



Link *The*
 Magazine of

Morningside United Church



March 2023

Dear Friends,

We are now in the season of Lent, which is an important time preparation in the Church year. It's a time for stepping back and reflecting as well as a time for creating space and considering change as we journey towards the scandal of the cross and the joy of an empty tomb.

At the beginning of Lent, we turn to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke where we are given an account of Jesus being taken out to the wilderness or desert and facing three temptations. An event that immediately follows his baptism. That same Spirit, that descended like a dove, now leads Jesus to a place that is remote, barren, and dangerous for an intense period of testing over forty days and nights.

Alone and vulnerable at the beginning of his ministry, Jesus is challenged to find out if he has what it takes to be obedient to the will of God. That is important as this will all lead to an ultimate test or temptation. Will Jesus use his power and authority to come down from the cross and escape death? Or will he resist and remain there until the end and complete his purpose on this earth as God requires?

In Morningside United we encounter this season of Lent with more questions than answers as we navigate a period of ministerial vacancy at a time of real change in the Church. So perhaps you can identify with the wilderness experience of Jesus?

Perhaps in your Church life you are experiencing feelings of abandonment and vulnerability and sense of testing? Given where MUC finds itself that is understandable. However, what matters is how you respond to these feelings. As a congregation we are going to be facing some tough conversations and decisions in the coming weeks and months, which will be challenging for everyone. I therefore invite you to consciously use this period of Lent to discern the direction God wants us to take, which might be different to the way we are tempted to go.

Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.

1 Peter :12-13 The Message

Grace and peace.

The Revd David M Scott, BSc BD(Min)

A Poem for March

May love and laughter light your days
And warm your heart and home,
May good and faithful friends be yours
Wherever you may roam,
May peace and plenty bless your world
With joy that long endures,
May all life's passing seasons bring
The best to you and yours.

Musings from Mary Taylor , Pastoral Assistant, MUC

"Neighbours, everyone needs good neighbours" so goes the theme song of Neighbours, the Australian soap.

Have you ever stood at Holy Corner waiting to cross at the lights and thought about the neighbours Morningside United Church has at Holy Corner? Well, I have - especially this month as invitations have come to meet and share with our neighbours.

Here are two of them.

1. Christ Church

An invitation from Christ Church to members of Morningside United Church to attend the Institution Eucharist of their new Rector - Matthew Rushton on Thursday 16 March at 7pm.

2. The Eric Liddell Community (please note new name)

John MacMillan, Chief Executive, The Eric Liddell Community enthused Brigitte and I for 3 hours with plans for the Eric Liddell 100. (A separate article about this in this month's link).

The stained-glass window linked to Eric Liddell in Morningside United Church is so inspiring.

Please speak to me if you would like to learn more about Eric Liddell and his connections with this church or be involved in the Eric Liddell 100, an exciting multi-faceted venture.

"In the dust of defeat as well as the laurels of victory there is a glory to be found if one has done his best" - Eric Liddell

Thanks for all the warm hospitality this month and for coffees, teas and water as I have visited some of you in your homes and I have also been in some neighbours' cafes.

As we journey together through this thought-provoking Lent 2023 let us reflect about our neighbours in neighbouring churches and throughout this community at Holy Corner as we "Think globally and act locally".

"When I needed a neighbour were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
Were you there?"

Lunchtime Concerts

Edinburgh Napier University are holding several lunchtime concerts again this month. They start at 1.15pm and will be on the following dates:

Wednesday 15 March

Wednesday 29 March

Wednesday 26 April

Please come along and enjoy the music.

The Eric Liddell 100

A legend. A legacy. A lifetime of inspiration.

“The Eric Liddell 100 will recognize and celebrate the life, sporting, and community service achievements of one of Scotland’s iconic figures; establishing strong sporting, community, business, cultural and international links associated with the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Delivery of the Eric Liddell 100 will secure cherish and celebrate the legacy of Eric Liddell for future generations across the world.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal has agreed to become the Patron for The Eric Liddell 100 initiative which marks 100 years since the legendary sportsman’s gold medal win in the 1924 Paris Olympics”.

Vision

To create a global community that celebrates Eric Liddell’s inspirational legacy, values and integrity

Mission

To bring his achievements to life for everyone, and inspire new generations to make a positive impact on their community, their society and their world.

Values

Passion

Compassion

Integrity

The Eric Liddell 100 Workstreams – Educational, Sporting and Cultural

If you would like further information, please contact the front desk at The Eric Liddell Community.

2023 Lent Collect

This year’s Lent collection is for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal, via Christian Aid as part of DEC. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, or are writing a cheque, please use the available Christian Aid Envelopes, fill in the details on the envelope and then put the envelope in the bucket. For cash donations please put in the bucket directly and it will be paid out to Christian Aid. You can also make electronic payment to MUC bank account, and it will be transferred (80-02-85 Acct no 00551871).

Church Update

On Sunday 12 March, David Scott our Interim Moderator, will be leading the worship. Following the service there will be a light lunch and gathering as we continue to look at way ahead.

Reading and Flower Rota for March

Readers:

Sunday 5 March	Mary Nisbet
Sunday 12 March	Lesley Donald
Sunday 19 March	Mary Taylor
Sunday 26 March	Elizabeth MacGregor

Flowers:

Sunday 5 March	Daphne Paton
Sunday 12 March	Mary Taylor
Sunday 19 March	Janet Wightman
Sunday 26 March	Elizabeth MacGregor

Thank you so much to those who have volunteered to help with the Readings and Flowers during March. Your contributions are most welcome and appreciated. If you wish to put flowers in the Church but cannot do so yourself, please ask someone else, including me, if he or she could do flowers for you, in whatever way. If you wish to give money to a flower fund, please give to me or Lesley Donald.

Many thanks

Maggie McKenzie
261 4908

Church Life at MUC – An Update

Coffee Mornings – This month's coffee mornings will be held on Thursday 9 March and Thursday 23 March. As ever, you can find us in the Small Hall from 10.30am. Everyone is most welcome to join us.

Yvonne Burnett

Thursday 16 March - 7pm Institution Eucharist for Matthew Rushton, new Rector at Christ Church, Holy Corner, Edinburgh
Members of Morningside Church are very welcome.

Stamps - Please bring used postage stamps to church. They will be put to good use by the Church of Scotland.

Eric Liddell Centre – the Eric Liddell Centre are looking for someone to recruit as their Evening Caretaker. The job description is on our board in the back hallway. You can also get in touch with Julie Carter at the Eric Liddell Centre.

Join the Choir - If you enjoy singing, please give our choir at Morningside United a try! Our repertoire is a wide variety of music, which we sing at the Sunday Morning Service once a month.

Singers of all ages are very welcome.

We meet for our weekly practice on Wednesdays at 5.30pm for 45mins. Our next rehearsal will be this coming Wednesday in the small hall. For more information, please speak to our Director of Music Brigitte Harris.

Easter Event to look forward to – This year, Good Friday falls on 7 April. We will be holding a music and words event for all to come along to. It will be held in the Church from 7pm onwards. Further information about the event will be sent out, but please put it in your diaries.



Holy Corner Booksale 2023

Book Donations

- We will be accepting book donations in January & February, from Wednesday, 18 January, 2023 & March
- No home pick-ups, drop-off only, to:
Morningside United Church, Chamberlain Road entrance,
at the following times:
Wednesdays 10 am - 12 noon
Saturdays 10 am - 12 noon

We Want

- Non-fiction books; Scottish books particularly welcome
- Paperback fiction
- Children's books



We Cannot Accept

- Encyclopaedias
 - Academic journals
 - Reader's Digest
 - Books in poor condition, due to mould, water-damage
 - CDs, DVDs
- (These won't sell, and would incur disposal costs.)

Morningside United Church, Holy Corner, EH10 4DJ
In aid of Christian Aid: Charity No. SC039150
Booksale website: <https://holycornerbooksale.wordpress.com>

The Christian Aid Booksale will be in the Main Hall on 13 and 14 May.

There are times for people to bring books, but you can also bring books when you come to church on Sunday. Please leave them on the pews in front of the sound desk.

The Link Magazine is available on our website to view, and in Church. If you would prefer to have it emailed to you, please email churchoffice.muc@gmail.com.

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