



Magazine

No. 156 June 2020

Dear Friends

The Stanford University economist Paul Romer once said, 'A crisis is a terrible thing to waste.' As I write this we are still in lockdown, and it looks likely that this will continue into June. We have, to date, no set timetable or dates for the reopening of the Church. But that day will come.

I have heard it said that emerging from lockdown will be harder than entering into it. As many will have become accustomed to self-isolation and its routines as those who are now fatigued and frustrated by it. But emerge we will.

As I tried to limit my use of 'unprecedented' at the beginning of the pandemic, so I'm trying to limit my use of 'new normal' as we begin to look to what the future might hold for ourselves as individuals, as a society, and as a Church.

But lessons have been learned, and realities need facing. We have learned that whilst technology excludes some, it has also enabled our Church to make available worship services and carry on with pastoral work. Whilst rotas and volunteering in the past often relied on the same people keeping things going, the immense value of face-to-face encounter in worship, in pastoral work, and at social events has been underlined. As if we needed to be told, but we did.

There will be some who will wish everything to return back to exactly the way it was before the

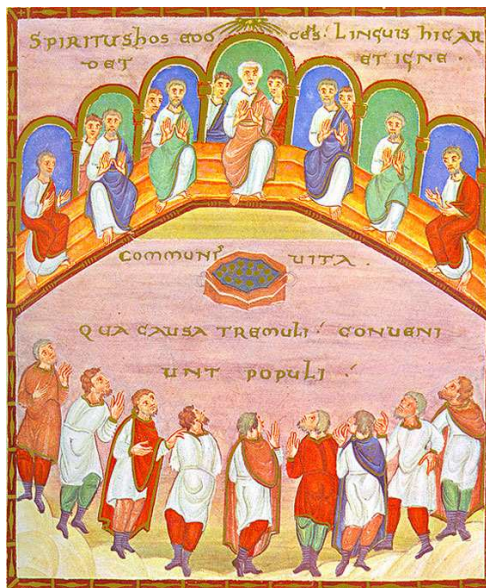
pandemic. It seems quite clear that this will not be possible, and some may go further and say, 'nor desirable.' If the doors of our Church are to reopen, and remain open, then more of our membership, and our friends in the community, will need to support what we need to do. We cannot afford to be a spectator sport where a small number keep the show on the road. Our groups and organisations will need new volunteers when the time comes, and our finances, which have taken a severe hit, will need new money not simply to get us back to where we were, but to move us onward to where we need to be.

We will need to plan, and re-plan, over these next weeks. We may feel too tired, too old, too stressed, too anxious, too overwhelmed, and too inexperienced for what we have to do and what we need to decide. We do not have all the answers. We might not even have all the

right questions. But I know, and I believe, that when we emerge, and emerge we will; when we return, and return we will; God will be with us, giving the courage, determination, compassion and patience that we will need to tackle the present, and work into the future. Unprecedented! New normal! Do what you can, when you can, and with God's help, we will get there.

Very Revd Dr Derek Browning

Edinburgh:Morningside Parish Church of Scotland: Scottish Charity No: SCO34396



WORSHIP MATTERS

Sunday services: The Church will remain closed for the time being. Information about re-opening, when the time comes, will be posted on the church's website, on the church's Facebook page, and put in the weekly email.

We are recording a service each Sunday (the church remaining locked!) which are then posted on the Church's website and Facebook page on Monday. The service includes prayers, readings, a sermon and blessing, and music. The service on Sunday 7 June will include the Sacrament of the Holy Communion, so if you would like to participate, have bread and wine ready and share in the communion part of the service as usual.



The Minister is also recording a piece for our young people (and the young at heart!), and this is available on the Church's website and Facebook page.

The June Kirk Session will be held, online, on Tuesday 30th June. For those who do not have access to the internet, papers will be sent out in advance and comments can be posted to the Minister or Session Clerk.

At the time of writing the lockdown is still in place, but the Kirk Session will be considering what steps may need to be taken when the lockdown begins to lift and how we can reopen the Church and Halls safely. It requires a degree of crystal-ball gazing, but the matter is under active consideration. The Session will also be made aware of the mid-year financial figures, and these will take into account the serious 'hit' there has been on church income with the loss of hall rentals.

The Church and Halls are closed to the public. Emails and phone calls will still be dealt with (our Church Administrator is able to work remotely from home). A security and maintenance check is regularly carried out at the Church.

Church Flowers

Church flowers will not be distributed on Sundays for the time being.

Thank you

Many people, in many different ways, great and small, have been working hard in difficult circumstances to ensure worship with words and music, pastoral care, the Church's IT, the Church's administration, the Church's finances, and the Church's property have been kept going. Our young people helped provide Easter decorations (with the young at heart!), and also provide rainbows which are now up on the glass windows of the Braid and Cluny Halls. Many have gone the extra mile to provide support for members of our congregation, and people not connected to our church but living in our parish. Emails of encouragement have been sent; phones have been used to keep in touch. Senior office bearers have been making sure all the necessary legal, financial and planning issues are being dealt with on time. An Easter Garden was created for the Easter Sunday service. People have been trying to work out what needs to be done for the future, including facing some tough decisions. People have prayed like never before. We may not be out of the lockdown yet, at the time of writing, but to **everyone** who has played a part, great or small, **THANK YOU!**

Pastoral Care at Morningside Parish Church during the COVID-19 situation

The Minister and Pastoral Assistant, with district elders and others, continue to phone, email and write to congregation members, particularly those who are vulnerable or on their own. Please let us know if there are any people who you think might appreciate a phone call or email at this time. And if you would like a call – do not hesitate to contact us!

Pastoral visitors have been contacted by Jacqui Lindsay and are keeping in touch with their 'charges' by telephone.

Funerals in Church are not possible, but the Minister is conducting funerals at the crematorium or by a graveside. Anyone who has a bereavement should contact the Minister and an undertaker, and then arrangements will be made by telephone. There are restrictions on numbers attending funeral services, so it may be that a simple service will be held, with the offer of a memorial service later on.

Practical Help

We have considered how to offer appropriate practical support where possible to those who have self-isolated and who have no extended family or others able to provide basic help. Consequently, if you are willing to help with collecting basic shopping, pick up and deliver prescriptions, or post letters, please contact Jacqui Lindsay who will collate names, and then, if we receive requests and are able to help, will make the necessary connections. We will keep this matter under review and continue to assess its sustainability. Only consider volunteering if you are not in the 'vulnerable' category yourself, and are fully fit and well!

Please remember, throughout the COVID-19 situation, regularly wash your hands with soap and hot water for 20 seconds. If you feel unwell, or develop any symptoms, stay at home for seven days. If you are isolated and need help with basic shopping, prescription collection, letter posting or dog-walking, let us know. If we can help, we will.

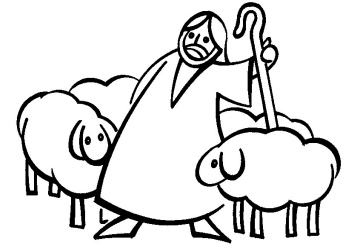
Finally, please remember to pray for all affected at this time - those with the virus and their families, and the health, social and emergency services providing care and attention. It is a difficult and surreal time for all of us, but we will get through, and look forward to returning to normality as soon as we can.

EDINBURGH SOUTH EAST FOOD BANK

The Coronavirus pandemic has resulted in increased demand for food at Edinburgh South East Foodbank, the inevitable result of people being made redundant or furloughed. Although donations from individuals and shops has been very generous, with the result that our stock levels are holding up remarkably well, we are still short of a number of specific items. If anyone would like to make a financial contribution to enable the Foodbank at Southhouse to purchase those items in short supply, please send a cheque (made payable to Blythwood Care – South East Edinburgh Foodbank) to Blythwood Care, Highland Deephaven, Evanton, Ross-shire, IV16 9XJ. If you would like an acknowledgement of your donation, please include your e mail address. Thank you.

PASTORAL CARE DURING THIS TIME

I am so grateful for those of you who have volunteered to help out with shopping, collecting prescriptions, posting letters and keeping in touch by phone with those who are having to self-isolate. We have a team of 14 people and are supporting a number of folk both within our own congregation and some within the wider parish and I know just how much this is appreciated by those who are on the receiving end.



If at any point you or someone you know could benefit from this kind of support, please give me a call as we still have some capacity within the team.

At the same time, I am fully aware that many more within the congregation are supporting each other along with offering support to friends and neighbours: many, many thanks for all that each of you are doing.

2 Corinthians 1 Praise to the God of All Comfort

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

Keep well and keep safe.

Jacqui Lindsay, Pastoral Assistant Tel: 07834 364 628

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND IN 2022?

Initial discussions about a pilgrimage in autumn 2021 have led a small group to do a bit more work on this, but the COVID-19 impact makes 2021 unlikely to work. We are now looking at **October 14th – 24th 2022** as the revised potential date for a joint Morningside-Greenbank pilgrimage, giving an insight into both the pilgrim experience and the realities of life on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian divide. Would you be interested in being part of this? Initial indications of interest are invited – contact the Minister if you'd like to go on the "interested" list!

SUMMER LUNCH and AFTERNOON TEA

Due to the current Covid19 virus we will be unable to hold our annual Summer Lunch in June 2020 or Afternoon Tea in July 2020. These are always very well attended and very much enjoyed dates in our Church diary and on behalf of the Social Committee and Outreach Committee we hope you are all well and keeping safe.

We look forward to seeing you all next year for another smashing lunch and afternoon tea.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020 – THE FUTURE FOR THE CHURCH.

The COVID-19 outbreak meant that the General Assembly that should have been held in May 2020 was cancelled, the first time the General Assembly has not met since 1689. The Rt Revd Martin Fair was installed, 'remotely', as the new Moderator in a special service recorded in the Assembly Hall.

In the absence of the General Assembly, the Assembly Trustees made a report to indicate where and how investment may now be required if we are to emerge from the present crisis in a fit state to develop our ministry and mission in a post-COVID-19 world. This gives a broader picture against which we can measure our own local responses here in Morningside. The Convener of the Assembly Trustees is the Very Revd Dr John Chalmers, a former Moderator and former Principal Clerk.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- In his first six months, the new Chief Officer, David Kendall, has added significantly to the ability of the Church to respond to current challenges. He had already been involved in streamlining the central councils and committees of the Church, and its central staff. The Chief Officer works alongside the Assembly Trustees and the Principal Clerk of the Church of Scotland.
- The pandemic results in the need to find new ways of working for the new Forums and the central organisation within a radically different approach to budgeting.
- The financial impact of the pandemic means that work must support the local church and be systematically appraised through an operational plan:
 - recruiting and forming a new generation of Ministers capable of working within different patterns of ministry;
 - incentivising the development of Presbytery Plans reducing dependence on buildings and majoring on fresh expressions of church, networks, hubs and team ministries both online and in community;
 - scaling back or stopping work better done by working in partnership with charities or agencies already working in specialist areas; and
 - stopping areas of work where there is no clear benefit to the life of the local church.
- CrossReach will require substantial support.
- Advances in HR, IT, Communications and Data Protection are vital to the development of the Church in the 2020s.

The creation of the new Fora

After much work at numerous meetings with Council representatives, the agreed changes were presented to the [Commission of Assembly in November 2019](#). The merger of the work

Edinburgh:Morningside Parish Church of Scotland: Scottish Charity No: SCO34396

of the Ministries Council with the work of the Mission and Discipleship Council under the working title Faith Nurture Forum was approved. Separately, the merger of the work of the Church and Society Council with the work of the World Mission Council under the working title Faith Impact Forum was approved.

Given the social and economic turmoil of the pandemic, our most significant task now is to identify quite new ways of working for the Forums and central organisation within the context of delivering essential services as efficiently as possible and within a radically different approach to budgeting.

Critical to this will be identifying the work necessary to sustain the life the local church. Different options need to be costed, and account taken of the opportunities which could arise if certain activities ceased. Nonetheless, a church with a national profile is still required to pursue some pieces of work which cannot be done locally, and, in addition, the Church cannot become so inwardly focussed that it loses its connections with the wider church and community. Of central importance, in our view, is the development of an overall Faith Action Plan.

Determining Priorities for the Future

For the foreseeable future the Trustees will be focussed on understanding the longer-term impact of the pandemic on the life of the local Church. Our vision will have to respond to this and our recommendations in the future will have to respond to what will be a permanent change in circumstances.

We will continue to appraise the work that will be necessary to support local congregations through the next few years. Radical measures will be required and current arrangements on budgeting are no longer sustainable. Budgetary control must now be in the direct control of the Chief Officer. The Chief Officer will provide mid-month briefings to the Trustees.

Given the likely financial impact on the Church of the pandemic, palpable savings will have to be made and this makes the business of prioritising even more complex. For the time being we propose to operate by reference to a number of significant principles which should govern the implementation of this work and which should also guide the implementation of the operational plan:

- Investing in the ministries of the Church with an emphasis on recruiting and forming a new generation of ministers capable of working within different patterns of ministry.
- Revisiting the work of presbytery planning, by incentivising the development of Presbytery Plans which reduce the Church's dependence on buildings and which majors on the creation of fresh expressions of church, the building of networks, hubs and team ministries which integrate the need for a vital presence both online and in community. There are many lessons to be learned from the way in which our church life has developed during the period of the pandemic and we believe that we must leave behind some old practices while fully developing the best of the new things that have been bubbling up in every part of the Church.

The Trustees have, therefore, strengthened the Presbytery Planning Implementation Group and established a partnership with the General Trustees to produce

Edinburgh:Morningside Parish Church of Scotland: Scottish Charity No: SC034396

Presbytery Plans which specify the number of ministries required and which buildings should be retained for the purposes of delivering the priorities of a missional church. This work must be carried out urgently and the operational plan which underpins the Faith Action Plan will take into account the need to resource this work.

In respect of all areas of work covered by the new Forums the Trustees, in consultation with the Forums, will:

- Scale back or stop work where it is clear that there would be greater benefit through working in partnership with charities or agencies already working in specialist areas
- Stop areas of work where there is no clear benefit to the life of the local church
- Stop work which does not provide some clear measure of support to those in the ministries of the church or to those engaged in resourcing the life of the local church
- Examine the outcomes in relation to all projects and partnership work and scale back or stop work which does not justify the current resource allocation.

Our goals will be:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth developed

It should be noted that the criteria above were set out before the advent of the pandemic; consequently, the challenges and opportunities are now of a different magnitude. In this regard, the Trustees have given consideration to the changing variables which are being faced as a result of lockdown. The Trustees estimate that congregational income could be reduced by £30m in 2020, representing one-third of that income, through the absence of Sunday services, weddings, hall lets and fundraising. This is however very much dependent on the length of lockdown and how any phased easing of lockdown affects Church activities and how members and others respond in support of their local congregation. Each congregation is likely to be impacted differently. An element of this income, as yet unknown, will be a permanent loss, impacting on activities in 2021 and beyond.

Of the reduced income of congregations in 2020, it is estimated that possibly £20m may not be received in Ministries and Mission contributions. The scale of the reduction in national income will depend on those congregations which have reserves using them to continue to support payments through the Ministries and Mission contributions scheme, 85% of which goes in ministries payments. There will also be reduced income from investments, in CrossReach's activities and from those trading activities currently shut down, including those in Israel. CrossReach is facing additional costs as it seeks to meet the demands placed on the care sector to support the most vulnerable. The investments represented by

the various reserves held by the Trustees are currently significantly lower than before the crisis; careful monitoring of the cash position is ongoing so that the investment losses, so far unrealised, are not unnecessarily realised. The budget for 2020 – approved before the responses to the pandemic – was for a significantly reduced deficit of £1.8m.

In the immediate short-term, many staff have been furloughed, savings are being made as travel costs are greatly reduced, printed publications are suspended, and the General Assembly has been cancelled. Overall, however, the response in financial terms cannot be limited to these actions and a short-life Task Group has been formed to support the Chief Officer and senior staff as they form a strategic plan which takes account of the new economic landscape. This plan will supersede the Radical Action Plan, while picking up those elements of the Radical Action Plan appropriate to the new landscape, and will accelerate the process of structural reform.

The challenges of the pandemic have presented the Church with a period of significant opportunity in the array of talent for sustaining and developing church life in new ways. The Trustees have therefore formed Task Groups to support the Chief Officer. They will not have delegated powers but will operate flexibly and report regularly to the Trustees, probably at specially convened meetings. Each will be comprised of senior staff, trustees with relevant experience and experts from other parts of the Church.

- One group, noted above, will look at the economic and financial changes which are required for the ongoing sustainability of the Church. An essential element would be to consider how Ministries and Mission contributions should be arranged, in order to provide a sustainable system in the changed circumstances which have emerged.
- A second group will look at IT and Communications issues, as new ways of communicating will be vital as the Church responds to whatever the future holds.
- The third group will look at new ways of presbytery planning and involve the Faith Nurture Forum and both the General Trustees and the Principal Clerk.

All work on consideration of the likely requirements for the National Offices (121 George Street) in the future is on hold.

CrossReach

Special mention must be made of CrossReach (the social care part of the Church of Scotland, involved in care homes, addiction services and other ways of supporting people across the country).

By January it had become clear that levels of deficit and unpredictable budgeting would make it impossible at this time to achieve a more self-sustaining and financially viable organisation. A far-reaching review was agreed but has been overtaken by the impact of the pandemic. We record our admiration for the depth and commitment of service given by all CrossReach management and staff during the pandemic, in circumstances which are both demanding and distressing. The work to review CrossReach and its work will continue.

HOW TO FILL IN TIME IN LOCKDOWN, by four of our members

My first Lego: Euan Murray

Following a visit to a wonderful toy shop last summer in Moreton-in-the Marsh where we saw Lego Technic, I finally took the plunge and bought my first Lego, at age 70, from Toys Galore in Morningside. Lego had just brought out a 2,400 piece model of the newly announced Land Rover Defender which when completed is 14 inches long and 8 inches high.



Its construction required both clear mindedness and painstaking attention to detail, particularly for the gearboxes - it has a four speed as well as a high and low range gearbox - and also for the fully sprung suspension. I enjoyed immensely the build process which included many "moments of delight" as different stages were completed and various assemblies came together. The details are amazing as the pistons of the six cylinder engine can be seen to move up and down while doors

open, and things like roof boxes and the winch are in place ready for use! I am thrilled with the completed model which looks incredibly true to life but I'm disappointed that the build process which I had enjoyed so much was over however the crane I bought is also proving to be great fun in its construction.

Lifestyle changes since lockdown: Joan and Ken McKenzie

At the moment we have our daughter and two granddaughters living with us and since 21st when school closed, we have a little 'school' in our conservatory. Class work is emailed to Katie(Mum) every day and she organises the work for the girls. We now know maths as "numeracy", and English as "big writing". They still do things like spelling, but numeracy is a little bit different, covering all aspects of maths. It seems that the times tables are no longer taught by rote and, with problems, the girls have a different approach. We can still get the correct answer, but by an entirely different method!

We use our iPad and computer a lot, to order the weekly shop and every weekend we use "Zoom" for a family quiz night, involving our families in Glasgow, Balfon and Edinburgh. The quiz is generally preceded by a "bake off". This week the children made muffins. Tray bakes, Victoria sponges, pizza and rock buns have been featured over the weeks. Judging can be tricky! We have winners in a lot of age categories!

Coffee shops are closed, but we have a Happy Café here, open on Saturdays usually, where the girls write out the menu and have paper 'money'. Here we can sit and enjoy the food, getting to choose from the 'amazing' to the 'basic' menu.. drinks are cocktails made from water, lemon juice, fruit, squash, honey and a few other ingredients. All good but a definite lack of kitchen staff to clear up!

The girls have Face time play dates, planning sleepovers or playing games such as Guess Who. They can chat for 90 mins, non stop! Our street has organised a What's App group, involving most residents. We can do group orders to various fruit, veg and meat suppliers and if anyone is going to Boots they will offer to pick up for anyone else.

Finally, in common with lots of other people, we are to be found outside on a Thursday evening clapping for the NHS---- in fact recently we were featured in the Sunday Mail because we have 4 bagpipers and other musical instruments making a tuneful noise!

It is a strange and weird time we live in now, but I think that we are all endeavouring to make life as stress free as possible and I certainly look forward to being able to get out and about again, simple things like meeting friends for coffee, going to the supermarket and choosing the items I need with the longest sell by date. Until that happens we will all have to obey the rules, stay safe and keep well.

Tepee Making in lockdown: Isobel Paterson

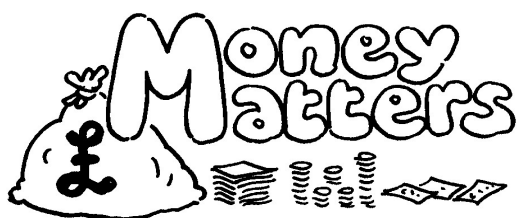
It seemed for years that we would not be grandparents and reached the stage of referring to our daughter's dog as the 'grand dog'. But life often surprises and in three years we have acquired three(in two families). They are all in Edinburgh and we have been greatly involved with them but recent events changed that...

However, we have a lane leading to our back garden so when the kids come they go into the garden and we follow them round to enjoy their antics from the other side of the gate.



They're too young to understand and - like all grandparents - it's the hugs we miss. But in hopes to entertain them I made a tepee with recycled materials. We have a willow arch (left); Each Autumn it provides many of these (below) There was a toy that the kids had outgrown; We had old curtain linings; From the above I made this tepee (right)





FINANCIAL APPEAL

In common with other Churches, Morningside Parish Church is currently closed. But while the doors may be shut, our Church community has played an active part at the heart of our community, trying to ensure those isolating get the help they need and the contact

they miss. Each Sunday, Derek and Morley record a weekly service available on the Church website every Monday. Derek and Jacqui, with a number of volunteers from the Church, are in regular contact with many in the congregation, while Jan makes sure the Church Office continues to operate remotely. Our building may be closed but the work at Morningside goes on.

However, in common with many charities, the suspension of services is causing a substantial fall in the Church's income. We have been hit in two ways:

Firstly, there are no Sunday offerings at the moment with the sanctuary closed;

Secondly, with the Church and Halls closed, we have no rental income coming in from the organisations that use the Church halls on a regular basis. As a result, the Church's income is down. This is offset to a small extent by lower energy costs and Government support for the three members of staff now on furlough. Overall, our income has fallen by around £5,000 per month and if the restrictions continue to limit how we can operate through to September, we estimate we may lose around £30,000 from the crisis this year. This is a very challenging time for our finances, and has an impact on the important things we want to continue to do as a Church.

We are enormously grateful to all those members who make their Free Will Offerings to the Church by standing order. Please continue to do so if you possibly can; it allows us to keep functioning and planning for when we can all celebrate getting together again. It would really help if those who normally make their offering through the weekly collection in Church considered putting that weekly sum aside for when we return or, if possible, moved to a standing order arrangement or made a monthly payment to the Church by cheque or bank transfer.

If members who normally give using either the white Gift Aid envelopes or the blue Free Will Offering envelopes could send the monies they have set aside to Euan Murray, the Free Will Offering and Gift Aid Convener, we would be enormously grateful. As the Church is currently closed, it would be easiest if payments could be made by cheque, in favour of Morningside Parish Church, and sent to Euan's home address:

Euan Murray, 52 Craiglockhart Terrace, Edinburgh EH14 1XH.

Alternatively, they can be handed in to him at that address or, as he is an avid cyclist, he is completely willing to collect contributions (with appropriate social distancing!) from your home. This can be arranged by telephoning him on 07702 092174. In addition, we urge all members to consider making an additional voluntary contribution via the PayPal link which is on the Church website and also on the Minister's weekly email - and an enormous thank you to those members who have done so already.

We do hope that you will be able to assist at this difficult time. We know not everybody will be able to help because people's circumstances vary enormously, but all help will be appreciated. This crisis will pass, and we want to be in good shape when it's behind us.

Together we can and will get through this crisis and with your help we can emerge as a vibrant and strong presence and community in Morningside and beyond in the better months which undoubtedly lie ahead.

Chris McNeil, *Treasurer*

Euan Murray, *Free Will Offering and Gift Aid Convener*

SUMMER CONCERTS AT MORNINGSIDE PARISH CHURCH

We hope to go ahead with our normal summer concerts, although whether as "normal" concerts to which the public are admitted, or by some other means remains to be seen. But let us go ahead in faith - do please mark these in your diaries, all 1.10 – 1.55pm:-

Wednesday, 12th August: Recital by City and University Organist Dr John Kitchen.

Wednesday, 19th August: Margaret Donaldson and Morley Whitehead, playing music for 4 hands on 1 (or 2!) pianos. (Always very popular!);

Wednesday, 26th August: Jack Harris (bass-baritone) and Morley Whitehead (piano).

MW

SCOTTISH LOVE IN ACTION

Like everywhere else in the world, India has been impacted by the Coronavirus. The initial outbreak was announced very quickly and is still ongoing. Hyderabad, where our projects are based, is one of the worst hit areas.

One of our project partners, Rainbow Homes, were advised by the Indian Government that children should be "sent back to their homes". This would have meant a return to the streets or the slums for the majority of their children. Most therefore remain in the ASRITHA Rainbow Home under the care of the Rainbow residential team who are working night and day to keep the children as safe and healthy as possible.

A major challenge for Rainbow Homes is that with the schools closed, the children now have no free mid-day meal normally provided by the government.

SLA are trying to help fund this meal through our **Feed Me Today Appeal**.

Just £5 provides a mid-day meal for one child for 3 weeks.

Please text FEEDMETODAY to 70085 to donate £5 or donate online at

www.sla-india.org

Alternatively a cheque can be posted to: SLA Greyfriars Charteris Centre 140 The Pleasance Edinburgh, EH8 9RR

Thank you for helping us support and feed the children through this crisis.

Edinburgh:Morningside Parish Church of Scotland: Scottish Charity No: SCO34396



ROLL CHANGES

Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of

Agnes Pierce who died on 22nd April.

Dr Thomas McWhirter who died on 24th April.

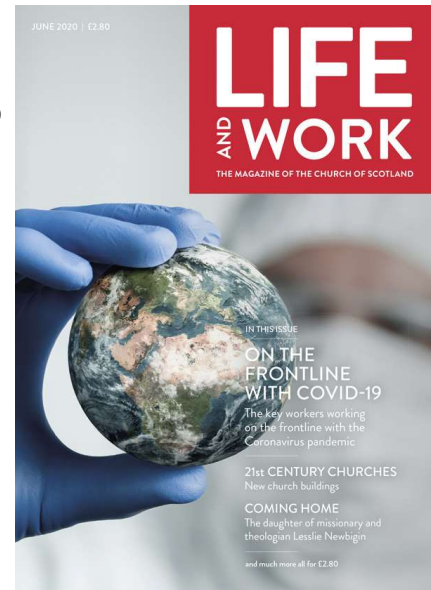
Mrs Isabella McKinlay who died on 23rd May

Mrs Hazel Bell who died on 24th May.

LIFE AND WORK - JUNE 2020

During this challenging period, Life and Work is committed to helping keep our Christian community connected. The magazine continues to be published and distributed to our loyal readers.

This month, we have launched Lockdown Weekly, a free weekly update which we hope will be a useful resource to help people keep in touch with events in the Church of Scotland while churches are shut and many of us are in isolation. Free every Friday to download from www.lifeandwork.org/features/features/view/441-lockdown-weekly



On the Frontline With Covid-19 The stories of some of the frontline workers – in hospitals, prisons, schools and the police force – dealing with the impact of the pandemic

Coming Home Jackie Macadam hears about the early life of Margaret Beetham, daughter of Church of Scotland missionary and theologian Lesslie Newbigin

21st Century Churches The start of a new series looking at church buildings in the 21st century hears from a minister and an architect who have been involved in new building projects

The Strength of a Seed In the continuing series marking the 50th anniversary of the Church of Scotland's SRT, biologist Ruth Bancewicz says the church should draw attention to the wonders of God's creation

In Love, Faith and Hope Dana McQuater, the last Moderator of the Church of Scotland's National Youth Assembly in its current form, reflects on some of the highlights of her year in office.

Family Feuds Continuing her series on conflict and reconciliation, Ruth Harvey looks at Joseph's story in Genesis 37.

'We Are Deeply Connected' The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers considers the long-term impact of the Coronavirus Covid-19 on churches.

To subscribe, speak to our Life and Work coordinator Fiona Stewart or download a digital copy for £1.99.



SOMETHING TO PONDER IN YOUR SPARE TIME...

Friend and I, enthused by the prospect of golf restarting, take a train to a coastline famously linked to golf. Our train terminates at a burgh named after a barley farmstead boasting the world's 13th oldest golf course. The town is famous for island views, so we walk up a nearby hill (613ft), finding a monument of its whaling past (even if today's replica is fibre glass!). Rapturous friend plugs the panoramic vista, not least a nearby "igneous intrusion" (330ft), devoid of people since Baldred's time but home to more than 150,000.

But we're extremely hungry after our exertions. 'You're a gannet' I say to friend, fearful nothing is open. So we head east from the burgh following the ancient pilgrimage route from St Andrews to Santiago de Compostela to look for a shrine visited by Pope Pius II when he was a papal legate. He blamed his walk to the shrine for his lifelong rheumatism thereafter. Destroyed in Burnt Candlemas, the shrine was reconsecrated a few miles away in a parish church where John Knox was an ordained priest. The church was partly destroyed in the Rough Wooing, and it was only restored on his advice "frae the tower to the West door". It took till the last century for full restoration.

Our road from the shrine to the church has much of interest. Five miles east of the burgh on the wreckers coast, we find a stronghold of the reds, not the blacks, visited willingly by Sir Ralph Sadler of Mantel and Cromwell fame, and less willingly Mary Queen of Scots. A famous Monk (different spelling) knocked it about a bit in 1651 , leaving it a ruin.

Near the railway, we find an old admiralty airfield (opened 1915) which during WWI was home to a floating squadron. On 2 July 1919, it was the starting point for the first east to west direct flight to the US. But today the airfield's future is the past.

Almost as venerable is another nearby airfield, so we head there. This aerodrome predates the RAF and started in RFC days. Spitfires and Hurricanes flew here in WWII, and at the end of the war, as nighthawk, it briefly served the navy. Today the barns house a largely non flying population that bring cheer to many (but less so the residents) each Christmas. A cause for Thanksgiving.

But we came here for golf. So, arms open, we head for another castle, built 1240, but besieged again by Cromwell in the 1650s and now owned by the state. In the 17th century, the local lairds moved a short distance to a new house named after campers heading north with Edward I's army in 1298. The house was remodelled by Robert Adam and hosted the famous when tenanted by Herbert Asquith. The first course was extended by Ben Sayers, and today it has two, with the area having seen a golfing renaissance.

But time to battle homeward on a black Saturday. Friend asked me to make a special promise to visit another battlefield from the Rough Wooing. So we head west, heading for Arran and Somerset, to a battle site under an honest town. "Do not ask me why they got that name " says friend as its frozen welcome is renowned from here to northern Tuscany. We have a look...a shut parlour is all we find. Not even a chocolate chip. A meagre day's golf all round. But golf has been played on the links here since 1672, and supposedly Mary

Queen of Scots played her in 1567...Cromwell probably didn't. Neither did we....still closed till the 29th. Life's a bogey and friend is now an albatross so we head home.

1. What was the igneous intrusion?
2. Can you name the stronghold?
3. Can you name the second airfield?
4. What was the name of the new house named after the campers?
5. Can you put your finger on the name of the battle?

The solution will appear in the next magazine.

Answers to last month's puzzle:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. What is the name of the first institution? | Royal observatory, Calton Hill |
| 2. Who was the famous lawyer and writer? | Sir Walter Scott |
| 3. Whose bones are famously remembered? | John Napier |
| 4. What links the tearoom to the first stream? | The Toll house from Morningside Road which was relocated to Braid Road at the entrance to the Hermitage. |

The winner of the large Easter egg was Jacqui Lindsay.

CHURCH WEEKLY EMAIL

For those of you already receiving the Church magazine electronically, you may also be interested in 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 weekly update, or to receive the magazine by email, please email the Church Office (office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk).

SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE

Material for the September issue of the magazine should be with the editor, Alison Riddell, by Friday **21st August 2020** and it will be available by Sunday 6th September. While the church is closed, please email contributions to editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk. As the magazine is not being printed for distribution during the current pandemic, if you would like to receive it by email, or know of any member of the congregation who would like this, please contact the church office. It will be put on the church website, where you can also find previous issues.

***When this is over* by Harry Baker**

When this is over I will hold you
Closer than you have ever known,
When you see me you can squeeze me
Till you feel my very bones.
How I long to let you know
That I won't want to let you go,
There will be so much left to say,
Yet still some things are better shown.
I will wrap my arms around you,
For the seconds that we've lost;
Our words will find a way to wait
As we locate the weight of us.
Though we are changed,
We'll find a sense of same
About the way we touch;
Though it is strange,
We will embrace
How long it takes us to adjust.
The world of everything we knew
Is somewhere we cannot return;
The world of everything that's new
Is one we'll build from what we've learnt.
We'd never dream ashes could rise again
Until we'd see them burn;
And the next time I'm stood in front of you
Will feel like it's been earned.
When the start has given way
It means so many ends can enter;
When the heart is given space
It will forever tend to tender.

These affections kept at bay
Can once again demand to centre,
Something we'll have come to yearn
As hummingbirds connect to nectar.
When our genetics show
That everything within us
Remains connected beyond
Anything we've witnessed,
We can admit the co-dependence
Of existence;
Human beings were not meant
To be kept distant.
For all those overwhelming moments
Where I've felt like giving up,
There was no point where I had worried
We'd forgotten how to love.
When the future's all we've got,
Well then that's got to be enough;
All that I know is that when I'm low
That I wanted to be hugged.
And if you'd rather have a handshake
That is absolutely fine.
Even a wave from me is saying
I am glad that you're alive.
Whichever form it takes
When this has passed
And we've started again,
I will no longer take for granted
Any chances to connect.

Minister: Very Revd Dr Derek Browning 447 1617

derek.browning@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral Assistant: Jacqui Lindsay 07834 364 628

pastoralassistant@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

Magazine Editor: Alison Riddell 445 2330

editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

Church Office: Jan Goulding

447 6745

office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

Although the church is closed, please join us for worship through our website
www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk . We aim to record a service each Sunday which will
be posted on the church's website on Monday.