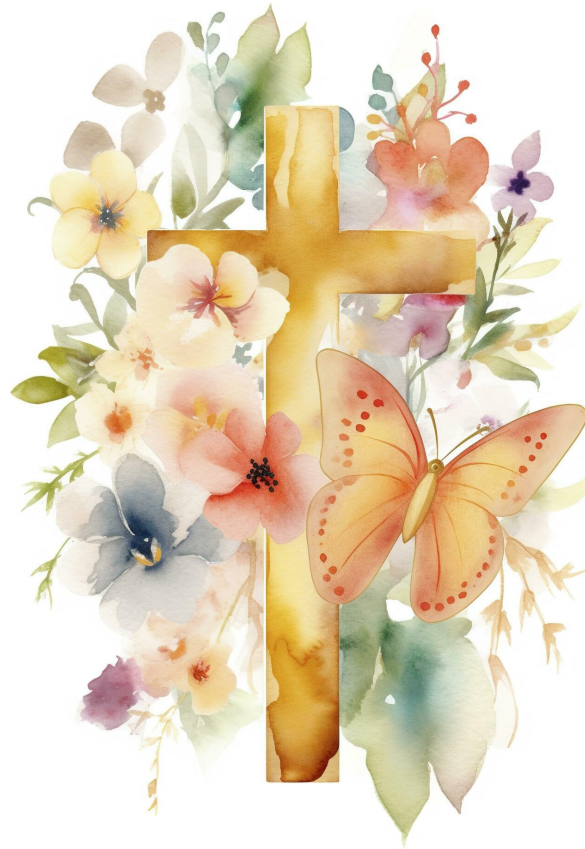


# NEW CONNECTIONS

The congregational Magazine of  
Strathaven: Trinity Parish Church

*Easter 2024*



**Website: [www.strathaventrinity.co.uk](http://www.strathaventrinity.co.uk)  
Church office: [strathaventrinity@gmail.com](mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com)  
Telephone: 01357 520019**



As many of you will know, we did not manage to get to Australia last month. Christine's Mum deteriorated on the day we were due to leave and we decided it was best to stay with her. Sadly, she died five days later but we feel so privileged that we were able to be with her over that time.

It has been a very difficult and emotional time with Christine losing both her Dad and Mum over three weeks, However, we have been blessed by the support and prayers of so many. Thank you for all the cards, flowers, plants and home baking; thank you for ministering to us!

It is fitting that we are in the season of Lent and, therefore, are approaching Holy Week and Easter when our focus will be on the despair of Good Friday followed by the joy of Easter Sunday. In the midst of our own despair we also experience the joy of knowing that through the resurrection of Christ, death is not the end but a new beginning in the fullness of God's presence, in heaven itself. We pray that like us, you will find the hope, joy and peace of the Easter message in your own lives.

Again, thank you for caring.

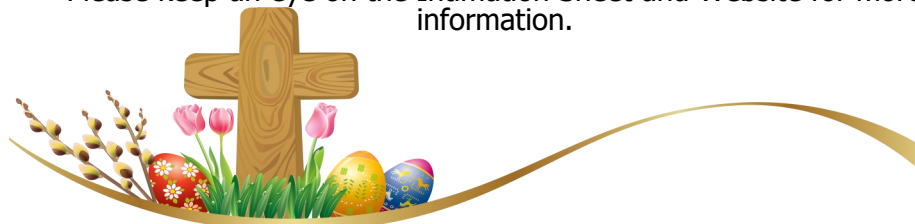
With every blessing,

Christine & Shaw

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### *HOLY WEEK SERVICES*

At the time of going to print the Holy Week services are still to be confirmed. However, it is hoped that there will be services at 7.30pm every evening with Communion at the Thursday evening service in Trinity. Please keep an eye on the Intimation Sheet and Website for more information.



## **PREACHING ROTA**

As always, the rota may need to be altered but at least it gives an indication of who's scheduled for where. A special thank you to Valerie, Robin and Norman for agreeing to take at least one service per month.

If anyone would like to assist by concluding a service (announcing offering, leading offering prayer and intimating closing hymn followed by blessing) or opening a service (this will be at Glassford and Strathaven involving up to and including children's address) then please volunteer to the minister who will provide appropriate resources.



### **MARCH**

3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Shaw at Glassford and Strathaven; Norman at Chapelton
10 <sup>th</sup> March	COMMUNION AT Chapelton and Strathaven - Shaw at Chapelton and Strathaven; Robin at Glassford
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Shaw at Chapelton and Strathaven; Robin at Glassford
24 <sup>th</sup> March	PALM SUNDAY; Shaw at Glassford and Strathaven; Valerie at Chapelton
31 <sup>st</sup> March	EASTER SUNDAY; Shaw at Chapelton and Strathaven; Norman at Glassford

### **APRIL**

7 <sup>th</sup> April	Norman at Chapelton and Strathaven; Valerie at Glassford
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## **Resurrection Crosses**

Our Resurrection Crosses will be in the Vestibules of the Churches on Palm Sunday. On Easter Sunday, please bring with you a flower to put through the mesh on the cross, so that as the congregation arrives it will be transforming into a flower filled cross - our Resurrection Cross. The flowers you bring can be from your garden, from an arrangement at home, or bought for the occasion. They can represent our belief in the Resurrection and can be our way of remembering a loved one, while giving thanks to God for what happened at Easter.



## FUNERALS

Elspeth Smith	7 February
Jess Stark	8 February
Mary Dempster	19 February
Marion Russell	1 March
Matthew Struthers	4 March



### Learning and development in our congregations

**Church of Scotland Learning is a new initiative, offering opportunities for people across the Church to grow our faith. Find out more at [www. https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/learn](https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/learn)**

The Learn initiative continues to make available publications and footage from recent conferences that will inspire and equip local congregations in pursuing Christian discipleship.

Learn publications aim to inspire readers to think in more depth about Christian discipleship in a contemporary world and are available to order individually or in bulk.

Learn conferences were designed to invigorate through a selection of keynote addresses and discussions, with the opportunity to cement learning in seminars and workshops. Conference topics have included Communities of Faith, Eldership, Learning Disabilities, Pastoral Care, and Faith Formation in a Secular Age.

A variety of seminars and workshops continue to be available to view on the Church of Scotland YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/@churchofscotland>

Taken from Church of Scotland Website: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>

## **LECTIONARY READINGS**



### **March**

3 Mar 2024	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22
10 Mar 2024	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21
17 Mar 2024	Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33	
24 Mar 2024	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11; John 12:12-16; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47; Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)
31 Mar 2024 (Easter Sunday)	Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18; Mark 16:1-8	

### **April**

7 Apr 2024	Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31
14 Apr 2024	Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48
21 Apr 2024	Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18
28 Apr 2024	Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8

### **May**

5 May 2024	Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
12 May 2024	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
19 May 2024	Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
26 May 2024	Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

## **STRATHAVEN FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **MARCH**

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs. R Hastings  
10<sup>th</sup> Mrs. A Grady (*Communion*)  
17<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M Mears  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M Geraghty & Mrs I Donaldson (*Palm Sunday*)  
31<sup>st</sup> Mrs. J Robertson (*Easter Sunday*)



### **APRIL**

7<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M Chandler  
14<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M Gillies  
21<sup>st</sup> Miss. R Laird  
28<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M McAuley

### **May**

5<sup>th</sup> Mrs B Smith  
12<sup>th</sup> Mrs I Donaldson  
19<sup>th</sup> Mrs E Morley  
26<sup>th</sup> Mrs M Sinclair & Mrs M Latimer

*Anne Grady (tel. 523285) & Lilly McConnell (tel. 520989)*

## **GLASSFORD FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **MARCH**

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs. M Lindsay  
10<sup>th</sup> Ms. J Ballantyne  
17<sup>th</sup> Mr. R Scott  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M Smith  
31<sup>st</sup> Mrs. A Milwain (Easter )

### **APRIL**

7<sup>th</sup> Mrs. J Weir  
14<sup>th</sup> Mrs. R Andrew  
21<sup>st</sup> Mrs. H Kerr  
28<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M McDonald



### **May**

5<sup>th</sup> Mrs C Frame  
12<sup>th</sup> Mrs S Moore (Communion)  
19<sup>th</sup> Mrs R Redpath  
26<sup>th</sup> Mrs R Stewart

*J Meikle ( tel. 520941) & R Andrew (tel. 521662)*

## **CHAPELTON FLOWER CALENDAR**

### **MARCH**

3<sup>rd</sup> Mr. J Paterson (c/o Mary Frew)  
10<sup>th</sup> Mrs. L. Wallace (*Communion*)  
17<sup>th</sup> Mrs. B Williams  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs. J Goldie  
31<sup>st</sup> TBC (*Easter Sunday*)



### **APRIL**

7<sup>th</sup> Mrs. P Gilchrist  
14<sup>th</sup> Mrs E. Somerville  
21<sup>st</sup> Mr. J Frew  
28<sup>th</sup> Mrs. V Mclean

### **May**

5<sup>th</sup> Mrs A. Wallace (Anderson)  
12<sup>th</sup> Mrs M. Thomson  
19<sup>th</sup> Mrs E. Kennedy  
26<sup>th</sup> Mrs V. Mclean

*Mary Frew (tel. 300268) & Val Allen (075 785 06102)*

## **PASTORAL CARE**

The Pastoral Care Committee is updating the list of members who would value additional visits (to your own and those made by the Minister) or a pastoral care visitor from the church. If you know of anyone in your district, of whatever age, who would appreciate such a visit, please email the office at [strathaventrinity@gmail.com](mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com) and they will be put on the list.

## **COMMUNION—2024**

Communion Sundays will fall on the customary Sundays for each location:

- **Chapelton & Strathaven** - Second Sundays in March, June, September and December
- **Glassford** - First Sundays in February, September and November, and second Sunday in May

It would be appreciated if you could use the hand gel which is available on entry to the church. If anyone is uncomfortable with receiving communion from the elders you may of course refrain or indeed bring your own.

**All elders are asked to meet before the service.**







## THY KINGDOM COME

Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) is an online global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost (9th to 19th May) for more people to come to know Jesus.

Since it began in May 2016, God has grown TKC from a dream of possibility into a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions- so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Every person, household and church are encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way. On each day of the movement there will be a different online speaker. Our minister is scheduled to speak on Pentecost, which is on the 19th May.

It is our hope & prayer, that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond and follow Him.

Specifically, we again invite each and every Christian across the globe to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of 5 people who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call.

Whether you have joined in 'Thy Kingdom Come' before or not, we invite you to take part & join in.

*"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."* Archbishop Justin Welby



## **Stamp Appeal 2023-24**

First of all, thank you to everyone who has been saving and handing in their stamps either at the church door or the office. There were so many I had to take the box home!

The current programme is Firmly Planted: Agroforestry for Sustainability

Firmly Planted is a community-based agroforestry initiative with the ambition of making a sustainable impact across Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is spearheaded by our partners in the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP), and built around the church's community structures. The initiative will resource individual groups to respond to the various challenges affecting Malawi today.



Agroforestry presents an opportunity to address challenges of food insecurity, deforestation, climate change and youth unemployment. Tree nurseries create employment opportunities, fruit trees improve nutrition and wider tree planting helps mitigate the impact of the climate crisis, in turn improving agricultural productivity.

Firmly Planted will provide community-based training tailored to the community's needs, ensuring woodlots are well maintained to have the greatest chance to thrive. The programme, through effective distribution, looks to attain large-scale tree planting of locally relevant woodlots – these could be linked to schools, churches, clinics and community groups. Having already established a pilot tree nursery, CCAP is looking to replicate this across the Synods by implementing Central Tree Nursery Hubs allowing each nursery to grow tree seedlings based on the needs of their communities.

This year stamp appeal proceeds will go towards establishing the tree nurseries.

Please keep saving and handing in your stamps for this worthwhile cause.

The logo for Citizens Advice Scotland, featuring a blue circle with a yellow vertical bar on the left and the text 'citizens advice scotland' in yellow lowercase letters.

**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**  
Annabelle is available to provide Citizens Advice in the vestry on a Tuesday from 10am till 1 pm. If you have an issue you would like help with please call 07592995152, leave a message and she will get back to you.

**CHILDREN, FAMILY AND YOUTH WORKER -  
JULIE ROBERTSON**

There are a few special days coming up in March – we have Mother's Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> and with Easter being early this year Easter Sunday also falls in this month!

With such a lot to celebrate we have a few dates for your diaries and some extra information on upcoming events.

Messy Church will be postponed by one week until 17<sup>th</sup> March to allow all you mummies to enjoy your special day! I will be away for the weekend so will catch up with you all the following week for lots of messy fun!

There will be Holy Week services organised of which the Wednesday night will be a family service in Strathaven. This is just at the planning stage so confirmed details will be provided via social media and intimation sheets.

Due to a lack of interest the toddler group at Glassford is currently paused. If interest changes and folks would like to see this return please get in touch with me directly or via the social media pages and we can review.

I am looking for volunteers for a summer holiday club. Provisional dates are Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 10 am to 12 pm. If you are able to help lead small groups, prepare and serve snack, sign kids in, set up/clear up – please contact me and I will let you know dates of planning meetings over the next few months.

*Till next time – Blessings!*

*Julie*

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS:**

Thursday After School runs in Glassford term time from 15.00-16.00.

We will be off 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**MESSY CHURCH:**

Messy Church meets next on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm

Please let me know if you are able to assist with the planning or delivery of this.

**TODDLER GROUPS:**

Monday – Strathaven

Wednesday - Chapelton both 10-11.30.



The start of the year has flown by!

It is hard to believe that we are entering into March, Spring and Easter already. We have enjoyed looking at different stories in the Bible, from both the Old Testament and the New Testament and have also been learning lots of fun, new games.

The children have been coming up with different games for us to play and it has been good fun learning from each other. If anyone has any good group games they would like to share with the Sunday School please come and see us - we would love to hear from you!

As we approach Easter we will be thinking about the signs of new life and doing some activities to help us think about the Easter Story.

We hope everyone has a lovely Easter break,

Lots of Love and blessings,

Sunday School Team



Two pretty Spring pictures to c



colour and brighten your days



## GUILD

We held our joint meeting recently and it was nice to welcome some members from local churches. The guest speaker was Deedee Cuddihy and she had a very interesting and entertaining talk for us.

The concert by Studio 32 was held on 27 February and a report will be given in the April magazine.

We now only have 2 Guild meetings to complete the session – on 12 March we will hear from someone from Sepsis Research – meeting in Strathaven at 2.00 pm. The final meeting will be held in Strathaven on 26 March at 7.30 pm when we look forward to hearing Jackie and Eric Rice. The business meeting will follow tea and we hope to have as many members present as possible to discuss plans for the new Guild session to start in September. If you are interested in coming to Guild meetings you are welcome to attend and give us your ideas about planning for next session.

The Avondale Community Bus is available to transport anyone who requires it – Marjorie Lamb organises this and you can call her on 07872 050305 to book a seat.

*Ishbel Anderson*



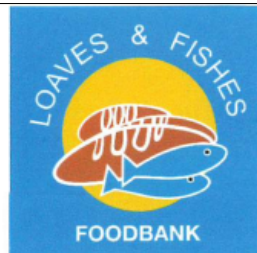
"And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power."

1 Corinthians 6:14:



"Count your blessings instead of your crosses;  
Count your gains instead of your losses.  
Count your joys instead of your woes;  
Count your friends instead of your foes.  
Count your smiles instead of your tears;  
Count your courage instead of your fears.  
Count your full years instead of your lean;  
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.  
Count your health instead of your wealth;  
Count on God instead of yourself."





30 January 2024

Trinity Parish Church  
15 Lethame Road  
Strathaven  
ML10 6AD

Dear Friends of Trinity Parish Church

Thank you so much for your very generous donations we continually receive from your congregation. I cannot begin to tell you what a difference your support makes to us it.

Our warehouse is still exceptionally busy, even after the festive season, we have had lots of tidying up to do after the Christmas rush and we are starting to think forward to Easter and beyond. As always, our volunteers are working extremely hard to provide food parcels for our ever growing families and customers. At this time of year more and more people are reaching out to us for help, struggling with the cost of living and recovering from the extra expense that the festive season brings! Without your continuous support, we would not be able to help our Loaves and Fishes families and customers in the way we do.

I am proud you are part of the Loaves and Fishes family.


Kind regards,

Lesley Davidson  
Chair and Charity Co-Ordinator  
34-36, Singer Road, Kelvin Industrial Estate,  
East Kilbride G75 0XS  
Phone: 01355 223 657  
Website: [loavesandfishesek.com](http://loavesandfishesek.com)  
Email: [loavesandfishesek@gmail.com](mailto:loavesandfishesek@gmail.com)





# THE CHURCH OFFERS



**BAPTISMS**  
**WEDDINGS**  
**FUNERALS**  
**FELLOWSHIP AND  
SUPPORT**

To arrange a  
wedding,  
baptism or  
funeral, please  
contact the  
minister!

**Minister: Rev. Dr. Shaw J. Paterson**  
**[spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk);**  
**tel. 01357 520019**



## **Strathaven Friends of Health Help International**

are asking you to save all your unwanted  
**OLD CLOTHES, LEATHER ITEMS &  
PAIRS OF SHOES (Tied Together),  
SORRY NO DUVETS or PILLOWS**

and let us have them  
**(we'll collect or you can deliver them to the Metal Container  
in the Car Park at the rear of Trinity Church Hall off Crawford  
Street.**

**The funds we raise using the 'Ragbag' charity support  
organization will be donated to Health Help International' to  
help with its work in Zambia and India**

**Please Help our Effort**

***To arrange for collection of items  
please telephone 520204, 521059 or 529755***

For more information on the important work that HHI does please have  
a look at their website: <https://www.sfhhi.org.uk/ragbag-3/>

HHI continues to thank everyone who so generously supports the sale  
of our hand painted leaf cards.  
This work is very skilled and it allows the ladies to support their families  
from the sale of these leaves.  
Once painted, the leaves are mounted onto card to produce greetings  
cards and Christmas cards.  
The ladies work with a pattern for each design but the colours vary on  
each card making every one a unique work of art.

The full range of cards featuring birds, butterflies, flowers, elephants,  
and Christmas cards are on sale and can be found at [https://  
www.sfhhi.org.uk/shop2/](https://www.sfhhi.org.uk/shop2/)



# FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

IN TRINITY CHURCH, LETHAME ROAD, STRATHAVEN  
ON THURSDAY 21ST MARCH 2024 AT 6.30 PM

Come along and try to beat our winning team who competed in the Boys' Brigade National "Masterteam" competition in 2023

Round 1 – General Knowledge

Round 2 – Second Place

Round 3 – Sweets and Chocolate

Round 4 – What's next

Round 5 – Around the World

Round 6 – Board and Card Games

Round 7 – Sport

Round 8 – It's behind You

Round 9 – Colours

Round 10 – The Missing Person

Each round has 10 questions and are the ones that were asked of our team in the National Competition in November 2023

Cost for a table of four is £12 inclusive of tea/coffee/soft drink and home baking with all proceeds going towards camp funds for the 1<sup>st</sup> Strathaven Boys' Brigade Company

Donations of prizes for our "Tombola" stand are most welcome

Tickets available from Captain Robert McAuley or any Officer

# Fairtrade Coffee Morning



**Outreach Community Church  
Townhead Street**

**Saturday 23rd March  
10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon.**

**Display of Primary School  
Fairtrade competition entries**

**Tea and Coffee**



**Fairtrade stall**



**Free Entry**

## **OFFERINGS**

The Sunday offering (collection) is now being taken during the service in all three buildings.

We are conscious that many have switched to direct giving which has proved to be invaluable particularly over the last few years. Therefore, simply let the offering bag pass you by on a Sunday. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support.

Offering: In addition to bank transfer, electronic offerings can be made using the link <https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/?cong=171167> or via the QR code



## Strathaven Fairtrade

The Fairtrade stall will be available after the service on the first Sunday of every month. We hope to offer a limited range of your favourite fairtrade sweets and groceries and thank you all once again for your support for the poorest and most vulnerable producers throughout the world.

Maureen and Nancy

### **REMINDER!** New Connections has now gone digital!

If you would like to receive the magazine via email rather than hard copy, please would you pop a message to Ruth at the office on **strathaventrinity@gmail.com** with your name, who your elder is and your preferred email address.

#### **LIVE STREAMING**

Our Strathaven services are live-streamed (and available as a recording later). It is only the chancel area and first two pews that are in sight of the camera. Parents, in particular, should be aware that if they do not wish their child to be visible 'on-line' then they should ensure that they sit a couple of pews from the front.

We are now well established with live-streaming services from the Strathaven building on Sundays and for funerals and weddings (when requested). However, we would value some additional volunteers to assist and then a rota can be established. You do not need to understand how live-streaming works. It's straightforward if you are used to working a computer. Please get in touch if you wish any further information about what is involved or speak to one of the 'team' on a Sunday.

#### **LOAVES AND FISHES**

As you know we have been supporting Loaves and Fishes Foodbank for some time now and they are extremely thankful for all that they receive from us. When I take the food to them I am extremely humbled by what they are achieving. As times are getting harder for many people Loaves and Fishes are facing a crisis with not enough food to support the needs of many.

If you can, please bring an item of food to church on a Sunday morning or drop off at office when it is open.

Any dried or tinned foods and toiletries would be suitable and would make a huge difference to the work of the charity.

Together we  
can make a  
difference!

Ruby  
Davidson



# Memory Club

\* The dates for the March meetings of the club are Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and  
 \* 27<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30p.m -3.15p.m. We welcome back Claire and Douglas  
 \* and Philip and Moyra, our ballroom dancers on 13<sup>th</sup> and on 27<sup>th</sup> we will  
 \* have an afternoon of activities, quizzes and games around an Easter  
 \* theme.  
 \* If you or a loved one are experiencing issues with memory loss due to  
 \* dementia why not come along and enjoy an activity, some musical en-  
 \* tertainment and a chat over tea and coffee. Often, a family member  
 \* accompanies the person experiencing issues and can find some support  
 \* from others in the same position.  
 \* We are also a Help Point for the Playlist for Life charity so if you are in-  
 \* terested in setting up a personal playlist and need some advice, please  
 \* call in during one of our meetings. We meet in the large hall of Trinity  
 \* Church.  
 \* Also, here is an ADVANCE DATE to put in the diary, the Memory Club is  
 \* having a coffee afternoon on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> April from 2 till 4. We are holding  
 \* this as a fund raiser and to raise awareness in the community of what  
 \* the Memory Club tries to do during our meetings. So, please come  
 \* along and support us and let your friends know too.  
 \* For more information, please contact Lynda Horn on 07778579504  
 \*

## TRINITY MEN'S COFFEE GROUP

There is a men's group that meets  
 in the Rankin Room (upstairs in  
 the hall) on Wednesday mornings  
 between 10.30 am until 12 noon  
 for coffee/tea, biscuits and a chat.  
 Come and go for part or all of the  
 time, as suits you.

## LADIES KEEP FIT

Trinity's Keep Fit class meets on  
 Mondays in the small (East) hall of our  
 Strathaven buildings, from 7-8pm.  
 Exercises are designed to maintain  
 fitness, so not dynamic. We do a lot of  
 laughing so the hour goes quickly. Oh,  
 and the exercise is usually to 60's mu-  
 sic!

*Cillia McLeary*

## WHEELIE BINS

We have been advised that the bin lorries will no longer empty our wheelie bins  
 unless the lid is able to close.

In Strathaven - the church wheelie bin is the black bin located in the manse gar-  
 den. This bin is of sufficient size for normal activities. However, if you are having  
 a function/party/event that generates more rubbish than usual please arrange to  
 take it to the amenity site for disposal. Please do not stack the bin with the lid  
 open or leave on the ground adjacent as birds and foxes make quite a mess.



### **CAR PARKING**

Please be considerate of our neighbours when parking for church events! Please ensure you park responsibly and be careful not to block anyone's access.

This applies for Sunday services, funerals, weddings and weekday activities in the halls.

At busy times parking is a premium and so please only use the car park off Crawford Street when attending the church or halls - there have been several instances lately when the car park has been full prior to anyone arriving for a church/hall event! Therefore, do not be afraid to ask if others who are parking in the car park are attending something in our premises and, if not, encourage them to park elsewhere.

### **KIDS KLUB**

Kids Klub meets on those Sundays when the Sunday School is "on holiday". Children wishing to participate should go into Church as normal for the children's address then make their way to the large hall where there will be board games for them to enjoy during the remainder of the service.

It would be great if we could have a few more helpers (we need two per session) – the role is supervisory and there is no requirement to plan activities. Now is a good time to contact me so that PVG forms can be completed. There is no regular commitment for Kids Klub – just operating on a "now and again" basis. I will put together a rota, depending on who is available.

*Claire Campbell (01357 520191)*

### **BIGGER PICTURE ...Mondays at Lunch Time**

Academy pupils are welcome to come along to the large hall for a hot chocolate and biscuits (and a Toastie, if they wish) while eating their lunch, or watching cartoons on the big screen. Please let as many as possible know about the hall being open – it's a dry and warm place to have lunch.

### **BIGGER PICTURE +1... Fridays at Lunch Time**

The Friday version of Bigger Picture is up and running although volunteers are still needed to make toasties and/or hot chocolate and simply 'be there'. For more information please speak to Cillia Mcleary.



# WHO?

<b>Minister:</b>	Rev Dr Shaw Paterson	<a href="mailto:spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk">spaterson@churchofscotland.org.uk</a> 01357 520019
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	Rev Norman McKee	<a href="mailto:normanmckee946@btinternet.com">normanmckee946@btinternet.com</a> 01698 827358
<b>Session Clerk:</b>	Ruby Davidson	<a href="mailto:rubydavidson96@yahoo.com">rubydavidson96@yahoo.com</a> 07809 128038
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<b>Treasurer:</b>	David Lipowski	<a href="mailto:david.lipowski@gmail.com">david.lipowski@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ass. Treasurer:</b>	Sheila Dodds	<a href="mailto:sheiladodds24@gmail.com">sheiladodds24@gmail.com</a>
<b>Presbytery Elder:</b>	Scott Bennie	01357 521 661

## **CHURCH OFFICE**

The church office hours are term time Monday to Thursday 09:15—11:45.

The email address is [strathaventrinity@gmail.com](mailto:strathaventrinity@gmail.com)



Lifts to Church  
If anyone requires a lift to Church, please contact  
Kath Russell  
07916 171830

# NEW CONNECTIONS

## EDITORIAL

Lent is upon us! In a rare occurrence, Ash Wednesday coincided with Valentines Day which left me in a pickle! In the religious calendar, Lent is a season of penance and self-denial, echoing Christ's 40 days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. This is expressed in the ancient disciplines of prayer, fasting and alms giving. My dilemma is neatly summed up in this card!



Funnily I actually almost enjoy the Lenten season better than Advent. Although it is a period of self-denial it is also a time for pause and reflection, while Advent is generally just the opposite – a time of rush and busyness! So, yes, in spite of the lack of snacks or the odd drink or whatever people chose to abstain from, it is a delightful time to take stock and watch – if not the grass – the



Spring flowers grow. The snowdrops have blossomed for us for quite a while already and now the crocuses, primula, daffodils and even camellias are appearing to brighten up our lives – along with the lengthening days and (hopefully) warmer weather. Birdsong will soon fill our days with music as we shop around the town! There are a couple of delightful Spring pictures in the centre pages for you – young in years and young at heart – to colour as you take your time for pause and reflection. Enjoy!

Take care  
Maureen

**Final date for inclusion in our  
April edition of New Connections is :-  
25th March 2024**