

Church News

FALKIRK TRINITY CHURCH



Minister (Tel 07895 388 644)

Thank you to all who came along to our open meeting in early October to input ideas for our Action Plan for the next five years – our Kirk Session will finalise this at our meeting later in November and will keep you informed of the final Plan which will guide us a Church in the years to come.

For many years now we have developed our Family Life Centre, however our Team who oversee the work has decided, with approval of our Kirk Session, to rename as the Community Life Centre as this better reflects the varied work we carry out as we seek to reach out to our wider community. For more information on this work please visit our website:
<https://falkirktrinity.org.uk>

If you are interested in reading my latest blog it can be found on this link:

<https://www.reformthechurchofscotland.org/post/national-reply-to-national-no-reply-stipends>

I will be on annual leave from Mon 9 to Mon 23 November – funeral cover during that time will be provided by Rev David Scott, minister at Grahamston United Church – tel 07881 956315. Please remember, outwith these holiday times, if I can help you in any way or you would like a chat, please get in touch:
RAllan@churchofscotland.org.uk
Telephone 07895 388644 – if I am not available, please leave a message and I will get back to you. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Church, please let me know and we can discuss this.

Dates for the Diary

- Thu 5 Nov Bible study at Church 7pm
- Sun 8 Nov Remembrance Service at 11am – **please note later start time!**
- Sundays 15 & 22 Nov Services led by Rev Stuart Fulton
- Tue 24 Nov Kirk Session meeting at 7.30pm
- Sun 29 Nov First Sunday in Advent
- Sun 29 Nov Youth Event at Church for P7 upwards
- Thu 3 Dec Bible study at Church 7pm
- Sun 6 Dec Advent Communion
- Thu 24 Dec Christmas Eve services at 7pm and 11.30pm
- Fri 25 Dec Christmas Day service at 10.30am
- Sun 27 Dec End of Year service including lighting of candles to remember loved ones
- Sun 3 Jan 2027 New Year service

Pastoral Care

We seek to care for all within our Church - if you would like to receive a visit from one of our Pastoral Care Team then please contact the office and arrangements can be made. Also, if you know of someone who is ill or unable to attend Church and they would like a visit, please leave a message with Nina in the office. If you would be interested in becoming a member of our Pastoral Care Team then please speak to Robert Allan.



Worship

During 2026 we are following lectionary Bible readings. We will continue to use the NRSVue version of the Bible which seeks to have more inclusive language.

Sunday morning worship at Church at 10.30am. S-Kidz and Youth Station join us for the first part of the morning service before sharing time together in the hall. Our Sunday morning services are live-streamed every Sunday at 10.30am: www.falkirktrinity.org.uk Recorded services are available to view through our website if you cannot watch live.

Sun 1 November: 10.30am Service
Theme: Just two things
Readings: Exodus 20: 1-17 (The Ten Commandments)
Mark 12: 28-34 (The First Commandment)

Sun 8 November: 11am Service
Theme: Remembrance/Live in the present
Sacrament of Baptism
Readings: Deuteronomy 8: 11-20 (Warning not to forget God)
2 Timothy 2: 8-13 (Good soldier of Christ Jesus)
Matthew 6: 25-34 (Do not worry)

Sun 15 November: 10.30am Service
Led by Rev Stuart Fulton

Sun 22 November: 10.30am Service
Led by Rev Stuart Fulton

Sun 29 November: 10.30am Service
First Sunday in Advent
Theme: Hope
Sacrament of Baptism
Readings: Isaiah 40: 1-11 (God's people are comforted)
Luke 1: 5-17 (Birth of John the Baptist foretold)

Wednesday Worship: 11.30am midweek
25-30 mins service

Daily reading, reflection and prayer are available online at Sanctuary First website www.sanctuaryfirst.org.uk or you may wish to try <https://pray-as-you-go.org>.

General Information

Church Office: To contact Nina, our Church Manager, at the office please phone 01324-611017 or email office@falkirktrinity.org.uk Items for December Church News should be sent to the office by 10am on **Tuesday 24 November**.

We encourage everyone to wear a name lanyard in order that we may get to know each other better. If you don't have a name lanyard or you have lost it, please put your name on the list in the vestibule and we'll make sure you get one.

If you are not a member but would like to be kept in touch with our Church News, then please send an email to Nina at the office email address above and she will put you on our circulation list.

Trinity Youth Gathering

As part of our strategy to encourage more engagement with young people within the congregation we are holding the first of our Youth Gatherings, for Primary 7 and Secondary aged young people, on **Sunday 29th November in the Church Halls from 7.00pm to 8.30pm**.

Whilst this event is aimed primarily at those currently engaged with the youth organisations within the church, Boys Brigade, Girls Brigade, Youth Station and Sunday Club if there are any young people known to you who you think would like to attend, please speak in the first instance to Helen Smith or one of the Youth Station Team so that contact details can be obtained. It is hoped that future events could be widened to include friends of our young people.

Please pray for the success of this initiative and in particular for this first event.

Great Vibes / Great Faith / Great People / Great Fun / Great Pizza

Members who have died

Sadly, we intimate that since our last edition of Church News, Vivian Brown has passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.





Snowdrop Cafe

In the need of some company?

The Snowdrop Café is open every Monday from 1pm till 3pm. It's a right friendly atmosphere with time to chat and enjoy a scone and treats with a cuppa or two (or three). See below for what's happening in November.

2nd November

Chromatic Harmonica Concert – Pippa Phillips

9th November

A History of Falkirk in 10 ½ Objects – Geoff Bailey

16th November

Time to chat, play dominoes, colouring in, jigsaws etc

23rd November

Make decoupage Christmas cards

30th November

Entertainment from the Music Shed

Hopefully the talk on a recent Sunday has given you an insight into what the Snowdrop Café is like. Why not come along to one or more of the weeks and give it a try?

If you find it difficult to get to the Snowdrop Café and would like a lift, contact the office.



Our monthly collection for Falkirk Foodbank on the first Sunday of the month **November 1 2026.**



WaterAid



Reminder! Jewellery Stall for Water Aid . . . 1st November

This year Helen and helpers will again be holding a **jewellery stall** on **Sunday 1st November** after the morning service in the church hall and all profits will be donated to WaterAid

There will be a wide range of jewellery, so whether you want to shop for presents, treat yourself or a friend or buy fun earrings for Christmas, there might be something there for you!!

Easy shopping for Christmas!

And ... you will be doing a little to help others get access to clean water, sanitation, food and education!

Each year several hundred pounds has been raised in this way by members of our congregation for Water Aid.

(We no longer have access to a machine for card payments so please pay in cash.)

Hope you can come along and join us!



Trinity Guild

Meets on Wednesdays at 2 o'clock throughout November, including a talk from Street Pastors and a St Andrew's-tide quiz. Also planning an Advent meeting on 2 December.

All welcome!

Norah 625284 Fiona 632387

News from Wider World team:



Thanks to everyone who bought plants and gave donations at the plant sale. A total of **£150** was sent to Sunflower Scotland.

Oleg was very appreciative and sent this reply.

“Thank you - and everyone in the congregation - so much for supporting and raising money. We are going to Kherson with a load of mobility aids, adult nappies and a mobility scooter. In addition we are going to bring batteries for the orphans in Kharkiv. Your donation will help us to get there (especially now that the diesel price is crazy).”

If you would like to help us raise more money to support the work of Sunflower Scotland then you can come along to our **Christmas afternoon tea on Sat 5th December.**

And if you are looking for Christmas gifts, then we will shortly have our **2027 calendar for sale for £10.** Proceeds from both the afternoon tea and the calendars will go to Sunflower Scotland. Please help us to raise a substantial sum to make a real difference to people's lives in Ukraine.

Thank You for Supporting our 2027 Charity Calendar

A huge thank you to the 11 photographers who generously submitted a fantastic 99 photographs for our 2027 church calendar, which will raise funds for our chosen charity, Sunflower Scotland.

The photographers contributed between one and 35 images each. All the photographs were judged anonymously by three members of Falkirk Camera Club, with 13 images eventually selected to feature in the finished calendar.

The 2027 calendars will be available to purchase from the beginning of November, priced at £10 each. We warmly encourage our congregation to support this worthwhile cause by purchasing a calendar for themselves or as a gift for family and friends. Every calendar sold will help raise funds for Sunflower Scotland, and support its valuable work.

Thank you once again to all our photographers for their wonderful contributions, and to everyone who supports this project. Your support can make a difference!



What's on at Falkirk Trinity

November		
13th	Classic Music Live	Tickets Available on the door. More info
20th	6-7pm John Williams Candlelight Concert	Tickets: here
	8-9pm Abba vs Queen Candlelight Concert	Tickets: here
December		
4th	Classic Music Live	Tickets Available on the door. More info
5th	Festive Afternoon Tea	Tickets available from the Wilder World Team
10th	A Christmas Carol	For more info visit: A Christmas Carol
12th	Canine Partners Carol Concert	Supported by Andrew & the choir. Click for more info.
16th	Strathcarron Hospice Concert	Details to follow
13th	Tryst Orchestra	For more info: Tryst Orchestra



3rd Falkirk Boys' Brigade
Are Having a
Christmas Fayre
28th NOVEMBER 10AM TILL 1PM AT FALKIRK TRINITY CHURCH, HIGH STREET, FALKIRK

Reindeer Food + Hot Chocolates
Home Baking & Hot Drinks
Games & Tombola - Fun for the whole family!
And lots of stalls for some Christmas Shopping!

THE BOYS' BRIGADE
the adventure begins here



13 Nov 7:30pm - Zemlinsky Trio
4 Dec 2:00pm - Karolina Kubalkova (piano)
15 Jan 12:00pm - JKL Duo
29 Jan 12:00pm - Mary Reid (harp)
12 Feb 2:00pm - Resol String Quartet
12 March 7:30pm - Allora Ensemble

Please see
<https://www.classicmusicfalkirk.co.uk/concerts.html>
for more details

Other events



Gillian Millar (Sarah and Finn's mum) recently volunteered to organise a community screening of the 50-minute film "People's Emergency Briefing", featuring the BBC's Chris Packham, because she was feeling worried and wanted to do something about the climate and nature emergencies which are now happening so close to home. She saw this as something positive to do: to help us all get the information we need to limit, and get prepared for, the climate and nature emergencies.

If any of you are not involved in the church youth event, and would like to come along, it's at **7pm on Sunday 29 November at the Dobbie Hall**, Larbert. Euan Stainbank MP and Gary Bouse MSP will be there to help us answer questions we may have after the film.

Please speak to Gillian or reserve a free ticket using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/NEB29nov> There is an option to donate (to help Gillian meet the costs of the hall hire) but this is optional. Gillian would be so happy to see you there...and she says bring a friend or neighbour if you can! The film is recommended for age 16+, and you can read more about the project here: <https://www.nebriefing.org/>

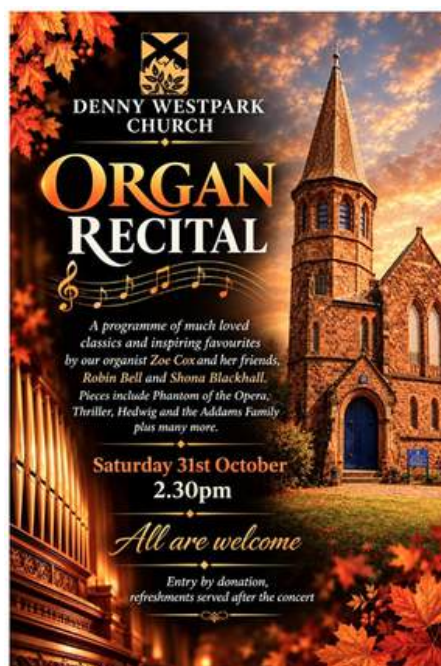


Christian singer-songwriter Rob Halligan brings his 'How Did We Get Here?' musical to **Upper Braes Parish Church on Wednesday 28 October at 7.30pm**. Admission is by donation.

Everyone has a story to tell and every one of those stories has a headline but it's often only the sensational headlines that catch our attention. Look past the headlines - we all carry a story, and in those stories lie the familiar echo of our shared human journey - the moments of joy, the sting of loss, the screams of doubt, and the tender ache of longing.

In 2001, Rob Halligan lost his father in the 9/11 terror attacks. A week later he found himself in New York City on the start of a journey, trying to make sense of what he'd seen. From a dysfunctional childhood and life on the streets, to being an ambassador for vulnerable children and an acclaimed songwriter, Rob's journey whistles hope into a hopeless world and invites us to do the same.

Through songs and stories, "How Did We Get Here" takes us down a road underpinned by a simple faith and the belief that love is bigger. This would be a great event to invite friends and family to, particularly those who may not be Jesus yet.



How can YOU play a part in the life of our Church as a volunteer?

Caretaker cover	During our Caretaker's holidays or days off, we need folk willing to open up and close up at the Church in evenings. It is not too onerous and you meet some lovely people along the way! Contact Nina in the office on 01324 611017 or office@falkirktrinity.org.uk
Media desk	Are you willing to receive a little training in how to operate our sanctuary media desk? You could then help on Sunday mornings or at other events during the week. If you'd like to find out more please contact Isabel on 07808 070 208
Sunday morning church officer	We have a rota of people willing to be Church Officer for Sunday mornings only. There are a number of small tasks which need to be done, arriving around 9.30am and completing tasks after worship. Could you help, even once every two months? Contact Nina in the office on 01324 611017 or office@falkirktrinity.org.uk
Welcome duty Sunday mornings	We have a rota of people willing to be part of the welcome group at the doors on Sunday mornings, arriving about 9.50am. Could you offer a warm welcome to those coming along to Church on Sundays? Contact Nina in the office on 01324 611017 or office@falkirktrinity.org.uk
Café in the Kirk	For many years now we have operated a very successful café in the main hall. This now operates on a Wednesday between 11:30am and 1:30pm. Preparation time is also needed in the morning. Regular and occasional help is needed. For more details and perhaps give this a trial day, contact Morag Jenkinson on 07732 476 129 or jandm.jenkinson@sky.com
Men's Shed	We are always grateful for help from people to do odd DIY jobs around the Church. Come along on Tuesday mornings at 9am. If you would like to know more speak to James Harley.
Happy Faces, Tots and Toddlers Group	As part of our Family Life Centre we hold a Tots and Toddlers Group on Monday mornings during school term times. This is run by a team of volunteers – we could always do with a few more reserves to help when needed! Disclosure check required and training provided. Contact Nina in the office on 01324 611017 or office@falkirktrinity.org.uk
Prayer contact	We have a prayer tree and prayer box and we have a small team of folk willing to pray these requests. If interested in joining the prayer team then contact Moira Simpson on 01324 623735 or moirasimpson@blueyonder.co.uk
Youth	Help our youngest members of the congregation grow in God's word together - a real fun-packed 40 mins! Disclosure check required and training provided. If interested please speak to Robert.
Minitreats	This group has run for many years, taking elderly members of the Church (and community and other Churches) out for a day out, mystery tour, usually with tea/coffee somewhere along the way! We are always looking for more escorts and drivers to take a turn. To help contact Nina in the office on 01324 611017 or office@falkirktrinity.org.uk
Tea/coffee after worship	Every Sunday we need volunteers to get the cups etc. ready for tea/coffee before worship and serve it after! The more volunteers we have the less onerous a task it becomes. To help contact Nina in the office on 01324 611017 or office@falkirktrinity.org.uk
Snowdrop Café	We are always on the lookout for people who might be able to support our Snowdrop Café which runs on a Monday 1-3pm. If you'd like to find out more please contact Isabel on 07808 070 208

Prayer & Reflection

Some prayer suggestions and reflections for the month of November.....

1. Pray for the work of Water Aid – a non-profit organisation dedicated to providing clean water to marginalised communities.
2. God's mercies are new every morning. He is faithful.
3. Whatever the weather today, give thanks for the changing seasons and the beauty of creation.
4. Trust God's timing.
5. Like fireworks in the night the Holy Spirit came...
6. You can't shake hands with a clenched fist.
7. Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways.....
8. Remembrance Sunday is a day to remember the devastation of war and pray for peace in our world.
9. Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.
10. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.
11. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring your love...
12. Give thanks for all who volunteer in so many different ways to help and support others.
13. Kindness doesn't cost anything but it changes everything.
14. On World Diabetes Day, remember all who live with the condition.
15. The church is wherever God's people are praising - pray for all the local church services today.
16. Wisdom is the capacity to see things from God's perspective.
17. All over the world, God's Spirit is moving....
18. Caring for a loved one can be tough whether at home or elsewhere. Pray for carers.
19. What do you want to say to God today? He's listening.
20. Pray for children and young people to be nurtured and cared for whatever the circumstances.
21. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
22. Come, now is the time to worship. Come just as you are to worship.....
23. Tomorrow's dreams begin with today's courage.
24. Pray for church elders and ministers.
25. Pray for the elimination of violence against women and girls.
26. I cannot do all the good that the world needs; but the world needs all the good that I can do.
27. God's grace is all you need.
28. Brother, Sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you.....
29. Pray for the youth event taking place tonight, for both the attendees and the organisers.
30. St Andrew's Day. Andrew was the first disciple called by Jesus. He still calls disciples today.

Contact Moira Simpson on e-mail: moirasimpson@blueyonder.co.uk if you have specific items for prayer and this can be sent confidentially to our team of prayers.

"May God's blessing surround you each day as you trust him and walk in his way."