

CROSSTALK

MINI MAG

Spring 2019



CONGREGATION NO. 161054

SCOTTISH CHARITY NO. SCO15579



Musings from the manse

Dear friends,

The other day the handle of my
bag broke, and my beautiful

pottery communion cup was shattered. It was a little sad, but my bag had too much heavy stuff in it, so I should have been more careful.

As I looked at the broken pieces, it was like looking at my life - little bits on the floor, and it reminded me of the Japanese practice of Kintsugi. This means "golden joinery" and it is a practice used to bring broken pieces together, with golden threads through it, to make a new creation. These new pieces can be very striking, every one different in design and very beautiful.

As we continue our journey through Lent, I think of Jesus in the wilderness, being hungry and thirsty, facing temptation, and even at this early point, learning to do His Father's will, to be patient and obedient. And it was this road he continued upon, setting his face to Jerusalem, courageous enough to keep speaking the truth, to keep healing, to keep loving - even when he faced opposition and discouragement and arrest and a death sentence. Jesus loved people so much, and he saw their suffering, and he saw the only way to help them was to bear their sins on the cross, in God's providence to bring them forgiveness and the possibility of new beginning. The Easter story is so powerful, because God sees our brokenness and wants to make us whole, through the cross.

I go back again and again to the words in Isaiah chapter 53:

“ He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities,

The punishment that brought us peace, was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.”

Through the sacrifice of Jesus, that love poured out into our lives, we find healing and peace. Such beautiful gifts. All we have to do is ask.

In recent months, the church family has had such a hard time, with so many people bereaved, and missing loved ones who are with us no longer. I understand the bereavement process so much more clearly, having lost my husband 11 months ago. But I also have a much more profound personal understanding of resurrection, and of the promise that Jesus made to all who place their trust in Him:

“ Jesus said to her, “ I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though he die.”

John 11: 25

The Easter message, of Jesus rising again on the third day, makes such a difference for all of us, the promise of heaven for all who trust in Jesus. And this gives us assurance and peace.

Whatever our situation, whether we are in a good place, or a more difficult one, may we know that Jesus heals our broken heart, and puts the pieces of our lives back together once more.

Easter blessings,

Fiona

We are delighted to welcome Louise Reid as our new family and youth worker!

Louise is already part of our church family, and let us pray for her as she starts in this new paid role. Louise is working 20 hours a week, with the Sunday club, Messy church, the Buggy Brigade and to support families in the church and community. Please have a chat with Louise at any time!

Congregational Register

Baptisms - we give thanks for the baptism of:

23 September - Connor David Frederick McCue

Deaths - "blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted"

December - Sheila Gartshore (District 23)

December - Mary Deas (Nursing Home)

December - Margaret Finlayson (Nursing Home)

December - Dale McPhee (Church Family)

January - Irene Somerville (District 18)

January - Anna McCallum (District 13)

February - James Cairns (District 13)

February - Victor Wherry (District 06)

Disjunction ~ we wish every blessing to:

Dee Gaya



With Thanks.

On behalf of my daughter, Evelyn, and myself, I would like to thank everyone in the church for the help we received during and after my accident last year. One cannot put into words how much it has been appreciated.

Evelyn and Andrea Murray

All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. 2 Corinthians 4:15



I would like to thank the congregation for their friendship and kindness as it gives me the energy to keep going and encourages me to keep writing about my life.

Lilian (Lynn) Cormack.

Introducing

Hi I am Fiona, one of the three or four Fionas in 'Temple Trendies'(as I call it, as the current title keeps falling off the building wall!). I moved up to near our church building in 2010, appearing at a midweek service ,then identifying that there are people there who know/knew my dad through his hospital work. Good or bad thing? Anyhow, I have 'hung about' here enough to know most faces, though I'm not good with names.

I work in community cafes, go to Iona at times, wander about the canals safely in reasonable weather. I like writing, hill walking (a future? TA group?) and visiting my sister in Portsmouth and my German brother. Am I a member? Not yet. My background is Anglican though I have heard it is up to God, God's spirit in me, where I end up. In 1989 I came off my bike on the Island of Arran hurting my head a bit badly, though I stay independent and am happy to 'own' my head impairment, for which going to church contributes to helping me a bit, as does keeping busy.

This is all for now. Thanks. I hope you can read this. Thank souls; send a photo or look me up on social media.

More Thanks

It's a couple of weeks since our Stewardship Sunday and it's a good time to say thank you to those who came along and those who sent in response cards. Just getting a card returned is a great encouragement in that it helps to highlight the 'togetherness' of our church. The offers of help in various practical ways are hugely appreciated and the office volunteers will be getting in touch to link you to the groups whose work you are interested in helping. Generosity of time talents and resources has been the light that shone from the responses we have received and that too is wonderfully encouraging.

It was always understood that there would be many who received the letter, bookmark and card who might not be in a position to respond in the specific ways that were suggested. But the theme of growing in love really can be the goal of all of us, underpinned by gratitude to God for his goodness to us. It's an opportunity to explore the personal gifts we have and reflect on how we can use them to show God's love to others. Our church is a family in which we can grow and learn with and from each other; and prayer, encouragement, hospitality and kindness are just some of the things we all can offer in the church and beyond , as so many of you do . Thank you all for being part of a wonderful source of light, life and love in our community. Tom Griffiths.

First 2019

I always start the New Year on an optimistic note filled with hope for the future and a more settled and peaceful world. We are starting this year the way we finished last year with parliament as divided as ever over Brexit.

However, I am looking forward to this year as it is 10 years since I retired. I am taking stock of what I have achieved in that time and where I might go from here. As a Christian, I look to Jesus and through earnest prayer and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I will be shown the right path to take.

Although Easter Sunday is the high point of our Christian Calendar, I prefer to take the whole package, i.e. Lent, Holy Week, Good Friday, Easter Sunday AND the RESURRECTION of our Lord Jesus Christ. Taking Easter as a unified whole, magnifies the enormity of what Jesus did for all of us. Jesus paid for our sins, past, present and future, by being crucified on the cross and rising again. Jesus redefined the human relationship with God and the true significance of this is God is readily accessible to us all through Jesus Christ his only son. We are never truly alone in this world.

Easter comes around on a yearly basis and reminds us all of the sacrifice that was made for us by Jesus. The words from the cross can be very illuminating in showing us how to act in the times of adversity. When they crucified him Jesus asked God to forgive those who put him on the cross, saying "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:24). Even on the cross, Jesus was showing love for his people. Forgiveness is something that we Christians should be able to practice with impunity.

Anger and hurt are very corrosive forces and have no place among Christians but being human, we do fall short at times... Being able to forgive releases the anger and hurt that we feel and ends up benefitting both parties. It is the Christian thing to do.

"No one can imagine someone else's pain, that's the human tragedy." (Quote from Inspector Morse)

In essence that is all we can do, when we think of Jesus hanging on the cross... for a time alone...with the weight of the sin of the world upon him, abandoned... About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me" (Matthew 27:46) Was Jesus apart from God at this moment?

Like many things in life, the only way you can fully understand and benefit is to ask Jesus to come into your life and immerse yourself in the experience. Our relationship with Jesus completes us in a way that nothing else can, we are satisfied with a feeling of deep contentment in our souls, a direction in life and lightness in our spirit. Living life in the knowledge of knowing Jesus as my Lord and Saviour has given me a new perspective and drive to help in some small way to spread the "Good News" that Jesus lives in the hearts and minds of his people throughout the world.

John Brown



Easter and Spring Church Calendar 2019



	23 rd March -	10:30 am	Lent Study (Old Hall)
		6:00pm	Church Concert.
Sun	24 th March -	11:00am	Morning Worship
		6:30pm	Prayers for Healing
Fri	29 th March -	1-4:00pm	Glasgow Life "Tea Dance"
Sat	30 th March -	10:30am	Lent Study
Sun	31 st March -	11:00am	Morning Worship
Wed	3 rd April -	7.30pm	Congregational Board meeting.
Sat	6 th April -	10:30am	Lent Study
Sun	7 th April -	11.00am	Morning Worship
Fri	12 th April	5.30-7.30pm	Messy Church
Sat	13 th April	10:30am	Lent Study
Sun	14 th April -	11.00am	Palm Sunday Family Service
		2:30pm	Castlebank Service
		6:30pm	Knightswood Fellowship of Churches

HOLY WEEK Monday 15th-Fri 19th April

		12:00 noon	Easter Meditation each day
Thu	18 th April	7:30pm	Maundy Thursday service
Fri	19 th April	7:30pm	Good Friday service
Sun	21 nd April -	7:00am	Easter service in Dawsholm Park, followed by breakfast at the church.
		11.00am	Easter celebration service

Other dates for your Diary

Wed	1 st May -	7.30pm	Kirk Session meeting
Sun	5 th May -	11.00am	Worship
Sun	12 th May -	11.00am	Christian Aid Sunday and lunch
Fri	17 th May -	5.30-7.30pm	Messy church.
Sun	19 th May -	11.00am	Worship and Annual Stated Meeting.
Sun	27 th May -	11:00am	Worship
Sun	2 nd June -	11.00am	Worship
Wed	5 th June -	7.30pm	Congregational Board meeting.
Sun	9 th June -	11.00am	Pentecost - The sacrament of communion
		6.30pm	Knightswood Fellowship of Churches - St Ninian's Knightswood
Fri	14 th June	5.30-7.30pm	Messy church
Sun	16 th June -	11.00am	Sunday club celebration service

