News from Cathcart Trinity Church

September & October 2019



From our Minister:

There was a moment last week when I found myself thinking 'Maybe I should just stop reading the news.'

That thought came at the end of a particularly confusing day in the life of our nation. Every possible position on Brexit, ending sessions of Parliament, General Elections and Referenda seemed to have been on the lips of our politicians or shared in the press. And at the end, I simply felt overwhelmed and afraid. So why is our political uncertainty the theme for my minister's letter?

When it comes to politics I have always tried to tread carefully. I know that among those of you reading this there will be some who would accept a 'No deal Brexit,' some who want a Brexit deal and some who want another opportunity to vote whether to leave the European Union at all. These 'wants' are not mutually exclusive if you're worried you find yourself falling into two of my categories.

Then there are also those of you who want a second referendum on Scottish Independence. Alongside still others who feel that the matter is settled and that we should remain part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. So I have sought to be politically neutral in case my personal politics would drive a wedge between me and any of you. However at this time in the life of our nation I feel I have to remind myself and you of what God has said through his word. What are we called to do in times like this? Where is our hope in times of political uncertainty?

First – God's children are called to be committed to Jesus above any other thing

I start here because this goes deeper than Brexit or Referenda. This is a foundation of Christian faith. Do you love anything else more than you love Jesus?

I think about Peter being asked by Jesus 'Do you love me more than these?' (John 21) or the would be followers of Jesus who sought to limit the extent to which they would follow Jesus (Matthew 8; Matthew 10:37).

There are loves in all of our lives that have the capacity to pull us away from our primary calling to love Jesus first. We can't let them succeed.

At times like this it's easy for concepts like Brexit, Independence, Referenda or maintaining the status quo to become idols in our hearts and minds. Do we love the thought of (one of) these concepts more than we love Jesus? However important something is, it cannot displace Jesus as number one in our heart. It must not pull us away from the love we had at first for him (Revelation 2:1-7). In fact what we should be doing is seeking ways to grow our love of Jesus.

Second – God's children are called to pray for our leaders

The apostle Paul calls us to do this explicitly (1 Timothy 2:1-2), but it's a principle that we see at work throughout the Bible.

The staggering thing about these Biblical examples is that often times these leaders are awful people. Yes, people pray for heroes like Moses and David, but Daniel also prays for Nebuchadnezzar - a foreign dictator who has defeated and exiled Daniel's people. Prophets pray for King Ahab – arguably the most unfaithful King of Israel and when Paul is writing to Timothy the "King" he has in mind is the Emperor Nero.

Whether you agree with Boris Johnson, Jeremy Corbyn, Nicola Sturgeon, Nigel Farage, Jo Swinson or whether they make your blood boil – we are called to pray for them and to respect that God has placed them in these positions of power (Romans 13:1-7).

Third – God's children are called to speak for those on the margins/those who have no voice

It was reading the Old Testament that helped me decide that God wanted me to study Law when I left school rather than any of the other options on the table. In both the writings of Moses and the prophets, I heard again and again 'defend the cause of the weak,' remember the widows, orphans, aliens (that is to say foreigners) and the poor (Psalm 82:3 for one of many examples). Whether we express that through loving our neighbour as we love ourselves (Luke 10:25-37) or in following God's example of choosing the weak and foolish things (or people) of this world to reveal his plans, his power and his glory, God has a heart of compassion for those who the world would easily overlook. He loves the powerless and the unimportant. He sees and hears their cries and then He acts. Do we?

Fourth – God's children are called to work and pray for unity/peace

If I'm being honest one of my biggest personal struggles at the moment is the lack of unity that we see in our country. However into this context Jesus calls out 'Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God' (Matthew 5:9).

It strikes me that at times like this the Church is doing exactly what we've been called to when we search for unity, peace and reconciliation.

When Paul commands that prayers be offered for leaders, one of his objects is that 'we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness' (1 Timothy 2:2) This begs the question - are we ministers of reconciliation? (2 Corinthians 5:11-21) Do we seek peace for our nation, for those around us, for the politicians of our nation? And do we ultimately want peace with God for them – the true and lasting peace that nothing else can bring but forgiveness and new life through our Lord Jesus Christ?

Fifth – God's children are called to rely on God

I don't know what the state of politics will be in a year's time. In fact I don't know how the state of politics will change from the time I write this to the time you read this we live in interesting times). However what I do know is that our hope is not in either Brexit or Independence happening or not, nor is it in the status quo continuing or ending; our hope is in God.

There are times for all of us that it feels like we're going through the fire or flood (Isaiah 43) but our hope is not in human political ideology, but in the fact that God is with us and for us. So let's trust in God who is the same yesterday, today and forever. Let's trust in the God who is always with us and for us and has a far better vision for our future than any politician.

Throughout this letter I have attempted to be Biblical and not party political. If I've failed, I'm sorry. If what I've written provokes thoughts in you or you fancy a conversation, please get in touch. Above all else, pray, pray, pray for where we are and where we are going and trust in God.

With my love and prayers,





News from SU Scotland

Give thanks

1,401 young people attended an SU Holiday this Summer, many more were part of a Holiday Club or Mission. Give thanks for each young person who had the opportunity to explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus and have a great time! There have been many encouraging stories – here's just a few:

A young Spanish girl was feeling homesick at her first event during week 1 of the Summer. She was off to a second event on week 2 which we were concerned about. It 'just so happened' that there was a Spanish speaking team member who was her group leader in Week 2 and she had a brilliant time.

A child who was openly hostile, saying 'I'm only here for the activities' had really softened by the end of the week, had build trust and was talking about believing in God. Another wanted to become a Christian, and another said, 'I believe in God now'.

Everyone had so much fun at the holiday club and we learned so much about Jesus over the three days. I was really excited to hear that one of the young people made a commitment to follow Jesus following the youth talks in the evenings. God is very good!

One of the young people shared at the end of the week how they prayed the rain would stop for camp set up and despite rain being forecast, it was dry as we set up camp, made dinner and read the Bible story. Maybe not a big event, but a significant moment in his faith journey.

There are three events taking place over the October Holidays:

- 11-14 October GO Conference discipleship event at Lendrick Muir for S4-6
- 14 17 October Messy Family Fun at Gowanbank
- 14 18 October SU Holiday at Alltnacriche for P6-S2

Exciting news for SU in Glasgow

In August Craig Morris, who previously



worked alongside Cara for CYMP, joined the SU team as Regional Worker for Glasgow. Kenny McKie (West Team Leader)

says this: 'I am so pleased to welcome Craig to the SU Scotland staff team! He has been committed to ministry in Prestwick, Glasgow and his home church in East Kilbride for a number of years. He has rich experience of leading SU Groups, holiday clubs and involvement with SU weekends. Along with his service in local churches, his gifting and personal development, he has been thoroughly prepared for this role, and will continue to grow into it as we seek to develop him further.'

There are 146 primary and 37 secondary schools in Glasgow, educating over 80,000 pupils – that's a lot of opportunities to help pupils explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus! Many schools do not yet have an SU Group and just half are registered on the Pray for Schools Scotland network. Craig will be working closely with churches, the Wheel Trust in the west, Junction 12 in the east and volunteers who want to help young people to express their views, engage with others and grow in confidence in their faith.

Please can I encourage you to consider supporting Craig and SU Scotland – your volunteering, praying and giving could make a big difference to Glasgow's young people. Please pray for Craig, Carly and daughter Anna as they adjust to Craig's new role.

Craig says: 'I'm looking forward to growing the work of SU Scotland in Glasgow. I will be working with volunteers from churches across the city with the aim of starting new SU Groups in both primary and secondary schools. I'll also be encouraging existing volunteers to continue with the fantastic job they're already doing and aiming to strengthen these relationships through weekends away and training events.'

If you'd like to find out more about how you could support Craig in his work, or get involved yourself visit https://www.suscotland.org.uk/ourteam/craig-morris/

Appeal for Homestay Hosts

Place for Hope this year celebrates 10 years since the ecumenical conference from which the organisation was born. To mark this milestone, Place for Hope will, in conjunction with various partner organisations, host a major conference on peace-making and reconciliation in Glasgow from 30th October to 1 November 2019.

We hope to make the event affordable for potential delegates who would not otherwise be able to come to Glasgow by offering a 'homestay' option, and are looking for volunteers who may be willing to offer free accommodation for up to three nights. As a Homestay host you'd benefit from:

- Guaranteed 'early bird' rate for The Gathering.
- the chance to get to know delegates with an interest in faith-based reconciliation and conflict transformation.

If you have a spare room and may be willing to help, or have further questions, please get in touch.

w: www.placeforhope.org.uk/events e: info@placeforhope.org.uk t: 07884 580 359

Art and Craft Club

Just a note to say that the Art and Craft Club will restart on Thursday 5th September at 10am in the Buchanan Hall as usual.

I hope everyone has had a good summer and collected many ideas for the coming session. It will be good to meet with our friends again after the break. Don't forget your mug!

Fiona Sutherland.

suther@supanet.com

Thank you

Thank you all so very much for the love our family has been shown as we've welcomed baby Lily. We have been touched by every card, message, gift and offer of support and want to say thank you to you all. Alasdair would also like to thank everyone who covered for him in his absence – especially our Session Clerk, Angus Morrison, as well as Wilma and all those who preached.

With our love, Alasdair and Kirsty



Snowdrops:

A new session of Snowdrops has just begun. If you know of any girls aged 4-7 who love crafts, games and fun activities why not suggest they come along on Tuesday evenings, 6:15-7:15pm.

For more information or leaflets to pass on speak to Gail McLay.

Men's Breakfast – reConnected – Saturday 14 September @ 9am Cathcart UF Church

Come along for some coffee and a breakfast roll, early morning chat and a chance to see some short thought-provoking video clips.

Email dougie.paton@sky.com or purdomth@gmail.com to book a (free) place or if you need more information.

reConnected builds on a strong heritage of well-supported men's events locally and is designed to be informal and occasional with no syllabus, subscription or formal membership.

Thank you

Wilma, Andy and the whole family thank the church family for notes, cards, messages, flowers and support following the death of Betty Smith.

It was a great comfort to see so many of the church family at the crematorium and church – thank you. Your love and prayers are much appreciated.

www.cathcarttrinity.org.uk

God Uses many remarkable means, and His infinite patience, to gain our attention.

The year is 1978. Elaine and I had moved to Glasgow the previous year and had become friends with our new neighbours of similar ages to ourselves. This was a young Jewish couple, who being recently married, felt that their household needed to restore their religious and cultural practices i.e. hallmarks of their faith.

From this, discussions among us centred around the differences we experienced in our respective faiths, all the time acknowledging that we, as I then phrased it, 'believed in the same God.'

One day, with our neighbour in our home, from the radio came a group named Boney M singing 'Rivers of Babylon.'

Immediately she said of this newly released record, rapidly climbing its way up the charts, 'that's one of our songs. One that we sing!'

Looking back, there was I, defending but not really commiting to God, being fascinated by this young woman who felt in her Jewishness, so connected with the words of the song:

'By the rivers of Babylon Where we sat down, Yea we wept, When we remembered Zion.------'

I should mention that at this point in my life, I had not yet come to faith, and was making no attempt to understand or even enquire about the God whom I acknowledged. So, on reflection, I couldn't even be considered 'nominal' in my faith! And yet here I was, listening intently to a song which, at the time, spoke to me of a people who had been held in captivity, with a longing to be released in order to return and reclaim their former homeland.

I accepted at face value this song with a catchy tune, an easy rhythm, and the 'buzz' was that the words were taken from the bible.

For some time after, this song resonated with me, possibly due to the air time it received, but I became curious about its biblical and scriptural origins that seemed to catch the attention of many.

I was surprised to learn that the words were taken from Psalms. Even more surprised to find that the song was first released in 1970 by a Rastafari singing group, whose religion centred in Africa about 90 years ago, and developed more recently in the West Indies. They lifted certain words from Psalms 19 and 137, freely adapting them to suit their own religion. Along come Boney M, a Euro-Caribbean musical group from Germany, who take the lyrics and modify them in order that they align more accurately with the translation of the original Hebrew scriptures.

It is now years later that I have come to understand better, the true context of the words in Psalms 19 and 137. It's neither influenced by the Rastafarians who altered the Psalms for their own reasons, nor by the young Jewish couple who identify dearly with the lyrics as presented by Boney M.



What I've come to understand, as John Stott explains, concerning the Israelites as captives in Babylon, is although they were forcibly deported from their homes, (Jeremiah 29:5,6), they were encouraged to settle in Babylon, to cultivate the land and to live off the fruits of their labours. I quote, 'Their hardest trial was religious, for they felt spiritually lost in their separation from temple and sacrifice.'

Nevertheless, God was in complete control! And how do I sense the presence of this awesome God who is in total control? As Alex Motyer comments of Psalm 19 and the silent voice of creation, i.e. the Glory that shines out of God's created order. He goes on to say, 'But the Word of God tells us his name, who He is. Yahweh, the God of grace, the God who hears and acts, the God of our salvation.'

To Yahweh whose ways are perfect, I'm now able to move from a 70's song with it's catchy tune, and taking the words back to their true origin, appreciate what it really means to say, 'Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.' (Ps19:14 - ESV).

Jim Tarves.



Church family news:

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Elizabeth (Betty) Smith a member of Cathcart Trinity and Malcolm Ferguson who worshipped with us regularly. We give thanks for their lives and for their involvement in our Church and pray that they may now be at peace in God's glorious heaven.

Disjunctions: Laura Chapman & Andy Bennet.

Congratulations to Ross and Mhairi McNaughton on their recent marriage.



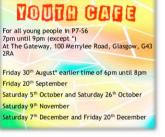
At The Gateway, 100 Merrylee Road, Glasgow, G43 2RA BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL

Friday 30th August



Saturday 14th September Saturday 5th October Saturday 9th November SUPERHERO CHRISTMAS PARTY On Saturday 7th December

Restarts Saturday 11th January 2020 Monkey Biscuits Café for parents/carers available at all Saturday events



POWERPOINT

CYMP goes to Powerpoint Meeting at McDonalds Pollokshaws Road at 6pm Saturday 14th September 2019 Saturday 16th November 2019 http://powerpoints.cotland.com



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT For all. Doors open at 6.15pm for 6.30pm start At Cathcart Baptist Church, 96 Merrylee Road Popcorn and tea, coffee and diluting juice provided.

Friday 13th September Friday 25th October Friday 22nd November

Movie to be announced on CYMP's social media platforms:

- Facebook cathcartyouthministrypartnership Instagram cathcartyouth Twitter radiatecathcart
- Contact Cara Wightman 07979 761950 for further info on CYMP events/activities.



Allégro Dance Academy is offering new ballet classes at Cathcart Trinity Church.

On Tuesday mornings, bring your baby or toddler to one of our pre school ballet classes - First Footsteps Ballet (18m-2.5y) or Nursery Ballet (2.5-4.5y).

We are also running our brand new 'Southside Swans' (Over 50s Gentle Ballet with free tea and coffee available at the end of the class) where we can all get together to learn new steps, keep fit and share our love of dance and ballet in an encouraging environment.

For adults who have never done any ballet before, please be assured this is a gentle class and everybody will be made to feel welcome.

The dates we are planning classes are Tuesday October 22nd, 29th, November 5, 12, 19, 26 & December 3rd, 10th.

There is no experience necessary for any of our classes.

For more information, please email info@allegro-dance-academy.co.uk or visit us at www.allegro-dance-academy.co.uk.

Kirsty Tremayne ARAD PDTD RADrts Allégro Dance Academy Principal E: info@allegro-dance-academy.co.uk W: www.allegro-dance-academy.co.uk

CTC EVENTS



Children need to bring an adult, but adults without children are welcome too. Monthly (3rd Saturday of every month) from 4.00-6.00pm in Cathcart Trinity Church buildings. A meal is served at 5.30pm.

Church for all ages with activities, food, friendship, games, chat, and a chance to think about God and Jesus.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Did you know? Cathcart Trinity Church has a weekly primary after school club! When? Tuesday afternoons during term time from 3.10pm to 4.45pm Who? All children in primaries 3 to 7 inclusive

How much? £1 per week (pay as you go) What happens? Crafts, ball games, board games, Lego, clay modelling, tuck shop (£1 max)

Dates? We open for business on Tuesday 3rd September 2019.

How to join? Just turn up! (But PLEASE bring a contact number on your 1st visit!!)

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Snowdrops starts on Tuesday 3rd September, 6.15-7.15pm. For girls aged 4-7 who love crafts, games and other fun activities. For more info call Gail McLay

For more info call Gail McLay on 0141 569 5503.

Cathcart Youth Ministry Partnership (CYMP) is a registered Scottish Charity SC039290. The partnership churches are Cathcart Baptist Church (CBC), Cathcart Trinity Church (CTC) and Cathcart United Free Church (CUFC).

cathcartyouthministrypartnership
cathcartyouth
radiatecathcart
www.radiatecathcart.org.uk

CYMP CONTACTS cara@radiatecathcart.org.uk Mob: 07979 761950 treasurer@radiatecathcart.org.uk chair@radiatecathcart.org.uk

SPACE ACADEMY may have been a few weeks ago but the song 'I'm Trusting You' is still regularly sung in our home.

Proverbs 3:5 and 6 have been significant verses this year. In particular, for the CYMP AGM and joint celebration service, for the SU holiday I help at and for holiday club week.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you everyone who supported SPACE ACADEMY. I am so incredibly thankful for your commitment, your enthusiasm and willingness to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.



UK WIDE

On 22nd September 2019:



"Join thousands of churches across the UK on 22nd September 2019 to celebrate Youth Work Sunday - a service where you can highlight the needs and aspirations of young people in your community and the value and importance of the church's work with them."

https://www.youthscape.co.uk/sunday

The Guild



The Opening Meeting of the 2019-2020 Session will be in the Kent Hall on Tuesday 1st October at 7.30 pm when the entertainment will be provided by the Harmony Singers.

Tickets for the Opening Social are available from Committee Members, at a cost of £15 for members (this includes a Capitation Fee of £12) and £3 for visitors.

The programme for the rest of October is as follows:

- 8th October Shelter Box
- 15th Franklin's Legs the Story of Eleanor Roosevelt - Ms. L. McIntyre-Allan
- 22nd Me and My Guitar Mr. I. Thomson
- 29th Evening of Music and Colour Mr. B. Barr
- 5th November Guild Dedication Service - Rev. A. MacMillan

As always, the Guild are happy to welcome all members of the congregation and their friends to any of the above talks in which they are interested.

Advance Notice - the Guild's Annual Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 2nd November. Tickets will be on sale by mid-October.'

Margaret Brough.

Prayer Breakfast Cathcart UF Church 8.30am — 10am

Saturday 28th September

The prayer breakfast this month will be focusing on the city of Glasgow. We live in a society where there is much need. There are a number of Christian organisations helping and witnessing on our streets. Come and support them with prayer. A time of fellowship is enjoyed during breakfast before we start to pray at gam. All welcome.

'Unless the lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.' Psalm 127 v 1

Saturday 26th October

At the meeting this month our prayers will be focusing on missionaries and their needs. This is a good opportunity to come and pray for them. Many work in challenging situations bringing the Gospel to people in other countries. They depend on our prayers to sustain them in their work. We spend a time of fellowship during breakfast followed by prayer at 9am. All welcome.

'The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.' Romans 8 v 26

Monthly Prayer Meeting

Cathcart UF Church, Struan Road

Wednesday 11th September at 7.30pm Wednesday 9th October at 7:30 pm



Being a praying congregation is part of our vision.

We can pray with one another and for one another.

All we need is a heart open to God: to speak to Him, to listen to Him.

We can go to God in prayer just as we are.

Prayer with others respects confidentiality and is a shared time speaking and listening to God.

Our prayer may include:

- thanksgiving
- concerns in our community / world
- about a particular issue
- for our church family
- for ourselves
- response to what God is saying

Who: anyone.

When: at the end of worship.

Where: near the band

September & October at a Glance

Sunday 8th September	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	2.45pm	Cartvale Service
	6.3opm	Evening Worship
Thursday 12th September	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Sunday 15th September	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	6.3opm	Evening Worship
Monday 16th September	2pm	Moments Cafe
Thursday 19th September	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Saturday 21st September	4pm	Messy Church
Sunday 22nd September	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thursday 26th September	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Sunday 29th September	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	6.3opm	Evening Worship
Thursday 3rd October	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Sunday 5th October	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	6.3opm	Evening Worship
Monday 7th October	2pm	Moments Cafe
Thursday 10th October	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Sunday 13th October	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	2.45pm	Cartvale Service
	6.3opm	Evening Worship
Thursday 17th October	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Saturday 19th October	4pm	Messy Church
Sunday 20th October	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Monday 21st October	2pm	Moments Cafe
Thursday 24th October	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Sunday 27th October	11.00am	Morning Worship.
	6.3орт	Evening Worship
Thursday 31st October	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service



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Cathcart Trinity Church, 90 Clarkston Rd, Glasgow G44 3DA Cathcart Trinity Church is a registered Scottish Charity, SC033802

Key Church Contacts:

Minister: Rev Alasdair MacMillan 0141 391 9102 minister@cathcarttrinity.org.uk

Session Clerk: Angus Morrison 0141 649 2417 sessionclerk@cathcarttrinity.org.uk