

Intimations 21st September 2025

1. **Today:** 9.30am Early Service and 10.30am Morning Worship. The theme – Balm in Gilead. Coffee and Tea will be served in the St Matthew Hall after the services. Please remember to give an appropriate donation.
2. **Autumn Lectures:** This last Autumn lecture will be hosted in our Church and jointly supported by Greenbank and Fairmilehead Parish Churches. We meet for refreshments in the **Braid Hall from 6.30pm and the lectures will be held in the Church at 7pm.** The theme for this year's lectures will be, **Ecology Matters, the wellbeing of Creation and Humanity.**
21st September: Professor David Farrier is Professor of Literature and the Environment at the University of Edinburgh. He is the author Footprints: In search of Future Fossils. His work has been translated into ten languages. He will talk on his recently published book, **'Nature's Genius: Evolution's Lessons for a Changing Planet.'**
The evening will be funded by donations from those attending, so please give generously.
3. **Morningside Hope Dementia Friendly Concert with String Quartet, Saturday 27th September, 2pm, in the Church:** This concert is open to everyone and will last approximately 40 - 45 minutes. Teas and coffees afterwards in the St Matthew Hall. Entry is by donation.
4. **Harvest 2025, 28th September at 10.30am (no 9.30am Early Service that day)** This year's Harvest Service provides us with an opportunity to donate to the Blythswood Care SE Edinburgh Foodbank based at Southhouse Broadway. The Foodbank serves the EH16 and EH17 postal areas and issues food parcels to those who have been referred to it by the health sector, support agencies and other charitable bodies. Last year SE Foodbank issued food to 1388 people, 40% of whom were children. This required 25 tonnes of food to provide these people with emergency support. Harvest is an important time of the year for Foodbanks, as it enables them to stock up on essential food and toiletries needed over the winter months. **The items which are particularly in short supply at the moment include tinned meat, fish, vegetables and fruit, cooking sauces, coffee, tea, UHT milk, cereals, long life fruit juice, sponge puddings, jam and instant mash potato.** If you would prefer to make a financial donation, this can be done via online banking - if you note that your donation is for the SE Foodbank, it will go directly into the SE Foodbank fund. Payment can be made to the named account Blythswood Care, the account number is 10413664 and the sort code 80-91-26. The Foodbank also requires plastic carrier bags, into which the goods for the clients are packed, so donations of these would also be welcome. **Please hand any donations into the Braid Hall immediately before the 10.30am Service.** The Foodbank cannot accept fresh fruit or vegetables or jars of homemade jam or marmalade. Also, please do remember when donating any items

that they must be in date. A number of members of the Congregation make donations of food and money throughout the year, but the Harvest Service is an occasion when everyone can be involved and contribute towards helping alleviate food poverty within our locality. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity – it is hugely appreciated by all those who use the Foodbank and by the volunteers who help run it. Finally, if anyone can help with receiving the food donations on the 28th, or is available (with a car!) to take the donations to Southhouse on the morning of Monday 29th, please contact Fiona Stewart on 531 9688 or see her at Church one Sunday – around 5 volunteers each day would be an enormous help.

5. **Morningside Hope:**
Music and Memories - 2-4pm, workshops for those with dementia and their partners/carers. The next workshop will be on Monday 6th in the Cluny Hall, Monday 13th featuring Nigel's All Stars in the St Matthews Hall and 20th October in the Cluny Hall.
Heart for Art workshop for those with dementia and their partners/carers, every Tuesday 11am - 1pm, in the St Matthew Hall.
Gentle Exercise Class – dementia-friendly and also open to all 60+.
Next classes on Mondays 13th and 27th October 2-4pm in the Cluny Hall.
Games Afternoon – dementia-friendly and open to everyone.
Wednesday 15th October 2-4pm in the Braid Hall.
6. **Jam, Baking and Making Stall:** Next Sunday is our monthly stall in the St Matthew Hall. Please donate as best you can.
7. **Fairtrade Fortnight:** Starts from 22 September – 5th October. Please try to support all the farmers over the world who work hard to grow our every-day essentials, and our favourite treats e.g. chocolate. Hope for justice and fair trade for all. We are a Fairtrade Church. Enjoy the coffee!
8. **Elders' visitation sheets:** Now available for collection from pigeonholes.
9. **Health and Social Care Crisis in Scotland:** More than 200 third sector health and social care leaders, including the CEO of Crossreach have signed an open letter to the First Minister calling for immediate steps to address the current crisis threatening the sector. The letter makes clear that without action now, the consequences of the crisis will be felt across society, from deepening inequalities to even greater pressure on the NHS and public services – with Scotland's most vulnerable individuals and families paying the price. You can read the full text of the letter at : [CCPS-ALLIANCE_Open-Letter_FINAL_August-25.pdf](#) You are encouraged by Presbytery and the national Church of Scotland to write to your MSP to voice your concerns.
10. **Scotland Demands Better event:** The Poverty Alliance, supported by the Church of Scotland, is organising a March for a Better Scotland in

Edinburgh, on **Saturday 25th October**. Change for the better happens when people stand together and demand it. Scotland needs that change. Too many of us are being cut off from life's essentials. Too many are frightened of what the future will bring. Too many of us are feeling tired, angry, isolated, and disillusioned. Too many are going hungry, or are without a home, or sacrificing meals for families, dreading winter due to heating costs, or struggling to get by on wages that don't cover their household costs. But from Shetland to Selkirk, and from Argyll to Angus, we all want similar things. A warm, safe place to call home. A decent income that at least covers the essentials. Healthcare when we need it. Good schools for our children. Buses and trains that get us where we need to go. Those of us who are elderly, ill or disabled getting the right support and care to live with dignity and respect. Scotland Demands Better is our chance to come together and demand that politicians make the changes we need for a society where every household can thrive and prosper. You can find details at: <https://www.scotland-demands-better.com/>

11. **Next Sunday: 28th September, (No 9.30am Early Service) 10.30am** Harvest Thanksgiving all-age service in the Church. Sunday Club children remain in Church. The theme – Rich and Poor. Coffee and Tea will be served in the St Matthew Hall after the service. Please remember to give an appropriate donation.

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.

Becoming part of the Church family: we've had a number of people asking to become members of our Church family at Morningside in recent weeks which is wonderful. There are a number of ways to do this:

- i. *By profession of faith - coming along to one of the Enquiry classes run by the Minister at different times in the year, then taking vows during a Sunday morning service.*
- ii. *By transferring your membership ('lines') from a congregation you were a member of to our congregation. You will need to ask the Roll Keeper of your former Church to send you the certificate. Then hand in the paperwork to our Roll Keeper, Minister, or to the Church Office.*
- iii. *Admission by Resolution of the Kirk Session. If you're not sure where your membership lies, or you come from another Christian tradition, the Kirk Session can formally admit you into membership.*

Whichever way, if you are thinking about joining, it will be good to welcome you into our Church family.

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.

In Church every Sunday there is opportunity to make your donation through the open plate which is passed around at the time of the offering, and for those who are 'cashless' there is a card machine located in the vestibule.

QR code in order of service: To use the QR code, please open the camera app on your smart phone, point it at the QR code, and follow instructions on your screen.

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 or use the QR code.

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

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

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.

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)

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.