

**AULDHOUSE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

20th April 2022

MINISTRY REPORTS

Contents

Ministry Reports

Pastor's Report by Don Palmer

Deacons Report by John Bertram

Digital Ministry by Alison Devenish & team

Discipleship by Don Palmer & Colin Macleod

Pastoral Care by Linzi Harrow

Mission/ Community Outreach

Community Worker Report by Sarah McKean

Mission Projects by Don Palmer

Worship & Prayer

Worship by Esther O'Connor

Prayer by Rozanne Bertram

Children's Ministry

Breakout by Colin Macleod

Sunday School by Carron Allan

Youth Ministry

Youth Work by Scholtz van der Walt

Pastor's Report by Don Palmer

Branching out!

“A shoot will come up from the stump...and from the roots a Branch will bear fruit.” (Isaiah 11:1)

“I am the vine – you are the branches!”
(John 15:5)



One of the images in the Bible for God's people is that of a “Tree” or a “Vineyard” – something living and organic, that is planted, nurtured, which grows and which bears fruit that others can taste and enjoy.

The story of Israel is one in which they are compared to a Vine which the LORD chose, and “planted” in the land of Canaan. It (they) were loved, protected and enabled to bear fruit such as love, shalom, mercy, justice and living rightly (see Psalm 80). However, they turned away from the LORD and as a result bore bad fruit, and eventually were “cut down”. However, the prophets (such as in Isaiah 5 & 11, Jeremiah 23 & 33, and Zechariah 3 & 6) started to see a day when the LORD would raise up a “branch” that would bear the good fruit again, and to which all the nations of the world would come and taste of its fruit. In fact this is the part of the final picture we are given in the Bible of the world as God intends it to be (Rev. 22:1-2).

One of the images Jesus shares with his disciples on the evening before his death is that of him being “the Vine” and them being “the branches”. Jesus is teaching them, and us, that unless we abide in him, we will be unfruitful and ineffective. Over this past two years it has been very challenging for all of us to live and act together as God's people as Church. In my report last year (reflecting back on 2020) we were hopeful that 2021 would be a more productive year when things would start to get back to “normal”. In some ways, I guess, they did, but I think we would agree not as quickly and comprehensively as we hoped for? Having said that there were a number of highlights last year in our life here at ACC, signs of new “branches growing from the vine”. I want to share a few here.

New faces

For several years now we have looked to be able to better support those who lead us in worship at ACC. Back in the late Springtime of 2021 I met a wonderful young woman called Esther O'Connor who was considering doing a theology course that were (at the time) hoped to be hosting here at ACC. Timing wasn't right for Esther to do that in 2021, but out of that conversation we started to see the O'Connors start attending our church, and the rest "is history" as they say. Our worship team and several of the church leaders then started to explore, with Esther, the possibility of her coming to work with us as in a part-time role as our Worship Co-Ordinator, and we were thrilled to see this happen near the end of the year. I think I can speak for all of us when I say how grateful we are to God for guiding us and for leading us to Esther and Tim and their family.

At the end of the Summer Clare Malloy, our Community Worker, announced that she would be moving on to work with the Scottish Refugee Council, after serving here at ACC for 4 years. In that time Clare has worked faithfully, compassionately, with great wisdom, vision and at times perseverance to help us develop our ministries among some of the most vulnerable people in our wider community. With the permission of the Trustees we set to work immediately to find and secure a replacement for Clare, with the help of a friend Diane McWilliam, who assisted us in the previous appointment. We ended up interviewing four very talented and committed people and in the end invited Sarah McKean to become our next Community Worker. Again, we are so grateful for God's guidance in this process and look forward to Sarah helping us to develop our community worker in the years ahead. And it was thrilling to witness Sarah & Simon's wedding take place on 29th May last year too. A big year for her! We are also excited, by the way, to hear that our Lighthouse ministry plans to re-launch on Friday 29th April (the week after our AGM).

We have also been blessed to several new families and couples join us here at ACC in 2021.

New signs of fruit

Despite the ongoing challenges and restrictions of COVID we were able to see several of our ministries growing and "bearing much fruit" in 2021.

Scholtz and I sat down at the start of the year and agreed that it was necessary to re-boot our community youth work. He had tried to launch the “Tuesday Club” (as it is affectionately called) in the Autumn of 2020 with limited success. So after careful consideration and planning he decided to lower the in-take age and to advertise the club from p.6 upwards. And this proved to be very successful with a whole bunch of new faces coming along week by week. As this grew, Scholtz was also able to start up an after-school drop in every week, and through these events building stronger relationships with the young people, and even plan a residential weekend away (which we have recently experienced). Please check Scholtz’ report for more details on our youth ministry.

I was also able to meet with the other chaplains (Revs. Jim Teasdale & Roy Henderson) and to record Harvest & Christmas video assemblies to be shown next door at Tinto Primary School. These were shown on screens around all of the classes to the children. Our hope is to get back in person to present assemblies live to the children in 2022.

Under Carron & Andrew Allan’s leadership our children’s ministry on a Sunday has continued to grow and thrive during 2021. I’m sure we are all thrilled to see (and hear) all the children at ACC on Sundays now. Our weekly Toddlers group has also continued to thrive with a steady number of parents with their little ones meeting every Thursday and developing close relationships. Out of all of this, we were really excited to be able to run another Messy Church event this past year. Under Amy Van der Walt’s vision and direction our church was full back at the beginning of December for “Messy Christmas”, with more planned for 2022.

Two developments took place relating to our A/V and Digital Ministry in 2021. Firstly, starting back exactly a year ago (in mid-April) we were able to install seven large screen digital monitors around the church (in the main hall, foyer, reception, café area and in the basement). As you are all aware these have started to be used for our Sunday worship, by our children’s ministry, and also by several other groups who use the building week by week. Secondly our Digital Ministry team have met regularly over 2021 to plan how we can continue to develop our use of social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. We are very grateful to them for helping us experiment with new ways to get the message out to others and for enabling us to offer mixed-mode services (online and in person) on a Sunday.

We have also added to and expanded our Leadership Team this past year. We are now eight persons in number (4 men and 4 women), and we have been sharing meals together in one another's homes before our monthly meetings. We feel we've really grown closer as a team and have been able to even shorten the time of our meetings and become more productive in our discussions and plans. Out of this we have been able to put together a new plan and strategy for how we offer pastoral care in our church. Thanks to Linzi Harrow, Anne Lewis and Graeme Muir we now have a wider team of people in place who each have a number of people whom they keep in contact with and seek to support and care for, so that no one feels excluded or "falls through the net".

Our building is now used more extensively through us partnering with three other Christian groups: The Community of the Risen Christ (who meet bi-weekly on a Sunday); The Garden (a small house church group who run a toddlers group on a Friday afternoon and meet once a month on a Sunday for worship); and a new theology training hub called WTC (Westminster Theological Centre), which uses the whole building on a Monday evening for six week blocks between September and May. It is a blessing to be able to work with these other groups and feel we are able to use our building towards the spread of God's kingdom here in our city.

As well as these partnerships, our building is also used on a weekly basis by four other community-based groups: the Pilates and Yoga classes, Kidslingo (a Spanish class for toddlers) and the Pollokshaws Adult Literacy Project (which we have heard is winding up and will no longer operate from April 2022).

Finally, one of the highlights for me in 2021 was the day we got to celebrate Debbie Fanning's baptism, both with an inspiring service here in the building and then afterwards witnessing her actual baptism in the River Clyde down in Largs. It truly was a special day and, like the baptism of Jesus, the heavens opened when she came out of the water and the sun shone down upon us. My prayer is we have many more opportunities like this in the years ahead.

Thank you for all your ongoing support and encouragement to myself and with our family.

Deacons Report by John Bertram

Let's start with safety during 2021 I am pleased to report no major HSE incidents throughout the year. Minor accidents were recorded in the accident book, and these were reviewed monthly by the team.

Improvements and upgrades

In 2021 we completed the AV project, and we now have a future proof system in place which I am sure you all agree has made a difference during worship, content sharing throughout the church building and ease of use with small groups etc. Rena led a group looking at new flooring and carpets throughout the church and this was completed in April 2022.

Projects planned in 2022

- 1- Minor improvement to the main Kitchen
- 2- Review of disabled access (Internally and externally)
- 3- Security with multiple users including non-church members
- 4- Upgrades to the toilets

Meeting together in 2021

We mainly met online during the year and as the building had less activity the workload was reduced. We are now back to meeting in the church once per month with zoom as an alternative if it more suitable

Help going forward in 2022

We are looking for another willing member to join the team. If this is something, you feel is an area you could serve please speak to myself or any of the Leadership team. Farhad stepped back from the team at the end of 2021. Farhad was involved in lots of unseen work behind the scenes including the weekly layout of the church seating during restrictions. We are grateful to Farhad for all the hard work especially in the last 2 years.

We are also looking for volunteers to help set up the seating each week with a rota where you would set up for a month during the year. It takes 20 mins to set up and at the end of the service arrange a group of volunteers to help put the chairs away. Please speak to one of the deacons if you could help in any way.

Community Lets and Rentals

We have lost one of our long-term rentals Pollokshaws Adult Literacy group who folded due to lack of funding from Government. We are looking to encourage community groups to use the building so if you know of any groups, please speak to one of the deacons who could start the process of assessing whether the group is a good fit for us.

Digital Ministry by Scholtz, Bethany, Alison, Jonny and Philip

As this report goes to press, the Digital Ministry team has never been busier. We are coming to the end of our Stations of the Cross programme, in which we have been posting daily videos on our social media sites – a total of 40 to mark the period of Lent.

We've had positive feedback on the content and received higher than average likes and comments. It's been really good to have so many members creating content for the series.

We hope this active participation by ACC members and those outside our church will continue, as we move forward to future series, supporting the themes of the Sunday services.



Your Feedback You may remember completing a feedback survey on the ACC Digital Ministry work last October. Thank you if you did. The feedback showed that members were happy with the Facebook, Instagram and YouTube channels we use but some were worried about the potential for social media to be a negative communication channel. With this feedback, we re-doubled our efforts to use the channel positively to deepen the knowledge of God's word both within and outside ACC. We are also preparing a Social Media Policy, which will be implemented soon and which will help everyone create a safe online environment.

Analytics

In January 2022 we engaged an agency to review how well our posts had performed across the year.

We were delighted to see that our engagement (the number of people who interact with our posts by liking, sharing, commenting) figures on Facebook and Instagram were above these platform averages.

By the end of 2021 our followers on Facebook had increased by 17% in the year to 412.

Another highlight was the number of non-followers we reached through Instagram – from October 2021 to January 2022 we reached 92 followers and 222 non-followers. This was achieved by the inclusion of hashtags in our posts opening up the message to people outside ACC e.g. #glasgowsouthside, #pollokshaws, #thornliebank. Spreading the word of God outside ACC is one of our key goals and so this feedback was very welcome.

We used the report to set targets for our analytics achievement in 2022 as part of our marketing plan for this year.

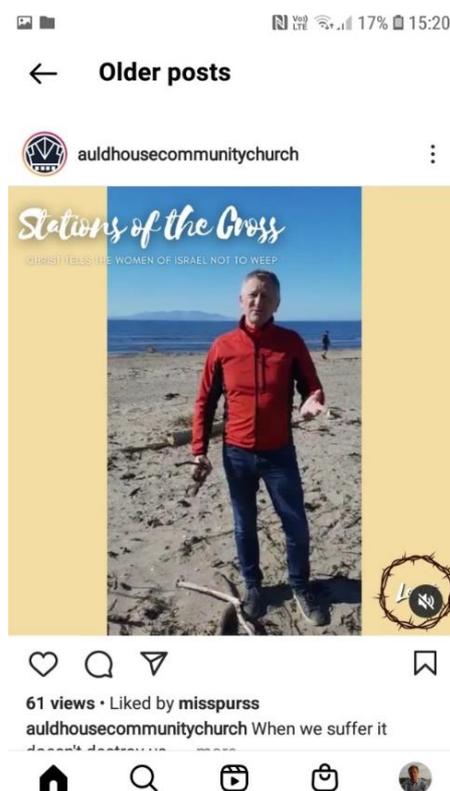
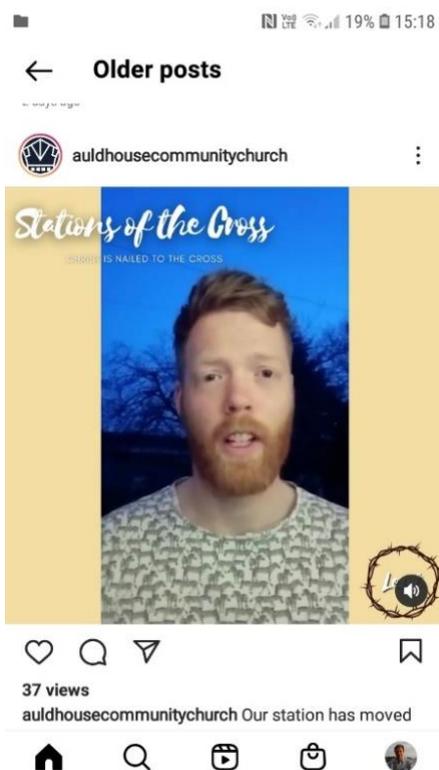


Resource

Resource has been a key issue for the team across the year, with pressures of work and illness curtailing some of the activity we had planned. If there are any members who'd like to join us, please get in touch. In particular we need help creating the content for posts – we'd be happy to train you.

We're a friendly bunch!

Scholtz, Bethany, Alison, Jonny and Philip



Visit our website <http://www.aulthousecommunitychurch.com/>

Discipleship by Don Palmer & Colin Macleod



2 Timothy 2:1-7

We believe there are several benefits of being involved in a discipleship relationship with another Christian or in a discipleship group. They enable us to:

- grow stronger in the power of God so that we can live well in an often harsh world
- become better equipped in discovering how God has gifted us
- go deeper in our knowledge of God, his word and his love for us
- become more disciplined to live our lives as Jesus would
- develop more patience to see the fruit of the Spirit grow in our lives
- hear more clearly what God would teach us or be saying to us

Over the past year, we have had a mix of blessing, frustration and even discouragement with regards to our discipleship groups here at ACC. Over the past few years I have been involved in facilitating two groups: a Monday evening group for some of our Iranian brothers and a Wednesday morning group for ladies.

Due to COVID restrictions we were not able to meet in person for some of the year and, when we started meeting again in person, we had mixed success. We tried to start a new study with the guys on a Monday or Tuesday evening, but due to work and family commitments we couldn't really get going again, and sadly had to stop the group. However, when the ladies were able to meet up again on a Wednesday we had a real enthusiastic response with new ladies joining the group (Tina & Maria).

There have been a core of 8/9 ladies meeting together every Wednesday morning for coffee, chat, bible study and prayer. This past year we have gone through the Gospel of John and have recently completed the Letters (1-3) of John. And we'd even had some visitors and guests drop in on the group from time to time. Many times, I hear comments such as "this group is such a lifeline for me" and "I feel this is where I grow most in my relationship with God".

One other encouragement has been the start-up of a new group for some of our Iranian ladies by Shahrzad. They meet for fellowship and bible study most Monday evenings, and have known to go on for over 4 hours at times! Please pray for Shahrzad as she leads this group and that other ladies will join with them.

Not so much a discipleship group, but Esther has sought to form the worship team members into a group who pray together and seek to support one another, when they meet together on Thursday evenings for their rehearsals. She has also organised a few social events for them to help them grow closer together and build closer relationships with each other.

We have been blessed with several other new couples join our church in the past year, and when I have visited with some of them they have shared that they were involved in small groups in their previous churches. We are very keen, therefore, to start up one or two new groups this year ahead. Watch this space, and let me know if you are interested in joining a group.

(by Don Palmer)

A discipleship group of guys have continued to meet online fortnightly on Monday evening with Jonathan Bell, Colin Macleod, Phil Wray, Nick Viney and last year Tony Milne. We enjoyed going through Alpha and particularly asking the big difficult questions. Continuing on the challenging issue's theme we then went through the Pete Greig videos and discussions on the unanswered.prayercourse.org 24/7 Prayer Course II. We benefitted from debating, praying & sharing during this that we are now working through Prayer Course 1 – back to front I know! Our favourite social continues to be a Sunday night curry & beer. Would love more to get involved in discipleship groups as I know how much this helps you grow in your faith. Please get in-touch if I can assist you get a group off the ground.



(by Colin Macleod)

Pastoral Care by Linzi Harrow

“We want to ensure that we all feel supported with a growing sense of belonging. We hope that with our new and evolving Pastoral Care Team, we can support each other in both times of challenge and times of joy”.



This is hopefully a message that you all recognise. We shared this with everyone in our Congregation as we began our journey as a new Team within the church. This was borne out of a recognition that the challenges faced by our church family during the last 2 years of the pandemic were many but predominantly finding ourselves unable to meet in person for much of that time had impacted each and everyone of us in our ACC family. Great strides were made by many within the church to keep us connected remotely during that time and for that we were and remain truly thankful.

However as we began to emerge from the depths of lockdown we recognised that many of us were perhaps struggling with a number of different challenges including, feeling disconnected from our Church family, grieving for the loss of a loved one, physical and mental health challenges, financial burdens as well as losing in some way the connection and support which was always readily available previously when we meet together on a Sunday morning.

We wanted to find a way to ensure that the sense of belonging that may have been lost for some and the need for connection, care and nurture for others, could be met as fully as possible as we entered back into our Church building and met with our church family. There was also a need to acknowledge and welcome those who had connected with us during lockdown via our online services and were entering our building for the first time...thankful for God's blessing to us as we welcome a number of new individuals, couples and families to ACC.

With a strong pressing on our hearts to act along with the sure knowledge that ACC has been blessed with many who have a heart to serve in this way, the Pastoral Care Team was formed in October 2021.

Four of us met initially to pray and begin to set out how best to serve the pastoral care needs of our church family. We were aware that we would require more than 4 of us to serve our increasing numbers particularly if we hoped for meaningful support and care to be made available to all. So... 4 became 10 willing and serving hearts, with a number of others willing to provide practical support at points of need. Our first full team get together on Monday 24th January 2022 allowed us to talk through plans and ideas for next steps in taking forward Pastoral care within ACC. At this point all Pastoral Care links had made contact with those in their group with welcome and Christmas cards. Our meeting also included discussing ways in which we could connect, celebrate, support and pray with our Pastoral Care Groups.

Going forward we hope to link in with many of the other ministry teams such as the Prayer Team and Media and Digital team to ensure that all those who are already part of the ACC family and those joining us for the first time are aware of who we are and the ways in which we can serve.

Another opportunity to meet together as a full team will take place on the 17th May 2022 to reflect on the first 5/6 months of service with a commitment to prayerfully review and develop our plans and practice. As a church family we are committed to serving the community of Auldhouse whilst sharing the love of Jesus - we are only able to do this if our church family are nurtured and cared for with a real sense of belonging within ACC.

Romans 15:5-6

“May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ”

Your Pastoral Care Team.

Mission & Community Outreach

Community Worker Report by Sarah McKean

Foodbank and Care and Share Cafe

Firstly, it's important to note that I did not begin employment until January 2022 so cannot comment from personal experience in this report. I'd like to give Clare Malloy a huge thanks for all the work she did for our church and community during this 2021. I have no doubt that it would have been an extremely challenging year; negotiating new parameters within which the foodbank and Care and Share café could operate and still dealing with lockdown scenarios. Clare did an incredible job keeping everything running, supporting visitors and volunteers. Another huge thank you must go to all the volunteers who kept the foodbank running during the worst of the pandemic, volunteers that I am now privileged to work alongside. I have benefited hugely from all your foodbank expertise and really appreciate all the hard work you continue to put into keeping the foodbank and Care and Share running, thank you!

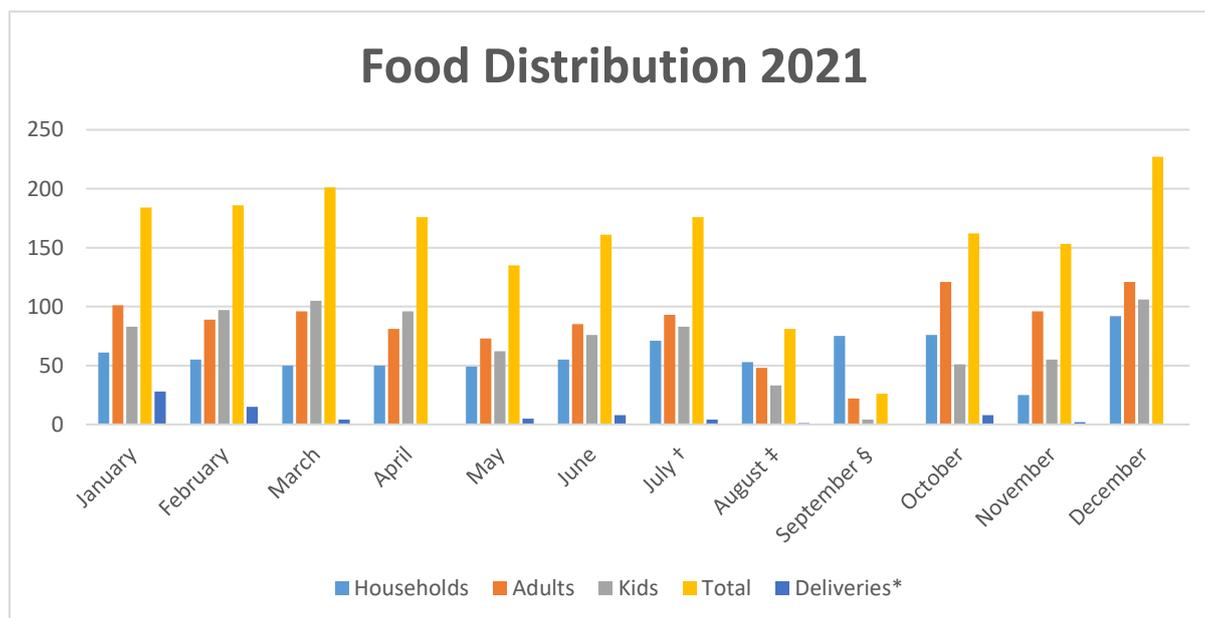
The Care and Share café re-opened towards the end of 2020, albeit with short terms of closure due to changes in covid restrictions. In my short time working there I can see the real difference a tea/coffee and some warm pastries or cakes can make to the foodbank experience for our visitors. Not only does it make for a more pleasant environment it also allows us time to chat over other issues which people might be facing, and offer help whenever possible.

My very first task in the role of community worker was to write thank you cards to the local schools for all the generous donations; Hillpark Secondary, Hutchesons' Grammar, Tinto Primary and Shaw Mhor Nursery. We are so blessed by those who donate to our foodbank and the work would be impossible without them. Our own church members regularly donate to the foodbank too and I have been particularly blessed by those who have responded to requests - donating above and beyond and spreading blessings out to our community by your thoughtfulness and generosity. We are also blessed to receive weekly donations from Greggs, to keep the café going, and from Locavore who provide fresh fruit and vegetables on a weekly basis. Our local supermarkets also provide great support, namely, Morrisons, Aldi and Lidl and we are grateful for all they donate to us.

We continue to run on reduced tables for the café in order to ensure that all visitors and volunteers are protected from Covid-19, as far as possible. We hope and pray that it will be safe enough for us to welcome in more visitors in the building at the same time soon. At the moment we continue to socially distance, wear face masks and use hand sanitiser.

Foodbank Statistics 2021

The graph below shows the total number of food packages distributed from our foodbank, as well as a breakdown of the number of people this food has reached.



Statistic Notes

* Household numbers unavailable for deliveries so each delivery is recorded as one person

† Breakdown of household numbers unavailable for 22nd July foodbank so total July number skewed

‡ Breakdown of household numbers unavailable for 5th August and 16th August foodbank, so total August number skewed

§ Breakdown of household numbers unavailable for 1st, 8th, 15th and 30th September foodbank, so total September number skewed

In total, in 2021, our foodbank fed 1026 adults and 851 children, this does not include the 75 food packages that were delivered across 2021.

December 2021 saw the highest amount of food distributed according to previous records. December was the first time our foodbank had ever exceeded 200 packages in one month.

We saw this trend continue into 2022, with January being particularly busy. The foodbank is a real lifeline to many in our community and we are thankful that we are able to work towards meeting their need in this way. **Please continue to pray that we are able to adapt and see ways in which we can be a real, living, blessing to those in need in our community.**

Toddlers

The toddler group continues to run every Thursday Morning. This is such a friendly welcoming group and again a privilege to be a part of. A huge thank you to Anne Lewis And Amy Van der Walt who gave me all the tips on how the group previously ran and what is needed. I am also really grateful to them for stepping in to cover the group when I was away and for always clearing away all the toys at the end - your help is invaluable, thank you! It would be great if anyone was able to volunteer to even spare half an hour to prepare and serve snacks at toddlers to enable me time to chat to both the adults and kids who come along. If you think this is something you can help with, please let me know.

Additional prayer Points

- That God would bless all those who volunteer. Ask God to meet their needs and enable us to support one another at all times.
- Thank God for placing the idea of a foodbank on Jeanette's heart so many years ago. Ask God to bless and encourage Jeanette in all she does.
- That our food and toiletry stocks never run dry. We are so blessed by all the donations we receive but we are also completely reliant upon them to keep going.
- That everyone who visits foodbank or toddlers feels the peace of God in our building.
- That I am inspired and guided by God as I think of ways of developing this ministry and supporting our community further.
- Thank God for all his provisions

Mission Projects (National, Global & Local) by Don Palmer

Here at ACC we believe it is vitally important that we support and partner with mission projects, both locally and internationally. During 2021 we have continued to try to devote just over 10% of our total budget towards supporting such projects. This was broken down as follows:

We gave £500 each to the following mission partners:

- TEAR Fund Scotland
- The Leprosy Mission Scotland
- Scripture Union Scotland
- Glasgow City Mission
- Glasgow Street Pastors



We also supported the national organisation Scottish Network of Churches, donating £500 towards their ongoing work, especially in seeking to support new mission expressions and pioneering new churches.

We also sent in one off special donations to other Ministries such as Compassion and the Scottish Bible Society. Also back in the Spring we matched a sizeable donation from the Mary Brown Trust and were able to send £20K towards relieving the devastating challenges of COVID among the people of India, thanks to David Smith linking us up with an organisation that helped to channel these funds where they were most needed.

We also were able to support many needy families and individuals locally - through our Community Fund - who we came in contact with either through social services or through our Care & Share ministry. In total we spent around £3000 towards meeting these diverse practical needs - from furniture, clothing, phones/ tablets/ laptops, topping up gas/ electric cards, train & bus passes etc.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We also provide newsletters and prayer diaries from most of our mission partners and would encourage everyone to pick these up from the information trays beside our Mission bulletin board in the café area at church. You can also access these prayer and news updates through each of our partners websites.

Worship & Prayer

Worship by Esther O'Connor

One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. Psalm 27:4

It's been an absolute pleasure to join ACC as worship coordinator. Since arriving here and starting to worship at ACC we've been made to feel warmly welcomed by so many. Our whole family (including our kids and parents!) have felt really at home here since joining.

It's been great to be able to engage in communal, sung worship again together. The pandemic certainly highlighted how vital that is for a worshipping community and how much it was missed during the periods of lockdown that we experienced.

It's been a privilege to pick up the mantle from Adrian Smith of leading the ACC worship ministry. I began this job at the beginning of Dec 2021 so I'm around halfway through my fourth month and I feel like we are making some good progress.

I've been settling in well, and getting to know the team, which at the moment consists of around 15 people. We've got a social/ worship night happening for the team to spend some time together, worshipping God and sharing food. These social worship nights are planned as regular events at the end of every quarter.

We have also established weekly Thursday evening rehearsals for the band that are on the following Sunday morning, plus a rehearsal that happens before the Sunday Service. The team are working really hard at these rehearsals, plus committing to that extra night out, which I'm really grateful for. Graeme Duffin is a gifted musical director, so he's been a great help when he's been helping to guide the development of harmonies and musical parts.

We've also introduced two new apps to the team "chartbuilder" and "rehearsal mix" which are very helpful when it comes to learning parts, and keeping everyone on the same page in terms of chords and song structure.

It's been great to see Kemp Anderson stepping up as a worship leader, we've been really grateful to Kemp for bringing his considerable skills into this new role. We're also glad to welcome Phil Wray as a new worship team member. Phil is a strong guitar player (and a great guy to boot!) so will be a great asset to the team moving forwards.

We're planning a full band worship night in the summer, as a fundraiser for homeless/ addiction charity Street Connect. At this event we also plan to showcase a band using the in-ear monitors and the 'multitracks' backing tracks system which is something we're considering introducing for the wider team moving forwards. We'll have a guest drummer and bass player that evening which will be great too. We hope to get tickets out for that event soon so watch this space.

Timothy Heelis has been doing an incredible job, shouldering the responsibility of the sound and beaming, and we're very grateful to him. Happily (for Timothy!) the tech team is starting to grow now and we're very grateful to Andrew Allan, Tim O'Connor, Chris and Ethan Stewart for stepping up to help in this area.

It's so good to worship God together as a church family, to spend time in His presence and to seek Him. My hope and prayer as I lead this team forward is that we will facilitate this fellowship in their worship of God to the very best of our ability. God deserves all our praise and adoration, and as we worship, as 2nd Corinthians reminds us, we are being transformed into his very likeness.

2 Corinthians 3:18

"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

Prayer by Rozanne Bertram

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

Team: Stuart McNeill, Amy Van Der Walt, Jonathan Bell, Rozanne Bertram.

ACTIVITIES

PRAYER MEETINGS – In the last year we have been meeting together for corporate prayer twice a month on a Wednesday evening, covid dependant shifting between online, at church and hybrid. We completed the “Prayer Course” part 2 a fantastic resource to explore the topic of prayer and encourage us in our prayer lives. Once again, this year we have had no shortage of “big” issues to pray for, from the disruption and pain of covid and now the dreadful and worrying situation unfolding in Ukraine. We also meet together to pray for the needs of our church family and ministries. It has been so encouraging this year to be able to give thanks for so many of our prayers being answered.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER – Has returned to every other Sunday during the family service. It is great to have so many people from all ages in the church volunteering to take part in this area of prayer.

PRAYER EVENTS- As covid restriction lifted the church hosted an Alpha course in the Spring of 2021. The prayer team organised a prayer meeting on a Sunday morning to pray specifically for the alpha course and its participants.

It has been fantastic to resume our prayer breakfasts on a Sunday morning. We held our first one in late August focusing in on the kids and youth of our church. The second one in November praying for the climate crisis in conjunction with COP26. The third one in April centring around Lent and the situation in Ukraine.

PRAYER MINISTRY- As we are now back in church the prayer ministry team is available to pray with anyone who wishes it after the service.

New Team Members

It has been lovely to double our team members by having Amy Van Der Walt and Jonathan Bell joining the prayer team this year.

PLANS

- Prayer breakfasts to be held more regularly in the coming year
- Prayer events arranged for August and October
- Prayer meeting moving back into homes from May onwards

PRAYER POINTS

- For an increase in numbers and age range attending the prayer meetings
- As a church we will grow together in deepening our prayer lives

Children's Ministry



Breakout by Colin Macleod

What a blessing to have over 70 children on our books over the past year! They have flocked back to Breakout after Covid longing for some normal social interaction. Thanks to Scholtz for getting the word round Tinto Primary. We continue with our tried and tested format of energetic games, story and crafts. It's been wonderful seeing them back having such fun! A typical night would have 20-30 of them flying round the Hall. Highlights have been our Light Party Halloween alternative seeing them all dressed up, Christmas celebrations and the sticky mess of Pancake Tuesday before Lent. I'm the only male leader and there are times I can't make it due to Parents Evenings etc so it would be a huge help if you were able to join the team. A huge thanks to the existing team some who have served so faithfully for decades!



Kids Church by Carron Allan

Overview

Kids Church at Auldhouse Community Church is thriving and we are excited to be watching our children grow in their knowledge and understanding of what it means to be a Jesus follower. We lead the kids in worship, teaching, prayer, discipleship, and fellowship - all the aspects of church life.

Carron Allan has taken over from Anne Lewis from June 2021 and manages the Kids Church volunteers.

Who we are and what we do

We meet in the basement of the church every Sunday morning halfway through the service. We cater from Nursery to Primary 7 aged children. During our session we remain as one large group but split into senior and junior church for more age-appropriate activities. We continue to steadily grow in numbers and we now average about 18 children a week

We have a team of 7 leaders/helpers. Each week there is a leader and two helpers. From June to December, Carron Allan led Kids Church every week in order to implement the new structure and help model Kids Church for the team. The team have responded with enthusiasm and have been incredibly supportive of the changes which has now led to Carron leading on alternate weeks only. We would benefit from more volunteers so we could split junior and senior kids for a more substantial time and potentially use separate spaces. As it stands all helpers and children must stay in the same room for child protection.

Here is the structure of a Kids Church session:

Covid update

Since the last church report we have been allowed to meet weekly with a booking system in place to manage numbers and potential covid outbreaks. In the last few months booking is no longer required and we are able to welcome anyone who comes along on a Sunday.

Volunteers

- Carron Allan
- Andrew Allan
- Morag McNeil
- Rena McLellan
- Andy Watson
- Jane Anderson
- Amy van der Walt

Action Points

- To move signing in and out onto Churchsuite.
- To collect more good quality toys for older children.
- Encourage new volunteers to join the team.



Changes

- We have moved away from using SU material. With an extensive amount of material now online this allows us to find and use material best suited to our group of children and leaders while allowing us to follow the adults' sermon series. Following the same topics as the adults, we provide opportunities for families to journey together in their faith and spiritual experiences.
- The new screen in the basement has allowed us to tap into online resources including worship and teaching videos. We also use the new screen for memory verses, games and music.
- We have also replaced the rug in the basement to help give the children more space to sit on the floor!
- For snack, we have moved away from sweets and cartons and provide the children with a healthier option. We have a variety of fruit and crackers on offer with a drink of water or sugar free diluting juice.
- With increasing numbers we have introduced a sign in and out sheet to ensure the children are safely dropped off and picked up by their responsible adult.
- All personal information kept on the regular children who attend Kids Church is now kept online on Church suite.
- Kids Church now has their own Instagram page. This is to help keep parents informed on what their children are learning and for the wider church to feel involved with Kids Ministry.
- We have invested in a collection of toys for the children to play with at the end of the session. Children need time to play together for relationships to strengthen and grow.
- We have also bought the children 5 new NLT Children's Bibles. This has been an excellent resource for the senior children. They are now able to find verses in the Bible, and read and share what they found with each other.

Prayers Points

- For more volunteers!
- For children to grow in their relationships with each other and Jesus.
- That our children would love church and have a positive early years experience for church.

Youth Ministry

Auldhouse Youth by Scholtz van der Walt



Our Purpose Statement – Helping young people to find and thrive in faith.

The first part of 2021 was a challenge due to lock down but steadily got better as we saw restrictions eased. We saw 3 young people consistently engage with what we've been doing over 2021 on Sundays. Our community young people have seen a consistent weekly attendance of 20-25 at Tuesday Club, and 12(our capacity) at Thursday After School Club.

AY Sunday, Tuesday Club, Thursday After School Club

- AY Sunday AM/PM: We met every Sunday either in the morning or in the evening.
 - We did the Youth Alpha alongside the rest of the church. Young people engaged well with the materials and discussions.
 - The latter part of 2021 saw us look at Social Justice and our role in it as God's people.
 - Current team: Scholtz van der Walt
- AY Bible Study: This has become part of AY Sunday PM, when we have more time to worship together and have more in-depth discussions
 - We are currently doing a New Testament read through as part of the AY Sunday events
 - Current team: Scholtz van der Walt
- AY Social: This has become part of AY Sunday PM, when we have more time to socialise together.
 - In addition we do the occasional outing
 - Current team: Scholtz van der Walt, plus available PVG'd adults

- Tuesday Club: Just before summer 2021 I did some promotion with Tinto Primary and dropped our lower age to P6. This was with the aim to have new young people come along whom we can get to know on a long-term basis. This worked well and boosted our attendance as high as 32 some weeks but consistently at 20-25. We are now seeing those trust relationships starting to form and we are now able to take them on daytrip outings.
 - Current team:
 - Core (every week) – Scholtz van der Walt, Sarah McKean, Debbie Fanning, Divnyaash, Vanda (Junior Leader), Stephen (Youth Initiatives intern), Reece (Junior Leader).
 - Wider (additional helpers) – Miriam Ahmed, Grace Mukuahima
- AY Weekend Away: We plan to do a weekend away with the young people the first weekend in March 2022.
- Overall team need: 2 volunteers to join the Sunday youth team, and 4 volunteers who can join the Tuesday Club team.

Youth Work outwith ACC

- Powerpoint: a termly national youth worship event, has moved to YouTube live and we've joined this online.
- Magnitude: a Christian youth summer festival usually at Lendrick Muir. We joined in the live online events and hosted a joint hub at ACC with Cathcart Youth Project.
- SU: We attended a day camp at Lendrick Muir over the summer.
- Schools work: As of yet we've not been able to get back into schools. We did however offer our continued support through phone calls and emails. Plans are for our chaplaincy team at Hillpark to get back in to school as of January 2022. I've also registered for a mentoring program at Hillpark, and plan to start mentoring a young person weekly from March 2022.
- Networking: Myself and a few of the local (south side) youth workers meet together monthly in-person. The aim is, and continue to be, supporting and praying for each other and sharing resources and skills. We are hoping to do more joint youth events.

Prayer

- Our young people
 - God's continued hand over them as they face crazy times
 - Guidance as some of them are making subject choices and will be looking at Universities
 - Those who are currently seeking employment.
 - Mental health: With all the challenges they face, information input they get from everywhere and the effect of COVID it is easy for mental health to deteriorate.
 - Strong relationships with God, each other and the youth leaders.
 - Tuesday Club:
 - Young people to get to know Jesus as Lord and saviour.
 - A core group to form we can invest in from a faith aspect.
 - Young people to build strong and lasting relationships with leaders and each other.
- Our team
 - God to inspire and energise them
 - The Holy Spirit to give them a supernatural energy to do youthwork alongside life as usual.
 - Strong relationships with God, each other and the young people.
 - To provide the hands we need to do the work.
- Other
 - Schools work:
 - Doors to remain open and for God to continue working there.
 - God's favour on our relationship and involvement with schools
 - Networking-
 - Youth worker relationships to grow with in the network.
 - Joint Youth events with other south side church youth groups.

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