

St Nicholas Church, Sighthill

Congregational Magazine

web address: www.stnicholasedinburgh.org.uk

March 2020



Communion Sunday 29th March 2020 at 10:30am

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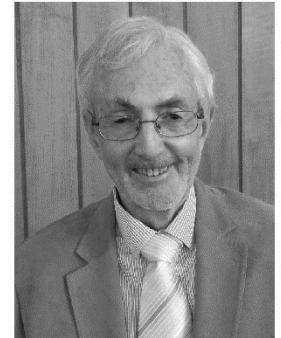
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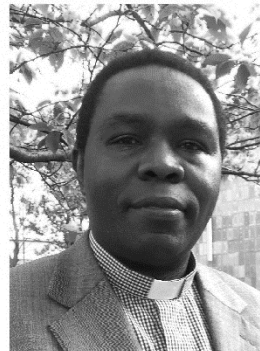
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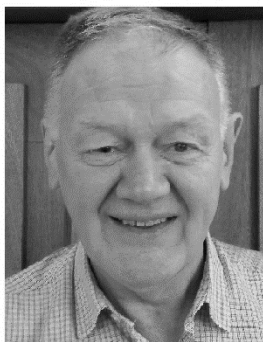
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BETHANY SEGIE
CHURCH'S SOCIAL MEDIA
SITES ADMINISTRATOR

Jambo (Swahili for Hello) my dear friends,

I write during this season of lent and, more so, at a time when our



church is making radical and unmistakable changes, both organisationally and in way we do church in Scotland and beyond. Please keep our church, the Church of Scotland, in your thoughts and prayers. Also, pray for our leaders at the heart of making these much-needed changes because, as it has been well argued on one of the web

pages of our church, 'change is very much part of life. But there are few situations where it seems to be more challenging to introduce change than church! Those involved in leading [us] through change need to do so with a measure of skill and sensitivity – recognising that many people will find it difficult'. I will share with you, in the next magazine, more details of the new or suggested changes.



Creating a climate of change.

Furthermore, please pray and, if possible, join me and many others, during this season of lent (and beyond) in the ongoing efforts to 'create a climate of change' in our beautiful garden, earth. I have invited schools and groups in our parish and beyond to journey with us together towards creating radical a change for the climate.

As a global community, we are facing new and significant environmental problems like global warming, acid rain, air pollution, urban sprawl, waste disposal, ozone layer depletion, water pollution and climate change. As we begin a new decade and in anticipation of the 2030 deadline, the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) urges individuals, families, schools, communities and groups to contribute substantially to the ongoing efforts to cap carbon emissions and avert catastrophic damage to the environment.

How should we respond?

We know that we, through our lifestyles and choices, have played a leading role in damaging creation. But many of us are also desperate to change and hope to see creation flourish. Rapid, far reaching and unprecedented changes are required at every level of society.

Where do we begin?

We recognise that responding to the climate crisis is not just an activity, but a lifestyle. That's why during this season of Lent (26 February to 9 April 2020) I am inviting everyone in our parish and beyond to choose to make (or, in the case of many, to continue making) a positive commitment towards change. During Lent (and possibly beyond), could we all:

- **Go single-use plastic free?**
- **Go vegetarian or vegan?**
- **Commit to using alternative forms of transport?**
- **Commit to living locally?**
- **Buy nothing new?**
- **Reduce our electricity consumption by 10%?**

May God continue to be good to us, with us and through us as we make these unmistakable, greatly needed and giant leaps forward for our church and environment. I also wish you all God's choicest blessings during this season of lent, the Holy Week and in your life, family and work.

**Tom Kisitu
Minister, St Nicholas Church, Sighthill**



Church of Scotland

General Assembly

Advice for Churches: COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

The following is offered as guidance to congregations across the Church of Scotland.

At Communion services, churches should already be following best hygiene practices. This includes advising parishioners with coughs and sneezes to refrain from shaking hands during The Peace, if that is part of your service, and to take only the bread if your church does not use individual cups.

If you need advice on Communion cup or individual glasses, please contact Brian Auld, Safe Buildings Consultant. It is also best practice for churches to have hand sanitisers available for parishioners to use. Best hygiene practice should continue to be observed in all pastoral contacts. Updated advice is available from the advice webpage for NHS Scotland (<http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/wuhan-novel-coronavirus>)

Whilst in places of worship, there is no need to avoid other worshipers who are well or to change normal faith practices – this includes taking alcoholic wine from the common cup. Public Health Scotland and the UK Government recommend that you should take usual infection prevention precautions including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Churches can underline the importance of handwashing by ensuring that hand sanitisers are not available in toilets where soap and water can be used.
- It is particularly important after taking public transport to use sanitiser on your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Carry tissues to catch coughs and sneezes and bin the tissue.
- If you feel unwell, stay at home, do not attend work or school.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in church buildings.

The threat posed by COVID-19 has been assessed by the Chief Medical Officer as 'moderate'. This permits the Scottish Government to plan for all eventualities. The risk to individuals remains low.

Travel advice

Anyone who has returned to the UK, the last 14 days, from the countries listed on the government advice page on Coronavirus (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>) and develops symptoms of cough or fever or shortness of breath should immediately:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu.
- Call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the country.

SANCTUARY FIRST

AIMS

Sanctuary First is a pioneering ministry of Falkirk Presbytery developing online and offline worshipping communities. These communities are initially centred around our website and App allowing us to use digital media alongside more traditional forms of communication to share the gospel and make connections that are lasting and meaningful.



We have a particular sympathy for Christians who have become disconnected with the institution of traditional church. Sanctuary First offers daily prayers and Bible readings that connect with the issues of everyday life. We regularly explore creative ways to allow a greater interaction with our users giving those who participate the opportunity to meet face to face on various occasions. The following aims are at the heart of what we are seeking to achieve.

- Help individuals into a deeper Christian discipleship journey.
- Connect with a wider population who have, for whatever reason, become disconnected from traditional church attendance but who wish to be recognised as people of faith.
- Encourage congregations to explore effective ways they can use the internet as an additional tool for mission and discipleship to grow local congregations and fresh expressions of church.
- Research, in partnership with interested bodies and institutions, the significant mission advantages and challenges when engaging with social media as a communication strategy for a local church.
- Create opportunities to engage with creatives in the wider community including techies, film makers, writers, all those involved with the performing arts in order to find touching places which allow the artist from varied disciplines to explore faith in the context of our weekly and monthly themes and to be open to explore new opportunities to engage in missional activities.



10th Birthday



Elite dance troupe started on the 12th of January 2010. 15 girls came along on the first day. After 17 weeks they attended their first competition. January 2020 seen the troupe celebrate its 10th birthday with some girls who came on that first day.

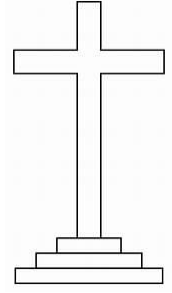
They still practice here in the church halls every week and attend competitions in Skegness every year.

Congregational Register

Deaths "I am leaving the world and going to the father"

Miss Margaret Hutchison Drumbrae Nursing Home

Mrs Ann Chalmers Sighthill Place



Wednesday Coffee Stop

Come and join us on a Wednesday morning anytime between 10.30 and 12.30 for coffee/tea and biscuits, bacon roll, roll with sausage or toasted teacake. Bring along a friend or neighbour. Meet up with old friends or meet new ones. Everyone welcome.

Gardening Report



We would welcome help from anyone who feels they would be able to do this. We usually meet at 9.30 on a Tuesday morning – work for an hour then have tea/coffee putting the world to rights – then work for another hour - this is very flexible. We are all getting on a bit – the average age of the Gardeners is 72. If you can help it would be great to have you join us.

The Gardening Team

Sunshine Bags

The Year 2020 has started off very well with a total of £169 already collected.

The Finance Team greatly appreciates these generous contributions to church funds.

Ian Sutherland and Kathleen Hogg (Finance Team)



First Friday – Monthly

13:30-15:00hrs

Age up to

P7Crafts/games/stories/afternoon
tea free



Together@lunch

**JANUARY - JUNE 2020
ST NICHOLAS PARISH CHURCH
THURSDAYS 12-1.30PM**



January 9th & 23rd
February 6th & 20th
March 5th & 19th
April 2nd, 16th & 30th
May 14th & 28th
June 11th & 25th



More dates after the summer...

*Free lunch & a chance to meet some of your
community.*

ALL WELCOME, including children.

Tel: 07890557398 Email:

felicityfyall@bethanychristiantrust.com



Session meetings 2020

Wednesday 3rd June 7pm
Wednesday 7th October 7pm

Congregational Board Meetings

Wednesday 6th May 7pm
Wednesday 5th August 7pm
Wednesday 4th November 7pm

Communion Dates

Sunday 29th March 10:30am
Sunday 28th June 10:30am
Sunday 25th October 10:30am
Creche during communion services

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Quiz Night

In aid of church funds
Sighthill Bowling Club

Friday 27th March
7pm £3



**THURSDAY 9AM - 11AM
(TERM TIME)
ST NICHOLAS CHURCH
124 SIGHTHILL LOAN**

£2 entry, snacks, tea & coffee

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK OR
CONTACT SHELLEY
07954407309**

Weekly Schedule of Activities

	Groups	Time	Time	Location
MONDAY				
	ACU Training	09:30	12:00	Sm/Lge Hall
	Elite Dancers	16:00	18:00	Large Hall
	Rainbows (5-7yrs)	17:45	19:00	Small Hall
	Brownies (7-10yrs)	18:30	19:45	Large Hall
	Karate	19:45	21:00	Large Hall
	AA	19:30	21:30	Session Room
TUESDAY				
	Tuesday Group	13:30	16:00	Small Hall
	Rainbows (5-7yrs)	17:45	19:00	Small Hall
	Brownies (7-10yrs)	18:00	19:45	Large Hall
Every Quarter	SWI Meeting	19:30	21:00	Small Hall
WEDNESDAY				
	Coffee Stop	10:30	13:30	Small Hall
	Prayer Group	10:30	11:30	Vestry
	Deeper Christian Life Ministry	19:00	21:00	Small Hall
THURSDAY				
Fortnightly	Toddler Group	09:00	11:00	Large Hall
	Bethany Community Lunch	11:00	14:00	Small Hall
	Demarco Dance Project	17:00	19:00	Large Hall
	Karate	19:15	21:00	Large Hall
FRIDAY				
1 st of Month	Messy Church	13:00	15:00	Sm/Lge Hall
	Church Use	16:30	18:30	Large Hall
3 rd of Month	Remnant Christian Network	16:30	20:30	Large Hall
	Church Use	18:00	21:30	Large Hall
SATURDAY				
	Church Events			Reserved
	One Off Annual Events			Reserved
SUNDAY				
	Worship	10:30		Sanctuary
	Sunday School	10:30		Small Hall
	Deeper Christian Life Ministry	14:00	17:00	Sanctuary

St Nicholas Church Door and Offering Duties

30 minutes before the Services

DOOR TEAMS

1	J. Wallace	W. Wallace	F. Winton	S. Agyapong
2	M. Macaulay	K. McLoughlin	I. Waller	M. Purdie
3	T. Hunter	S. Blyth	D. Dow	S. Smith
4	B. Buchanan	J. Buchanan	M. Mackay	J. Mackay
5	M. Cruickshanks	P. Mitchell	I. Smith	A. Mackay
6	G. Malloy	M. Dingsdale	D. Walker	A. Cross
7	N. Sutherland	W. Horsu	W. Pitblado	A. Brown
8	I. Sutherland	A. Sutherland	K. Hogg	J. Flett

Those unable to attend please arrange a stand-in and notify the Team Leader

DATE	COUNT TEAM ROTA	DOOR TEAM ROTA	READERS	FLOWERS
05.04.2020	A	2	G. Malloy	Vacancy
12.04.2020	B	3	R. Ferguson	Vacancy
19.04.2020	C	4	W. Wallace	Vacancy
26.04.2020	D	5	D. Webb	Vacancy
03.05.2020	E	6	J. Wallace	M. Samuel
10.05.2020	A	7	A. Mackay	W&J Wallace
17.05.2020	B	8	H. Seggie	H. Seggie
24.05.2020	C	1	A. Sutherland	Vacancy
31.05.2020	D	2	N. Sutherland	Vacancy
07.06.2020	E	3	T. Hunter	L&N Sutherland
14.06.2020	A	4	G. Malloy	Vacancy
21.06.2020	B	5	R. Ferguson	Vacancy
28.06.2020	C	Communion	W. Wallace	Vacancy