



Trinity Transforming Lives

# Falkirk Trinity Church News

## September 2020



### WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Keep up to date with what's happening in Falkirk Trinity by visiting our website at [www.falkirktrinity.org.uk](http://www.falkirktrinity.org.uk) or our social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

#### Message from our Minister

Time marches on and these days have been difficult to navigate for all of us in different ways. I am pleased to say that the Kirk Session has decided to resume worship in our Church building on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Full details of how this will operate are contained within this Church News – please read through these notes carefully as you cannot attend Church without pre-booking for the reasons outlined.

If you would like to speak with me about any matter then please phone 01324 625124 or e-mail [RAllan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:RAllan@churchofscotland.org.uk) Follow me on Facebook or @RevRabRants on Twitter or my blog on website [www.reformthechurchofscotland.org](http://www.reformthechurchofscotland.org)

#### Meet our new Probationer - Laura Digan!

Hello everyone! I'm Laura and I'm so excited to join you at Falkirk Trinity for my Probation.

So, what can I tell you about myself? Well...

- \* I'm Mum to Mikael who is 20 years old.
- \* I love animals and when not working you can usually find me either at the stables or walking my dogs. I feel closest to God when I'm among nature.
- \* Before becoming a Candidate with the Church of Scotland, I worked for the retailer John Lewis. I really loved working for John Lewis but I had to listen and act on God's call. The Lord was insistent!
- \* I'm passionate about Social Justice. I volunteered and then worked with the Homeless in Glasgow for a number of years. As well as helping those who find themselves homeless, I am interested in addressing the reasons WHY people are homeless – poverty, mental health problems, addiction, abuse.
- \* I love music, it gives me energy and fills me with joy. I've been playing music since I was a wee girl and been in a variety of bands over the years. My taste in music can only be described as eclectic!

I'm looking forward to journeying in the Lord with you over the coming fifteen months as I learn from you and get to know you all. Please do reach out and send me a message by email at [LDigan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:LDigan@churchofscotland.org.uk) or phone me for a blether!



#### Online Worship

Our online worship can be found every week on our website: [www.falkirktrinity.org.uk](http://www.falkirktrinity.org.uk) – links on our homepage will take you to the latest worship - click on "worship" then click on "watch live" and there you will find weekly worship plus you can view previous services. As we return to worship in the building our services will be live streamed as well as available to watch later.

You can get a daily reading, reflection and prayer online at Sanctuary First website [www.sanctuaryfirst.org.uk](http://www.sanctuaryfirst.org.uk)

Another website which you may find useful for daily prayer is [www.pray-as-you-go.org](http://www.pray-as-you-go.org)

The Moderator of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair, has been recording a series of conversations entitled "It's a Fair Question" – these are very interesting and can be accessed through the news section of the [Church of Scotland](http://Church of Scotland) website or on Facebook for the Church of Scotland or The Moderator of the Church of Scotland.

#### General Church Information

Our office remains closed and employees furloughed, however volunteers will monitor phone calls and emails redirected from the office. Phone 01324-611017 or email [office@falkirktrinity.org.uk](mailto:office@falkirktrinity.org.uk)

## Trinity Transforming Lives

This has been our focus for a few years now and we have sought to transform lives in various ways, through worship, outreach, prayer, fundraising, and a host of activities through our Family Life Centre and events/groups at the Church. Our latest venture - School Uniform Bank - helps supply school clothing for families who are struggling at this time and has been very well received. If you would like to make a donation, then please use this safe link to do so:

<https://falkirktrinity.churchsuite.co.uk/donate/fund/1tjvchsa>



Trinity Transforming Lives

## Finance and Offerings

The financial position of our Church continues to be a concern, especially since we have no lets/events/weekday cafe, all of which normally contributes significantly to our income. The Kirk Session still awaits assistance on this matter from the national Church.



**If you presently use freewill offering envelopes then please seriously consider transferring your offering to monthly standing order** – the form is available on our website at the foot of the front page under resources or you can request a form from our treasurer at [falkirktrinitytreasurer@outlook.com](mailto:falkirktrinitytreasurer@outlook.com) It would be ideal to have all offerings gathered this way by the end of 2020. Alternatively, please send a cheque payable to “Falkirk Trinity Church” to Robert at the manse, 9 Majors Loan, Falkirk FK1 5QF

**We are still looking for a new Church Treasurer! It is a major task, however if you are interested then please speak to Robert or Iain MacSween as soon as possible.**

## Prayer

Prayer is central to our faith, it is our conversation with God who loves to hear from us. Some helpful links are included in this news under “online worship”. Contact Moira Simpson on email: [moirasimpson@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:moirasimpson@blueyonder.co.uk) if you have specific items for prayer and this can be sent to our team of prayers.



## Members who have died

Sadly we intimate that, during August, Susan Nimmo and Betty Maguire passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

## Calendars for Kazunzu



Our 2021 calendars for Kazunzu are now at the printers and should be on sale by the beginning of October. The price will be £10, with discounts if you wish to buy more than one (two calendars for £18, three calendars for £25 and four for £30). You can purchase calendars at Church and at the Church Office (when they reopen) or from Jean MacSween, Morag Jenkinson or Marianne Pattison. They'll make ideal Christmas presents!

We are very grateful to all of the people who allowed access to their gardens to allow photographs to be taken and to Robert Black for very kindly taking over 170 photos (and to Helen for all her help in organising the visits). Robert narrowed down the images from 170 to 115 and then Jane Allan and Lynn Blaikie had the difficult task of studying the photos to choose the final images for the calendar. Thanks to all who helped. We also plan to set up a display with all the photos which were taken and which you will be able to view at Church.

## Youth Station & S-Kidz



Youth Station continues to connect through their WhatsApp group and online meetings - please contact Helen Smith on 07757 041449 for more information.

S-Kidz materials are being delivered to families until it is safe to return to our normal Sunday morning activities in Church.

## Calling all Gardeners

This is perhaps the time of year when folk are splitting plants and taking cuttings from their gardens – if you would like to donate or obtain then please contact Isabel Sarle for more information:

[isabelsarle@btinternet.com](mailto:isabelsarle@btinternet.com)



### Church Book Group

The group continues to meet by Zoom. The next book for review is called "The End of Her" written by Shari Lapena and the next Zoom Book Group night is Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. If you would like to join in or get more information, send an email to Shona: [sp011j4628@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sp011j4628@blueyonder.co.uk)



### Some prayer suggestions and reflections for September:

- All involved in dealing with the ongoing effects of Coronavirus
- Where does God fit into your day?
- Our Elders as they contemplate the way forward for our Church
- For those who are ill at home or in hospital or hospice, for the bereaved, for funeral directors, and for all who seek to offer comfort and support
- What can we do to help combat climate change?
- All politicians in the UK as they debate and decide our future
- For our friend Albert Bogle and the pioneering online work and witness of Sanctuary First
- For Laura Digan as she begins her 15-month full-time Probationary Placement with us here at Trinity
- For teachers and pupils as they settle back into school life
- How can we use less plastic?
- What does prayer mean to you?
- Say the Lord's Prayer very slowly each day and take time to contemplate what you are saying
- For the people of Beirut as they seek to rebuild their lives
- It takes Mary's Meals £15.90 to feed a child at school for a whole year! What can you get for £15.90?
- Pray for people worldwide who stand up for human rights and justice in countries where these are neglected
- Pray for those struggling to make ends meet as a result of hardship through these recent months
- Keep your family and friends in the loving hands of God

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



## Resuming Worship at Trinity

1. Worship will be at the Church building on Wednesdays at 2pm and Sundays at 10.30am, lasting for approximately 30 minutes; the Wednesday service will be repeated on the Sunday; please book a place by telephoning the office number 01324-611017 on Mondays between the hours of 10am and 3pm; numbers at each service will be restricted to 40 maximum; it will not be possible for people to attend every week, however we will seek to be fair in allocating places each week so that all wishing to attend Church may do so at some point. If booking a place as a couple or family then please make this known so that we can endeavour to allocate seats together, if possible. Please do not leave a message on the answering machine if your call isn't answered right away - just try again later.
2. No one with any Covid-19 symptoms or other contagious health conditions should attend. Please be aware of the latest Scottish Government guidelines and consider carefully whether or not you should attend, depending on your age and health.
3. All attending Church must wear a face covering; there will be no pew leaflets or other items to collect; there will be no singing; no access to the balcony/upstairs or any other part of the Church building; remember the 2m physical distancing at all times; please follow all directions and signs and guidance from welcome team members.
4. Church Officer will arrive 45 minutes before the services and open the main glass doors at both sides, open the main and inside vestibule doors at both sides, and open the three main sanctuary doors, and double check that all safety and hygiene measures are in place.
5. The person(s) on computer/sound will arrive 45 minutes before the services to set up and remain in position as appropriate.
6. One toilet will be available, if necessary – the one in the vestibule situated next to the archway chapel – please follow all hygiene guidelines.
7. Worshippers should arrive no earlier than 20 minutes before the service starts. Enter by the single glass door, waiting outside 2m apart if a small queue forms, directed in by the Church Officer; two "welcome team" will be positioned in vestibule to check contact details (which will be retained for 21 days) and direct worshippers into the sanctuary; hand gel will be available and must be applied.
8. Worshippers should enter by the main vestibule door into the sanctuary and be directed to a seat by one of two "welcome team" positioned in the sanctuary, one at either side, filling seats from front to back; 2m physical distancing must be adhered to at all times.
9. The minister and anyone else involved in leading worship will be positioned at the front, using the two lecterns with one standing microphone at each; should any worshipper require to leave during a service then please keep physical distancing and exit by one of the three main sanctuary doors.
10. At the close of worship, please remain seated until it is your turn to leave; worshippers will be directed by the "welcome team" to leave one at a time, those at the back exiting first, by the main sanctuary door and exit through the double glass doors.
11. There will be no tea/coffee after the service. Please do not gather together in the grounds outside after the services.
12. The "welcome team" plus Church Officer will be responsible for cleaning/disinfecting after the services.

