



Magazine

No. 127 April 2017

I am pleased to have invited friends of mine to lead worship in Morningside when I will be out of the country at the end of April. On 30th April our preacher will be Rev Margaret Forrester, formerly minister at St. Michael's, Slateford Road (10.30 service only). Margaret was very much involved in the struggle for the ordination of women to the ministry in the Church of Scotland and is the author of several well-loved children's books. On 7th May our guests will be Rev Isabel Whyte and her husband Rev Iain Whyte. Iain has held a number of exciting ministerial appointments, including university chaplain at different times in the Universities of St Andrews and Edinburgh; Isabel was Chaplain at Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline. Isabel was my chaplain when I was Moderator of the General Assembly - and Iain was my roommate at university!

I will not be at Morningside because I will be in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. I have been asked to lead a Church of Scotland pilgrimage. There will be 28 in the group: some of whom are going for the first time and some who have been many times before. We will be doing three things. We will be visiting the "Holy Sites": walking through Nazareth, boarding a boat

near Capernaum to sail on the Sea of Galilee, struggling through the Jerusalem crowds to reach the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (the traditional site of the crucifixion).



We will also be seeing institutions owned by the Church of Scotland. There are five of these: St Andrew's Memorial Church in Jerusalem, and the small hotel beside it; St Andrew's Church on the Sea of Galilee and a larger hotel there; and Tabeetha School (the only school in the world owned by the Church of Scotland) in Jaffa.

Perhaps the most important part of our pilgrimage will be to meet local people, especially local Christians, who suffer as a result of the long-lasting occupation. The Church of Scotland supports a variety of Christian organisations which seek to work for justice and peace: it is always a privilege to encounter their courage and their hopefulness.

You should not be surprised if I tell you some stories when I return!

Andrew McLellan

KIRK SESSION

At the March meeting of Session the Revd Scott McKenna, Interim Moderator and the Very Revd Dr Andrew McLellan, Locum were welcomed to their first meeting of Session at Morningside . Also welcomed were the seven elders recently ordained namely Anne Armour, Nyria and Keith Bailey, Penny Graham, Rona McLaren, Lesley Murphy and Norma Wilson - five in person and two in absentia.

Among the matters discussed were –
Accounts for 2016 - The Treasurer obtained approval of the accounts for 2016 and he and Anne Dobson of Greenbank Accountants led Session through the complexities of the OSCR form of accounting. Total Income was £368,250, an increase of 7.1%. This included congregational offerings of £111,091, an increase of 5.3%, and legacies totalling £28,315. Total Expenditure amounted to £419,456 but includes a one off accounting adjustment to reflect the agreement to sell the Centre at £936,000 which, although substantially more than the asking price of £750,000, was £64,000 less than the estimated value in the Balance Sheet of £1m. However if this one off charge was excluded from the calculations, expenditure fell to £355,456 compared to £367,507 in 2015 resulting in a modest surplus of £12,794.

ROLL CHANGES

Please give a warm welcome to new member Miss Evelyn Moyes:

Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of George Massie, who died on 15th March 2017.

Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG)
– Session approved the Register showing that 77 members of the congregation had obtained clearance for working with vulnerable groups

Purchase of Emergency Blankets –
When the fire alarm sounded during the Speaker Supper in February, the hall was quickly evacuated and, quite properly, those attending did not take time to recover their coats. It was a cold damp evening and while waiting for the Fire Brigade to arrive and confirm it was a false alarm, it quickly became apparent that having some emergency blankets would be a good idea. Session agreed that it would be a prudent investment to purchase a supply to be available at the doors of the church, given the number of our members who are frail and elderly.

Development Update –The Clerk reported that five tenders had been received for the development works. Clarification is awaited on one aspect of the tender submissions. It is hoped that this can soon be resolved, the contract awarded, and an early start made. The contract time is estimated at 35 weeks which will take us into the pre Christmas season. Discussions will be held with the contractor to try and ensure, if possible, that works to the main church are completed before the Christmas season.

There will be **Holy Week Services** each evening (7.30 pm) in the week leading up to Easter (10th – 15th April) The services will take place in Morningside Parish Church this year but as usual will be shared with Greenbank Church.

FLOWER LIST

	Provided by	Arranged by
Apr	2 Ruth Henderson	Ruth Henderson & Val Dunn
	9 Dorothy Rutherford	Irene Wilson
	16 EASTER	Flower Committee
	23 Rena Tough	Marjory Watson
	30 Gourab Choudhury	Joan Burnet
May	7 Val Mannings	Val Mannings



EDINBURGH CLOTHING STORE SCOTTISH CHARITY NO: SCO39409

Thank you so much to all of you who have supported The Edinburgh Clothing Store over the past year. By giving generously on a Sunday and / or Wednesday morning for your coffee or by attending one or more of the events which was supporting the three charities which the church supports you have made it possible for The Clothing Store to receive £2,732.65 which is fantastic! Thank you very much.

This money will be well used. Since the beginning of October we have been particularly busy. We have seen a significant rise in the number of children being referred for help. In July we had a

record number which was broken in October and again in November! The number of adults we have helped has also increased.

All the Syrian refugee families who have been brought to Edinburgh through the government's scheme have been seen by us.

Life at The Clothing Store is never dull and the volunteers who run it have worked extremely hard over the past year but it would be a lot harder without your continued support. I cannot thank you all enough.

Fiona Stimpson

MORLICH HOUSE

The annual coffee morning will be held on Saturday 22nd April, 10am – 12 noon, in Morningside United Church Hall – entrance on Chamberlain Road. Tickets cost £2.50 from Penny Graham, Fiona Watt or at the door.

Stalls: baking, plants and gifts. All donations welcome.

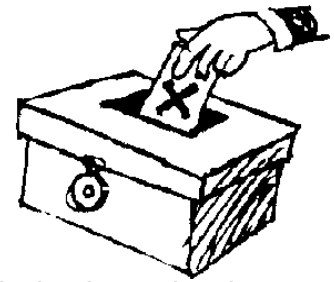
PRE-ELECTION MEETING – WEDNESDAY 19th APRIL

The local council elections to Edinburgh Council will take place on 4th May.

As we have done in the run up to previous Scottish Elections, the Church has invited representatives from the political parties represented on the Council to a pre-election hustings meeting in the form of the BBC “Question Time” programme, chaired by Andrew McLellan.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday 19th April at 7:30 in the Braid Hall.

This is an excellent opportunity to ask your questions about local (and no doubt also national and international) issues to candidates for election.



Please note this date for your diary. Although there will be the opportunity to submit questions on the night, if you have any questions in advance, please e-mail them to paul.cackette@hotmail.com.

Paul Cackette

SCOTTISH LOVE IN ACTION are organising another India Volunteer Work Venture in November and would be happy to hear from anyone in the age range from 18 to 75, who would like to apply. The trip tends to be 16 days.

Please contact SLA Office 0131 629 9112 or email enquiries@sla-india.org as soon as possible so that they can begin the process of briefings and importantly booking of the flights as soon as possible.

To give you a flavour of the experience, a volunteer from a previous trip writes:-

This trip is one of the hardest things I have done in my life. But that difficulty walks hand in hand with how rewarding the experience was. I have never felt further out of my comfort zone and I have never been so graciously rewarded for that feeling of discomfort. I met the most amazing people and learned so much but at the same time, adapted to a life style completely different than that which I was accustomed. I went without family, which was stressful at times, but ended up gaining a new kind of family. Every aspect that was difficult only gave the trip more importance in my eyes and I developed confidence and courage I did not know I had.

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

If you use **Facebook**, ‘like’ our Morningside Parish Church Facebook page!



NEWS FROM JENNIFER STARK, ASSOCIATE

It's been a time of transition since January, with preparations for Derek's departure and all of us doing our best to think of everything we might need to know beforehand, much helped by Derek's own forethought. It is good to have such experienced ministers as Andrew McLellan and Scott McKenna to shepherd us through the next 16 months.

I have continued pastoral visiting to a number of congregation members, in their homes or care homes, and feel much more able now to put faces to names. The Baby and Toddler group continues to run smoothly, and we've recently re-introduced a 'song time' at the end of the session, with a few instruments to bang or shake – this seems to be much enjoyed by all!

With the All Age Communion service in prospect, the idea of baking bread for the communion was welcomed by the children, and four of the young people came along on the Saturday afternoon to bake, together with Norma and myself. Margaret Thomson kindly supplied 'hygiene supervision' and we had a great time. It was a simple, enjoyable activity to

share. We did preparation for the Communion liturgy the Sunday before. I felt the service, with the young people involved in readings, prayers, and serving, was a moving and enjoyable celebration (and not one I'd had the chance to see before in my work).

I've been meeting up regularly with other local youth workers - Steve Chaffee at Greenbank and Jamie Woods at Fairmilehead – and Steve and I recently did some classroom slots with the P4s at South Morningside PS, as part of their RME requirement, on Palm Sunday and Easter. The P4s will be doing the Easter assembly in the church on 29 March and we both enjoyed the chance to work with them.

Date for your diary: Easter Workshop, Wednesday 12th April 2-4pm in the Braid Hall – simple, fun crafts and activities with an Easter theme for all the family. Mainly aimed at 5-12 year-olds, but all are welcome. If you feel you'd like to help – no special skills needed – whether on the day, or preparing beforehand, please get in touch.



The bread bakers



GUILD MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS

FOR OVER 660 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE GUILD

On Tuesday 21st February at the Afternoon Service in the Braid Hall, Church of

Scotland Guild certificates of long service and badges were presented to members of the former Morningside Parish Guild, by the Minister Revd Dr Derek Browning.

Mrs Mary Finlay and Mrs Corinne Cameron, together with Miss Sheila Grahame who could not be present, were given badges marking 60 years or more. The Guild Hymn was sung with good voice during the service, and tea was served afterwards.

In all there were 16 certificates, together representing a total of 661 years, some served in other parts of the country. Adeline Clark, Margaret Gossip, Amelia Maclagan, Gretta Millar and Audrey Riddell had each served over 50 years; Sheila Cottingham, Lyn Mitchell, Liz Munro and Isobel Brain over 35 years. The other certificates presented were for Marjorie Esplin, Gordon Kinloch, Meg Kemp and Kate Stewart.

All present were very pleased that our Minister had been able to make the presentations at this service, just before his departure in preparation for his moderatorial duties, for which we will be remembering him in our prayers.



WORK PARTY

A meeting has been arranged for Monday 3rd April in Room 2, Cluny Centre at 10.30/10.45am. This will be the last meeting until October 2017 and we look forward to seeing everyone.

Once again my sincere thanks to the members who gave their support and interest during the session. Please contact me if any information is required.

Margaret Guild (447 6290)

THE MONDAY CIRCLE

Over the past six months, the Monday Circle has been hearing about a wide range of subjects. We learnt about Prayer Shawls which started in America and were introduced by Rev Elizabeth Fisk to her church in Dunfermline in 2007. The shawls are knitted or crocheted with a "3" design to represent the Trinity. The shawls when distributed include a prayer and are given to people within the community who require some comfort. We have learnt how Russian icons came about and travelled as Christianity spread through Turkey to Russia and then westwards.

How would you like to Open Your Garden for Charity? Jerry and Christine Gregson have done that, having turned their unkempt garden into some colourful displays over many years of hard work. (Their garden is open on Sunday 21st May from 2-4pm at 101 Greenbank Crescent in aid of St Columba's Hospice, entry £4. I'm led to believe it is family friendly – children might find fairies at the bottom of the garden!!).

Wendy Doran takes 3rd and 4th year pupils (who study this topic at school) to the battlefields near Ypres and teaches them how battles and conditions were fought during the First World War. The Second World War was remembered by Charmaine McMeekin telling us about life with her father, Eric Lomax, author of *The Railway Man*, who was one of many POW's on the Burma Railway. Eric found it hard mentally and emotionally afterwards which was not always easy for his family but found peace within himself after meeting one of the Japanese Guards later in his life.

We enjoyed hearing from Katie Taylor about Laura Ashley, a Welsh lady who started the business with her husband in the 1950's in their kitchen with household designs and items, such as tea-towels, along with dresses. Following her death, two of her four children are now involved in the running of the business.

With Mothering Sunday and Easter approaching, our last speaker was Helen Bond who told us about some of the mothers in the Bible. The women were of strong character who could be ruthless and devious matriarchs to enable their husbands or sons (sometimes younger sons) to rule or lead the people of Israel.

Our charity talk this year was about Venture Trust which started in 1982 in Applecross helping young people with coping techniques through the outdoors. Their remit has changed over the years helping anyone through referrals, now based in Stirling, still using the outdoors for challenges and continuing support.

Jean Eggar kindly came to play the piano for our Christmas Party as well as entertaining us with a Musical evening in October with music from Musicals, Operas and Scottish songs and also a quiz.

Many thanks to those who supported our Coffee Morning in March which raised £445.75. These funds will be distributed after our AGM.

May we wish you all an enjoyable summer.

Catriona Reid
President/Secretary

BETHANY CARE SHELTER

A big thank you to all who contributed to the fundraising coffee morning in February, the proceeds from which enabled us to buy the food, tea, coffee and juice for our turn on the Bethany Care Shelter catering rota this winter.

The Winter Care Shelter provides overnight accommodation, a cooked evening meal and advice for homeless men and women sleeping rough in Edinburgh, and is open seven nights a week from early October till late April.

The Morningside Parish team of nine catered for these homeless people on 1st March 2017 at Carrubbers Christian Centre on the Royal Mile. On what was a very cold night we fed 45 men and women plus five Bethany staff in the Centre as well as a few waiting outside unable to secure a place inside as numbers are limited to 45 bed places each night. The

service users were mostly British and some Europeans of varying ages.



Bethany links up with other agencies to offer help to those who wish to move on from their life on the streets. On duty that evening was a community psychiatric nurse and a housing officer from the Council. Other agencies such as Street Work and the Rock Trust are also involved throughout the winter.

After clearing and washing up we left juice, tea, coffee, milk, cereals and bread for their breakfast and left at 11pm feeling privileged that in a small way we could help to make these men and women feel safe and welcome in a friendly and supportive environment during a very difficult time in their lives.

Anne McNeil-Team Leader



CHRISTIAN AID UPDATE

Ian Rankin will be speaking at a Christian Aid event at Fairmilehead Parish Church on 19th April 2017 at 7.30.

He will be interviewed about his life by Eleanor Updale. Refreshments will be available. Tickets priced at £8 will be available in Morningside Parish Church from Bob Cunningham (447 4757), Evelyn Henderson (334 2463) and Ruth Henderson (449 1695).

The Christian Aid House to House Collection is taking place this year between 14th -20th May. In the past, a number of you have kindly helped with the distribution and collection of CA envelopes and with the counting of the monies raised. The Christian Aid Committee sincerely hopes that you can help again this year with these tasks. We will be in touch with you shortly regarding this matter.

Finally, on 27th May 2017, the Christian Aid Spring Fair will take place in Morningside Parish Church. A range of stalls, activities and refreshments are currently being planned for the day and more information about this event will be forthcoming nearer the time.

SPEAKER SUPPER –LORD LYON KING OF ARMS

Friday 24th February was a special day in the life of our church when some sixty members and friends joined together for supper and to be enthralled by the story of the Lord Lyon King of Arms.

The Rev Canon Dr Joseph Morrow KStJ QC DL addressed the gathering after a most enjoyable meal, served by McKenzies of Colinton, and perfectly organised by our ever efficient Social Committee.

Joe, as he wished to be called, “SET THE PLACE ON FIRE” when five minutes into his address the fire alarm went off and we were all evacuated into a cold, wet night. A quick thinking member wheeled all the coats outside to keep us cosy until the fire brigade arrived.

Dr Morrow, an Episcopalian, is a Member of the Faculty of Advocates, Vice Lord Lieutenant of the City of Dundee, and

Incumbent of the Chapel of Glamis Castle and Honorary Canon of St Paul’s Cathedral, Dundee. He is the 38th Lord Lyon and was appointed to the office in 2014, a position he may hold for life unless he decides to retire at an earlier age.

The Lord Lyon King of Arms is Head of the Heraldic Executive and Judge of the Court of the Lord Lyon. He has responsibility for overseeing the ceremonial on State and Royal occasions in Scotland. The Lord Lyon is the sole judge as to whether anyone who wishes to obtain a Coat of Arms is a “virtuous and deserving person”.

The evening was all too short, as this charismatic Lord Lyon King of Arms held his audience spellbound with this little known part of our Scottish history. We were privileged to meet Dr Morrow as he is a worthy and proud ambassador for Scotland.

LIFE & WORK – APRIL ISSUE

An Unexpected Easter Feast

Jolyon Mitchell considers the impact and influence of art in telling the story of Emmaus and opening eyes

Clearing the Way at Christ’s Baptismal Site

Tim Porter highlights the work of the Halo Trust, a charity involved in a key project to improve access to the site of Jesus’ baptism

Easter Prayer from the Moderator of the General Assembly

Bethlehem and Calvary

In his final reflection for Life and Work, the Very Rev Dr James Simpson highlights parallels between Bethlehem and Calvary

A Desire for Justice

Jackie Macadam interviews Val Brown, a Church of Scotland member who has opened her home to a Syrian refugee

From Reform to Renewal

The Very Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald introduces extracts from his new history of the Church

An Artistic Legacy

Alison Roberts pays tribute to the life of esteemed stained glass artist Crear McCartney

Christianity is Not Dead

Ron Ferguson argues that Christianity will not disappear in Scotland as humanity continues to seek meaning in life.

MAY MAGAZINE

Material for the May issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by **Friday 14th April 2017** and it will be available for distribution on **Sunday 7th May**.

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.

For those of you already receiving the Church magazine via email, you may already be receiving a weekly email from the Church that highlights some of the current and upcoming events in the Church's week. If you would like to receive this helpful email, please contact the Church Office (office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk) with your email address.



The Minister with the moderatorial robes presented to him during the service on 28th February.

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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.