



**Fairmilehead
Parish Church**

CHURCH NEWS

February 2017

From The Minister

It was a kind thought for the Kirk Session to mark my 25th anniversary as the minister of Fairmilehead Parish Church with a cake during the coffee break between the two morning services on Sunday 22nd January. In actual fact the date of my induction back in 1992 was 15th January which I think was a Wednesday evening with me occupying the pulpit for the first time the following Sunday. For the present I am starting my second period of study leave that will run throughout the month of February continuing the research I am doing on the decline of church membership in the modern era. There have always been times of recession and growth in the life of the Christian Church and it is important for us to understand as far as possible what it is that causes such changes in the Church's fortunes, in the hope of doing something about it. I shall return on the first Sunday in March and in my absence I am delighted to tell you that Dr Anne Logan will once again be acting as the locum minister. Any requests for the service of a minister throughout February should be channelled through the Church Office.

Readings for the month of February



5 February

Matthew 5.13-20
Isaiah 58.1-9a, (9b-12)
Psalm 112.1-9, (10)
1 Corinthians 2.1-12, (13-16)

12 February

Matthew 5.21-37
Deut 30.15-20
Psalm 119.1-8
1 Corinthians 3.1-9

19 February

Matthew 5.38-48
Leviticus 19.1-2, 9-18
Leviticus 19.1-2, 9-18
1 Corinthians 3.10-11,
16-23

26 February

Matthew 17.1-9
Exodus 24.12-18
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1.16-21



KIRK SESSION

The Kirk Session met on 11 January 2017 to discuss various Property issues. A rough plan for the necessary work ahead was agreed and detailed estimates will now be obtained. The plan is to remove the present varnish on the Buckstone Hall floor and to replace it with a modern finish, followed by a request for volunteers to help with redecoration. The kitchen will also be refurbished with some carpets (corridors, Caiystane and the office) renewed and, over the summer of 2018, the plan is to replace the boilers as they are coming to the end of their 'lifespan'. Permission has to be sought from the Presbytery of Edinburgh if any of these estimates are over £25,000 (probably the kitchen and the boilers). It is likely that the congregation will be asked to take part in fund raising to help cover some of this expenditure.

With regard to the forthcoming vacancy, I am pleased to inform you that Rev Bill Irving has agreed to be our Locum Minister during this time. He was a student minister here with Rev Murray Chalmers and had charges in Penicuik and Golspie before retiring to Edinburgh. More information on the vacancy process will appear in future newsletters and on the website fhpc.org.uk

The Roll of Communicants at 31 December 2016 is 528 (2015 - 556), the Supplementary Roll is 93 (2015 - 118). Thirteen new members were welcomed to the congregation during 2016.

A reminder that the Kirk Session, Business Committee and Committee minutes are available to view in the church office.

Pamela Black, Session Clerk

1a Frogston Road West, Edinburgh, EH10 7AA
Tel: 0131 445 2374
Email: office@fhpc.org.uk
Minister: Rev. John R Munro BD
Youth and Families Worker: Jamie Woods

Follow us on facebook 
Website: fhpc.org.uk
Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 9.00am to 12.15pm & 12.45 - 3.00pm
Scottish Charity No: SC015967

Reforming the Kirk - The future of the Church of Scotland

A series of three lectures by Rev Doug Gray, Lecturer in Practical Theology & Principal of Trinity College, University of Glasgow, will be held as follows:

Wednesday 1 Feb: 'Walls Without Church'

Wednesday 8 Feb: 'Call and Response'

Wednesday 15 Feb: 'Grand Designs'

The lectures are all at 6.30pm at St Giles Cathedral and are free to attend, or you can watch online at

www.churchofscotland.org.uk

Social Committee—Annual Quiz

The Quiz will take place on Saturday 4 March 2017 at 7pm. Entries are invited from teams of 4, and names should be passed to the Church Office (Tel. 445 2374; e: office@fhpc.org.uk). An entry fee of £5 per team will be payable on the night.

Fairmilehead Online

A reminder that Fairmilehead Parish Church is on Facebook and has its own website

Please, if you are able, follow Fairmilehead on Facebook and 'like'; or 'share' it so that our work, forthcoming services and events reach a wider audience. Also, when you have a moment, go on line and have look at the new artwork that's been implemented recently on the website – fhpc.org.uk. You can now listen to the Minister's most recent sermons under 'Audio' and check up on many of the church related activities planned for the coming months. Please do get in touch with me if there's anything you would like added to the website.

Pamela Black

St Catharine's Mercy Centre

When delivering your gifts of food and clothing there was a heart-warming smell of soup from an enormous pot on the hob; this was only half the quantity required for the next day's meal!

On five days each week, breakfast and an evening meal are served and clothing distributed to the city's homeless.

Donations of pasta, rice, sugar/ tea and especially tinned foods such as tuna and ham are always required. These can be placed in the bags provided in the church foyer. We welcome your support. Sarah Wilson

Next Issue

Material for the next issue should be with the church office by 15 February 2017.

Pentland Walking Group

The first walk of the month is on 5th February to Dalkeith Country Park. Our Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday 18th February at 10.00am in the Church Hall. On 19th February our destination is the Pencaitland Railway Walk. Both walks leave the Church car park at 1.40pm.

Esther Middleton

Cake & Candy Sale

The Young Church will be holding a cake and candy stall between the two services on Sunday 26 February, in aid of our sponsored child. Any donations would be gratefully received. Also, please do support us by buying all the wonderful cakes on offer!

Helen Grant

Postage Stamps

Thank you for all the stamps recently handed in to the Church Office. The Bible Society of Scotland is always grateful, and with the money raised, can support the good works they do around the world.

Please continue to save your stamps and hand them in to us (UK and overseas separated if possible).

Jennifer Munro

Church Register

Welcome to

Jamie Woods (0/1) from Earlston

Deaths

Dr Ronald Jack (3/4)
14/12/2016

Mrs Vi Dean (10/7)
5/1/2017

Change of Address

Jess Vincent 9/6 to 0/1
Neil Anderson 2/4 to 0/1
Norah Lane 2/4 to 0/1
Calum McGillivray 8/3/6 to 0/1

Lost Sheep

Claire Wilson, ex Moray Park Terrace
If you know this member, please ask them to contact the office with their new address.

February 2017

Wed	1	1000	Play & Praise
		1000	Pop Up Café
		1430	Guild—'The Georgian House'
		1830	Lecture at St Giles Cathedral—'Walls Without Church?'
Sun	5	0945	Worship Now! & Young Church
		1100	Morning Worship
		1340	Pentland Walking Group—Dalkeith Country Park
Mon	6	1930	Young Church Leaders
Tues	7	1900	Fairmilehead Community Council
Wed	8	1000	Pop Up Café
		1830	Lecture at St Giles Cathedral—'Call and Response'
		1945	The Forum—'History of Penicuik House'
Sun	12	0945	Worship Now! & Young Church
		1100	Morning Worship
Mon	13	1930	Join the Journey House Group
Wed	15	1000	Pop Up Café
		1430	Guild—'Care for the Family'
		1830	Lecture at St Giles Cathedral—'Grand Designs'
Sat	18	1000	Pentland Walking Group AGM
Sun	19	0945	Worship Now! & Young Church
		1100	Morning Worship
		1340	Pentland Walking Group—Pencaitland Railway Walk
Tues	21	1930	Business Committee
Wed	22	1000	Pop Up Café
		1945	The Forum—I took my Harp to a Party'
Sun	26	0945	Worship Now! Quarterly Communion & Young Church followed by Cake and Candy
		1100	Morning Worship & Quarterly Communion
Mon	27	1930	Join the Journey House Group

March 2017

Wed	1	1000	Play & Praise
		1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1430	Guild Project Tea
Sat	4	1900	Annual Quiz
Sun	5	1030	All Together Now! & Young Church
		1340	Pentland Walking Group—Blyth Bridge
Tues	7	1900	Fairmilehead Community Council
Wed	8	1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1945	The Forum
Sun	12	1030	All Together Now! & Young Church
Wed	15	1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1430	Guild
Sun	19	1030	All Together Now! & Young Church
		1340	Pentland Walking Group—Newbattle Woods
Tues	21	1930	Kirk Session
Wed	22	1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1945	The Forum AGM
Sun	26	1030	All Together Now! Young Church & Communion
		1145	Stated Annual Meeting
Wed	29	1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1430	Guild AGM