

Trinity News

EASTER 2018



Minister

**Rev Alistair Murray
60 Kenneth Street
INVERNESS IV3 5PZ
Tel: 01463 234756**

Pastoral Letter
March 2018

My Dear Friends,

I have just come home from a very busy Church Service, where Trinity gave a warm welcome to the Highland Division of the GB. It was good to see how well represented the Companies were, with even a number who had travelled all the way from Stornoway. As my ministry will soon come to a close here I was very touched by the way they marked my retirement with a gift. Uniformed organisations played a big part in my own life. It is where I made lifelong friendships, and where I was introduced to my faith. It does seem like yesterday when I was in BB, yet it is a long time ago.



I am grateful to each one of you, who have made me and my family so welcome to Inverness. My ministry began first as a Student in 1978 in Chryston, then Ordination and induction to my first charge in 1984 in the town of Ayr. This was followed by a move to Aberdeen in 1990, to here in July 2004. I do think of those at a time like this, of those no longer with us, my parents, my in-laws and my friends both here and in the other charges, who did so much for me to feel welcome and wanted.

We are coming to the time of Easter a mixture of sadness and happiness. This is a time for all to be reminded of continuation and hope. I do pray that each will see not a sad time but a happy time that reminds us God never sleeps He is always there for us and with us. I will slip off into retirement but God through each one of you will continue to be at work. I am always a realist in things acknowledging that these are difficult days in our denomination, with so many vacancies, but we must not lose heart. I believe that true prayer is vital, so I value your prayers as I retire but ask that you pray that God would continue to bless His work here and that the Office-bearers will support each other in the days that lie ahead. Thank you each for your support during my time here and a happy Easter.

Yours in His Service
Alistair Murray

Session Clerk Annual Report March 2018



At the commencement of 2017 there were 204 Members.
During 2017 the number of members removed by other means was 2.
The number of members removed by death was 12.
1 Member was added by resolution of Kirk Session.
The number of Members on the Roll on the 1st January 2017 was 191
The number of Adherents on the Roll at 31st December 2017 was 161.

It is very saddening to have to report 12 deaths from our congregation in the past year.

The work of Highland Food Bank is still on-going, and they are very appreciative of congregation contributions each week and please continue with this worthwhile cause. (see letter elsewhere in magazine from Foodbank)

On Sunday 4th June 2017 the Congregation voted unanimously to change the Constitution to a Unitary Constitution. On Wednesday 31st July 2017 the Church of Scotland approved the change of constitution to a Unitary Constitution.

Mr David Lynch continues his work as our Children's and Family Worker. David has several projects on-going. (see his report elsewhere in magazine).

Crossreach, The Social Care Council of the Church, identified a real need for a Counselling Service in the Parish and asked to use the Church Premises for a six-month Pilot Counselling Scheme. The Counselling has started with a Thursday slot in the Halls.

The work of the Pastoral Care Team continues with visits to housebound which is vital and much appreciated.

The Kirk Session has decided to discontinue the Evening Communion Service due to lack of attendance.

The Minister has been exceptionally busy with pastoral issues and conducted 50 funerals this past year. His pastoral visits have been very much appreciated and valued especially by the bereaved families, housebound and ill.

We continue to receive considerable correspondence expressing appreciation for Sunday Flowers.

Finally, I would like to thank the Kirk Session for all their support during the last year.

Iain Macdonald (Session Clerk)

Treasurers Report



The Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017 were approved by the Kirk Session as Trustees of the Congregation on 28th February 2018.

The Independent review was done by Mhairi Callander of Scott Moncreiff in March 2018. The signed accounts will be sent to Inverness Presbytery and to the Church of Scotland Finance Department in Edinburgh for review, then to the Scottish Charity Regulator.

The total weekly offering is down by £3,760.97 in comparison to 2016. Gift Aid is down by £2,155.89, Free Will is down by £1,159.58, however the Open Plate Offering has increased £445.50 all compared to 2016.

Gift Aid payment from HMRC was £8018, which is less than 2016 due to the timing of the claims to HMRC. £8,014.50 was received for the rental of the Church Halls which is an increase of £2,648 from 2016. Cash donations have increased by £1,537. A total of £7,130.86 was received from the Fundraising Team. A grant of £11,600 was received from the Cattanach Trust for setting up and running a Father & Toddler group. A boiler grant of £9,816 was received from the Church of Scotland. £10,000 was transferred from the Fabric Fund.

Expenditure for the New Boiler for 2017 was £23,746.86. The total cost of the replacement boilers was £41,721.70 and has been paid in full.

I wish to thank the Fabric Team, who worked diligently, building the housing for the new boiler and thus saving the Church a considerable sum of money.

There was also the cost of replacing the manse boiler and flooring following the breakdown of the old boiler, this amounted to £4,615.

During 2017 the Church's total income was £110,803.86, however expenditure exceeded this as it was £113,802.56. This leaves a deficit of £3,000 that will need to be addressed in 2018.

I would to thank Rev Murray, the Kirk Session and Congregational Board for their support throughout the past year.

Margaret Ryles
Inverness Trinity Church Treasurer

GENERAL ACCOUNT (CURRENT ACCOUNT 00278214)
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE TO 31/12/117

01 January to 31 December	2017	2016	
Income			
Offering (Weekly and D/D)	46120.06	49881.03	-3760.97
Gift Aid Tax	8018.44	14942.94	-6924.5
Life & Work	323.1	352	-28.9
Cash Donations	2763.85	1226.39	1537.46
Use of halls	8014.5	5365.58	2648.92
Funeral donations	2187.94	3253.97	-1066.03
Minibus	494	504.8	-10.8
Investment income	204.23	129.48	74.75
kid zone	0	64.33	-64.33
Collection for Others	446.08	693.23	-247.15
Holiday Club	0	800	-800
Father&toddler grop	11600	0	11600
Palm Sunday Lunch	213.5	0	213.5
Harvest Lunch	164.4	182	-17.6
Harvest collection	500	388.75	111.25
Scrap	64	0	64
Fair trade	312.15	567.81	-255.66
Income from wedding	0	210	-210
Boiler fund	600	9161.5	-8561.5
Boiler grant	9816	0	9816
Boiler fund gift aid	0	1500.01	-1500.01
Pulpit reimbursement	165	55	110
Fund Raising	7130.86	6000	1130.86
Transfer from fabric fund	10000	0	10000
Insurance claim	1665.75	0	1665.75
Total Received	£110,803.86	£95,278.82	£15,525.04
01 January to 31 December	2017	2016	
Expenditure			
Ministry and mission	41803	44297.00	-2494
Printing	1142.2	1795.18	-652.98
Advertising	462.98	486.62	-23.64
Church phone	522.07	621.8	-99.73
Church repairs and maintenance	4273.18	3030.76	1242.42
Salaries	1472	1124	348
Gift	35	30	5
Accountants fees	300	240	60
Manse phone	301.01	343.31	-42.3
Manse repairs and maintenance	4953.61	379.81	4573.8
broadband	198.14	0	198.14
Boiler fund expenses	23746.86	21540	2206.86
The Guild Gift aid	27	20	7
Website Design	100	0	100

Presbytery Dues	668	766	-98
Life and Work	491.4	466.47	24.93
Minister&youth worker travel	4302.3	3634.95	667.35
Youth workers expenses	58.2	597.78	-539.58
Father&toddler group	11600	0	11600
Holiday club	0	800	-800
Music Licence	816.22	812.18	4.04
Hymnal licence	50	50	0
Manse Council Tax	3021.47	2643.83	377.64
Cleaning materials	165.24	105.67	59.57
Fabric Float	0	50	-50
GB Subs	24	24	0
Bank Charges	2	10	-8
Pulpit Supply	385	440	-55
Church Insurance	2908.22	3007.18	-98.96
Fair Trade expenses	268.1	576.38	-308.28
Minibus Expenses	1593.83	2248.77	-654.94
Collection for Others	661.08	536.43	124.65
Collection G.B.	285	134.31	150.69
Vine trust	0	388.75	-388.75
Church of Scotland	0	320	-320
Hydro electric	2074.29	1820.42	253.87
British Gas	4577.86	6374.1	-1796.24
Donation Envelopes	513.3	449	64.3
Total Spent	£113,802.56	£100,164.70	£13,637.86
Net Expenditure		-5124.76	
Opening bank balance	2974.88	-457.45	
Opening Boiler balance	13075.48	23953.97	
Closing Bank current balance	<u>13205.05</u>	<u>2974.88</u>	
Closing boiler fund balance	0	13075.48	
Total closing bank balance	<u>13205.05</u>	<u>16050.36</u>	

Trinity Guild



We started this year's session with a very interesting talk about the bridges of Inverness by Eileen MacAskill. Eileen has become a good friend to our guild & is very knowledgeable on the history of Inverness.

Another good friend of ours Reay McGill came back to tell us about her latest visit to Malawi and it was amazing to see what she & her friend has managed to achieve for the widows and orphans there. Mrs Pat Murray led our project night and it was great to learn that at the end of the 3 year cycle of our projects, each of the six charities will have benefitted by at least half a million pounds. As I write this we are now getting ready for our annual concert, for the projects and this year we are delighted that Ronnie Ross, another guild favourite is going to entertain us on March 6th. We still have several meetings to look forward to, including a visit to Culloden, and we extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join us.

Eileen Wilson

Contact Person for the Guild

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Unitary Constitution

Following the decision of the congregation to adopt the Unitary Constitution, a new structure has been put in place. The work of the church is dealt with by the following Ministry Teams.

- Finance Team
- Fabric Team
- Pastoral Care Team
- Fundraising Team

The membership of the Teams comprises elders, members and adherents of the congregation.

Our Church Needs YOU: We require volunteers from the congregation to become members of these Teams. If you are interested speak to an elder for further information.

3RD INVERNESS GIRLS' BRIGADE
MOTTO: "Seek, Serve and Follow Christ"



Trinity GB would like to thank all who came along and supported us at our Christmas Singalong, which this year was organised by the Brigaders as part of their badgework. The 12 Days of Christmas and the quiz were great fun.

After our New Year Fun Night it was back to badgework. The Explorers have been continuing with the topic All Things Girly and Pink. The girls made Mother's Day cards and presents and looked at what we need to do to have good hearts. The girls came up with being nice to each other and also having a healthy heart by exercising and playing games. The girls are learning new games from their leaders, but they are teaching the leaders lots more. The Explorers have also learned about Eve and the Garden of Eden and also Moses being rescued. Games and crafts each week are always well received.

The Juniors finished off the Spiritual and Physical parts of their badgework by performing a play, to the Explorers, about Noah's Ark using the puppets they made and then showing off their circus skills. For the Educational topic the girls chose crafts. They have made paper-folded bookmarks, a grass seed Mr Potato Head made out of a pop-sock, compost and grass seed. Scissors now needed to give them haircuts!! The homemade oatcakes were delicious and paper folding was again used to make a Mother's Day gift of paper tulips. The work of The Dogs Trust is keeping the girls busy for the Service topic this year.

The Brigaders have been working on their Forensic Studies looking at fingerprints, fibre transfer and identifying an unknown white powder which turned out to be Bicarbonate of Soda. Their Spiritual choice is the "I Am" sayings of Jesus and we have discussed "I Am the Bread of Life", "I Am the Light of the World", "I Am the Door" and "I Am the Good Shepherd". We have also continued learning new parachute games for physical. Five girls are working on their Duke of Edinburgh Awards with one just completing her Bronze. We are delighted that Shona Urquhart has now completed her Gold Award and hopes to attend Holyrood in July for her Presentation.

The Juniors and Brigaders were busy in February designing a publicity leaflet for Highland Girls' Brigade as their entries for the Divisional Fraser Trophy Competition.

At the beginning of March, Highland Division celebrated the 125th Anniversary of Girls' Brigade with a weekend of fun and fellowship. All the Inverness companies and Stornoway took part in the celebrations. The Explorers enjoyed a birthday party on the Saturday morning with worship and singing, balloon games, banner making, decorating cupcakes and pin the wings on Gracie Bee then lunch. The Juniors had a Mad Hatters Tea Party in the afternoon with worship, the story of Alice in Wonderland, giant games, little mini table games, croquet, making a paper teacup and saucer, decorating a keyring and solving riddles. A lovely tea was had during the activities. At night six of our Brigaders took part in a Food, Fun and Challenge Night. They enjoyed food, fellowship, crafts, a blindfold challenge, a lock-in challenge, archery and big games.

The celebrations continued on the Sunday when we were delighted to welcome Highland Division to Trinity for the Divisional Service and to acknowledge girls' and adults' achievements in the past year.

All friends and members of the congregation are welcome to attend the Parents and Friends Night on Monday 30th April at 6:45pm in the hall to hear what the girls have been doing throughout the year and to see the girls presented with their awards.

Dates for Your Diary

April 2nd and 9th No GBs due to Easter Holidays

April 16th GBs restarts - April 30th Parents and Friends Night 6.45pm

Young Persons and Family Worker

On-Going Projects

Senior Social Tea Dance

This has quickly become a popular event. Though I cannot claim to be the creator of this, it was in part my relationship with Nicola McAlley that led to Trinity being the chosen venue. This as along with the church being willing to offer this voluntary event free space for a few hours that has made this a highly successful, and hopefully long-term project.

Street Art – Inverness High School

This has been a slow starter that has required many visits where no young people turned up, but, at last it is gaining momentum. We have a regular group of 12 meeting who are starting to explore how Street Art can help them express their world. Two of the group will be pitching at a forthcoming Participatory Budget event in Merkinch to secure money to bring a street artist in to run a series of workshops. There is still an ongoing conversation with Priority Areas, World Mission and Inverness High around the possibility of making a foreign trip (Lisbon, Berlin) to see Street Art and speak to artists. Some of the young people have never been out of Inverness, so this would be a real opportunity to create change.

Film Club

Inverness High School and St Josephs both now have film clubs where we use the Go For It Pilot Grant money to help the young people be creative. Here is what St Joseph's wrote to me recently.

Film Club provides young people in P6 and P7 with a rare opportunity to be part of something fun, creative and sociable. The Film Club is a small and informal gathering where a willing group can encounter ideas, experiences and emotions that may not be everyday topics of discussion, but which shape all their lives.

Children love movies and giving them the opportunity to create their own is a special privilege. Sharing their film with the rest of the school and listening to feedback ensures that this is a learning process for all. Teachers report that the educational and social benefits to the children attending are considerable. It develops children's critical reasoning skills it makes children more positive about sharing their views and it can integrate isolated or disengaged children. Film Club is one way that we can help children to feel a part of something, not apart from everything. Inclusion is a central aim and we are quick to see that Film Club makes children more emotionally receptive to learning. Schools are busy and noisy places.

Cont/d

Cont/d

Requests and demands to 'do' things can seem relentless – from a pupil's point of view, most days are fragmented and repetitive. The creative process is a mysterious one, but what it does require is time and space to think, muse and contemplate. Also useful is stimulation and ideas – to encounter the creative efforts of others and Film Club offers all these things.

There was a film made by one of my film groups that narrowly missed out on winning an award via Church of Scotland. You can see the film on the Trinity Facebook page. It is hoped to have some of the young people from other projects coming forward to volunteer at future events.

Badminton Club

The badminton has steadily grown and is now a weekly event held in the CYC, with most of the young people now using CYC out with the badminton slot. This has also enhanced my relationship with Youth For Christ.

CrossReach

The Thursday vestry counselling sessions are proving very well attended, with at least four sessions happening weekly. These sessions are predominantly being used by the people of Merkinch, allowing Trinity to support a vital service.

Vegan and Ethical Food Fairs

As the trend towards healthy food continues, these fairs are attracting up 350 people to the church building, this is complementing separate work I am doing around healthy food on a more national scale.

MDS Staff Hub

Ministries Council recently formed a Staff Hub as a way of consultation between councils and MDS staff. I was recently appointed Chair of this hub, requiring two days of my time per week.

Other Work

I continue to build relationships with other youth workers locally, sit as director on the Merkinch Partnership Trust, and occasionally preach out at local churches. There really is not enough space to detail all the involvements I have with partners locally, but I appreciate your prayers and your willingness to understand that the future of youth work is changing, within Merkinch, where young people find church irrelevant, this willingness on your part is vital to my role.

David Lynch
Young Persons and Family Worker

Fundraising

The next Fundraising Event is the Summer Fete which will be held on Saturday 26th May. There will be stalls for Baking, Bric-a-Brac, Books, Toys, Crafts, Bottle Stall, Plants, Teas & Coffees and a Car Wash.

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SMARTIE PROJECT 2018



Anyone wishing to participate in the 20p's Fund Raising Project and has not yet requested a Smartie Tube(s), please contact June MacKay or ask your visiting Church Elder and this will be arranged.

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BENEFITS OF THE GIFT AID SCHEME

The Gift Aid Scheme is a government scheme that enable the Church to reclaim the tax you have already paid on the money you give in your offering. For every £1 of offering we can claim 0.25p.

So if your weekly offering is £5 we can claim £1.25.

If you currently pay income tax or capital gains tax, then you can join the scheme.

All you need to do is sign a gift aid form. The only information on the form is your name and address. No personal finance information is required, and you are not committed to promise to pay a particular amount every week.

- Giving your offering as a Gift Aid makes your offering worth more.
- More money means more can be done to further the mission of the Church.
- Giving in this way is good Christian Stewardship.

Margaret Ryles (Inverness Trinity Church Treasurer)



Blythswood Care
Highland Deephaven
Evanton
Ross-shire
IV16 9XJ

E-mail: lorna.dempster@blythswood.org
Website: www.blythswood.org

Highland Foodbank Inverness & Nairn
☎ 07875 332696

Foodbank Admin ☎ 01463 717630

Monday, 5th February 2018

Dear Mrs Ryles,

HIGHLAND FOODBANK

I would like to say a huge thank you to Trinity Church for your very kind donations of food throughout 2017, and in particular for the specific items we were short of. Receiving these items is really helpful as it means we have the full range of items available to provide individuals and families with everything they need to prepare three meals over three days following their visit to Foodbank.

We had a busy 2017. In November we moved our Madras Street Foodbank Centre to the St. Michael's Church Hall on Abban Street. We are thankful to the Free North for hosting us over the past 12 years, and are thankful to St. Michael's and All Angels for giving us a new home.

This week we opened a Foodbank Centre in Culloden. This is within the Library on Keppoch Road.

During 2017 we helped a total of 3665 people just within Inverness and Nairn.

We had an extremely busy time in the lead up to Christmas with many donations given so generously by people all over the City and beyond. The reality is that while we are well stocked for some items, we are running low on others. I have enclosed a list of items we'd be grateful for donations of during February and March.

Donations from Inverness may be dropped off at our Harbour Road warehouse, which is within the Blythswood Care Superstore Monday to Saturday between 9am and 4pm. Donations from Nairn may be dropped off at the Blythswood Care Shop in Nairn Monday to Saturday between 9am and 4pm. Alternatively, if it would help to have your donations uplifted then please just let me know.

We are grateful for the supermarket 'Bags for Life' which have been donated and would really appreciate continued donations of these.....they don't need to be new, but they are vital for people taking their shopping away from Foodbank.

Very many thanks for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

Lorna Dempster
Lorna Dempster, Project Co-ordinator Inverness & Nairn

Trinity Church Flower Calendar April – July 2018



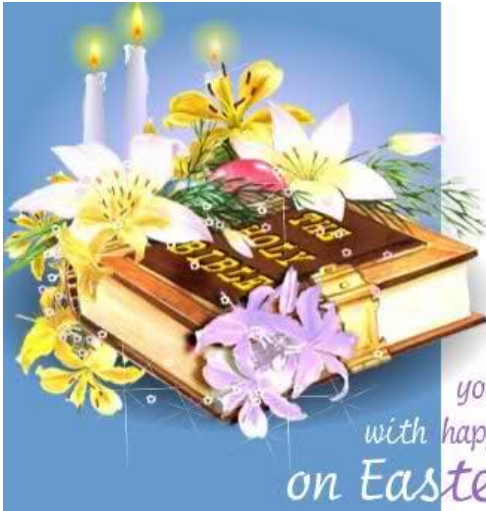
Date	Name	Date	Name
1 st April 18	Mrs Irene Pearson	1 st July 18	David Taylor
8 th April 18	Mrs Jessie Shaw	8 th July 18	Blank
15 th April 18	Mrs Phyllis MacRae	15 th July 18	Blank
22 nd April 18	Blank	22 nd July 18	Ian & Doreen Beaton
29 th April 18	Blank	25 th July 18	Blank
6 th May 18	Mrs Mary MacDonald		
13 th May 18	Mrs Heather Buchanan		
20 th May 18			
27 th May 18			
3 rd June 18	Kirk Session		
10 th June 18	Mrs June MacKay		
17 th June 18	Blank		
24 th June 18	Robert Livingstone		

If you would wish to put flowers in the Church on a Sunday, there are some blank dates available. Please add your name to the Flower Calendar in the Vestibule or contact Mrs Donna Clark.

DATES TO NOTE

Wednesday 29th March
 Sunday 1st April
 Wednesday 25th April
 Sunday 3rd June

Team Leaders Meeting
 Easter Sunday
 Kirk Session Meeting
 Communion Service



"... Joyful tidings,
joyful tidings,
Yes, the Lord has
ris'n today... "

-Thomas Kelly

*May the triumph of
the Lord strengthen
your soul and grace you
with happiness and success...
on Easter & always!*

Happy Easter Wishes to YOU ALL

OFFICE BEARERS' DUTY ROTA



25th March & 1st April 2018

1. Mr R. Fraser.
2. Mrs K. Fraser
3. Mrs M McFadyen
4. Mrs P. Chisholm
5. Mr H. Chisholm

8th & 15th April 2018

1. Mr D. Mackay
2. Mrs J. MacKay
3. Mrs S.M. Grant
4. Mrs M. MacRae
5. Mrs M. Swanson

22nd & 29th April 2018

- 1 Mr K. Bamborough
2. Mr H. Nelson
3. Mrs A. Stewart
4. Mrs A. Bamborough
5. Mr A. MacDonald

6th & 13th May 2018

- 1 Mr Trevor Jones
2. Mrs P. Murray
3. Mrs C.Bell
4. Mrs S. Denoon
5. Mrs D Clark

20th & 27th May 2018

- 1 Mrs M. Grant
2. Mrs E.Wilson
3. Miss S.M. MacKenzie
- 4- Mrs H. Malcolm
5. Mrs J. MacDonald

No: 1 Recorder No: 2 & 3 Gift Aid No: 1, 4 & 5 Door Duties

ALL OFFICE BEARERS ON DUTY ARE REQUIRED TO ASSIST WITH THE COUNT AFTER BOTH SERVICES.

Note:- Office Bearers on door duty should **WAIT 10 MINUTES AFTER COMMENCEMENT OF THE SERVICE**, then lock the Door, **REMOVE THE KEY**, sit at the back of the Church during the service to ensure the front door is re-locked should anyone require to leave.

IT IS NOW ESSENTIAL THAT ANYONE WHO IS UNABLE TO DO DUTY SHOULD ARRANGE COVER AND ADVISE THE RECORDER OF THE CHANGE.

NOTE: The Recorder is responsible for arranging for two of the team to do Aisle Duty on Baptismal Sunday. Baptismal Sunday.

SESSION CLERK
Mr I. Macdonald

TREASURER
Miss M. Ryles

HALLS CONVENOR
Mr K Bamborough



GIFT AID
FWO TREASURER
Mrs Marina Grant

CHILDRENS' & FAMILY
WORKER
Mr David Lynch

Sunday Services **Sunday – 11.00am**

Church Telephone: 221490

Notes

1. Please notify any case of illness to the Minister, Session Clerk or District Elder so that the Church can keep in touch.
2. Changes of address should be notified to Mr. R. Fraser, Roll Keeper.

1. Communion Dates: - **3th June 2018** - **2nd September 2018**
4th November 2018

Morning Communion Service – 11.00am

Thanksgiving Service – 6.30pm

- 1.

“We aim to be a welcoming fellowship, proclaiming in worship the gospel of Jesus Christ, ready to serve with compassion the needs of the community.”