***CHANGE OF ADDRESS***

If you have moved house recently, or are about to move, please fill in the address slip below and either hand it to your elder, or post it to Sheila Bertram, 42 Pentland View, Edinburgh EH10 6PS.

Thank you.

**Name(s):** ……………………………………………………………………………………

**OLD address:** ……………………………………………………………………………..

………………………………………………………………………..............................

**NEW address:** ……………………………………………………………………………

................……………………………………………………………………………………

**NEW Phone Number:** ……………………………………………………………….

**Moving date:** …………………………………………………………………………….

 **Tron Kirk Gilmerton and Moredun**

**Church of Scotland Edinburgh, Registered Charity SC009274**

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| --- | --- |
| http://www.tronkirk.org.uk/images/tronkirk3.jpg | 080204_GNC3_small |

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**TRON KIRK 10.30am**

**GILMERTON CHURCH “THE HUB” 5.00pm**

**MINISTER - REV CAMMY MACKENZIE**

**Magazine of the Tron Kirk Gilmerton and Moredun**

***LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER***

Hi everyone and welcome to the March 2019 newsletter.

By this time Christmas is a distant memory and the shops are filling up fast with Easter eggs even though the shelves were so full of Valentine’s gifts till a few days ago! Our year gets cut and spliced by the next thing we are encouraged to celebrate by making purchases…..

but enough of my "bah humbugs" though and I do hope this letter finds you well.

I want to remind you that if ever you want to get a chat with me as minister my number is 0131664 7538 and my mobile is 07838912361. Recently myself Liz and Ivor divided up the membership roll pretty evenly for the purposes of pastoral care so that we each have a designated number of folks to visit but despite that I would hate to think that if you wanted to see me and you could not so please enjoy your visits from Ivor and Liz but feel free to call for a wee extra chat with me too if you want to. I am very grateful to God for bringing Liz and Ivor to Tron and of course Janet McKenzie too and your elders are there for you too but the 3 of us want you to know that we are here for you too.

In the next few weeks we hope to start a new website named after Tron Kirk and we will, let you know the exact address as soon as it happens. The website will go live ASAP and when it does we hope it will go a way towards helping people both near and far learn about some of the work and activities Tron Kirk is involved in. One new thing while will definitely be on there is "Bridges to Freedom" which we just recently got funding for in partnership with Bethany Christian Trust. That outreach will be aimed at those struggling with substance misuse in our communities of which sadly there are a great many. Bridges will bring a Bethany employee to Gilmerton and Moredun to run a once or twice weekly group and some Tron Kirk folks will work alongside that key worker. We hope to make a difference running this group and in Jesus name we will…..

In a book called "Entertaining Angels," the author cites a survey conducted by a major advertising agency. According to the report (entitled "Fears and Fantasies of the American Consumer"), about seventy-five percent of Americans have daydreamed about saving someone else's life, and fully one-third of the population has daydreamed about finding a cure for cancer. But when it came to the question, "What is the greatest pleasure in life," the most popular answer was, "Watching television." Television topped the list. We would love to be good, it seems, just as long as it doesn't inconvenience us. It's one thing to dream about being good, and another to be good for something.

A few years ago, the pollster George Gallup was asked to comment on what his

polls were saying about "the correct state of religion in America." He said, in part ...

**2**

The two major trends really are a search for depth in our society -- people seeking spiritual moorings -- and the search for relationships. People need to rediscover each other. We are fragmented. Families have split apart.

Mr. Gallup went on to describe many American Church-goers as assenters rather than believers:

They assent to faith. They assent to the beliefs which one is meant to believe, but they don't necessarily believe them. If you consider that a belief is something to be acted upon, then these people are merely paying lip-service to what they think they should believe. If people were truly as religious as they say, the ethical nature of our society would be vastly different.

I wonder if the Scottish or UK Church would fare much better if Mr Gallup were to ask similar questions here of the general Church members or perhaps we might do a bit better. Any of you who know me will know well that I love a superhero more than most but to be honest I think we can actually all make a difference if we put our trust in Jesus and ask Him regularly what He wants us to be doing……

Lets' be believers rather than assenters or those who as Paul said to Timothy in 2 Timothy 3 verse 5...

These people have a form of Godliness but deny it’s real power. Jesus said to us that we would "do greater things than He did” ( not perhaps in quality but maybe in quantity ) because He was going back to the Father perhaps He was one and we are many and He promised to work through us and that is why He sent the Holy Spirit after all.

Each one of us can make a difference where we live and we can pray that God’s will would be done in the lives of those who surround us every day.

May God be with us all helping us to be true believers in His Son and in His Word in this year 2019.

***Cammy***

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**HEART & SOUL 2019**

**Celebrating the life of the Church**

Heart & Soul 2019 will be held on Sunday 19th May 1.00-6.00pm in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh.

**3**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Image result for 70th birthday images | Happy birthday wishes to Magnus Flucker who celebrated his 70th birthday in February |

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***T A G***

This group meets on a Thursday Afternoon from the beginning of September until June. We meet every second Thursday from 2.00pm until approximately 3.30pm. If you are free and are looking for something to do on a Thursday afternoon please come along and join us. It is mostly a fun afternoon and sometimes we do have a speaker. The cost is £1.00 and tea and biscuits are supplied.

If you would like any further information please speak to Alice Laing, Sheena Anderson or Pat Wilson.

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***HOME COMMUNION***

You may be one of our more elderly on infirm members who are not now able to attend church and also miss out on Communion Sundays. If you would like to receive Communion in your own home please contact the minister Cammy Mackenzie on **664 7538** or our Session Clerk Sheila Bertram, who will be able to arrange this for you.

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***LIFE and WORK MAGAZINE***

If you would like to receive a copy of the Church of Scotland Life and Work Magazine please speak to Sheena Anderson.

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***CHRISTMAS FAYRE***

Once again the Christmas Fayre was a great success, nearly £1,200 was raised. There is a lot of hard work goes into the fayre and it makes it all very worthwhile when this amount of money is raised. A great big thank you to everyone who worked on this and to those who came along on the Saturday and supported us.



**YOUR HELP IS REQUIRED**

The smooth running of the church depends on everyone contributing in some way. We have separate committees which are responsible for different aspects of the functions of the church.

These committees look after the social events, the financial side, the care of the property and pastoral care. They meet to discuss relevant matters and the convener reports back to the Session who take the final decision as they carry the responsibility. Your help to serve on one of these committees would be greatly appreciated, particularly the property committee.

If you would like more information or would be happy to serve on one of the committees please contact Sheila Bertram, Alice Laing or Cammy Mackenzie.

Thank You for giving this some consideration.

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***SOCIAL EVENTS PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Thursday 21st March | - | Daffodil Tea 2.00pm in the Tron  |
| Saturday 25th May | - | Afternoon Tea 2.00pm in the Hub |
| Saturday 15th or 22nd June | - | Bus Outing |
| Saturday 27th July | - | Barbecue 2.00pm at the Tron |
| Sunday 22nd September | - | Meeting regarding Christmas Fayre with soup lunch |
| Saturday 23rd November | - | Christmas Fayre 11.00am-1.00pm in the Tron |
| Saturday 14th December | - | Christmas Party 2.30pm in the Tron |

Some of the above dates may be subject to change.

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***DATES FOR YOUR DIARY***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Wednesday** | **20 March** | SEECAT Justice & Peace – Save our Planet – 7.30pm in the Hub |
| **Thursday**  | **21 March** | Daffodil Tea 2.00pm in the Tron £4.00 |
| **Wednesday** | **27 March** | Session Meeting 2.00pm  |
| **Saturday**  | **6 April** | Messy Church 4.00-6.00pm - Tron |
| **Monday**  | **15 April** | Passover Meal/Footwashing 7.00pm in the Tron |
| **Wednesday** | **17 April** | Ecumenical Stations of the Cross 7.30pm in St Gregory’s |
| **Friday** | **19 April** | Prayer Walk and open air service. Walk from churches 10am to meet in Morrisons’ Car Park for service at 11am |
| **Friday** | **19 April** | Joint afternoon service 3pm in Gracemount High School |
| **Wednesday** | **24 April** | Session Meeting 2.00pm |
| **Saturday** | **4 May`** | Messy Church 4.00-6.00pm - Tron |
| **Saturday** | **25 May** | Afternoon Tea in the Hub 2.00pm £3.00 |
| **Wednesday** | **29 May** | Session Meeting 2.00pm |
| **Saturday** | **1 June** | Messy Church 4.00-6,00pm – Tron |
| **Sunday** | **2 June** | Communion Service 10am – Tron and 5pm the Hub |

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***TRON KIRK GILMERTON AND MOREDUN OFFERS***....

Sunday services Tron 10.30am and Hub Ravenscroft Street 5pm

Sunday school 10.30am – Tron

Monday Healing Bible Study 7.00pm - Tron
Monday Community Choir 8.00 - 9.30pm for Adults 18+ - Tron

Tuesday Drop in Café in Goodtrees 2.00 - 4.00pm

Wednesday Prayer meeting - Tron 11.15 - 12.15pm

Wednesday Community Lunch 12.30pm – Tron

Thursday Afternoon Group (every 2nd week) 2.00pm - Tron
Thursday Badminton club for 18 and above 8.00-10.00pm – Tron

Friday Food Bank 10.00am - 1.00pm - Tron

Friday Brownies 5.00 - 6.30pm – Tron (term time)

Friday Rainbows 5.30-6.30pm – Tron (term time)

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***BROWNIES – TRON KIRK MOREDUN***

A Brownie pack for girls aged 7 to 10 years is held in the Tron Church, 6 Craigour Gardens (off Craigour Drive), (during school term time) on a Friday from 5.00pm-6.30pm. Places are limited as at the moment we can only take 16 children. If you have a child/children who are interested in joining the Brownies please contact Liz Crocker on 0131 332 0227 or 07951711802 for further information.

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***RAINBOWS – TRON KIRK MOREDUN***

A Rainbows group is held in the Tron Church (during school term time) for girls aged 5 to 7 years on a Friday from 5.30-6.30pm. There is a waiting list at the moment but if you have a child/children who are interested in joining please contact Michelle Gibson on 07843274339.

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| eden4flowers | ***FLOWER LIST*** |
| **MARCH** | **MAY** |
| 03 | Lillian Gray | 05 | May Neil |
| 10 | Betty Blair | 12 | Pat Wilson |
| 17 | Anna & Bill Cormack | 19 | Margaret Ballantyne |
| 24 | Betty Hastings | 26 | Alice Laing |
| 31 | Lorraine Imrie |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **APRIL** | **JUNE** |
| 07 | June Anderson | 02 | Margaret Ballantyne |
| 14 | Sheena Anderson | 09 | Betty Blair |
| 21 | Alice & Sheila Bertram | 16 | Jim & Kate Fisher |
| 28 |  | 23 | Liz & Allan Crocker |
|  |  | 30 |  |

Anyone who would like to add their name to the flower calendar or can

help with the distribution of the flowers after the service please speak to

**Pat Wilson Tel: No. 666 1078.**

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**THE DIVINE WEAVER**

My life is but a weaving between my Lord and me: I cannot choose the colours he worketh steadily.

Oftentimes he weaveth sorrow and I, in foolish pride, forget that he seeth the upper and I the under side.

Not till the loom is silent and the shuttles cease to fly, shall God unroll the canvas and explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful in the weaver’s skilful hand as the threads of gold and silver in the pattern he has planned.

**5**

**MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTORAL ASSISTANT**

It is with a sense of anticipation and excitement that I want to share a few thoughts with you.

Within our church at the moment there is a definite feeling that God is about to do a new thing with his people here in Gilmerton and Moredun.

One of the new things is our Discipleship Group with the members of the church session and church elders. We have just completed our second week on the subject – ‘Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World.’ As you know the story of Mary and Martha centres around the visit of Jesus to the home of Mary and Martha – while Mary sat at the feet of Jesus listening to all He had to say, Martha was busy, busy, busy doing all that needed doing to accommodate her guests. She gets so frustrated with her sister not helping that in her frustration she asks Jesus ‘Don’t you care my sister has left me to do all the work.’ I am sure we can all identify with Martha, where we get to the point of feeling drained, tired, weary, and worn out with our busy lives that we feel as if no one cares. Our world, our work our families and even our friends can be so demanding of our time it is difficult to have time or to make room for ourselves.

Is it possible in the busy, hectic lives that we all lead for us to take some time for us to just sit quietly in the presence of Jesus. Reading our bibles, quiet times for prayer and reflection, listening to some gospel music – old or new songs of worship and just be at peace.

God longs for a relationship with you, He longs to spend time with you, His greatest desire is to have intimacy with you in a unique and beautiful way. God loves each one of us so much that He longs to spend time with you. Would it be possible for you to take a few moments after reading this to just sit in the presence of Jesus?

By the time you read this we as a group will have moved on with our study but more importantly we will have, hopefully moved deeper into our relationship with God. I trust that whoever you are and wherever you are that you will be going on in your love and service for Him who loves you dearly.

May you be richly blessed.

***Ivor Forrest***

***Pastoral Assistant***

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**And when you pray…. Matthew 6:7a**

“How do you eat yours?” That was the question in a certain egg-shaped confectionery advert. The implication being that there is no right way to do it, but rather it’s about how you best experience the egg.

How do you pray?

Perhaps you haven’t really thought about it too much. Perhaps it’s now hard to concentrate because you’re thinking about chocolate, but regardless of appetite, past experiences, how we wrap it up or try to explain it, prayer can be rather confusing. It can often be a mystery. It can at times seem like a chore. It can even be a blessed relief.

So then, how *do* you pray?

Are you a morning person? Do you greet the sunrise with thanks and praise to our God? Do you utter hopeful words and try and live them throughout the day to come? Are you more spontaneous? Do you respond to life with a ‘breath prayer’, off the cuff, as life makes you dance to its tune and in each moment you seek the steadying hand of our Creator and Sustainer?

Perhaps you find yourself needing space. Like a free-diver coming up for air after plumbing the depths. Maybe you carve out some time in your day to be still and know the presence of God. You may prefer to reflect on your day in the presence of God, as was the practice of Ignatius of Loyola, who gave us the daily examen – a way of praying that helps us recognise God’s presence in the midst of the day just lived.

The practice of prayer is part of the lifeblood of our faith. We may find ourselves in the darkest of circumstances, when prayer is the only thing that we can turn to for comfort. We might see prayer as that thing we do together on a Sunday, or as the words said on our behalf by a minister or worship leader. Maybe it is the one thing that keeps us going, those times when we can just let God know how we are feeling. It might even be that thing that happens by accident or that we’re unaware of until, looking back on a time of quiet, perhaps with a cup of tea or watching the world go by from our living room window, we realise that in the stillness, God was there the whole time.

Whatever your habit or preference may not really matter. What is important is that we are having the conversation, that we are opening ourselves up to

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God in whatever moment we can manage, that in some way prayer is part of our life. Prayer may be a constant companion on the journey, or a friend that visits once in a while, to bring comfort and solace. It may be something deeper, more mysterious that is largely left unspoken, something felt, yearned for, grieved over or something long-forgotten brought to mind.

How we pray then, is not the most important thing, but rather that the experience of prayer and the encounter with God is recognised. That our faith is tended and our relationship with God is nurtured, in precious moments. No fancy wrapping is needed and it may not always taste sweet but, in the midst of life, listening for and opening our hearts to God is indeed food for the soul.

***Resourcing Worship Team, Mission & Discipleship Council***

***Church of Scotland***

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**CHILDREN IN CHURCH**

**Jesus' Dad's Name** --

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child answered, "Mary."

The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?" A little kid said, "Verge."

Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?"

The kid said, "Well, you know, they are always talking about Verge n' Mary.''

**……….**

I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail”.

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**NEWS FROM THE SESSION**

Until last year the church owned the Gilmerton Road Manse which was rented out to give us an income to help with everyday expenses such as heating and lighting.

When a change of occupant arose we discovered a very considerable cost would be required to put it into good repair.

After much discussion we decided to sell the manse and invest the money with the Church of Scotland to give us sufficient income in interest to cover the loss of the rent.

To keep the church building in good order we have agreed to use some of the money to replace the windows in the sanctuary of the Tron Kirk and paint the area.

In the sanctuary we have been able to purchase 10 new chairs with arms to help the less mobile folks. This was made possible when the family of Jean Williams gave us a legacy in her name.

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**FROM THE BASICS BANK**

A massive thank you to everybody who supports the Basics Bank in so many different ways – in donations of food and toiletries, in donations of money and in prayer. Your prayers have definitely brought fruit in terms of a fantastic donation of £1250 from Edinburgh City Mission following a successful application for funding from the Bank of Scotland Foundation. We will use it wisely and well to keep up stocks of tinned and fresh food. We also had a huge donation from a local football club and we received a cheque for just over £400 from Merchiston Castle School, following Cammy’s visit to them. We are blessed in many ways by all our supporters, but I have a special thank you for all the volunteers who turn up Friday by Friday to mark tins, make teas, have conversations, make meals and make up food parcels. If you would like to join our happy band on a Friday morning, speak to me or Cammy.

***Janet McKenzie***

***OLM***

**7**



Messy Church is held in the Tron Kirk from 4.00-6.00pm on the first Saturday of the month except for the months of July, August and January.

There are various crafts, songs, stories, face painting, messy mess and food.

All welcome, the only requirement being if you are a child you’ll need an adult and if you are an adult you’ll need a child.

Why not try it out, we are a friendly bunch.

The messy church team range from teenagers to volunteers in their late seventies. Always inspired by new friends we meet and the fellowship gained.

Messy Church is free but there is a tin for any donation you would like to make when you sign in at the door.

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| ANd9GcS4CnKvABnxHj1BpPV92SXKnR7zQ8dyMf4eFytJSnzUXXWjJ14dzanl-A | ***BADMINTON CLUB*** |

If you would like a little exercise you can come along and join us on a Thursday night from 8 – 10pm. This is for anyone 18 years old and over. Come and have some fun. Contact Janice on 664 8773 for any further information.

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***CAN YOU HELP WITH SUNDAY MORNING TEAS?***

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| --- | --- |
| **tea_cup_small** | Thank you to those people who provided the teas following the service during October, November, December, January and February. Volunteers are required for the coming months. If you can manage to help with the teas please speak to Sheena Anderson. |

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**RECIPES**

Come on folks, it was suggested some time ago that we start a recipe corner in the Chronicle. So far I have not been able to do this as no one has given me any recipes. Think about your favourite recipes and let me have them either when you are in the church or you can email them to me at alice.laing@blueyonder.co.uk so that I can include them in future issues. Thank you.

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***HEALING BIBLE STUDY***

Healing Bible Study is held in the Tron church on a Monday evening at 7.00pm. Anyone is welcome to join this.

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***TRON KIRK COMMUNITY CHOIR***

**DO YOU LIKE TO SING:** If so then come along and join the Tron Kirk Community Choir which meets on Monday evenings in the Tron Kirk from 8.00-9.30pm.

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**DROP IN CAFE AT GOODTREES CENTRE**

The Tron Church has a weekly drop in café in Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre on a Tuesday from 2.00-4.00pm. Tea and biscuits are supplied. All welcome for a cup of tea, a chat and friendship.

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**PRAYER GROUP**

Every Wednesday in The Tron, 11.15am until 12.15pm.

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***COMMUNITY LUNCH***

Every Wednesday in the upper hall of Tron Church at 12.30pm. Anyone is welcome to come to this so please come along and join us for a nice lunch.

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**SEECAT JUSTICE & PEACE**

This year the SEECAT Justice & Peace Group are working in the first instance around ethical and environmental issues and have invited Matt Foulds to speak about his shop the Eco Larder which was the first zero waste shop to be opened in the Edinburgh.

He will also explain how eco bricks are made from recycled plastic and their planned projects to build with them.

We may also have a representative from Edinburgh recycling department explaining what can or cannot be recycled.

 Date: - 20th March

 Time: - 7.30pm

 Venue: - The Hub

 6 Ravenscroft Street

 EH 17 8QJ

This is not our fund raising event and tickets will not be issued. It is an open invitation to all who would like to do our part in helping to save our planet for future generations. Some plastic free household products from the shop may be on sale.

We hope you will join us after the presentation for chat, tea/coffee & biscuits

***![Save-Earth-Transparent[1]]()***

**9**

**FUNERALS**

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| --- |
| Mrs Scott, Ravenscroft Street, EdinburghOur thoughts and prayers are with the family of Mrs Scott at this sad time. |

***HELP US TO HELP YOU***

The elders and minister of the Tron Kirk want to keep in touch with **all** our members and remember them in our prayers when they are in any difficulty, sick or in need of support. We want to know when someone is in hospital or ill at home and we are particularly anxious to keep in touch with our older and frail members who are unable to attend church. We need your help to do this. If a member of your family is ill please let their elder know, every member should have a card with the name and telephone number for their elder. If you cannot find the card then contact any of the named elders listed in the Chronicle which you receive four times a year or contact the Session Clerk, Sheila Bertram, whose address and phone number are on the back page of the Chronicle.

It is particularly important that a family member or friend lets us know when someone moves away to be closer to family or to receive nursing care. It can be distressing to ring a bell only to be told that the person is now in a nursing home but nobody knows which home. Our pastoral care team is trying hard to ensure that all members in nursing homes receive regular visits but we cannot do that if we are not told when they move and where they are now based. Please help if you can by keeping in touch with one of the elders, Ivor Forrest our Pastoral Assistant, or the Minister.

We also like to celebrate with our members and give thanks for good news and special events. If you are celebrating a special birthday, an anniversary or a new baby in the family please let Alice Laing know so that she can include your special occasion in the Chronicle and we can remember you and give thanks in our prayers.

***Sheila Bertram***

***Session Clerk***

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***HOLY WEEK SERVICES***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Monday 15 April | Passover Meal/Footwashing 7.30pm in Tron |
| Wednesday 17 April | Ecumenical Stations of the Cross 7.30pm in St Gregory’s |
| Friday 19 April | Prayer Walk from churches 10.00am to meet in Morrisons’ Car Park for 11.00am service. |
| Friday 19 April | Joint service at 3.00pm in Gracemount High School |
| Sunday 21 April | Easter service in the Tron at 10.30am and 5.00pm in the Hub |

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**NEW MEMBER**

Welcome to Avie Linton who is now a full member of the Tron Kirk by restoration of the Kirk Session.

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**CHRISTMAS FUNNIES**

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