



THE SHUTTLE

**Marchmont St Giles'
Parish Church**

At the Heart of the Community
March 2022



1a Kilgraston Road, Edinburgh, EH9 2DW

Meeting Matters

On Facebook Live or Zoom

Facebook Live : **Thought for the day - Lent** 10am

Monday to Friday

Zoom : **Bible Study** 12.30pm & 7.30pm

Wednesday

Email kkcampbell@churchofscotland.org.uk for Zoom links

March

- 13 9.30 Junior Church
- 10.30 Morning Worship
- 20 9.30 Junior Church
- 10.30 Morning Worship
- 27 9.30 Junior Church
- 10.30 Morning Worship

April

- 3 9.30 Junior Church
- 10.30 Morning Worship
- Closing date for material for the next issue of The Shuttle*
- 5 14.00 Southside Guild - Annual meeting and Art exhibition
at Craigmillar Park Church (tbc)
- 9 10.00 Wild Lent - see weekly newsletters for more info.
- 10 9.30 Junior Church
- 10.30 Morning Worship

Front Page

The flag of Ukraine drawn by the young people of MSG at the entrance of the Church Centre.

See our prayer for Ukraine on page 10 and reports from Budapest where workers from Ministry Essentials International are offering support to faith workers dealing with events in Ukraine.

Reflections

Psalm 31

You hate those who pay regard to worthless idols,
but I trust in the Lord.
I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love,
because you have seen my affliction;
you have taken heed of my adversities,
and have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;
you have set my feet in a broad place.

I am taking part in a vigil for Ukraine at Morningside United. I am reading the whole of Psalm 31 at it, some of which is above. The reason for this is that the Chief Rabbi of Ukraine has asked his Jewish and Christian brothers and sisters to read it and pray for his country. The Jewish people suffered terribly as part of the Holocaust, and one of the big memorials to the dead of the Holocaust has now been bombed by the Russians. They also were persecuted under the previous Soviet era and he fears for his fellow Jews what the future will bring.

We are all horrified by what is happening in Ukraine and there are different ways we can help. We can make donations of money to the Church of Scotland, who are working with the Reformed Churches in Hungary and Ukraine to buy medical aid for Ukraine. There is the Disasters Aid Committee and other important funds are helping during this war. Pilrig Parish Church is also receiving donations of clothes and nappies etc in partnership with the Ukrainian Church which meets in Leith.

During this Season of Lent, we are being reminded of the challenges we face in this world. As we walk with Christ to the Cross, we know the ending, but it does no harm, in the same way that generations of Christians before us have done, and that is to walk in the steps of Jesus and experience the wilderness and reflect on where we are, as individuals and as a world – and what our place in the world is.

Lent is a time when we are called to walk humbly and to reflect on what we do and what we might do better, in the shadow of all that Christ did and achieved on our behalf.

In the desert, the One through whom all things were made and in whom all things hold together looks up at His own handiwork through the eyes of a human being. He feels the heat of the sun, and the cold of night on his fragile skin. For the people of Israel, the desert was a complicated place. It was both a place of encounter with God and a place of testing and punishment, of danger, hunger and thirst.

Today we have the sights of countless Ukrainians wandering to an unknown land – to havens of safety. It is in the wilderness that our greatest vulnerabilities and needs are laid bare before God. And in the words of an Arabic proverb, 'The further you go into the desert, the closer you come to God.'

We have 40 days to reflect; to take a 360 degree look at our lives and consider what is important and, if necessary, reorient our lives to doing the will of God in the world.

Karen K Campbell

John F. Kennedy 35th President of the United States and at the height of the Cold War, the majority of his work as President concerned relations with the Soviet Union and Cuba.



"Peace does not rest in the charters and covenants alone. It lies in the hearts and minds of all people. So let us not rest all our hopes on parchment and on paper, let us strive to build peace, a desire for peace, a willingness to work for peace in the hearts and minds of all of our people. I believe that we can.

I believe the problems of human destiny are not beyond the reach of human beings."

Mother's Day Mothering Sunday

As a mother hen gathers her chicks,
You, loving Lord God, long to shield us
from harms which threatens us,
or that we bring upon ourselves.

Help us not to romanticise motherhood
by thinking of and using unrealistic images;
we pray for all women,
aware of the responsibilities they hold,
mindful of the pressures we place on them,
knowing that we could offer
more in the way of support:

Lord, father and mother to us all,
help us to care as much as you care for us.
We pray for mothers, and those in mothering roles,
denied the opportunities that most of us – enjoy;
for some the opportunity to make even simple choices,
for others the choices that come from building careers,
knowing that we are part of one humanity, one family:

Lord, father and mother to us all,
help us to care as much as you care for us.
We pray for mothers and fathers,
women and men,
where they go without so that their children can eat,
where it is difficult to build a safe and secure home,
where, for some, hope of any kind is not easy to find;
whether this is through economic ills,
or the result of war and violence, or any other threat:

Lord, father and mother to us all,
help us to care as much as you care for us.
We pray for families in which children are threatened
by gangs, or drugs, or street-violence,
or sexual abuse and exploitation;
for mothers and carers who fear that their 'wings'
are no longer enough to protect the family from the storms of
life:

Lord, father and mother to us all, help us to care as much as
you care for us. Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY & PARISH NEWS



We give thanks for the life and service of
 Jean Calder, a member of the congregation who died
 on 7th March 2022

Lectionary

<p>March</p> <p>Discipline</p> <p>14 Psalm 105 1-6</p> <p>15 Exodus 33 1-6</p> <p>16 Numbers 14 18-24</p> <p>17 Psalm 63</p> <p>18 Daniel 3 19-30</p> <p>19 Isaiah 5:1-7</p> <p>20 Isaiah 55:1-9</p> <p>Peace</p> <p>21 Psalm 39 4-6, 12-13</p> <p>22 James 3 13-18</p> <p>23 Proverbs 12 15-22</p> <p>24 Psalm 4 6-8</p> <p>25 John 14 25-31</p> <p>26 Luke 15:1-10</p> <p>27 2 Corinthians 5:16</p>	<p>Forgiveness</p> <p>28 Isaiah 14 1-7</p> <p>29 Exodus 12 21-27</p> <p>30 Micah 7 18-20</p> <p>31 Matthew 18 21-35</p> <p>April</p> <p>1 Luke 23 32-43</p> <p>2 Psalm 126</p> <p>3 John 12:1-8</p> <p>Journeys</p> <p>4 Luke 10 25-37</p> <p>5 Genesis 8 1-19</p> <p>6 Luke 15 1-7</p> <p>7 Exodus 12 31-42</p> <p>8 Mark 10 17-228</p> <p>9 Psalm 31:9-16</p>
---	---

AROUND THE AISLES



Flowers! As we ease towards a reduction in Covid restrictions we can look forward to the return of flowers to adorn our services. The Flower Convenors, Mhairi and Shirley will be delighted to hear from anyone who has a penchant for flower arranging or would like to develop their skill in the floral arts.

Flowers in Marchmont St Giles are often donated in memory of a loved one or to mark a special event, such as a birth or wedding anniversary.

Please contact Mhairi or Shirley (*details on the back page*) if you would like to add colour to the life of Marchmont St Giles.

After the morning service the flowers are given to member of the church community.

Presbytery Plan is aimed to bring churches closer together, to share resources and rise to the challenges facing the Church of Scotland. Recently our Minister led a vigil for Ukraine with Rev Stephen Manders from Morningside United and this week members of St Catherines' Argyle have joined in with the online Lenten Bible Study.

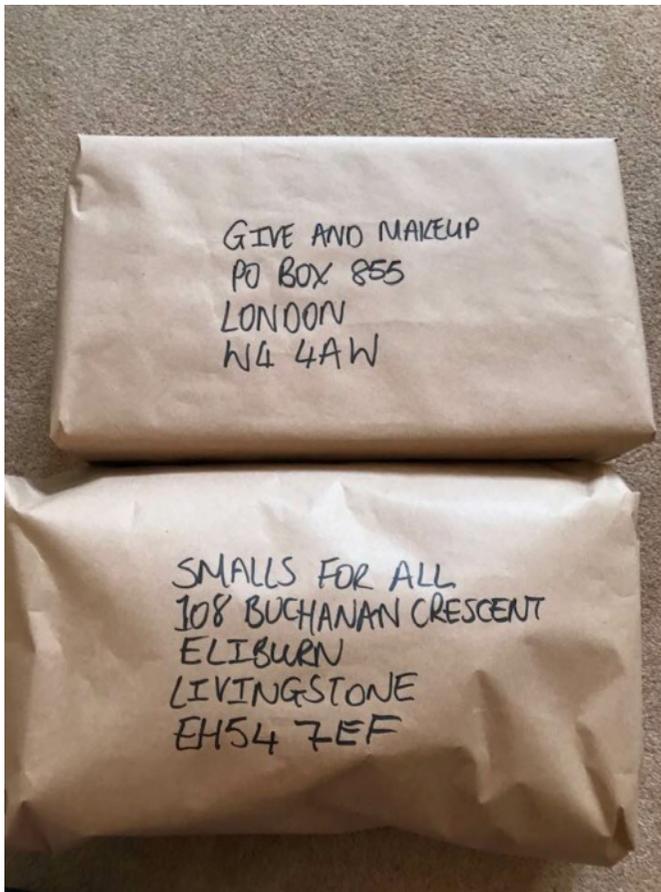
The next meeting of the **Southside Guild** will take place on Tuesday 5th April at 2pm. The venue has yet to be confirmed but is likely to be at Craigmillar Park Church. The afternoon will be the Annual Meeting and will provide an opportunity to discuss the way forward and hopefully have an exhibition of artwork by a local artist.

Thought for the Day Volunteers are sought to present the daily Thought for the Day at 10am during Lent. A reading of the daily bible verses and a short reflection of life today. Please speak to Karen if you are interested.

So if you're having a spring clean this Easter please consider the following two charities.

Give and MakeUp accept lightly used make up and toiletries and give them to women who have escaped abuse and make it to refuges with next to nothing. They say if it's good enough to give your friend, they'll accept it.

Smalls for All give bras to women in Africa who are at risk of being raped. The possibility of a woman being raped is significantly less if she is wearing a bra as it is seen as a sign of wealth.



Notes from the Kirk Session 7th March 2022

Finance : The Treasurer, Jessica McCraw presented a short report on the draft accounts for the year to 31st December. Despite the challenges presented by Covid there was a small surplus. Our total income was represented by offerings, donations, giftaid & legacies 37%, use of church premises and cafe 21%, investment income 20% and other sources 22%.

The main items of expenditure were staff costs, heat, light and power and our contribution to the work of the wider Church. The planned Phase II development of the church and hall space is currently on hold and is likely to be scaled back.

The Finance committee continues to monitor the financial position of the cafe recognising its role in mission and outreach. Butterflies Plus is proving very popular and it is noted that members of the congregation are becoming regular customers.

Jubilee Celebrations - 2022 marks the 150th Anniversary of the building of the church, the 50th Anniversary of the union which formed Marchmont St Giles and the 70th Anniversary of the Queen's Accession. We plan to have a 'Street Party' in the grounds of the church on Friday 3rd June. We also intend to plant trees in support of the Queen's Green Canopy project. These will probably be planted in the coming weeks as this is an optimal time of year for tree planting. More details next month.

Ukraine - it is suggested that support for aid for Ukraine be channelled through the Disaster Emergency Committee, Christian Aid or Red Cross.

Covid - we suggest that the one way system in church continues and invite the wearing of masks

Safeguarding - the outgoing Convenor Mrs catriona Moss was thanked for her service and diligence, a handover of the relevant documents will now take place with the new Convenor Mrs Sue Wilson. Training will be advised to the Kirk Session as details become available.

Pulpit Supply - as a consequence of her wider duties in the Church the minister now has some pulpit relief and will be off one Sunday a month for the next few months. Kate Jackson will lead our services in her absence.

Prayer for Ukraine

Holy Creator of everything
that ever was, is and will be
We pray for the people of Ukraine
That they might have strength and resolve
when the violence and death is designed to break their spirits.

We pray for the residents of the cities we now know,
Mariupol, Lviv, Zaporizka, Kherson, Odessa and Kyiv
and the many we have and will never hear about.
Bless them in their trials

We pray for the people who are fleeing from the artillery and
death
that they may be safe in their journeys.
We pray for the people who have no option but to stay
and we ask that they may be safe and have courage.

We pray for the leadership at city and national level
and all that they do to encourage their people and work for peace.

We pray for the situation on the border of Ukraine.
For the people who have gifted resources,
for the people who welcome and direct others to safety
and those who have opened their homes and community centres
and churches.

Holy and Gracious God
We pray for the people of Russia;
the parents who have lost children
and the totalitarian system which is terrified of the truth.

We pray for peace in hearts in action and in cities around the
world.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death
and who choose war.

We pray that swords will be turned into ploughshares
and peace will bring justice.

We pray for leaders on the world stage;
that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Receive the dead into your everlasting arms.

Above all,
today we pray for peace for Ukraine
and we ask this in the name of The Prince of Peace
Lord have mercy. AMEN

And Then What Happened?

Ukraine Update from Budapest

March 8, 2022

When our Ministries Essentials International worker showed up for the border run, Lori was distraught. "I don't know where Oleg is!" She had just discovered that Oleg, along with all the men in the church, had been conscripted. He was no longer at home; he was in Lviv. From there the men were transferred to Kyiv.

On the chance that we could still get the satellite phone and supplies to him, we headed for the border while the kids hung with David and the evacuated family staying at the Budapest Garden House. Once we arrived at the unmapped border, Lori got across in 7 minutes, walked 2 km to meet her friend, and came back an hour and 15 minutes later pulling suitcases containing Oleg's computer and things the family would need.

Meanwhile in Kyiv, knowing Oleg's health issues, the men of the church went to command and asked that he be made Chaplain for the guys in that sector. "He can't lift stuff but he can pray for us." Command agreed. But as shelling continued, more physical moves were required and Oleg was sent back to Mukachevo. "You can serve us better there."

So Oleg is back in Mukachevo feeding and serving those who are fleeing the war (1.7 million at yesterday's count into Poland, Hungary, and the surrounding countries).

With the focus on Ukraine, it's easy to miss the ripple effect down into the Balkans. Our global worker in Bosnia talked today about the waves of emotion, blank faces, and grief-filled memories as pictures of the attacks bring back memories of the Bosnian war 30 years ago.

"Remember we didn't get out because we thought the war would be over in days."

"Remember how we hid in the basement."

"Remember how hungry we grew in the days before we found a food source."

These are the realities that are happening right now for the people in Ukraine. And for the people in Bosnia, the reality is a pain-filled memory that they fear may come again.

March 9, 2022. You could tell when they walked in the door today for Retreat Wednesday that they were tired. No, tired is too light a word. Exhausted. Each of the 10 global workers who came today are housing refugees, feeding them, running supplies, managing their normal responsibilities, navigating the 23-times-in-one-day requests for housing and assistance and feeling the weight of their friends, co-workers and guest's growing pain. We started our day by sharing how they were. The common words were "overwhelmed", "so tired", "helpless". Another woman picked up the thread saying, "Yes, it does feel that way. Even though I know what I'm giving is not nothing...it feels like nothing." As they help those coming out (of Ukraine), especially if they are national workers with the same organization, they are grieving with them. "These are my friends. The ones I have known and come together with year after year. I'm a little afraid of the grief. It just is so overwhelming."

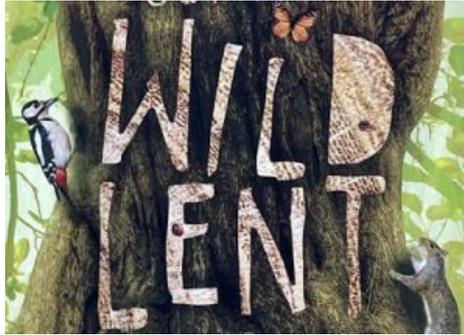
"I feel guilty. How is it that I sit here safe and warm when so many are cold and taking shelter. Yesterday I heard from my teacher friend in Kyiv who was still conducting online classes for her students. One student counted 4 times in one hour that the bombs blasted near his home. And I am sitting here with tea and cake."

We asked our guest from Azerbaijan what the reality was down there. "Everybody has somebody fighting in Ukraine. So the grief is very present. But also, political fear. There is this feeling that if Ukraine falls, we're next. No one wants that."

After breaking for personal time, it did my heart good to see one of our men walk over to the buffet and cut himself a piece of cake. It spoke to his sense of comfort and the invitation to let down. Twice he came to the kitchen to say thank you for the ministry of peace to him today.

And that's the word that came back around at the end of the day. Peace. "I feel like I come home whenever I come here. There is such a great sense of peace and calm." "Thank you for today. I came because I couldn't go any further." "This morning my whole body ached, but I knew if I could just come here today that my soul would be met and I would regain energy to work again tomorrow."

In these difficult and painful days for so many we are agents of peace. We carry it with us because we carry the life of Christ around in our bodies. Let us not be weary in bringing peace...offering presence...and igniting hope wherever we are.



Saturday 9th Apri

You and the young people in your life are invited to a Wild Lent Event. We will learn about God through nature and prepare for the coming of Easter.

It will be held in the Church grounds and around Marchmont from 10am-midday. There will be activities, crafts and worship as well as a snack.

More details will come in the weekly newsletter.





Irish police car parked
outside of the Russian
embassy after gates were
rammed open.

5:05 PM ✓

Am sure no one thought
about the Color scheme 😂



5:05 PM ✓

A not so subtle hint to Russia? - KEEP OUT

And finally

A man was flying from Seattle to San Francisco. The plane had a layover in Sacramento. The flight attendant explained that there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft, the plane would re-board in one hour.

Everybody got off the plane except one gentleman who was blind.

Another man had noticed him as he walked by and could tell the gentleman was blind because his Seeing Eye dog lay quietly underneath the seats in front of him throughout the entire flight. He could also tell he had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached him, and calling him by name, said, "Keith, we're in Sacramento for an hour, would you like to get off and stretch your legs? "

The blind man replied, "No thanks, but maybe my dog would like to stretch his legs."

Picture this:

All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a Seeing Eye dog!

The pilot was even wearing sunglasses.

People scattered. They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines!



MARCHMONT ST GILES' PARISH CHURCH

Minister email	Rev Dr Karen K Campbell kkcampbell@churchofscotland.org.uk	662 9353
Reader email	Kate Jackson	
Session Clerk email	Mr David Beattie sessionclerk@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	
Family Worker email	family@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	447 4359
Treasurer email	Mrs Jessica McCraw treasurer@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	667 4514
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr Robert Parsons	557 1257
Flowers email	Mrs Mhairi Wilson mhairi.m.wilson@gmail.com	445 1385
email	Mrs Shirley Farquhar sgfarquhar@yahoo.com	447 9558
Safeguarding email	Mrs Sue Wilson safeguarding@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	
Pastoral Care	Mrs June Wilson	447 7572
The Shuttle Editor email	Charles Stewart theshuttle@marchmontstgiles.org.uk	668 1970

Church Centre Booking Enquiries

Email : office@marchmontstgiles.org.uk

0131 447 4359

Marchmont St Giles' Parish, Church of Scotland
is a registered Scottish Charity SCO09338