

## CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY & JUNE 2024

### MAY

- Thurs 2nd 2.00pm Midweek Service in Fala  
Sun 5th 10.15am Cranstoun  
3.45pm Messy Church in Pathhead Village Hall  
Sun 12th 10.15am Family Celebration in North Middleton Village Hall  
7.00pm Evening Communion in Cranstoun  
Thurs 16th 2.00pm Midweek Service in Fala  
Sun 19th 10.15am Cranstoun  
Sun 26th 10.15am North Middleton Village Hall



### JUNE

- Sun 2nd 10.15am Crichton  
3.45pm Messy Church in North Middleton Village Hall  
Thurs 6th 2.00pm Midweek Service in Fala  
Sun 9th 10.15am Family Celebration in North Middleton Village Hall  
7.00pm Evening Communion in North Middleton Village Hall  
Sun 16th 10.15am Cranstoun  
Thurs 20th 2.00pm Midweek Service in Fala  
Sun 23rd 10.15am North Middleton Village Hall  
Sun 30th 10.15am Fala Village Hall



### Holiday Club Leaders and Helpers needed!

We are still looking for leaders and helpers so that we don't have to turn any primary school kids away this year. If you are thinking of helping or you know someone who might, diving experience isn't needed, that is just the Scripture Union theme! Full time, part time, experienced or not we (Louise, David, Carrie) would love to hear from you today.



### May Messy Church Pathhead Village Hall Sunday 5th May from 3.45pm to 5.30pm

We are having a bit of an early party for Pentecost, with fire and wind, amongst other things, so come and join us to help celebrate the birth of the Church over 2000 years ago. It helps to get ready for you if you can let us know using this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9SnanQjHISWwdnfofPm-DqozjabWyA9T-y7Pwa-mFM4WTA/viewform>

Check out the new photos that we've posted on to the TVP web site and see what we've been up to this year.



### Pastoral Care

Contact: Rev Dale K London Tel: 01875 321329 email: [dlondon1144@hotmail.com](mailto:dlondon1144@hotmail.com)  
or Aileen Blackwood, Pastoral Care Team Co-ordinator  
Tel: 01875 320744 email: [chesterhill44@gmail.com](mailto:chesterhill44@gmail.com)



## TVP CHURCH NEWS

May 2024

[www.tynevalleyparish.co.uk](http://www.tynevalleyparish.co.uk)

### MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Hello, Friends.

It cannot be denied that Sunday worship in the Church of Scotland can be a bit dry and uninspiring. Though I hope we have avoided that to a large extent in TVP. Nevertheless, I have noticed in the 5 years I have been here that we actually have very few new faces in the congregation. This is part of the reason that we have begun changing things up a bit on Sunday mornings, and is a result of our engaging in the "Growing Young" programme, hosted by Presbytery.

You may have noticed over the past wee while that we have been trying new things in our Sunday morning worship services. One example being our "Fifth Sunday" celebrations over the past year, and another being our quite successful "Forest Church" service last month.

As we continue through "Growing Young" in this, our second year in the programme, you may notice other fresh expressions of church. I really hope you do; especially, for example, our upcoming Outdoor Service and Picnic at Saughland on 14th July. The aim of all of this is to help us engage more effectively as a community and to become more inviting for people unfamiliar with the ways of traditional church. It is my sincere hope and desire that, not only will new folks find this attractive, but that you will also be re-invigorated and inspired in your walk with Jesus.

As we go forward, please do let me know if you have an idea or suggestion as to how the people of our parish who are not already associated with TVP might be reached. Meantime, may God richly bless you and encourage you in your Christian walk.

Rev Dale London

# DISCIPLESHIP | EXPLORED

Wow! Eight amazing Discipleship Explored shared experiences; publicized by Christianity Explored Ministries on their web site and brilliant Sana on our TVP web site. Praise God! Another great, challenging, TVP Lenten series under our belts; and in our last session an explorer saying “We must do another Discipleship Explored!” Each week we shared that the material contained challenges to personally consider whether our discipleship is too **couch potato** than **pioneer explorer**, too **sitting with a good book** than **carrying our cross**. Aside from Dale and myself, we had eleven committed to the weekly journey, and despite the challenges along the way ten of the eleven making it through to the last experience “Content in Christ”.

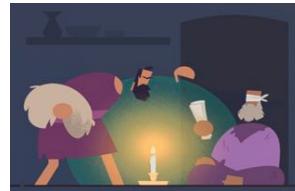
The word “Christian” only appears three times in the New Testament—each time in a relatively negative context—however, “In Christ” appears around 200 times, with Paul using it around 150! For each point along our journey, we looked at a different aspect of what it means to be a Disciple “In Christ”, e.g., from “Living in Christ” and “One in Christ” to “Obedient in Christ” and “Rejoicing in Christ”. We shared a glimpse of other disciples’ experiences from across the world of what being a disciple in a different culture means, e.g., in a communist state, an Islamist state, a low-income state, a high-income state, etc. This was complemented with searching questions and sharing by those exploring Philippians in person, along with delectable refreshments by Christine making it a really special journey with glorious panoramic views.

For each point of our journey, we also shared a fun/interesting “value-add” that was not in the original material, such as visually seeing what it means from Philippians 2:16 “... you shine as lights in the sky...” and from Exodus 34:6 God’s character of “... loyal love...”.

God’s Word was revealed in incredible new ways through His Spirit, even briefly looking at different Bible versions. Perhaps most wonderful we knew personally what Paul meant, “For I am sure of this very thing, that one who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 1:6)

**Praise God!**

Allister Crompton, TVP Lay Pastor



## TVP Forest Church – 21st April 2024

“I was glad because they said to me, ‘We will go to the Lord’s temple.’” (Psalm 122:1)  
On Sunday 21 April this was outside in the Avenue of Trees on Oxenfoord Estate, as TVP explored Forest Church. Praise God for His wonderful creation. Spring brings new flowers and new creatures from what has come before; yellow and pink primroses, forget-me-nots and violets abound.

Rev Dale London led around 30 of our TVP congregation through a time focusing on our individual Faith Journey. Catherine led us in prayer, “When the path you walk is full of pebbles and thorns, God will be walking with you and will ease your feet... When your journey is so difficult you can’t see how you will complete it, God will hold your hand and give you courage.”

We heard two scriptures from Allister leading us on Bible journeys: Abram’s from Haran to the promised land starting in Genesis 12, and Paul’s Damascus Road journey from Acts 19. Dale challenged us to consider what we should leave behind in our journey of Faith with our Lord, which might hold us back from serving Christ as we ought. Whether it is a worry or a concern, we must let Jesus carry the burden, and so we left them on the cross.

In closing we shared together, “May our earth and its creator protect those we love, and those we are yet to meet.” God had blessed us with the forecast two-hour rain-free window, along with Christine and Fiona’s refreshments back in the cosy church.

Allister Crompton, TVP Lay Pastor



## A wee thought from Jack for Pentecost.....

Hey Jesus, **THE PLAN** - where I should be telling others? “**Yes Jack, it’s easy - just tell others of our love together**”. But, now it’s Pentecost and the Holy Spirit, that’s a bit tricky! “**It’s not too difficult Jack. It’s like your mum goes on holiday, leaves you endless instructions - how to work the washing machine or says you can phone her to ask.**” Oh.. yes, that’s my mum alright! “**That’s it. You see, as I’m away in heaven, you’ll find my helpful instructions in the Bible and there’s always my spirit hanging around, so you can just ask me for help and guidance. It’s easy peasy really!**” OK, I get it, read the instructions and ask you for help ..... Is that it? “**Yes, read and pray, an’ do it my way! Love you Jack**”. Love you Jesus. Thanks for making it easy!

**The Easter Sunrise Service** took place at Soutra Aisle on a fabulous spring day, with the sun shining in a clear blue sky followed by coffee and bacon rolls in Fala Session House. This was followed a short time later in Fala Village Hall, by a Service led by Reece, and Mia, who gave us some lovely prayers, then Lucie read for us. Quite beautifully Dale added his bit and Reece accompanied all the hymns on his guitar. Dale and various players enacted a striking court room drama reminding us of why we were there, and just what a saviour we have in Jesus. Needless to say there was a tasty and healthy cold meat, fruit and bread brunch.

We are so well blessed to have a hard working food team. Thank you so much for everyone who gave their time and energy to such a wonderful day. What a truly wonderful way to celebrate our God is risen.

