

Falkirk Trinity Church News April 2024

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

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

Minister (Tel 07895 388644)

Happy Easter! The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! May you all know the living Lord walking with you through each day and holding you in his loving care.

I was delighted to ordain our eight new Elders here at Trinity on 24 March: Alastair Jeffrey, Catherine Smith, David Foggo, Lynn Harris, Phil Harris, Jamie MacSween, Margaret Ann Williamson, and Nina Hodgson. We continue to pray God's blessing upon them and our Kirk Session as they lead our Church forward.

The Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale has a meeting on 27 April to finalise its new Presbytery Plan and we will let you know the outcome of that meeting in due course. I have also now taken up the post of Business Convener in Presbytery with immediate effect.

On a personal note, thank you for all your good wishes and gifts following the arrival of our new granddaughter, Ruby!

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Church let me know or if I can help you in any way or you would like a chat, please get in touch: RAllan@churchofscotland.org.uk Mobile 07895 388644

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. My reform website can be viewed at: <https://www.reformthechurchofscotland.org>

Message from Charlene

Hello everyone

I can't believe that I have now shared two Easter seasons with you all. It seems that time is passing so quickly; they say it does when you are enjoying yourself!

Now in April I'm getting ready for my next holiday back to Portugal. In preparation I have been adding some new films on to my laptop. This however has not been stress free for me or my daughter who has been helping me do it properly. I admit I am a bit of a technophobe.

Her answer when it doesn't go to plan is to switch the laptop off and then restart it. How many of our technical problems seem to be solved by shutting a machine down completely and restarting it?

I think there are areas of our lives where this principle applies too? Sleep, holiday's, taking a sabbatical, leaving fields fallow. Perhaps this shutdown method might offer a way to understand God's reset of creation at the flood, or Jesus' death and resurrection? What's your experience of stopping and restarting?

Perhaps Jesus's death and resurrection offers us a way to begin again afresh. St Benedict's rule of life included the teaching, 'Always we begin again'. What does beginning again mean for us? I think this is an opportunity for us to surrender our lives and open our hands, open our heart to grace, release into forgiveness, try again, and trust fully in God's plan. Let us trust that, like seeds buried in the soil, hidden in darkness, our life, hopes and all we offer will grow anew at the right time, resurrected by Christ's power, from death to life, from darkness to light. Charlene x

Worship

Every Sunday in 2024 we will have a reading from Matthew's Gospel – there will be other readings, but our focus will be on Matthew's Gospel and hopefully we can discover fresh things God is saying to us for our lives today. All the readings will be taken from 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 meet as usual in the halls after the first part of our Sunday service (except 31 March when the young people will meet directly in the halls and join us for communion). 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.

Needing a lift to Church? No problem, just contact the office with your details and we will endeavour to arrange a lift for you.

Sun 31 March: 8.30am Early service at Princes Park (Easter Day)

10.30am Service (Alive)

Matthew 28: 1-15

Sacrament of Communion
(clocks forward)

Sun 7 April: 10.30am Service (Falkirk and beyond)

Matthew 28: 16-20

Sun 14 April: 10.30am Service (The great storyteller)

Matthew 13: 1-23

Sun 21 April: 10.30am Service (The cornerstone)
(Charlene)

Matthew 21: 28-46

Sun 28 April: 10.30am Service (What is due to God?)

Matthew 22: 15-22

Wednesday Worship: 11.30am midweek 20-25 mins service at Church.

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> or <https://taketime.org.uk>

Members who have died

Since our last edition of Church News, sadly we intimate that Willie Lambie has passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.



Save the Date!

Sunday 9th June

Come and join us for a barbeque after church on Sunday 9th June.

More details to follow in next months church news.



Trinity Guild



Trinity Guild meetings have now finished - we are in good heart, having welcomed four new members this session. We are sending £125 to each of the two remaining Projects of the present set. BEAT works to support people who live with eating disorders, and PIONEERS is a charity supporting a fair trade cocoa business on a remote Pacific island.

We have shared some meetings with our friends from Grahamston United, Christ Church and St Francis Xavier, and enjoyed a varied programme - Helen Bond spoke about 'Women in the time of Jesus'; we shared happy things from summer, including Moira A's 90th birthday; Marion's favourite poems and readings; Fiona Scott & Margaret Moyes visiting Churches in Norway and Baltic; Maureen Kilgour on rescuing Elgin Park for work with young people; a hymn-singing session with friends from the other churches; celebrating Jean's 90th birthday; an Advent meal; Lenten Service at St Francis Xavier; Project afternoon at Grahamston; story of Falkirk Tartan.

Meetings start again in October - meantime we encourage folk to meet at Wednesday Worship and / or lunch.

General information

Church Office: To contact Nina at the office please phone 01324-611017 or email office@falkirktrinity.org.uk Items for May Church News should be sent to the office by 10am on Tuesday 23rd April.

Please note the office will be closed 1st—5th April.

Church Contact

Lost touch with the Church? Feeling lonely at times? If you do not have a Church Contact person and would like one to keep in regular touch and occasionally visit, then contact the office and arrangements can be made.

Labelled With Love wish everyone a very happy Easter and thank you all for your ongoing support in our project.

From Moira, Shona, Isabel and Heidi.

Labelled with Love

Men's Shed

The **Tuesday Men's Shed** have been working extremely hard over the last few weeks, clearing the attic space of decades of accumulated debris which not only was cleared but then carried down from the attic, down the stairs and out to the Mausoleum.

The old water tanks have been removed from the belfry and a skip was filled to the brim. The driver

who picked up the skip asked if there was anything he should inform his colleagues about in the load and was very surprised when he was told there was a piano in there!

A huge thank you for all your hard work!

THANK YOU

Falkirk Foodbank

Our monthly collection for Falkirk Foodbank will be on the **7th April**.



The Snowdrop Café meets every Monday from 1pm till 3pm. Everyone is welcome so why not come along?

Activities planned for April:

1st: Time to chat, use some of the colouring in books, play dominoes etc

8th: Hand massage (details below) also time to chat, play dominoes etc

15th: Entertainment from Sheila's Reels

22nd: Time to chat, use some of the colouring in books, play dominoes etc

29th: Opportunity to try 5-minute origami

Hand Massage - along with a member of staff from Strathcarron Hospice, one or two volunteers provide hand massage. This is worked on a rota basis so that everyone has a turn.

Would you be interested in volunteering at the Snowdrop Café? The rota is compiled on an availability basis. Speak to Isabel Sarle if you would like more information.

If you find it difficult to get to the Snowdrop Cafe, speak to Isabel Sarle to arrange a lift.

The objective of the Snowdrop Café is simply to provide a space to make friendships, enjoy each other's company, help with isolation and form a sense of belonging. The aim is to bring people of all age groups together in an inclusive and friendly environment where all will be respected and accepted.



Skydive for Strathcarron Hospice

Huge congratulations to Malcolm Strang who abseiled from the Falkirk Wheel and raised a whopping £1,512 for Strathcarron Hospice. There is still time to sponsor if you visit: [https://www.strathcarronhospice.net/donate/malcolms-falkirk-wheel-](https://www.strathcarronhospice.net/donate/malcolms-falkirk-wheel-abseil-2024)

[abseil-2024](https://www.strathcarronhospice.net/donate/malcolms-falkirk-wheel-abseil-2024)






Christian Aid Week

Please support the work of Christian Aid again this year. Funds raised will be going to projects in Burundi.

Please note that there will **NOT** be a Book Sale this year.

We will be raising funds through three events – a lunch after the service on 12th May, a sing along screening of the Sound of Music on 10th May and an Auction of Talents on 31 May. Further details  are given below. You can of course also make a donation through the donation envelopes which will be available.

Sunday Lunch

After the service on **Sunday 12th May**, lunch will be served in the café. All welcome. Donations to Christian Aid.



Prayers



As conflict continues in the Middle East with starvation and destitution please pray for all those who are suffering.

Prayers are also still needed for the people of Ukraine as the war continues into its third year.

Mary's Meals also asks for prayers for Ethiopia where a severe hunger crisis is unfolding. They are ready to expand the school feeding programme to thousands more children, to address both their immediate hunger and to encourage them into the classroom to protect their futures.

Sing Along Movie

Friday 10th May – Bring along some friends for a fun evening!

We will be singing along to “The Sound Of Music”. Dressing up is optional but will add to the fun! Bring your own drinks and snacks. If you wish to bring some friends we can reserve a table. Tickets are available from the office at a cost of only £5!



The Wider World Team in support of
Christian Aid present

Bring your own bottle

Friday 10th May 7:30pm

Sing-a-long-a
Sound of Music

Tickets £5.00

Available from the Worldwide team or the office

Tables of 4, 6 or 8 can be booked.
Dress up optional but encouraged!



Auction of Talents

Friday 31st May Keep this date free !

In order to raise money for Christian Aid this year we are going to have an Auction of Talents. We know that we have many people in our congregation who are gifted in very many ways . . . and also people who need wee jobs done for them . . . so we would like you to take this opportunity to let your light shine. Let us know what you can do.

Even if you feel that you don't have any "talents", you can still offer your time.

People will then bid for this on the night or, or if they can't make it on the night they can put in a bid beforehand.

What talents might you offer?

- Cut someone's grass Take their rubbish to the dump..... Wash someone's car
- Do someone's ironing ... Paint a picture.....Offer a lift to the airport
- Make afternoon tea for four – deliver it or serve it in your own home or garden
- Take some family photos.....Provide tickets for a show.....Produce a family tree
- Provide a month's worth of baked treats Wash someone's car.....Do some cleaning
- Teach someone to knit or crochet Offer a hand knitted baby blanket
- Do some gardening.....Look after a cat during holidays.... Give legal advice or help in making a will.... Take someone on a shopping trip to the Gyle or Stirling
- Cut someone's hair (preferably a trained person for this one!).... provide a manicure or pedicure.... Provide a pot planted for the garden....knit a child's or baby's jumper
- Give language lessons, computer lessons,
- piano or guitar lessons.....Offer tickets for a football game.... Provide a summer barbecue in your garden

..... you will have many more ideas!

.....

REMEMBER WE ALSO NEED PEOPLE TO "BUY" THE
TALENTS!

What to do? What will happen?

1. Fill in the form in the office or contact the office and give Nina the information. Alternatively you can give it to Helen Smith or Jean MacSween or email Helen at helenc.smith@hotmail.com
2. We will let you know what talents are on offer in the May church news.
3. People can then bid in advance or they can do so on the night.
4. After the auction we will put you in touch with the lucky winner who has won the bid for your talent.



Dates for your diary

Sun 31 March Easter Day (Communion)

Tue 16 April 7.30pm Kirk Session meeting

Sun 12 May Start of Christian Aid Week (Lunch at Church)

Wed 15 May BB parents evening at Church 7pm

Sat 18 – Thu 23 May General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

Friday 31 May Auction at Church for Christian Aid

Sunday 2 June Communion at 10.30am and 1pm

Tue 4 June 7.30pm Kirk Session meeting

Sunday 9 June BBQ lunch after morning service

London Marathon

One of our new elders—Margaret-Ann Williamson is running the London Marathon on the 21st April in aid of Parkinsons UK. If you would like to support her please follow this link: [Jayne Lannen is fundraising for Parkinson's UK \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.parkinsonsuk.org/fundraising/jayne-lannen)

There is also a fundraising afternoon tea at Antonine Hub on the 14th April. Please see Margaret– Ann for details.

In aid of:



Classic Music Live! Falkirk Concerts in Falkirk Trinity

- 3rd May, 7:30pm Mendelssohn Trio



Strathcarron Singers

Two dates for your diaries – **Sunday 12 May** afternoon annual concert in Stirling Albert Halls – **Wednesday 18 December** evening Christmas concert here at Trinity.

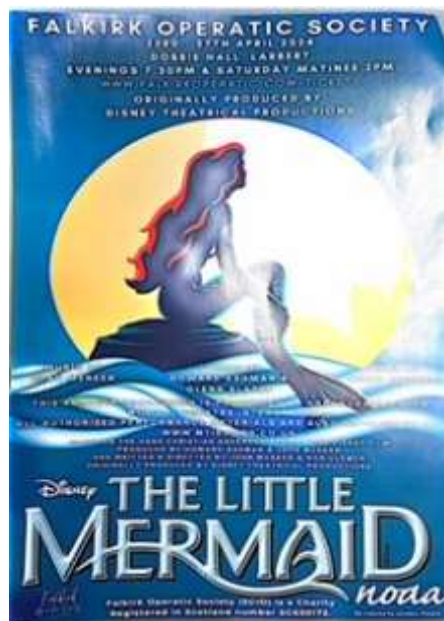


Bells Recital

On **Wednesday 1st May** Dr. Ian Cassells, Carillonneur from St John's Kirk of Perth will be playing the bells at Falkirk Trinity.

The Little Mermaid

Falkirk Operatic Society
23rd—27th April 2024 & Sat Matinee
Dobbie Hall, Larbert
Buy tickets £17, conc. £15 on www.falkirkoperaticsociety.com/tickets



Occasionally @St.Michael's

A series of recitals by local musicians

In St. Michael's Parish Church,
The Cross, Linlithgow

Sunday 14th April 3pm

Schubert Mozart Handel Ravel

Glyn Eggar --- PIANO DUETS --- Alan Hastie



Admission free, donations invited for upkeep of the church organ

Bookclub



If you like books or like a chat you could come to Bookchat. Next meet is Thursday 4th April. We're meeting in the Falkirk Trinity Archway room around 7.15. The book we're looking at is The Forgotten by Mary Chamberlain.

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

1. Easter Monday. Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son....
2. Light it up blue for Autism Day. Pray for greater awareness of Autism and for families affected.
3. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors...
4. Pray for the work of Cancer Research UK and for improvements in diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
5. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.
6. Whatever the weather today, give thanks for our seasons, and enjoy the signs of spring.
7. Pray for the work of Falkirk Foodbank and all who have need of its help.
8. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
9. Pray for those who live in fear. May they know God's strength and comfort.
10. National Siblings Day. Thank God for the gift of brothers and sisters.
11. Pray for those who enjoy fellowship on a Minitreats outing.
12. A mustard seed of faith is all you need.....
13. Today, thank God for the food you eat and for clean water. Remember those who have neither.
14. O Lord, over the nations now, where is the dove of peace?
15. Happy Faces restarts today. Pray for the children, their families and the volunteers.
16. The Kirk Session meets this evening. Pray for all our church elders.
17. Pray for the children and companions starting a Seasons for Growth group today.
18. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.
19. Pray for staff and volunteers at Maggie's Forth Valley and for all who use this service.
20. The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want.
21. Give thanks for creativity in music, art and drama.
22. Earth Day – pray for greater awareness of environmental issues and action to limit future damage.
23. Be still and know that I am God.
24. Pray for the Boys Brigade who are looking for helpers in Hallglen.
25. For the Lord does not see as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart.
26. Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.
27. Remember our play therapy service in your prayers today.
28. What gifts has God given you? How will you use them?
29. Lord, as I drift on the waters, be the resting place of my restless heart..
30. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

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.”

