

NEWSLETTER

April/May 2016



From the Rector

Dear Friends

Stipendiary Clergy

In the last newsletter I gave the news that Maggie and Nigel Rode, each half time stipendiary Associate Priest, will be retiring from Christ Church this summer, with their last service being the 10am Sung Eucharist on Sunday 17th July. The service will be followed with “fizz and nibbles” in the Centre and, weather permitting, the Rectory garden.

After consultation with the Vestry and the Bishop, I can now tell you that we will be advertising for a full time stipendiary Associate Rector after Easter, with interviews at the end of May. For those interested to know more about this, the information pack for the post will be published on the website from 1st April, and a printed version available at the back of the church .

Ordinands

Also further to the last newsletter, I am now able to say that following the completion of three year’s training for ordination Jane Green will be

ordained Deacon in St Mary’s Cathedral, Edinburgh at 3.30pm on Sunday 25th September and Nick Bowry at 4.30pm on Sunday 2nd October in St Devenick’s, Bielside, Aberdeen.

Jane will serve as non stipendiary curate at St Ninian’s, Comely Bank, and Nick a stipendiary curate with the congregations of St Clement’s, Mastrick and St Devenick’s, Bielside.

There will be no evening service at Christ Church on either of those Sundays in the hope that as many of us as possible will attend the ordination services. A coach will be arranged for the trip to Aberdeen on 2nd October, leaving Christ Church at noon, with time for a lunch stop on the way north. More information on this in the next newsletter, and this outing will count as this year’s annual congregational away day.

As I wish you every blessing for this Easter season, I encourage you to take note of all the activities noted in this newsletter over this period, ranging from walking and book groups to Christian Aid week and much more besides.

Susan Macdonald

JOURNEYS in Faith

Sundays, 11.30am – 12.30pm in the Church Centre

3 April	Area Visitors and AVST meeting	Susan Macdonald, Rector
17 April	“Planning my funeral service”	Susan Macdonald, Rector
1 May	“What would Matthew have made of Google? What does tax avoidance mean to us?”	Gerry Brown, Member of Christ Church
15 May	Christian Aid Sunday	more information overleaf

The Reflection Group meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month in a member’s home between 10.00 and 12.00am. Enquiries to Gill Davidson, Joy Holmes or Church Office

VESTRY NEWS

Last year, Vestry committed to write short summaries of what has been discussed at our meetings and it falls to me to describe our meetings in January and March of this year.

As is customary, we began the year with an awayday in January. Our setting was Emmaus House on a frosty day. You can read more about it here: <http://www.emmaushouse-edinburgh.co.uk/>

As Susan points out, each time even one or two people change on Vestry it does mean that the team as a whole is new, so to get to know one another we were asked to talk briefly about our Christian names, how we got them, and whether we are named after anyone in particular. It's amazing what stories such a simple exercise brings out.

The day was split into Vestry business, and time given to a wider topic. Amongst the former we discussed the 'Journeys Together' course, Rowan Williams' upcoming visit, fundraising and plans for the Phase 3 stonework/hall project, our communications and heard staff reports. We also began to think strategically about stipendiary ministry needs post Maggie & Nigel's retirement in July.

In the afternoon we were very fortunate to hear from Alistair Dinnie from Edinburgh City

Council. Alistair led the Council's work to resettle fifty Syrian refugees, and he told a compelling story of the practicalities, surprises and emotions of mobilising and coordinating many services in support of these families at very short notice. Like many churches and organisations, we are keen to help, and trying to work out how to do so.

Our March meeting was a regular Monday evening one at the Rectory, with a first feeling of Spring in the air. All the committees had now met (Finance and Management, Property, UK and Overseas Giving), and so there was an opportunity to discuss items arising from them. We heard updates on the preparations to advertise the post of Associate Rector, and on Phase 3. Continuing the Journeys Together theme, we watched two of the videos and were moved by the testimonies and also impressed by the production quality. Last of all we heard from two Vestry members, Helen Wosu and Mary Snow, about their investigations into how we can best support the refugees.

These meetings are never dry affairs, and it is always encouraging and a privilege to see something of all the varied activities and efforts made by so many that bring Christ Church to life in different ways.

Mike McNamee, elected Vestry member

Film Evening—Monday 23 May

6.45 for 7pm in the Church Centre

The film will be **PRIDE**, an historical comedy-drama telling the story of UK gay activists working to help miners during their lengthy strike over the summer of 1984.

Everyone is welcome- as usual there will be a break for refreshments and time for discussion afterwards.

Jane Green and Susan Macdonald

THE TILTING PULPIT!

You will have noticed the pulpit has been out of action for some weeks now. It has been confirmed major works will be required to make it safe again for long term use, and grants will need to be applied for to alleviate the cost. In the meantime it is hoped some temporary works can be done to enable the pulpit to be used again until these works can be undertaken.



RENOVATION APPEAL 2016

On Epiphany Sunday we launched an appeal to raise £50,000 by Easter Day towards the cost of the restoration of the stonework (Phase 3) and the refurbishment of the Church Hall.

We are delighted to report the target has been met and thank all who contributed towards it.

The Beauty of Holiness, the Church work of Sir Robert Lorimer. A talk by Simon Green on Tuesday 19th April in the Cathedral (Resurrection Chapel) from 6.30 – 8.30pm. There are many examples of Lorimer's work in Scotland including the Rood Cross in St Mary's Cathedral. Tickets are £10 which includes the talk, wine and canapes. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Helen Godfrey 0131 531 0247 or by email helengodfrey43@outlook.com

Christian Aid Week: the week we love every neighbour

Picture a young mother of four. Her husband has left. She has no land. No assets. No savings. The only work she can get is backbreaking manual labour for as little as 74p a day. Her home has been flooded several times— this is Morsheda. She is our neighbour, and she desperately needs our help.

A Home Safety Package from Christian Aid could raise Morsheda's home on an earth plinth and give her resources to invest in things like farm animals, seeds and a composting kit – giving her the tools she needs to build a better future. A new chance at life for Morsheda costs as little as £250.

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED: From 15-21 May, our church will join with more than 20,000 others across the UK for the sake of people like Morsheda. Here at Holy Corner we work closely with our neighbours at Morningside United Church (MUC).

Sunday 15 May is "CHRISTIAN AID SUNDAY", when we are joined by MUC for a joint service dedicated to the work of Christian Aid. This year the newly appointed Head of Christian Aid Scotland, the Revd Sally Foster-Fullerton, will preach. The Offertory collection at this service is donated to Christian Aid, so it is an opportunity to learn more about Christian Aid, to pray for its projects and their beneficiaries like Morsheda and her neighbours on the Bramaputra River in Bangladesh...and to give generously. The main fund raising effort is the HOLY CORNER CHRISTIAN AID BOOKSALE at MUC which runs from 14-21 May 2016.

Last year the sale raised a record total of over £15,000; that represents a huge quantity of books to be sorted, priced and organised; and VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:

- during the sale week to help to sort and sell the books and take the cash
- in the weeks before the sale : to sort and price the books

Please use the contact below if you could offer to helpALSO PLEASE

- publicise the sale amongst neighbours, friends and family,
- ENCOURAGE them to donate items for sale, and make DONATIONS yourself
- note the dates in your diary and come to the sale

In previous years a small team from Christ Church has joined with MUC in a LOCAL HOUSE- TO- HOUSE COLLECTION.

A small team from MUC will be collecting this year, and would welcome extra help.



To donate books, please take them to MUC side entrance on Chamberlain Road , weekdays 10- 12noon. For help with delivery ring 667 1359, or contact the Christ Church office. If you would like to volunteer to help with the booksale please email

booksalevolunteers@morningsideunitedchurch.org.uk

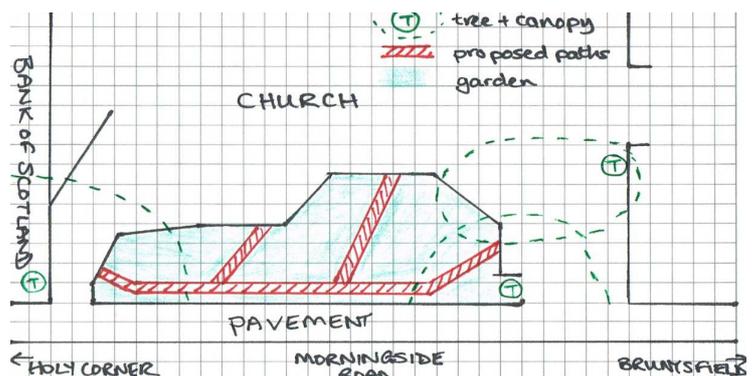
and/or to help with the house to house collection speak to Ceci Stephens 0131 446 0922, email cecilia.stephens67@gmail.com or use the signup sheet at the back of the Church. Ceci Stephens

From the Garden Group: Front garden changes

In order to make access to the garden safer and easier for the volunteer gardeners and to reduce the amount of garden to be maintained, Christ Church is making a planning application to replace the random stepping stones with a small network of paths. The paths will use grey slabs similar to the ones used for the existing paths around the church and will be 900mm wide. This is a copy of the plan submitted to the Council.

Planning permission/listed building consent usually takes 6-8 weeks so construction of the paths, assuming permission is granted, won't begin until May, at the earliest. We are confident enough of the proposal being accepted that we will begin the long task of moving or removing plants over the coming weeks.

Any questions can be directed to Kate Houston:444 0814.



CONTACTS

STAFF

Rector: Very Revd. Susan Macdonald

Associate Priests:

Revd Maggie Rode

Revd Nigel Rode

Assistant priest: Rev Imre Katay-Fodor

Director of Music: Dr. Michael Green

Assistant Organist: Kat Whigham

Families' Networker: Alex Barrett

Church Manager: Dorothea Nelson

Office Assistant: Christine Johnson

Factor: Michael Herriott

VESTRY

Chair: The Rector

Rector's Warden: Lindsay Graham

People's Warden: Robin Morris

Treasurer: Kenneth Ramage

Secretary: Alison Amin

Lay Representative: Howard Moody

Elected Vestry members:

Mike McNamee, Alan Shotter, Mary Snow,

Stuart Valentine and Helen Wosu.

All staff and vestry members can be contacted by telephone or email through the Church Office: 0131 229 0090 or admin@6a.org.uk | Office open: Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm

Twitter  @CCMEdin Facebook  Christ Church Morningside

WALKERS' PROGRAMME

"A" Walkers (awalkers@6a.org.uk)

Saturday, 2nd April 2016

A circular hill walk around Galashiels. Distance 20km. Ascent 450 metres. OS Sheet 73/Explorer 338. Contact: Church office

Saturday & Sunday 7th and 8th May 2016

Weekend away by Glenfinnan. A variety of walks, including the exciting ascent of Streap. OS Sheet 40. Contact: Church office

"B" Walkers (bwalkers@6a.org.uk)

Saturday, 16th April 2016

Ravensheugh (7.5 miles)

Contact: Church Office

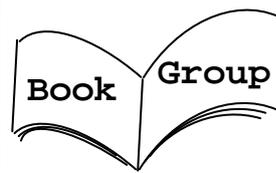
Saturday, 21st May 2016

Romanno Bridge (8 miles)

Contact: Church office

Please contact the organiser by the preceding

Thursday so that transport can be arranged.



**Tuesday 5th April
& 3rd May in the
Church Centre**

5 April: A Perfectly Good Man—Patrick Gale.

When 20-year-old Lenny Barnes, paralysed in a rugby accident, commits suicide in the presence of Barnaby Johnson, the much-loved priest of a West Cornwall parish, the tragedy's reverberations open up the fault-lines.

3 May: Lamentation — C.J. Sansom. Summer, 1546. King Henry VIII is slowly, painfully dying. His Protestant and Catholic councillors are engaged in a power struggle; whoever wins will control the government of Henry's successor, eight-year-old Prince Edward. The Catholic party focus their attack on Henry's sixth wife, Matthew Shardlake's old mentor, Queen Catherine Parr.

Book Group contact: Church Office

The deadline for the next edition of the Newsletter is **Sunday, 15th May 2016.**

Please email submissions to magazine@6a.org.uk

or leave material in Church Centre letter box marked 'Newsletter.'