

THE SHUTTLE

September/October 2017



1a Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2DW

Meeting Matters

Every Saturday

10 - 12pm Morning Coffee

Every Tuesday

10.00 Prayers & Reflection South Transept

Every Wednesday

12.30 Butterflies Plus - Lunch for the Over 60s

September

- 10 9.50 Family Service
10.30 Morning Service
13 11.30 Local Policing Surgery - Cafe area
17 9.50 Family Service
10.30 Morning Service
18 20.00 KS Business Team meeting
19 19.30 Guild Craigmillar Regeneration - Liz Henderson
24 9.50 Family Service
10.30 Morning Service followed by Side Chapel Communion
30 15.00 Kids Club Grand Design (see page 8)

October

- 1 9.50 Family Service
10.30 Harvest Service
Contributions for the next issue of The Shuttle to be submitted by today
2 19.30 Kirk Session meeting
3 19.30 Guild **Project** Street Pastors Ascension Trust
10 9.50 Family Service
10.30 Morning Service

Front Cover

The art work was made and used in the Morning Service on 19th August with the sermon "What do you see?" by Teri Peterson.

Acts 2: 14-18 On the day of Pentecost, Peter the disciple quotes from the prophet Joel;

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Reflections

"After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (St John 13:12-15,34-35)

On the day the terrorists hit the Twin Towers in 2001, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, was in Wall Street, to give a presentation to religious leaders. As a result of his experiences, he wrote a book called "Writing in the Dust: After September 11th."

He talks in the book about the danger of religious language used by religious organisations to maintain power and control; and by its exercise to maintain a distance between the living God and ourselves.

He contrasted the language of those who flew the planes to justify their actions and take thousands to their deaths, compared to those on the planes or in the towers, who used secular language as they faced death to call their loved ones and let them know how they felt about them.

He says:

"The religious words are, in the cold light of day, the words that murderers are saying to themselves to make a martyr's drama out of a crime. The non-religious words are testimony to what religious language is supposed to be about – the triumph of pointless, gratuitous love, the affirming of faithfulness even when there is nothing to be done or salvaged. It should give us pause, especially if we think we are religious" (*"Writing in the Dust: After September 11th."* Page3)

If we compare and contrast these thoughts, with the events of the last night of Jesus' life in St John's Gospel, the religious leaders who lurk in the dark waiting for Jesus' arrest use all the power and language of the institution to kill Jesus. Compare that to the words of Jesus when he washes their feet, his words are ordinary, and lead us to love and to service.

For St John, there is no last supper as there are in Mark, Matthew and Luke, because in the theology of St John, Jesus was the Passover meal, the sacrifice, the Lamb of God who is sacrificed for us. For St John, it was God's love made known in The Christ which we are called to receive and respond to all the days of our lives. This teaching of humility is another way of enacting and embodying the call in the Communion Service to: "Do this in remembrance of me."

St John in this great moment reminds us to "Remember"; and those who know Greek tell us that remembrance, literally means to bring to present significance. In other words, we are not thinking of the past, but the present – what does God's love mean for us now.

I watched part of a programme about Diana, Princess of Wales this week, and I heard on the programme about the outpouring of grief; how it may have been so, because formerly, people would have gone to church and had a language and a channel to deal with their communal grief. With fewer people going to Church, this communal outpouring had to find a secular way of expression and thus came the flowers and the gathering together and the open expressions of grief, which found a safe expression on the streets of London.

That is not to say that it was wrong, but it does make the Church ask, what can we do, to support people out there, when they go through difficult times in their lives, as well as those and their families who are closest to our hearts.

Today, in this world as we find it, we have a habit of living in our heads; and our faith has become a series of intellectual concepts about God. It is only when we can do both, by allowing our hearts to also be involved in the process, that we can enter into the hiddenness and mystery of God, then we can move towards a faith, which can find expression in the unknowing and messiness of faith.

The Diana Phenomenon gives us a continuing and interesting challenge of addressing both the head and the heart.

Rowan Williams also reflects on the danger of trying to break tension at very difficult times, by using words. Sometimes words are not enough, and it is important at the most vulnerable and difficult times of life – to simply keep silence and allow God’s healing to wash over us.

That is why silence is so important, not only during worship allowing a space for the Spirit of God, but also when we sit with people sharing their pain and grief. We must allow God in; into our space and lives and hearts.

As a community of faith – making God’s love real is so important. It is for us to encourage a living relationship with our community so that our calling to lead people to God and to serve them in humility, is not only a hope, but also a reality.

Karen K Campbell

CHURCH FAMILY & PARISH NEWS



Commiserations to Kirsty Noble on breaking her arm whilst training for a trampoline competition. Get well soon Kirsty!



We give thanks for the life and service of

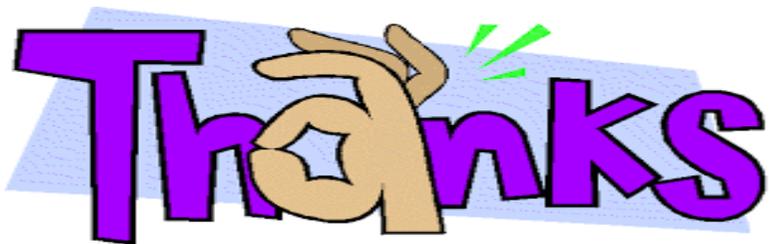
Margaret Kinnaird, a stalwart member of the choir for many years, died on 11th June 2017.

Margaret Redmond, a member of the congregation, died on 30th July 2017.

Marjorie Stephen, a former elder and wife of our previous minister, Rev Donald Stephen, died on 11th August 2017.

Elizabeth (Betty) Cromarty, a faithful servant of the church, died on 29th August 2017.

Mr David Bennett, an Elder and member of the congregation, died on 31st August 2017.



Many of you know that moving to Scotland has meant selling or giving away nearly everything I have accumulated over more than a decade living in the same home, because moving it was cost prohibitive. I wasn't prepared for the response from several of you though, as you have passed on furniture and kitchen gadgets and other household items for my future manse! Never before in my life have I experienced such generosity and hospitality. Thank you all for going above and beyond in welcoming me and easing my transition.

I have been officially "passed" and am now allowed to explore the vacant charges in the Church of Scotland, though I will still be with you several more months (and the piles of furniture in various parts of the church will still be with you until that process is complete, too!). I am incredibly grateful for this time, and for the many practical ways you all are making this move possible.

Teri Peterson

A huge **thank you** to all the knitters who contributed to the "Knit for Chile" project. The 6 kg of knitted items were kindly shipped by the Company whose forestry and saw mills were destroyed, together with the village of Santa Olga in the south of Chile. Most of the villagers were employed by them and lost all they had. The photos were taken at the rebuilt school and the families were thrilled to receive the lovely knitted items which arrived in July when their winter was in full swing."

Anne Laing

Dave and Greg, our caretaker and cleaner respectively, would also like to pass on their thanks to all the volunteers who turned up over the summer to help with the long list of maintenance and cleaning tasks which we are all too busy to keep up with during the year.



Guild Restarts!

The Guild 2017-18 session began on Tuesday 5th September, with a get-together to catch up on old friends and meet some new ones.

Please remember that the Guild is an all-inclusive group, gentlemen are welcome, and grey hair is not compulsory!

At the next meeting, on **19th September at 7.30**, we look forward to welcoming **Liz Henderson, minister of Richmond Craigmillar Church, who will tell us about the effects of the Craigmillar regeneration**. Anyone who has been through the area en route to Fort Kinnaird in the past few years will have been amazed by the changes that have gradually taken place, and it will be good to have a first hand account of how it is going.

On **3rd October**, we will be hearing about the progress of **Street Pastors**, who go around the city in the wee sma' hours giving flip-flops and friendly advice to weekend revellers. This is the first of the two Projects we will hope to support this session, in partnership with Ascension Trust (Scotland).

For the second project we are focusing on this year, the Guild is working with Feed the Minds to help with Breaking the cycle of **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**. This aims to support and empower women and girls in Kenya to fight this horrendous practice. We will be having a speaker on this topic later in the session, in March.

As we always say, please come along to ANY meeting that interests you, you will be warmly welcomed.

And of course if you feel the need for a cup of coffee either before or after you go for the paper or visit the shops any Saturday morning, do drop into the Church Centre between 10 and 12. We'd love to see you!

More information on Guild Projects is available online via the Church of Scotland website or the Guild Facebook page-

Save the Date !

KIDS CLUB:



'GRAND DESIGN'

**Saturday 30th September
2017, 3.00-4.30pm**

*Bible- theme, challenges, crafts, fun
& games for ages 6-9 years.*

Register, booking forms & further details:

Bettina, Family & Children's worker
0131 447 4359

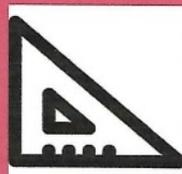
family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk

Book now!

£1 per child

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Marchmont St. Giles' Parish Church,
Inchcolm Hall, 1a Kilgraston Road, EH9 2DW

Registered Scottish Charity SCO09338

Family Focus

Generation to Generation

Over the summer we have heard stories of God's family, "generation to generation"—stories like elderly Anna and Simeon blessing the infant Jesus, stories of devotion and love between mother-in-law Naomi and daughter-in-law Ruth, of Jesus welcoming the children, and of Timothy and the faithfulness of his mother and grandmother. Throughout these stories, we have seen God's love pass through the generations, in both directions. Sometimes the stories are the usual wisdom being imparted from older to younger, as in the story of Moses' father-in-law Jethro teaching Moses how to organise his community work. And sometimes the stories are of the young leading, showing us new insights and receiving vision from God that we all need to hear, as in the story of young Samuel and elderly Eli, or the story of the young boy who shared his lunch so Jesus could feed the multitudes. We have practised recognising the context of each story, and listening for particular things together, as we try to teach the young people in our own church family how to listen to scripture in worship and understand God's word to us today.

It has been a joy to be part of a church family that wishes to grow together, and to see children engaging in our worship life — following along with the hymns, saying the Lord's Prayer, and listening intently to the Bible stories that form the foundation of our faith. At the end of the summer, I loved seeing how we all tried to become a little bit like children, opening our minds and hearts to "see" what visions and dreams might present themselves in shapes in the clouds or in splotches of paint—for old and young together to participate in encountering the living Spirit of God was beautiful and energising for me as a preacher, and I hope for others as well!



Thank you for a lovely summer exploring what it means to be the family of God's people, from every age and life circumstance. I look forward to seeing how we live out what we have learned! Teri Peterson

Family Focus: 'Care-ful Whispering'

The summer has flown by and the children, parents/carers and I have loved sharing in the 10.30am services in a new way.

If anyone has noticed more than usual whispering between adults and children, let me reveal why...

There is often an element of whispering when the young folk are in Church. This summer though, we have been whispering with a purpose or 'care-ful whispering' (read more in the article linked below recommended at the latest Church of Scotland conference I went to at the end of August)

Myself, other adults and parents, have been able to share with the children what has been happening at different parts of the service; follow the hymn words, say when it has been time to pray quietly, listen to the lessons, think about the sermon and join in with the Lords Prayer and get ready to go out into the world with the Benediction.

Some of the younger children spent sermon times in the north transept with an activity connected to the theme, but they too have been quiet to join in with prayers, especially the active Lord's Prayer, and for the blessing.

What a privilege to be asked questions about the readings, discover what the children think and feel about it and, on one occasion, be asked to pray for a family member who was ill during the prayer time?

The children have seen what the rest of the congregation experience while we are out at Junior Church. We have been growing children to see and participate in worship; to understand times of quiet, times of learning and times of participation, culminating in children helping to read lessons and assist with prayer responses. The congregation has been whole and the Sunday without any children present felt like there was a piece missing.

As we start the new season I am excited, to be planning the children & young people's programme for Junior Church to explore and encourage the youngster's faith in a way they can connect with and try out in a variety of ways. Those plans do include sharing

worship as a whole congregation on occasion, so watch out for whispering; we will be back!

Junior Church, as well as the weekly Bible Study and readings in the 10.30 service, are following the Ephesians theme until Harvest. We are using an all-age (splitting off into different areas for particular activities) style at the moment while we prepare new groups for after Harvest to take into account the number of leaders and the widening age range of the children & young people. Watch this space for the big reveal!

Bettina

(Worshipping with Children article

<http://worshippingwithchildren.blogspot.co.uk/2012/10/whispering-in-church.html>)



Young Engineers has launched a new LEGO & K'nex Engineering club on Tuesdays at 5.15pm. Sessions are led by a professional engineer for children aged 7 to 10 building different models each week.

(Unfortunately Big Kids of any age cannot be accommodated ! Ed is disappointed)

Classes are educational with new topics explored across the term helping children develop their understanding of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

The current block has been fully subscribed, please contact www.edinburgh.young-engineers.co.uk or phone 07731 657 775 for more details.

For more details of any of the other activities in the church centre please pick up a copy of the "Welcome and What's on" leaflet or check the website

<http://marchmontstgiles.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Welcome-Leaflet-2017-2.pdf>

AROUND THE AISLES

Harvest Sunday is just around the corner and this year we wish to continue our support for Richmond Craigmillar by donating our harvest gifts to them. They are in great need of dried and tinned foods, nappies, pet food, cleaning items and toiletries. All items are offered to the local community for a small donation and very much appreciated. Please bring your donations either on Sunday or to the office or cafe in the preceding week.

Our **Explorer Scouts** gave an interesting presentation recently on their trip to Belgium where they laid wreaths, on our behalf as well as their own, at the Menin Gate in early July. As a thank you for their help with delivering envelopes for Christian Aid, taking part in our fundraising video and for laying our wreath they enjoyed some big fat juicy burgers at their end of year barbeque. They are a delightful group of young people and are already looking forward to taking part in our Remembrance Service in November!

Christian Aid Quiz answers have been posted on the notice boards in the church and centre.

Please note that due to space limitations and safety considerations **parking in the Church Grounds is restricted to people with an MSG parking permit or a blue badge**. Abuse of this privilege may result in further restrictions.

Butterflies Plus has started up again and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesdays at 12.30pm. Please feel free to bring your friends and neighbours along as well - we will be delighted to see you.

Butterflies Cafe - Have you ever wondered about the **Coffee Money** which is collected every Sunday? It not only covers the cost of all the coffee and biscuits which are consumed each week but also enable the church to extend hospitality and outreach. Your support during the week will be greatly appreciated.

Guided Community Walks in the Astley Ainslie Hospital grounds

Saturday 30/09 & Sunday 08/10- 10am – 4pm every half hour

Why now? The health services now supported on the Astley Ainsley Hospital site will transfer to new buildings at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital in 2019. The owners (NHS Lothian) will create a master plan for the present site and then sell it to developers. The NHS has committed to consulting with the community over the next few months, as to how the buildings and grounds should be developed.

The Astley Ainsley's grounds are beautiful, with many open spaces and mature trees. To give everyone an opportunity to understand this site, local community groups are organising guided walks in small groups round the hospital grounds. Walks will start on the half hour, and last about an hour. You can just turn up but it would be helpful to have an idea of numbers. Please contact AAHComReps@gmail.com to register your interest.

Meeting points for the walks are at the Whitehouse Loan and Canaan Lane entrances. Stewards will be at these entrances with information and will organise visitors to be taken on a tour of the grounds by one of the guides. There will be no more than 10 on each walk. The last walk will start at 4pm

Rotary Club of Braids

Rotary is a group of men and women who raise money and help those less fortunate than ourselves. We try to make a difference. The Club raises funds and assists in projects for local and international charities eg Chas, Marie Curie, End Polio, malaria nets and is at present refurbishing a hospital in Ukerewe, (an island on Lake Victoria, Tanzania). It also reacts to world disasters.

We are a sociable group, enjoying speaker lunches, curling, golf, walking, quiz nights, bridge, dinners.

If you think that you would like to be part of this worldwide organisation and join your local Club of Braids which meets weekly on a Wednesday at 12:30 – 2.00pm in the Charwood Restaurant 47 Buckstone Terrace. Please contact our Club President, Colin Mackay 0131 667 0910 or crmackay@aol.com or come along to a meeting

Fundraising News

It is now the beginning of September, holidays are past and the time has come for more fundraising events. The video is almost complete and will be available on our website shortly.

The 3D plans of the proposed alterations have been a great success and have provided good talking points in the café after the Sunday services and during the week, many have been enthused by our exciting plans for the future.

Last month our local wine merchant, Cork & Cask, held a wine tasting in the Café area which was attended by over 100 of their customers from the Marchmont area. It was an opportunity for us to promote our plans and they were very impressed by our space and by the canapes prepared by Butterflies Cafe.

On Saturday 4th November a second concert from Robert Parsons and choir members is planned when they will be joined by a jazz band and a group from "Singing for Fun". This promises to be a very enjoyable evening. More details next month!!!!

A car washing day by our Scouts is also planned. (Date tbc)

We have made an application for funding to the Postcode Lottery and are preparing one for Aviva Community Fund - this will need you to vote in support of our application and further details will be provided shortly.

FLOWER ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER to NOVEMBER

September

10 th	Joan Ellam	17 th	Judith Stewart
24 th	Dianne Beattie		

October

1 st	Mhairi Wilson	8 th	Shirley Farquhar
15 th	Jessica McCraw	22 nd	Joan Ellam
29 th	Mhairi Wilson		

November

5 th	Charles Stewart	12 th	Ann Arthur
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And finally.....

Two Brothers and a Carpenter.

Once upon a time two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side by side in harmony. It began with a small understanding, grew into a major difference and finally exploded into an exchange of bitter words, followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on the older brother's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days work," the carpenter said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there. Could I help you?" "Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbour. In fact, it's my younger brother. Last week there was a meadow between us and he took his bulldozer to the river levee. Now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me but I'll do him one better. See that pile of lumber curing by the barn? I want you to build me an 8 foot fence so I can't see his place anymore".

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you."

The older brother had to go to town for supplies, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day measuring, sawing and nailing. About sunset, when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job. The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge, stretching from one side of the creek to the other! It was a fine piece of work, handrails and all. The farmer's younger brother was coming across, his hand outstretched. "You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done," the younger brother said. The two brothers met in the middle of the bridge, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox on his shoulder. "No, wait! Stay a few days. I have many other projects for you," said the older brother. "I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said. "But I have many more bridges to build."

Every day we have the choice to build fences or bridges. One leads to isolation and the other to openness.

MARCHMONT ST GILES' PARISH CHURCH

Minister	Rev Dr Karen K Campbell	447 2834
email	kkcampbell@churchofscotland.org.uk	
Session Clerk	Mr Ian Moss	662 9293
email	sessionclerk@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	
Children & Family	Mrs Bettina Hather	447 4359
email	family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	
Treasurer	Mrs Jessica McCraw	667 4514
email	treasurer@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr Robert Parsons	557 1257
Flowers	Mrs Mhairi Wilson	445 1835
email	mhairi.m.wilson@gmail.com	
	Shirley Farquhar	447 9958
email	sgfarquhar@yahoo.com	
Safeguarding	Mrs Catriona Moss	662 9293
email	safeguarding@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	
Pastoral Care	Mrs June Wilson	447 7572
The Shuttle Editors	Charles & Judith Stewart	668 1970
email	theshuttle@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	

Church Centre Booking Enquiries

Church Centre Office
(Monday - Thursday 9.00am - 1.00pm)

Email : office@marchmontstgiles.org.uk

0131 447 4359

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