



AULDHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 24th April 2019

MINISTRY REPORTS

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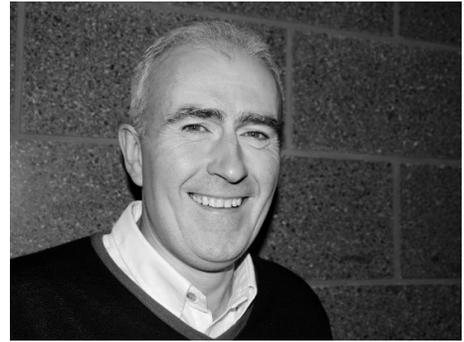
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Pastor's Report by Don Palmer

Every year, for the past few years, I have chosen a word to describe what I felt we had been experiencing as a church over the previous year. Last year I chose the word blessing, and shared with each of you three ways I saw that taking place at ACC:



1. By witnessing our church growing, new people joining us and aligning with our mission and vision.
2. By seeing our financial and material resources increasing, through the generosity of our members as well as the legacy we received from Mary Brown - all of which enables us to do so much more as a church.
3. By observing how our church is perceived and respected more and more in our wider community. People, elected representatives, community groups and leaders all seem to regard us as doing good things and making a difference.

Just recently someone put me on the spot and asked me, "Don, what is your church passionate about? What are the key issues people at ACC care most strongly about?" After reflecting (briefly) I shared three things with them (why do pastors always think in threes?):

Firstly we are passionate about seeing people come to know and follow Jesus, however that happens, and we know how to celebrate that well, particularly in our baptism services!

Secondly we are passionate about welcoming, embracing and supporting people from other countries and cultures, asylum seekers, students, immigrants, refugees etc. We rejoice in being a diverse, multi-ethnic, inclusive community. It has its challenges sometimes, but we wouldn't have it any other way.

Thirdly we are passionate about helping, supporting and advocating for people who are affected particularly by issues related to food poverty, and that includes so much more than hunger.

I'm sure you could add other issues to this list, all equally valid, such as becoming passionate about our children and young people; about worship and prayer; about equality and providing opportunities for all to feel part of our church, regardless of their socio-economic background, gender, sexuality etc; about a love for the Bible and growing in our faith; and about overseas missions, the environment and global issues.

When I think of the past year, there are actually two words that come to mind: opportunities and challenges.

I believe we have risen to embrace new opportunities. What do I mean? Let me share three (again!) examples:

First of all the opportunity to run a Youth Alpha programme over the summer of 2018. We entered this with a bit of trepidation - would anyone come along? We were blown away by the response by our own young people and by others we did not know. You can read more about how this all went, elsewhere in these ministry reports. Out of this we witnessed an amazing baptism service in October and have continued with a bi-weekly youth discipleship group who meet up faithfully.

Then there was the opportunity to start up Hubs at ACC. Again we were not sure what the take-up would be for these, but largely we have been encouraged by how many are meeting together to run, paint, plant, eat, drink, laugh, watch, pray, discuss and grow together. Our plans are to see this continue and develop.

Finally there have been all sorts of new opportunities to widen our influence in the local community and reach out to others, for example: feeding around 800 families/ individuals through our Foodbank; providing all kinds of additional practical help through those we meet at Care & Share; engaging in two Community Forums, attended by around 80 people from our community, listening to their views and concerns; re-starting our Messy Church outreach, switching it back to quarterly gatherings, and seeing many more people attend again; and finally increasing what we give financially to our five mission-partner organisations, as well as one-off donations to other organisations that we supported.

But there have been some challenges in this past year too. Challenges in some marriage relationships; in losing several members from our Leadership Team, and trying to identify/ select new members; in finding new people to help consistently on our worship teams and on the sound desk; in creating a new church website; identifying community projects that we can start investing some of Mary Brown's legacy into and in figuring out how best to ensure we are providing effective pastoral care for everyone.

Over this past year we have sadly lost several members: three families who received their leave-to-remain and moved elsewhere for employment reasons; and one couple and two individuals who decided to move on from ACC to worship elsewhere. But we have also gained and welcomed seven new families among us as well as several individuals.

In the year ahead there will no doubt be many challenges and opportunities for us. My deepest desire and prayer is that we can stay focused, remain united, work together and always look for ways to encourage rather than disparage others.

Thank you, as always, for your faithful love and support to myself, Kirstin and our boys.

Deacons Report by John Bertram

Buildings update

We started 2018 with some roofing repairs that had caused issues for several years. The issue has now been resolved with an extensive repair covering a large area of the rear roof. Other improvements was the refreshing of the disabled toilet including new baby changing unit, Gutter replacement and repairs, security locks fitted on internal doors and the new staging in the main hall.

Lets and building usage

The church has over the last 6 years become a well utilised building in the community with various groups using the church during the day. Whilst this is a great use of the building and benefits the community it has added to the general maintenance due to usage and wear and tear of the fabric.

This increase means we have taken a more formal approach to church hires to ensure consistency in hire fees and more focus on the safety and security of everyone who uses the building. Sara is the focal point for any church hires or long-term rentals.

Eco congregation Scotland

We signed up with Eco Scotland which is an organisation that supports churches and Christians to become more aware of their impact on the environment and share best practices. A small step was installing automatic taps in the toilets which will reduce water wastage. In 2019 we plan to reduce as much plastic waste in the kitchen. For more details see <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/>

Focus for 2019

We are working on several projects in 2019 to upgrade the facilities.

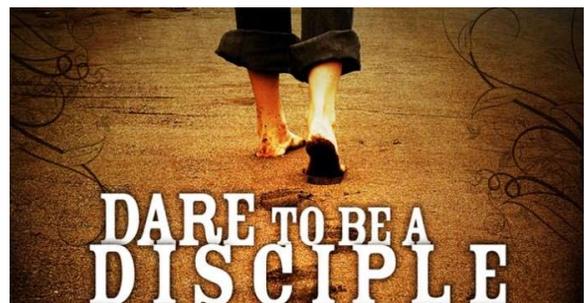
- 1- Refurbishment of flooring throughout the church
- 2- AV improvements
- 3- Lighting improvements
- 4- General décor improvements
- 5- Lighting upgrades (Energy efficient)
- 6- Carpark space marking

If you are new to church and want to get involved in some practical way, then speak with one of the team. We have a need for people to help set up the main hall and welcoming team both on a rota basis.

Mission & Discipleship

Discipleship by Don Palmer

Back in 2017 a small team of people took part in what was called The Forge Future Travellers course. This course which took place quarterly through the year was learning how better to engage in mission as a church and one of the key features of a church that was seeking to live missionally was that such churches created a “culture of discipleship”. By that we mean, the *whole* church was



geared for discipleship. Every person was encouraged to be involved in the mission and ministries of the church, seeing themselves as disciples of Jesus. The goal of every ministry was to make disciples. So what was/ is a disciple? The word carries three ideas: (1) to learn from someone; (2) to follow someone; (3) to become like someone. As a member of ACC, therefore, everyone should seek to learn what it means to follow Jesus Christ, to continually become more like him and to help others follow him. This past year (2018) has been a good one for discipleship at ACC. We now have quite a number of groups whereby people can get together with others and learn better how to become better followers (disciples) of Jesus. Our pastor runs a discipleship group for some of the Iranian guys on Tuesday evenings as well as a weekly group for ladies on Wednesday mornings. He also meets up with several individuals for the purpose of discipleship. Colin Macleod meets regularly with two of our young guys at church and they have almost completed a journey together though the entire Bible.

Over the Summer we ran a really successful Youth Alpha course which was attended by about 18 of our youth & young adults (age 17-25). Out of that we had a wonderful baptism service back in November and we now have a group of young people who meet bi-weekly in a discipleship group on Sunday evenings. We are excited that Dave & Ruth McNaught have joined ACC in this past year and they also have lots of experience in discipling others. The group meets in their home for the studies as well as getting together every few months for fun and crazy social times at Heather Ball's home in Lenzie.

Finally, in the Autumn we started up our first ever "Hubs" at ACC. While all of these do not necessarily contain study times, they are nevertheless other opportunities for people to get together around areas of interest, and share part of their lives together, get to know and pray for one another. We now have available a structured guide for discipleship which contains a set of three units of five lessons in each, which all are intended to build on each other. Each lesson is based on specific Bible passages and contains a set of questions to discuss together as we help each other on the journey. This guide is available for any groups who want to use it.

So there are lots of ways we can all get involved in discipleship or in discipling others. We would encourage everyone who is part of ACC, from the youngest to the oldest to look for ways to join in and be part of the journey.

Hubs by Christina Smith

As any church grows it is all too easy for the people making up the church family to lose touch with each other unless there are opportunities and a common will to avoid this. There is so much more to living out our faith than sitting in services – we need to share life together, to grow as a community and to celebrate God’s goodness in different, creative ways.

It’s against this background and belief that the idea of establishing a programme of ‘Hubs’ at ACC was born.

We were encouraged in this by the positive experience of a progressive, community-based church we know in York. The idea was that we encourage each other to meet up once a week for 10 weeks at a time to socialise, to learn and where feasible to pray together. Hubs can take a variety of forms and topics and can change throughout the year. After attending a Hub for one session the idea was that we could all change round and do something new/different the next time.

The first season of Hubs was launched in September 2018 and a good number of us responded to the invitation. Meeting at different times during the week the themes of the first Hubs were: Running, Drinking (coffee/tea), Growing (plants), Exploring (The Bible), Painting and Following Jesus.

Attendances at these Hubs varied but overall feedback from each one was very positive. Certainly there was sufficient enthusiasm for us to arrange a second round of Hubs for the start of 2019. This has involved two new opportunities to get together during the week – the “Movie Hub” and the “Man Hub”, both of which appear to have seen good numbers so far.

Looking forward, we have a few ideas for ways in which the Hub programme could be developed further and if you have any suggestions please do let us know. However, this is all dependant on continued support/interest from the church family and we propose to review things after the current session.



We would like to say a big 'thank you' to all those who have stepped up so far and volunteered to convene and lead Hubs. On behalf of the church family we really do appreciate all the time and effort you have put into your Hubs.

Missions Group by Rosalind Smith

Don Palmer, Rena McLellan and Rosalind Smith have been responsible for ensuring that the following mission groups are supported by ACC on a two monthly basis as detailed below. In 2018 the following groups were recipients of £500 from ACC:

- 1. Jan/Feb- TLMS (The Leprosy Mission)**
- 2. Mar/Apr- Scottish Bible Society**
- 3. May/June- Tearfund**
- 4. Jul/Aug- SU (Scripture Union)**
- 5. Sept/Oct- Glasgow City Mission**
- 6. Nov/Dec- Street Pastors.**

As well as arranging financial support for a number of groups and also strive to educate members regarding the work that each of these groups is involved in. So to this end, during each 2 month period a representative from each of the groups was invited to speak at our Sunday morning Service.

Information about the groups is posted on the board in the coffee area and leaflets are available at the door that give further information about each group as to how they may be contacted and how monies may be donated. Personal donations may be made to any group at any time.

Rena McLellan has resigned from this group and we would like to thank her very much for the dedicated service she has given to this group over many years and wish her well in the many other church activities that she will continue to be involved in.

Ashley Pragnell and Aileen Watson have agreed to join the group as this year we hope to expand the mission interest that the church has so look out for further information.

Community Outreach

Community Worker Report by Clare Malloy



Foodbank and Care & Share Café

It has been a big year for the foodbank and the Care & Share café. The foodbank turned 5 years old in November. We didn't celebrate the fact that it was still needed, but it was a time to stop and give thanks for all the people it has helped over the years, and for the faithful volunteers who have been running it. A friend, and young girl, called Lisa spoke movingly at one of our Sunday services of how the support she had received from the foodbank had helped her move forward with her life.

Over this past year the foodbank has fed around 800 people which is a significant increase on the previous year. This is likely due to an increased need in the community and better linking with referral organisations. The increased numbers have resulted in an increased workload for Jeanette, Dalbir and their team, and they have risen to the challenge, rolled up their sleeves and got on with it!! In particular the large families that come to the foodbank use a lot of food (something I can identify with 😊) and it is hard work constantly stocking and restocking the shelves. We really wouldn't be able to run the foodbank without the generous donations we receive from local churches, schools and nurseries, many of whom have upped their giving to meet the increased demand. In addition we will be looking to do another Morrisons collection before the summer watch this space and be ready to volunteer!

The Care & Share café has also had a busy year, serving up (freely donated) Greggs favourites with a smile to foodbank users and locals in for a bit of company.

Week by week we never know who will walk through our door or what their needs might be. We have shared in people's highs (being granted asylum, receiving a first benefit payment, no longer homeless after 20 years, starting a job...) and lows (going blind, imprisonment, losing a child, being victim to arson...). We have offered a listening ear and sometimes prayer, and have sometimes been able to direct people to other organisations for further support.

Don continues to work hard to source out and help provide a wide range of household and other items for families in need.

Volunteering at Care & Share can be fun, but it can also be challenging, and this year we have had to call an ambulance, to deal with people heavily under the influence of drugs, to help people feeling suicidal, to deal with difficult people and challenging behaviour, and to spend time listening to harrowing stories. We thank the team of volunteers including Colin & Christine, Graeme, Aileen & Andy, Catherine and Erm for their forbearance. We have also been helped out on a number of occasions by members of the Community of the Risen Christ who use our building on a Sunday afternoon and we are grateful to them too.

We are always ready to welcome more volunteers at the foodbank and café, please speak to Clare or Jeanette if you'd like to get involved.

Toddlers

The Thursday morning toddler group has gone from strength to strength, with up to 20 local families from all different backgrounds attending weekly. This became a challenge to manage alone, and so I was delighted to have Fahimeh join me to help set out the toys and make and serve the all-important snack.

The simple formula of play, craft activity, snack and chat is working well, providing fun for the toddlers and a breather and some company for their carers. The atmosphere is warm and welcoming and it is a good opportunity to get to know more families in our community.

Cozy Café by Rosalind Smith

Cozy Café happens every Wednesday in a classroom in Hillpark Secondary School. The aim is to provide a safe place particularly for those pupils who find the playground a challenging place to be. It is staffed, organised and run mainly by the Chaplains for the school with volunteers from their congregations. We make and serve the pupils who come along, hot chocolate and play board games. Some come and go and others stay for the whole lunchtime but there is always an opportunity to chat. If you would be interested in seeing what happens please speak to me and we can arrange a visit.



Lighthouse Coffee Shop by Rena McLellan



Lighthouse has now been open for 14 years and every Friday Doreen, Jeanette and Rena are in the church by 8.30 am to set up and spend some time on a Bible reading and prayer before we open at 9.30, sometimes joined by Don and/or another. We continue to see prayers answered as we do this and are constantly encouraged by those God brings through the door each Friday.

We are pleased to report that numbers have improved since the start of this session in September. Some customers have faithfully supported us for many years, others are more recent regulars, some appear occasionally and others come for the first time – we can never tell in advance! Most are not from ACC and many have no other contact with a church, so our desire is to act as a bridge from the community to the church, and would ask you to pray with us that some will cross that bridge, not just to enjoy a hot drink and eat goodies, but to develop a desire to get to know God.

You may have noticed three new lighthouse photographs in the coffee area which were given to us by a couple who visit occasionally. The husband is a keen photographer and his passion is lighthouses so he wanted to gift us the photos. We look forward to their next visit and hope they spot the photos without us pointing them out!

We have recently been encouraged by customers complementing us on the atmosphere and saying that there's something special about Lighthouse that they don't find in other coffee shops – so that makes it all worthwhile! Lighthouse is totally self-funding and thanks goes, as always, to our faithful bakers who donate time and ingredients to supply us with tasty baking. We are always happy to welcome new bakers, so if anyone would like to volunteer to help in this way please speak to us.

From our customer's donations, and after other expenses have been covered we have recently distributed funds in the following way –

- Street Pastors – hats and socks
- Macmillan Big Coffee Morning
- Tinto Primary School Community Fund
- Govan Primary School Community Fund
- Two new coffee tables

Before we close for the summer we will be allocating more money to charities. If you are ever free on a Friday morning please pay us a visit and if not please advertise for us and pray for the work - thank you!

Messy Church by Yvonne Pragnell

Messy Church will have been running for 5 years in May. This year has seen a slight change in direction with Paul and Kathryn moving on.



The new core team consists of: Ashley, Yvonne and Katie Pragnell, Rena McLellan and Phil Palmer. The team is supported by a broader team who help with crafts and games. Great work is also carried by Sara Craig and her team who organise food for the event.

Messy Church now takes place approximately six times a year, with themes as follows:

Nov - Getting ready for Christmas

Feb - Be my Valentine

28 April - Seeing Jesus

A summer event - probably 9 June

8 Sept - Thanks God

8 Dec - A baby is born

The format for messy is as it has always been: games, story, craft, meal.





The last two Messy Churches have seen an average of 34 people from the community and 15 helpers. Many of these people have had no previous contact with the church, which we find very encouraging.

Prayer Points:

Give thanks for new people. The success of leafleting at the school gates.

Pray that people will come back so that real/lasting relationships can be formed.

Pray that another person (preferably male) will join the core team.

Pray that we would be innovative in our approach - as with the successful drama headed up by Aileen Watson.



Worship

Worship by Peter Marriott

Over the past year the Worship Team has continued to lead our Sunday morning praise and worship. We have a faithful group of individuals who gladly commit their time and talents to serving God in this way. We are acutely aware of the responsibility this places on us to bring the church family together for worship through song, prayer and communion. Our primary aim is to glorify God through our worship and to give thanks for all His goodness to us. We are very blessed to have a large repertoire of worship songs to choose from and we are continually seeking to find new songs to share, as well as maintaining a back catalogue of "favourites" to enhance our praise to God. One of the great strengths and blessings of our church family is that we have such a diverse congregation in so many different ways. This does give us a challenge as a worship team to ensure that all backgrounds and ages, including the children, are able to feel involved in our services.



We give thanks for our latest addition to the band, Kemp Anderson, and it was great also to have Vicki leading worship for the first time recently. The past year has not been without challenges and we particularly pray for Laura who has struggled with health issues, which have limited the times she has been able to play and lead. Whilst we are grateful to have several younger band members regularly taking part, we are keen to encourage more participation in the worship band, and especially that we might see a new generation of worship leaders emerge in our church.

Prayer points: that God will bring us and/or raise up a new generation of worship leaders; that He will protect and heal the members of the team; and that He will give us wisdom into how we structure our worship so that it is meaningful to the whole congregation.

Prayer by Rozanne Bertram

“Devote yourselves to prayer being watchful and thankful” Colossians 4:2

Team: Kirstin Palmer, Stuart McNeill, Rozanne Bertram

ACTIVITIES

PRAYER MEETINGS – In the last year we have been meeting together for corporate prayer twice a month. We have changed the timing and the venue of these meetings to Wednesday nights at various homes and Sunday mornings 10am in the church. We have been encouraged by the number of people attending and participating in these meetings.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER – This takes place twice a month during the Sunday morning service. It is great to have so many people volunteering to take part in this area of prayer.

PRAYER EVENTS- Prayer Breakfasts, we have organised a few prayer breakfasts over the last year where we have met for a time of guided contemplative prayer (and bacon rolls!)
12-Hour Prayer Event, as a church we signed up to pray for 1-hour slots in our prayer room.
As a team we have been encouraged by the numbers and variety of ages attending these prayer events.

PRAYER MINISTRY- Over the last couple of months the prayer team has been offering prayer after the Sunday morning service. We are in the early stages of this ministry and would like to make our church family more aware of the opportunity to receive prayer.

PLANS

To host another 12-hour prayer event at church.
Further training on prayer ministry

PRAYER POINTS

For an increase in numbers attending the prayer meetings.
That prayer ministry will be widely used by people attending the church.
As a church we will grow together deepening our prayer lived.

Children's Ministry

Crèche by Kirstin Palmer

We are grateful to Morna Viney for stepping up over the past 2 years to co-ordinate the crèche at ACC. Ruth Wilkie and Kirstin



Palmer have taken up that role now. Whilst

we are currently small in number in the baby/toddler age group, we feel that it is important to provide a crèche for our little ones as well as the any new families, that we hope and pray will join us.

We have had the pleasure of looking after Jacob (who has now just moved up to Sunday School), Aneet, Hugo and Rowan.

We are thankful for our team of volunteers who help us to provide this service to our youngest members and their parents here at ACC.

Please pray that we will see more families with babies/toddlers join us soon.

Breakout by Colin Macleod

Leaders: Colin Macleod, Rena McLellan, Morag McNeill, Helen Stewart, Sara Craig, Doreen Wilson, Rosalind Smith, Graeme Muir and David Clist

Breakout is a whole lot of fun! The enthusiasm of the young people is infectious as they run full speed laughing and cart-wheeling their way into the main hall. A ball gets booted into the goal. *Can we play the bottle game tonight? What about dodgeball? Or maybe the parachute shark attack? Are the older ones going down to the basement?* The questions get fired at the leaders. *Hey will I get my prize tonight for 10 stars? Are we having a party next week?* Then the talk begins using SU's Schoolslive material. More hands up as they engage with activity. *How tall was Goliath? Why's it called Pancake Tuesday?* Rena's creative and colourful craft is next, always beautifully illustrating the story and giving them something to take home and share with their parents. All too soon the club is over but nobody wants to leave so impromptu games of tig start up. Parents who've been enjoying a relaxing chat and a coffee with Ros or Doreen call *'Right come on it's time to go!'* *'Thanks again and see you next week!'*

It's been a pleasure serving at Breakout this year and we have a lovely group to work with. We miss not having Paul, Kathryn & Mark who were always there up until the summer. However it's been fantastic to have new leaders in Helen Stewart (+ Holly, Mark & Ethan in tow) and David Clist who have thrown themselves into the running of the club. We have a nice number but could always do with more so if you know any primary age children please let them know that Breakout is on every Tuesday at 6.45pm during term time.

Particular highlights this session have been the Halloween Light Party where they all dressed up and played non-stop games in the dark to illustrate the theme that Jesus is the Light of the World. The Christmas party where they danced away, got high on a sugar rush and celebrated the birth of Jesus. Helen's delicious freshly made pancakes overflowing with syrup, chocolate and raspberries on Shrove Tuesday as we talked about Lent and preparations for Easter.

It's wonderful to see that what God has been doing in Breakout, over many years, is having a lasting impact in people's lives. We see some of them continuing to come on a Tuesday night to enjoy the older club, as well as others coming to church on a Sunday with a parent as they feel this is where they belong. Please continue to pray for God's blessing on Breakout and the leaders. Or you could even come and be part of it as we'd love to see you?!



Lazarus rises from the dead

Sunday School by Anne Lewis

This has been a time of change within Sunday School as Kathryn, Paul and Mark Wilson moved to Ayr. We all appreciated the energy and enthusiasm they brought to ACC and we give thanks to God for all they contributed and wish them every blessing as they settle in to a new church in Ayrshire.

Sunday school happens each Sunday during the service for children aged 3-10 years old. Since August 2018 we have had three Sunday school classes - Preschool, P1/P2 class and P3-P6/7 class

Pre School Class / P1

Teachers: Morag McNeill

P1/P2 Class

Teachers: Kirsten Smith, Heather Ball, Amy Campbell

P3 – P6/7 Class

Teachers: Sara Craig, Anne Lewis, Rena McLellan, Andy Watson

We continue to use Scripture Union Material to direct our teaching programme. This material covers a wide and varied range of bible stories and biblical principles in an age appropriate way. We would ask for your prayers as we prepare our lessons and that we would be able to deliver our message in an interesting and relevant way. Our prayer would be that all the children in Sunday school will come to put their trust in Jesus & start on their journey with Him.

As a church we have been praying for new people to offer help with Sunday School and we have been blessed with the addition of Andy, Heather and Amy as we seek to bring the message of the living Christ to the young people in our church.

Pray for the children who are 3 years old that they will be able to move seamlessly from Crèche to SS and that they will settle in well to a different environment later in August.

Throughout some of the Sundays in December we practiced for our Nativity play, Countdown to Christmas, which we presented to the church on Sunday 16th December. Sunday school did this along with the help of a few members of crèche and we hope everyone enjoyed it. Many thanks to Aileen & Andy Watson for staging the event and to Kirsten Smith and Nathan Bertram for being the narrators of the story.

The children give some money each week in our special “lion box”. We use this money to support Sylvia in Uganda (£21 per month). We share news from Sylvia with the children and involve them in our replies as we tell her of our life in Glasgow, what we are learning in Sunday School and of our church activities.

We have had a few changes to the children attending Sunday school with some families moving away from Glasgow and also new children joining us. Whether coming or going, we pray for God’s blessing on all the children we work with, and their families.

As teachers we want to thank God for the privilege of being able to teach all the children in Sunday school throughout the past year. It is such a vital part of the development of our church as we encourage and support the children on their journey with Jesus. From me, a big thank you to the whole team for your commitment and enthusiasm for the work of the Sunday School team as I have tried to step in and fill Kathryn’s shoes.

We are always looking for more help and I am pleased that Jane Anderson is going to be working with us in the coming weeks. If anyone else is interested in being involved, please speak to me as we try to ensure all the teachers work with a partner enabling them to attend some church services during the year to support their own spiritual development.

Another request too for anyone who may be able to offer a Sunday during the Summer holidays to give the Sunday school team a holiday too! Even one Sunday would be much appreciated and materials will be provided. Again, please speak to me if you are interested.

Moving forward we are ensuring all teachers have a PVG certificate from Disclosure Scotland and are investigating training to support the people volunteering with children. We are also planning to have some singing sessions to learn new songs as part of our regular worship – watch this space!

We have a really exciting time in Sunday school. Please pray for us that we will all enjoy Sunday school, learn more about Jesus and that all the children will be keen to bring their friends along too.

Youth Ministry

Tuesday Night Club by Fraser Smith

Goals

The Tuesday club has been a staple of ACC for a number of years. Our goals are to create an enjoyable, fun and welcoming environment for young people in and around the local area to connect with the leaders and other peers. At the club we seek to connect with the young people, establish relationships and teach them about our faith, with the ultimate objective of them engaging with other church activities, in the hopes of them coming to faith themselves.

Current set up

The Tuesday club runs every week and we see anywhere between 10 to 20 young people come along, aged between 11 to 16. We start at 7:30pm, finish at 9:30pm and conduct numerous team games in the main hall and other activities in the basement. We regularly have talks about faith and life in general during ten-minute slots each week. The activities and talks are run by our leaders made up of Fraser, Callum, Kirsten, Phil, Cameron, Heather and Nathan. We also often receive support from others including David and Lee.

Recent developments

Recently we have seen a new wave of younger people attend the club after their move into high school. As a result, our numbers have increased as many older club goers still remain after years of coming to Tuesday club.

Positive outcomes

Throughout the years we have seen numerous positive outcomes as a result of the Tuesday club. The consistency with which we have seen some of our current older young people attend club from when they had started high school a few years ago is one of our biggest successes. Tuesday club has become a staple in many of our young people's weeks. Most notably, we have seen one young person actually come along to Sunday service after partaking in Tuesday club. The increase in numbers attending and the new wave of younger people coming to club must also be considered a great success.

Future challenges

Moving forward we do face a number of challenges however. At times our leadership availability can be very inconstant. Often, we can have just a couple of leaders looking after large numbers of young people. In addition to this, we have experienced some challenging behavior at club with some of the newer attendees, maintaining our connection with them and managing behavior is one of our biggest future challenges. In addition to this, we currently have a number of 16-year-old attendees at club. When these young people leave high school at the end of the summer, they will be unable to continue to come along to club. We have limited options to offer them as they leave high school. One of the biggest future challenges we have is the structure of our leadership team at club also. Without a youth worker that could potentially structure and lead the set up and direction of Tuesday club, we remain limited and uncertain of the future.

Future objectives

Our future objectives are to continue to create and maintain an environment where young people can come to have fun, learn about God and engage with leaders and other young people. We continually seek to create a safe space where young people can develop in positive ways.

Current needs

Currently we have numerous needs regarding equipment (this would perhaps be best discussed face to face with the leadership team). There are items that need replaced after being damaged or lost that we utilise for some games. Ensuring that PVG is consistent and checked up on amongst our leaders is another need we currently have. Furthermore, our biggest need is the employment of a youth worker to help lead and manage Tuesday club. I feel that after the summer, without the appointment of a youth worker, it will be challenging to maintain the commitment that some of the leaders currently have to Tuesday club.

Bible Class by Phil Wray

Bible Class happens on Sunday mornings for young people in P7-S3, and is led each week by one from a team of four. During the Autumn we would often only have about 4 or 5 attending, but this has increased to 7 or 8 since the new year. The atmosphere is relaxed with hot chocolate, snacks, the odd game, and then a discussion on a Bible passage or key idea. We have been following a range of themes taken from Youthwork magazine. Our aim is to keep it fairly light and allow the teens to set the pace. We want them to feel it is their group and that they attend from choice rather than coercion.

Youth Alpha by Kirsten Palmer

Back in May 2018 we had what seemed like a crazy idea at the time to run our first Youth Alpha for at ACC. We wondered whether our youth/young adults would be around over the summer and even if they'd be interested?

We'd heard that the course had been out together by the Alpha Canada team and they had piloted it over the past year across Canada. Our question was..."Would it work in a church in the Southside of Glasgow?"

We decided to get the word out and before we knew it there were 12 youth signed up. Our next step was to register with Alpha Scotland and within a week we had what seemed like a random call one day from a young man called Ian from Cambuslang asking if he could join us and bring his sister too! We then had another call from a young girl called Carys who attends a church in East Kilbride who was interested in joining us, and then another young man called Joe who lived across the road from our church!

So, at the end of June we launched our first session with 17 young people lead by Kirstin, Sarah, Heather and Don. From the start we found everyone gelled and engaged in the sessions. We had some great discussions over the 11 weeks and a whole lot of fun in the process!

A key part of Alpha is the day-away to discuss and experience the Holy Spirit in our lives. We headed down to Saltcoats for this and even enjoyed some time on the beach and a paddle in the sea...a first for some of our African girls!



We had a wonderful day which resulted in all of the youth responding at different levels to what they'd heard and opening their lives to Jesus. We eventually completed the course at the beginning of September. Two of the fruits of running the course were seeing four youth being baptised in October and then starting up a bi-weekly discipleship course for them which we continue to run on Sunday evenings at the McNaught's home.

Please continue to pray for them, that they would continue to grow in their faith and follow Jesus.



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