



Holy Trinity Church Newsletter

October 2019



Holy Trinity Church, Dunoon

Recent Incumbents

David Railton
Andrew Swift
Kimberly Bohan
Hugh Lee
Edgar Pacey
Alexander Guinness
C W Wheatley
Allan McLean
Martin Shaw



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Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church

Autumn 2019

View from the hill ...

As we enter October, the summer has passed and we are back into the autumn routines. It is so easy just to be swept along by the pressure of events and sheer force of habit that we sometimes don't stop to think what life is really all about.

I read recently of someone who always had three candles on her birthday cake, to remind her on her birthday to stop and say thank you for all that she had, all she enjoyed and for all the people who had enriched her life. The three candles represent today, yesterday and tomorrow.

Today we remember gratefully our health and homes, family, friends, job, love, pleasures and all the other personal blessings we enjoy. From yesterday we remember with grateful affection all the people who have made a difference in our lives - those who have cared for us and nurtured us, borne with us through all life's difficulties, taught us, inspired us, showed us what they knew of God's way of life,

helped us to know, love and serve Jesus. If we stop to think about it we will realize just how many people have been generous with their love, time and resources, indeed with themselves.

For tomorrow there are all our hopes and fears, our dreams and our plans. But tomorrow also raises questions about why we are here, and about our priorities. What shall I do with the rest of my life? How can I show my appreciation of everything people have done for me? What can I share with others? What can I give to others? How can I become a better person?

Facing questions like this may help us to escape from our unthinking routines. Life is a precious gift, not to be wasted. This is an outline of a sort of personal thanksgiving parallel to the thanks we offer at this time of year for the blessings of the harvest. St Paul spoke of the "harvest of the Spirit", suggesting that we should look for the growth and ripening of particular qualities in our lives



Rev. David Railton and Sarah Railton on the occasion of David's installation as Rector of Holy Trinity .

- love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control. If more people focussed on developing these qualities in their lives, how much better a place our world would be! One of the benefits of joining in public worship in church is that it can help us to find a wider context in which to ask questions like this - and may even help us to find some answers!

David Railton (Rector)

God's Purpose or Mine? by OSWALD CHAMBERS

He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side... —Mark 6:4

We tend to think that if Jesus Christ compels us to do something and we are obedient to Him, He will lead us to great success. We should never have the thought that our dreams of success are God's purpose for us. In fact, His purpose may be exactly the opposite. We have the idea that God is leading us toward a particular end or a desired goal, but He is not. The question of whether or not we arrive at a particular goal is of little importance, and reaching it becomes merely an episode along the way. What we see as only the

process of reaching a particular end, God sees as the goal itself. What is my vision of God's purpose for me? Whatever it may be, His purpose is for me to depend on Him and on His power now. If I can stay calm, faithful, and unconfused while in the middle of the turmoil of life, the goal of the purpose of God is being accomplished in me. God is not working toward a particular finish— His purpose is the process itself. What He desires for me is that I see "Him walking on the sea" with no shore, no success, nor goal in sight, but simply having the absolute certainty that everything is all right because I see "Him walking on the sea" (Mark 6:49). It is the

process, not the outcome, that is glorifying to God. God's training is for now, not later. His purpose is for this very minute, not for sometime in the future. We have nothing to do with what will follow our obedience, and we are wrong to concern ourselves with it. What people call preparation, God sees as the goal itself. God's purpose is to enable me to see that He can walk on the storms of my life right now. If we have a further goal in mind, we are not paying enough attention to the present time. However, if we realize that moment-by-moment obedience is the goal, then each moment as it comes is precious.



Altar Frontal

The Organ

The first time the old organ died, it was in the middle of a quiet, candle-lit evening service. We had it repaired. A week later, when it died again, it was in the middle of a sung eucharist with a visiting priest. We had it repaired again - with a small switch. All this took money and frayed nerves, to say nothing of uncertainty at every service. Now, thanks to the generosity of donors, we have a fine new organ. It has been installed and will be maintained by a specialist from Ayrshire. We hope you enjoy it.

J McIntosh



John McIntosh, Organist

Vestry News

The last meeting was 26th September 2019.

We began the meeting using Dwelling in the Word – a short time of Bible Study led by the Rector. We all found it helpful in setting the scene for the meeting. The passage we studied was Jesus sending out his followers in twos to preach the coming of the Kingdom of God. (Luke 10: 1-12).

The Treasurer reported on the Financial situation 11 months through the Financial Year. She presented the budget prepared for 2019/20. We had a full discussion on income and

how we could increase that, and also how we might reduce expenditure.

Under Mission the Rector talked about the work planned in the local schools. We discussed children at Holy Trinity and what else we could do to make church attractive to children and young people. We discussed the Harvest Thanksgiving Service and agreed that the Foodbank should be the recipient of donations this year.

We had our usual discussion on fabric covering: (a) next steps in the Land Project and how we might

raise funds, (b) completion of a Canon 35 Application to add a sink and units to the back of church as part of the Mission Seeds money and (c) the Rectory roof and heating of the Rectory lounge.

The next events planned are:

Harvest Supper Friday 18th October,

Pet Service Sunday 20th October 3.00pm

Visit from the Bishop and bring & share lunch Sunday 17th November.

Next meeting Thursday 24th October.

M McKellar

Planned Special Services

Day	Date	Time	Service
Sunday	20 October	10:30	Harvest Festival
Sunday	20 October	15:00	Pet Service
Sunday	3 November	10:30	Sung Eucharist for All Saints
Sunday	3 November	16:00	Evening Service for All Souls
Sunday	10 November	10:30	Remembrance Sunday
Sunday	1 December	16:00	Advent Evensong
Sunday	22 December	16:00	Christmas Carol Service
Tuesday	24 December	23:30	Midnight Mass of the Nativity
Wednesday	25 December	10:30	Christmas Morning

All change at eXp

There have been major changes at eXp.

Paul Beautyman has stepped down as eXp Team Leader, though he will continue as a Trustee.

Connor Barclay has taken up a new post as Youth Worker with the Kelso Churches.

Kayleigh Gillen has finished her year as part-time Trainee Youth Worker.

Susan Whyte has taken over as Team Leader, while continuing parts of her previous role.

Robert Dallow returns to eXp as a

Youth Worker, having spent a year with us as Trainee in 2015-16.

Cameron Preece will work for eXp for a few hours per week, developing the eXp website and facebook page.

We hope to continue, and in some cases expand, the existing strands of work. These include the weekly Friday Youth Club, lunchtime clubs in the Schools, the annual Summer Camp at Benmore, Explore Christmas and Explore Easter, and the eXp School of Music. Our biggest

need is for more volunteers, especially people who will help to organise the resources needed and support the staff, as part of the Management Group. We will be holding an Open Evening on Mon 21st October at 7pm in Kinn Church Hall. Please come along and find out how you might get involved – there are lots of ways, some with direct contact with children and young people, and lots of background and support roles. See <http://expyouthwork.org.uk/involvement-opportunities> for more details.

C Brett

The Haven at Cowal Games

Organising and setting up the Haven Cafe at the Cowal Gathering was a little different this year without some of the usual helpers. However, we managed and all was ready for our first customers!

It was a truly Ecumenical event with helpers from most of the local churches and excellent pastoral support from Rev. Ruth Griffiths. We had a prayer tree where our visitors added prayers, leaflets about the local churches and

activities for the children.

The tent was full most of the day and overflowing when there was a sudden shower. Lots of interesting conversations took place.

A visitor from USA was very complimentary about the Haven tent and said she strongly felt the presence of the Holy Spirit there.

(The sum of £700 was raised for the Cowal Hospice.)



Tidy Up Saturday

Gutters were cleared; drains unblocked; grass cut; tree branches cut back; rhododendron bushes reduced; window ledges cleaned off; pews polished; and more, all on a warm autumnal day.

Thanks to everyone who joined in to prepare the church and grounds for the winter. Thanks also to the team who provided a very welcome alfresco afternoon tea at the end of the work day.



Heritage Open Day

On Saturday 7 September the church was opened specially as part of the Doors Open Day event.

The church vestments, silverware, historical registers and other items were laid out for visitors to inspect.

We welcomed many visitors, some of whom, but not all, were local.

Light refreshments were available.

This was an excellent way to show off the "Wee Church on the Hill", thanks to all who helped.



Pulpit falls and other vestments..

Other Activities

The **Drop in Coffee Group** meets on the 1st Thursday of each month. Walkers Café 10:30-11:30.

The next **Book Group** meeting is on Tuesday 22 October at 45 Hill Street. The book they are reading is 'Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine.' by Gail Honeyman.

Our annual **Harvest Supper** will take place on Friday 18 October (details to follow). Meantime, offers of contributions to the entertainment that evening have been requested. Speak to Colin Sibley if you are interested.

The **Christmas Fair** is planned for Saturday 23 November.

Our Regular Services

Our main service of the week is on Sunday morning at 10:30. It will take the form of a Sung Eucharist or Communion from Reserved Sacrament. Both services have sung parts of the liturgy as well as hymns. Children are most welcome and there is an activity space at the back of church.

We routinely have a said service of Holy Communion on Thursdays at 17:30. This is a short (30-40 minute) quiet and more reflective service.

Compline is usually said on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 19:30. A quiet service of prayer at the end of the day.

On the 24th day of each month we gather to pray for Israelis and Palestinians caught up in the conflict in the Holy Land. This is a short (10-15 minute) time at 10:00 (15:00 if a Sunday). This is an Ecumenical prayer vigil using texts supplied by Christian Aid.



Mystery Object - what is it?

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**Scottish Charities No. -
SC008066**



Holy Trinity is part of the Anglican Communion, in the same family of churches as the Church of England, the Church in Wales, the Church of Ireland, and The Episcopal Church in the United States. We are also in communion with the Scandinavian Lutheran churches and the Old Catholic churches.

You can contact the Vestry Secretary by phone on 01369 703058 or secretary@holytrinitydunoon.co.uk
Protection of vulnerable groups (adults or children) – local coordinator is Dinkie McEwen 01369 705257.

www.holytrinitydunoon.co.uk

Anna in Uganda

Ros & Chris's daughter Anna Brett is going to Uganda on 18th September for 6 months as a volunteer short term mission worker with BMS (Baptist Mission Society). Anna writes:

“What will the work involve? I will be volunteering alongside Lois and Joe Ovenden and other BMS colleagues in Gulu, in Northern Uganda. My main role will be as a Speech and Language Therapist, supporting Lois' Speech Therapy work in local clinic and schools in the area. The clients will be varied and the settings will be quite different from work in the NHS, but at heart the aim is the same: to enable each child and adult to communicate better with others, so that they can make connections and access their world in the way that is best for them.

For more information about Lois and Joe and their work in Gulu, see their blog at www.joeandlois.com.

Alongside this, I hope that I will be able to support other areas of mission work in Gulu, including children's work at a local church, and anywhere else that God is preparing for me!”

Please pray for Anna:

- **Settling in to a new country, community, culture and climate.**
- **Safety and good health.**
- **Establishing good relationships with new colleagues at the Medical Centre**
- **Adjusting her speech therapy techniques to a new culture.**
- **Joining a local church, and for opportunities to serve there.**
- **For God to be preparing the way for the work He has for her while she is in Uganda**



Anna will be updating people back home through a regular prayer email (as well as blog posts). If you would like to receive prayer emails, please let her know by emailing anna.brett@talk21.com.

C Brett