



Magazine

No. 123 November 2016

Dear Friends

As I write this I'm still in a state of shock, mingled with excitement and privilege and honour, at having been nominated to be the Moderator of the 2017 General Assembly.

For me it ranks right up there with being ordained to my first charge at Cupar Old, and then being inducted as Minister of Morningside Parish Church. I'm deeply conscious of the fact that whatever may be said about me, I simply would not have been considered for Moderator had it not been for countless people over my ministry who have shaped who I am. Not having family that I am close to, the people of this congregation have been 'family' to me over the years, and words cannot adequately express my heartfelt gratitude.



At this early stage, though the diary for my year as Moderator is already filling up, details are still a little hazy. I will finish my duties in Morningside either on the last Sunday of February or possibly the first Sunday in March 2017, which would be the all-age communion. This will allow me a period of intense preparation before the Assembly and my subsequent year. I would return to my duties in Morningside in either late June or early July 2018. The General Assembly meets from 20th – 26th May 2017 (incidentally I'll celebrate my 55th birthday halfway through Assembly week!) For the duration of my Moderatorial year an interim moderator, hopefully the Revd Scott McKenna, and locum, the Very Revd Dr

Andrew McLellan, will be appointed to oversee the congregation and parish here in Morningside, and to provide all Sunday and pastoral cover.

I have invited the Revd John McMahon and Anne Mulligan DCS to be my chaplains. Some of you will have had the privilege of hearing them speak at our Autumn lectures. Their job will be to support me and keep me under control during my year – wish them good luck with that.

The theme for Heart and Soul in 2017, and to a certain extent the General Assembly itself, will be 'Word of Life'. I also hope to explore a theme within this broader theme around the idea, 'Who is at the table?' – a theme embracing the Church's need to be welcoming and

inclusive – an increasing challenge for the Church in our modern world. I have learned so many lessons about being inclusive in the time I have shared with you in Morningside.

Despite some trepidation, of one thing I am absolutely certain: I will not be able to put one foot in front of another without prayer – your prayer. Your prayers have helped me and sustained me in the ups and downs of ministry. Please remember me and, wherever I may be travelling and whatever I may be doing, be absolutely certain that I will be praying for you. Wherever I go, I carry Morningside Parish Church with me. You are part of my spiritual DNA.

Revd Dr Derek Browning

WORSHIP EVENTS

Remembrance Sunday is on 13th November. On that day there will be no 9.30am service, with the Remembrance Service being at 10.45am. The children and young people will join us in the Church as usual, and then go through to Sunday Club and crèche. During the service there will be the Sacrament of Baptism

There will be a blessing and welcoming of a child during the 10.30am service on 27th November. We will also be giving a nod to St Andrew's Day at that service and hope to have a piper who will accompany the organist with 'Highland Cathedral'.

That Sunday is also the **first Sunday in Advent** so we will be lighting the first Advent candle on the Advent Wreath.

Communion Sunday will be 4th December, with services in the Church at 9.30am and 10.30am.

MID WEEK SERVICE

The next mid-week service will be on Tuesday 13th December at 2.30pm in the new Hall. There will be a Christmas theme to the service. The service is open to anyone who finds it difficult to come to morning worship on Sundays - and is open not only to Church members but to friends and family and the wider community - so please let people know about the service. Everyone will be warmly welcome.

GIFT SERVICE

Sunday 27th November

It is hard to believe but it's that time of year already! Once again, we will be calling on the generosity of the congregation to provide Christmas gifts for children with special needs. The gifts are posted so lightweight presents would be greatly appreciated. Labels will be available on Sunday 13th November (Remembrance Sunday). Please return your gifts wrapped and in a carrier bag with the label tied through the handles. A big thank you in advance.

Hazel Knight

OPENING THE GATES – STUDY GROUP

The Minister will be hosting a late autumn study group on the theme of 'Opening the Gates' starting on Thursday 10th November and running until Thursday 15th December. The group will meet in the manse at 7.30pm, with refreshments available from just after 7pm.

Gates and doors feature a lot in the Bible – they are places of entry and exit, and also places of decision and encounter, endings and beginnings.

The study is open to everyone in the congregation interested in coming along, and also will be suitable for those thinking about coming into Church membership, or wanting a refresher course in faith.

KIRK SESSION

At its October meeting the Kirk Session heard reports from:

- The **Property Committee**, and the extensive work ongoing at the Church, Cluny Centre, Manse. A huge amount of work is overseen by the Property Committee, and the Kirk Session noted its grateful thanks.
- The **Communications Committee**, particularly the successful outreach event on Morningside Road in September where we gave out leaflets telling people about the work the Church does.

The Session Clerk reported on the state of play with the new hall development, and that we still await Planning Permission from the City Council planning department, but that other work relating to looking at audio-visual improvements in the Halls and Church were being seriously viewed.

The Minister gave thanks for the life of Jessie Elder, one of the first female elders, a staunch member of St Matthew's, then Cluny, then Morningside Parish Church, a Sunday School Superintendent for 27 years, and the Clerk to the Congregational Board.

The Session noted with pleasure the announcement of our Moderator's appointment as Moderator Designate of the 2017 General Assembly.

CHRISTMAS/FESTIVE CHEER

Sunday 11th December after the All Age Service in the New Hall
Tea, Coffee, Juice and Festive Goodies
Come along and enjoy!

THE EDINBURGH CLOTHING STORE

(Scottish Charity No 39409)

The Clothing Store is holding its 6th annual Coffee Morning on Saturday 19th November 10.00am - 12 noon in the New Hall, Braid Road. Please come to enjoy coffee and cream scones with friends from across the city and have fun choosing what to buy from a variety of stalls or see if you can win a prize in one of our competitions.

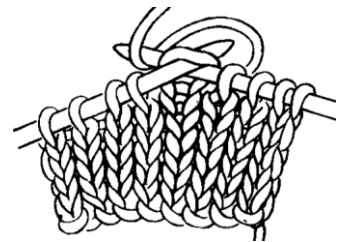
Tickets cost £3 for adults and £1 for children.

Everyone is very welcome and your support would be most appreciated at a time when the Clothing Store volunteers are being worked harder than ever helping the many individuals and families who are in desperate need. The numbers being referred for help have risen dramatically in the last month, so the money we raise will help considerably to buy items of clothing and bedding which are in short supply as well as keeping this vital project going.

We look forward to seeing you

WORK PARTY

The next meeting of the Work Party is scheduled for Monday 7th November as usual to be held in room 2, Cluny Centre at 10.30/10.45am. The party is an open one and provides patterns, pins, wool, together with a sociable time. Members are busy ladies, who make numerous articles during the session. If interested please contact Margaret Guild (447 6290)



FLOWER LIST

	Provided by	Arranged by
Nov 6	Ian Hastie	Irene Wilson
13	Remembrance Sunday	Eleanor Watt
20	Fiona Spencer	Marjory Watson
27	June Cowan	Irene Wilson & Eleanor Watt
Dec 4	Catriona Reid	Anne Armour & Issie Paterson



The new flower list for 2017 is now available on the notice board 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.

We are aware that with the proposed building works there may, at some point during the year, be problems regarding access for the flower ladies. If this was the case on any occasion, the artificial flowers from the vestibule would be moved into the church, and the money donated would be used to purchase bouquets of flowers so that flower delivery could continue uninterrupted.

LIFE AND WORK 2017

Readers are reminded that LIFE AND WORK subscriptions for 2017 are now due and should be paid by 20th November. The price is £27.50. Cheques should be made out to Morningside Parish Church.

Very many thanks to those who have already paid.



RECENT EVENTS AT MORNINGSID



Speaker supper - difficult decisions!



Chatting to Rev Ian Alexander, Speaker Supper 23rd September



Rev John McMahon, Autumn lecture series



Jam & baking stall 25th September



Distributing harvest leaflets 24th September

MEET OUR NEW SCHOLARS



Choir scholars: L-R Amy-Felicity Horsey (soprano), Max Carsley (baritenor), Serena Linley-Adams (soprano), James Maroulis (tenor) and Sarah Gross (alto)

lessons with Clare Shearer. She's thrilled to be a choral scholar at Morningside this year and to sing regularly in a church again!

Serena Linley-Adams is a 3rd year medical student at the University of Edinburgh, intercalating in Neuroscience this year. She also sings with Edinburgh Studio Opera and has previously sung in many choirs, including Edinburgh University Chamber Choir,

and Cantabile Girls' Choir, back home in Herefordshire. She also has regular singing

James Maroulis is a fourth year Computational Physics student at Edinburgh University, where he sings for various choirs, including the Edinburgh University Singers. Most of his time is spent whistling various pieces of Gilbert and Sullivan whilst programming.

We hope to introduce you to the other scholars next month.

Initially admitted as a bass to St Salvator's Chapel Choir, St Andrews, by virtue of being male and able to read music, **Alasdair Grant** gradually transferred to the (considerably noisier) organ. Having begun lessons in his second year, in his third and fourth years he held organ and conducting scholarships in the two University Chapels. After graduating in Latin and Mediaeval History, he moved south and took a master's degree in Byzantine Studies at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, though served as Graduate Organ Scholar down the road at Trinity College. He is currently a PhD student in History at Edinburgh University, and thoroughly enjoying being Organ Scholar to the extremely warm and welcoming community here at Morningside Parish Church. He has been taught by Tom Wilkinson (University Organist of St Andrews and former MPC Organ Scholar), Henry Fairs and Nick Wearne (the latter both of Birmingham Conservatoire).



Alasdair Grant, organ scholar

ROLL CHANGES

Please give a warm welcome to our new members

John and Norma Malcolm and their two daughters Suzie and Nicky Malcolm,

Please remember in your prayers

George Miller, who died in July 2016 and

Miss Jessie Elder who died on 25th September 2016.



On the Road is a Church of Scotland process designed to enable the national Councils, who exist only to support the local Church in its mission and ministry, to plan well for the future. Like every household throughout the land, we need to prioritise what we do and what we spend – and we need your ideas and wisdom to do that well.

These events are an open invitation to everyone connected with the Church. Whether you are a regular worshiper, or an occasional attender; whether you take a leadership role in your local Church or simply drop in from time to time – 'On the Road' wants to hear from you. We want to hear from folks from every background and every congregation: don't leave it to someone else - come and have your say, like people did at our first event in Glasgow.

'On the Road' will take time to listen to your thinking. It will also share some new ideas, which the General Assembly has agreed we should try out, asking how you respond to them.

This process of listening and sharing will contribute to future planning – prioritising what we do to be more effective in supporting discipleship, mission and ministry. The event is free, lunch will be provided, but it will be important that you register your attendance.

DATE AND TIME

Thursday 24th November 2016 11:00 – 15:00

LOCATION

St Andrew's and St George's West Church
13-17 George Street
Edinburgh

For more details visit the Church of Scotland website at www.churchofscotland.org.uk and look for the 'On the Road' page. Or email roadshows@churchofscotland.org.uk

A TOUR OF THE BIBLE LANDS OF MORNINGSIDE

On Sunday 23rd October, about 30 Friends of Morningside Parish Church and their guests gathered for an armchair tour of The Bible Lands of Morningside given by Dr Ted Duvall of Morningside Heritage Association.

This fascinating talk started at Briggs o' Braid at the Jordan Burn where the Post Office now stands. Nearby was a Toll House which was built about 1850, dismantled 30 years later and rebuilt at the entrance to Hermitage of Braid where it still stands.

Our tour took us to Egypt Farm which stood on the corner of Nile Grove and Woodburn Terrace. The name probably comes from the fact that there were many gypsies in that area.

We journeyed through the grounds of the Astley Ainslie hospital where St Roque's Chapel once stood. During successive plague epidemics, victims were taken to wooden huts surrounding St Roque's and were fed bread and ale brewed nearby.

Many stones of ecclesiastical origin, probably from St Roque's, have been

found in the grounds of the Astley Ainslie and we saw photographs of some of them.

As we neared the end of our tour in Canaan Lane, we were shown a picture of two stones in the wall bearing the numbers "5" and "7". These denote the diameter of the water pipes laid in 1681 bringing the first piped water supply from Swanston and Comiston to Edinburgh. How many of us have noticed these as we walked along Canaan Lane?

Our tour finished at "The Canny Man", formerly known as the Volunteer's Arms.

Many thanks are due to Dr Duvall for his fascinating talk making us aware of the history on our doorstep and for his fine pictures which accompanied the talk.

After an enjoyable Afternoon Tea, we were invited into the church where Dr Browning pointed out interesting features in the building and stained glass windows.

It was an interesting, happy afternoon enjoyed by all who attended.

LIFE AND WORK – NOVEMBER

The Beauty of Wood - the significance of trees and wood, inside and outside churches

Remembrance - A personal perspective, a Remembrance prayer and changing attitudes to Remembrance

From Armenia to Nazareth - the history of EMMS Nazareth and its humble roots

'Go In Joy' - The Guild Gathering in Dundee

A preview of Scottish Interfaith Week, November 13-20 - being Jewish in Scotland today.

'Remember Us' - A look ahead to Prisoners' Week November 20-27.

Waste and Beauty - how love can be wasteful and beautiful

KEEP THE DATE FREE

MORNINGSIDE PARISH CHURCH

BURNS SUPPER

FRIDAY 20TH JANUARY 2017

AT 7PM

TICKETS, PRICED AT £22, WILL BE AVAILABLE ON

SUNDAYS 4TH, 11TH AND 18TH DECEMBER. AND 8TH AND 15TH JANUARY.

**THE PRICE INCLUDES A 3 COURSE MEAL, GREAT SPEAKERS AND
EXCELLENT ENTERTAINMENT NOT TO BE MISSED**

COME ALONG AND ENJOY GOOD FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT!

THE MONDAY CIRCLE

The Monday Circle meets in Morningside Parish Church Halls at 7.45pm on a Monday. All are welcome.

The new session started with a most interesting talk about Prayer Shawl Ministry by Rev E Fisk and her helpers at Dunfermline St. Ninian's Parish Church. Handmade shawls are handed out to anyone, both young and old, who is in need of some comfort for whatever reason.

It was good to welcome so many members back and to see some new faces.

Here are the dates and topics for November.

November	14	Three Miniature Profiles (people and places in brief)	Fran Morton
	28	Russian Icons	Rufus Reade

Anna Cunningham
Magazine Secretary

Have you looked at the Website yet?
www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

DECEMBER MAGAZINE

Material for the December issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 11th November 2016** and it will be available for distribution on **Sunday 27th November (a week earlier than usual, for advance notice of Christmas events)**.

Contributions may be put in her pigeonhole at church, sent by post to the church office at 1 Cluny Drive, Edinburgh, EH10 6DN or by email to editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk.

WHAT SHALL WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DIED?

Carnwadric Parish Church Worship Group and John Bell

What shall we pray for those who died
Those on whose death our lives relied?
Silenced by war but not denied,
God give them peace.

What shall we pray for those who live
Tied to the past they can't forgive,
Haunted by terrors they relive?
God give them peace.

What shall we pray for those who know
Nothing of war, and cannot show
Grief or regret for friend or foe?
God give them peace.

What shall we pray for those who fear
War, in some guise, may re-appear
Looking attractive and sincere?
God give them peace.

God give us peace and, more than this,
Show us the path where justice is;
And let us never be remiss
Working for peace that lasts.



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Join us for worship on Sundays at 9.30am (September to June)
and 10.30am (throughout the year). Other services as announced.