



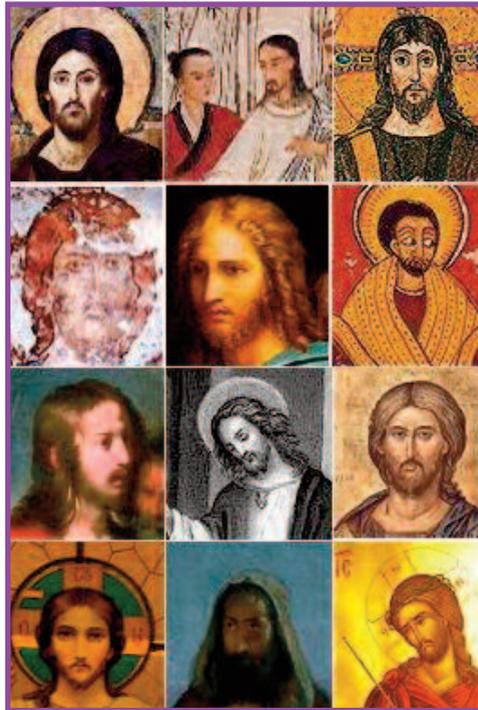
August 2020

Issue 249

Scottish Charity SC000785

GRAPEVINE

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland



FIVE MINUTES' PEACE RE-OPENING

MINISTERIAL VACANCY NEWS

COVID-19 TASK GROUP UPDATE

REFLECTION: A WALK IN PALESTINE

www.mayfieldsalisbury.org

LETTER FROM REVD NEIL GARDNER

Dear Friends,

Let me tell you about Jonny, except that's not his real name. Jonny used to come to our service in Canongate Kirk very occasionally, sometimes weighed down with carrier bags on his way home from the supermarket, and would sit towards the back of the King David Aisle. He lived locally and suffered from a range of serious health conditions, both physical and mental. Jonny had what we now know to call "underlying health issues" and a couple of months ago he contracted Coronavirus, and died in hospital aged 61. I only heard this news by chance the other day, and felt shocked and sad for various reasons. Partly because I hadn't been asked to take his funeral, there being nobody to pass on word of his loose connection to the Kirk. And partly because I might never have heard and never have known. It's one of the hazards of city-centre ministry, not always knowing what becomes of the people we encounter on the edge of the congregation and of the community, not least those with underlying health issues of one sort or another. And I can't believe it's any different at Mayfield Salisbury.

The example set by Jesus in the Gospels encourages us constantly to reach out to those on the edge, on the margins of society, and if I've learned anything fresh from Jonny's life and death it is the



importance of reaching out in the here and now, whatever it may or may not lead to. And if we're all to learn anything as we emerge gently and gratefully from the recent crisis it must surely be to remember those who have died however well we knew them or not, and to acknowledge those who reached out to them in hospitals and care homes and were with them to the end when the rest of us couldn't be.

There are other things to hold on to, of course, like the many acts of kindness and appreciation that have gone on behind the scenes and I hope we remember those too as we go forward. As Interim Moderator I'm extremely grateful for the work of the task group that has undertaken the painstaking process of preparing Mayfield Salisbury to reopen its doors once again, and you can read more of its progress and its plans elsewhere in this edition of *Grapevine*. I'm grateful too to the Nominating Committee, which has not lost sight of its responsibility to identify your next Minister, and you can also read of its progress and plans elsewhere too. There should be more to hear from both these sources in the next edition of *Grapevine*.

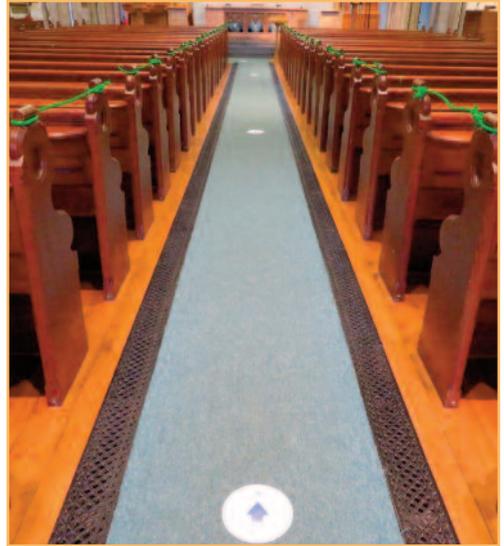
But for now, all good wishes and every blessing

Neil Gardner
Interim Moderator

COVID-19 TASK GROUP UPDATE

After months of lockdown, supported spiritually by our hard-working Ministerial team and innovative on-line services, it still seems a big step to be re-opening our beautiful sanctuary. You may have heard already the good news that this will happen every Wednesday evening for 5 Minutes Peace, from 6:30pm to 8.00pm starting on 5 August.

We are also making plans for Communal worship in the church with limited numbers every Sunday morning at 10.00am beginning 6 September. This will be a short meditative service lasting no longer than 40 minutes. We know that coming to the church just yet may not be suitable for all and the online services will continue on the website from 8.00am each Sunday as usual with the prayers and reflection repeated at the church service. We hope this might encourage those who

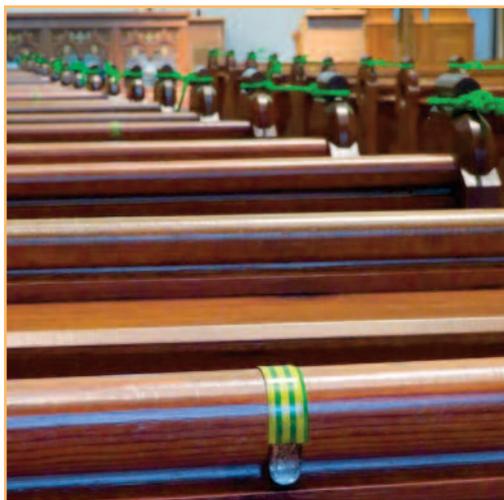


wish to return to church as soon as possible to do so, while ensuring that those who prefer to take more time before coming won't miss out! Indeed depending on numbers it may not be possible to attend every week, even if you wished to do so and we would really appreciate it, if you think carefully about what might work best for you and your family. We are also exploring how best to ensure that those without internet access can continue to experience the worship provided.

It is important for you to be aware of the many rules and procedures which the Scottish Government and Church of Scotland require us to observe. The resultant plans developed by the Covid Task Group for worship were approved by Presbytery on 30 July. They will make the experience of coming to Church different, but hopefully we can make the experience as meaningful as possible.

Firstly, there is an absolute limit of 50

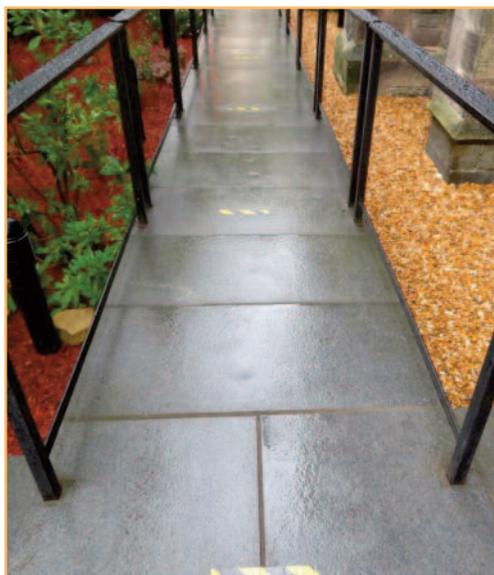




people in the buildings at any time, with a maximum of 42 individuals (beyond the Ministerial team and Welcomers) permitted entry to the Sanctuary. Under current social distancing requirements and in view of the limit on the number of people, there will be only 40 to 42 individuals permitted entry. There is also a limit of 2 people for each seating area, which is marked by a clip (see photograph). Alternate pews are roped off. You will be escorted by a member of the Welcome team to sit in front of a specific clip, where an Order of Service will be found for your sole use. Please do take it away with you.



Secondly, on arrival you will find a one-way system. Entrance is by the front doors via the ramp on West Mayfield, with 2 metre distancing marked on the ramp (see photograph). The exit is by the door to the left of the pulpit and the Welcome team will invite you when to leave to avoid bottle necks at the door. On leaving you should exit the building directly into the car park as there is no access to the halls. The premises will have been cleaned before the service and will be cleaned before the premises are used again.



Thirdly, the Scottish Government requires you to give your contact details. We only need your name and a contact number (mobile or landline; email or address) and the date of attendance. If there is more than one of you, only the contact details of the “lead” member of the group is required. We are still finalising exactly how we will collect this information, but whatever method we use, we will ensure full details are available in *Grapevine* and on the website. The data collected requires to

- W** Welcome and please wear a face covering all the time
- O** Open your hearts and minds to God ... and follow the one way system
- R** Respect social distancing 2m
- S** Sign in with your contact details and sanitise your hands
- H** Help us by sitting in the designated seats, no more than 2 together
- I** Invite those who can't attend to listen online
- P** Participate fully but please refrain from singing.

be held for 28 days and if we do not have to pass the details to NHS Scotland for Test and Protect, it will then be destroyed.

In addition, face coverings must be worn at all times unless you are exempt (children under 5 or someone with a medical condition). No singing is allowed and the congregation will be seated throughout, without the comfort of pew cushions. There will be no Sunday School provision for the time being, but online services and activities for young people will continue. Refreshments cannot be provided before or after the service. There will be no

cloakroom facilities and toilets can only to be used in an emergency.

Many of these changes and restrictions are becoming familiar from other settings. They can be summed up in the helpful **WORSHIP** reminder above.

Thank you for your understanding and may we find increasing peace and joy in our sanctuary as we reach the next stage of responsiveness to the covid pandemic.

*Heather Cubie
on behalf of the Covid Task Group*

FIVE MINUTES' PEACE RE-OPENING

Re-opening on 5 August

We are delighted to announce that Five Minutes' Peace, opening the Sanctuary of Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church to members of the congregation and the wider public for private prayer and meditation, will recommence on Wednesday 5 August.

It will take place every Wednesday from 6.30pm to 8.00pm.

Strict social distancing protocols will be in operation and visitors must wear a face covering. Come and experience once again the beauty and peace to be found within our Sanctuary.



A WALK IN PALESTINE

Readings

Genesis 29: 15 - 28 Romans 8: 26 - 39 St Matthew 13: 31 - 33, 44 - 52

This reflection is available to listen to online at: <https://youtu.be/Tp00926OF8Y>

On Friday, 31 July some branches of the Christian church will have remembered St Ignatius of Loyola the 16th Century founder of the Society of Jesus, normally known as the Jesuit Order.

Loyola is famous for his Spiritual Exercises, through which he encouraged people imaginatively to enter into the stories in the Gospels as if they themselves were present, in the hope of being directly and personally addressed. In an updated form, the Spiritual Exercises have formed a basis for interdenominational Bible study that many find helpful today.

The Exercises are supposed to take time. They can't be rushed.

We might assume that Jesus of Nazareth knew the value of taking time, moving as he did from place to place mostly at walking pace, a practice many of us may have enjoyed all the more recently during restrictions imposed by the coronavirus. Walking allows time to appreciate ordinariness. It enabled Jesus to draw lessons from people, objects and activities of everyday; and gave time for his words to fall on the ears of his listeners until the penny dropped, or the idea shocked, or they kept on discussing it because he might have meant this – or perhaps that – or

maybe all of these - or something else entirely.

So, taking a leaf from St Ignatius' book, I invite you imaginatively to join a day in the life of Jesus and his companions as they walk along a road in Palestine. Stop for a moment to absorb the scene: the slope of the hills dotted with sheep, the spread of the sky, the dry ground, stony fields, wild flowers, scrubby bushes and trees. See the birds, perching on the branches, or in the air riding the thermals, and hear them call. Take account of your companions, some already confirmed disciples of their leader; others, including some women, driven by curiosity, boredom, or a growing sense of devotion. Place yourself somewhere in that motley band, and prepare to listen.

Jesus is pointing to a bush at the side of the road. **'The kingdom of heaven is like the tiny seed that produced that mustard tree. See what a haven it provides for the birds!'**

Along with everyone else, you peer at the bush. When you stop to think, it does seem a bit of a miracle. Even with two thousand years of scientific botany behind you, you do still marvel at the wonder of growth be it in wheat and flowers, or bushes and trees.



Image by Jörg Vieli from Pixabay

The slope of the hills dotted with sheep

On the road you strike up a conversation about joy with someone who falls in beside you. You agree that it's more than happiness, which tends to come and go; that joy can well up and spill over, but there can also be something secret about it, hidden deep within the heart, like treasure in a field. Joy is an elusive gift, you agree, but nonetheless, you'd both give a great deal for more of it. Your friend observes that finding the treasure was luck for the man in the story, which leads you both to talk about serendipity, that strange conjunction of chance and opportunity which may, you agree, lead to untold discoveries for anyone attuned to possibilities for inspiration.

Still with Jesus and his disciples, you reach

the winding streets and the bustling bazaars of Jerusalem. There's an eagle-eyed merchant pouring over jewels. He's rich enough to buy several but his eye keeps returning to one faultless pearl. He's been hoping for a find like this for years and come hell or high water, he'll have it even if he has to sell his other jewels, home, possessions – everything.

Jesus speaks quietly. **'The Kingdom of heaven's like that.'** You think about this. Talk of a perfect pearl makes you uneasy, wondering if the kingdom of heaven is nothing but fruitless idealisation really. But then: might the important point be the open, yet determined search for ultimate meaning and value and the refusal to settle for less, even though you know that the

absolute fulfilment you seek is unlikely ever to be realised this side of eternity?

You join everyone for supper in a hired room. There are a lot of you there, far more than Jesus and his closest disciples. Someone has managed to get an enormous loaf of bread. You've never seen one so hugely over-the-top. You watch as Jesus raises the bread and blesses it. **'And blessed be the woman who baked this for us all!'** he says. And pauses: **'The kingdom of heaven is like the leaven in this.'**

Over dinner you discuss this with the people beside you. Someone says **'I think he's saying that the essential hiddenness of the kingdom is important, like yeast in the dough, and the buried treasure he talked about today.'** **'Yes, but it must be acted upon'** says another. **'The dough needed the cook to stretch and fold it over; just as the man had to dig for the treasure.'**

Another of your companions says **'it makes me think of this gathering around Jesus that's getting bigger and bigger; that it's not about individuals as much as the growth of the company itself.'** A scholarly looking person observes that yeast can represent corruption and that perhaps he meant that we might need to re-think what's good and what's bad – or that people who are considered disreputable might just have something useful, even essential to add to any company, including this one.

You see that Jesus has noticed the intense discussion going on at your end of the table. **'Ask him'** someone says. **'Sometimes he explains things.'**

So you say **'tell us please: what is the Kingdom of Heaven exactly?'**

And he smiles and says, **'It's getting late. Sleep on it. And join us again tomorrow.'**

CHRISTIAN AID *Prayer Thoughts*

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Psalm 96: 4a

Give thanks for the work of our partner NGF in Bangladesh, training and providing grants to farmers to start crab hatcheries or crab fattening schemes so they can run profitable businesses.

Pray for more creative projects like this to flourish, ensuring communities threatened by the climate crisis can find a way to thrive and not just survive.

Let there be life and flourishing despite the risks and challenges.

Amen

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

New Member
Hannah Wapenaar

SESSION MATTERS

Session met virtually on 19 May and 7 July when the following matters were discussed:

Correspondence: The Session Clerk had previously circulated an email from Lauren Wall of the Red Thread Studio expressing appreciation of the rent holiday and noting that their members had been involved in making scrubs for the NHS.

Finalising Business Morven Cadell and family are to relocate to the Dollar area. Session asked the Clerk to convey to Morven its appreciation of her and her family's long-standing contribution to the life of the church, not least through her children's attendance at age appropriate activities, her own leading of those activities, her role as safeguarding officer, and Jack's recent appointment as fabric convenor on Business Committee.

It was agreed that the double glazing of the manse windows would be carried out and Session gave its agreement to use the legacy of £5,000 from Miss Bannerman to offset some of the cost.

Homologation of the Approval of The Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts For 2019 The Session Clerk indicated that approval for the signing of the Trustees' Report and Annual Accounts for 2019 had been sought, and given, by correspondence in the second half of March. This course of action had been followed because the Kirk Session meeting due to be held on 17 March, at which consideration of the accounts was to have taken place, had been cancelled at very short notice because of concerns about the coronavirus. Since elders had approved the accounts by correspondence they had been duly signed and submitted and Session duly homologated that action.

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The appointment of Anne Dobson as Independent Examiner (2020) was agreed.

NEW MEMBER A request for membership had been received in March from Ms Hannah Wapenaar. This was overtaken shortly afterwards by the Covid-19 restrictions but Session was pleased to consider and approve the request and gave a warm welcome to Ms Wapenaar.

GOING CASHLESS Steve Holehouse, Business Committee Convenor explained that the Business Committee had been considering a move away from cash for some time before the Covid-19 pandemic, but current conditions have given it added urgency. Session accepted this position and approved the terms of the draft Freewill Offerings letter. Steve mentioned that the 'donate now' button on the church website is operational, and it was hoped that this would assist in the move towards cashless giving.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

Steve Holehouse asked elders to approve the appointment of Boyd McAdam as BC's risk assessment and management officer, which they were pleased to do. Boyd was thanked for taking on this role, which has gained particular significance in the period leading up to re-opening the church buildings.

STAFF SUPPORT GROUP (SSG)

The remit of the SSG was agreed. This is:

1. To support all staff in their work through regular meetings with them and to encourage those with a pastoral role to make use of professional external supervision.
2. To listen confidentially to concerns which staff raise and, where appropriate, assist in helping them find a resolution, including by referring them for counselling.

3. To encourage best practice in our HR systems, thus reducing the risk of losing key staff, especially at this time of transition.

COVID-19 TASK GROUP In mid-March a Covid-19 group had been formed. Their task now is to oversee plans for a gradual re-opening of the building and of our public activity. The detailed nature of the re-opening work means that it will be best done by a relatively small group on Session's behalf. Session ratified the formation of the Covid-19 task group and agreed its remit to manage the operational and administrative tasks needed to open the church safely. The Session Clerk thanked Steve Holehouse for acting as interim chair thus far, and Heather Cubie for having recently taken over the role of chair. Heather Cubie advised that a comprehensive risk assessment document requires to be completed, and Boyd McAdam has taken the lead in this. It must be submitted to Presbytery for their agreement.

The plan, for Session's comment and approval, is to open the sanctuary for Five Minutes' Peace in August (for just one slot a week, provisionally on a Wednesday), before beginning to hold public services of worship in September. Initially, services would be fortnightly, to allow the Chinese Church to use the sanctuary on the intervening Sundays (though arrangements are at an early stage with them and the position may change). In addition, Newington Nursery has indicated that it would like to resume its playgroup facility in August. It was stressed that the intention was to continue uploading weekly on-line services, as at present, at least for the initial period after re-opening. A critical factor in how frequently our buildings can be safely used is the cleaning and disinfecting regime. Session agreed the broad timetable for re-opening and expressed a desire to explore professional cleaning contracts. It was acknowledged that detailed planning is not

always possible for very far in the future against a background of changing advice and legislation, but that the Covid-19 task group would keep investigating relevant options.

PRESBYTERY ELDER'S REPORT

Anne Steele has volunteered to continue as our Presbytery Elder, and warm thanks were extended to her for this. Steve Holehouse noted Presbytery's agreement 'to divert the fund previously intended for campus ministry to a Covid-19 fund to assist congregations with outreach directly related to the Covid-19 outbreak'. Mayfield Salisbury had been a significant donor to the campus ministry led by Revd Dr Liam Fraser, and not all of the funds had been spent by the time that work came to an end on his induction as a parish minister. On behalf of Session, there had been correspondence to ask that any excess funds be returned to us, though no resolution has yet been reached. In view of this new development, Session was asked if it was content to leave matters as they now are and to drop the correspondence for the return of any excess. This was unanimously agreed.

AOCB: It was agreed that a payment of £1,000 be made from the Buttberg Fund to the Bethany Christian Trust in response to their Care Shelter Team's recent appeal.

The Moderator assured Session that the Nominating Committee's work is continuing. The Church of Scotland is to issue new procedures for congregations in a vacancy. This will provide for a temporary relaxation of some of the relevant rules to allow vacancies to be filled within the constraints imposed by the Covid-19 restrictions.

The Moderator also expressed thanks to all of the ministry team, including those engaged with youth and pastoral work and music, for all of their work during the lockdown. Session warmly endorsed this.

CHRISTIAN AID URGENT APPEAL

We recently received the following urgent appeal from Christian Aid, which we very much hope you will consider supporting:

‘Last year, over 45 million people were forced from their homes by conflict and violence. Families who have suffered so much need your help now more than ever to face the deadly threat of coronavirus. Millions of lives are at stake.

Coronavirus is the latest threat to their safety. Families who have fled conflict and hunger are now living in crowded camps where social distancing is impossible. In these places there is limited access to medical care, clean water or enough food, making people extremely vulnerable to coronavirus. **Here, the virus is likely to be even more deadly than it has been in the UK. Deaths are already mounting.**

We’ve joined the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to raise urgent funds for communities living in extreme poverty and conflict in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Please help us protect refugees and vulnerable people in the world’s most fragile places today.

We’re already responding to the Covid-19 outbreak by delivering life-saving information and hygiene support, personal protective equipment and food packages to communities in need. Your donation can help us to:



- provide families with clean water, soap and information on keeping themselves safe
- give frontline medical and aid workers the equipment and supplies they need to care for the vulnerable and sick
- ensure families get enough food to prevent malnutrition, particularly amongst children

Help families who have lost everything as they face this deadly threat.’

If you’d like to contribute, click on the link [Please donate now](#) or visit the [Christian Aid website](#) at www.christianaid.org.uk Cash and cheques cannot currently be accepted, but you can make a donation by telephone on 020 7523 2269.

Thank you!

The Christian Aid Committee

PASTORAL CARE

In the month of June I was writing about family members now being allowed to visit their loved ones in nursing homes and asking myself how they must be feeling about that. Little did I know that a couple of weeks later I would be watching the paramedics driving away with my husband and not knowing if I would see him again. Due to an allergy to a prescribed medicine he ended up in the Royal Infirmary renal high dependency unit on dialysis and of course I wasn't allowed to visit. To not be allowed to see your loved one and know that they are seriously ill is simply. To rely on video calling was certainly a help and I was so thankful for the technology to help me keep in touch with him.

I found my normal dependable reliable self at sixes and sevens with no control, and just having to wait and pray and rely on complete strangers to take good care of my husband. He is now back home and my children and I are very thankful for the professional care that he received.

I found myself finding comfort in the book of psalms and listening to familiar soothing music and singing to myself CH4 hymn 691 *Be still my soul: the Lord is on your side*. Whenever I need to calm myself down and ground myself it is my 'go to' song. I wonder if you have one? Although people weren't allowed to visit me, phone calls from my friends and family members were very precious.

Fortunately we have a team of Pastoral Coordinators and Pastoral Visitors who have been keeping in touch with so many

of our members throughout the pandemic and we would like to ask those of you who do not have a visitor if you would now like one?

As the autumn approaches and Covid 19 is clearly going to be around for a while, you may find contact from the team to be a comfort, whether they are able to visit in person or just by telephone. Someone to journey and travel with you over the next few months and years.

Do you need help to access the online worship (viewing the service over the internet)? I can't promise an instant response, but I will do my best to get you help.

If I can be of any help please do not hesitate to contact me.

Contact details for PV co-ordinators:

Dorothy Cloughley

667 3565 dorothycloughley@googlemail.com

Wendy Mathison

447 5562 wsmdance3@gmail.com

Anne Mulligan

664 3426 mulliganne@aol.com

Maggie Ross

668 3859 maggiejeanross@btinternet.com

Hilary Watkinson

hilary.watkinson@btinternet.com

Kay

Kay McIntosh, Pastoral Assistant.

HECTOR FRIEND IN NEPAL



project
TRUST since 1967

The following article is adapted from a very interesting, longer report sent to us by Hector Friend, who worked as a Project Trust volunteer in Nepal with support from the Shierlaw Fund. Sadly, his placement had to be cut short because of Coronavirus. Hector writes:

I would like to thank you for the generous donation that allowed me to spend an incredible 8 months teaching in Nepal.

I lived and taught in a small village called Nisi, a long and very bumpy 25 hour bus journey from Kathmandu. The village is quite rural but has quickly and recently opened up since the construction of a new highway that runs through it. There are around 2000 - 4000 people who live in the area, either in the main village or in one of the numerous other villages that climb up the steep valley sides.

The school I taught in was large, and had much better facilities than other Nepal volunteers' schools, such as a computer lab with 20 computers and well-equipped science and veterinary labs. I mostly taught English in the primary school with one period in the school's computer lab with

class 6 who were first year age. Towards the end I also taught class 7 English. The

lower primary school

classes, 2 and 3, were quite small with about 30 students in each but classes 4 and 5, who were upper primary, were bigger with about 40 to 50 students each. Though these classes were nothing compared to class 7 which had 78 students on the register! At the beginning, each class had a main teacher who was in the room with me while I taught. They helped control classes, often explaining the activity I had planned to the students in Nepali.

As I got more settled, the Nepali teachers started drifting out of the classroom after I came in. I had previously relied on them to keep classes behaving. The first class I had to teach alone, class 5, was chaos! I don't think we got any work done. They did do lots of fighting, throwing brushes at each other and standing on their benches. I remember feeling so powerless and inadequate as a teacher. I had to do something to get them to behave or my time there would be horrible. I started writing names of pupils who had been good on the board and giving them stickers, and I brought my speaker into class to play a song which we would sing and dance to at the end of the lesson if they were all good. I took them to the computer lab at the end of the week to





watch the BBC's *Walking with Dinosaurs*, which I'd downloaded painfully slowly in the cold outside my house with a 3G hotspot as the school didn't have WIFI. These incentives worked well: I felt much happier at school after 'taming' the class and started to get on well with them.

I really enjoyed teaching class 3, who were nine to twelve years old. Most days for the last five or ten minutes we'd play 'Simon says', with lots of actions and some vocabulary. It was really good fun and they definitely got much better at recognising the simple verbs that I was acting out. I also started extra phonics classes before school with class 3, which was rewarding as I could see some of them making real progress. Coming up to exams I taught class 4 after school which I really enjoyed as there were fewer students, which made everything easier. It was nice to be able to have a quieter lesson as the shyer kids were more comfortable and I was able to

practice speaking with them individually which was impossible in the big and noisy periods I taught.

Outside of school, my partner and another teacher who lived with us played football with some older students. Volleyball is Nepal's national sport and so I'd go and play that too which was fun. The court we played on was right beside the river so there were often big pauses in the games after the ball was hit into the river and someone would have to dash downstream to recover it.

Throughout my time there I worked really hard to learn the language. This really helped to settle me and made the teachers and villagers much more comfortable around me. It also enabled me to learn so much more about the culture and people, which were truly unique.

On weekends, my partner and I would go

to Burtibang (the nearest main town) to see some other volunteers who lived in the area. We would also visit teachers' and students' houses and go camping in the jungle, taking some noodles, making a fire and sleeping in bivvy bags. In the morning on one of the last days I visited one of the teachers who lived high up the valley side. We sat in his kitchen chatting in Nepali and drinking sour milk, mwoi. He offered me breakfast which was maize polenta, aato, and green vegetables, saag. My

Nepali had improved massively and so I was much more comfortable and able to joke more.

I am obviously very disappointed that I had to leave Nepal early, but I still learned a great deal in the time I spent there. I also hope that I will be able to return soon to visit or do more voluntary work. This wouldn't have been possible without your support and for that I am very grateful.

YOUTH UPDATE

Hillary Leslie



Over the month of July we've had a bit of a break with the youth programming; youth group wrapped up mid-July with a Netflix party, and the 12 - 16s had their final morning devotionals,

before a break, on 12 July. We started our first 'book club' this summer with a few of the teenagers and plan on finishing our discussion in August.

In August, the children's messages and videos will again be a part of our online Sunday services after taking a break in July, so be sure to tune in on our website! On Sunday 30 August we will have a Youth Worship service on Zoom at 7.00pm.

In September our virtual youth programming will start back up (and we

may have a few opportunities in August before then for various ages groups, so please keep checking the website!). It is too early to say when we might be able to gather in person as a youth group, but I will continue to keep everyone updated as time progresses.

The best way to keep in the loop is to add your email to the Youth Newsletter – please contact Hillary at Hillary.mayfielddyouth@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the list! This will ensure you've gotten a copy of the youth schedule and are able to be contacted with relevant changes and updates. Everyone is welcome to be a part of the mailing list so that you know what our young people are up to in the church.

Until we meet again, I will be thinking about and praying for all of the families, children and young people as they prepare for a new school term, which may come with many uncertainties and anxieties for everyone this year.

Hillary

NEWS

Over the past few months the Nominating Committee has met several times courtesy of Zoom which on the whole has worked very well for us. As you may be aware the Commission of the General Assembly recently issued guidance to assist congregations and Nominating Committees during the Covid-19 pandemic. You will wish to know that in the light of this and the interest expressed in the vacancy to date we have set a deadline of 10 August for applications which is now advertised on the Church of Scotland website.

The Nominating Committee will have to rely on different methods for assessing candidates to those normally used but we are confident that we will be able to make progress. When we reach the point of a sole nominee preaching we will do our best to ensure that all those entitled to vote will be able to see and hear the nominee conduct the same act of worship and be able to participate in the vote. Depending on the Covid-19 restrictions applying at the time, this part of the process may take longer than usual and we will issue advice and guidance on the process when we reach that stage. Meantime we ask you to keep us in your prayers.

The Church is very grateful to all those who give by standing order enabling us to maintain a large portion of our income through these difficult times. We now offer the ability to contribute to our work electronically through the 'give.net' facility which appears on the home page of the Church's website. This provides the possibility of adding Gift Aid to donations.

VACANCY UPDATE



Boyd McAdam
Convener

ONLINE DONATIONS

Direct link:
www.give.net/20311853

Hugh Somerville, Free
Will Offerings Treasurer

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

August

- 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

28TH BRAID SCOUT TROOP

Contemplating the first time in 50 years without a summer camp was just too much to bear, particularly in our Centenary Year, and the very least we could do was to provide a virtual summer camp for the scouts. No rain, washing in cold rivers or midges but we sought to try to provide as much of the flavour of a normal camp for the Scouts.



Twenty one scouts signed up for a week of Zoom meetings with each day starting with a meeting to set the scouts a list of projects to do over the course of the day. These were marked in the evening meetings when other activities took place in break-out meetings. The middle of camp was the traditional Patrol Leaders Day when they organised and ran all activities.

The following day was built round two outdoor activities which were initially based on scouts going out on their own with parent supervision if required. On the Friday before the camp, however, we were able to get clearance from Scout HQ (in conjunction with Scottish Government restrictions) to commence outdoor activities in small groups subject to completing risk assessments. This meant that the scouts were able to enjoy a Photo Treasure Hunt in the morning in their patrols with discrete leader supervision. In the afternoon, along with two leaders, the

Patrols had to climb Arthur's Seat and Blackford Hill to gain clues for the evening activities. The scouts were really excited to get outdoors with their friends again and it was great therapy for the leaders to see them enjoying themselves again.



Many of the scouts had spent the whole week camping in their gardens with some, without a garden, having a tent erected in their house. All scouts were supplied with a menu for the camp and were tasked with cooking at least one meal a day. Their tents or bedrooms were also subjected to the usual camp inspection where parents covered for the leaders and submitted appropriate scores.

It was not a real camp of course but it did provide a mix of fun and challenge with some new skills being learned. One young scout commented that he appreciated his parents more now he realised how much work was involved in cooking every day.

We now turn to the planning of the new session and hope to get the best out of the weather in the first month given that all meetings will be outdoors in growing darkness. Hopefully, restrictions will ease that bit more to allow us to meet as a Troop.

Alan Dickson
Scout Leader

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

August

Sun 9	8.00am onwards	Online Worship: The Ninth Sunday after Trinity
Wed 12	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Five Minutes' Peace - <i>Private Prayer in the Sanctuary</i>
Sun 16	8.00am onwards	Online Worship: The Tenth Sunday after Trinity
Wed 19	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Five Minutes' Peace - <i>Private Prayer in the Sanctuary</i>
Sun 23	8.00am onwards	Online Worship: The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
Wed 26	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Five Minutes' Peace - <i>Private Prayer in the Sanctuary</i>
Sun 30	8.00am onwards	Online Worship: The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

September

Wed 2	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Five Minutes' Peace - <i>Private Prayer in the Sanctuary</i>
Sun 6	8.00am onwards	Online Worship: The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
	10.00am	Morning Worship: 13th Sunday after Trinity (HA)
Wed 9	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Five Minutes' Peace - <i>Private Prayer in the Sanctuary</i>

A (AMENDED) NOTICE OF DECISION OF VACANCY PROCEDURE COMMITTEE – Section 2(1)

To be displayed as prominently as possible at the church building for seven days, posted publicly on website or social media, and by email or letter and/or by phone so as to ensure that all members of the congregation receive intimation in some form or other.

Notice is hereby given that the Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Edinburgh proposes that in the current vacancy at Mayfield Salisbury the Protocol agreed by the Commission of Assembly on 7th July be put in place to allow the prescribed divergence from Act 1 2015 and Act 8 2003, in order to facilitate the vacancy process. This action will proceed unless at least four persons, who are either communicant members of this congregation of Mayfield Salisbury or full members of Presbytery, together or separately submit to the Presbytery Clerk a request for this proposal to be considered at the next meeting of the Presbytery. Any such request must set out the relevant reasons.

You should submit any such request in writing to Revd Marjory McPherson, St Andrews Manse, Main Street, West Linton, EH46 7EE by 10th August 2020. If four valid requests are received, then agreement to use the Protocol will be suspended and the approval of Presbytery will be required.

Marjory McPherson, Presbytery Clerk

The Protocol to which reference is made can be viewed here:
https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/67976/Deliverance-and-Legal-Questions-Report-22.6.20.pdf

WHO'S WHO IN MAYFIELD SALISBURY

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

Interim Moderator

Revd Neil N. Gardner ngardner@churchofscotland.org.uk 0131 556 3515

Locum Preacher

Revd Helen Alexander HAlexander@churchofscotland.org.uk 0131 346 0685

Pastoral Assistant

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Youth Worker

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

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Treasurer

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Pastoral Care

For Home or Hospital visits,
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Mayfield Radio

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Print Run 2: 56 So far printed: 155

Grapevine Distribution

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Give.net

Secure online donations www.give.net/20311853

Staff Days Off

Pastoral Assistant: Friday & Saturday
Youth Worker: Friday & Saturday
Manager: Monday PM & Friday

Social Media



www.facebook.com/MayfieldSalisbury



www.youtube.com/user/MayfieldSalisbChurch



www.flickr.com/photos/98063709@N06/



www.mayfieldsalisbury.org



Front Cover: Various depictions of Jesus from around the world.

Copy date for next issue: 6.00pm on **Friday 28 August**

