

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH DUNFERMLINE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sunday 3rd December 2023

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Congregation which all members of the congregation are invited to attend will be held in church on Sunday 3rd December 2023 at 12:30pm following the 50 50 Club AGM.

The agenda will be as follows:

- 1) Welcome and apologies
- 2) Obituary
- 3) Minutes of AGM 4th December 2022
- 4) Matters arising from minutes of AGM 4th December 2022
- 5) Rector's Warden Report
- 6) Financial Report
 - a) Accounts & Balance Sheet for y/e 30 Sept. 2023
 - b) Budget for 2023/2024
 - c) Gift Aid Secretary's report
 - d) Appointment of independent Examiner
- 7) Acceptance of written reports
 - a) People's Warden
 - b) Vestry
 - c) Lay Representative
 - d) Safeguarding Report
 - f) Church Organisations
- 8) Elections
- 9) Charitable Giving
- 10) AOCB

Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church, known as Holy Trinity, Dunfermline, is a Scottish Charity, SC015181, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

Web: <http://holytrinitychurch.org.uk>

Contents

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 4 th December 2022	3
Reports for 2023 Annual General Meeting	8
HTD Rector's Report	8
Financial Report	11
Gift Aid Secretary Report	16
Written Reports.....	17
People's Warden	17
Rectors Warden	17
Vestry Report	18
Lay Representative Report for Holy Trinity AGM	20
Church Organisations	23
HT 50/50 Club Annual Report	23
Meditation Group Report	24
Young Church	24
Fife Cluster Youth Fellowship	24
Holy Trinity Friendship Group	26
Prayer Group	28
Communication Group	28
Retiring Collections	30
Contact Group	31
Foodbank	31

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH DUNFERMLINE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 4th December 2022

1. Welcome and apologies

The chair was taken by The Very Rev'd Hunter Farquharson who welcomed those attending Holy Trinity's Annual General Meeting and opened with a prayer.

- 43 members of the congregation were present:
David Dean, Linda Sherwood, Jim and Brenda Myles, Fiona and James Barcroft, Eve Gilchrist, Richard Peat, Lucy Peat, Andrew Wedge, Rachel Walker, Phyllida Smith, Ross Kennedy, Ruary Muirhead, Jack and Gill Wardell, Sheona and Graeme Wedge, Isabelle Pottinger, Jennifer Slack, Arthur Slack, Jean Stollery, Anne Cowlin, Helen Daligity, Frances Jack, Julie Coombe, Pam and Brendan Grimley, Roger Weatherhogg, Yvonne and Malcolm Gosling, Doreen Esnol, Rod and Barbara Key, Audrey Ricks, Charlie Murphy, Joan and Oliver O'Donovan, Andrew Morris, Linda Brownlie, Isabelle Pottinger, Dorissia Forsyth, Isobel Thomson
- Apologies: Brian Smith, John and Brenda Waterfield, Grace Soanes, Andy and Dorothy Nichol, June and Iain Forbes, Sue Morris, Lynnis Dean, Sheila and Ron Hawkins, Monica Terry, Elizabeth Peat, Morag Silvey

2. Obituary

A Prayer was offered for those members of Holy Trinity Church who had died during the previous year: – John Sherwood, Evelyn Tyrrell, Muriel McKenzie, Ivy Stewart, Robert, Wardell

3. Minutes of Meetings had been previously circulated:

AGM 5/12/21- correction on page 6 to 7d to take out “into standing order payments”

Proposed by Linda Brownlie

Seconded by Brendan Grimley

4. Matters arising from the minutes of previous AGM 5/12/21

- none

5. **Rector's Wardens Report** had been previously circulated with the AGM papers. The Very Rev'd Hunter Farquharson thanked David Dean for his complete reports. Isabelle Pottinger expressed her thanks to David for all his hard work during the Interregnum.

6. Financial Report

- a. **Accounts and Balances Sheet for y/e 30/9/22 had been circulated with AGM papers.**

Jim Myles presented the accounts for the year to 30/9/22

- b. **Budget for 2022/2023 had been circulated with AGM papers.**

The budget had been agreed by Vestry at a previous meeting. Jim Myles explained that there was an expected deficit for next year but some amounts will have to be changed as the Rectory boiler needs to be replaced and there are a number of church repairs that have still to be costed.

James Barcroft went through a report outlining the financial issues faced and suggested ideas to address these.

- Controlling Costs
 - Saving on heating costs – heat church and hall to a lower temperature, do the lights need to all be on, keep doors shut
 - Vestry is looking into fitting thermostats and insulation

Comments

Due to the age of many members of the congregation heating should not be lower

Lighting is a very small cost but it was agreed hall lights should be replaced by LED

Provenance have grants for 50% of costs

Look out for Climate Group grants

- Traditional Giving is 60-70% of HTD income.
 - Are members in the congregation able to give more on a regular basis.
 - Use Gift Aid where possible
 - Small donations can be included in Gift Aid up to £30

Comments It was noted that on the live broadcasts the donations were always zero – how can donating be encouraged?

- Online Giving
 - When shopping online, consider using Easyfundraising or Amazon Smile
 - Vestry is considering obtaining a card reader for donations

Comments no comments

- Church Hall
 - The hall needs decorated to make it more attractive for hiring. If anyone can help with DIY skills please speak to Vestry
 - There has been discussion about increasing the hire from £15 per hour to £30 per hour.
 - Groups are encouraged to contribute more for their use of the hall
 - Tea/Coffee will increase to a £2 suggested donation
 - A suggestions box will be set up in the Vestibule.

Comments Brenda Myles offered to host a South African themed evening

Andrew Wedge offered to hold a Quiz night

It was noted that the council offer a discount to charities when hiring their halls

- Traditional Methods
 - Fundraising – can ways to raise money be considered.
 - Legacies

Comments It is better to put a percentage in your will rather than a set amount

The Annual Report and Budget was adopted: - proposed by Jim Myles and seconded by James Barcroft

c. Appointment of independent examiner

It was agreed to reappoint Thomson Cooper as Independent Examiner

Proposed: David Dean

Seconded: Linda Sherwood

d. Gift Aid Secretary's report had been published in the AGM papers.

Rod Key presented the report. He thanked members for changing their giving to online during the pandemic but now he asked for donations to be switched to envelopes or cash as this can be put through the new recording system allowing HTD to increase the Gift Aid claim.

Comments: Make sure expenses are claimed and then this can be donated back to the church.

7. Review of reports

- a. **People's warden report** had been published in the AGM papers. As read. No questions
- b. **Vestry report** had been published in the AGM papers. As read. No questions
- c. **Lay representative's report** had been published in the AGM papers. As read. No questions
- d. **Safeguarding report** had been published in the AGM papers. As read. No questions
- e. **Church organisations' reports** had been published in the AGM papers. As read. No questions

8. Elections

- a. **Appointment of Rectors Warden:** David Dean will remain in post.

The following nominations had been received:

- a) **People's Warden – Linda Sherwood** was proposed by Karen McDonald and seconded by John Waterfield. There were no other nominations therefore Linda Sherwood is appointed as People's Warden.
- b) **Lay Representative – Linda Brownlie** was proposed by Pam Grimley and seconded by Isobel Thomson. There were no other nominations therefore Linda Brownlie is appointed as Lay Representative.
Alt Lay Representative – Richard Peat was proposed by Andrew Wedge and seconded by Anne Peat. There were no other nominations therefore Richard Peat is appointed as Alt Lay Representative.

- c) **Vestry Members:** - The Rector's Warden thanked the members of the Vestry, (Eve Gilchrist – outgoing).
- a. Dorissia Forsyth was proposed by Fiona Barcroft, seconded by Sheona Wedge.
 - b. Isabelle Pottinger was proposed by Jim Myles seconded by Brenda Myles.
 - c. No nominations for 2 other vacancies

There were no other nominations therefore Dorissia Forsyth and Isabelle Pottinger are appointed to the Vestry for three years.

- 9. Charitable Giving** – thanks were expressed for the generous contributions and donations made by the congregation. Suggestions for new charities should be sent to Eve Gilchrist.

10. AOCB:

Thanks were expressed to Linda Sherwood as well as David Dean for all their work as Wardens. Vouchers were presented to them as thanks from the Vestry on behalf of the congregations.

Thanks were expressed to Helen Dagity and everyone that helped providing the refreshments.

Dorissia Forsyth thanked everyone for making her daughter's wedding day so special.

Meeting closed by The Very Rev'd Hunter Farquharson





**Holy
Trinity
Dunfermline**

Reports for 2023 Annual General Meeting

HTD Rector's Report

The last AGM was on 4 December, 2022. Since that time, the fellowship of Holy Trinity has experienced much change. You welcomed me as your new Rector on 6 December. I am grateful to be with you! In many ways this report is a public, but very personal reflection on our time together.

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to this past transitional year with special thanks to Linda and David who are retiring as our Wardens.

Inviting a new Rector is daunting. You trusted a limited number of representatives to assess and interview an individual that would then be invited to become not only an integral part of your fellowship, but also to assume a role of leadership and guide. I pray that I have met *part* of your expectations. Just as you are learning to understand me, I am learning to appreciate you. I am confident that we will continue to grow, spiritually and physically.

I chose to arrive quickly, and before Christmas. The world had struggled with important holidays and life events through the lockdowns caused by COVID-19. Perhaps it was selfless, perhaps it was selfish; however, I did not want to watch another congregation experience Christmas interregnum.

Our Thursday and Sunday services are a celebration of the Eucharist. As your priest, I am lifted by those who join us at both services!

Given the time restraints of my quick arrival, we did not have an Advent course in 2022. However, we did host a Lent course that focussed on the Gospel of John, chapter 15. This proved informative in how we plan our future. There is a vine. There are branches. In order to grow, pruning must take place. As a fellowship, we reflected on how this scripture applies to Holy Trinity, Dunfermline. As Rector, I found this profoundly insightful and inspiring! Lent and Eastertide afforded a host of opportunities to grow as a community! We shared in much that concluded in a Pentecost piñata!

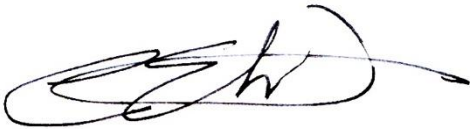
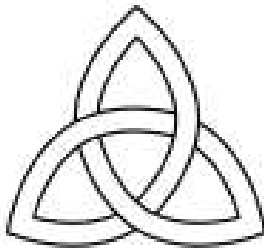
Holy Trinity Sunday saw us springing into new life! There were flowers or plants that you could either take home and watch grow, or add to the HTD garden and watch grow. The truth is, HTD, each of us, must flourish. Further, despite weather predictions, we will flourish together.

I am mindful that we are part of Fife Pilgrim Way. As your Rector, I am on the Standing Committee. We have welcomed three bands of pilgrims in the past year. This is significant. As hosts, HTD has offered a bottle of water, a pack of raisins, some peanuts and prayer for those who have asked.

I report, as your Rector, I am privileged to serve on other Diocesan committees. These are important and add to our greater SEC fellowship.

The future is as close as you can touch the clouds! I have learned that is close in Scotland! I have been asked to prepare in the next few months a five-year plan for HTD. This is a challenge that I have taken very seriously. This will be presented to Vestry, but does not require approval, before I present it to + Ian. If you have any questions, or wish to make any comments, I welcome them.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. J. D.', written in a cursive style.

Financial Report

Income Description	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24 Budget</u>
Freewill Offering	£6,874	£5,068	£5,000
Gift Aid Offering	£35,121	£36,425	£35,000
Open Plate	£1,820	£3,546	£3,500
			-
Stipend Support Grant	£-	£-	£3,590
Coffee	£1,306	£2,935	£3,000
Tax Recovered	£8,720	£9,685	£9,500
Investment Income	£3,379	£3,971	£3,500
Donations from Church Groups -50/50	£2,877	£2,592	£2,500
Donations – hall usage	£675	£1,275	£1,500
Other Donations	£-	£1,027	£1,000
Funerals	£-	£250	
Cake Stall	£-	£229	£300
Harvest Lunch		£-	£400
Book Sales	£60	£60	£60
Misc Income	£306	£343	£300
Legacies / Bequests		£2,000	-
Proceeds from Sale of Investments	£-	£-	£25,000
Misc Income			
Total	£61,138	£69,406	£94,150

Expenditure Description	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24 Budget</u>
Stipend, NI & Pension		(£32,933)	(£43,610)
Rector's Travel Expenses	(£156)		(£500)
Rector's Telephone	(£562)	(£496)	(£550)
Rectory Council Tax	(£1,923)	(£1,991)	(£2,080)
Rectory Insurance	(£455)	(£450)	(£370)
Rectory Repairs	(£1,364)	(£6,138)	(£1,000)
Church Heat & Light	(£5,210)	(£4,108)	(£5,000)
Church Cleaning	(£2,765)	(£2,869)	(£3,480)
Church Maintenance	(£7,358)	(£2,983)	(£4,500)
Church Insurance	(£2,544)	(£3,353)	(£3,500)
Administration	(£2,869)	(£966)	(£2,000)
Organist & Music	(£7,645)	(£5,778)	(£7,000)
Altar costs	(£188)	(£586)	(£600)
Young Church	(£390)		(£500)
Youth Fellowship			(£500)
Operational Misc	(£551)	(£1,599)	(£1,000)
Diocesan Quota	(£9,560)	(£9,723)	(£10,000)
Supernumerary Visits	(£2,763)	(£458)	
IT	(£-)		(£500)
Church WiFi	(£868)	(£681)	(£500)
Admin Assistant	(£3,449)	(£4,015)	(£4,400)
Organ Servicing	(£342)	(£690)	(£700)
Rectory Heat & Light		(£239)	
Interview Expenses		(£513)	
Clergy Conference		(£125)	(£125)
Cost of refreshments		(£410)	(£500)
Flowers		(£374)	(£400)
Total	(£50,962)	(£81,478)	(£93,315)

2022/2023 Deficit

(£12,072)

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Brought Forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Non Cash Transfer</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	£17,021	£69,406	(£81,478)	£4,616	£9,564
Rector's Emergency	£638	-	(£50)	-	£589
Charitable Collections	£409	£2,097	(£2,506)	-	£1
Property Fund (Restricted)	£0	-	-	-	£0
Property Fund (Designated)	£0	£600	-	(£850)	£0
Whitlock Flower Fund	£1,029	-	(£35)	-	£1,174
Flower Fund	£0	£100	-	-	£100
Organ Fund	£0	-	-	-	£0
Ditchburn Fund	£1,000	-	-	-	£1,000
Mission Fund	£1,000	-	-	-	£1,000
Blackwood Rectory Fund	£3,766	-	-	(£3,766)	£0
Youth Fellowship Fund	£100	-	-	-	£100
Total	£25,744	£71,853	(£84,069)	£0	£13,528

Balances at beginning of year

Virgin Money £25,745

Investments in SEC Unit Trust Pool

	Number of units	Unit Value	Total Value
30/9/22	4,933	£25.1051	£123,843

Total 2021/2022 £149,588

Balances at end of year

Virgin Money			£13,529
Investments in SEC Unit Trust Pool			
	Number of units	Unit Value	Total Value
30/9/23	4,933	£26.4722	£131,919
Total 2022/2023		£145,448	

Holy Trinity, Dunfermline – Financial Summary 2022-23

- **At last year's AGM, we stressed that the financial year 2022/2023 was going to be a very difficult year for Holy Trinity. This turned out to be very true with an actual result (before the independent review of the accounts) being a deficit of £12,702 or over £1,000 per month.**
- Looking at the results for 2020/2023 income was broadly in line with budget.
- Due to ongoing fluctuations in the value of our investments, it was decided not to sell any of them during the year.
- During the year, it was necessary to install a new gas boiler in the Rectory and we also paid for Energy Performance Certificates for both the Church buildings and the Rectory
- Energy costs remain under control as we are locked in to fixed electric and gas prices until December 2024. Obviously, if we have a cold Winter we could see an increase in those costs. We have budgeted £5,000 for 2003/24. However, we are looking at ways to reduce the actual cost as we strive towards SEC's net zero targets.

- In preparing the Budget for 2023/2024, most income items have been left unchanged. On the Expense side, Increases have been included for Stipend and Pension costs in line with those approved by the SEC's Administration Board (during October we received a Stipend Support Grant of £3,590 to help offset the increase)..
- The number of units held in the SEC Unit Trust Pool remained unchanged through the financial year. However, the unit price has been extremely volatile due world events such as the conflict in the Ukraine and the increasing cost of energy. The bank balance has decreased as a result of the deficit incurred during the year.

This year will be a big challenge for Holy Trinity and it is incumbent not only on Vestry but on us all to actively look at ways of increasing our income while at the same time reducing overheads. Unless we are able to do this, we are looking at having to sell £25,000 worth of investments to cover our anticipated shortfall during 2023/2024. This is not sustainable.

Finally, I would like to thank Rod Key for the valuable work he has done over the years in maintaining the Gift Aid/Freewill and Open Plate records and preparing the annual Gift Aid returns. He will be missed when he moves down south. I would also like to thank both Linda Sherwood and Fiona Barcroft for their many visits to Virgin Money to deposit funds raised by the Church's various activities. They make my job so much easier.

Jim Myles
Treasurer

Gift Aid Secretary Report

This report is for the Financial Year ending 5 April 2023

Gift Aid contributions and donations for the year amounted to £35,036. Year ending April 2022 was £33,331 showing an increase of £1,705.

Open Plate contributions and donations was £1,697.

The total amount of Tax reclaimed from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) on these contributions and donations was £9,183.

There were 51 regular Gift Aid contributions and 53 Gift Aid donations given in yellow envelopes making a total of 104.

Freewill Offerings totalled £4,106 which were made using Bank Standing Order and Freewill white envelopes.

Charities Trust and CAF offerings totalled £1,560.

On behalf of the Vestry, I would like to say thank you to everyone who continue to contribute to Holy Trinity.

Gift Aid Declaration forms, Bank Standing Order forms, Gift Aid and Freewill envelopes are all obtainable from myself.

As we are moving south therefore, I resign my position of Gift Secretary and wish my successor all the very best.

Rod Key, Gift Secretary

October 2023

Written Reports

People's Warden

Last year's report began with a farewell to Kenny and Ruth and then, just before Christmas, we welcomed our new Rector, Lara. This has very much been a learning year for all of us as Lara got used to our SEC way of doing things and we settled in with her vision of our church and congregation going forward.

You will know by now that both David and I are standing down at this AGM. I have been People's Warden for nine years now and I feel it is time for someone new – younger perhaps – to carry on with this vital role.

It has been an absolute privilege to work with you and for you and I am immensely grateful to all those who, with their tireless and dedicated work, get on quietly to do all the things that are necessary to keep Holy Trinity going. I do not usually mention anyone by name but, as they are leaving us, I feel I must say an extra special thank you to Barbara and Rod, we will all miss you very much.

I am going to continue compiling the reading and duty list for a while yet so, if you would like to be a reader or intercessor please let me know.

Linda Sherwood

Rectors Warden

Filling someone's shoes can be a significant challenge in whatever way of life one finds oneself. It is particularly challenging when relocating from a very busy, suburban location to a completely new environment. Revd Lara has faced several practical, significant changes since arriving in Scotland – not least of which include an extremely cold winter and getting to grips with life in hilly Dunfermline. In my time as her Rector's Warden I have found that Revd Lara has adapted well to the SEC liturgical environment. Her enthusiasm for the role as Holy Trinity's Rector is evident from the addresses and sermons she delivers each week.

I echo Linda's thanks to all those who assist in many different ways to maintain Holy Trinity as the friendly, welcoming home that

it is. I would particularly like to thank James and Fiona who in their individual ways are corner stones of our church.

At our 2023 AGM I will have served four years as HTD Rector's warden and this follows on from six years in the same role in our previous parish down south, so the time has come for me to hand over the church keys to someone else.

Thank you, Revd Lara, for persevering with my many foibles over the past year and thank you also to Linda for being a solid, stalwart comrade for the time we have been in office together!

David Dean

Vestry Report

The Vestry has held meeting each month apart from July. The main focus has been property issues and financial concerns. Altar costs have been reviewed with a view to cutting costs.

The church constitution was updated to bring it in line with the SEC model constitution as well as the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and various updates made to Canon law over the past twenty years. Special meetings were held on 20th August and 24th September to vote on the new constitution which has now been adopted.

Regular maintenance, servicing and safety checks have been carried out in the Church and Rectory. Handrails were installed in the garden and at the Lectern. Thank you to Jack Wardell for organising these. Energy Performance Certificates were obtained for the Rectory and Church. As a result of these it was agreed to change the church lighting to LED.

The Quinquennial report recommended bringing in a Damp Specialist company to check the Vestry. It was advised that before the damp can be tackled, the issues with the Vestry roof required investigation. A drone was sent up to take pictures of the roof area and various options were considered on how the issues could be tackled. It has been agreed to put in a leaf guard over the Vestry roof drainage channel to prevent it becoming clogged with fallen leaves. That work has been scheduled to start in November.

The redecoration of the hall is a focus of our attention. A decoration platform was purchased to enable us to carry out some of this work ourselves. Thank you to Dorissia's son in law Dawid for volunteering to assist with this project. If anyone else can help please let the Vestry know.

All Vestry members completed Health and Safety training on how to complete Risk Assessment documentation. Thanks to Andrew Wedge for completing this paperwork. It is hoped that a volunteer will come forward to be the Health and Safety Officer for the church.

It has been great to see opportunities for fellowship coming back with the South African evening and Harvest Lunch being well supported.

Vestry was pleased to support three delegates to the Youth Week in August. Thanks to Lucy who shared her experience at our Harvest Festival Service.

The Ukraine bucket has remained available and was emptied in January raising £81.29 with a further £42.00 in April and £63.10 in August.

Thanks to

- All the Vestry members and post holders. Andrew Morris who has continued to advise us on required action for the PVG Scheme.
- Andrew, Richard, and Lucy and for their invaluable contribution as our IT support team.
- Father Ross, Canon Oliver, our organist, Roger and all the choir members. Also to Martin and Brendan who have played the organ when Roger has been off.
- All those that helped to look after both the Church building and garden.

- All those who helped decorating the church and providing refreshments.
- Thank you to Rod and Barabara for your dedication to the church and groups within it. The book donations have raised £75 and the baking stalls raised £154.20. We wish you all the best for your move.
- All the group leaders and the Contact Group representatives who have stayed in touch despite the difficult circumstances.
- Everyone who comes to church and is involved in the life of the church. Each one of you play a part in making Holy Trinity such a welcoming and special place of worship and fellowship.

If you are willing to volunteer to assist in the running and life of the church please speak to the Wardens. There are lots of roles from serving on the Vestry, being a Warden, joining the choir, helping with refreshments after service to name a few.

James Barcroft, Secretary

Lay Representative Report for Holy Trinity AGM

Once again it has been a very interesting year with speakers addressing a linking theme.

In February the meeting was at St Peter's Kirkcaldy and the speakers were Carol Morton, a member of St Peter's, and Jan Benvie from St Margaret's Rosyth. Carol's husband had been Minister at St Andrew's in Jerusalem and while she had been there, she had worked a lot with Palestinians. Jan has also spent a lot of time in Palestine and their presentation along with a DVD that Carol had made was both interesting and thought provoking especially in light of the recent happenings.

In May we were at St Margaret's in Leven where the speaker was Ross Stirling-Young. He had been one of 34 students on an international scholarship study course at St George's college in Jerusalem. His presentation was entitled "Footsteps of Jesus".

The college is on the Palestinian side of Jerusalem and there seemed to be good relations between Muslims and Christians. He showed pictures of the 600km Separation Wall between Palestine and Israel which has a lot of murals by Banksy on it centred around a common theme of Reconciliation and Peace. Ross spoke very movingly and respectfully about his experiences.

In September there was a well-attended Annual Area Council service at St Margaret's Rosyth and in November we will be hosting a speaker from Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees here at Holy Trinity.

These meetings are very interesting and always open to anyone who would like to come.

Linda Brownlie

Safeguarding Report / PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) Report to Holy Trinity Dunfermline AGM – November 2023

I have continued in the role of PVG Coordinator for Holy Trinity Church throughout 2023, acting as the point of contact for any questions on safeguarding practice within the church, PVG Scheme applications and for any concerns that members of the church may have. The PVG Coordinator's contact details and those of other related agencies are displayed on the notice board in the church hall. My mobile number for any questions or concerns is 07764 654376.

Records of those carrying out "Regulated Work" within the church have been maintained and the number of people registered at Holy Trinity is shown below.

Regulated Work with Children (Young Church & Youth Fellowship)

12

Pastoral Visitors/Work with Protected Adults

20

There have been five applications to join the PVG Scheme for Holy Trinity this year together with one application to extend membership to include regulated work with both children and vulnerable adults. Since the 2022 AGM the number of people undertaking regulated work with children has increased by two, reflecting the welcome restart of Young Church.

In November 2022 I reported that the intention of the Provincial Office to undertake a full audit of those who have registered with the PVG scheme through the Scottish Episcopal Church but are no longer undertaking "Regulated Work" in the church. However, this audit has not yet been undertaken.

Following the retirement of the Donald Urquhart, on 16th December 2022, the Scottish Episcopal Church appointed John Wylie as Provincial Safeguarding Officer. John Wylie can be contacted by phone on 07881 868387 and by email at safeguarding@scotland.anglican.org.

The Annual Congregational Safeguarding Checklist for 2022 was completed and sent to the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer following the AGM last year. I have also presented a safeguarding report to the Vestry on two occasions in 2023.

Further details on Safeguarding within the Scottish Episcopal Church can be found at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/organisation/safeguarding/> which also includes a link to the SEC Safeguarding publications and guidance notes.

Andrew Morris

PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) Coordinator

Church Organisations

HT 50/50 Club Annual Report

The club has **85** subscriptions from **55** subscribers.

The Subscription is £5.00 per month and is open to all.

Prize money is divided into 6 parts.

1st prize 3 parts 2nd prize 2 parts 3rd prize 1 part.

The Club's Accounts will be available before the AGM.

The monthly draw takes place in the church hall on the second Sunday of the month (except November).

Thanks to Helen and a special thanks to Linda Sherwood who continues to work ceaselessly for the Club seeing that everything has run smoothly during the past year. The bank charges forced upon us for transactions last year has at last been put to rest. If anyone thinks that changing banks for Clubs is a doddle just ask Linda. I thank her for her patience and tenacity in bringing it to conclusion.

I must of course thank Lucy and others for their assistance with the monthly draw.

As the Chairperson and Barbara the Secretary, we are having to resign our positions on the Committee as we are moving south in the near future.

It has been a pleasure being the Chairperson for the past 7 years and I thank the Committee including Doreen for their unstinting support during my tenure.

Good luck to all Members at the monthly draw.

Rod Key

Chairperson

October 2023

Meditation Group Report

As a group we have continued to meet every Tuesday afternoon throughout the year. We may not be a large group but we are of mixed denominations which leads to some very interesting reflections on which to meditate. Why not join us one afternoon and give meditation a try?

Linda Brownlie

Young Church

Young Church returned to Holy Trinity in September. We are meeting in the hall on the first Sunday of the month. We have enjoyed being back together. The young people have thought about people in the Bible and celebrated Harvest. We thought about Remembrance and will be thinking about the Nativity story. We are also looking forward to hosting the Christingle service again in December.

We are a very small group and look forward to meeting many new members in the new year.

Lou Foster

Fife Cluster Youth Fellowship

Where we are?

We were disbanded last Christmas due to low numbers and personal change. This has been at times deeply upsetting but has been a moment to pause and reflect. This was never the intention but hopefully once a demand can be shown we can reverse this. The re-introduction of the Young Church is a crucial step in building the momentum behind the youth group.

What we have done!

Whilst we have not been meeting weekly we have attended a full range of events supported by the church. Speaking at Synod alongside others to talk about the post-Covid way forward for young people and the importance of being available. 3 Young adults joined 2 of our leaders at the well-attended provincial Youth Week 'Yeek' alongside almost 60 young adults and a leadership team of 20. It was a great year that really inspired faith and yet was full of fun and energy. The evenings with a Quiz, Ceilidh, Murder Mystery, Film, Disco and a fantastic display of hobbies and talents surrounded by faith and services really show the best of what a faith community can be.

As a church we still punch well above our weight in our influence and reach across the world. One of our members is on the Mission Forum and sits on the Provincial Youth Committee, another has been elected the European chair for the Anglican Communion's Youth Network after being put forward as Scotland's Representative last year.

Our young people want and need a strong community based in faith that is warm, welcoming and supportive. I hope this is something we already have at HTD and can build on. On a recent discussion with the 3rd Dunfermline Boys Brigade with young seniors and new officers all were already part of or trying out a faith community for them. This is a generation that chooses faith, chooses church and chooses community and HTD could play a real part.

Two of our young delegates YF and two of our young adults attended the Iona Provincial Pilgrimage hosted at Bishop's House. It was an incredible experience for the younger delegates getting the first half of the week and the older attending for the second half. We spent time together creating worship and with the Iona Community sharing in a simple worship with no words, just chanting, joining in the simple songs to the sound of a keyboard and cello in the magnificent abbey in the darkness. Waiting for two of our group to take a couple extra photos we started to sing one of our favourite songs, the rest of the congregation leaving the

abbey joined us on the way past under the stars in an emotional connection between the generations. It is hoped that HTD will host one of two post Iona services/presentations across the diocese early in the new year led predominantly by the 4 members from HTD showing our continued significance across the province. We hope to see you there. We thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Andrew Wedge

Holy Trinity Friendship Group

- Jan 9th FESTIVE LUNCH at Pitbauchlie House Hotel with a lovely meal and great company.
- Jan 23rd BEETLE DRIVE – a very enjoyable evening with this traditional game.
- Feb 6th NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSE BOARD - **cancelled**. Linda S. gave a great talk about previous occupants of the Georgian House in Edinburgh.
- Feb 20th SAKURA - Tommy Bryson returned to show us the Japanese Blossom Festival
- Mar 6th RIDING FOR THE DISABLED - Lesley Furnell told us all about this very worthwhile charity
- Mar 20th PEACOCKS - Suzi Ross, Peafowl Warden, came with Charley, the Peacock, in her buggy, and colleagues, to update us about the Pittencrief Peacocks
- Apr 3rd HOLY WEEK SERVICE
- Apr 17th S.O.E. - SPECIAL OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE - Roy Johnstone returned to give another excellent talk about the heroines who risked death to help liberate France
- May 1st PALESTINE AND ISRAEL - Ross Stirling-Young told us about his experiences in this troubled part of the world
- May 15th AFTERNOON TEA - a visit to the Peacock Sanctuary followed by a wonderful afternoon tea in the Pavilion.
- May 29th 16th/17th CENTURY RENAISSANCE COSTUME – Sam Johnstone gave an excellent talk on this period of costume. She also brought an example of

headwear, a gentleman's costume and Eleanor modelled a beautiful costume of the period.

June 12th A G M held in the church hall.

We began our 2023/2024 programme on 4th September with our opening service which included prayers and readings by members of the group.

- Sept 11th THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF BARRA- Arthur Lloyd took us on a journey north. Excellent talk, as usual.
- Sept 25th NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSE BOARD - Mike Bullock, CEO, on their work around the coast of Scotland with Lighthouses, Buoy work, and inspection of navigation aids.
- Oct 9th C H A S - Fiona Young came with a colleague to bring us up to date on the their work, and plans for the future
- Oct 23rd GEORGIAN COSTUME - Sam Johnstone returns to tell us about the changing facets of this period into Regency costume.
- Nov 6th FEATHERS FINESSE - Rosemary and Jim with another demonstration of this intricate craft of painting on feathers.
- Nov 20th SALVATION ARMY – David Robertson tells us about their local, National and world-wide work.
- Dec 4th ADVENT SERVICE - our own reflections as we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth.
- Dec 18th 4.00pm - CHRISTMAS PARTY – buffet, quiz and good fun.

We are in the process of putting together our programme for the rest of the 2023 / 2024 year with many interesting and fun things planned. A copy will be on the notice board in the church hall.

We would like to encourage you all to come along (partners welcome !) every other Monday evening at 7.00pm (unless otherwise advertised), and enjoy some good company with a few laughs thrown in.

God Bless you all.

Yvonne Gosling, Secretary
Holy Trinity Friendship Group

Prayer Group

The group has continued to meet on Zoom, usually fortnightly, throughout the year. It has been good that Lara now joins us when she is able. We did consider whether or not we should continue to meet virtually but we all agreed that a 40-minute meeting on Zoom worked well for us. We always start (and finish) our meetings with a time of prayer before exchanging information about prayer requests. We always remember that any information we receive should be kept in confidence.

During the year we have received prayer requests from members of the congregation and also from our own personal contacts. We have been asked to pray for those who are sick in mind and body – some of whom have terminal illnesses, for those suffering bereavement, those with family problems and those with various other issues. We know that many people are helped by the knowledge that prayers are being offered for them.

The ways to contact the group are printed each week on the pew sheet.

Audrey Ricks

Communication Group

The communications group has been delivering high quality live streams, a range of communication including across social media outlets and a weekly email, as well as updating the pew sheet and notice boards. We also maintain the church website with constant updates and content.

This year alongside the vestry we updated our charity name to Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church Dunfermline known as Holy Trinity Dunfermline is a Scottish Charity, SC015181, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). All communications where possible will have the full statement, if not our charity number and we will always refer to ourselves as Holy Trinity Dunfermline (HTD).

We have had a full review of the website; every single page has been checked and updated for inaccuracies. We have built a new website structure and layout with our updated branding. We still have lots of work to do in updating the pictures and the content itself. We will work very hard to make as many improvements as we can but feel free to contact us with issues or ideas.

Our live stream has been going from strength to strength, we have however struggled with a small team. We would love to train up others to use the simple system, it's much easier than it looks, and we have a real ambition to live stream our Thursday services. We will be trying to stream as much of the additional Christmas services as we can to ensure those housebound or unable to attend can still join with us live or at a time to suit them.

We have on 8 occasions hosted the provincial live stream, that's reaching hundreds each time across Scotland and the globe. It is a real honour, and we are known as the emergency cover for the province due to our reliable and high-quality offering.

Our internet will be reviewed to help support the contactless donation and payment options at the church helping our church support the UKs move to a cashless society. In light of this shift, we hope to support the modern way of giving and make sure no one has to forgo a quick cuppa and a blether because they ran out of coins. We have also added online donations to the church website so anyone can donate to us at any time online.

The Numbers

Website

- Our website reaches over 9000 people providing lots of information and a range of pages.
- Has brought multiple wedding enquiries through to Holy Trinity Dunfermline.
- Live chat function has been used by over 30 people.

YouTube

- 8 Provincial Live Streams – 15% of provincial services.
- 6609 Views on YouTube – Up 27% this year
- 640.2 Hours of services watched – Up 7% this year

- 20 New Subscribers – Up 17% this year

Facebook

- We reach 7500 people each year
- 275 followers see every update
- Blether Group still being used for informal community chat, search Holy Trinity Dunfermline Blether and apply to join

Instagram

- 95 followers
- Average reach of 154 people
- Stories average 45 – Up 137% this year

Twitter (now X)

- 40 Followers
- More than 7 views a day – on average 2 posts/reposts a week.
- Average 250 a month
- 50 more likes – Up 35% this year

Weekly Pew sheet

- Email sent to almost 100 people across the congregation.
- Keeps notices and news up to date.
- Weekly reminders and accessible pew sheet

Andrew Wedge

Retiring Collections

This year has been a challenging one in that we have fewer members attending church in person and the cost of living has gone up substantially. I am so grateful that the members of the congregation have continued to give so generously to charity. All the charities, especially small local charities are very grateful for the donations and support that we offer to them. On behalf of all the charities, may I add my thanks for your continuing generosity and support. Can I also thank all who propose the charities and for giving their time providing literature and information about their chosen charity.

Charities we have supported this year:

January	Men's Shed Dunfermline	£151.70
February	Friends of Queen Margaret Hosp	£140.50
March	Mothers Union	£210.00
April	CHAS	£170.40
	Bishop's Lent Appeal	£28
May	Christian Aid	£153.00
June	Mission to Seafarers	£235.80
July	Samaritans	£201.00
August	Marie Curie	£177.30
September	Dunfermline Food Bank	£218.10
October	Poppy Scotland	£203.00

I am preparing the list for the coming year and if anyone has any suggestions for a charity close to their heart, please let me know and this will be considered by Vestry.

Thank you all very much for your continued support and your valuable contributions. I know this is appreciated by the recipient charities.

Eve Gilchrist

Contact Group

First I would like to say a big thank you to all our group for keeping in touch with members of the congregation throughout the year. The majority of people we are able to speak to after the Sunday service but it is good to be able to telephone or visit members who are no longer able to attend. We also send Easter and Christmas cards to everyone.

I hope that no one has been missed from our list but if anyone feels they have please contact myself or one of the wardens so that this can be rectified.

Hilary Ballinger

Foodbank

Thanks to all the congregation who supported this worthy cause and thank you to those who delivered the food collected whenever the collection basket was full.

Holy Trinity, Dunfermline welcomes and is grateful for the involvement of members in Church life.

Ways to help or be involved	
Vestry and posts	volunteer to join the Vestry or become a post holder
Church Contact Scheme	Individuals are appointed to keep in touch with members of the congregation, especially those who are unable to get to church.
50/50 Club	This group was set up to raise funds for the church. £5 per month – 3 subscriptions currently available
HT Friendship Group	Group meets twice a month and has various speakers as well as social events throughout the year.
Young Church	Meets on the first Sunday of the month. New helpers and families welcome.
Youth Fellowship	A variety of events are organised for young people.
Choir	Join the HT choir and sing at our Sunday services
Serving refreshments	Help set up refreshments and serve them after services.
Readings	Join a rota of individuals who are willing to read from the bible during services.
Intercessions	Join a rota of individuals who are willing to write and lead prayers during services.
Serving	Join a rota of individuals who are willing to assist the Rector during the service to administer the bread and wine.
Helping with open days	Join a group of individuals who are willing to help on open days to show the public round the church.
Flower arranging	Help decorate the church and make flower arrangements for services
Sacristan	Help look after and set up the Altar
Garden and DIY	Do you enjoy gardening or DIY? Help keeping the garden tidy or helping looking after the church.