

Tranent Parish Church

Contact



Welcome to Tranent Parish Church

Photo: Laurie Brett

Summer 2024

www.tranentparishchurch.co.uk
www.facebook.com/tranentparishchurch

Church Services

In Tranent Parish Church

The Sunday Morning Service is in the Church at 11am. Children are very welcome. They join in at the start of the service before leaving for their own activities in the J-Club during term time.

Services are held regularly in Tranent Care Home and Crookston Care Home.

Prayer Group

The weekly Saturday morning prayer group is not meeting over the summer. All will be welcome when it restarts in the autumn.

A monthly Prayer Sheet is available in the gathering area at the back of the church.

Important dates for your diary

Sunday 14th July

Outdoor Church 3pm to 5pm at Polson Park

Saturday 13th July

Church Litter Picking. Meet at church gates 10:30am.

The next edition of Contact will be out in September. Notices about contributions will be in the church intimations and emailed to regular contributors, but anyone is welcome to send us articles at any time.

Robin and Sheila

From our Minister

Dear Friends,

At the start of the summer, we had great fun taking part in the Tranent Gala parade. Our line was "it takes all sorts to make a church". So, allsorts we were. It was slightly chilly so I was glad to be wearing a yellow allsort box which kept off the wind. We had beautifully made wooden allsorts and a bright pink wheelbarrow to push them in. We played music through a traveling speaker, with songs like Abba's "Thank you for the music" and the young folk blew bubbles. It was a delight to take part with so many other groups. The best bit was seeing folk we knew waving as we went past, many of them from the congregation. Many thanks to our Growing Young team and to all who helped.



We also had a great time chatting to many folk at the Church eco stall at the Gala Day when we gave away cloth bags and plants and at the Tranent history display in the Church Hall. My hope is that we will continue to be part of all sorts of community events in the future.

The Christian faith is filled with hope for the future. That hope becomes real when we get moving and join in with others. Think community service. At the time of writing, before the general election, I don't know whether plans for community service for teenagers will become a reality. I have also heard it suggested (by younger folk!) that there should be community service for older folk too. However, the church, in following Jesus, is already in life long community service. We are called to use our skills and gifts together to serve where needed. This is not a dull duty but the gift of an invitation to live life in all its fullness.

Jesus didn't stay at home. He travelled with his friends to meet people where they were. He acted with a purpose which was to give new life to those he met. He did that by assuring people that he loved and valued them - that they mattered. His unique ability to do this changed lives and continues to do that now as we live and serve together, guided by the power of the Holy Spirit and heartened by the hope of eternal life through Him. I pray that you know the strength and comfort of His presence with you, this summer.

Every Blessing,

Katherine

Tranent Parish Church Guild



Our meetings have now finished till we start again on the 8th of October at 1.30 pm in the large church hall.

We have had a busy year locally with different speakers and outings and have continued to join with the Guild nationally to support the three-year, themed cycle of work which has seen its members reach record levels of giving. The focus of the Guild's work is to journey together with our communities, nation, and world, both in sharing our faith and resources, and in doing everything in our power to bring about positive change.

The projects for 2021-2024 were:-

Beat £76,734, **Pioneers** £61,112, **Starchild** £82,283, **Vine Trust** £82,631.94, **Home for Good** £100,445.97 and **Unida** £56,524
Total money raised: £459,730

A tremendous amount indeed.

Things are changing for the Guild nationally as well. The Guild National Council has recently agreed to reduce the number of Guilds Together groups (we were members of Lothian East Guilds Together) from over 50 down to 18. These will be based on the new Presbytery areas where appropriate and there will be 26 National Council members. Meetings have already been held with members from West Lothian, Edinburgh, Esk Valley and Lothian East Guilds and together and we have agreed to work together as Lothians Guilds Together, with the next year being one of transition. This is a time of change for our Guilds and we hope that it will be a success.

The committee has met to start planning our next syllabus and again we will provide a variety of interesting topics and experiences for our members.

Once again I invite anyone (both male and female) who would like to join us at any of our meetings to come along and make new friends and enjoy the fellowship and friendliness.

Kathleen Gilmer
Convenor, Tranent Parish Church Guild

Church Family

New member

Mr David McKenzie 21 April 2024

Deaths "Nothing can separate us from the Love of God."

Mrs Zandra Main 5 January 2024

Mrs Ruby Davidson 17 January 2024

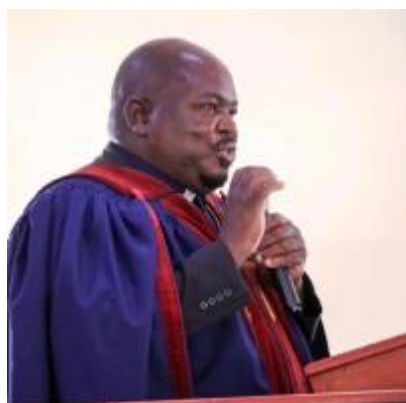
Miss Maureen Henderson 5 May 2024

Mrs Janette McGlashan 19 May 2024

Mr Thomas Davidson 28 May 2024

Mr William (Bill) Young 10 June 2024

A visitor from Malawi



In May, Rev Reuben Mswoya came to spend a few days with the congregation. He was a delegate at the *General Assembly of the Church of Scotland* from northern Malawi.

It was his first time in Europe and it was a pleasure to show him round. His church has a strong connection with David Livingstone and so he appreciated seeing the Moffat monument in Ormiston which commemorates the family of Mary Moffat, David Livingstone's wife.

Rev Reuben shared Sunday worship and a welcome lunch in the church hall with us. It was very encouraging to hear about the life and witness of his church and we hope to keep up contact with the congregation of Katawa, of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, in the future.

Katherine

Quiz answers

3,4,5,7,8,9,11,14,17,19,21,22 & 25 can be found in the Bible

Christian Aid Week

£268 was given to Christian Aid through donation envelopes in the Church. Thanks to all who donated to this worthy cause.



Outdoor Church



Our summer Outdoor Church takes place on Sunday 14th July from 3pm to 5pm, meeting at Polson Park Bandstand.

Our theme is Eric Liddell and the Olympics.

Bring a rug and a snack, if you wish. All are welcome, including dogs.

Regular events

Youth Club - Sunday 30th June, from 7.30pm to 9pm in the Upper Room in the Church Hall. All young people of secondary school age are welcome. For information about what we do, contact the minister.

Open House: will be taking a summer break on the 2nd and 7th of July but otherwise takes place on Tuesday mornings in the Church Hall between 10am and 12 noon. Free tea, coffee and biscuits are served. All are welcome.

Pool Group & Table Tennis Group Both meet on Wednesday mornings, Pool in the Upper Hall, Table Tennis in the main Church Hall from 10am to 12 noon. All are welcome to either / both.

Fair Trade Stall We have a Fair Trade stall on the last Sunday of every month. With supplies from the Fair Trade shop in Portobello, there is an opportunity to buy various goods - cash only.

Tranent Church Eco Action Group

Creation Time

Since 1989, 'Creation Time', has grown to be a lively global and ecumenical movement in Christian churches, dedicating



eco
congregation Scotland

the Sundays of September and the first in October to worship, prayer, reflection and action on the Commission of the Risen Christ, to bring Good News to All Creation. (Mark 16:15). It's a chance to celebrate what it means to be Church against the real, urgent and increasing threat of climate and other environmental crises. And to rediscover the meaning of a distinctive human calling of justice, care, guidance and partnership with - as well as dependence on - fellow creatures with whom we share so much. As an eco congregation there are a few things organised to celebrate the season as follows:

1st September Sacrament of Holy Communion where we partake of the fruits of the earth

8th September Congregational Lunch in the hall/church garden to raise funds to twin our garden with a garden in Kenya (see below)

22nd September Eco Action Group led service

Study group dates to be announced in due course.

Twin Your Garden And Grow Side By Side With A Family In Rural Migori, Kenya. Raise Vital Funds For Families In Rural Africa Fighting Hunger And The Climate Crisis. Seeds, Tools & Training. For Hardworking Farmers. For A Sustainable Future. A Hand Up Not A Hand Out. You can also do this with your own garden but since our toilets are twinned, it may be a nice idea to twin the church garden More details of the project can be found at the site below:

<https://www.rippleeffect.org>

Blister Packs

So, here we go again. Links Vet Group at Mid Road Prestonpans and opposite Luca's in Musselburgh are currently collecting these. Hip Hip Hooray. If you can manage to drop them off yourself, that's great, if not, bring them to church and someone will take them down for you. In due course, it is hoped that Boots will roll out their current trial countrywide and it looks like Tesco is also considering it. Blister pack recycling has gained lots of support nationwide - persistence is paying off at long last!!!

If you have any ideas, questions, are interested in joining the group please don't hesitate to contact me.

Ann Allison,
(revann@sky.com)

From the Outreach & Wider World Team.

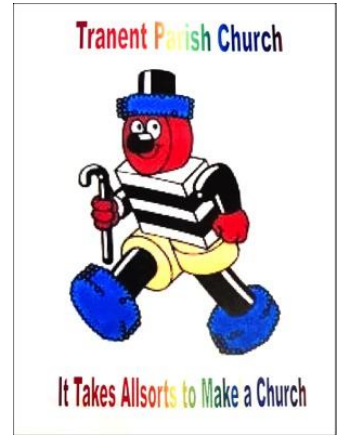
The Haven is a project run by the Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity and meets in the Fraser Centre. Their remit is to listen, and to help people through the challenges that having a child who struggles with their mental health brings. Any family locally who has a child with a mental health concern is welcome. Our Church raised almost £95 for this cause by running a "Guess the combined age of the Session" contest. (919 years - since you asked.)

During Civic Week, for the 3rd consecutive year, we ran an exhibition of photos, newspaper cuttings and artefacts from Tranent's past. It ran for over 3 evenings in the Church Hall, was well attended and received appreciative comments.

Douglas Roberts is producing a monthly prayer bulletin copies of which can be picked up in the Church. If you cannot come to services, you can have a copy e-mailed. Ask your Elder or e-mail us at the contact addresses on the back page.

Future plans include a possible Sport's Quiz. (Check TPC Facebook page for updates.)

Gala Week 2024



FAKE OR BIBLE TREASURE ?

YOU DECIDE, OR GUESS

Another just for fun challenge. Which phrases are in the Bible and which are not?

- 1 Pride comes before a fall.
- 2 A fool and his money are soon parted.
- 3 A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
- 4 Your teeth are like a flock of sheep just shorn.
- 5 I am like an owl in the desert, like an owl living in the ruins.
- 6 I am iron like a lion in Zion.
- 7 I am like a pelican of the wilderness.
- 8 By the sweat of your brow
- 9 The skin of my teeth.
- 10 Dead as a door nail.
- 11 Let them drink and forget their poverty and remember their misery no more.
- 12 Gratitude builds a bridge to abundance.
- 13 If pecked even a worm will turn.
- 14 A man after his own heart.
- 15 The man of the moment.....
- 16 Unbidden guests are most welcome when they are gone.
- 17 Take a little wine for your stomach's sake.
- 18 Drink a pint of milk a day.
- 19 Turned the world upside down
- 20 It is fearless to have faith that someday things will change
- 21 Did you not pour me out like milk and curdle me like cheese?
- 22 The cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions and the garlic.
- 23 A journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step.
- 24 Learning to love yourself is the greatest love of all.
- 25 I am what I am.

Maximum of 1 Taylor Swift quote this time (Hasn't she done well since getting her picture in "Contact" ?).

A Personal Reflection

As a recovered alcoholic of nearly 15 years, by God's Grace, it hurts to see others struggling to get out of alcohol's grip. When it gets a grip on you all reasoning disappears. Families break apart and you lose you!

It doesn't have to end this way. I've seen many folks lose their lives to alcoholism. Good people who found medication to their troubles in alcohol. As I did. But I had a backup. People praying for me. I know it would have been a different story if I hadn't been covered in prayer. My church family, actually our church family saved our family . I know some who passed also had people praying for them but it wasn't enough. Because the drink was more important as drugs can also be. A person with drug or alcohol problems can only get sober through hard work and determination. If they prefer the addicts way of life nothing will help. We need to want to get out of it. We means me. It was a horrid time of imprisonment. But I broke free . To those who are struggling, what is more important to you? I'm not just being flippant. I have been there for 10 years. My late husband Douglas and my children went through hell. I nearly lost everything. So I know just how hard it is on both sides.

Wake up!! Don't let it kill you. You are more important and loved than drugs and alcohol. This is for that person who I know is struggling big time. Speak to me. Also I won't spout any religious words unless you want me to. I totally understand my faith isn't everybody's cup of tea. However my story is many others story. As a church family I have had so much support through my alcohol struggle and when Douglas passed from cancer and all the troubles we have faced and are facing. No judgement from here where I've had so much from outside TPC. Still do. God gave me a church with people who live as He wants and I'm thankful for those who have been by my side whether in prayer or personally.

May God bless us all here. This is a special place.

Catherine Findlay



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Worship & Education Team

Rev Katherine Taylor

Fabric and Finance Team

David Menzies

Outreach and Wider World Team

Douglas Roberts

Pastoral Team

Roll Keeper Dr Linda Ingham

Freewill Offering and Gift Aid Convener Dr Linda Ingham

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Your elder _____



Tranent Parish Church
Church of Scotland

Scottish Charity Number SC017423