



# Magazine

No. 114 NOVEMBER 2015

Dear Friends

In the season of remembering which falls around the end of October and beginning of November there are many events that call us to remember, stop, think, and wonder about death. There is the Remembrance service on the second Sunday of November, when we reflect on the impact of war and peace. There is also, in some parts of the Christian Church the celebrations surrounding All Saints (originally All Hallows) and All Souls festivals. It is a time when people remember the saints of the Church, past and present. It is a time to remember those whose lives in great or small ways have added something to the Kingdom of God. But it is a time to reflect on the reality of death.

How we remember the dead is a sensitive subject. In a modern world that has for a variety of reasons taken death mostly out of the home and into the hospital, so something of the natural order of life and death is diminished. Many dying people express a wish to die at home, surrounded by the things, and the people, familiar to them. It is rarely something we get the chance to choose.

Whether at home, or in hospital, or on a battlefield or in some tragic accident, humans find different ways to mark death. Some will ignore it or hide it away. Some will be immobilised by it and find re-entry into the everyday world hard, or even impossible, after a bereavement. Some will

plant flowers and trees. Some will leave donations so that a cure for illness might be found, or give to a charity that makes the world a better place. Some will have elaborate services in church and crematorium or by a graveside. Others will go for something simple and gentle.

Benjamin Franklin wrote, "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." Our Christian faith does not inoculate against death, but it consistently gives us something to hold on to and to hope for – the promise that whatever happens – God will still hold us. There are few if any significant descriptions of life after death given in the Bible other than that promise that God will still hold us. The closest, and most helpful, image is given by Jesus in John's Gospel when He talks about a house that holds many rooms – a clear implication that there is a place for all.



In this season of All Saints, and in the time of Remembrance, see the reality of death not as a threat or a thing of fear, but as a stepping-stone from one existence to another. It is a comma, not a full stop. Remember those people who have been part of your story, the good, the bad, and the indifferent, and let them rest in God's keeping. Then, knowing that you are held by God, get on with living the rest of your life to the full, like the Saint of God that you are.

Revd Dr Derek Browning

## WORSHIP EVENTS

**Remembrance Sunday** is at 10.45am on 8<sup>th</sup> November. There will be no 9.30am service on that day.

**Night Light.** The next evening service will be held at 7pm in Greenbank Parish Church on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November. We will be marking World AIDS Day (which falls on 1<sup>st</sup> December) with the contemplative music of Taizé.

**Communion Sunday** is on 6<sup>th</sup> December. There will be services at 9.30am (in the choir area of the Church) and at 10.30am. We look forward to welcoming the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Right Reverend Dr Angus Morrison, who will preach at the 10.30am service.

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**Advance Notice:** The Church will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 10am. Please put the date in your diary to come and help – many hands make Christmas lights work.



## MORNINGSIDE PARISH CHURCH GUILD welcomes visitors and new members.



The new session started on 6<sup>th</sup> October, with our Minister opening the new 3-year Strategy (Be Bold, Be Strong!) with a reflection on this year's theme: "Go in Peace". A celebration of Holy Communion followed, and this short intimate service was greatly appreciated by those present. Please note we have decided to hold the meetings in the Main Hall this year. More details about the Guild and a copy of our Programme for the year will be available soon through the revised Morningside Parish Church website (or on request to any member of the Committee).

By the time this goes to press, Mrs Audrey Riddell will have presented information at our meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> October about the six new projects that are to be supported by the Guild nationally for 2015-18, for us to choose which one to support this session.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> November we have a return visit from Dr Alison Sheridan, who will talk about "Favourite artefacts from the Museum". On 17<sup>th</sup> November, during Guild Week, we will be hosting the joint Guild meeting for this district, with members from Greenbank and Fairmilehead Guilds. The speaker will be Mrs Marjorie Paton, on "Life after National Convenorship". Additionally on 18<sup>th</sup> November Guild members will be on duty at the Wednesday Coffee, when there will be information about the projects and other publicity material. Visitors are always welcome to any of our meetings.

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE - CHOOSE A CHARITY!

Our two year commitment to the Bethany Trust Care Shelter will be over at the end of December 2015 and so we will be looking to support a new charity.

We are looking for suggestions for charities that we can poll the congregation for during December 2015, with a view to announcing the new charity in the New Year.

Please approach any member of the Outreach Committee with your suggestions or alternatively you can place your suggestions in writing in any of our pigeon holes or via email to: [office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)

The Outreach Committee is made up of the following members:

Anne Armour  
David Calder  
Fiona Gossip  
Penny Graham

Kimberly Milne  
Liz Munro  
Kate Stewart  
Fiona Stimpson

Many Thanks,

Kimberly Milne  
Outreach Convener

Have you looked at the Website yet?  
[www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)

## ROLL CHANGES

Please remember in your prayers:-

- Sara Margaret Burns and Kieran Gerard Burns, who were baptised on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2015;
- New member Mrs Mary Matheson; and
- the family and friends of Mrs J Evelyn Simpson, who died on 24th September 2015



## FRIENDS OF MORNINGSIDE

The Friends of Morningside have commissioned a series of stunning photographs of different aspects of the church (crosses from around the church; fabrics like stone, wood, metal and glass; lights; and the hands of various church people carrying out different duties - see if you can identify them!) The five frames (with nine photographs inside them) will be positioned in the corridor opposite the pigeon holes in the Church - to bring some colour and brightness to the area. It is hoped that these pictures will be unveiled in November. Details will be given nearer the time.

The Friends are also in the process of purchasing a defibrillator for the Church. A training session will be offered in its use for those who might be interested, as well as staff members who are in the church regularly.

We remain grateful to the Friends of Morningside for the commitment and imagination they show in supporting our Church. They are always looking for new members, as well as possible projects - so if you are interested in joining - look out for the Friends brochure in the Church vestibule and in the pigeon hole corridor at Church.



## MUSIC NOTES

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm there is to be a concert in Morningside Parish Church. The aim is partly to cheer the dark winter evenings and partly (of course!) to raise money for the church – for helping to make sure of its Christian witness in the centre of Morningside. (The proceeds from the summer concerts were specifically to fund a (very valuable) fifth choral scholar in the choir: this is different.)

Fund-raising or not, it will be an evening of most enjoyable music. A good friend and colleague, Alison Rushworth, has already got together a small string orchestra, and the programme will include: Serenade for Organ and Strings by Hans Gál; Capriol Suite by Peter Warlock; and the wonderful and exuberant Concerto for Organ, Strings and Timpani, by Francis Poulenc (Morley Whitehead at the organ). Some of our excellent line-up of choral scholars will be making solo appearances too.

Tickets will cost £8 (£4 for students or under 18s), to include light refreshments at the interval, and wine will also be available. They can be obtained from the Church Office and from members of the Stewardship & Finance committee on the Sundays leading up to the concert.

The television of a Saturday evening is not worth watching. Instead, take a moment to mark this event in your diary and come along and enjoy what the various musicians are doing as they give their services to your church.

Morley Whitehead

## **THE EDINBURGH CLOTHING STORE (CHARITY NO SC039409)**

The volunteers who run the ECS would like to thank everyone in the church who has supported the charity over the past year. The money which we have received has been a huge help towards the running costs and does enable ECS to continue its work with the most vulnerable and needy in our community. Your support is very much appreciated.

Over the past year there has never been a Sunday when no clothing, bedding and/or towels has been left in the ECS box in the vestibule. Thank you so much for this support too. On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November we are holding our annual Coffee Morning with a variety of stalls in the New Hall, Braid Road from 10.00 - 12.00. Please do come and enjoy a coffee and cream scone and meet people from across the city. It is not just a vital fund raiser but also an opportunity to meet old and new friends.

### **GIFT SERVICE**

The Gift Service will be on Sunday 29th November. Once again we hope to provide around 70 gifts for special needs children from Challenger Children's Fund and 18 for the men from our Wednesday Club. I am sure that those of us fortunate enough to have healthy children and grandchildren can appreciate how difficult it must be to cope with a seriously disabled child. It is often a mother coping alone and this extra gift from someone unknown brings a little bit of joy at Christmas. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.



Hazel Knight

### **WORK PARTY**



The second meeting in the current session has been arranged to take place in Room 2 at Cluny Centre on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 10.30am/10.45am.

Should any lady have ideas or projects for the group to make, please let us know at any of our meetings. We are all willing to help.

I was happy to welcome new members to our latest meeting. If you would like further information, please contact Margaret Guild (447 6290)

## UP FOR GRABS

### You

(may be male or female)

### Are invited

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November: 8-9.30 pm

To take part in informal discussion in company with other church folk who are looking for an **occasional** evening gathering,

with a desire to share in a friendly way, learn a little, and get to know more people.

Who will come?

A member or friend of Morningside Parish Church

To an Open Evening Social Event in the New Halls

With a chance to have your say about what you would like, and hear a range of suggestions.

Something of being a person with faith, willing to give and receive support, and to continue to grow  
Will you come? and your friends?

### What would grab *your* interest?

Please let Carole know by 20<sup>th</sup> November if you plan to come:

Email: [office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk)

Or telephone: (0131) 447 6745. *Thank you.*

## LIFE AND WORK

Subscriptions for Life And Work 2016 are **due this month**. Order forms were enclosed in last month's magazine and are also available on the Welcome Desk. The price is £24.

Cheques should be made payable to "Morningside Parish Church" and should be sent to Mrs Joan McKenzie, 41 Ormidale Terrace, EH12 6EA or Mrs Audrey Riddell, 1 Swanston Road, EH10 7BB. They may also be left in their pigeon holes or at the Church Office. Prompt payment is much appreciated. Many thanks to those who have already paid.

Joan McKenzie and Audrey Riddell

## THE MONDAY CIRCLE (FORMER "LADIES GROUP")

The Monday Circle meets in the Morningside Parish Church Halls on a Monday at 7.45pm. Here are the dates for our meetings in November 2015.

9<sup>th</sup> November: Japan and its People

Stan Cartmell

23<sup>rd</sup> November: Tea Pot Trust

Rihanna Adams

The Teapot Trust uses art therapy as a way of helping children and young people cope with long term medical conditions and their often emotional visits to hospital. You may have seen art materials lying out on the tables in the waiting area of The Sick Children's Hospital.

These have been supplied by the trust and calm children while waiting to be seen. Please come and find out how the trust started and from where it got its name. The Monday Circle will provide a table with items for sale to help raise funds for the Trust.

Hope you can join us.

Anna Cunningham



2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> October saw our three Company Section Boys - George, Didi and Somina - along with Scott and myself join another sixteen Boys and five Leaders from 1st Dunbar, 1st Roslin, 3rd/8th Edinburgh (Liberton Kirk) and 7th Edinburgh

(Colinton Kirk) for a Weekend Camp at Edinburgh BB's Outdoor Centre - Craggan, by Ardeonaig, on Loch Tay.

Setting off in two mini-buses we arrived around 8pm on the Friday evening, having stopped off for the obligatory chippy stop in Callander, ready for an activity packed weekend of kayaking, canoeing, hillwalking (the more adventurous making it to the top of Ben Lawers), shelter-building and slacklining. Saturday evening's entertainment was a film - "The School of Rock" with endless bowls of freshly made popcorn (microwaves are essential pieces of camping equipment) followed by some ideas on how to make our own Company films. We were blessed with wonderful weather and our Boys experienced what was true BB camaraderie at this their first BB Camp taster session - they now look forward to the next one!

We arrived back to Morningside tired at 4.30pm on Sunday afternoon.

Meanwhile the following Friday we finished prior to the October School Break with a DVD and Pizza night, their choice of film being Mr Bean's Holiday!

Rona McLaren, Lieutenant



### FLOWER LIST

	Provided by	Arranged by
Nov	1 Ian Hastie	Irene Wilson
	8 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	Marjory Watson
	15 Isobel Brain	Ruth Henderson /Val Dunn
	22 Keith Thomson	Joan Burnet
	29 June Cowan	June Cowan
Dec	7 Catherine Leonard	Val Mannings

The new flower list for 2016 is now available on the noticeboard in the vestibule. If you would like to supply flowers one Sunday, please put your name and phone number against your chosen date. The cost is £40 and cheques should be made payable to 'Morningside Parish Church Flower Fund'. If you are a UK taxpayer and can give by Gift Aid, please fill in one of the Gift Aid envelopes found on the pews. Monies can be put in the Flower Committee pigeon hole or sent to the church office.

## DECEMBER MAGAZINE

Material for the December issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015** and it will be available for distribution on **Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November (early for advance notice of Christmas activities)**. Contributions may be put in her pigeonhole at church, sent by email to [editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk) or by post to the church office at 1 Cluny Drive, Edinburgh, EH10 6DN.

If you receive a paper copy of the magazine and would prefer it by email, please contact the office at the above address.

## CHURCH SERVICE AND MAGAZINE TAPES

We are continuing to record the Church service and the magazine. If you would like to have either or both of these tapes delivered to you each month, or Elders, if you know of anyone who might make use of this, please let one of us know.

Thank you

Joan McKenzie (337 4643); Audrey Riddell (445 2330)

## NOT, HOW DID HE DIE, BUT HOW DID HE LIVE?

Anonymous

Not, how did he die, but how did he live?  
Not, what did he gain, but what did he give?  
These are the units to measure the worth  
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.  
Not what was his church, nor what was his creed?  
But had he befriended those really in need?  
Was he ever ready, with word of good cheer,  
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?  
Not what did the sketch or the newspaper say,  
But how many were sorry when he passed away?



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