

## Mission Report from Stuart Davidson

Stuart Davidson (Pioneer Minister, Paisley North End & Ferguslie Park)

For the fourth year in a row myself and the team of 10 folks held a Holiday Club in the local Tannahill Community Centre in Ferguslie Park during the first week in August.

Having invited parents/carers to the usual Friday afternoon part of “Professor Potty’s Time from 12 noon to around 2pm. Traveller’s Tales” we also invited them to the Sunday Church held in the Community Centre

These kind of events don’t usually attract many. However, we were surprised to host around 21 parents and children along with 10 of the local team for an afternoon of fun, crafts, refreshments, songs and more.

We then decided we’d further connect with the same families by hosting an evening “Church @ the Tanny” (familiar name in the community for the Tannahill Centre). This began on the Friday 19th August from 5.30 pm to 7 pm. Again a more informal-type church, where together we’d invite people to join us for refreshments, crafts, games, songs, bible stories, sharing times together and more. On our first night we welcomed 18 children, parents, grandparents, individuals along with three of the local team helping to bring this about. We meet in the glass rooms (again known affectionately as the “fish bowl”) for fun and friendship. In recent weeks we’ve welcomed some folks from new arrivals from Ukraine.

It's early days and yet a local invitation from a local person as well as invitations from us outsiders, seem to help people feel connected and seem to show that right now people want relationship and to connect with something bigger than themselves. We seek to be and bring, as Rowan Williams writes in his book “Being Christian”, an “approach to the Bible as if it were a parable of Jesus. The whole thing is a gift, a challenge and an invitation into a new world, seeing yourself afresh and more truthfully.”

Please pray for and with us