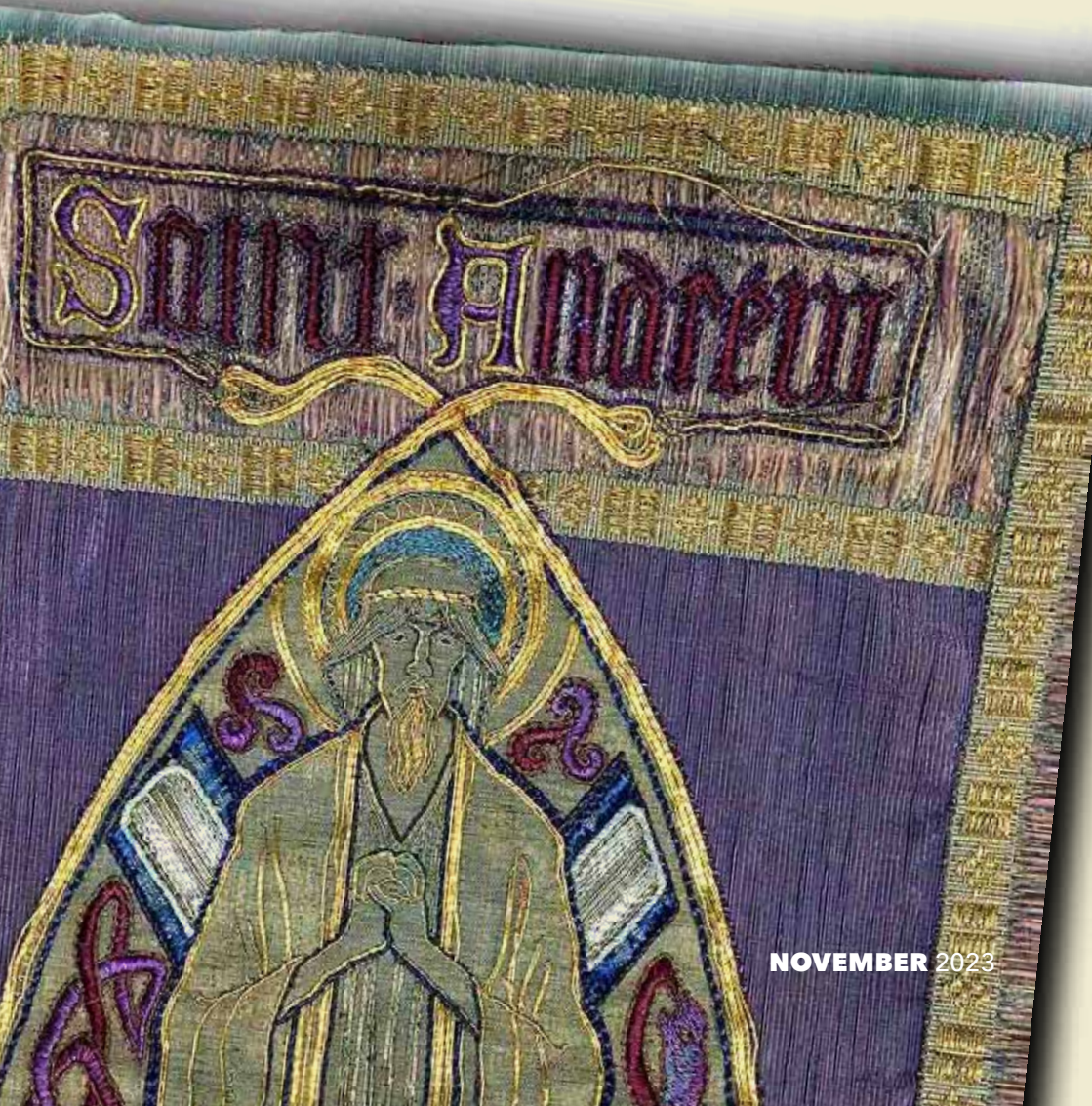


# REIDON...

REID MEMORIAL CHURCH MAGAZINE



NOVEMBER 2023

*COVER IMAGE: the Reid's pulpit fall depicting St Andrew, whose day falls on the 30th of this month. See Elizabeth Clark's article.*

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# DEAR FRIENDS...



## ***Do this in Remembrance...***

The month of November sees us return, as we ever do, to that time of year when we are called to remember. We begin the month setting off fireworks to commemorate an attempt to blow up the king and parliament. Less than a week later our nation falls silent to remember those who gave their lives in times of armed conflict. These are large-scale, national, acts of remembering. At a local level there are many other acts. Through November and December we find cause to pause and remember those who gave their lives at sea, as well as our own, personal, losses of loved ones. In a sense, we feel the need to make sure these things are not forgotten.

For us, though, there is another act of remembrance during this time. On the first Sunday of December, we gather to celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. During that service we will hear once more the words of Jesus, 'Do this in remembrance of me ...'. We are called to recall and retell the story of that fateful last night with his disciples. However, the word translated as 'remember' also has a subtle nuance in the original that is lost in translation. It means to remember in the sense of making real once more. It means to move beyond the mental act of remembering words spoken long ago, to living them out in a manner that makes them real for others.

In a season of remembrance, we go through public >

> rituals to reinforce the words we say or hear, and to support the feelings we have inside. The rituals seem both instinctive and right.

How, then, may we find the physical and visual ways to remember the actions of our Lord? As it is with other acts of remembrance, perhaps it is also a time to pause and reflect on the Christ's sacrificial love for us. Perhaps it is time to consider how to make them real.

YOURS IN CHRIST, **ALEX**



[See also last month's ReidOn...]

## UPDATE FROM MISSION PARTNERS, ISRAEL...

*Alex asked me to send an email to Muriel Pearson and Stewart Gillan offering them our prayerful support in view of the Hamas attack and the escalation of violence in the region. I have done this as Convener of the World Church Committee.*

*Stewart Gillan and Muriel Pearson have left Jerusalem in the wake of the worsening situation in Israel/Palestine. The World Church Committee will continue to keep in touch with Stewart and Muriel and to offer any help possible, together with our prayers. See Stewart's newsletter overleaf.*

**LINDSAY WOOD** CONVENER, WORLD CHURCH COMMITTEE



## PARTNERPLAN

# Stewart Gillan – Israel October 2023

St Andrew's Jerusalem  
PO Box 8619  
Jerusalem 91086, Israel  
[SGillan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:SGillan@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Dear Friends

Listening to Faure's *Requiem* will not bring you closer to Gaza, but it might bring you closer to yourself. Hearing it as a lament not for one person but for hundreds, running to thousands since 7 October. *Kyrie eleison*, the voices sing. Lord have mercy. Yes, upon us all.

Many of you, in your encouraging messages of support as we made our way, Muriel and I, overland from Jerusalem to Amman, and then by air to Abu Dhabi and London, before reaching Glasgow at midnight on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, gave thanks for our safe return and then added words that told us you knew it had not been easy for us to leave. Leave parishioners, partners, friends and colleagues behind – some of whom had chosen to stay, many more of whom had no choice.

We came out with volunteers from the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel, and three Methodist colleagues, Dave, Bea and Lynne. Praying prayers of gratitude and grief, and for a ceasefire, refusing to be told it was too early for such a prayer. A significant moment along the way was the short trip from the Israeli side of Sheikh Hussein bridge to the Jordanian side. For five shekels, and an exit doc, you bus it across the River Jordan. 'It is the wise decision,' said my friend Jim, drawing on years of experience as a chaplain to the forces. 'Often they are the ones that hurt most.'



The five travellers at Sheikh Hussein: Dave, Muriel, myself, Lynne and Bea.

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T: +44 (0)131 225 5722 E: [FaithAction@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:FaithAction@churchofscotland.org.uk)  
Scottish Charity Number: SCO11353

# PARTNERPLAN

I have arrived not all at once. Happy to see Sarah and the kids at the airport, but not happy to be home like this. I am forgetting where I left the keys. Letting cups of coffee go cold. Trying to find my way around our new flat – we had only just moved.

Watching the news out of Gaza and Israel, the Czech philosopher Jan Patočka came to mind. He spoke of those who are shaken by their experience in this world, and called for a new political community to be formed: the solidarity of the shaken. I used to think it a good idea, but for others, the shaken ones, to build. I no longer place myself outside it.

So, we are here. But how might we be usefully here? Muriel and I are keeping up with the St Andrew's community on our WhatsApp group and on zoom, checking in, telling stories, joining in prayer, comparing notes. Daily prayers at 7 in the morning in the immediate aftermath of the Hamas attacks on Israeli civilians have given way to Sunday Worship online at 10.00am Jerusalem time, and prayers at 7.00pm on Wednesdays. The blast at Al Ahli Episcopal Hospital shook us all up, sending us to prayer in extremis from different sides of the wall. We are a diverse congregation, which presents challenges and opportunities for understanding what we are going through respectively before the Lord. In its Statement, the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, quoted the Apostle Paul to the Church in Corinth, 'We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed ... struck down, but not destroyed.'

Working with Kenny Roger and Rebecca McGonigle at Faith Action, and Carol Finlay and team, we wish to connect with you in the days and weeks to come. It is not possible to know how long the war will run, but at the moment it looks possible to plan visits and events in Presbyteries and congregations. We would love to meet you, check in, join in prayer, and see what we might be able to do together, including communicating with partners and colleagues in Israel, Gaza and Palestine, and advocacy with our governments here concerning their policy on the war and the protection of Christian communities.

Muriel has listed the following prayer points in her letter, which I share with you:

- Pray for leadership to move beyond the current crisis
- Pray for all who have lost loved ones or have been injured
- Pray for a cease fire and humanitarian aid
- Pray for all those Israelis and Palestinians, displaced from their homes or who have lost their jobs overnight
- Pray for all those seeking to find ways to be 'human' in face of great inhumanity
- Pray for staff at the Scots Hotel, the St Andrew's House Hotel and Tabeetha School
- Continue to pray for peace with justice
- Continue to pray to hold both Palestinian and Israeli together in our hearts

Through these days, may we be to each other in the power of the Holy Spirit, strength in need, comfort in sorrow, and companions on this journey of spiritual communion and mission partnership with our friends and colleagues in Israel and Palestine.

Grace and peace to you,  
Stewart

# INTRODUCING ANDREW...

*The Reid is welcoming Andrew Carter for his first training attachment:* he will be working with us part-time until after Easter. Andrew is in the first year of his training as a candidate for the ministry, studying at New College. Born and brought up in Bradford, West Yorkshire, he came to Scotland for postgraduate studies in history. He completed his PhD at St Andrews, looking at the Church of Scotland in the late 1600s - an era which provided an entertaining mix of high religious principle and low violence. Since then he has been exploring a call to the ministry, and hopes that his historical perspective has something to offer the Church in the twenty-first century. He and his wife have lived in Edinburgh for seven years, and enjoy board games and pub quizzes.



# REID MORNING COFFEE & LUNCH

Last Friday of the Month  
11am to 2.30pm | All welcome

## TALES FROM THE KITCHEN...

*It's Pop Up Café day  
9am and the kitchen staff gather  
They put on their aprons and  
imaginary chefs' hats  
Take a deep breath and go for it  
But maybe a cup of tea would help?  
What to do first?  
Butter the rolls and bread?  
Fry the bacon and sausages  
Remember the Lorne sausage  
request  
Timing becomes crucial*

*Prepare the salads  
And the soups  
A red one- carrot and sweet potato  
A green one Broccoli and Stilton  
We face the challenges of the cooker  
A stray drop of water  
Or the movement of a pan  
And the hob turns off!  
No use swearing at it  
Just learn to coax it back to life*

*Good humour gets us through  
Angry words do not!  
By 11.30 orders start from the servers  
Soup with crusty bread  
Or just soup  
Soup and a toastie  
Together or one after other??  
Salad or no salad  
Brown or white bread  
Which kind of delicious quiche?  
Dessert now or later  
Choices, choices !  
A private battle with the toastie  
machine  
Holding it shut with one hand  
Preparing the next toastie with the  
other  
Perhaps the kitchen staff need 3  
hands!  
Orders crowd in  
Soon dirty dishes arrive too >*



*> Thank goodness for the dishwasher  
Both human and mechanical!!*

*All the flurry of orders*

*Which one came first?*

*I can't quite read the writing*

*Was it saying crusty bread but no  
butter*

*Or was it just soup?*

*Two hours on*

*Soup nearly finished*

*Quiches demolished*

*A few bits of bacon*

*And some sausages languish*

*But they found a good home for  
later!*

*Dishes still stream in*

*Pots and pans to wash*

*Left overs distributed*

*Eventually order reigns again in the  
kitchen*

*We can take off our aprons*

*We may be on our knees*

*But we shared with the busy servers*

*In a really successful day!*

**ANNE BLACK**

*[Anne and the Pop-Up Cafe team  
are to be congratulated especially  
on the proceeds from their Cafe on  
26th October: in excess of £500  
was raised for Christian Aid, which  
is among the agencies working  
tirelessly in Gaza. - Ed]*

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***We have Rainbow spaces  
available at Reid Memorial Church.***

*Rainbows welcomes all girls from 4 to  
7 years old for play, learning and tons  
of fun in a colourful, safe space. Rainbows  
laugh, sing and make a happy mess (and help clear it up!) as they  
choose their way through our programme of activities. Plenty of  
magic moments: a Rainbow might become a time traveller, an  
animal tracker, a pop singer, a stargazer. It's a wonderful world of  
adventure, week after week, just for her.*

CONTACT AMBER [27bedinburghrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:27bedinburghrainbows@gmail.com)



## AN EMBROIDERED TALE...

*Elizabeth Clark is appealing for more information about the Reid's pulpit falls (pictured). She says, 'The woman who worked the [St Andrew] pulpit fall was a Miss Gladys Amy Wyllie, born in India in 1880, and died in Edinburgh in 1942. She set up the Embroiders' Society, and was noted for her work on ecclesiastical embroidery. She is mentioned by name in the pamphlet issued to mark the opening of the Reid Memorial.' If you have any information about this or the other pulpit falls pictured, let Elizabeth know. Gladys Wyllie features in Dr Sara Gray's book *British Women Artists: A Biographical Dictionary of 1,000 Women Artists in the British Decorative Arts*.*



# DOOR DUTIES...

## **SUNDAY 5th NOVEMBER**

Richard Black, Sheena Richardson

*In charge: Stevie Douglas*

## **SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER**

Siobhan Gilliland,

Douglas Mathieson

*In charge: Stephen Thomson*

## **SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER**

Sheila Capewell, Elizabeth Clark

*In charge: Lindsay Wood*

## **SUNDAY 26th NOVEMBER**

Alison MacLeod, Joyce Rosie

*In charge: Linda Farrer*

## **SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER**

Lesley Beckett, Richard Black

*In charge: Ian Beckett*

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## UPCOMING SERVICES...

5th Nov 11:15am **MORNING WORSHIP**

*Conducted by Alex McAspurren*

12th Nov 10:45am **SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**

*Conducted by Alex McAspurren.*

*We will be joined by our linkage partners from Craigmillar Park*

19th Nov 11:15 **MORNING WORSHIP**

*Service conducted by Linda Farrer*

16th Nov 11:15 **MORNING WORSHIP**

*Service conducted by Linda Farrer*

5th Dec 11:15 **MORNING WORSHIP**

*Conducted by Alex McAspurren.*

*A celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

# REID MEMORIAL CHURCH

West Savile Terrace



## Christmas Craft Fair

Selling refreshments, amazing crafts,  
cards, gift baskets, homemade jams,  
marmalades, chutneys and cakes and ....  
LOADS and LOADS of BOOKS!

Why not come along on  
**SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup> November**  
**10 – 2 pm**

Charity No. SCO14027

# CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE CHILDREN AT CASTLEVIEW PRIMARY 2023...



*Well, here we are again! Who would believe it's only a few weeks till Christmas?*

As you will remember, for several years now, we have made a collection of toys to donate to Castleview Primary School. We know the Headteacher, and staff are very grateful for all our contributions, which they can pass on to the families who certainly need a bit of extra help at this time of year. Each Christmas seems to be harder for some families!

I am happy to organise this again and am suggesting the congregation could buy gifts for the school children as usual and put them in a bag with some wrapping paper and drop them off at the church any Sunday morning during November, until 3rd December.

OR: If this is not possible, then I intend to sit in my car at the church gate for an hour on the afternoon of Thursday 30th November, between 2 > 3pm and you can drive by and drop them off to me there, if that is easier.

If you are unable to get to the shops for a gift this year, then I am willing to go to a toy shop and buy gifts for the school children, with your money. This can be done, either by putting cash in an envelope, marked "TOYS" and handing that into church, or to me any time.

Failing that, you could write a cheque to Reid Memorial Church, put it in an envelope marked "TOYS" and drop off in the same way.

OR: pay the money straight into the Church Bank account saying "TOYS" on the donation. (RBS 83-18-43 Acc. 00245095). Judith shall total any TOY DONATIONS she receives and give me a cheque at the >

> end of November, when I can make an exciting trip to a toy shop to spend your money!

I may also spend some on food to go into the special food parcels they make up for some of the families, as I did last year.

If there are any questions, please phone and ask me, Tel. 667 0910. Things can be difficult for folks at Christmas, but I know our donations have made a big difference for many of the families at our local Primary School. Thanking you in anticipation.

BEST WISHES, **SUSAN MACKAY**

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## CHRISTIAN CLIMATE ACTION SCOTLAND...

With the climate emergency an ever-present and increasing concern (see *past ReidOn...s*) **Christian Climate Action Scotland** is a community of Christians taking action, carrying-out acts of public witness, prayer and nonviolent protest to urge those in power to make the changes needed. They hold vigils at Holyrood on the last Tuesday of every month, with their September event having garnered support from MSPs, and joined by Christian Aid (see below). SCIAF is scheduled to join their 31st October event. They also lobby Edinburgh's UK Government offices, attend gatherings across Scotland, and ahead of COP28, are calling on world governments to deliver the carbon reductions promised two years ago at COP26 Glasgow. See [christianclimateaction.org](http://christianclimateaction.org) for more information.





**SUNDAY**

**3rd DECEMBER**



**6 pm**

**CHRISTMAS TREE**

**LIGHTING**

**CEREMONY**

**MUSIC, REFRESHMENTS  
EVERYONE**

**WELCOME**





## NETWORKER, INFLUENCER...

*A fascinating figure in church history, Robert Wodrow helped shape the Kirk we know today.*

In the months leading up to the Treaty of Union with England in 1707, many churchmen sought to shape its terms, by influencing public and parliamentary opinion. Minister for Eastwood, Rev. Robert Wodrow (pictured) was among the more vocal critics of the proposal, which, while carrying guarantees for Scotland's educational and judicial systems, did not guarantee the Kirk's independence and the continuation of the presbyterian system. Fearing the imposition of an episcopal system whereby ministers are appointed by bishops, such as in England, it looked for some time that the Kirk might oppose the Union completely, in the face of an economic case that was at the time sufficiently compelling to make it an inevitability.

Wodrow, through tireless letter-writing and campaigning, articulated these misgivings so effectively, to the highest authorities, that the Kirk, whose influence over public and political opinion was very strong, managed to secure parliamentary revision to the union proposals, making the continuing autonomy of the Scottish system a pre-requisite for the Act of Union. This was done in short order, with Queen Anne immediately passing the *Act for Securing the Protestant Religion and Presbyterian Church Government in Scotland*, to which successive British monarchs have sworn on their accession, to this day.

Ironically, this removed the last major obstacle to the Union, which was enacted despite myriad petitions, and continues to have consequences in daily political life and decision-making.

Hamish MacPherson has written a series of articles on this and other aspects of the Act of Union in *The National* newspaper.





# Volunteer with us **today**



***Were you a Rainbow, Brownie or Guide?***

*Would you like to share the fun you had with our young people?  
Are you looking for work? - Perhaps start your journey by volunteering.  
Not all volunteers are able to attend a weekly meeting - variety of roles  
from weekly meetings, accounts and computer records, craft prep and  
planning, perhaps? We're looking for volunteers of all ages to come and  
help our units in the local area, some of them are in desperate need to be  
able to run after Christmas. Contact Amy, [division.blackford@gmail.com](mailto:division.blackford@gmail.com)*

# MORNINGSIDE JUSTICE AND PEACE NOVEMBER PROGRAMME...

*Morningside Justice and Peace stages talks on issues of social justice at 10:30 every Wednesday from October - March, at Eric Liddell Community, 15 Morningside Rd (Holy Corner). Everyone is welcome. **www.***

***morningsidejandp.org***

**1st Nov:** Colleen McCulloch, Independent co-ordinator and former Soil Association Scotland farming lead: *'The Soil Association Scotland: How does growing flax for linen relate to the climate & what we eat?'*

**8th Nov:** Ben Parker, Green Councillor for Morningside, City of Edinburgh Council. Co-Convener, Green Group and Climate & Environment Spokesperson. *'What are Greens doing in Edinburgh and Scotland?'*

**15th Nov:** Jean-Mathieu Gaunaud, Edinburgh Climate Action Network Coordinator: *'Edinburgh Climate Action Hub - what's that?'*

**22nd Nov:** Dr. Patrick Utz, PhD from Edinburgh University, formerly at Centre on Constitutional Change. *'Cross-border identities in a changing Europe since WWI.'*

**29th Nov:** Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones, Professor of American history emeritus at the University of Edinburgh and author of *A Question of Standing: The History of the CIA* (OUP, 2022). *'What has the CIA contributed to peace?'*

**BARBARA DARCY**

B.DARCY20@GMAIL.COM

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Contact Advice Direct Scotland: call 0808 164 6000 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or [www.consumeradvice.scot](http://www.consumeradvice.scot)

Think you have been the victim of fraud? Contact Police Scotland on 101 (or 999 in an emergency).

Suspicious Emails: forward to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) Scamming websites: report at [www.ncsc.gov.uk](http://www.ncsc.gov.uk)

Suspicious Text Messages: forward to 7726 free-of-charge

Sign up to the Neighbourhood Watch Alert to receive updated local information

Reid Memorial's Police Liaison Officer is PC Evelyn Hegarty (Torphichen St) Tel. 0131 221 2080

For her email updates, speak to Elizabeth Clark

# CAN YOU PLEASE HELP THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM?

*The Pastoral Care Team at the Reid is looking for the help of members to alert us to any people they know from the Congregation who might need a little bit of extra contact with the Church.*

Some may be housebound and would welcome an occasional chat or visit. Some may be having a tough time with illness or disability and again might appreciate a call. We are a very small team so we would like you to help us reach out to members who are perhaps at difficult time in their lives.

Another request came to me from Diane Craik who for several years has arranged birthday cards for any Reid member reaching their 90th birthday. We have no access to any members' dates of birth so again if you know someone approaching their 90th birthday do let us know!

If you want to get in touch then I am happy to receive your information. Usually in Church on a Sunday, or e-mail me on [anneblack2@btinternet.com](mailto:anneblack2@btinternet.com) or phone me on 0131 447 4149.

THANK YOU **ANNE BLACK**  
ON BEHALF OF THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM

The next issue of **REIDON...** will be Dec - Jan. Please send David any articles or notices by **24th November** please. See page 2 for contact details.



**REIDMEMORIAL**  
CHURCH • EDINBURGH

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