MONTHS TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

	ACTUAL	BUDGET FOR PERIOD
Total income	133.1	123.3
Total expenditure	132.8	140.4
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	0.3	(17.1)

Total income is £9,800 above budget. This is principally due to an increase in gift-aid donations (£5,900) resulting from a number of generous donations from members of the congregation, an increase in furlough income (£2,400) following the extension of the Government Job Retention Scheme, and contributions from groups as hall usage picks up.

Expenditure is under budget by £7,600 principally resulting from an underspend in repairs and maintenance and heat and light, the latter due to reduction in usage of the Church premises during the pandemic.

The result is a small surplus of £300 against a budgeted deficit of £17,100.

National Giving Day Appeal

The response has been extremely generous with just over £35,146 received to date. We will be able to claim Gift Aid on a proportion of this and the total amount will be exempt from Ministries and Mission Contribution assessment. May God bless the Congregation for this generosity.

NEWS FROM THE FLOWER TEAM

On Harvest Sunday we were delighted to be able to reintroduce fresh flowers to the Sanctuary for the first time since March last year.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who so willingly delivered the flowers and plants to members of our church family. The flowers, and the visits, were greatly appreciated.

We are also very thankful for those whose faithful donations to the Flower Fund allow this ministry to continue, and for those who have offered to join our group of deliverers who, Sunday by Sunday, take the flowers with our love and prayers, to those of our number who are ill, bereaved, or perhaps rejoicing in a happy event.



If you feel you would like to be involved in any way arranging flowers, donating or delivering, please contact any of the Flower team: Ann McKenzie, Marilyn MacInnes, June Allison, Jan McCloy or Gay Morrison.



ART & CRAFT CLUB

We are now back in full swing, and it is great to see so much enthusiasm. Around 20 members come each week with their knitting, painting, card making etc. Sadly, Ann McColl a very long-term member has passed away and we shall miss her encouragement and quiet, delightful conversation.



We are looking forward to reconnecting with Scholars restaurant for lunch on November 25th. We break for Christmas on December 9th and return on January 6th 2022. Where has this year gone, but slowly life is returning to normal?



Take care and enjoy Christmas with family and friends.



Fiona Sutherland suther@supanet.com

FABRIC AND HALL REPORT

Halls

With the year end fast approaching, there is so much to be thankful for with all the activities that are going on within Cathcart Trinity Church. We have welcomed new organisations to Cathcart Trinity Church as well as increasing the numbers of bookings for the Guides and Line Dancing.

We welcomed back Moments Café and Queens Park Probus, and it was great to see these groups reaching out into the community.

It is nice to see the coffee being served after the services, giving members of the congregation a chance to chat with others after an absence of 20 months or so.

Our grateful thanks must go to Stuart for all his help in keeping the place safe at all times and for his attention to detail when it comes to ensuring the Church and Halls are kept up to a very high standard of hygiene.

Fabric

Throughout September & October you would have been aware of the scaffolding that was put up around the south transept area. This work has been completed and we are pleased to report that there has been no water ingress in the area above and near to where the band sits. Great to see the buckets have been removed!



We will also get a quote for the redecoration of the Sanctuary where there has been flaking plaster due to the previous water penetration.

The plans for 2022 will need to include the replacement of part the heating system as one of the three boilers has been condemned and is unable to be utilised and a second boiler is heading in that direction. We do struggle to maintain the temperature desired within

the Sanctuary on a Sunday morning. The first and only currently received quote shows the cost could be in excess of £25,000. I think you should read this as a friendly warning to wrap up well on a Sunday morning/evening, so that if the Church is cooler than normal then you are prepared. Additional layers can always be removed!

On a nostalgic thought, it might be nice to see the members wearing warm winter hats like I remember when I was in the Sunday School? On the other hand maybe not !!

Other areas that will need attention in 2022 will be sealing the roof and pointing the wall outside the Sunday Club Resource Room, to the right of the Buchanan Hall Chancel.

We will also endeavour to carry out additional roofing repairs in the area immediately above the Youth Room and Creche.

The trees around the Church grounds have already been highlighted as needing trimmed. We have been advised that one of the trees between ourselves and the Couper Institute will need to be taken down completely as it deemed to be unsafe.



We are looking at extending the outside lighting to include the area between the Large Hall steps and the Sanctuary itself so that the front pathway of the grounds is fully lit.





Another area that has just been noticed is that the windows at the front of the Church will need extensive pointing as this was only recently found when we lowered the blinds and saw the extent of the repair

needed. Fortunately, we have Flexiglass covering the outside of the glass thus preventing any risk of further damage occurring.

Now that the Kitchen has been re-modelled we will endeavour to replace the ceiling tiles and increase the flow of water from the water heater.

The Manse

We are now required by law to fit WiFi smoke and fire alarms into the Church Manse and as such we will use this opportunity to rewire the building. This work was agreed at the time of the purchase of the new manse in Muirhill Avenue and will be carried out using the surplus that was achieved from the sale of the previous manse on Merrylee Road. Potential cost has still to be established.

Work needs to be carried out on repairing a leak within the upstairs shower and this will also involve the redecoration and plastering of one of the public rooms downstairs.

We will continue to carry our remedial repairs and redecoration where necessary on an ongoing basis and will report back quarterly to the members of the Church when plans have been put in place.

Roy Kinnear
(Hall & Fabric Convenor)

CARING FOR THE CHURCH GARDENS

Thanks to all who have so far volunteered to help care for the church gardens. More volunteers are sought and are asked to opt for one of the following aspects:

- **Mowing** (mowing and edging the two lawns at the front and the embankment at the rear)
- **Weeding** (weeding flower beds, gravel areas and paved areas)
- **Pruning** (pruning shrubs, roses and other large plants).

Most of the work in the gardens is required during the period March to October and could be tackled at any time which suits the individual volunteer.

If you are interested in volunteering for one of these tasks, please email me at angusmorrison@talktalk.net





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