



October 2020

Issue 251

Scottish Charity SC000785

GRAPEVINE

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland



ANNOUNCEMENT OF SOLE NOMINEE

LETTER FROM THE REVD NEIL GARDNER

GIFT SERVICES 2020

PURPLE FOR POLIO

www.mayfieldsalisbury.org

FROM THE REVD NEIL GARDNER

Dear Friends,

By now you will probably have heard the exciting news that a little over six months after its formation on 1 March, the Nominating Committee has unanimously chosen the Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth as its Sole Nominee for Mayfield Salisbury, and that Sandy is to preach in that capacity on Sunday 4 October. Back in early March, in those halcyon days before the pandemic infected so many and affected so much, preaching as sole nominee was a relatively straightforward matter. As many members of the congregation as possible would pack into church and immediately after the service a vote would be counted and a result declared. How much can change in the space of a few months! But it is to the credit of the Nominating Committee that despite all the recent hazards and obstacles they have done their work so efficiently and so effectively. They have willingly shouldered the significant burden of responsibility placed on them by the congregation and we all owe them a real debt of gratitude.

In line with our rules of Presbyterian governance it now falls to the congregation please to endorse their careful selection. Whether you are in the minority who will hear Sandy conduct the service 'live' on 4 October or in the great

majority who will join the service online, via telephone or cassette tape, I hope you will agree with the Committee that he is ideally suited to be the next minister of



Mayfield Salisbury and vote accordingly! I'm grateful to all those who have been involved in the new and complicated process of preparing and distributing voting papers to those on the electoral roll. These will be counted by myself and an independent Returning Officer on Wednesday 14 October and the result shared with the Kirk Session shortly afterwards. You can be sure we will keep the wider congregation informed too.

The process may have had to change but in the end the principle of hearing and voting for a new minister remains essentially the same. I could sort of say the same of a wedding I conducted earlier in September. Originally intended to be on a large and impressive scale, plans were revised continually and in the end it was 'reduced' to a small gathering of close family and friends in a secluded garden. But we still had the reading that so many couples choose for their ceremony, whatever its scale and wherever its location, the thirteenth chapter of St Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, his familiar words about faith, hope and love. Except this time one word stood out more even than those, because what St Paul actually wrote – in one particular translation at least - was 'And now these

three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.' And love may be the greatest, but it was the word 'remain' that was strongest for me that day. After all the anxiety and uncertainty, after so many plans and preparations were challenged and changed; and now these three remain: faith, hope and love.

And that must be true for Mayfield Salisbury right now too, as we look forward in faith, hope and love and thank God for his unchanging goodness.

With all good wishes and every blessing

Neil Gardner

PASTORAL CARE

This week we have been asked by our government not to visit individuals in their homes in order to help curb the rise in the Covid 19 virus.

We are still allowed to go for walks, meet in cafés and restaurants and be in touch by phone. As a community we are being asked to download the Scottish **Track and Trace** system which will hopefully alert us if we need to shield for the safety of our family and others.

As a Deacon of the Church of Scotland I am allowed still to visit individuals in their homes if they are agreeable to that and we keep to the rules of keeping safe: wearing masks inside and maintaining a distance; cleaning our hands before and after and not mixing with more than one family.

A couple of days ago I was privileged to conduct the funeral of a lady who was 105 when she died. As I was typing her eulogy. I was aware of what a busy and full life she had led. Volunteering and being helpful using the gifts and abilities that she had right up to the end of her active ability.

I was reminded of the Ignatius practice of the presence of the moment where we live

in the now, and appreciate it and live it.

As the rules of our lives are constantly being changed I sometimes very much struggle to get my mind set to do so, but, when I do, I feel very much at peace and life seems to flow so much better.

The words of Matthew 6 spring to mind.
34 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'

If I or our team of coordinators can be of any help to you then please do contact us.

Contact details for PV co-ordinators:

Dorothy Cloughley

667 3565 dorothycloughley@googlemail.com

Wendy Mathison

447 5562 wsmdance3@gmail.com

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Kay

Kay McIntosh, Pastoral Assistant.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SOLE NOMINEE

(AMENDED) NOTICE OF NOMINATION – Section 22(2)

At a meeting held at Edinburgh on 8 September 2020, the Nominating Committee chose the person whom they wish to propose to this congregation of Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church to be our new minister. The name of the person proposed is **The Reverend Dr Alexander (Sandy) Forsyth**.

Arrangements have been made for Sandy Forsyth to conduct public worship in Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church on Sunday the fourth day of October 2020 at 10:00 hours.

The Presbytery of Edinburgh have approved that:

As current Covid-19 restrictions place a strict limit on the number of people who may attend, a recording of Sandy Forsyth conducting public worship will be available on Sunday the fourth day of October 2020 from 15:00 online at www.mayfieldsalisbury.org and by dialling 0131 546 4337 for an audio-only stream.

Should any member or adherent of the congregation of Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church not have access to the internet and wish an audio cassette of the service to allow them to listen they should contact the Session Clerk, not later than 18:00 hours on Tuesday the sixth day of October. Charles Garland may be contacted at charles.edin@gmail.com or on 0131 241 2754 or 07762 908343.

Immediately after that service, a vote on whether or not Sandy Forsyth should be



The Reverend Dr Alexander (Sandy) Forsyth

appointed as the new minister of this congregation of Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church will be opened. Anyone whose name appears on the Electoral Register of this congregation of Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church shall be entitled to vote. No-one else shall be entitled to vote. Those who are entitled to a vote shall receive before 4 October a letter with a voting paper and details of how to cast their vote. Every vote returned must have a unique number written on it. Each person eligible to vote will receive their unique number in the letter. Votes returned without a unique number will not be counted. The unique numbers will not be linked to how votes are cast. All votes must be cast or returned not later than noon on Tuesday the 13 day of October.

Anyone who wishes can update their contact address by emailing the Session Clerk charles.edin@gmail.com not later than the first day of October 2020 - 18:00 hours.

Neil Gardner Interim Moderator

SHORT BIOGRAPHY AND CV – REV. DR ALEXANDER (SANDY) FORSYTH

Sandy is aged 52, married to Joy, and they have two adult daughters. He feels strongly called to Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church, believing that his gifts and skills would resonate with the Church's focus in its theology, worship and action on inclusivity and welcome, lifelong spiritual development, and engagement with the community and world. He foresees an empowering and enabling ministry whereby the Church might develop its core strengths and expand in dynamic and purposeful ways, serving God's mission in the world.

He would bring the following key attributes:

Minister in the Church of Scotland (ordained 2009, Associate Minister in two parishes), with experience of all aspects of ministry; in city, suburban and rural contexts in Scotland and in the USA; and amongst the Councils and courts of the Church.

Academic theologian in practical theology with a specialism in mission theology and ministry practice, including 'fresh expressions of church'; having a strong record in publication, research, teaching and supervision; and working in close collaboration with the Church of Scotland in areas of lay and ministerial education and training.

Twenty years of prior expertise in high-level legal practice as a court lawyer, primarily as an advocate at the Scottish Bar.

Sandy is presently TF Torrance Lecturer in

Mission and Theology at New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh. For a fuller academic profile with details of publications, lectures and conference papers, please see www.ed.ac.uk/profile/dr-alexander-sandy-forsyth

His post involves teaching, public engagement and supervision of students in Practical Theology, with a particular emphasis on mission and on ministry in the contemporary world. This has involved developing subject areas, including a public course for church members and ministers on 'fresh expressions of church' through 'pioneer ministry' and 'church planting', which followed from a report on those areas to the General Assembly of 2019 - please see ga.churchofscotland.org.uk/publications/reports-decisions-legislation-minutes-rdlm-2019, at pp 387-429. A key component has also been working with the Church of Scotland to re- design the framework and curriculum of Initial Ministerial Education for those training for ministry. He previously taught at the University of Glasgow.

In ministry, his probation was served in Glasgow city centre at Renfield St Stephens, preceded by three church placements in urban, rural and suburban settings. Since his ordination in 2009, Sandy has been Associate Minister at St David's Memorial Park Church, Kirkintilloch and then Bearsden Cross Parish Church. He also spent a summer 'pulpit-swap' in a PC (USA) church in Savannah, Georgia. Since he began lecturing full-time from September 2017, his ministry has been in pulpit supply, weddings and funerals, including preaching at Crathie Kirk before the Royal Family in August 2018. He has served the

Church nationally in different ways, at present as a member of a Special Commission of the General Assembly looking at the future of the Presbyterian system of decision making within the Church, and also regionally within Glasgow Presbytery.

As for his education, Sandy completed his PhD in Theology at the University of Edinburgh in 2014, on Christian mission in Scotland, with a particular focus towards the life and work of Tom Allan - it was published in 2017 as the book *Mission by the People*. His other qualifications are as follows:

Master of Theology, MTh with Distinction, University of Edinburgh, 2010

Bachelor of Divinity, BD (Min) (Hons), First Class with prizes, University of Glasgow, 2008

Advocate at the Scottish Bar, 'called' in 1999 following Bar Exams

Solicitor, 1990-98, qualified 1992 following traineeship

Diploma in Legal Practice (Dip. L.P.), University of Glasgow, 1990

LLB (Hons), 2:1, University of Aberdeen, 1989

Kelvinside Academy, Glasgow: 8 'O' Grades, 5 Highers.

Sandy was born in Bellshill, Lanarkshire and brought up in the West of Scotland in Bishopton and Bearsden. He has lived in Kirkintilloch for the past two decades, where his daughters have grown up. His hobbies are music, particularly singing; being in the great outdoors in the West Highlands where the family have a cottage; football; and reading history and fiction.

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

October

1 Isaiah 61,62 / Hebrews 12
2 Isaiah 63,64 / Hebrews 13
3 Isaiah 65,66 / John 1
4 Jeremiah 1,2 / Psalms 112,113
5 Jeremiah 3,4 / John 2
6 Jeremiah 5,6 / John 3
7 Jeremiah 7,8 / Psalms 114,115
8 Jeremiah 9,10 / John 4
9 Jeremiah 11,12 / John 5
10 Jeremiah 13,14 / John 6
11 Jeremiah 15,16 / Psalm 116
12 Jeremiah 17,18 / John 7
13 Jeremiah 19,20 / John 8

14 Jeremiah 21,22 / Psalms 117,118
15 Jeremiah 23,24 / John 9
16 Jeremiah 25,26 / John 10
17 Jeremiah 27,28 / John 11
18 Jeremiah 29-31 / Psalm 119: 1-24
19 Jeremiah 32,33 / John 12
20 Jeremiah 34,35 / John 13
21 Jeremiah 36,37 / Psalm 119: 25-48
22 Jeremiah 38,39 / John 14
23 Jeremiah 40,41 / John 15
24 Jeremiah 42,43 / John 16
25 Jeremiah 44-46 / Psalm 119: 49-72
26 Jeremiah 47,48 / John 17
27 Jeremiah 49,50 / John 18

28 Jeremiah 51,52 / Psalm 119: 73-96
29 Lamentations 1,2 / John 19
30 Lamentations 3-5 / John 20
31 Ezekiel 1 / John 21

November

1 Ezekiel 2,3 / Psalm 119: 97-120
2 Ezekiel 4,5 / James 1
3 Ezekiel 6,7 / James 2
4 Ezekiel 8,9 / Psalm 119: 121-144
5 Ezekiel 10,11 / James 3
6 Ezekiel 12,13 / James 4
7 Ezekiel 14,15 / James 5
8 Ezekiel 16,17 / Psalms 119: 145-176

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Death

Margaret McDonald





Once again our church and many other buildings in Edinburgh and around the UK will be bathed in purple during the week 17 - 25 October 2020. World Polio Day celebrates the birth on the 24 October of Jonas Salk, who introduced the first polio vaccine.

I experienced earlier this year the reason why we have purple4polio. It is to track children who have been immunised in areas of large immunisations eg the latest figure of a mass immunisation in Pakistan was 32,100,802 children between 6 and 59 months who were immunised by a total of 225,000 vaccinators in less than a week.

Polio cases in the world has been reduced significantly since Rotary took on the challenge, in 1985, of eradicating the polio virus in the world. The figure then was

350,000 cases world wide. Today there are just over 100 cases of the wild polio virus in only two countries - Afghanistan and Pakistan. August saw Nigeria and thus the African continent celebrating being wild polio virus-free. It is Rotary's primary aim to eradicate the polio virus and rid the world of this terrible disease. I often get asked: why continue to spend millions of pounds when there are so few cases of polio in the world in two countries so far away? We all know what happened in Wuhan, Hubei, China in December 2019. Afghanistan and Pakistan are only a plane ride away.

Kenneth Logan

Contact details for the Rotary Club of Braids may be found at: www.myrotary.com



NEWS

COVID ACTION FUND

Charles Garland
Session Clerk

Mayfield Salisbury has recently received an anonymous gift which is to be held by the Kirk Session as a Covid Actions Fund. The gift is of £20,000 and, in terms of the donation, is to be applied, as the Kirk Session see fit, to new projects and initiatives arising directly or indirectly from Covid-19. This generosity will provide great opportunity for new work in the times ahead.

MAYFIELD RADIO



Boyd McAdam
Chairman

The Covid-19 restrictions mean that Mayfield Radio continues in its own lockdown. We are considering what might be done to resume some limited programming in a way that respects the various regulations and guidelines. For the moment, however, we need to see further relaxations and greater control of the virus to enable us to broadcast routinely and safely.

We are pleased, however, to be able to record the service on 4 October so that those who wish can use the audio cassette service to listen to The Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth. As the Unit is otherwise closed, instructions for requesting a cassette to be delivered are contained in the voting-paper letter.

Meantime we wish all our listeners well.

MAYFIELD MILERS



Jenny McCallum
Chairperson
jennymccallum15@gmail.com

I am sorry we have had to cancel our proposed walks to Holyrood Park as the Government has changed the regulations as Covid has again become more prevalent.

Maybe you can still keep walking in two's - two metres apart - and find us new walks for the future.



ONLINE DONATIONS

Direct link:
www.give.net/20311853

Hugh Somerville, Free
Will Offerings Treasurer

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.

WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

You will no doubt be aware that communal worship in the church has returned to the sanctuary though with limited numbers. This is an important and reassuring step in our return to some form of normality and will be welcomed by many but is not necessarily suitable for all.

We will all need to adjust to the new conditions and restrictions, and be ready for periodical changes, but what follows is a brief summary of some of the main practical points to note. **Full and up-to-date information, is available on the church website** or from Heather Cubie, our Covid-19 task group chair, or William Mearns in the Church Office (667 1522)



- There will be some provision for children over the next few weeks, this will take the form of a worksheet.
- There is a strict limit(50)on the number of people who can be in the church at any time
- Those who attend will need to leave contact details, for the purpose of the Test and Protect scheme.
- No coffee/tea or other social activities can take place in the buildings at the moment.

We have taken out a contract with cleaners to ensure hygienic conditions. **With your cooperation, eg by using hand sanitiser, we will keep ourselves and others safe.**

Finally, please remember that our online services will continue to be put on the website at 8.00am each Sunday as usual.

- For the moment, there will be a single Sunday service at 10.00am.
- Enter by the ramp at the West Door.
- Keep a 2m distance from others.
- Each available seat will be marked with an order of service placed on the pew.
- A maximum of two people from the same household may sit at each space-although small child may also sit with two adults.
- There will be a great temptation to go and speak to others, but please resist: a wave will be taken as a Hello!
- A one way system, which is clearly marked, means that you will leave by the door beside the pulpit and then out of the West Mayfield door.
- Masks must be worn at all times inside, except for those with a medical exemption.

Booking system

We only have limited spaces available - please book your place ahead.

Phone: On Wednesdays, from 11.00am to 1.00pm, you may reserve a space by phoning the Church Office: 0131 667 1522.

Internet: We would encourage anyone with internet access to use the Eventbrite booking system, which will be open from 4pm on Wednesdays. The system can be accessed from our website via this link: **www.mayfieldsalisbury.org/attend**
Names and contact details will be required.

28TH BRAID SCOUT TROOP



We started the month with a Patrol Incident Hike over the Pentland Hills. Normally, this activity would involve navigating to different points where the Patrol would meet a Leader and would have to complete a challenge based on a Scouting skill. As the evening coincided with the Troop's 100th birthday, the incidents were given a birthday party theme such as 'Light the candle on the cake from a social distance'.

The following week, we were out on the Blackford Hills on an Indiana Jones-themed adventure featuring challenges, riddles and photography before the conclusion on the top of the hill, just in time for a torrential downpour.

A pleasant night followed for a Treasure Hunt around the Grange. Working in Patrol again, the Scouts had to find clues to give grid references to determine the location of the treasure. To the delight of the Scouts, the treasure was located at Fat Tony's Chip Shop.

The month concluded with a Night Hike in the Pentlands Hills with the Troop split

into two groups to meet the current regulations.

Getting outdoors again and seeing friends proved to be a very popular start to our new session.

October brings a few more outdoor meetings in the dark but we hope to commence a mix of meetings in the hall and on Zoom later in the month.

The Story of the Scout Grave

During the lockdown, Andrew Stewart-Palenzuela, went for a walk in the nearby cemetery in Dalkeith Road. Andrew (13) is a Scout in the 28th Braid Scout Troop and a gravestone by a wall caught his eye as it revealed a Scout badge cut into the stone. When he read the inscription, he made a startling discovery. This was not the grave of one Scout but three - Lewis Kennedy, George W. Welsh and Percival M. Nicholson. A bit of research revealed their tragic story.

The three 17 year olds were members of the 79th Edinburgh (Nicolson Street



United Free Church) Scout Troop, and were tragically drowned in the River Tay near Dunkeld while attending Scout camp in 1927. The boys had permission to swim, but the current was stronger than normal, and the water dirtier as a result of soil washed down from upstream, and the boys got into difficulties. Despite the best endeavours of their Scoutmaster, who had been keeping watch on the river bank, and two members of the Boys' Brigade who were also camping nearby, the boys disappeared underwater and their bodies were later recovered by police.

Extraordinary scenes were witnessed at the funeral, with many thousands lining the route from Nicolson Street UF Church, where a memorial service was held, to Newington Cemetery. The funeral procession, headed by a parade of Scouts and Guides, included five motor cars full of wreaths. The three friends and comrades

were laid to rest in a single grave.

Andrew said of his discovery, 'It was really sad to read the story and it was such a shame that the grave was quite overgrown. My own Troop is currently celebrating our centenary so the history of Scouting is very important to us at the moment. I thought that it was only right that I should give up some of my time to make the grave look better. My parents contacted the Council to get permission to work on it and they quickly agreed. Perhaps some relatives of the Scouts will read this and want to visit the grave. I hope they are pleased with my efforts.'

*Alan Dickson
Scout Leader*

Headquarters:
Mayfield Salisbury Church, Edinburgh
Scottish Charity No SC006141

'A Message from Mother Earth!'**Readings:**

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

In these difficult days of the coronavirus, we're hearing from various public figures. In the light of this, I wondered what the earth might say if she had words to express something of her particular predicament, which is ours too, of course. So I've come up with what I imagine a statement from Mother Earth to humanity might sound like. Here it is:



And I know that when you stop, look and listen to your heart, you love these too.

And, my children of humanity, I love the way you have evolved from my primal seas to the wonder that you are now with hearts that spill open in gratitude as well as in grief and pain. I love your sensitivity, your ingenuity, your creativity, your intelligence, your skill. Indeed I sometimes ask your father how we've produced such amazing beings. Of course, many of you think I'm a single parent, or as good as! But then, children don't necessarily know everything about their parents, even though they may think they do.

Children often take their parents for granted too, especially mothers. You who have offspring of your own will know this well. So perhaps you will understand when I say that recently – that is in the vast time-scale of creation - I do feel taken for granted, indeed severely imposed upon. My body has been ploughed incessantly, drained of natural

I love you and all my creatures, so different and so uniquely irreplaceable. I love the might of my tigers, the soaring freedom of my birds, the industry of ants, my shoals of slippery fish and great gigantic whales. I love my forests and my mountains; my jungles and vast savannahs; the crispness of a morning in autumn; the quiet of a pool at twilight.



nutrients and filled with artificial fertilizer. I go along with some of this in my poorer places of course, but when it's to increase the scale of my production for profit and produce a perfect crop, I despair because with this you lose taste, scent, and the understanding that external looks aren't all. Take a misshapen earth-encrusted carrot, clean and eat it, or take a bite of an apple from a farm shop, and then tell me fruit and vegetables all wrapped up in plastic in a supermarket are better.

And then there are my trees: ecosystems of shelter, sustenance, community. I'm overjoyed that naturalists are writing about the wide-spreading communication between trees in the tangle of their roots, hidden deep within me. I do not take pleasure at the disappearance of my vast forests, upsetting the eons-long balance of their life with the rest of existence. And then there's the burning! 'Trees have always burned' you say. Of course: your indigenous brothers and sisters have long known the natural wisdom of burning and have developed skills in managing it. Out of death comes life: one of the principles of the natural world, of which incidentally you are all part, my beloved. But such fires we've seen recently – and

in Siberia too! With these fires come billions of tons of greenhouse gas. No one knows better than I do the importance of carbon dioxide for life, but too much in the wrong place turns toxic, as you're finding out, my children.

And don't get me started on methane! Frankly, you've had about enough of my fossil fuels; and much as I love my cows, we could have less of them and more of the endangered baboons and pangolins and the like.

Actually, I'm rather proud of your clever windmills on my hills and in my seas, and the power of my waves is entirely at your disposal. But please know that nothing gets me hotter under the collar than green-house gas, if you'll pardon the pun.

Which brings me to my polar ice caps and glaciers: I admit I've a soft spot for these, though 'soft-spot' isn't simply an appreciative metaphor in this instance, but an unhappy reality as the glaciers melt and the permafrost thaws. I can't stop my tears running into the seas, adding to the threat that rising sea levels pose to low-lying lands and their people.

My beautiful oceans that make up 71%



of my surface (I'm not just green or brown you know, but much more shades of blue) the oceans themselves can make me weep: beaches littered with detritus, my sea creatures caught in plastic bottles and rubber tyres, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch which is equivalent to 250 pieces of debris for each human being in the world. There's another charming island like this forming in the North Atlantic, by the way.

My one comfort is the number of you who hate all this as much as I do. You hate consumption run wild, huge international conglomerates of power that spread their tentacles like cancer all over the world. You know the dark side of intelligence, and the tendency for humanity's impulses to spawn selfishness, greed and its staggering capacity for denial. Your holy books and other great literature speak of this destructiveness as well as the glory that makes you just a little lower than the angels.

And so to my thanks to all of you who've awakened to the spoiling of the earth and want to do something about it. Your

sons and daughters do indeed prophesy. Think of Greta Thunberg. And old men like David Attenborough dream dreams. Recently he has spoken movingly of hope. Many take heart from what they and others say. Even the politicians and the powerful may open their eyes and ears and their minds. You must join together, not to carp incessantly but to encourage. And above all trust your young people. I assure you I will do everything I can to co-operate with the healing of my body and the sickness of the soul of humanity.

For you know that the soul contains the deepest sickness of all. Heal this and you will heal me, your tired long suffering earth, and my creatures too. Create a new heart within you, as Jeremiah said. And don't despise the Revelation of St John, for in the midst of his suffering and madness on the Isle of Patmos what a glorious vision was his of the sparkling river of life and the leaves of the trees for the healing of the nations.

Thank you for letting me speak to you.'

I have been in touch with our partner organisations and know from these conversations that GIFTS will be needed by them more than ever for distribution by Christmas 2020.

As with so much in 2020, how to create a new normal for the times has exercised many of us concerned in the operation of Mayfield Salisbury's Gift Services. I've been in close touch with the Session Clerk, the Treasurer and the Covid-19 committee and these are the resulting proposals.

Revd Helen Alexander will offer a Blessing on the gifts on Advent Sunday, but one collection day will not allow the whole congregation to contribute in this virus afflicted year.

During **ALL of NOVEMBER**, you may bring your donation to the Sunday morning service when a decorated box will be available in the West Vestibule (ie as you enter by the one-way system).

In addition, a member of the team will be available on Wednesday mornings throughout November in the Newington Room between 10.00am - 11.00am to receive your contribution.

If neither of these arrangements suit your circumstances, but you do wish to make a contribution, then please get in touch with me, details below. It may be possible for one of the team to collect your contribution.

Partner organisations are:

Gilmerton Early Years' Project (0-5years): Simpson House Sunflower Garden (CrossReach for the children of service users): Women's Aid (children through teens): Stopover (Teens): Salvation Army (children through teens): HMP Edinburgh (children through teens).

What's needed:

Toys for babies and children; colouring books, art materials, play-doh and plasticine; games for children and teens; books and toiletries as appropriate. All items should be new and gift tags and wrapping paper are useful, too. With thanks but alcohol and second-hand items cannot be placed.

Cash donations:

I appreciate that in current circumstances some of you will be reluctant to go shopping. If you would like to make a financial donation I shall be happy to do the shopping for you. You can send me a cheque payable to Mayfield Salisbury Church, or put cash through my door. My address is 55 Grange Loan, Edinburgh, EH9 2ER. Or you can make a bank transfer to Mayfield Salisbury Church (sort code 80 02 73, account no 00514627), but please put 'Gift Service' as the reference.

Updates in Pew Notices will follow in late October and November.

Anne Graham

0131 667 6331

annegraham55@hotmail.com

NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN AID

In Nicaragua, the farming community of Santa Rosa has grown coffee for generations. But now that could come to an end. The crop is struggling to grow as the climate crisis rages on. Nicaragua is the second poorest country in Latin America, and around 80% of the population depend on agriculture for survival. Many grow coffee as their main source of income. Now, their future looks more and more uncertain. Angela Zelaya is a farmer in Santa Rosa. She is married and has two daughters, Johaira and Ariana. Angela's coffee farm used to provide a good living for her family, but now, as she explains: 'With climate change, the coffee suffers from many diseases and pests. The sun has scorched the coffee beans, we cannot sell them and we're losing more every year because of climate change. We don't know when it's the rainy season or the dry season.' At the same time, coffee prices have fallen globally. Angela is worried. 'It will be a total disaster for us because as farmers, growing crops is how we survive.'

But there is hope. Facing this crisis has brought the community together to work as a local cooperative to share resources and knowledge and urgently protect their livelihoods. 'I feel proud to be part of a cooperative and we have the opportunity to share ideas and learn from each other,' Angela says. The cooperative is supported by Christian Aid's local partner, Soppexcca. One of the main ways they are helping farmers protect their livelihoods is by shifting from coffee production to



climate-resistant cocoa, helping people like Angela to secure a better future. Angela said: 'With the cocoa project, we received loans and cocoa plants. The technicians visited us and told us what to do. We also received tree saplings to help shade our crops.'

Angela's cocoa plants will be ready to harvest next year. She says: 'In my cooperative, there are 10 farmers growing cocoa, but I'm proud that I'm the only woman. The income from the cocoa crop means we can buy clothes, medicines and food.' Youth promoters from the local community help to make the project a success. They visit the farmers to record



their progress and share knowhow. It's helped build trust between the generations.

www.christianaid.org.uk. Donations can also be made by telephone on 020 7523 2269.

Johaira, Angela's teenage daughter, is one of the youth promoters in Santa Rosa. She says: 'Sometimes I feel nervous about telling farmers what they need to do, but as a promoter I feel good and am always learning more. I've learnt about the environment in the workshops provided by Christian Aid and Soppexcca and from my mum.' All these different initiatives are bringing Angela's community together, ensuring women and young people play an active role too. When ordinary neighbourhoods come together, they can create lasting change. Around the world, many of our global neighbours living in poverty continue to face crisis in its various forms. Love knows no distance. This autumn, Christian Aid is asking supporters to reach out to our global neighbours and help more communities overcome crisis. We are encouraged to:

- Give to help communities around the world come together to overcome the crisis of poverty.
- Act by calling for the cancellation of debt repayments for low-income countries during the coronavirus crisis.
- Pray for our global neighbours facing crisis in all its forms.

To find out how you can be involved, or to make a donation to the Autumn Appeal, please visit the website at

The Christian Aid Committee would like to thank members of the Mayfield Salisbury congregation for their consistent support and generosity.

The Christian Aid Committee

PRAYER THOUGHTS

'The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all he has made.' Psalm 145:9

Pray for Angela and her farming community in Nicaragua now the coffee they have cultivated for generations is struggling to grow as the climate crisis rages on. The crop suffers many diseases and pests as a result.

Pray for the cooperative supported by Christian Aid's local partner which encourages the sharing of knowledge and resources to withstand the impacts of climate change.

Give thanks for Angela and her daughter as they diversify from coffee farming to climate-resistant cocoa, and so can continue to provide a good living for their family.

God of hope,
guide our way
through endings
and new beginnings.
AMEN

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

Sun 4 The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Morning Worship in the Sanctuary
Revd Dr Alexander (Sandy) Forsyth Preaching as Sole Nominee
Reminder: Spaces are very limited. Please book in advance!

from 3.00pm Repeat of Morning Service available on church website, YouTube and Dial-A Sermon. Cassette tapes also available by request.
Available until 9.00pm on Monday 12 October.

Wed 7 6.30pm to 8.00pm **Five Minutes' Peace** - Private Prayer in the Sanctuary

Sun 11 The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Revd Helen Alexander

8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Website
8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Dial-a-Sermon
10.00am Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

Tue 13 12.00pm **Voting-papers deadline for receipt**

Wed 14 6.30pm to 8.00pm **Five Minutes' Peace** - Private Prayer in the Sanctuary
8.00pm Kirk Session via Zoom

Sun 18 The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity Revd Helen Alexander

8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Website
8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Dial-a-Sermon
10.00am Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

Wed 21 6.30pm to 8.00pm **Five Minutes' Peace** - Private Prayer in the Sanctuary

Sun 25 The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity Revd Helen Alexander

8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Website
8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Dial-a-Sermon
10.00am Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

Wed 28 6.30pm to 8.00pm **Five Minutes' Peace** - Private Prayer in the Sanctuary

November

Sun 1 All Saints Sunday Revd Helen Alexander

8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Website
8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Dial-a-Sermon
10.00am (TBC) Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

Wed 4 6.30pm to 8.00pm **Five Minutes' Peace** - Private Prayer in the Sanctuary

Sun 8 Remembrance Sunday Revd Helen Alexander

8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Website
8.00am *onwards* Online Worship: Dial-a-Sermon
10.00am (TBC) Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

Wed 11 6.30pm to 8.00pm **Five Minutes' Peace** - Private Prayer in the Sanctuary

FIRST CLASS VOLUNTEERS ...

... at Mayfield Salisbury

As *Grapevine* goes to press we wanted to record our joint thanks to all those who have so willingly volunteered to help distribute over 470 letters amongst the congregation over the past ten days throughout EH9, EH10, EH16 - and much further afield – reducing our postal costs considerably. Each envelope delivered saves a 65 pence stamp.

Boyd is especially grateful to all those who stepped forward and stepped out at short notice to deliver the letters with voting-papers for the preaching by Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth, our sole nominee. These deliverers responded quickly to his appeal and included many of those who also hand-deliver *Grapevine*.

Susan and Anne very much appreciate the willing support of regular *Grapevine* Deliverers and for their enthusiastic help again this month and also throughout lockdown, delivering *Grapevine* (and pre-

ordered Life & Work Issues) every month in order to keep everyone informed. The number registering to view *Grapevine* online is increasing but we also know that many people - who may not be online - used to pick up copies at church. We hope everyone who reads our now monthly Church Newsletter is now either doing that on-line or is receiving a copy every month if they wish one. We would be pleased to hear from you (see below) with any amendments. Large-print copies are also available on request.

During May to September only around 50 *Grapevine* copies were posted each month, the others being personally and regularly delivered by one of a team of 30 Mayfield Salisbury 'posties', through around 250 letter boxes over spring and summer.

Thank you to all the '*Grapevine* Milers' !

Boyd McAdam

Susan Wooding and Anne Sturrock

Please add my details to the following news lists:

- Grapevine* printed standard size
- Grapevine* printed large print
- Grapevine* email
- 0930 email
- Youth Newsletter email
- Congregational email

Please return this form to:

William Mearns,
Church Manager
18 West Mayfield,
Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ.

Call the Church Manager on 0780 801 1234

Email direct to churchmanager@googlemail.com

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

WHO'S WHO IN MAYFIELD SALISBURY

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

Front Cover: Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church from Blackford Hill

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

Kay McIntosh DCS kay@backedge.co.uk 0790 326 6307

Youth Worker

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Church Manager

William Mearns churchmanager@googlemail.com 0780 801 1234

Organist

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

Session Clerk

Charles Garland charles.edin@gmail.com 0776 290 8343

Treasurer

John Graham culkein@btinternet.com 0131 667 6331

Gift Aid Donations & Roll Keeper

Hugh Somerville hs.somerville2@gmail.com 0131 466 2446

Church Office

18 West Mayfield,
Edinburgh, EH9 1TQ
0131 667 1522 or
churchmanager@googlemail.com

Pastoral Care

For Home or Hospital visits,
contact the Pastoral Assistant.



Give.net

Secure online donations www.give.net/20311853

Mayfield Radio

mayfieldradiounit@gmail.com
0131 667 7742

Staff Days Off

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



Grapevine

William Mearns 0131 667 1522
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Social Media

- www.facebook.com/MayfieldSalisbury
- www.youtube.com/user/MayfieldSalisbChurch
- www.flickr.com/photos/98063709@N06/
- www.mayfieldsalisbury.org

Print Run: 5

This run: 3
Total so far: 243

Copy date for next issue: 6.00pm on **Friday 30 October**