

The Link

Spring 2026 Issue No. 36



The Magazine of Shawlands
Trinity Church

Hello friend,

Finally, January is behind us and the light in the evenings is slowly beginning to stretch to just past 5pm before darkness sets in, which I think we can all agree is always better.

January always seems to be a very long month, and the days seem to stretch on for far longer than they really do. But isn't it funny how time can do that. In some cases time seems to go very slowly, especially if you yourself are in a hurry, time just seems to drag on and on.

And then there are times when you wonder where the time went and that deadline which seemed so far away is almost upon you. I normally find time moves like this when I have too much to do.

We know of course that time does not speed up nor slow down, but its pace is largely dependent on how many things we have to do at any one time.

However slow or fast time seems to be moving it is important that we as Christians make time for God and spend time with him...just him and us.

We are even told by God in Psalm 46:10 'to be still and know that I am God.'

It sounds easy but as we probably know when something sounds easy it can far from it, so we need to be disciplined in setting time aside for God. And whilst there may be times we think it's the last thing we have time to do and there are so many more important things we could or should be doing with our time, I can guarantee you that any time we spent in God's presence will be the best use of our time at that point when there seems so many more important things to do.

Because when we make the effort to be with him, he is with us, and time in God's presence is one of the most precious and valuable situations we can find ourselves in.

In his presence we can find peace, healing, strength and comfort. We can find the answers to questions that may have been niggling at us for some time. We can find wisdom and guidance for situations that

may seem impossible. We can find his love, his grace, his mercy and his forgiveness.

So, as the nights get lighter and we make our way through 2026, I would urge you to commit to spend more time with God, just you and him and stick to it. And commit to what you can achieve. It is far better to commit to 5 minutes and spend 5 minutes with God, than committing to 30 minutes and spending 10 with him, because then you will feel guilty.

But however long you commit to spend in his presence, your time with him will be richly rewarded.

Your friend in Christ,

Stuart

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|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
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Notes



Walking Plans for 2026

Well, after a winter that's been unusually wild, wet, cold and windy, we are all looking forward to the prospect of better days in the not too distant future which will give us the chance to get out and about to enjoy some of the countryside around us. At the moment we are working on plans for the next few months and some details should be available within the next week or two but, in the meantime, please try to keep **Saturday 28th March** free (the last day before the clocks change!) as the likely date of our first outing.

Bill Craig at billcraig38@gmail.com or 649 2237

Congregational Register

Deaths

'I am the Resurrection and the Life'

21st January

Mr Malcolm McQuillan

Removed from Roll

December 2025

Mrs Jean Torrance

December 2025

Mrs M Mayors

THE REAL EASTER GIFT

On Easter day, we may unwrap sweets or search for Easter eggs, but the greatest gift came wrapped in linen cloth and laid in a tomb. On the third day, that tomb was empty. The resurrection of Jesus Christ gave us eternal life - and that's worth more than any Easter basket.

45th Glasgow Boys' Brigade

As always, the 45th remain very active and involved in a variety of Boys' Brigade excursions and competitions. January has been a busy month!

Mid-January saw the Junior Section and some of the younger Company Section off on their annual overnight trip to BB HQ up at

Carronvale House. A great time of games, exploring & learning was had by all.



Our fantastic table tennis team yet again excelled, winning their quarter final tie against the 128th Glasgow 6-3. They now meet the 1st Overtown in the Semi finals. Well done Cameron, Seth and Charlie.

On Saturday night we saw some of our younger Company Section taking part in the BB Glasgow's Big Quiz. Having the highest score in the hall they now wait to see how this compares to other teams who took part elsewhere. Well done Cameron Owain, Innes and Leyland, fingers crossed!



We would like to thank everyone again who supported the Big Brunch fundraising event in anyway. We now look forward to participating in more activities as we head towards Spring.



The Tables of the Money Changers (Matt 21:12-16)

Jesus overturns the tables of the Temple money-changers claiming that they are desecrating ‘my Father’s house’ – thereby dishonouring God.

The Grave of Lazarus (John 11:30-44)

Before raising Lazarus from the dead (showing the Father’s power and foreshadowing his own death and resurrection) Jesus shows barely controlled anger. But what angers him most? It is the very existence of death and all the works of the Devil. And here we also begin to see a connection between anger and grief – anger at all human grief.

In these passages we are given a clearer understanding of the anger of the Father himself – when provoked by **hard-heartedness**, behaviour that **dishonours God** and the harm caused by **sin and death**. It turns, out, then, that God’s anger is really part and parcel of his love for **us!**

Finally, a few (helpful?) thoughts about how to deal with anger:

- 1 Jesus’ anger was always righteous. Ours isn’t! (So, tame it.)
- 2 Even when provoked, Jesus’ anger was severely restrained.
- 3 Be prepared to forgive - even as **we** are forgiven!

This article is based in part on a book ‘The Heart of Anger’ by Christopher Ash and Steve Midgely, Crossway, 2021 which quotes freely from an essay, ‘On the Emotional Life of our Lord’ by B B Warfield (Part 4 in The Person and Work of Christ, ed Samuel G Craig, Philadelphia, 1950). (Available on-line.)

***Don't get so angry that you sin.
Don't go to bed angry.
Ephesians 4:26 (CEV)***

***Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!
Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)***

Brownies

Some of our older Brownies have moved on to Guides so our numbers for both Packs are lower than usual.

Since Christmas we have had a Burns Night, had a movie night, decorated cakes and worked on the Influence Stage 2 Skills Builder. We welcomed the Police along to both Packs and the subject was Stranger Danger.

Alice Willshaw from the 114th Pack was the winner of Glasgow Girlguiding's 2025 Christmas card design competition. This Christmas card is sent by the County team. Well done to Alice.

At the time of writing we shall be celebrating Thinking Day (22nd February) for both Packs. Some of the girls are going along to the Glasgow celebration of 100 years of World Thinking Day when we shall meet up with other members in the city.

Most of our girls have signed up for a sleepover at Flip Out trampoline centre on Friday 29th May. The Big Brownie Bounce is open to all the Brownies in Glasgow and the girls cannot wait for this event.

We are planning a Daffodil Tea/Coffee Evening in the spring. More details to follow.

We are still collecting used postage stamps for various charities.

Both Packs are looking for new girls to join. Please let anyone interested know we are the 53rd Glasgow Brownie Pack and the 114th Glasgow Brownie Pack.

Ann

Material for the Summer issue
of The Link should be in by
Sunday 17th May at the latest.

From our Interim Moderator.

I was delighted when the Kirk Session invited me to serve as locum minister for the next couple of months. I'll be spending two days a week in the parish, mainly visiting, as well as leading worship on Sunday mornings.

By way of introduction, I live in Lenzie with my wife Meera, and our six-year old daughter and four-year old son, who you'll get a chance to meet some Sundays. Although I've never lived in the area, I've been connected to Shawlands since my mum and dad moved there and joined the church many years ago – and I'm sure some of you will know me as 'Moira's son'. Through that connection, my wife and I were married in the church, and the children baptised there, all by Rev Val Duff.

After working down south as a civil servant for nearly fifteen years, I returned to Glasgow with my family in 2022 to begin training for ministry. I've recently finished probation at Kelvin West Church in the west end (better known by its former name of Wellington), during which I was also one of the chaplains at the Lodging House Mission. My other placements were in Pollokshields, Moodiesburn, and a couple of summers ago I spent six weeks in the parishes of Uig and Great Bernera on the Isle of Lewis, which was a great experience.

Thank you for the warm welcome I've already received. I'm look forward to getting to know you better, and meeting many more of you, both on a Sunday morning and through visits.

Allan

Hosanna!



Jim Elliott

Must these missionaries all die?!? Yes.

James Elliott was born in Portland, Oregon in 1927, the son of devout Christian parents. He was influenced by the post WW2 neo-evangelist campaigns, spearheaded by a young Billy Graham, Carl Henry, and others who met in Cincinnati in 1949 at the Evangelical Theological Society convention.

Caught up in the excitement Jim wrote in his journal – quoting 17th century English Calvinist preacher Phillip Henry: “He is no fool who parts with that which he cannot keep, when he is sure to be recompensed with that which he cannot lose.”

Jim’s family wanted him to join the crusade to recapture the soul of America but Jim felt the domestic scene was ‘well fed and watered’ and his thoughts were turning to overseas Missionary work. In summer 1950 Jim was at a summer camp organised by Cameron Townsend (founder of Wycliffe Bible Translations) where he met and was fascinated by a fellow attendee who had worked in Ecuador with the Quechua.

Was it preordained that one evening his friend spoke of the Huaorani (or Auca) – wild, savage, unteachable, hostile to the Word – and how they had not been Evangelised? Whatever the reason Jim’s mind was made up – even postponing his wedding to his fiancée Elisabeth Howard.

His plan was threefold: move to Ecuador, stay in Quito and learn Spanish. Move into the jungle. This was all achieved by 1953...and at the well-established Shandia Mission he married his fiancée Elisabeth, a fellow graduate from Wheaton College. After a brief honeymoon he returned to Shandia, living and preaching, where their daughter Valerie was born in February 1955.

In 1955 he turned his thoughts to the Huaorani. He and his friends – Ed McCully, Pete Fleming, and Roger Youderian – decided to make contact, supply gifts, and show their peaceful intent. At one stage their pilot friend Nate Saint gave one tribesman a ride over the jungle! They made camp at a place they called Palm Beach – it had a landing

strip and running water. They started using loudspeakers and very basic Huaorani to shout down friendly greetings from the Piper 14 they used.

Eventually they started inviting tribesmen to the camp – 5 miles from the main Huaorani village. These meetings went well and they decided that in early January 1956 they would go to the village on foot.

Sadly, a chaotic situation developed prior to the trip when a visit to Palm Beach went wrong. An older woman, a younger woman, and a man, all visited and sat with the Americans – eating and trying to chat. This ended very peacefully as far as the missionaries were concerned – the man Nankiwi and the younger woman walked home, but tragically the girl's brother was outraged as they were not related or betrothed. Nankiwi blurted out that he was escorting her to safety after the Americans attacked them. The village elder was considered wise as he had dealt with 'outsiders' and he decreed death was the only way to ensure safety.

To the delight of the missionaries a large group arrived on January 8th – escorts surely? No: the tribesmen separated the men and attacked them. Not a warning could be radioed out. all five men were dead, and their bodies thrown into the river. The bodies were found and identified by January 14th.

Legacy:

Jim's widow and other groups continued to live at Shandia Mission and work with the Huaorani. She wrote a book about the whole incident 'The Shadow of the Almighty' (from Psalm 91). LIFE magazine had a 10-page article on the killings and Jim's work. Jim's friends founded two Christian schools in Denver and Lodi, California. A documentary was made 'Beyond the Gates of Splendour'. Nate Saint's sons went to Ecuador to find some peace and interviewed some elders who remember the incidents. A film was made of this called 'End of the Spear'. Nate's sister Rachel moved to Shandia and worked with Jim's widow Elisabeth. In wider terms the deaths inspired huge amounts of fund raising for missionary work and galvanised the whole Evangelical movement. - **Scot**

WORDSEARCH

He is Risen!



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