



Easter is about new life, and that is where we, as a congregation find ourselves. One ministry has ended and we are now beginning the process of finding a new minister to work with us in the future. This process will take some time but I am confident that we will find that person. In the meantime, we are fortunate to have appointed Rev Bill Irving as our Locum Minister. Bill will preach on Sundays and undertake some pastoral work during the week. Over the coming weeks, the Kirk Session will be meeting with Rev Stewart McPherson, our Interim Moderator, and Presbytery's Advisory Committee who have been appointed to guide us through the vacancy. The Kirk Session will be considering the future shape of ministry here and the content of the Parish Profile at these meetings.

Various edicts have to be read out to the congregation and, once read, I intend to put them on the website. On Sunday 18 June, Rev Stewart McPherson, will be leading the 'All Together Now' service at 10.30am. We will be voting for the Nominating Committee at the end of this service – I will give you more information on this process in the June newsletter. Only members of the congregation and adherents are eligible to vote so please speak to me if you would like to transfer your lines or register as an adherent.

One of last Sunday's hymns was entitled 'I do not know what lies ahead', the answer was in one of the verses 'He'll show the way to me'. **Pamela Black, Session Clerk**



General Assembly 2017

Kirsty McGillivray, one of our former Pathfinders, has been nominated to represent the Presbytery of Edinburgh at the forthcoming General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Kirsty has grown up in Fairmilehead, attended Pentland Primary and Firrhill High School and is currently at Edinburgh University studying to be a Primary School teacher.

She's attended our Young Church, was a Pathfinder, Brownie, Guide and has helped at many of our summer Holiday Clubs. Kirsty has a part time job in the customer services department in one of Sainsbury's Edinburgh stores and is also part of the amateur theatre company Showcase which raises money, from their annual show at the Church Hill Theatre, for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Please pray for Kirsty as she prepares for the General Assembly and we look forward to reading about her experience in the next edition of Crossroads.

Farewell to Rev John Munro

Many thanks to everyone who baked cakes, biscuits and other delicious calorie filled delights for Easter Sunday's farewell to John. Thanks too to the Flower Committee who prepared the flowers to decorate the tables in the hall and the tea team who effortlessly set up, served and cleared up after the event.

John was presented with a cheque from the congregation and an early drawing of 'Life in All its Fullness' by the artist Adrian Wiszniewski, the original of which is in the church foyer. There are some photographs of the occasion on both the website and in the foyer.

Dear Members and Friends,

I have been allowed to write to you one last time since I left the charge of Edinburgh: Fairmilehead on Easter Sunday, 2017.

I was delighted that the Kirk Session organised a farewell dinner for Lillian and myself and a few guests at Mortonhall Golf Club on Friday 7th April at which Dr John Cowan said some kind things about my ministry on behalf of the eldership. This was followed, as you know, by a farewell lunch at the end of the Easter Sunday service at which Dr Stuart Monro added his own words of farewell on behalf of the congregation. Now I just need to say thank you all very much for the generous gift of a sketch by Adrian Wiszniewski, a preparatory study for the painting that hangs behind the Welcome Desk in the entrance hall to the Church Centre, together with a generous cheque that was presented to me on that occasion. Special thanks must go to Pamela Black, our session clerk, who masterminded the whole operation wonderfully well from start to finish. As I said on Easter Sunday I am glad that I leave behind me a congregation of friends in the hope and expectation that the work we did together in this area of Edinburgh will continue well into the future.

Your friend and former minister, John

Kirk Session

The Kirk Session last met on 21 March, 2017 and agreed to go ahead with refurbishing the kitchen. Estimates had been sought and one has now been accepted. As it is over £25k, an application for permission to carry out this work has been lodged with the Presbytery of Edinburgh. The Pop Up Café team, the Sunday tea/coffee team and other members of the congregation who use the kitchen regularly have been consulted on layout and equipment. All going well, this work will be done during July 2017.

The Kirk Session also agreed to start the process of becoming a FairTrade Church. The Pop Up Café already uses FairTrade products and other church organisations and the hall users will be encouraged to do the same. The Eco-Congregation Steering Group are also looking into the costs of choosing an energy supplier that invests in renewable energy sources when the contract with the current supplier ends in June.

The Towards 2025 Core Group also reported their recommendations to the Kirk Session. Its remit had been to keep in mind the vision of the Towards 2000 Group and to discern what the needs of the church and community might be in the coming years under the leadership of a new Minister.

This report and all the minutes of the Kirk Session and its committees (apart from Personnel and Finance) are available in the Church Office for you to read.

The Kirk Session will meet the Interim Moderator on 3 May to discuss the Vacancy process. Pamela Black, Session Clerk

May 2017

Tues	2	1840	Pentland Walking Group— Craiglockhart Hills
Tues	2	1900	Fairmilehead Community Council
Wed	3	1000	Pop Up Café
Wed	3	1000	Play and Praise
Wed	3	1930	Kirk Session
Sun	7	0945	Worship Now! & Young Church
		1100	Morning Worship
Mon	8	1930	Join the Journey House Group
Wed	10	1000	Pop Up Café
Fri	12	1600	Golf Afternoon & Supper
Sun	14	0945	Worship Now! & Young Church
		1100	Morning Worship
Mon	15	1930	Finance Committee
Tues	16	1840	Pentland Walking Group— River Avon/ Linlithgow Bridge
Wed	17	1000	Pop Up Café
Wed	17	1930	Kirk Session
Sun	21	0945	Worship Now! & Young Church
		1100	Morning Worship
		1400	Heart & Soul 2017
Mon	22	1930	Join the Journey House Group
Wed	24	1000	Pop Up Café
Sat	27	1000	Christian Aid Spring Fair
Sun	28	1030	All Together Now! Quarterly Communion & Young Church
Tues	30	1840	Pentland Walking Group— Penicuik Estate via Bog Wood
Wed	31	1000	Pop Up Café
			June 2017
Sun	4	1030	All Together Now! Pentecost Celebration, Communion & Young Church
Tues	6	1900	Fairmilehead Community Council
		1930	Business Committee
Wed	7	1000	Pop Up Café
		1000	Play and Praise
Sun	11	1030	All Together Now! & Young Church
Mon	12	1930	Join the Journey House Group
Tues	13	1000	Pentland Walking Group— picnic at Duns Castle
Wed	14	1000	Pop Up Café
Sun	18	1030	All Together Now! & Young Church
Wed	21	1000	Pop Up Café
Sun	25	1030	Young Church Celebration Sunday & Communion
Mon	26	1930	Join the Journey House Group
Tues	27	1840	Pentland Walking Group— Kirkliston Railway Walk
Wed	28	1000	Pop Up Cafe

Church Register

Baptisms

5 March: Eva McNicol (0/1)
12 March: Max Alexander (10/3)
2 April: Maisie Brydon (9/1)

Weddings

22 April: Rachael Droog to Andrew
Warren

Deaths

21 February: Mrs Marjorie Anderson (0/1)
24 April: Michael Gollan (0/1)

Farewell to

Mrs Sandra Lean (0/3) to Eskbank

Christian Aid Week

14-20 May 2017

Spring Fair

27 May 2017 at Morningside
Parish Church

Heart and Soul 2017

Sunday 21 May

Princes St Gardens

'Heart and Soul' celebrates the life and work of the church. This year's programme has still to be finalised but you can expect live music, arts & exhibitions for all ages and a mass open-air worship in the gardens — all on the theme of 'Word of Life'.

Social Committee

On Friday 12 May we are holding the popular Golf Afternoon and Supper. Golf will be at the Melville Golf Centre followed by Supper at Swanston Golf Club. Non-golfers are most welcome for supper. More information is available from Aileen Brannan 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.

St Catherine's Mercy Centre

Breakfast at the centre is tea, toast and jam. Jam is still in short supply. Contributions of Tea, sugar, rice, pasta, jam and tinned tuna or ham are always required. Donations can be left in the bags provided in the Church Hall entrance. Thank you.

Next Issue

Material for the next issue should be with the church office by 17 May 2017.