

Christian Aid thank TC Church



Thank you very much for supporting our Gaza Appeal. **Your single donation of £226.50 on behalf of Penicuik Trinity Community Church will make a real difference.**

Your support will help our trusted partners to provide meals, shelter, sanitation, medical relief and psychological support to women, men and children who are living through this crisis.

The war in Gaza is taking a devastating toll on the lives of innocent civilians who are witnessing death and destruction on an unimaginable scale. Lives and families are being brutally torn apart by this deadly conflict. Here, loss and trauma run deep.

But there is hope. Our partner, The Culture and Free Thought Association, has been running therapeutic art sessions with children in the region. A team member described the children who attend: 'The first look is despair and misery. The second look is hope. The third look is love of life and childhood. Please, we deserve life. We deserve better.'

William Bell
Head of Middle East Policy and Advocacy
Christian Aid

Heart of the Matter October Schedule

6 Oct	Fay Nolen Brisbane Australia
13 Oct	Paul Deponio - Former Head Teacher in Edinburgh
20 Oct	Fiona Charleson - Penicuik
27 Oct	Rachel Dhillon - Team Leader 24-7 Prayer Scotland

Weekly Broadcasting Schedule

Black Diamond FM 107.8: Sunday 9 am. and 7 am. (repeat)
Crystal FM 107.4: Sunday at 11 am., 12 midnight, Sunday, Tuesday 11am.
Alive FM: 107.3: Sunday 12 noon, Tuesday 1 am.

A Church Service on Black Diamond FM 107.8/100.7 FM every Sunday morning at 8 am.

Website: <https://www.heartofthematter.biz/>

Trinity Community Diary

13, 20, 27 October 7.15pm	Sunday Evening Prayer Meeting. - Church Hall
7, 14, 21, 28 October 7.00pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Small Hall. Details Kathleen Downey 07985 294495
7, 14, 21, 28 October 7.15pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Zoom. Details Sheena Dawe 07810 477597
7, 14, 21, 28 October 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - - Zoom. Details from Neil & Joan Cape 674276
7, 14, 21, 28 October 7.30pm	Monday Bible Study Group - Various homes. Details Ruth Aird ruthaird@outlook.com
8, 15, 22, 29 October 10.00am	Tuesday House Group - Small Hall. Details Mary Darling 01968 660585.
8, 29 October 7.00pm	TYBG (Tuesday Youth Bible Group) - Details Ann Dunsire 07974 605590
8, 15, 22, 29 October 7.00pm	Tuesday House Group - Various homes. Details Caroline McIntosh 07747 894046
9, 23, 30 October 10.00am	Wednesday Bible Study Group - Small Hall
10, 17, 24, 31 Oct 10.00am to 12 noon	Thursday Coffee and Chat - Church Hall
13 October 11.00am	HARVEST service - Church Hall (Bring your donations Saturday 10am to 12 noon or Sunday)
27 October 3.30 to 5.30pm	Messy Church - Church Hall
3 November 11.00am	Growing Young service - with the Rev Dr John Young
6 November 10.45am	Friendship Hour - Small Hall. (For help with transport, call Margaret 672347)

Pastoral Care - Please remember that we are always here for church members and for anyone in the community, and you are welcome to phone (in confidence) at any time for a chat, prayer, or to source other help or to request a visit; Either: John Urquhart (01968 382116) Margaret Webster (01968 672347 or 07761 096 472) or Wilma Wilson (07719 665505)

THE COST OF LIVING EVENT

ARTS&CRAFTS FOR KIDS

11TH OCTOBER 2024
12-4PM

PENICUIK TOWN HALL
33 INGH STREET
E126 6US PENICUIK

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

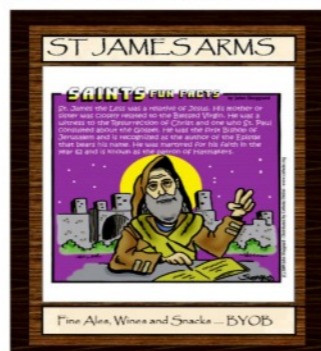


CONTACT DETAILS MARK WELLS PROJECT MANAGER FOODFACTSFRIENDS@GMAIL.COM 07507 697 309

Food Facts Friends is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC0047203

PUB QUIZ

19th October, 2024, 7pm
St James the Less Church Hall



£5.00 / advance ticket from Marion Mather or Alan Murray.
£6/ ticket on the night - so hurry buy now!
Questions about music, history, geography, TV, books, etc - some answerable by small people - so bring your children / grandchildren!
alanmurray350@gmail.com for any queries



OCTOBER 2024

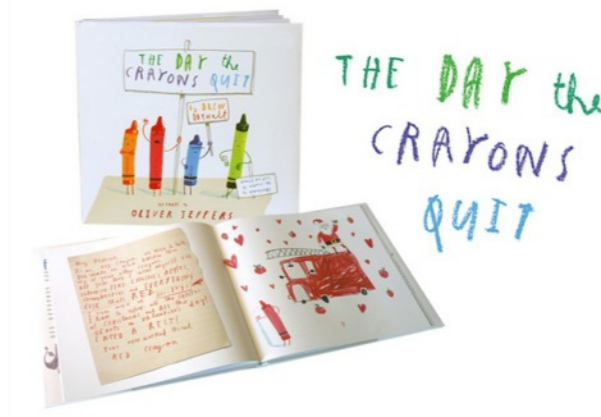
TC News
Newsletter of Penicuik Trinity Community Church

You can read this newsletter at Penicuik Trinity Community Church website <https://www.penicuiktrinitycommunity.church>. To sign up for an eCopy of this newsletter to be sent direct to your inbox each month, saving paper and other resources, just send a request email to penicuiktrinitycommunitymedia@gmail.com

How the crayons quitting story might help us

Sunday 22 September was led by Joan Cape While our minister John was away at an event in Oxford. Joan chose the theme of 'Who's missing? And how can we encourage them back?', trying to identify what we could do and how. Joan used the parable of the prodigal son, presenting it in a different and interactive way, to explore the problem.

Using the story 'The Day the Crayons Quit' featuring the main character Duncan we heard the tales of each of the crayons in his colouring box, how they felt misused,



how he was disillusioned, left, got lost and confused before returning to his father. The feeling of the father's other son is also the resentment and feeling of being overlooked in favour of the disobedient brother.

Jesus's teaching using this parable gives us hints as to how to address these conflicts in order to resolve what could be irreconcilable differences. Conflict is a human failing and is not easy to resolve, as seen by the many wars and conflicts between peoples across our world. Revenge, vengeance and



overlooked, abused and neglected. Some were desperate for change but resigned to continue, whilst others decided to leave and seek solace or adventure elsewhere.

punishment quickly appear as the reaction of choice, but rarely return the expected result. Rather they often serve to simply escalate the issue.

Perhaps the prodigal son parable, though a difficult pill to swallow, is worthy of exploring to restore peace and love across our precious world. Our exercise with the crayons may have helped take one step along that long road.

Each of the crayon characters was presented by members of our congregation, relating to Duncan their tales, concerns and wishes to change the future. As Duncan seemed to be at the heart of all the crayons problems Joan put forward that maybe it was us as the congregation who were part of the problem we face.



We worked in small groups to see how we could resolve some of these problems and people that may welcome our reaching out to them. Joan then pulled the stories together in the reflection time using the story of the prodigal son,



Watch this service on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAyPjmFjEEY>

Hats Gloves and Scarves - 27 October



This year we are once again collecting knitted hats, gloves and scarves for the Blythswood Care Christmas appeal. We welcome bought hats, scarves, gloves etc for adults and children from non-knitters. **Items can be handed in any Sunday morning**

Since their first Shoe Box Appeal in 1993 Blythswood have sent more than 2.5 million boxes - each one different, each one personal, each one an expression of your care and kindness towards a stranger in need.

Filled with small, practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing, the individually-wrapped boxes have been distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities. **Many have gone to people affected by the war in Ukraine**

Margaret Barry and Christine Jackson will be in the hall on **Saturday 26 October from 10.00am till mid-day** if anyone wants to hand anything in. **Or drop them off at church any Sunday until then.**



Growing Young Past, current and future work involving younger people

Part 1 - Past and current work

Please read and pray about these things. A lot of these initiatives only started because someone was praying and was 'nudged' by God to do something about it and shared it with the wider church.



What have we tried with younger people and what did we learn?

- **Toasty Tuesday (TT)** was an idea which we took to Penicuik High School (PHS), saying that we would be interested in any ideas that they had. TT wasn't feasible because of a change to lunchtimes. However, PHS proposed involvement in a Breakfast Club instead, which we took to Penicuik Churches Together PCT to develop. (See below.)
- **Youth Alpha** was a PCT initiative, involving a team from City on a Hill, Trinity Community and the North Kirk, with support from St James the Less. This indicated a need for regular support of younger people, which led to TYBG (below).
- **Gather on the Green** was a PCT initiative to get to know people in the new housing. It was successful to begin with, attracting significant numbers of children. However, we encountered increasingly wet weather and some concern from local people. We paused it to try to resolve the concern through the estate's factors, but that did not happen.

What are other longstanding activities in Penicuik?

- The **Summer Holiday Club** is a PCT initiative led by Scripture Union Scotland, who are willing to lead it for another year. We must start praying and looking for alternative support and leadership.
- **Messy Church**, although it meets in our hall, also involves volunteers from local churches. They are exploring reaching other children and families through leafleting the primary schools.

What are we currently doing and what are we learning as we go?

- **TYBG** (Tuesday Youth Bible Club) came out of Youth Alpha and is a Penicuik-wide project. It's led by a team: Andrew and Ann Dunsire, joined this term by Susan Wong. They are using SU 'Rooted' materials this term and are supported in prayer by a WhatsApp group and also by an ecumenical prayer time, which we hope will be a regular occurrence. We are exploring the possibility of a new meeting place for TYBG, if they outgrow the Dunsires' living room.
- **Kidscape** is a newly developed activity for P1-7s on Sunday mornings in our church. A small start was boosted by holiday club. A room has been set aside upstairs in the church, but needs further development, with the possible painting of a mural.
- The team for **all-age talks** now includes three members. Please pray about new members for the team.
- The **Breakfast Club** is in development with PHS. It involves the PCT churches in a new kind of relationship with PHS. It is currently in the phase of getting together all the necessary PVGs. Please pray for perseverance at this time and for future funding.
- **SU Groups in the High Schools:** there is an existing team of two for PHS: Andrew Dunsire and Caroline Toms. A team for Beeslack High School is in development. Praise God!
- **ACORN and TryPraying** are ways of encouraging outward-looking believers, with a more prayerful and missional mind-set. The ACORN Director for Scotland, Paul Haringman, recently said: 'Effective Christian leadership and momentum is not so much measured by the effectiveness of a strategic plan, but by people learning to obey God's nudge in single moments.'
- **Making church a more comfortable environment** for newcomers. In common with other things, it takes longer than you think! We hope to have the church building in operation by the end of this month, We maybe need to consider next a new entrance to the main building.

Next Month - Part 2 What might our next 'experiments' be?

- Further develop relationship with primary schools.
- A multi-purpose room to be developed with comfortable chairs,
- A Families and Toddlers Group.
- An evening activity for younger people in one of our church halls.
- A Children and Families worker (or whatever we finally call the post.)
- Focused prayer on specific areas.
- Seeking church partners.
- Better communication of projects with younger people.
- Changing church culture towards being a more welcoming place for new people.

John Urquhart and the Growing Young Team

Messy Church - 29 September : Spreading God's love

Sunday 29th September, a slightly apprehensive group of leaders: only five of our team able to be present, and we were doing things slightly differently..... sometimes it's hard for the families to connect the activities with our story, when that story doesn't come till the very end of the session. So we've decided to do the activities together, with our story and talking in parts, instead of all at the end. We'll try this for the next couple of months and see how it works!



We started by making pictures of our faces (on paper plates), talking about how we are all different, yet God loves us all the same. And we made sure we knew each other's names, just as God does. You can see our Messy Church family on the notice board in the hall.



Neil then led everyone, from the youngest child to the oldest adult, in a game of Follow my leader. We imagined following Jesus to the top of a big hill where we sat down to listen to part of Matthew's gospel: Jesus telling the people how we are called to share God's love, with some clues as to how to do that.

Spreading God's love was the message of our next activity: spreading jam onto biscuits, sandwiching two together then spreading icing on top, decorating the whole thing with some sweets.....lots of sticky stuff, just as real love is "sticky".

How much does God love us? He loves us to bits. Sticky letters, sparkly red hearts, and some bits of jigsaw puzzle got us all working together to make pictures to take home while talking about how it feels to be loved.



And so back to our story: Jesus told the people that they needed to let their light shine out, he also told them that they should be like salt.....it's no use keeping it in the salt cellar, and it's no use simply putting a pile of it at the side of the plate – to be effective it needs to be mixed in with whatever it's meant to



flavour. Tasting some popcorn was a fun way of finding out that a sprinkle of salt does make a difference! For our prayer time we all took two little wooden people – one to keep, to remind us of someone we know who needs God's love, and one to give to that person to tell them that God loves them...and we care about them too. Suddenly it was time for dinner: baked potatoes and fillings were well received, and then pudding – spreading butter and golden syrup onto Christine's lovely pancakes was a good reminder of the message of spreading God's love.

We had ten children with us, from six different families. Our new family decided to stay for the whole time and maybe come back, our South American mum (who hadn't come for a long time) left making arrangements to go for coffee with our Portuguese speaking family. Surely God's love is beginning to spread!

Next session: Sunday October 27th

Trading Standards speaks to Guild: 16 September *Report by Jenny Ramage*

The guest speaker at the 16 September meeting was John Watt Principal Trading Standards Officer with Midlothian Council. John began by telling us about what they do – advise local consumers and businesses, enforce legislation and report to the Procurator Fiscal.

He then spoke about doorstep crimes that had taken place. The team also deal with product safety, age restricted sales, counterfeiting, weights and measures, farm animal health and welfare and second-hand car dealers. He went on to give examples of mass marketing scams which were wide ranging and gave details of where to report these.

Doorstep selling and rogue traders and consumers rights followed, even showing us photos of actual rogue traders who have operated in Penicuik. Finally John informed us about the National Scams Team and the Trusted Trader Scheme and left us some of his cards so that we can contact him with any relevant information.



Sheila Haig: 1935 - 2024

We said our final farewell to Sheila on Thursday 19 September.

Sheila was born in Buckhaven in Fife on the 5th August 1935 Her parents were Bill and Jenny Stewart; who went on to have 3 more girls and one boy. Sheila took the role of eldest child very seriously – I'm sure that many of us recognised that seriousness and sense of responsibility in Sheila throughout her life.



When Sheila left school, she started work as a clerk in the Pensions Department of Standard Life in George Street Edinburgh. This proved to be the beginning of a long, successful and happy career. Sheila worked there, with a gap of only 9 years, when Alan and Pauline were young, until she retired at the age of 60 in 1995.

Sheila first met her future husband Henry, who had gone along to a dance with the St Mungo's Youth Group. It was a slow-burning romance. They knew each other, at a distance, for a few years before starting to go out together to the pictures as well as the dancing.

They were engaged in 1960, and married the following year in the Church of Christ in Edinburgh, [where Sheila had been baptised]. Alan was born the year after, while they were still in their first home in Roslin. And the family was complete with Pauline's arrival 3 years later by which time they had moved to Woodside Drive in Penicuik, and when Pauline was two their final move was to their home in Broomhill Road.

Many of Sheila's practical and creative skills were used in her church life – as a member of St Mungo's, [as it was then]. She played the piano for the junior Sunday School for a while, joined the Young Mothers Group and graduated to the Church Guild, where she served as president for many years.

Sheila always paid great attention to detail, had a sharp mind and was sometimes sharply spoken. But that was just Sheila! She was very forthright, you always knew where you stood with Sheila. Sheila was a lovely lady, colleagues thought very highly of her. Once you got past her stern exterior, she was warm & compassionate and very funny. Her love for her family was obvious.

Our prayers are with Sheila's family as we remember fondly our times over the years with her.



Many thanks to all those in the congregation who have supported our young peoples' work by giving financial donations and also to those who have made and bought amazing food for TYBG. We are so grateful.

Sharing some photos from our last few weeks (consent given, including parental consent for under 16's). The SU 'Rooted' material we're using is excellent, creating lots of discussion each week, along with fun times and opportunities to get to know each other better.

If anyone would like to be included in our TYBG WhatsApp prayer group to continue supporting this work, please let Ann or Andrew Dunsire know.

We continue on through this term but will take a two week break during the October holidays.'