

Intimations 8th December 2024

1. **Today: 8th December:** 9.30am Early Service (in Cluny Hall) and 10.30am Morning Worship in the Church. The theme: Wilderness. Tea and coffee after the service in the St Matthew Hall after both services. Please remember to give an appropriate donation.
2. **Church Magazine and Life & Work** are available for collection from the pigeonholes.
3. **Morningside Hope:**
Music and Memories in the Cluny Hall, 2-4pm, workshops for those with dementia and their partners/carers. The next workshop will be on Monday 9th (Cluny Hall) and 16th December (Christmas Party in St Matthew Hall).
Heart for Art workshops for those with dementia and their partners. Held every Tuesday in the St Matthew Hall, 11am – 1pm.
Gentle Exercise Class – 2-4pm, Monday 16th December (Christmas Party) in Cluny Hall.
Games Afternoon Christmas Party – 2-4pm, Wednesday 11th December in the St Matthew Hall
4. **Morningside Hope Concert:** Thank you to everyone who helped make last Saturday's concert and art exhibition such a success. Donations amounted to £530.50, with gift aid, the final total will be £561.50. Everyone was so generous; volunteers with their time, artists with their art, our musicians and all those who attended. Thank you.
5. **Sunday Club's Nativity Presentation** - Next Sunday's Nativity requires some participation from the Congregation, in order for you to join our travels in time you require a special travel token. The token is a tinsel halo - the Young People of Sunday Club have made lots of halos but we can't make them for the masses that are going to come to the service! If you are able can you please bring a long a small circlet of tinsel with you which you'll be asked to put on your head at specific scenes during the Production. Also as many of you have Smart Phones can you practice putting the torch on and off prior to next Sunday (whilst having them on silent of course, if you're not sure how to do it your Grandchildren will show you) as you'll be asked to do that during the performance too. Many thanks.
6. **Flower List 2025:** The Flower List is quickly filling up and only 3 dates remain to be filled namely 16 March 4and 16 and 30 November. If you would like to supply flowers on one of these Sundays, please put your name and phone number against your chosen date on the list on the vestibule noticeboard. The cost is £45 and cheques should be made payable to 'Morningside Parish Church Flower Fund'. Payment can be made by bank transfer if you prefer. If you are a UK taxpayer and can give by Gift Aid, please confirm that you are registered with the Gift Aid

Convener or fill in one of the Gift Aid envelopes. Monies can be put in the Flower Committee pigeon hole or sent to the church office clearly marked for the Flower Committee. Please contact me direct on 0131 449 2866; e-mail: irene_a_wilson@btinternet.com if you require details to make a bank transfer.

7. **Christmas Tree Festival 2024:** Join us for our third Christmas Tree Festival, it is on until Sunday 15th December's All-Age Christmas service at 10.30am, and open each week day thereafter from 10am - 12 noon. 14 trees from church and community groups will be decorated, telling us something about their stories.
On Saturday 14th, 11am - 11.20am we will have singing from the Buckstone Community Choir.
On Saturday refreshments will be on sale from 10am - 12 noon in the Braid Hall.
Entry to the Festival is by donation, and any proceeds from the event will go to charity. There will be a stall of hand-made Christmas gifts and decorations, always a popular visit for those stocking-fillers.
All are very welcome to join us.
8. **Nursing Home services:** It is helpful to have 'singers' boosting the hymn singing at these services. If you can help you will be most welcome. The next **Morningside Manor** service is on 11th December at 2.30pm. The next **Ashley Court** service is on 18th December at 2.30pm. The next **Cluny Lodge** A Christmas service will be held on Wednesday 18th December at 2.30pm.
9. **Advent Gatherings:** To mark the season of Advent, the time of preparation for Christmas, there will be two study/discussion evenings in December. The second event will be on Wednesday 11th December at 7.30pm and will look at 'The Heart of Christmas', reflecting on the nativity story in Luke's Gospel. These are open discussions, no in-depth Bible knowledge is required, but please bring your enquiring and open minds with you. The venue will be at the Manse, 20 Braidburn Crescent, EH10 6EN. Tea and coffee from 7.15pm.
10. **Christmas and New Year services:**
15th December: No 9.30am service (choir practice in Cluny Hall)
All-age service at 10.30am led by the Sunday Club. After this service we will require help to remove church chairs in preparation for the South Morningside Primary School service in the following days.
Christmas Treats in the St Matthew Hall after the 10.30am service.
3.00 pm **Blue Christmas Service** in the Chancel. A service for those who find the season of Christmas difficult or sad for a variety of reasons.
22nd December: 9.30am Early Service (Cluny Hall), the theme – Magnifying God; **10.30 Service of Lessons and Carols**
24th December: Christmas Eve 6.30pm All age service. The theme – Wrapped.
Carols by Candlelight from 11.00pm

Watchnight Service from 11.30pm. The theme – Light in the Darkness.

25th December: Christmas Day service 10am. The theme, Beginning.

29th December: No 9.30am service; 10.30am service as usual. The theme – Clothing.

5th January 2025, Epiphany: Regular 9.30am (Cluny Hall) & 10.30am Morning Worship services resume. The theme – Gifts.

Tea and coffee after the service in the St Matthew Hall after both services. Please remember to give an appropriate donation.

11. **Annual Carol Concert with the Edinburgh Telephone Choir:** The annual carol concert, led by the Edinburgh Telephone Choir, will be held on Wednesday 18th December in the church at 7.30pm. This is a very popular event with a retiring collection to go towards supporting our Wednesday Club for disabled men.
12. **Twelfth Night:** On Monday, 6th January 2025, the internal and external Christmas trees will be taken down and the decorations put into store. As usual, we are looking for volunteers to help with this and if you can spare a couple of hours that day your help will be much appreciated. Please meet at the Church at 10:00am. Thank you in anticipation of your help.
13. **Greenbank Church** will be holding a Christmas service at 3.00pm on Sunday 15th of December.
14. **Edinburgh Royal Choral Union- Christmas with the Choral:** Join us for a festive concert in the Church Sanctuary, with Conductors Michael Bawtree & Fraser David Macdonald and our very own Organist, Morley Whitehead. Saturday 14th December at 5pm. Tickets £15 (£5 for students & children). Tickets can be purchased on the door or at: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/edinburgh-royal-choral-union/christmas-with-the-choral/e-odjaob>
15. **Date for your diaries:** Twelfth Night. On Monday, 6th January 2025, the internal and external Christmas trees will be taken down and the decorations put into store. As usual, we are looking for volunteers to help with this and if you can spare a couple of hours that day your help will be much appreciated. Please meet at the Church at 10:00am. Thank you in anticipation of your help.
16. **Next Sunday: 15th December:** No 9.30am Early Service. 10.30am All-**Age Christmas service** led by the Sunday Club, in the Church. After this service we will require help to remove church chairs in preparation for the South Morningside Primary School service in the following days. Tea and coffee and Christmas treats will be served in the St Matthew Hall after the service. Please remember to give an appropriate donation.

3.00 pm **Blue Christmas Service** in the Chancel. A service for those who find the season of Christmas difficult or sad for a variety of reasons.

* * *

Contact details:

Minister: The Very Revd Dr Derek Browning: 0131 447 1617

Email: derek.browning@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral Assistant: Jacqui Lindsay: 07834 364628

Email: pastoralassistant@morningsideparishchurch.org

Church Office: 0131 447 6745

Email: office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

In the Event of the Fire Alarm sounding: Please take a few moments to make yourself aware of the fire exits in the Church. Should the fire alarm sound during the service please evacuate the building using the nearest safe fire exit to you. If you are able, please assist those around you to evacuate. Elders will be on hand to direct you once outside the building.

Sunday Service live-stream: the cameras for the live-stream of the church service go live at around 10.15am. One of the camera shots is of the front half of the Church. If you do not wish to appear in the camera shot, please find a seat in the back half of the Church.

Sunday Contact: if you become aware that there is a problem with the Sunday service broadcast, please phone – 07712 118033 or email a.bleck55@outlook.com.

Intimations: if you wish to have intimations included in the weekly sheet, please email these to the Church Office by Thursday 1pm at the latest.

Be a good neighbour: many Church members, elders and visitors, along with the Minister, Pastoral Assistant, are keeping in touch with people by telephone or email. Face-to-face visiting is now available by arrangement with the Ministerial team. Everyone is encouraged, where possible, to keep in touch with neighbours, friends, and family, whether they are Church members or not. If there is anything you wish to pass on to the Ministerial team, please contact them as soon as possible.

Baby and Toddler Group: our weekly Baby and Toddler Group meets on Mondays from 10am – 11.30am in the St Matthew Hall. All are welcome.

Wednesday Coffee Morning: in the Braid Hall on, 10am – 11.30am. We look forward to seeing you and your friends. If you need any further

information or wish to volunteer to join the Rota to help then please contact Lesley Murphy (mobile: 07981 265308)

Financial Giving to the Church: Please keep up to date with your financial giving via standing order or direct debit or save your envelopes and other financial gifts and bring them to church.

Increase regular donations: please consider instructing your bank to increase your existing standing order if you are able. Cheques can be posted to the Church Office for processing.

If you would like to make a one-off donation, please use the new 'Donate' button on the Church website.

Your continuing, or increased, generosity is very important. It enables so much to happen in and around our Church. **Thank you.**

Morningside Parish Church Website and Facebook: the website www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk has details of services and sermons and information about the Church. You can also 'like' the Morningside Parish Church page on Facebook. This will be one of the regular means by which you can keep informed about what is happening at the Church.