



July/August 2023

Issue 271

Scottish Charity SC000785

GRAPEVINE

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland



LETTER: FROM THE MANSE

WELCOME TO PAULINE ROBERTSON

KIRK SESSION MATTERS

www.mayfieldsalisbury.org

FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

*Up in the mornin
Out on the job*

*Work like the devil for my pay
But that lucky old sun got nothin' to do
But roll around heaven all day.*

The song *That Lucky Old Sun* was a hit for Frankie Laine in 1949 and has been covered since then by some of the greats of popular music, from Ray Charles to Aretha Franklin, to Johnny Cash and even Bob Dylan. Like *Ol' Man River* before it, the song follows a familiar narrative from the blues and spirituals: the singer contrasting their toils and struggles in this earthly life with the seeming ease of nature all around them.

Lying on a sun lounger in the garden on a recent Saturday in gloriously hot temperatures, the sun beating down and warming my face, and with hazy thoughts and drowsy eyes on the verge of sleep, I felt all the relaxation of that 'lucky old sun:' some time off, nothing to do; mellow, chilled out, zoned out, cooled off, easy vibes; at one with myself and the world; just the buzzing of the bees and the distant hum of a lawnmower. Lazing on a sunny afternoon, 'That lucky old sun' seemed to be bringing some sort of wide-grinned Utopia to me of *peace and harmony, like the Coke advert of I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing* or a campfire rendition of *Kumbaya*.

One of the popular myths about Christianity is that it is all 'pie in the sky when you die,' and 'you get what your given' in this life, like

it or not. Pleasure as sinful, misery as a rightful consequence of our inherent human depravity. The sunshine greeted with a mentality of 'we'll pay for this later!'

I understand the theological stream that such harsh theology comes from, and it undoubtedly identifies a possible source in sin for the sometime pain and heartache of life, but I struggle to recognise that kind of God sometimes, or want to believe that

this is who God is. Instead, surely we have a God of compassion, of goodness and hope who came to earth in Jesus Christ, promising in John's Gospel to bring 'life in all its fulness' and saying of his teachings: 'These things have I spoken to you, that my joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.' The heart of God is not punishment, darkness and despair, but forgiveness, light and love, as in 1 John 4:16: 'God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in

God, and God abides in him.'

An impatience for Utopia on this earth became a foundation for Marxism. Grab it now, rather than wait for 'pie in the sky' from a religion that was said to be the 'opiate of the masses', keeping them only servile and oppressed. As the 20th Century German philosopher Ernst Bloch expressed it: 'Thus the foolish mind, fixed on heaven in the other world, overlooks heaven on earth, the heaven of the historical future in which all doubts, darkness and difficulties which tormented the short-sighted present and past would dissolve into light.'





The fundamental flaw of such thinking is being blind to the Christian faith as, indeed, a faith of 'heaven on earth' as well as 'heaven in the other world'. The incarnation of God in Jesus Christ speaks of a God who cares intimately about the fate of humankind; the suffering of Christ on the cross speaks of a God who is present in the darkest days of our existence; the resurrection of Christ speaks of the hope of liberation and renewal that will arise from all that brings death and destruction; the partial coming of the Kingdom of God in Jesus, and his earthly example and teaching, speaks of our call to continue his engagement with all who suffer or yearn for justice. As Christian Aid's slogan goes, 'we believe in life before death.'

And that includes celebrating the happiness and joy that life can bring. It might not mean just lying on a sun lounger all day 'soaking up some rays' and doing nothing, pleasurable though that can be. In all of our lives, there will be hard work, disappointment and loss, sometimes in heartbreaking ways. Nor does it mean that joy in a relationship with Jesus Christ might come easily – this is not 'cheap grace', as Dietrich Bonhoeffer called it, where a wand is waved and everything from now on will be just fine. But it does mean that our 'days of wine and roses' should be celebrated and enjoyed as gifts from God rather than somehow separated from our faith; which is

there only for a future hope beyond this life, or is parked to one side as irrelevant to any source of pleasure.

The song *Lucky Old Sun* ends too with a well-heard refrain of many blues and spiritual tunes - the promise of 'crossing the river' at life's end away from the burdens of our present life to a heavenly home:

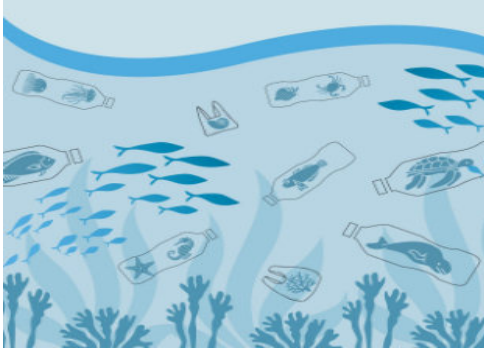
*Good Lord above...
Send down that cloud with a silver lining
Lift me to Paradise
Show me that river, take me across
Wash all my troubles away
Like that lucky old sun,
give me nothing to do
But roll around heaven all day.*

To Frankie Laine I say, 'thank you for the music, but you're wrong!' Don't just expect our happiness through faith in God to appear then: expect it now. As we bask in that 'lucky old sun' this summer, whether you're on the front step, in the garden or on a beach, let us give thanks to God too for 'lucky old us' as part of His wonderful creation. For in the words of another hit song, as well as being beyond this realm, sometimes 'heaven is a place on earth.'

God bless,

Sandy

NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN AID



Val Brown, head of Christian Aid Scotland, writes:

Honduras is experiencing prolonged periods of hot, dry weather that have caused acute water shortages, and more intense storms that bring flooding, a dreadful combination for those who grow coffee for a living. Coffee needs to grow in very specific conditions so that the plant doesn't develop 'leaf rust' and to preserve the bean's taste.

Coffee growers now must be able to diversify their crops, often growing cocoa instead as it is slightly more resilient to hotter weather, and planting fruit trees to provide shade to the coffee, support to the soil to deal with water, and offer an alternative food source. But equally, people need to have an alternative source of income to ensure that when the next climate event happens, they'll not lose everything.

Christian Aid partners have been supporting women in Honduras to install solar energy as a means of making a good living. Not only does this provide employment, but it provides people with clean and cost effective electricity. The project has also enabled coffee farmers to install solar driers to dry their beans, thus being able to command a better price for them when they sell.

Christian Aid is campaigning on **Loss and Damage**, because who supports a

coffee farmer when their crop is destroyed? The last couple of COP meetings have accepted the fact that a loss and damage fund is necessary and Christian Aid is calling for the 'polluter pays' principle to be adhered to, asking for those who have done the most to contribute to climate change to pay the most towards supporting people to get back on their feet when disaster strikes.

It comes back to provision, ensuring that each person has enough to live with freedom and dignity; to know where their meal is coming from and to trust that the earth and the waters will be able to provide. When the climate crisis threatens that, then we need to act. We are called to be in a relationship with God and with each other, to be accountable to each other. In a climate crisis that means we need to ensure that the resources of the earth are protected and shared equitably.

A Cry for Justice

Lord, we have seen the droughts and we have prayed for rain. We have seen the floods and we have prayed that the rains relent. We have seen the storm, the hurricane and the typhoon, and we have prayed for mercy.

Now we have seen the truth – we pray for justice. Now we understand that the climate crisis is driven by human action. Now we see that the rich have profited and the poor stand to pay the highest price. We pray for justice for our sisters and brothers. We pray for the nations and corporations that have done most to drive this climate chaos.

We pray that you will move their hearts and inspire their actions; that they would commit to paying into an international fund to repair the damage and make good the losses they have inflicted. And we pray for ourselves; that our prayers would not cease, nor our cries of outrage fall silent until justice rolls on like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream! Amen.



I have lived through three coronations - 1937, 1953, 2023 and five monarchs - George V, Edward V111, George V1. Elizabeth, Charles 111. My actual personal recalling of events before 1939 is probably faint, I have since then read and watched films in cinemas and on TV, acquiring knowledge of the period pre-WW2.

One memory of 1935 was being wakened up, taken in an uncle's car with parents and elder sister to the road behind the Blackford Hill. Here we watched fireworks from the Castle - an unusual sight then! This was to commemorate 25 years on the throne of King George V. My memory? Why was I wakened up for distant fireworks? Now I look back to this special memory.

The 1937 Coronation - no actual recollection, though the family received a mug! Where is it now?

In 1953 I was serving in the Royal Artillery, part of my National Service, in training at Mons, Aldershot to be commissioned. In

late May were all given a week's leave to allow our barracks to be used to billet overseas troops serving the Coronation. That Friday sunny afternoon, so different from Coronation Day, I wandered (in uniform) all over central London watching the final preparations of decorations, bunting, seating, closing some areas. As a 'country cousin from Edinburgh' I gaped at such activities. I took the rail travel from Kings Cross to Waverley, Edinburgh in the one overnight crowded train. We had no television in my parents' home; we listened to the event on an effective wireless - 'radio' was for the future - sympathising with the rain soaked watchers in London. Soon even in Edinburgh we watched it on film in cinemas.

This year - 2023 - television has provided a vast collection regarding the Coronation events, such future memories!

DNC

SCOUT NEWS



Most of our summer term was spent outdoors with the highlight being May Camp, which was held at the Bonaly Scout Centre. 24 scouts attended the camp over the holiday weekend with younger Scouts learning new camping skills and the older ones gaining a refresher before summer camp. Activities included a patrol challenge, an outdoor Escape Room, tracking skills, orienteering, backwoods cooking and wide games.

We were invited to Mayfield Bowling Club for an evening where the members took the time to teach us the skills of lawn bowling. It was quite a contrast to our more energetic evenings but greatly enjoyed by the scouts. A lot more energy was required for an evening at the Scout Watersports Centre at Longcraig, near South Queensferry. Thanks to the pandemic, this was the first visit for all of the current scouts and they enjoyed kayaking and sailing with the sailors enjoying a thrilling view from underneath the Forth Bridge.

An incident hike over the Pentlands tested the scouts mental skills as well as the physical. The patrol leaders demonstrated excellent navigational ability to get their patrol around the course in good time. Perhaps the aroma of cooking burgers added the final stretch though.

The Photo Taskmaster Challenge sent the patrol around the Grange tasked with taking photos of a variety of locations, objects and the carrying out of tasks. Once they returned to the hall, the photos were all projected on to the screen so that they could enjoy the results.

Portrait of Robert Baden Powell As one of the challenges to complete his Chief Scout's Gold Award, Robbie Leitch (one of our Patrol Leaders) chose to do a piece of art. Over many weeks, he produced an outstanding portrait of Robert Baden Powell, the founder of the Scout Movement. The portrait was hung in the Den and Robbie was invited back with his parents and sister to see it proudly displayed beside the troop's other memorabilia. Given the quality of the work, it seemed a shame to keep his hidden from public view and it will therefore be displayed in the Newington Room for a period to allow members of the congregation to view it.

Alan Dickson
Scout Leader

Headquarters: Mayfield Salisbury Church
Scottish Charity No SC006141

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

On Thursday 6 July, thirty people from Mayfield Salisbury, Craigmillar Park, Priestfield churches were trained on how to utilise the two defibrillators at Mayfield Salisbury and also those elsewhere. We are indebted to Anne Mitchell and her team of volunteers from St John's Ambulance for their time and efforts to familiarise us on these important machines - which do help to save lives. More information on how to use defibrillators may be found here:

www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/i-need-to-know/defibrillator-guide-for-rescuers/



FIRST FRIDAY FRIENDS



First Friday Friends marked the King's Coronation by having an advance celebration. Music has huge potential to unblock memories, and so, as befitted the occasion, we sang *They're Changing Guard at Buckingham Palace*, *Charlie is my Darling* and *Congratulations* among other suitable ditties. Memorabilia of previous coronations provided the impetus for lots of happy reminiscence, all fuelled by tea and themed cake.

None of this happens without our very much appreciated volunteers, past and present, some of whom have been with us from our beginnings in 2015.

First Friday Friends is our place to come and relax, enjoy a cup of tea and cake in an informal support group for people whose lives are affected by memory loss

and those who care for them.

Where: in the Bill McDonald (level access) Hall at Mayfield Salisbury Church When: from 2.30pm to 4.00pm, on the first Friday of every month. If you can spare a regular Friday afternoon – you won't be asked every month - to help by offering a welcome, setting up the hall, serving a cup of tea, driving, playing an instrument to accompany singing, but most of all offering company, please get in touch. It's good fun!

- ◉ Sandra Carter
Sandra.carter@barts.myzen.co.uk
- ◉ Anne Mulligan
mulliganne@icloud.com
- ◉ Jean MacGilchrist
jebleitch@gmail.com

AFTERNOON SERVICE

Tuesday 12
September at 2.30pm



Anne Sturrock

By the time this Summer issue of Grapevine is circulated more widely the July Service will have taken place (on Tuesday 11 July).

Looking ahead you are welcome to come to the **September Short Afternoon Service of Holy Communion** to be led by our Minister, Revd. Dr Sandy Forsyth, on **Tuesday 12 September at 2.30pm**. Please note this in your diary. It will be held in the Bill McDonald Hall via West Mayfield level access and followed by refreshments. Proceedings finish around 3.45pm Everyone always made most welcome.

And, looking even further ahead, the last Afternoon Service of 2023 (Remembrance) will be held on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 2.30pm

EDINBURGH SACRED ARTS: THE FESTIVAL FRINGE 2023

13 to 19 August



The Sacred Arts Festival is an exploration of the profound resonance between faith and the creative arts. It includes three exhibitions, seven musical events, drama, poetry and film, as well as special services. It takes place in a range of church venues, from the intimacy of St Vincent's Chapel at Stockbridge to St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Palmerston Place.

Our member, Christine De Luca, will be leading a poetry and music event, on Friday 18 August, 2.30pm to 3.30pm in St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place. *Strafed by Splendour: Under Paolozzi's Window* will be a celebration of one of Eduardo Paolozzi's great artistic achievements, the Ascension window. Music from the flautist Katharine Wake.

You can book tickets here:

www.edinburghsacredartsfestival.org/2023-programme.html

RECYCLING/UPCYCLING REQUESTS

Glass jars, coffee tins, plastic storage boxes (with lids even better!), baskets or similar wanted for Bettina and the Team to reorder our children's & youth supplies & resources over the summer ready for next session. Thank you. Any queries to Bettina. youthworkermispc@gmail.com 0778 319 0114

MAYFIELD RADIO



Boyd McAdam
boydmcadam@blueyonder.co.uk

We continue to look for a volunteer to chair Mayfield Radio which is looking to reboot and refocus its activities and rebuild its volunteer base.

We are looking for someone to lead the Committee in exploring the options for the future of the unit. In the 50+ years since it was founded the volunteers have built up a wealth of music and other recording resources which we should be able to use but we need someone to help develop the unit for the future. Can you help? If you wish to discuss please get in touch with me: Many thanks Boyd McAdam. boydmcadam@blueyonder.co.uk

WELCOME PAULINE ROBERTSON DCS

On Sunday 9 July, we welcome our new Pastoral Assistant, Pauline Robertson DCS, who is now the principal contact point for pastoral matters.

The contact details remain the same as before - pastoralassistantms@gmail.com (phone 07587 043 191).

Please contact Pauline if you have any pastoral issues or concerns and/or if you wish anyone to be remembered in the confidential prayer chain or wish to be added to the email circulation list.

Many thanks to Anne Mulligan for all that she has done over the past few months before Pauline's arrival.



Our two meetings in June were well attended and enjoyed by all. Future dates are the **second** and **fourth** Thursdays of July and August, ie 13 and 27 July; and 10 and 24 August, 2.00pm to 3.30pm in the Bill McDonald Hall. All are welcome. If you would like more details please speak to Christina Somerville or Deirdre Eustace, by phone to the Church office 0131 667 1522 or by email churchmanager@googlemail.com

Jessica Clark from Poppyscotland has been in touch. She is the Poppy Appeal Organiser for the East of Scotland. She is currently looking for an individual or group that can help with our Poppy Appeal coverage in Edinburgh. We need an Area Organiser to cover the Newington & Mayfield area. This role involves the delivering of tins and poppy boxes within this area, and then at the end of Poppy Appeal, collecting them and banking all donations to Poppyscotland. She has a list of places which have received poppies previously, so you wouldn't be starting from scratch,

This is a voluntary role, and Jessica's job is to support all Area Organisers for the East of Scotland so no one is ever without support from Poppyscotland. They are happy for the role of Area Organiser to be a group; all they need is a key contact name.

If you are interested or know of someone who would be keen to take on this role please contact Jessica Clark for any further information and questions. Tel. 07514721148.

Priestfield Church is planning to host a barbecue and games event on Saturday 9 September between 2.00pm and 5.00pm. Everyone is most welcome.



COFFEE AND BLETHERS

POPPY APPEAL ORGANISER



Jessica Clark
07514 721 148

BARBECUE AND GAMES Saturday 9 September

EDINBURGH FOOD PROJECT UPDATE



The Scottish foodbanks have given out over a QUARTER OF A MILLION food parcels which were distributed through the network over the past 12 months. Ninety THOUSAND to children. In the year to April 2023, 12,822 parcels left the Edinburgh warehouse to go to our seven foodbanks across the city. That's 50% more than the year before.

- 30% of food parcels were for children
- 60% of referrals were for households with 3 or more people
- 67% of parcels were distributed from Craigmillar (25%), Grassmarket(23%) and Pilton (19%)

Food banks are supporting more and more people who are facing deepening hardship and distress. Everyone should be able to afford the essentials in life, no one should need a food bank to get by. The Edinburgh food banks are delivering a range of support to address the root causes of financial hardship. These services are essential in ensuring people receive all the financial support they are entitled to. The development of a community hub's wishes are being integrated to be able to offer additional services to people in Craigmillar area, which is busiest food bank in Edinburgh.

However, there is an increasing number of people whose income is still too low to get by even after financial support to help

maximise their income. The Edinburgh Food Project is supported by the Trussell Trust and Joseph Rowntree Foundation 'Essentials Guarantee' to make sure that Universal Credit is at least enough to afford the essentials we all need, such as food, energy and basic household goods – and that deductions can never pull people below this level.

Research by the charities reveals that the £85 weekly Universal Credit standard allowance is at least £35 less than the weekly cost of essential items for a single person, contributing to hundreds of thousands of people being forced to use food banks because they can't make ends meet.

What items are needed urgently?

- UHT Milk
- Long-life Fruit Juice
- Jam
- Tinned Cold Meat
- Tinned Fruit

The following items are not needed?

- Pasta
- Tinned Tomatoes

(From Scoop newsletter May, 2023.)

Thank you for your generous support

Joan Adam

WHISKY GALORE


EDINBURGH PEOPLE'S THEATRE
proudly present **WHISKY GALORE**
by Compton Mackenzie (stage version
by James Scotland)
Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2023

On a stormy night in February 1941, the cargo ship SS Politician ran aground on the sandbanks off the island of Eriskay, in the Outer Hebrides. On board the ship were 260,000 bottles of whisky intended for the American market. On hearing of the ship's plight and its precious cargo, the islanders jumped into their boats and began salvage operations to retrieve the whisky. This was especially important to the islanders because the privations of war meant that in the islands, whisky was very scarce. It was estimated that around 24,000 bottles of duty free whisky were stolen, and much of it never recovered!

In 1947, this true story was the inspiration for the author, Compton Mackenzie, who lived on Barra in the Outer Hebrides at the time, to write his world famous novel, *Whisky Galore*. It was made into a film in 1949, starring Basil Radford, Bruce Seton, Joan Greenwood and Gordon Jackson, and remade more recently in 2016, with Eddie Izzard and Gregor Fisher.

Whisky Galore tells the story of two islands, Great and Little Today, and the ingenuity of ordinary islanders (possibly based on real characters living on the islands of Barra and Eriskay in Mackenzie's time). It's a charming and hilarious story of love, laughter, the ineptitude of the Home Guard (think Dad's Army, which it predates) and eventually (and delightfully) for the islanders ... lots of whisky! The play captures the spirit of these beautiful islands and of course the uisge beatha, the water of life.

The play adaptation of *Whisky Galore* was written by James Scotland and first performed by Edinburgh People's Theatre (EPT) in the 1966 Edinburgh Festival. Compton Mackenzie himself was once a



EDINBURGH PEOPLE'S THEATRE
on the Fringe since 1947!
We present the classic Scots comedy
originally premiered by EPT in 1966

WHISKY GALORE

by
James Scotland
from the novel
by Sir Compton Mackenzie

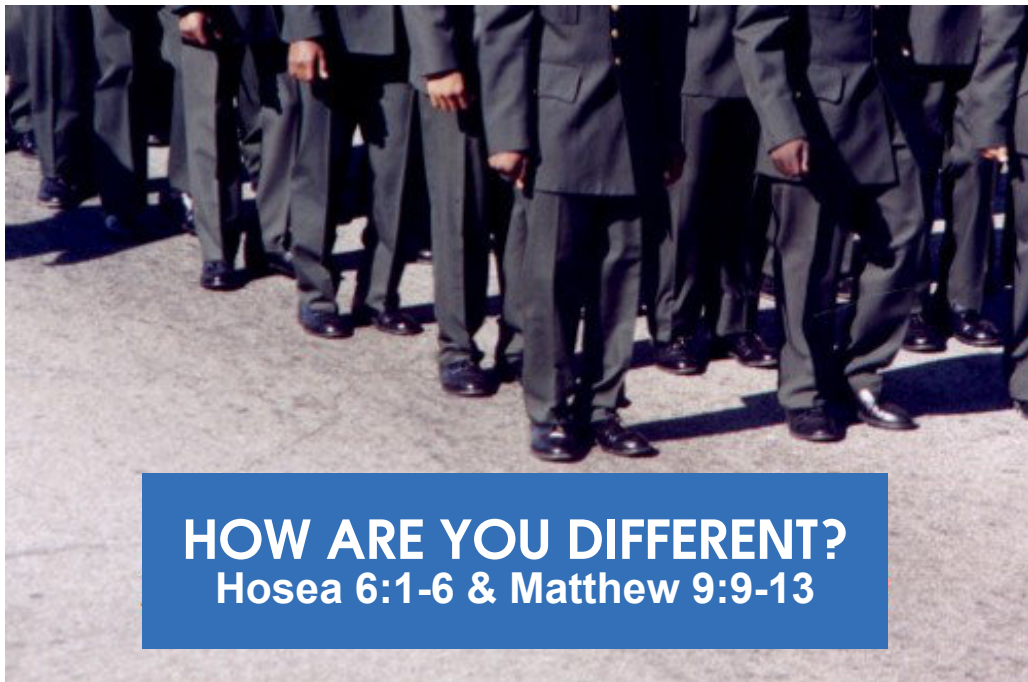
Friday 4th - Saturday 19th August 2023
Tickets from £12 - See over for details
Venue 11 Mayfield-Salisbury Church Hall
Presented with the kind permission of Brown, Son & Ferguson Ltd

patron of EPT, and expressed warm approval for this stage version. It's also a particularly special production for us at EPT, as this year marks our 80th anniversary!

Join EPT and our islanders in the church hall at Mayfield Salisbury Church from 4 to 19 August for guaranteed entertainment as the comedy and drama unfolds. Evening performances begin at 7.30pm, Saturdays at 2.30pm (no performance on Sundays) with our 2 for 1 offer on Tuesday, 8 August (full price tickets). Tickets are £15, with concessions at £12.

These are available from the Fringe box office or via our website at www.ept.org.uk.

Sláinte mhath!



HOW ARE YOU DIFFERENT? Hosea 6:1-6 & Matthew 9:9-13

As the school year draws to a close and the summer holidays are almost upon us, I can still re-capture in my mind that feeling of wild abandon and freedom at the end of the last school assembly when we were released from captivity back into the wild, for ten weeks of seemingly basking in endless sunshine, or so my rose-tinted recollections seem to tell me. But it was Scotland, so probably not! Looking back to my teenage self with more chips on the shoulder than the takeaway down the road, it was what I saw as the suppression of individuality and the imposition of a blanket conformity that led me to be a surly, cheeky, 'smart Alec' of a teenager. Well, that's my excuse anyway...sorry parents.

It seemed then a harsh judgmental world back at school where we all had to obey and all be the same, to be churned out in the end as clones. And my mini rebellion against all authority spread also to the church and the faith that my parents

professed. For me then, that too was all about obedience and respectability, judging others and suppressing our uniqueness and exuberance as a matter of control. All outward respectability and nothing about inward authenticity and flourishing.

It was only in returning to Christian faith in my mid-20s that I discovered that a God of love might exist, a God who makes each one of us in his image no matter what we look like, who loves us crucially no matter who we are and what we have done. A God who in our common humanity, with all our flaws and issues, still celebrates difference and encourages us to be who He has made us, growing in relationship with Him. And as for conformity, I began to realise that ultimately the Christian faith invites us to conform not to human made rules and regulations, or to human expectations of outward behaviour and appearance, but to the expectations of God alone in a close relationship which asked and challenged

and transformed. In other words, it was not all outward show, it was all about inward change and flourishing. If there was judgment, that came from God and not your peers. To my great surprise, the Christian faith was actually all about freedom, about authentic believing and living, being for real and not just smiling as if you mean it. It was the exact opposite of what my teenage self had assumed.

Jesus said in Matthew 9:13 – ‘go and learn what this means, I desire mercy not sacrifice,’ harking back to the prophet Hosea, and then he said, ‘for I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.’ Matthew was a tax collector, socially despised because he was corrupt. He ripped people off; and not just that, he did so by collaborating with the Roman occupiers – he was a turncoat and a traitor. Jesus saw him at the tax booth, raking in the money and skimming off his cut. He did not shout or bawl at Matthew to buy favour with everyone in the crowd, to be self-righteous, or even ignore him and pass by with a contemptuous stare like so many others. He simply spoke to Matthew and said ‘follow me,’ which Matthew did. He didn’t ask Matthew to get down on the ground and renounce all the wrongs he had committed, change his ways and behave like Jesus, all there and then before the wonders of the Kingdom would be opened up to him. No, Jesus just said, ‘follow me’.

And in fact, Matthew’s life then did not leave the world that he came from, to be huddled away to encounter God. Before he knew it, Matthew was having dinner with ‘many tax collectors and other sinners.’ It was the company he had just left, social and moral outcasts all around a table. Very probably colleagues with familiar faces and names that he knew! It was Jesus’ open invitation of hospitality to them all to sit at the table with him, no matter who they were. The invitation to Jesus table is mirrored throughout the Gospels and is mirrored so closely in the meal he initiated, the Lord’s Supper, that we take part in today; where all are welcome round the



St Matthew in the ‘Ebbo Gospels’ 9th century

table to share and to grow in our relationship with Jesus, no matter who we are.

Around that table with Matthew, it is not conformity that is sought. In fact, conventions and expected behaviours are turned upside down, barriers are broken, so much so that the Pharisees question how a supposed holy man and rabbi can dine with such riff-raff. How can they be welcome in his world?

This is a story of universal accessibility to the Christian faith. For in one sense, Jesus says we ARE all the same, tax collector and Pharisee alike. ‘Sinners’ is the word Jesus uses. None of us are perfect. We are all the same as others in our human form and our need for food, shelter, love, happiness; our raw humanity and emotion. And we’re also all the same in our ability to go astray, act rashly and unfairly, do things and say things we regret and want to turn away from – things the Bible calls sin. No-one actually conforms to perfection. No-one is ‘normal,’ and hence our diversity that is also our beauty.

Our flaws are sometimes all too plain for other people to see. And even if we manage to paper them over, to cover the cracks, they are still there below the outward show, as is our woundedness from what life has thrown at us.

We are all unique, we are all different, but we are all the same not only in being made in the image of God, not only in our radical inclusion to dine at Jesus' table no matter who we are, but yet we are all the same in that we are in need of healing, of holding, of forgiveness, of making it real, an authentic relationship with God that means something in our lives as we grow in faith. So as we come to Jesus' table today, just as Matthew did two millennia ago, we

come not as righteous people full of pride and hubris, telling the world how good we are, but we come humbly, answering the call of Jesus to follow me, and not shunning the invitation of his hospitality.

And there is no qualification in all of this. What people bring to Jesus' table is irrelevant. No 'tittle tattle' about personal traits; class, race, social habits, marriage status, relationship history. Whatever label we like to place on anyone is irrelevant before God; his judgment alone is what counts.

'Come let us return to the Lord,' as Hosea said. 'Just as I am, O Lamb of God, I come.' Not 'just as I should be,' 'just as I might be,' 'just as I will be,' and especially not 'just as everyone else thinks I ought to be,' but 'Just as I Am.'

Jesus says the table is set for all, no qualification; it cannot be cleared away by us. Let everyone who wants to find God, come into God's house, to this church. Let them be accepted and welcomed. Let them



find God present in our love for each other, and for them. Let them find God present in the way our church works and in our actions with other people.

Maybe people will then see the fruits of the Holy Spirit trying to shine in us too. Not in the false worship of the self-righteous that the voice of God through the prophet Hosea condemns. Not as Hosea wrote, the burnt offerings, the token sacrifices, verse 4, a falseness that goes through the motions that my teenage self would have condemned. A love of God, he says like a morning cloud, like the dew that evaporates as the sun rises. Instead, verse 8, as we return to God, God seeks our 'steadfast love', our worship, our praise that comes from the heart, a real relationship that challenges us to respond in gratitude and self-giving, growing close to God and each other in love and communion, and living faithfully in the world to show God's love for it, in the midst of all its struggles and challenges. The same, in this world, but yet different, called by Christ and growing in relationship with God.

For Christianity is, at its heart, about that strong and true relationship with God and the happiness and fulfilment it might bring, which is not simply given by our fellow humans. It's not without a cost - of a long, hard look in the mirror – a repentance. But it's not conformity and denial either, rather a celebration of the gift of human life from God as part of His beautiful creation.

Christianity should be miles away from a debilitating life-denying negativity, a cursed pessimism, dour, cold and unwelcoming like old porridge or rising damp. So, we

shake off the shackles! Let loose the chains!

This is a radical inclusion at the table of Jesus Christ today of you and of me, in the image of God as the Trinity. For as the pastor and poet Gerard Kelly wrote:

*This playwright...
watches my feeble audition
and writes
Me
in.*

Amen.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Many congratulations to two of our members for their recent national recognition.

Firstly, to **Revd Dr George Whyte** on the award of the OBE in the King's Birthday Honours List for 'service to faith communities.' George retired last year as Principal Clerk of the Church of Scotland, with over forty years' service as a minister, and has been rightly praised for his leadership of the Church during the pandemic.



Secondly, to **Christine De Luca** for her role in the National Service at St Giles' Cathedral where the Honours of Scotland were presented to King Charles III.

As a poet and former Edinburgh Makar, as well as an elder in the Church of Scotland, Christine was invited to read the Gospel passage at the service: the Beatitudes in Scots from Murdoch Nisbet's New Testament of 1520.

KIRK SESSION MATTERS

I have only one meeting to report on this time. The Kirk Session last met on 6 June.

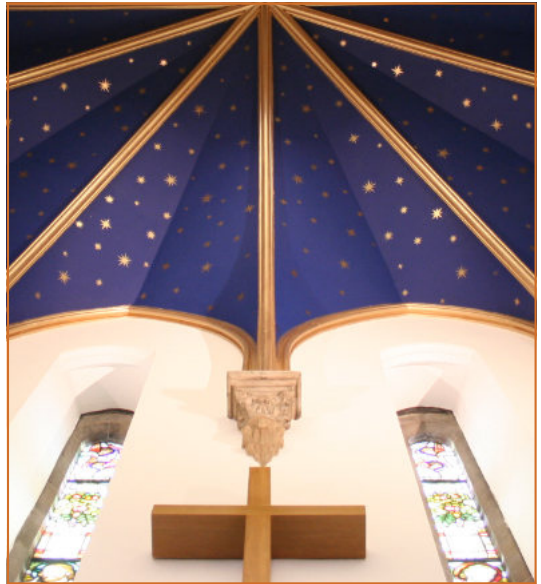
We recorded our appreciation of Marjory Grant's leadership of the Eco Group as she stood down from the post of chair; noted the death of Bruce Scott; and thanked all those who contributed to the Syria appeal which, with the contribution from the Salisbury Fund and gift aid, had raised £1337.50.

The draft Basis of Union, circulated to Session, had been supported by members and the timetable for a formal vote by the Kirk Session and then the congregation was reviewed. Once confirmed, the details will be notified.

The Session agreed to the retirement of Tom Henderson from Session. The Moderator noted Tom's lengthy period as a dedicated elder of nearly 50 years. He had made regular contributions and ideas; had been involved with Mayfield Radio and been Presbytery Elder for a number of years. In particular it had been Tom's idea to name the Bill McDonald hall to remember Bill's tenure as minister at Mayfield Church. We wished him and Margaret all the very best for the future.

We noted that, on safeguarding, the registers were being kept up to date.

The Moderator updated Session on the work of the two union teams, missional and integration, which were now working jointly alongside the Union Steering Group (USG). A joint meeting had been held on 10 May to review progress. A paper on governance had been prepared for consideration by the three Kirk Sessions involved in the proposed union looking at the potential structure of the new Kirk Session; as had a paper on the probable staffing structure in Newington Trinity. The paper, an outline of how affairs might be constructed, raised a series of questions over the number of elders on the Session; and the proposed



structure of activity groups or committees which could operate with delegated powers. The view was that it was better to advance these discussions now to ensure that we had a broad outline of the framework which might operate post the union.

Overall the suggestion of a reduced Kirk Session was supported: the three- or four-year cycle of eldership on the Kirk Session might assist with fresh ideas and energy. It would be desirable to consider a rolling programme of change to maintain experience on the Session. It was noted that Priestfield had suggested a special ad hoc group on heating, something Session recognised the need for.

The 'governance' provided the structure of a trellis but the important task was to let the vine grow and flourish. How we succeed in this will be critical for the future of the church in society

There was a strong view across Session that finance needed to be integrated more with the groups, especially the one on property and resources. Our experience was that the Business Committee structure had ended up working well.

It would be important to maintain communication across all elders and the congregation to keep everyone engaged as well as across all the activity groups. Information flow needed to be both ways, focused and avoid duplication. There were issues to resolve over access to papers and providing input into Session discussions.

The Moderator confirmed with Session that they were broadly supportive of the approach as a basis for further discussion. It would however be important for all elders from all three congregations to meet together early in the autumn to work through some of the issues which had been raised. Session agreed the next stages in the process.

The Moderator reported on the General Assembly (GA) where he had the privilege of being a commissioner. This year's Moderator, Revd Sally Foster-Fulton, led the Assembly with generosity, grace and kindness and organisation of the Assembly was also first class, thanks to the Assembly Officer, our very own William Mearns. Life and Work had issued a free four page supplement which set out many of the main decisions and speeches:

www.lifeandwork.org/resources/general-assembly-2023-special-supplement

In his detailed paper and presentation Sandy highlighted the main deliverances of particular relevance. These included the planning basis for next five years for the Assembly Trustees of 600 Ministerial posts with vacancies of 60 but with requests to explore options for sustainable ministry planning and support for Ministerial posts. Under Giving to Grow congregational contributions will reduce from a total of £47.7 million in 2020 to £38.9 million in 2023 with calls to review expenditure and new funding streams.

In respect of property the General Assembly agreed to affirm that as a national Church, the Church of Scotland seeks to have adequate spaces in as many places as are properly affordable



and called for a report next year. This had been described as having a 'fleet of Fords rather than a few Rolls-Royces.' Sandy spoke in favour of a Glasgow Overture to have a Special Commission to look at the missional and pastoral impact of the planning process instituted by the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 202). This reflected the views of Session's response on the draft Presbytery Mission Plan. However, the Overture failed narrowly to gain sufficient support. There was support for the preparation of guidance on what steps should be taken to address decline of the Church of Scotland in regard to membership and ministry candidates reporting by 2024 failing which by 2025. There were several other decisions requesting guidance to be produced on property, the Consolidated Fund and the Central Fabric Fund and whether funds raised from the sale of property could be used to support mission work. This was a positive development and could create new opportunities for Newington Trinity.

There were calls for conversations to improve ecumenical cooperation in Christian mission and service to the people of Scotland.

The Faith Nurture Forum was instructed to undertake a comprehensive independent survey of ministerial well-being and to create an apprenticeship programme for those seeking to serve young people and youth and to better resource youth work.

The Social Care Council (CrossReach) was instructed to continue to engage with the Scottish Government in the development of a National Care Service; open up opportunities for those affected by alcohol and drug use and give advice on the information being developed to support the work of local congregations in order to reduce stigma in relation to those affected by alcohol and drug use; endorse the roll out of the Heart for Art groups and recognise the potential for further collaborative working between CrossReach and local congregations in order to support those living with dementia and their carers.

A report was also commissioned to investigate stress among Ministers.

Under the Faith Impact Forum Report the report on 'the Church of Scotland and the legacies of slavery' was commended for study and action and the Church of Scotland's teaching and action for racial justice reaffirmed. Work is to be undertaken to acknowledge the Church's involvement with and connection to historic chattel slavery and congregations are encouraged to research the history of slavery and its connections in their local areas and to continue to celebrate Racial Justice Sunday to challenge racism and racial injustice.

We are all urged to continue to develop plans and activities to encourage and enable all parts of the Church to work towards the target of Net Zero by 2030. The Net Zero Pathway and Energy Footprint Tool (both of which are to be published by the Faith Impact Forum) were commended to help measure and reduce emissions in line with the Net Zero 2030 target. Wildlife and biodiversity restoration were also encouraged.

Recognising that there exists a range of theological views and ethical opinions on assisted dying within the Church, the Faith Impact Forum, the Theological Forum and other relevant parties are instructed to explore such views and opinions and report to a future General Assembly.

A Standing Committee of the General Assembly should be established as an Ethical Oversight Committee (EOC) to be made up of nine people to help the Church of Scotland Investors Trust (COSIT) focus on the theological and ethical background of what the Church should be investing in. Other items of note were the understanding of different faith terms in the Jewish and Christian traditions: the document was an important step in helping to better understand the significance of terms. The local Rabbi, Rabbi Rose, had approached Sandy to explore further discussion in this area.

An urgent call to Scottish Government for fair pay to all social care workers was adopted by CrossReach. All church leaders including elders are encouraged to sign a petition. Please consider doing so at www.crossreach.org.uk/scottish-faith-leaders-declaration.

Session thanked the Moderator for his thorough and informative report.

Ministerial update: In commenting on his second paper on worship plans he proposed that the regular diet of worship in June should continue to be a 09:30 and 10:45 service each Sunday but with joint services at 10.30am on the third Sunday of each month: the last one before the summer would be 18 June; and then 17 September, 15 October, 19 November and 17 December. Our monthly evening communion service should re-start after the summer on the first Sunday of the month - 3 September, 1 October, 5 November and 3 December. There will be a seated Tuesday afternoon service on 11 July.

In the months of July and August, as is customary, there would be one Sunday service only, at 10.30am. It is proposed that the services from 9 July to 20 August inclusive are all joint services between the three congregations and that they are held at Mayfield Salisbury, in preparation for the congregations uniting. It is also proposed that those services are taken by all three ministers in rotation, which would also cover for holiday dates. This is barring one service where Revd Dr George Whyte has already agreed to lead worship. Sandy undertook to



maintenance of the church properties and the review of the risk register and various contracts. He spoke to the areas not addressed elsewhere on the agenda. The Annual Report and Accounts had been approved by Presbytery and sent to OSCR. He recorded thanks to those who had been involved in their preparation. The Independent Examiner had been thanked. Budgetary work continues for the future Kirk Session of Newington Trinity.

discuss with the two other Ministers how the offerings raised might be apportioned. The Clerk undertook to follow up on what transport arrangements might operate to ensure people got to church when the joint services were being held. Session approved the proposed worship arrangements.

On staffing matters Sandy recorded that Bettina Hather had started as Children and Young Adult Worker on 3 May and his pleasure to be working with Bettina. He thanked everyone who had offered Bettina a warm welcome. On the Pastoral Assistant, a job description and contract had been drawn up for a similar post until the end of this year and he hoped to make an appointment shortly.

The Moderator proposed that Mayfield Salisbury donate 96 glasses (4 trays of 24 each) to Canongate Kirk (Revd Neil Gardner) as they have recently been borrowing them regularly and had requested that they might be retained permanently. Mayfield Salisbury currently has around 750 communion glasses, as a result of various unions, and there may be more soon. Session approved the donation as a friendly gift to Canongate.

Business Committee: Steve Holehouse, the Convener, spoke to his precis. This covered the ongoing

A series of questions regarding technical clarification and further developments had been sent to the Heating Consultants. Responses by them are in preparation. Both Priestfield and Craigmillar Park have added one volunteer each to the heating group. The Risk Registers are up to date following recent PAT testing and the review of the electrical systems in the Mayfield Radio suite. New smoke detectors are now fully installed in the basement of Church House. New in-person defibrillator training is being arranged.

A recent application had been made by Cornerstone on behalf of the Telecom network provider O2 to the City Council to install 8 5G antenna on the exterior of the Church spire. A local group of residents made multiple objections to the planning authority, many of them on the basis of alleged harmful health effects of 5G masts. The City Council Planning Depart has rejected the application on the grounds of the detrimental impact on the façade of the building. Health issues were not mentioned in their judgement. In discussion it was commented that any health concerns were considerably greater if a mobile phone was held to one's ear in an area where the signal was weak than any effects from a 5G mast in the spire.

Future planned activities for the Committee would be to continue the review of heating options in collaboration with Union partners and finalise the recruitment and appointment of a Pastoral Assistant. On the latter, three applications have been received and interviews were planned.

Steve had submitted notice in January that he would demit office in June. In the absence of an appointment of a permanent successor for the Business Committee being secured, at least until the union, the Clerk had undertaken to assume the role of Acting Business Committee Convener. So any issues affecting the Business Committee should be addressed to the Clerk meantime. Steve wished to record his thanks for all those who had served on the Business Committee during his 5-year tenure.

The Moderator spoke on behalf of the Session in thanking Steve for his considerable work over the years. Since he had arrived at Mayfield Salisbury he had really appreciated the efficiency and oversight of the wide range of activities covered by the Business Committee and the team. In addition to managing all the issues which have arisen, including the impact of Covid and establishing the necessary procedures in the initial stages, there had been many positive developments and improvements in the work of the Committee in its support of the Session.

These included, in addition to staffing and recruitment, phase 2 of the Sanctuary project (the Nativity window); the refurbishment of the Bill McDonald Hall; overhauling the Fund governance structure; the successful appeal to increase giving by ca. 16%; the establishment of a comprehensive Risk Register (RAG system) major letting contract CECE and NN rewrites and establishment of quarterly reviews with them; church service telephone booking line during Covid, online giving, the extensive refurbishment of the Manse during the vacancy period and the Covid lock-downs; extensive repair and maintenance of Church estate buildings; managing heating pipe work failures and establishment of a working group to find a solution for the future; Youth Worker Visas renewals via the UK Home Office and Immigration lawyers. While many others supported Steve in these activities it was thanks to his leadership and drive

that these issues had been progressed so successfully. He wished Steve a welcome break from the work of the Business Committee.

CrossReach: Ailsa Garland the CrossReach coordinator reported that £1,100 was raised by a bucket collection and online donations following talks at the morning services on Sunday 23 April. Ailsa had spoken during the 9.30 service and Miriam Coutts, Counselling Manager, at the 10.45 service. The funds raised were for CrossReach Perinatal Services (PNS) whose work remained extremely important given the scale of mental health issues around the perinatal period and levels of postnatal depression. Thanks were due to the congregation and CrossReach PNS were very appreciative. Plans are in hand for another collection in November, possibly combining it with a coffee morning to allow for fellowship.

Shierlaw Fund: Peter Grant described the origins of the fund. It had arisen from the legacy of Netta Shierlaw, a longstanding Sunday School teacher. In 1975 the Kirk Session decided that 50% should support youth work; later in 1980 it identified travel support as top priority. The convener can make awards up to £100, with awards above this level approved by committee and awards above £1,000 approved by Kirk Session. In 2019 the Salisbury & Shierlaw funds became overseen by a joint committee. The paper described in detail the awards made involving travel to South Korea, rural China and South Africa. Due to a change in circumstances the South Africa award had to be returned but an application may be renewed in 2024. Reports on the travel experiences will be provided in due course.

Peter commented that the balance in the fund at December 2022 was £11,424. The Committee operates a sliding scale for future awards with the larger £800 awards only being made to individuals with strong connections to our Church and more modest awards made to other pupils who are located in Edinburgh schools. The Committee is anxious to continue to secure good applications and invites Session to help find young people, ideally in the 18-25 age range, who are going overseas to improve healthcare

or education, and to reduce poverty, particularly with children or disadvantaged persons. Session thanked Peter for his report and undertook to assist with finding potential applicants.

Fellowship Committee: Aileen Nimmo, who is due to take over as Fellowship Convener in July, commented on the plans being considered for social and other events. She looked forward to meeting the team soon, **Priestfield would be hosting a BBQ on Saturday 9 September** to which we were all invited. Marjory Grant's suggested that an event fair might be part of a Harvest Thanksgiving event with various stalls on display. Other events being considered were a lunch ahead of the union date, following a service to mark the transition from Mayfield Salisbury joining with the other churches to form Newington Trinity. A similar event with the new congregation might be considered after the Presbytery led service to mark the new congregation. Session welcomed Aileen as the upcoming new Fellowship Convener for Mayfield Salisbury. The Moderator remarked that in **David Booth's two-decade tenure** in the role of Fellowship Convener he had managed a great number of events. He and Session were extremely appreciative of the work David and the team had undertaken to make all the fellowship activities run smoothly and wished David well.

Youth Committee: Bettina Hather informed Session of her initial weeks in post and the plans for the coming months. She had greatly appreciated the warm welcome she had received and was taking time to get to know the young people and their families, the team and the various groupings. With the holiday weekends and events in May it had not yet been possible to meet everyone but she intended to rectify that. She had attended the Messy Church at Priestfield which had been lively and encouraging and was scheduled with the Revd Donald Scott to visit Prestonfield Primary school on Friday. She had appreciated being

able to participate recently in the Godly Praise Conference which had stimulated some ideas. She would aim to meet up with the Youth Committee and would begin to develop strategies and outcomes in the weeks ahead. Bettina undertook to draw up materials and a schedule for her and the team over the summer months when some cover would seem desirable at the morning services, especially with the three congregations worshipping together and possible visiting families attending.

The Kirk Session met in private and confirmed approval of two papers. One discussed the staffing arrangements to be recommended to the new Kirk Session following the proposed Union so that staff and others had some certainty over the coming months. The same paper was being considered by all three relevant Kirk Sessions. The other paper recommended an advance on the salary increase for staff which would be paid from 1 July ahead of the review in quarter 4.

AOCB. There were three items raised.

1) **The Clerk notified Session that when the new Courts Act recently agreed at the General Assembly came into force, John Graham as Treasurer would be appointed to the Session. Elders welcomed John's appointment when it occurs.**

2) Christine De Luca advised that plans were underway for the next Bill McDonald lecture hopefully in the autumn. Further details will be forthcoming in due course but she wished to inform Session that this was underway.

3) **The Clerk reported that Hugh Pollock was standing down from handling the Hunter Bequest and the Agnes Crispin Trust. Linsay Given Black had agreed to take on the roles. Hugh had offered to support Linsay as she familiarised with what is involved. Session thanked Hugh for all his work and approved Linsay's appointment.**

Dates of Future Meetings (all at 7:30pm)

- 25 July – meeting on Basis of Union
- 19 September 2023
- 12 December 2023

Dates in 2024 to be agreed depending on progress on the Union.

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

JULY

16	Esther 4,5	/ Luke 11
17	Esther 6,7	/ Luke 12
18	Esther 8-10	/ Luke 13
19	Job 1,2	/ Psalm 80
20	Job 3,4	/ Luke 14
21	Job 5,6	/ Luke 15
22	Job 7,8	/ Psalms 81,82
23	Job 9,10	/ Luke 16
24	Job 11,12	/ Luke 17
25	Job 13,14	/ Luke 18
26	Job 15-17	/ Psalms 83,84
27	Job 18,19	/ Luke 19
28	Job 20,21	/ Luke 20
29	Job 22,23	/ Psalm 85
30	Job 24-26	/ Luke 21
31	Job 27,28	/ Luke 22

AUGUST

1	Job 29,30	/ Luke 23
2	Job 31,32	/ Psalms 86,87
3	Job 33,34	/ Luke 24
4	Job 35,36	/ Philippians 1
5	Job 37,38	/ Psalm 88
6	Job 39,40	/ Philippians 2
7	Job 41,42	/ Philippians 3
8	Proverbs 1,2	/ Philippians 4
9	Proverbs 3,4	/ Psalm 89
10	Proverbs 5,6	/ Colossians 1
11	Proverbs 7,8	/ Colossians 2
12	Proverbs 9,10	/ Psalm 90
13	Proverbs 11,12	/ Colossians 3
14	Proverbs 13,14	/ Colossians 4
15	Proverbs 15,16	/ I Thessalonians 1
16	Proverbs 17,18	/ Psalm 91
17	Proverbs 19,20	/ I Thessalonians 2
18	Proverbs 21,22	/ I Thessalonians 3
19	Proverbs 23,24	/ Psalms 92,93
20	Proverbs 25,26	/ I Thessalonians 4
21	Proverbs 27,28	/ I Thessalonians 5
22	Proverbs 29,30	/ II Thessalonians 1
23	Proverbs 31	/ Psalm 94
24	Ecclesiastes 1-3	/ II Thessalonians 2
25	Ecclesiastes 4,5	/ II Thessalonians 3
26	Ecclesiastes 6,7	/ Psalms 95,96
27	Ecclesiastes 8,9	/ I Timothy 1
28	Ecclesiastes 10,11	/ I Timothy 2
29	Ecclesiastes 12	/ I Timothy 3
30	Song of Songs 1,2	/ Psalms 97,98
31	Song of Songs 3,4	/ I Timothy 4

SEPTEMBER

1	Song of Songs 5,6	/ I Timothy 5
2	Song of Songs 7,8	/ Psalms 99-101
3	Isaiah 1,2	/ I Timothy 6
4	Isaiah 3-5	/ II Timothy 1
5	Isaiah 6,7	/ II Timothy 2
6	Isaiah 8,9	/ Psalm 102
7	Isaiah 10-12	/ II Timothy 3
8	Isaiah 13,14	/ II Timothy 4
9	Isaiah 15,16	/ Psalm 103
10	Isaiah 17-20	/ Titus 1
11	Isaiah 21,22	/ Titus 2
12	Isaiah 23,24	/ Titus 3



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Our summer morning service schedule continues, with one Sunday service at 10.30am in July and August. All services in July and August will be at Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church, and from this week held jointly with the congregations of Craigmillar Park and Priestfield. The three Ministers will be involved at different times in leading worship and Revd Dr George Whyte will be returning to lead the service on 13 August. Bettina and a rota of volunteers will provide resources and a quiet area for children at the morning services during the summer.

JULY

Sun 16 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)

Tue 18 10.00am Morning Prayers

Sun 23 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)

Tue 25 10.00am Morning Prayers

Thu 27 2.30pm Coffee and Blethers (Bill McDonald Hall)

Sun 30 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Donald Scott & Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)

AUGUST

Tue 1 10.00am Morning Prayers

Sat 5 10.00am Coffee Morning @ Craigmillar Park Church

Sun 6 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Donald Scott)

Tue 8 10.00am Morning Prayers

Thu 10 2.30pm Coffee and Blethers (Bill McDonald Hall)

Sun 13 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Dr George Whyte)

Tue 15 10.00am Morning Prayers

Sun 20 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Alex McAspurren)

Tue 22 10.00am Morning Prayers

Thu 24 2.30pm Coffee and Blethers (Bill McDonald Hall)

Sun 27 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10.30am Joint Service of Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)

Tue 29 10.00am Morning Prayers

SEPTEMBER

Sun 3 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9.30am All-Age Service of Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
10.45am Service of Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)

Tue 5 10.00am Morning Prayers

Sat 9 2.00pm BARBECUE AND GAMES at Priestfield Church

WHO'S WHO IN MAYFIELD SALISBURY

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland. Scottish Charity Number SC000785

Minister

Revd Dr Alexander Forsyth AForsyth@churchofscotland.org.uk 0131 667 1286

Pastoral Assistant

Pauline Robertson DCS pastoralassistantms@gmail.com 0758 704 3191

Children and Young Adult Worker

Bettina Hather youthworkermspc@gmail.com 0778 319 0114

Church Manager

William Mearns churchmanager@googlemail.com 0780 801 1234

Organist

Kate Pearson kate.q.kate@gmail.com 0744 238 2296

Session Clerk

Boyd McAdam clerkmmspc@gmail.com 0777 358 7579

Treasurer

John Graham culkein@btinternet.com 0131 667 6331

Safeguarding Co-ordinators

Aileen Nimmo and Dougie Robertson mayfieldsafeguarding@gmail.com 0131 667 1522

Gift Aid Donations & Roll Keeper

Hugh Somerville hs.somerville2@gmail.com 0131 466 2446

Mayfield Radio Unit

The Studio mayfieldradiounit@gmail.com 0131 667 7742

Church Address and Office

18 West Mayfield, Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ
0131 667 1522 or churchmanager@googlemail.com

Pastoral Care

For Home or Hospital visits, please contact the Minister

Staff Days Off

Minister: Mondays
Children and Young Families Worker: Mondays
Manager: Monday-PM & Fridays

Social Media Accounts

-  www.facebook.com/MayfieldSalisbury
-  www.youtube.com/@ChurchEdinburgh
-  www.flickr.com/photos/98063709@N06
-  www.twitter.com/churchscotland
-  www.instagram.com/the.msyg
-  www.mayfieldsalisbury.org



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