



Fairmilehead
Parish Church

CHURCH NEWS

March 2017

Our minister, Rev John Munro returns from study leave on 5 March. This coincides with the start of Lent and we will move to one Sunday service at 10.30am from then, up to and including Easter Sunday. Our thanks to Rev Dr Anne Logan for covering John's absence.

Lent Studies are planned on a Sunday morning at 9.30am in the Buckstone Hall and Thursday mornings at 10.30am in the church.

Please give your name to Carole in the Church Office (tel 445 1065 or e-mail office@fhpc.org.uk if you would like to attend one or other of these studies. The booklet *'Beyond the Letterbox – A Lent Resource with Reflections, Prayers and Outreach Ideas for your street'* is available from the Church Office, cost £1, during the week or from the Session Clerk on a Sunday morning.

Holy Week services in the run-up to Easter Sunday will again be shared with St Fillan's Scottish Episcopal Church in Buckstone. Details of the services will be printed in the Spring edition of Crossroads magazine, available from the end of March.



Readings for the month of March

5 March
Matthew 4.1-11
Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5.12-19

12 March
John 3.1-17
Genesis 12.1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4.1-5, 13-17

19 March
John 4.5-42
Exodus 17.1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5.1-11

26 March
John 9.1-41
1 Samuel 16.1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5.8-14



Christian Aid Event

Ian Rankin in conversation with Eleanor Updale

Ian Rankin is perhaps one of the world's best known crime authors. His books have been translated into 22 languages and it's difficult to walk past a bar in Edinburgh without wondering if Rebus is lurking inside mulling over clues from his latest unsolved case.

To help understand how Ian Rankin moved from being a grape-picker to dominating the UK literary scene, Fairmilehead Parish Church is happy to confirm that he will take part in our latest "conversation" event with the excellent Eleanor Updale.

The event will take place on 19th April 7:30pm - 9:30pm and the vote of thanks will be given by Ian Murray MP. Tickets (available from the church office in due course) are £10 each, with all proceeds going to Christian Aid.

Baby and Toddler First Aid Wednesday 15 March at 7.30pm

A representative from St. Andrew's First Aid will be leading an informal chat on any general health concerns you may have when looking after a new baby or toddler. Topics will range from how to recognise a child is sick to dealing with choking, allergies, cuts and bruises.

The event is free but limited to 20 places so please register your name at the Church Office 445-2374 or e-mail office@fhpc.org.uk

OPEN TO ALL BUT MAY BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST FOR NEW PARENTS and GRANDPARENTS!



Social Committee

If you haven't already done so, there is still time to enter a Team of 4 in this year's Quiz, which takes place in the Church Centre on Saturday 4 March at 7pm. Names should be passed to the Church Office. (T: 445 2374 e: office@fhpc.org.uk)

Our next event will be on Wednesday 5 April when we hold our annual Bridge Afternoon with tea/coffee and home baking. Further information will be available shortly – keep an eye on the orders of service and noticeboard for more details nearer the time.

On Friday 12 May we are holding the popular Golf Afternoon and Supper. Golf will be at Melville Golf Centre followed by Supper at Swanston. Non-golfers are most welcome for supper. More information is available from Aileen Brannan (contact via the church office) to whom names should be given.

Looking further ahead, we will be welcoming back Penicuik Silver Band when they give a concert in the Church on Friday 20 October. Just in case you have your 2018 diary, the Burns Supper will be held on 20 January at Mortonhall Golf Club.

SAVE THE DATE!

Dysons and dusters on 1 April, 2017

The annual spring clean of the church is planned for Saturday 1 April, 10am-12 noon. If time allows and there are enough volunteers, it is hoped to also clean the vestry and the stage area. All cleaning materials will be provided but if you can bring along your own hoover that would be helpful. Please can you let Carole in the office know if you are able to come along. Thank you.

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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

Where does the money go and who decides?

Our church gets its income from two main sources: firstly, weekly offerings and secondly, from hall lettings. As received, the money is banked and is used to meet our debts as they fall due. Stan Marek, our Treasurer, spends a large amount of time each month recording this income and recording and paying the bills and salaries etc.

A major expense is our Ministries and Mission contribution which we have to pay to the Church of Scotland (CoS) and which they use to help struggling parishes, for mission, and to pay the salaries of ministers. The contribution we pay each year is calculated by CoS using a formula based on our 3 previous years of general income which includes our hall letting income. The Church will then notify us of our contribution (£79,400 for 2017) and we have to pay it. We also have to pay an annual fee to the Presbytery of Edinburgh of £1,750.

Our minister's salary is paid directly by the Church of Scotland but we pay certain stipulated minister's expenses as well as pulpit supply. We also pay the salaries and other costs of our employees, Carole and Hugh and the salary and costs of Leigh, our director of music. The budget for this for 2017 is £43,250. Jamie is not paid from general funds but from a restricted fund, Youth Development. The Personnel Committee manage the salaries and other costs but will consult the Finance Committee on pay increases to ensure they are within budget.

The general running of the buildings, the Church and our well used halls, e.g. heating and lighting, cleaning and others is a major cost of around £42,000 per year and general maintenance & repairs cost another £12,500. Generally, the Property Committee will take the decision to undertake small repairs up to a limit of £1,000 but larger expenditure will require review by the Finance Committee to ensure sufficient funds are available. Emergency repairs would be undertaken as soon as possible and Treasurer and Finance Convener kept informed so that the money can be found to meet them.

The busy Church office has many expenses with the preparation of orders of service, newsletters, PowerPoint slides, maintaining the hall lettings planner - the list is endless: at an annual cost of around £7,500. Again any significant expenditure e.g. a photocopier lease/computer would require to be authorised by the Finance Committee to ensure the funds were available.

During the year the Treasurer and Finance Committee monitor expenditure. Towards the year end a budget for the next year is drawn up in which we try to include any likely increases in expenditure so that we can meet all these projected costs. This budget is then approved by the Kirk Session.

Finally our finances are scrutinised by an Independent Examiner to whom we have to pay a fee.

You will notice that I haven't mentioned any capital expenditure. We have several major items which we will have to undertake in the next year or so. The kitchen is in poor repair and we need to bring it up to current health and safety standards. The boiler is old and will require to be replaced in the next year or so. The lighting in the church also needs updating; the old ceiling lights are inaccessible under current health and safety standards and contractors will not go up to replace them so an alternative is required.

We have built up a fund of £70,000 to start these projects but they will be expensive so more will be required. The Kirk Session is obtaining quotations for these projects at present and they will then decide when these will be undertaken. Lillian Rankine, Convener, Finance Committee

Farewell to Rev John Munro

As you will already know, John leaves Fairmilehead on Easter Sunday after 25 years as our Minister. The Kirk Session has agreed that everyone should have the opportunity to donate towards a gift for John.

If you would like to donate to this, please put a cheque (payable to Fairmilehead Parish Church) or cash in an envelope marked '**Rev John Munro - for the attention of the Treasurer**' and either hand it in to the church office during the week or put it in the offering bag on a Sunday morning.

Light refreshments will be served in the Buckstone Hall after the service on Easter Sunday - 16 April, 2017 - and the presentation from the congregation will be made to John then.

Pamela Black, Session Clerk

The Guild

The Guild's chosen project for this year is 'Care for the Family', a national charity which aims to promote strong family relationships and to help those who face family difficulties. The work is motivated by Christian compassion, with resources and support available to everyone, of any faith or none.

The cost of family breakdown is estimated at £42bn per year and mainly occurs during the early years of parenthood, with over 50% of parents who separate doing so within three years of having a baby.

The support of local Church of Scotland Guilds will give Care for the Family volunteers an unprecedented opportunity to help thousands of families in communities across Scotland stay together for good.

March 2017

Wed	1	1000	Play & Praise
		1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1430	Guild Project Tea
		1930	Towards 2025 meeting
Sat	4	1900	Annual Quiz
Sun	5	0930	Lent Study Group
		1030	All Together Now! Sacrament of Baptism & Young Church
		1340	Pentland Walking Group—Pencaitland Railway Walk
Tues	7	1900	Fairmilehead Community Council
Wed	8	1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1945	The Forum
Thurs	9	1030	Lent Study Group
Sun	12	0930	Lent Study Group
		1030	All Together Now! Sacrament of Baptism & Young Church
Mon	13	1930	Join the Journey House Group
Wed	15	1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1430	Guild
Thurs	16	1030	Lent Study Group
Sun	19	0930	Lent Study Group
		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
Thurs	23	1030	Lent Study Group
Sun	26	0930	Lent Study Group
		1030	All Together Now! Young Church & Communion
		1145	Stated Annual Meeting
Mon	27	1930	Join the Journey House Group
Wed	29	1000	Pop Up Cafe
		1430	Guild AGM
Thurs	30	1030	Lent Study Group

Interim Moderator

Rev Stewart McPherson has been minister at Corstorphine Craigsbank for 13 years, which is a suburban parish not too dissimilar to that of Fairmilehead. Prior to that he was minister at St Colm's Dalry (now part of Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Parish) for a similar length of time. He has served presbytery on a number of committees including a time as convener of Ecumenical Relations, Moderator of Presbytery, and led the Local Church Review Team which visited Fairmilehead a few years ago.

He will officially become Interim Moderator after Easter and the congregation will get the opportunity to meet him hopefully shortly after that. He will help direct the Kirk Session and congregation through the vacancy and towards the call of our new minister. Although we would all like that to be as swift as possible we must prepare for a calm and paced period as some decisions must be made by the Kirk Session, a Nominating Committee elected, a Parish Profile created, the position advertised, interviews take place, and a few churches visited. We will all require a little patience, some added commitment for the period by many, and the prayers of the whole congregation throughout this time.

Next Issue

Material for the next issue should be with the church office by **19 April 2017**. Crossroads Magazine will be available at the end of March.