



Oct/Nov 2021

Issue 259

Scottish Charity SC000785

GRAPEVINE

Mayfield Salisbury Parish (Edinburgh) Church of Scotland



ECO NEWS

SUSTAINABLE HEATING

REFLECTION



www.mayfieldsalisbury.org

FROM THE MANSE

Dear friends,

I'm always very conscious of getting the important lines right when conducting a wedding. At the back of my mind lurks the bumbling priest played by Rowan Atkinson in the film *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, Father Gerald, who after mixing up the names of the happy couple, then invited the groom to take the bride as his 'awful wedded wife', and blessed them in the name of the 'Father, Son and Holy Spigot!' With videographers at most weddings, not to mention sneaky guests taking iPhone footage, I'm only an unintentionally rude slip-up away from going viral online or from an appearance on a new series of *It'll be Alright on the Night!*

So when I had the great pleasure of taking my first wedding at Mayfield Salisbury last week, I took care as usual to write out the names of those to be married in BLOCK CAPITAL LETTERS in my notes, and to say them slowly... just in case... The minister does the job properly if they are not the centre of attention. That privilege rests with the two beaming people who are also slowly repeating important words, in their case the vows that will join them together in a loving union as one. And if the couple choose to marry in a Christian service, those vows will have the added dimension and weight of responsibility of being taken 'before God,' as well as their close family and friends.

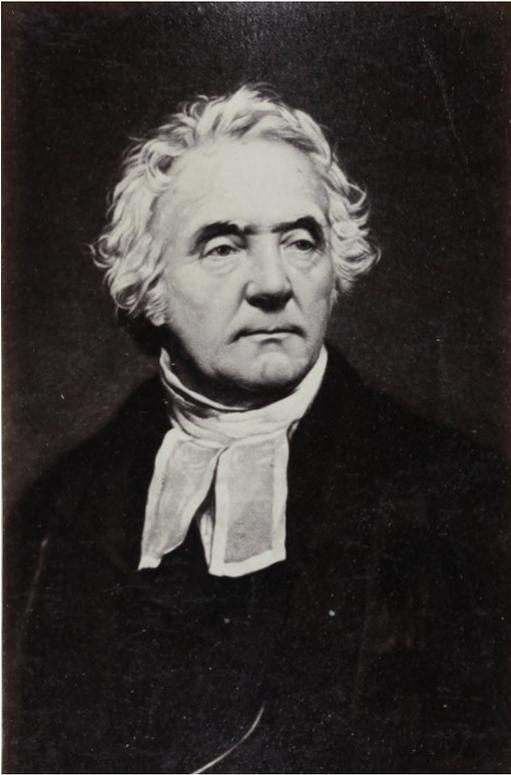
After the wedding, I was reflecting on what taking vows or oaths means to us in our lives. I have no doubt that the couple last week invested a great depth of meaning and sincerity in saying the wedding vows, and have every intention of keeping them. But do we consider other vows with such seriousness?

There's an old story of a repeat offender



defending himself in a criminal trial, and finishing his final submission to the Sheriff by saying, 'As God is my judge, I am not guilty.' The Sheriff immediately replied, 'He's not, I am, you are, six months.' When I was a court lawyer, some witnesses would 'swear by almighty God that the evidence I will give will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth', and then immediately demonstrate exactly the opposite. When their evidence was found to be wholly lacking in credibility by the court, apart from risking a charge of perjury, did they ever consider that God might be a little upset too? 'I swear to God' is often thrown around in everyday conversation as if it is a meaningless phrase. Might He be listening?

All of us who are members of the Church of Scotland have at one time made a 'confession of faith' in public worship where the answer was given as 'I do' when asked if you 'pledge yourself to glorify God and to love your neighbour.' Sometimes we do not. Elders at ordination vow to 'seek the unity and peace of this Church; uphold its doctrine, worship, government and discipline, and to take your due part in the administration of its affairs.' Sometimes we do not. Next time you hear a minister using incendiary language to threaten to split away from the Church of Scotland, you



Thomas Chalmers

might like to remind him or her of one of the ordination vows they took, which not only promises the upholding of peace and unity, but also asks, 'Do you promise...to cherish a spirit of love to all your brothers and sisters in Christ?' Not to mention the one by which they bound themselves to discharge the duties of ministry 'faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully!' Sometimes we do not, but I'll keep smiling...

We are all human. We set up standards which we sometimes find difficult to live by. We make promises that, whether intentionally or not, we drift away from. Although we should be mindful of what we have promised to do and seek to live it out, whether we have strictly followed every



vow we have made about church life is ultimately not the deciding factor in Jesus' eyes. Indeed, he warned about 'swearing' against anything in Matthew 5, saying, 'Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be, 'Yes, Yes' or, 'No, No.' Perhaps he knew we would find it hard. In other words, don't make showy promises by using God's name, or even say 'cross my heart and hope to die', but instead simply be honest, truthful and trustworthy in your life. It's all about what kind of people we are as Christians, and whether in the eyes of a sceptical and secularised world we are a living example of the presence of Christ in us – or whether our words just smack of 'lip service.'

Last weekend, Grange Cemetery was one of the participants in Edinburgh Doors Open Day. Arguably its most illustrious 19th century occupant is Thomas Chalmers, who led the Disruption from the Church of Scotland in 1843 that formed the Free

Church. But even though that schism was all about who ruled the church, Chalmers still said, 'Who cares about any church but as an instrument of Christian good? The question must always, ultimately, be not 'How is a church governed?,' but 'What kind of people does a church produce?'

We don't really have to worry about getting the words wrong like Father Gerald, but instead we try to live by what we believe and to 'walk the walk' as well as 'talk the talk,' with whatever small steps might be possible.

God bless,

Sandy

YOUTH UPDATE



The start of the school year saw the return of our 9.30am All-Age Worship Service, and it has been a joy to see so many children and young people again over the past few weeks!

At Youth Group in September, the P6 to S1s had a fun night on Blackford Hill doing a treasure hunt, and the following week we had a kick-off night in the church garden doing some Taskmaster challenges together! We also had a creative journaling night where we reflected on our current scripture passage, Romans 15:13, for our Hope & Joy-themed youth group activities in September and October.

In both Sunday School and Youth Group, we've been working on badges addressing the climate crisis for New College's banner which will be on display in the lead-up to the COP26 conference. Photos of the finished badges will be in the next Grapevine issue!

After the October holidays, our S2 to S6

group is invited to join in a three week book group discussing Rowan Williams' 'Being Disciples.' We read his 'Being Christian' book last year and thought this would be a nice follow-up for discussing and asking questions together.

We are also hoping to resume our Youth Worship services in person soon, after 18 months doing it over Zoom. It will be great to be back in one space together again and get to do some collaborative music!

Meanwhile, we will continue to have our weekly prayer space on Instagram, and offer one to one and drop in café meetings for the S4 to S6s.

We are continuing to recruit new volunteers for Youth Group, so please be in touch with me if you are interested!

Hillary Leslie
Youth Worker

hillary.mayfielDYOUTH@gmail.com

SUSTAINABLE HEATING.....

..... AND DEVELOPMENT

Part of the future for Mayfield Salisbury may involve some significant planning about how we achieve the eco targets set for the church. This may involve how we upgrade our heating systems; how we wish to optimise the use of space we have; how we integrate changes into the sanctuary and other areas of our buildings.

The Kirk Session wishes to set up a working group on sustainable heating and development to explore the issues so that when the way forward for Mayfield Salisbury become more clear we are well placed to understand the options and opportunities and can begin to make these long term investment decisions. While some members will be drawn from elders, the session is keen to ensure that



the views and expertise of the congregation feed into the thinking. If you are interested in this possibility and taking part in the working group please let me know at:

clerkmspc@gmail.com

Boyd McAdam

OBERAMMERGAU 2022

Hilary Watkinson

McCabe Travel assure me that the Austrians are already rehearsing for the famous passion play next year.

Would you like to join a select party from Mayfield Salisbury led by Kay McIntosh? If so, please contact me and I will deliver a booking form and further information to you. The dates are 25 May to 1 June 2022 and we hope our minister, Sandy, will be able to join us.

Hilary Watkinson
hilary.watkinson@btinternet.com



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As the Church opens up as Covid restrictions ease, activities are resuming as part of Church life. Many of these depend on people volunteering to help and we are extremely grateful for all that they do. In some areas we are looking to supplement the numbers either to provide an extra pair of hands or to help with organising rotas to ensure that the activity can proceed as planned.

These include things such as the provision of teas and coffees after the services; participating in welcome rotas both throughout the year and at special times such as over the Christmas period; helping with Sunday school. Generally, these involve helping out once or twice a month or just at specific times of the year such as for the Gift Service. The more volunteers we have the less we depend on a few



individuals some of whom are deciding to step back a bit after many years.

So please have a think about how you might assist and if you can do so in some way please let me know so I can put you in touch with the most relevant person.

Many thanks

Boyd McAdam

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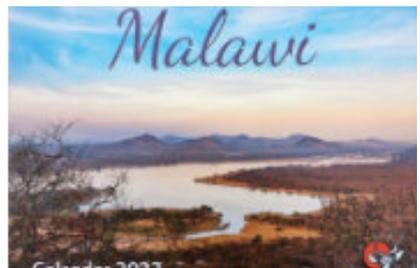
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Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church

Please contact:
hilary.watkinson@btinternet.com



PILGRIMAGE TO DUNFERMLINE



After seeing a fire boat spraying a curtain of water as we crossed the Forth, and a steam train chugging through North Queensferry, we had no doubt that our congregational pilgrimage would be a special event – and so it was!

By bus, train, or on foot, over forty pilgrims journeyed to Dunfermline for a special service in the impressive Abbey Church, enjoying good weather and fine views over the Forth. From North Queensferry, the walkers trod the Fife Pilgrims' Way along the coastal path and a nature reserve to Inverkeithing - and a stop in a café (and furniture emporium!) for tea and cakes.



Some then took the train to Dunfermline, while the others strode on over several miles of Fife's leafy highways and byways to the Abbey, where we joined together to

enter by its imposing West Door, opened at journey's end, we were blessed with Sandy's uplifting service and communion, and afterwards we further enjoyed the Abbey's warm hospitality with tea and pizza in the church hall.

As we all found, pilgrimages are most rewarding, without exception, for the conversations, shared experiences and new connections made, and we are indebted to the Ian McCallum Pilgrimage Fund for its support and inspiration. We have Sandy's helpful guide to our pilgrimage (available on request), with its meditative reflections, as a reminder that there's further to go along the Pilgrims' Way – perhaps to St Andrews, next year?!

David Booth

PASTORAL CARE



Autumn has arrived with the changing of the colour of the leaves. It is colder and our evenings are darker. Walking around the streets of Mayfield Salisbury church I find myself delighting in the sights and sounds of the season; giving thanks for the people of the past having the foresight to plan and plant the beautiful array before me. I very much hope that you all take time to just enjoy the colours, sights and smells around us.

Our pastoral care visitors are meeting in person on Saturday 13 November in the afternoon. Further details will be issued later.

Meanwhile if you now feel that you would like to have a visitor or regular phone calls please contact me and I shall organise that for you.

Blessings

Kay

*Deepest communion
with God is beyond
words, on the other
side of silence.*

Madeleine L'Engle

Contact details for PV co-ordinators:

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Hilary Watkinson
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READINGS: PSALM 1, MARK 9:30 - 37

‘Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.’

One of the most pointed of all political quotes contains the famous words of Lord Acton, ‘Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.’ The line lingers with us because it’s so wonderfully well-phrased – and because it rings totally true.

The history of our planet in the last century is strewn with examples where, drunk on power, an individual or a faction has caused total destruction for personal gain; presidents who would see their people starve whilst the mineral or gemstone wealth of their country is siphoned off abroad, the smooth flow of the exit channels eased by bribes that are then deposited into offshore accounts; dictators whose brutal imposition of a totalitarian ideal leads to the elimination of swathes of their own people in concentration camps or gulags; or whose great hubris and enormous egotism cause a God like delusion of invincibility and a refusal to surrender or stand down in the midst of desperate poverty or invading armies storming the gates.

From Hitler to Stalin, from Pol Pot to Pinochet to Amin to Mugabe to Gaddafi, they stain our consciences - their legacy of blood, economic ruin and twisted ideology still has deep consequences for their people and the world now.



John Acton, 1st Baron Acton, by Franz Seraph von Lenbach (died 1904)

Lust for power and its abuse when gained, however, are not limited to those extremes. The adulation and respect that comes from status, from control, from rising above other people, is an addictive drug that lingers somewhere within all of us from the days we were first made milk monitor, won the class prize or were promoted at work to lead a team. Some bosses hold themselves back, seek to empower others, enable, bring on those who struggle to



perform, recognise different giftings, create an atmosphere of mutual support and wellbeing. Others rule with fear, deploy an arbitrary viciousness, determined that their own voice will be loudest and that their petty demands will always be met. I well remember the partner of the solicitors' firm I once worked in who monitored the time each employee spent in the toilet, swore at everyone who crossed his path and once famously sent a fee note to a client who had invited him to a football match, because he gave some passing legal advice over a pie at half time. Those same temptations and urges to 'lord it over' everyone are real too in most other walks of life, from the lecture room to the restaurant kitchen to the pulpit to the family home.

Competition for power, wealth and public prestige was rife in all of the cultures of the Roman Empire, just as it in the cultures of the present day. Jesus' disciples were apparently not immune from it either. Here we find them in Mark's Gospel bickering on the road to Capernaum, and when Jesus challenged them they just clammed up, maybe shuffled their shoes and stared at the ground like naughty schoolboys outside the head teacher's office. For they'd spent the whole way arguing with each other about who was the greatest, perhaps

jostling for the top job were Jesus' wild prophecies about death and resurrection to come to pass, perhaps trading stories about just how treasured they were by the Master because of their greatness of their deeds.

So Jesus sat them down and he said (verse 35), 'whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Now we're told in verse 32 that the disciples didn't understand what Jesus was talking about when he said he would be betrayed, killed and rise again, so goodness knows what kind of confusion they were in now.

The first must be last of all and servant of all! Or as Matthew has it in his Gospel, 'whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.' What is going on here in this topsy-turvy upside down idea of how to live your life that Jesus was demanding they follow?

Jesus was saying straight up that the highest prestige would be found in service, that you would climb to the top of the tree, scale the slippery pole of success, not by gaining but by losing. Like taking the vows

of a monastic order, losing your lust for recognising its impact from the perspective power, your desire for public acclaim, your of the outsider. That must be central in revelry in new found status, and instead becoming a servant of others, as he proclaimed himself to be, the Servant King. The word translated as 'servant' in verse 35 is the Greek diakonos, which came to mean a person in ministry, and from which the very valuable role of the 'diaconate' in the Church of Scotland, of deacons in the service of others, is taken. But in the Greek of Jesus and Mark's day, it meant someone who served meals, and a person who was 'servant of all' was the lowest in rank of all servants – the one who would be allowed to eat only when everyone else had their fill; a person without any honour at all, and of trifling social status; at best ignored or pitied, at worst ridiculed. And the disciples are to become like this?



Pfarrer (Pastor) Dietrich Bonhoeffer

And then Jesus doubles up that imagery by taking in his arms a child. Children – another group of people without any recognition or public standing in the culture of the time, they were helpless and dependant, and Jesus then said that if you welcome a child like this you welcome Jesus too and thus God himself. Then and now, Jesus overturns our social hierarchies and he lifts the lowly up high.

This is nothing less than a counter-cultural confrontation with the dominant values of society. That every person has worth and importance, no matter how others view them. That leadership in a Christian community is about servanthood, as a model and witness to the world. That the decisions taken and the power exercised by all of us in following Jesus must be humble, considerate and inclusive,

what we do as a church and guide how we might answer the big questions coming up soon about our future. That to be 'great' in Jesus' eyes we must let go of our own need for the flattery of high position and serve the common good, as if we had nothing to wave before anyone else that speaks of our importance, like the poor waiter or the wee boy or girl; as if none of that stuff matters anymore.

Not to abolish ambition in our lives. Not to decry success, demolish achievement or shut down all celebration of the Highers results, the first class degree, the exciting new business venture, or

the blessings of church life. But to recast ambition in a different light, as a desire to serve rather than a craving to rule. Jesus substituted one kind of ambition for another. For the ambition to be successful and powerful enough in what we achieve to have things done for us by others, he brought the ambition instead to do things for others with what we achieve. A spirit of empathy and philanthropy, a recognition of common humanity. They say the hand of the giver is never empty. A desire to 'love God and our neighbour' in the light of where our gifts and talents take us, viewed from the bottom up and not the top down, leading forward in service and humility. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, **'in Jesus the service of God and the service of the least of the brethren were one.'**

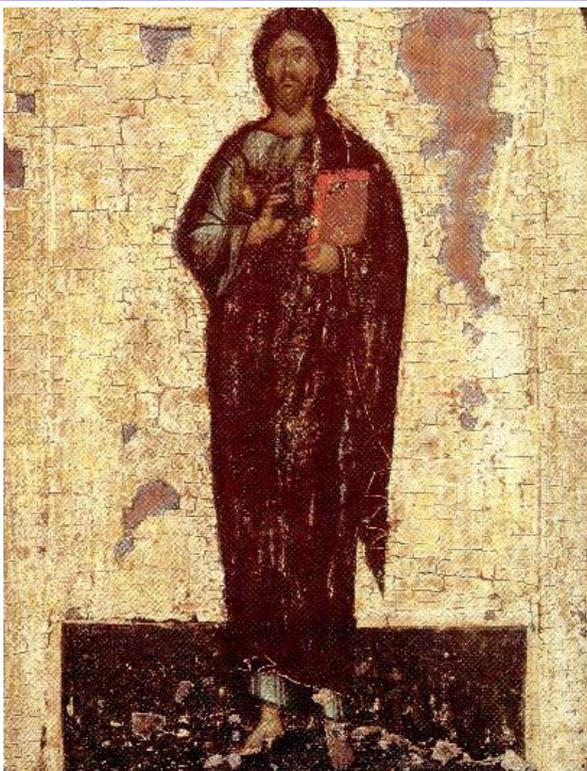
But how can such idealistic talk ever become a reality? Best case scenario? Unrealistic? Dreamland? Psalm 1 has the first words of that ever-intriguing and inspiring book of the Old Testament. And

how does it sketch the picture to come, set out the stall? It calls for the grounding of life in God, 'happy are those who delight in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.' A life centred on the Torah, the first five books of the Hebrew Bible. The beautiful image in verse 4 of God's people being like trees planted by streams of water yielding fruit, secure and rooted in God, rather than those who are tossed 'to and fro', scattered by the wind. The scholar Walter Brueggemann suggests that this psalm '*announces that the primary agenda for Israel's worship life is obedience, to order and conduct all of life in accordance with God's purpose.*'

This Psalm is not 'do good and prosper or do bad and suffer,' not a dualistic 'prosperity gospel' which we know is wrong-headed. But as the anchor holding, steadfast and sure in the Saviour's love. A life underpinned by a Torah which was given as a gift to the oppressed people of Israel in the wilderness awaiting liberation, as an instruction to shape them after God's own heart. And so those who delight in the law of the Lord will have within their core being a love of God and of the neighbour too, and will always imagine a world of freedom and of justice. A people who opt in to serve as part of God's work in the world, and do not opt out only to serve themselves. God is to inform our choices and turn us towards the good.

It's that meaning and purpose in life of being humbly blessed by a God whose word we live out, and whose grace we receive, that points towards true happiness, irrespective of all that we might otherwise gain in this world. The Psalm invites the community of God to orientate our lives to the One who has come that we might have life, and have it in all its fulness.

You might recall from school the poem by



'Christ All Mercy' Eastern Orthodox icon 13th century

Percy Bysshe Shelley, where he writes of a traveller encountering in the desert two vast and trunkless legs of stone:

And on the pedestal these words appear:

*My name is Ozymandias, king of kings;
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!*

Nothing beside remains. Round the decay

Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare.

The lone and level sands stretch far away.

'Who is the greatest?', the disciples debated. Perhaps only Muhammed Ali had the right to claim that. Unless the fate of Ozymandias is to be ours too, for the rest of us, the greatest might be everyone and no-one, all at once. Amen.

GIFT SERVICES



SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2021

I have been in touch with the Minister, the Session Clerk, the Treasurer and the Covid-19 committee and all are in agreement that we should hold our Annual Gift Services on Advent Sunday, 28 November.

Huge appreciation was expressed by our partner organisations last year when need was heightened during the pandemic. It is already clear that many families will struggle financially again this year and buying Christmas gifts may have to be a low priority for them.

What's needed?

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).

Toys for babies and children; colouring books, art materials, play-doh and plasticine; games for children and teens;

books and toiletries as appropriate. Headphones were much sought after in North Edinburgh. All items should be new and gift tags and wrapping paper are useful, too. While working from home is still in operation, Women's Aid found Gift tokens for Morrison's and Sainsbury's supermarkets very useful.

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). Please put **Gift Service** as the reference in a bank transfer and in a covering note if your cheque is made out to the church.

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

Anne Graham 0131 667 6331,
annegraham55@hotmail.com

CHRISTIAN AID

Engage with your MP ahead of COP26

COP26 is the 26th meeting of world leaders at the UN climate change talks. For many, these UN climate talks remain the best, and only, global platform to build consensus on climate action and climate justice.

The countdown to COP26 is well and truly on and it's more important than ever that we turn up the pressure on MPs – showing them the depth and breadth of support for climate justice in the UK.

Our brothers and sisters living in the most marginalised communities in the world – who have done the least to cause the climate crisis – are paying the heaviest price. Crops are ruined, homes destroyed, and lives lost as extreme weather takes its toll.

COP26 is a decade-defining moment and an opportunity for real, immediate, and lasting change.

By calling on your MP to act, you're letting them know that as a community we care, and we demand action.

To make sure decision makers hear us loud and clear, Christian Aid has created a template letter and parliamentary briefing for you to share with your MP. You can find both on the CA website by following the links:

[Engage your MP COP26](#)

www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/get-involved/mp-briefing-climate-and-debt-2021

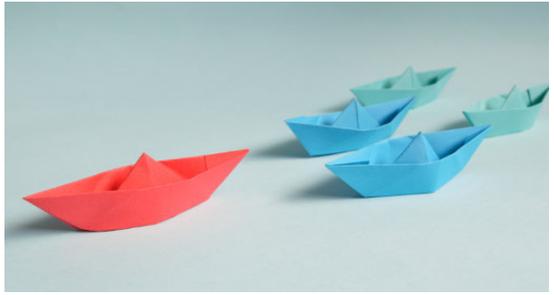
[Download the briefing](#)

www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/engage-your-mp-cop26

Make an origami boat

Christian Aid tells us:

'This year is crucial in the struggle for climate justice. To rise to the moment, we must underpin it in prayer and action. We



are building a fleet of prayer boats that will set sail for climate justice and cannot be ignored by world leaders.'

We are encouraged to write our prayers for climate justice on pieces of paper, and then fold them into boats! You can use your boat in a number of ways. For example:

- * Send it to COP26 - Thousands of boats from across the country will come together in a special installation at COP26 to deliver your prayers and messages to world leaders. - To add your boat, send it to PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT. Please ensure your boats arrive by 15 October to be part of the fleet.

- * Share your boat on social media and join our online fleet - Make your action visible to decision makers by snapping a photo of your boat and sharing it on social media using the hashtag #RiseToTheMoment and #PrayForCOP26

- * Use your boat to engage your MP – tell them that you care about climate justice! MPs get lots of messages everyday so use your boat as a conversation starter to help catch their attention.

Whatever you choose to do, every action counts in the fight for climate justice.

For more information, and details of how to make an origami boat, please visit

<https://caid.org.uk/createboat> on the Christian Aid website.

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And finally

After a long absence, our ever-popular Autumn Preserves Sale returns on Sunday 24 October. Lots of delicious jams, chutneys and marmalade will be on offer, every jar helping to raise vital funds for Christian Aid. Look out for further details in the intimations.

Meanwhile, if you're making jam or chutney during the next few weeks, please consider making a little extra for our sale.

Also in support of Christian Aid, St Andrew's & St. George's West Church, George Street will be holding a sale of Paintings and Scottish Books on 14 and 15 October, 10.00am – 3.00pm, and a Coffee Morning on Saturday 16 October, 10.00am 12.00pm. All welcome!

With best wishes from the CA group, and thanks for all your support.

With good wishes from

The Christian Aid Committee

Prayer Thoughts

Lord to whom else can we go,
As we look at our world,
and what we have done?

Lord to whom else can we go,
When we see our climate
in crisis?

Lord to whom else can we go,
When we feel powerless before
decision makers?

Lord speak your words of life
Into negotiations and
corridor conversations

Lord speak your words of life
Into global choices and
global decisions

Lord speak your words of life
That climate justice may be
done

Lord to whom else can we go,
In the urgency of the hour?

Lord speak your words of life
Into our prayers and petitions
Amen

NEWS DISTRIBUTION

Many thanks to all who have opted to receive *Grapevine* by e-mail, thereby saving printing and paper costs and, in some cases, postage as well. Please reconsider this from time to time and amend your preferred choice(s) for receiving relevant Congregational News by revising and submitting the following options.

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- In Youth Newsletter emails
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MORNINGSIDE JUSTICE AND PEACE



The Morningside Justice and Peace Group exists to promote informed opinion on matters of concern to the community at large.

These meetings are open to all and provide a view on a topic of national, international or local concern followed by questions and discussion.

Meetings are held every Wednesday on Zoom. Zoom link will be sent on request. b.darcy20@gmail.com

October 13

Ian Fraser, journalist, commentator and broadcaster who writes about business, finance, politics and economics. Author of *Shredded. RBS, the Bank that Broke Britain*. 'Investigative Financial Journalism.'

October 20

Matthew Crighton, Sustainable Economy Advisor, Friends of the Earth Scotland. 'COP26 - What's it for and what can we expect?'

October 27

Adam McVey, Council Leader, City of Edinburgh Council, Convener, Policy and Sustainability Committee. 'Edinburgh Climate Strategy.'

November 3

Julia Calvert, Lecturer in Political Economy, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh.

'Political Economies of South America: Crisis, Change and Progress since the 1970s.'

November 10

Ashley McLean, Policy and Parliamentary Officer, Poverty Alliance.

'Pensioners in Poverty in Scotland – why, and what can be done?'

November 17

Councillor Lesley Macinnes, Convener, Transport and Environment Committee, City of Edinburgh Council.

'Transport for Edinburgh (TfE) and the work of the Transport and Environment Committee.'

November 24

Professor Colin Harvey, Professor of Human Rights Law in the School of Law, Queen's University Belfast (QUB).

'A United Ireland in our Lifetime?'

December 1

Sam Wheldon-Bayes, Project Officer, Global Ethical Finance Initiative (GEFI).

'Can Global Finance really be Ethical?'

NEWS

GRAPEVINE DISTRIBUTION



If you would prefer to return to your custom of uplifting your *Grapevine* - on display at church entrances and exits - instead of having issues delivered or posted out to you, please let William know.

He may be contacted in writing, by note or by email; (churchmanager@googlemail.com) including your name and address, so that we can amend distribution lists and avoid duplication. Many thanks

MAF PODCAST



Andy Martin, who has worked for Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) in Scotland for almost twenty years and is not their Communications Manager, has recently recorded an informal Podcast giving an interesting, wide-ranging and inspiring account of the history, ethos and global activity of MAF.

However much you already know about MAF, this informal presentation is well worth listening to! It can be obtained by pasting the following link into your browser - <https://open.spotify.com/episode/337jadnlEzLqOwwvZtyBbB>

AFTERNOON SERVICE



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE ! Afternoon Service of Remembrance on Tuesday 16 November 2021

at 2.30pm until around 3.45pm in the level access Bill McDonald Hall [via West Mayfield]

Everyone most welcome as usual.

ECO NEWS



MARJORY GRANT

The Ecogroup was reinvigorated by being able to meet face to face last month. It was good to consider what we might each be doing to improve carbon footprints as well as looking globally with our sights set on COP26. With that in mind, we are delighted that the renowned Christian thinker and environmentalist Alastair McIntosh, author of the highly acclaimed book on the climate crisis '*Riders on the Storm*', has agreed to deliver a lecture at Mayfield Salisbury Church on 28 November. This will consider the Christian response to the Climate Crisis, timed to follow the crucial COP26 Conference in Glasgow. It is hoped that this lecture will be live-streamed for those unable to be present in the church.

On a more local level, do check the web page for information (and not least the answers to the quiz questions found in the pew leaflets over the next few weeks!). And do think about avoiding plastic where possible and recycling when it is unavoidable. Milk bottle tops are featured below and it is hoped to extend our recycling soon

We can now continue to collect clean coloured screw-tops from plastic milk bottles. [Unfortunately, only tops with a 2 or a 4 in the RIC triangle code are suitable for this recycling project.] There is a container for you to drop your contributions off within the West Mayfield entrance area.

The tops will be delivered for sorting in Galashiels and sold in bulk to Pegtog, a firm in Jedburgh, who make eco-bricks – 195 bottle tops in one brick ! <https://www.pegtog.co.uk/> The proceeds of the sale of the tops to Pegtog support charities in the Scottish Borders.

Many thanks to all – and please spread the word !

SCREW TOPS FROM PLASTIC MILK BOTTLES



The change that is afoot in the Church of Scotland is echoed in how the Guild will go forward. About 20 people from six of the churches in the South Edinburgh Presbytery Cluster met recently to consider this. Some of the churches have active Guilds, some are feeling less viable and in others the Guild has already closed. The traditional pattern in churches need shaken up and new models across churches tested.

While opportunities are explored a short programme of six events between now and Christmas is open to anyone interested in the attending. A.H. Charteris set up the Women's Guild to give women a voice in the church, and now that has been satisfactorily achieved men are welcome.

It starts with a Songs of Praise on Tuesday 5 October at 2.00pm at Craigmillar Park Church and runs to December when a Christmas carol party is planned.

RECOVERING FELLOWSHIP THROUGH THE GUILD



Sandra Carter

How often are you online?

What kind of content do you use?

Websites or apps or blogs?

We'd love to upgrade our digital presence at Mayfield Salisbury, so we can be an 'online church' as well as a 'church online,' speaking more clearly of our faith in ways that resonate more widely. We have resources to do so. To help us see the right route to take, can we have a couple of minutes of your time to fill out an easy survey? You can find it **online at the church website - www.mayfieldsalisbury.org**

Ironically, we've also got paper copies in the church! if you'd prefer doing so that way. Thank you!

DIGITAL CHURCH



Sandy Forsyth

COLLECTION



Most of those who attend worship support our work through standing orders, but before the first lockdown we also had a plate collection during the service for visitors and those who preferred that form of offering. Covid restrictions still prevent us passing a plate during the service.

Instead we are now inviting those who would have put offerings in the plate during the service to do so at the close of the service. In the halls entrance and in the vestibule you will find a bowl or plate marked 'Plate Collection'.

Regular and one-off donations, are still possible online through: www.give.net/20311853 or by contacting our Freewill Offerings Treasurer, Hugh Somerville on 0131 466 2446 or hs.somerville2@gmail.com

THE BILL MCDONALD LECTURE



The Second Bill McDonald Lecture took place at Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church on Sunday 3 October, 2021. It was a most informative occasion attended by a good number of people, who had come together in admiration and gratitude to celebrate the long and fruitful life of a remarkable man.

The lecture, entitled '**Aid work is not beatitude,**' was presented by **Dr Denis Rutovitz founder of the Edinburgh Direct Aid**. Introductions were given by the minister of Mayfield Salisbury, Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth and Allan Little, who gave the inaugural Bill McDonald lecture, and is also Bill's son-in-law.

For those unable to attend the event, the entire evening is available to watch online at the church website and also the YouTube page. An Audio CD is available upon request to the church office.

Direct online link:
<https://youtu.be/AgeYYSq5w6k>

The Very Revd Dr W. J. G. McDonald was Minister of Mayfield Church from 1959 to 1992 and Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1989/90.

MAYFIELD MILERS



UPCOMING WALKS

If you require further information about these walks please contact Jenny McCallum on 0131 667 2888, 07422 529520 or Jean MacGilchrist 0131 477 6648, 07710 213754

October

- | | | | |
|--------|--|------------------------|---------------|
| Mon 11 | West Linton Circular 2 - 3mls | Jenny McCallum | 0131 667 2888 |
| | 9.30 Morningside Clock | Stagecoach Bus no 101A | 0742 252 9520 |
| | Picnic at halfway point | Cafe at West Linton | |
| Tue 26 | Tweedbank to Abbotsford Circular 4mls | Anne Sturrock | 0131 668 3524 |
| | 9.10 Waverley Station for BordersTrain | at 9.24 | 0793 215 9964 |
| | Fairly flat - two flights of steps | picnic lunch | |

November

- | | | | |
|--------|---|-------------------------|---------------|
| Mon 1 | Swanston to Hillend Circular 4mls | Honey Ballentine | 0131 337 4438 |
| | 10am Meet at Church for car share | some steep inclines | 0771 022 5198 |
| | Picnic lunch - Shorter option - end walk at Hillend | - take bus 4 or 15 home | |
| Thu 11 | Balerno to Currie 5 -6 mls | Maggie Douglas | 0131 447 8627 |
| | 10am meet at Church for car share | picnic lunch | 0797 328 8984 |
| | 11am from the start of Water of Leith Walkway | | |
| Thu 18 | East Linton to West Barnes 6mls | Susan Wooding | 0131 667 2754 |
| | 9.55am Waterloo Place for X7 Bus | leaving 10.09 | 0792 934 5491 |
| | Picnic lunch | | |

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note that all services and times are subject to change

The 10.45am service will be broadcast live each Sunday on the church website here: www.mayfieldsalisbury.org/online and also on our YouTube page here: www.youtube.com/user/MayfieldSalisbChurch

At the time of publication, there is no requirement to book a space at worship. We have enough space for everyone who wishes to attend so please do come along. This, of course, may change depending on the prevailing covid restrictions and rules. Please refer to the church website www.mayfieldsalisbury.org/attend or phone the church office on **0131 667 1522** for up-to-date service information.

OCTOBER

Sat 9 Postponed until 15 January 2022 – Congregational Gathering.

- Sun 10 9.30am All-Age Worship: (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth & Hillary Leslie)
10.45am Traditional Worship: 20th Sunday after Pentecost (Sandy Forsyth)
- Tue 12 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Sun 17 9.30am All-Age Worship: (Revd Dr George Whyte & Hillary Leslie)
10.45am Traditional Worship: 21st Sunday after Pentecost (George Whyte)
- Tue 19 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Sun 24 9.30am All-Age Worship: (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth & Reuben Addis)
10.45am Traditional Worship: Pentecost +22 (Sandy Forsyth & Reuben Addis)
- Tue 26 10.00am Morning prayers
- Sun 31 9.30am All-Age Worship: **COP26 Service** (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth & others)
10.45am Traditional Worship: **COP26 Service** (Sandy Forsyth & others)

NOVEMBER

- Tue 2 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Sun 7 9.30am All-Age Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth & Hillary Leslie)
10.45am Traditional Worship: 24th Sunday after Pentecost (Sandy Forsyth)
- Tue 9 10.00am Morning Prayers
- Sun 14 9.30am All-Age Worship: Remembrance (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth & Hillary Leslie)
10.45am Traditional Worship: Remembrance Sunday (Sandy Forsyth)
- Tue 16 10.00am Morning Prayers
2.30pm Afternoon Service of Remembrance

Sun 21	9.30am	All-Age Worship: Christ the King Sunday (Revd Helen Alexander & Hillary Leslie)
	10.45am	Traditional Worship: Christ the King Sunday (Helen Alexander)
Tue 23	10.00am	Morning Prayers
Sun 28	9.30am	All-Age Worship: Christmas Gift Service (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth)
	10.45am	Traditional Worship: Advent Sunday: Christmas Gift Service (SF)
	7.00pm	LECTURE: 'Riders on the Storm (Alastair McIntosh) See 'Eco News' on page 18 for more information.
Tue 30	10.00am	Morning Prayers

DECEMBER

Sun 5	9.30am	All-Age Worship (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth & Hillary Leslie)
	10.45am	Traditional Worship: Second Sunday of Advent (Sandy Forsyth)
	7.00pm	'Blue Christmas' Service (Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth & Kay McIntosh)

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	/	Psalms	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	/	Psalms	119: 1-24
19	Jeremiah	32,33	/	John	12
20	Jeremiah	34,35	/	John	13
21	Jeremiah	36,37	/	Psalms	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	/	Psalms	119: 49-72
26	Jeremiah	47,48	/	John	17
27	Jeremiah	49,50	/	John	18
28	Jeremiah	51,52	/	Psalms	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	/	Psalms	119: 97-120
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2	Ezekiel	4,5	/	James	1
3	Ezekiel	6,7	/	James	2
4	Ezekiel	8,9	/	Psalms	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
9	Ezekiel	18,19	/	Peter	1
10	Ezekiel	20,21	/	Peter	2
11	Ezekiel	22,23	/	Psalms	120-122
12	Ezekiel	24,25	/	Peter	3
13	Ezekiel	26,27	/	Peter	4
14	Ezekiel	28,29	/	Peter	5
15	Ezekiel	30,31	/	Psalms	123-125
16	Ezekiel	32,33	/	Peter	1
17	Ezekiel	34,35	/	Peter	2
18	Ezekiel	36,37	/	Psalms	126-128
19	Ezekiel	38,39	/	Peter	3
20	Ezekiel	40,41	/	John	1
21	Ezekiel	42,43	/	John	2
22	Ezekiel	44,45	/	Psalms	129-131
23	Ezekiel	46,47	/	John	3
24	Ezekiel	48	/	John	4
25	Daniel	1-3	/	Psalms	132-134
26	Daniel	4,5	/	John	5
27	Daniel	6,7	/	John	
28	Daniel	8,9	/	John	
29	Daniel	10-12	/	Psalms	135,136
30	Hosea	1,2	/	Jude	1

December

1	Hosea	3-6	/	Revelation	1
2	Hosea	7,8	/	Psalms	137,138
3	Hosea	9,10	/	Revelation	2
4	Hosea	11,12	/	Revelation	3
5	Hosea	13,14	/	Revelation	4

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Deaths

Betty Davidson
Frances Ritchie

WHO'S WHO IN MAYFIELD SALISBURY

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

Minister

Revd Dr Alexander Forsyth AForsyth@churchofscotland.org.uk 0131 667 1286

Pastoral Assistant

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

YouthWorker

Hillary Leslie Hillary.MayfieldYouth@gmail.com 0745 372 2224

Church Manager

William Mearns churchmanager@googlemail.com 0780 801 1234

Organist

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

Session Clerk

Boyd McAdam clerkmspc@gmail.com 0777 358 7579

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

Mayfield Radio

mayfieldradiounit@gmail.com
0131 667 7742

Grapevine

William Mearns 0131 667 1522
churchmanager@googlemail.com

Pastoral Care

For Home or Hospital visits,
contact the Pastoral Assistant.

Online Giving

Secure online offerings: www.give.net/20311853

Staff Days Off

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

Social Media

 www.facebook.com/MayfieldSalisbury

 www.youtube.com/user/MayfieldSalisbChurch

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

 www.mayfieldsalisbury.org



Copy date for next issue

6.00pm on Friday 26 November