

FAIRMILEHEAD PARISH CHURCH

“For God so loved the world”

SUNDAY SERVICE

Worship

Sundays 10:30am

ALL WELCOME

YOUNG PEOPLE MINISTRY

Creche & Sunday Club

Sundays 10:30

ALL WELCOME

NOT JUST A SUNDAY

Fellowship during the week

Please
look at our website to discover all
that is on during the week



SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

After a summer sermon series with specific Gospel readings on the miracles of Christ, we return now to the chosen readings from the lectionary. The service will therefore go back to having two readings and four hymns. Not everything will go back as before as the praise band will continue with their singing before and after the service. Their singing has received so much positive feedback that I have asked Iain and Louise to continue it for the time being. My thanks go to my worship team who meet to choose what the praise band sing and have been proactive in recruiting new members for the praise band too. You will have seen now how many new members we have, so if you'd like to join, you'd be made most welcome. Just speak to myself, Hilary who represents the Worship Team, Iain or Louise!

Cheryl

On Sunday 1st of September we will hold our Creation Sunday and on the 6th of October we will celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving.

Harvest Gifts will go to our Babybank

BUCKSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND FAIRMILEHEAD PARISH CHURCH

Before the end of the school term Cheryl introduced a new service for the young people of Primary Seven at Buckstone Primary School. As we all know the end of each school year is a busy time for both the pupils and the staff, but as the year ends for the Primary Seven children, Cheryl wanted to create a time of reflection for all of the young people, as they move on to new beginnings in high/senior school.

With this in mind she approached the head teacher Mrs Imrie and together they crafted a service which would create time and space for all of the children to look back with gratitude for their primary years and to give thanks also to all those who have supported them to this stage.

On Monday June 10th at 7pm all the Primary 7's gathered together here in our church and we started off the evening by asking the young people to come forwards one by one to a round of applause.

Many of these children will go on to journey together in senior school, but not all of them, so it was encouraging to see them standing together and hear the applause for them, from parents, carers and teachers alike. The young people then led the first part of the service with readings: the story of the Good Samaritan which ties in with the award which was also introduced. It was a really special evening and the church was filled with young people and their families, music and songs as well as the moment of the award winner being revealed. We were also delighted to have Scott Arthur speak to the young people about his journey from being at school to finding his feet in the world and his career.

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BUCKSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND FAIRMILEHEAD PARISH CHURCH

The award is given to a Primary Seven pupil who, like the Good Samaritan, didn't just notice that there was a need, but went out of his/her way to make things better and as a result made a difference.

The award is of two clasped hands, it is made out of glass and inscribed. The winner keeps the award for one year. The winner is not revealed until the evening of the Leavers' Award Ceremony. Next year, we hope that this year's winner will return and be the one who presents their award to the Good Samaritan 2025.

The winner of 2024 was Savannah Brocklehurst. With her mother's permission her photo is below. 😊 Going forward it is hoped that each year one young person will be awarded the Buckstone Primary School Good Samaritan Award.



Phone Number

The Church Office telephone number has changed. Please delete the number that you've had over the years and replace it with this number below.

07484 070128

UPDATE ON THE PRESBYTERY PLAN



Meetings have continued to take place among the three churches of Fairmilehead, Greenbank and Morningside.

We have now been told officially that St John's Colinton Mains will join another church/es to develop mission plans with them.

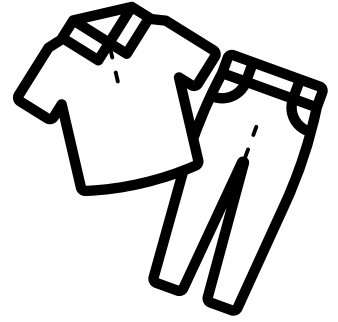
Progress has been slow but carefully thought out and it has now been agreed that Morningside and Greenbank will enter discussions into forming a union.

Fairmilehead will not be part of this union but will be part of a Parish Grouping with this new union. This union between Morningside and Greenbank will not mean that either of the two church buildings will close, the churches will all stay open and we will remain as three worshipping communities in this area of Edinburgh. The difference is that Morningside and Greenbank will share in one centrally funded Minister and support this ministry with a local appointment. The Ministry at Fairmilehead Parish Church will not change as a result of this union. Our Minister Cheryl will be with us every Sunday as always.

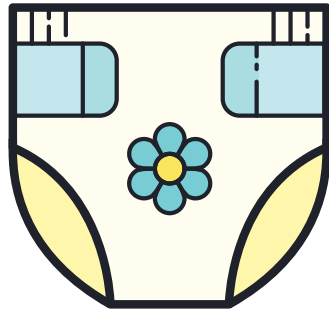
As this union moves forward, here in Fairmilehead we look forward to working collaboratively on mission initiatives which will be identified as important to the sharing of the Good News and growth of the Church. This is what is entailed in the concept of a Parish Grouping.

Donations for Harvest

“But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” **Matthew 19**



Our Harvest Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Sunday 6th October. We will be collecting in items for our Babybank. We would be grateful for any boxes of pasta, baby jars, nappies, nappy bags, child friendly shampoo and soaps. Also any tinned meats and fruits and breakfast cereals. If you could also donate UHT milk we'd be very grateful.



Thank You

New items for our school uniform bank would also be helpful

Donations can also be left daily on our Donation Table in the foyer



Talk To Us

Please contact Rev Cheryl or Mrs Annette MacKenzie with any pastoral concerns.

A message asking us to contact you can also be left with your Elder or Church office.

0131 445 2374



Fairmile Project

Every Monday afternoon Fellowship and friendship All welcome 2:30pm. We meet in the hall on the right as soon as you enter the church centre.



Communion in May 🍷 🍞 🌿
Our Harvest Communion in will be on Sunday 6th October at 10:30 am. Our donations will be for the foodbank

Church Centre

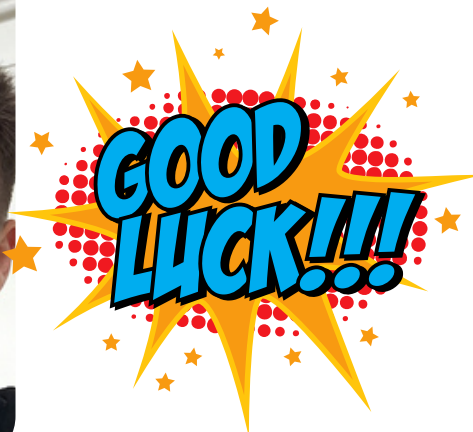
In Summer Hugh our Church officer let us know that he had managed to find employment with afternoon working hours, which allowed him finally to have the work / life balance which he had sought for many years.

Hugh had been with us for 22 years so we were sorry to see him leave, but delighted that he had finally secured new employment. A collection was gathered in for Hugh as a way of our showing our appreciation for all his work over the years. We wish him well.

We have now advertised for Hugh's replacement and will be interviewing the applicants at the end of August. We look forward to letting you know about the new appointment as soon as possible.

We are grateful to Tom Walke who has stepped in to cover for Hugh over the past few weeks before he heads off to University. Tom has kept the halls running smoothly as our lets have begun to return after the holidays.

Tom, we all wish you well with your academic studies! .



**Time of
Stillness
Thursday
5th Sept
3rd October**



PRAYER FOR CREATION MONTH AND HARVEST

God of all the Earth, God of Every Creature, God, above all through Jesus Christ, our Father our Mother and more.

All that has breath gives you praise. All that has being proclaims your power, your love, and indeed, your Mystery – for all of which we give thanks. God, who from the beginning, in might and wisdom chose to share your life-giving creativity: as the moon to rule the night and the sun to rule the day You ask us to give light and life to the flesh and the foliage; to manage and care for, and work with the entirety of this world you love so much that your Word is flesh, that your Son, your very self is given, that you, though almighty, choose vulnerability to reach out to our species - for all of which we give thanks. Give us wonder to go beyond the limits of our love. Save us from being overawed, as if Christ never lived, died, rose, or sent down the Spirit into the midst of grassroots life.

And in that wonder, so we give thanks!

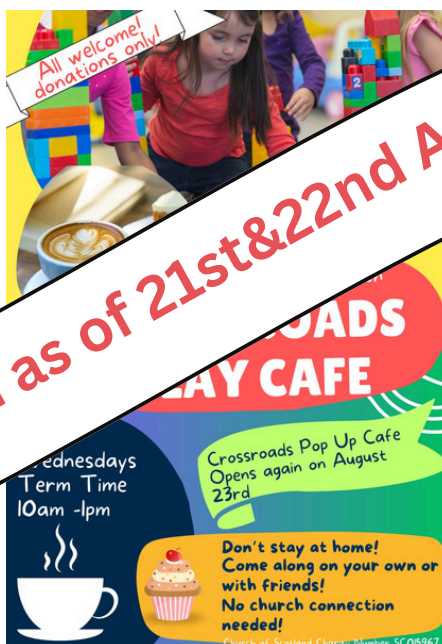
AMEN



God is Love



Look out for our new monthly Fairtrade Stall after worship!



Date for your diary!

We are delighted to host the Penicuik Silver Band again on Saturday 26th October. Tickets at £10 each will be on sale soon with proceeds going to Marie Curie. There will be coffee and home baking during the interval!



Fairmilehead Parish Church
Penicuik Silver Band
 Marie Curie Fundraiser

SATURDAY
 26TH OCTOBER
 TIME TBC

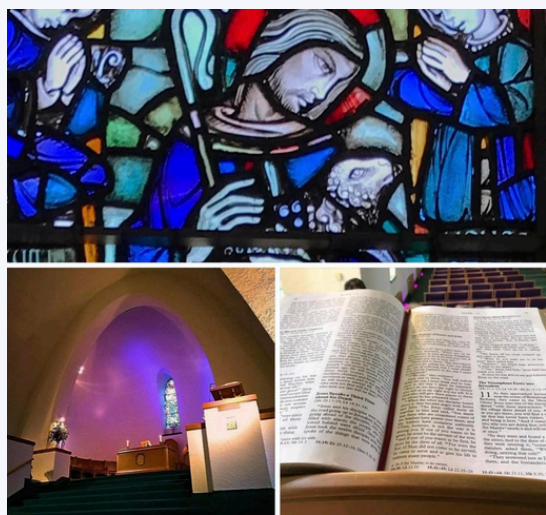
Marie Curie

JOIN US!

GRAHAM McDONALD WHO FEATURED ON CHANNEL 4'S "THE PIANO" WILL PLAY A GUEST SLOT DURING THE CONCERT.

FOR TICKETS CONTACT ANNE LAMBERT

Clocks go back on Sunday 27th October



Book Club 'Chapters'

Why not come along? The group meet monthly on a Monday at 7pm in Caerketton. Dates to discuss the books are as follows

Chapters Book group reading list 2024

Book details	Read during	Discuss on
Jamaica Inn by Daphne Du Maurier	May	3 rd June
	June/July	5 th August
Trust by Herman Diaz	August	2 nd September
The Bookseller of Inverness By S.G. Maclean	September	7 th October
Whalebone Theatre by Joanna Quinn	October	4 th November
The Invisible Library by	November	2 nd December



The Fairmile Project



The Fairmile Project meets every Monday at 2:30pm.



Each week we offer a different activity and a chance to come together over home made baking and tea and coffee. The last Monday of the month will be an afternoon of music with Val and Iain.

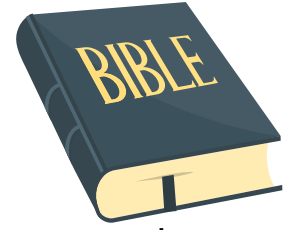
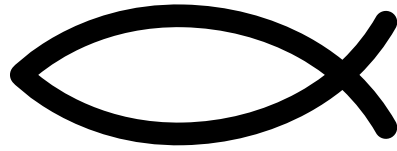
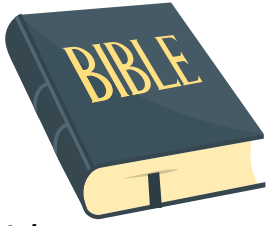


If you find yourself at home - young or not so young - on a Monday and would like some company, please do join us! Donation only. All welcome and no church connection is needed.

Coffee Morning

On Saturday 24th August we held our Coffee Morning so we could spend time with old friends and new while also raising funds for our church and also for the Edinburgh Uniform Bank. It was a busy and successful morning and alongside the coffee and scones there was a chance to browse some stalls as well. A massive thank you to everyone who made it such a success. We were delighted to be able to pass on a generous donation to the Uniform Bank





2 Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.’ So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.



2 Corinthians 12:2-10

In this passage Paul is rounding off his second letter to the Corinthian Church. He has been under attack from those who think they are better than him at preaching and having special visions and powers. Here Paul tries to counter their claims with a story of a spiritual experience he had some years earlier. He then goes on to talk about the thorn that was given to him in the flesh. We are not sure what this thorn was and many have speculated on it – but what is clear is that whatever it was, it had kept Paul from being too full of himself and more reliant on God; that there is a strength in his weakness. Reflecting on this passage, Alan Brehm observes: ‘Some of the greatest sages have made it clear that their deepest spiritual insights came precisely through their vulnerability, through their suffering, through their pain. They virtually unanimously attest that they found peace, happiness, and strength through the full experience of their weakness.’[1]

Paul uses his experience to do similarly. He may have this thorn in his flesh, but that does not stop him trusting in God. He even admits to having begged God, not once, but three times, to take this thorn away – but God instead reminds and reassures him: "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Cor 12:9). Paul uses this to remind his readers that in this he **can** boast. "For whenever I am weak, then I am strong" (v10). Frederick Buechner put it beautifully and yet boldly: ‘Paul said, "I will not boast except of my weakness," and he means that too. The God who could work through the likes of Paul, he says, must be a God and a half. ‘So with a cauliflower ear, or a split lip, or whatever he meant by the thorn in the flesh that God gave "to keep me from being too elated" (2 Corinthians 12:7), Paul went his way and wrote his marvellous punch-drunk, Christ-drunk Letters. Jesus lit the fire, and Paul used it to forge for him a church.’[2]

[1] <https://thewakingdreamer.blogspot.com/2012/07/strength-in-weakness.html>

[2] Frederick Buechner, *Wistful Thinking*, <https://www.frederickbuechner.com/quote-of-the-day/2018/9/10/pauline-letters?rq=2%20Corinthians>

At Greenbank Parish Church



The lectures will be held in Greenbank Parish Church on Braidburn Terrace at 7pm, preceded by refreshments at 6.30pm. The lectures will last approximately one hour, including time for questions. They will be livestreamed, with the recordings also available via the churches' websites.



8 SEPT
The Justice Call
 Joy Gillespie is CEO of Survivors of Human Trafficking in Scotland, an adviser to the Scottish Government, and a board member of Poverty Alliance and GoYouth Trust.



15 SEPT
Assisted Dying
 Rev Dr Liam Fraser is minister of St Michael's Parish Church, Linlithgow. He is the author of "Atheism, Fundamentalism and the Protestant Reformation" (2018) and "Mission in Contemporary Scotland"



22 SEPT
Searching for Renewal in the Mainstream Church
 Rev Neil Glover is a parish minister in Highland Perthshire and the author of "Finding our Voice" (2024). He convenes the Church of Scotland's Seeds for Growth

Greenbank and Morningside Parish Churches, have asked us to share with you that they will be hosting their usual series of autumn lectures. This year they will be held at Greenbank Parish Church at 19.00 (preceded by refreshments and chat from 18.30) on three Sundays in September. The topics are Human Trafficking (8 September), Assisted Dying (15 September) and Searching for Renewal in the Mainstream Church (22 September). These annual lectures are always interesting, illuminating and relevant. All are warmly invited.

Greenbank Church at 7pm - Refreshments from 6.30pm
 Livestream at greenbankchurch.org
 Entry by donation

At Fairmilehead Parish Church

Book your place now!

GOLF OUTING & DINNER

FRIDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

START 4PM | TEMPLAR COURSE AT SWANSTON
 DINNER AFTER AT HUNTERS TRYST AT 6PM

Join us for a day of fun and friendly competition on the golf course! Or join us after for dinner. All welcome!

More Information From Anne Lambert or Aileen Brannan