

# Greenbank Connections



September 2016

Issue 654

Scottish Charity SCO11325



*Another successful Holiday Club (8th–12th August); see also page 9*

**Greenbank Parish Church, Edinburgh**

Online version: [www.greenbankchurch.org/about/the-newsletter/](http://www.greenbankchurch.org/about/the-newsletter/)

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## Minister's Letter

Dear Friends



Welcome to our new-look magazine. Our communications committee, in consultation with others, has been working hard on this project for some time. I hope you like the new format. Over the next few months you may also notice some changes in content. I'm sure that the committee would welcome feedback or suggestions for new material.

This has been an eventful summer in Greenbank. As usual, holiday club went well, culminating with our usual all-age worship service and barbecue. That Sunday also marked the conclusion of the enquirer's course which Bill Stone, our Youth Minister, was running during the summer and we were delighted to welcome to the congregation three young people who made their public profession of faith.

However it was with some sadness that we said farewell to Bill at that service. Bill and

Hayley are looking forward to the arrival of a new addition to the family before returning to the States for the next challenge in ministry. We are grateful to Bill for all he has done here at Greenbank and we wish them and the First Presbyterian Congregation of New Vernon, New Jersey, God's blessing.

The work goes on to find a new Youth Associate who will bring their own gifts and skills to this position. It is thanks to the YACHT Campaign and your generous support for this work amongst our young people that we are able to proceed with another appointment and I look forward to seeing you at our various YACHT events at the end of September/beginning of October.

It has also been an eventful summer for me personally with the third school of study for my Doctorate in Ministry. As usual this was a stimulating if intellectually demanding couple of weeks. Even the dreaded science and religion element was enjoyable – and the essay is written! My thanks to Peter Graham and David Fergusson who covered my absence and made attendance at this course possible.

Then, as some of you will have heard, at the beginning of August my husband Sean received a call to be minister of the charge of Fintray, Kinellar & Keithhall in Aberdeenshire. This will eventually mean a move for both of us back to the North-East. The “how” and “when” of this move remain unclear and in the meantime I will be remaining at Greenbank. Sean and I would appreciate your continued support and prayers over the next months as I seek to discern where God is calling me to serve next.

Finally, as we begin a new session here in Greenbank can I assure you all of a warm welcome to any of our services, events or organisations, details of which are given elsewhere in this magazine.

With warmest wishes,

**Alison I Swindells**  
Parish Minister

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## Bill says Goodbye



It is with a heart full of gratitude that I close out my ministry with you at Greenbank Church. When Hayley and I first came to Scotland seven years ago we weren't sure what to expect. Our hope was to spend two years living abroad and to gain practical experience as ministers before returning home. I never imagined that we would feel so at home here, but that is exactly what has happened.

I have been richly blessed by the friendship and support so many of you have shown me during my time at Greenbank. You have been enthusiastic and open-minded as we experimented with new styles of worship – embracing everything from moments of silent reflection to modern praise music.



You have provided hands-on support for new programmes like Messy Church. And you have championed the place of children and young people in our church family.

It has been a privilege to serve as one of your ministers and journey alongside you for the last five years. I have loved watching your children and young people grow and mature — moving on from primary to secondary school, graduating from university, and even venturing out into the workforce. Each of them, in their various stages of life, has been a teacher for me showing me new ways that God is at work in our world. I have seen God encouraging the children in our Young Church classes to ask tough questions on a Sunday morning. I have heard God laughing with Springboard in the freezing cold waters off the coast of Iona. And I have felt God's peace with QII as we gathered with three thousand young people in the chapel at Taizé for evening prayers last summer.

Greenbank Church is a strong and vibrant community of faith, and I will treasure these and many other memories as I begin a new chapter of life in New Jersey this autumn. You have all helped me to grow and mature as a minister, and I know that God will use your many gifts and talents to bless the church and the world. Thank you!

**Bill Stone**

## **Christian Aid: Film Night**

We plan to hold a Film Night on **Friday 21st October** in the Centenary Hall at 7.30pm, with proceeds going to **Christian Aid**; the main film will be *The African Queen*. Tickets will be available in October from members of the committee and from the Church Office.

**David Ferguson**

## **Choir**

Singing is a great part of the church service. Why not join us and make Sunday morning even more meaningful? Members of the congregation tell us how much they enjoy the singing of the anthem each week. To be part of the choir and contribute to the church services is fun and rewarding. In his television programmes, Gareth Malone has said more than once that members of his various choirs say singing has brought them new confidence and self satisfaction.

We meet for practice every Thursday at 7.30 pm in the Braid Room for about an hour and a half. Please come along on **22nd September** to the first practice of the session and find out more for yourself. An ability to read music can help, never mind how rusty you are, though it is in no way essential.

You will be made welcome in this friendly group who are helped very much by Alan Irvine, our choirmaster, organist and great encourager.

## **Country Dance Club**

The Country Dance Club meets on Wednesday evenings in the Centenary Hall from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. During the evening we learn or revise eight dances, which are taught by a qualified teacher, with a break for a cup of tea and a chat. Knowledge of basic Country Dance steps is advisable. The first meeting after the summer break will be held on Wednesday, 28th September when all interested in joining us will be made very welcome.

For further information please contact

**Doris Laing or Linda MacDonald**



Fresh Start is involved with those who have been homeless when they move into their own accommodation. It works by providing starter packs of kitchen equipment, curtains and towels as well as small electrical goods, to help make a house a home. There is a service provided whereby help is given to decorate the flat and a carpet fitting service also exists.



Many thanks to those who have been donating good quality, and sometimes new, household items.

The next collection date is on *2nd October 2015*, in the Main Hall before or after the 10.30am Service. There will be a reminder in the church notices on the Sunday before the collection.

For those who find it useful to keep a list at home, here is a list of the goods needed.

## Ladies Badminton

Ladies Badminton meets on Wednesday mornings 9.30am–11.30am beginning on **Wednesday 14th September**. We are happy to welcome new members and are very happy for you to come and give us a try any Wednesday, whether or not you have played recently! Tea, coffee and chat are also on the agenda. Please contact

**Diana Hastings or Susan Black**

### Dishes and Crockery

Dinner plates, side plates, bowls, cutlery, mugs, glass tumblers, tea-towels and cleaning cloths.

### Pots and Pans, etc

Pots with lids, milk pans, frying pans, plastic boxes, cooking utensils, can openers, potato peelers, wooden spoons.

### Cleaning Things

Washing-up basins, washing-up liquid, toilet cleaner, toilet rolls, hand soap, tooth-brushes, toothpaste, dust pans and brushes, pedal bin liners, rubbish bags, all-purpose cleaner, laundry tablets.

### Bed Linen and Towels

Single flat sheets, double flat sheets, single duvet covers, double duvet covers, pillow cases, blankets, duvets, bed covers, towels, face cloths, bath mats, curtains, rugs.

### Small Household Electrical Items (not TVs)

For more information about Fresh Start, pick up a leaflet from me, see [www.fresh-startweb.org.uk](http://www.fresh-startweb.org.uk) or telephone 476 7741.

**Alison Ambler**

*For information about church organisations, please contact the Church Office:*

*(Mon–Fri, 8.30am–12.00 noon,  
1.30pm–3.00pm)*

*Mrs Virginia Johnston*

*tel and fax: 0131 447 9969*

*email: [greenbankchurch@btconnect.com](mailto:greenbankchurch@btconnect.com)*

*To make contact with any organisation featured in Greenbank Connections, please use the telephone number given, if there is one. Otherwise please contact the Church Office.*

*Website: [www.greenbankchurch.org](http://www.greenbankchurch.org)*

## Eco-Column

A new feature at Greenbank is our intention to become an Eco-Congregation. We will be joining more than 50 churches in Edinburgh, and many more Scotland-wide, in addressing climate change, supporting the move away from the use of fossil fuels, and the switch to renewables. Energy conservation, insulation and recycling actions as well as changes in our own domestic patterns of energy use and consumption are also aspects of the approach.

The Eco-Column will be a regular feature from now on, reporting on our progress from our initial registration as an Eco-Congregation. We will first assess our current position in relation to Eco-Congregation objectives, and then act to secure more energy conservation and fuel savings in our own buildings. There is also the opportunity to play a part in wider campaigns and initiatives to bring about national and international action to combat climate change.

Most of you will be familiar with some of the local measures already taken in church, such as the 'Light the Light' Project. On a wider front, being part of Christian Aid's programme and appeal this past year to tackle flood damage in river deltas in Bangladesh shows our involvement with collective action at international level.

If you want to know more, check out the Church of Scotland's Eco-Congregation website:

[www.ecocongregationscotland.org/](http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/)

We need lots of involvement in this work, and there are things that every one of us can do, even in a small way, to help make an impact.

A new Board/Kirk Session Green Energy Group is being formed. Apart from this, if you would like to play a part in the programme as it takes shape, please contact either of us for further information.

**John Ferguson, David Jack**

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## Mount Everest in one day

QII member Alasdair Bisset is raising money so that he can volunteer as a teacher in Nepal with Project Trust. He has just climbed 10 Munros in one day to exceed the height of Mount Everest.

There will be an article by Alasdair in the next edition of *Connections*, but if you would like to find out more or wish to support his efforts, please go to

[uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/everest-in-a-day](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/everest-in-a-day)



## The Guild

The Guild is a church-based organisation for men and women that normally meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from October to March. Most of our meetings are held in the Braid Room at 7.30pm. As well as a varied programme of talks we raise funds each year for one of the projects promoted by the national Church of Scotland



Guild of which we are a part. This season we are supporting *Breaking the cycle of FGM*, a project under the auspices of the ecumenical Christian charity *Feed the Minds*. We shall learn more about this at our meeting on **15th November 2016** and our fund-raising event will be a Scottish evening held on **31st January 2017**. The national strategy for the Guild is “Be bold, be strong” with the theme for the year “Go in Joy” and aspects of these are reflected in some of our topics for the season.

Our meetings are open to anyone who is interested in one of our topics and we are always delighted if newcomers then decide to join our fellowship as Guild members. Our first meeting this season is on **4th October** when the topic is *The history of Thomas Tunnock*.

Details of our syllabus and other information will be posted regularly on our webpage within the church website and on the Guild part of the notice boards in the Main Hall corridor of the church premises. Further information may also be obtained from the joint co-ordinators **Kathleen Patrick** and **Edith Armit**.

## Help the Homeless

This group, as its name suggests, was set up to try to help with some of the problems of homelessness in Edinburgh which, for many reasons, remain significant. It helps in three main ways:

**Fresh Start** (see article on page 5) provides help to the recently homeless who are moving into new accommodation. They supply the basics required to move into unfurnished accommodation. Greenbank helps this effort by having regular collections of such things as crockery and bedding; keep an eye on *Connections* for details.

Greenbank also helps to staff **Edinburgh's night shelter**, which is run by Bethany over the winter months. This provides a hot meal and a bed for anyone who needs it. Accommodation is supplied by central Edinburgh churches and Greenbank supplies the hot meal and company for users. Bethany provides the professional help to those who need it. This year Greenbank provided food and company for six of the shelter nights over the winter months.

Finally, the **Foodbox**, situated at the main door of the church, is there to receive non-perishable food donations from those who wish to contribute. These are distributed to three centres around Edinburgh where meals are provided daily for the homeless.

**Alison Ambler, Richard Dunbar,  
Nora Kellock**

**Material for the October issue of Greenbank Connections should be delivered to the Church Office or to the Editors' pigeon-hole in the Main Hall by Sunday 11th September, or emailed by 9am on Tuesday 13th September to [greenbankconnections@gmail.com](mailto:greenbankconnections@gmail.com)**

## Christ holds families in his arms

Our service at the start of **Christian Aid Week** this year featured a short video showing Morsheda's family who are in constant danger from flooding in



Bangladesh. Morsheda and her children live on an island in the middle of one of Bangladesh's mighty rivers. Life is hard for her since she is constantly afraid that the river will flood and that her home will be destroyed and her children put in danger. Bangladesh is one of the poorest countries in the world, and the people living on the low-lying islands on the Brahmaputra River are among the poorest of the poor. Each year flooding comes, threatening to sweep away everything these families have.

*We have received this update from Christian Aid:*

We were hoping we would have some good news about Morsheda by now. I know you share our longing to hear that her home has been raised.

We yearn to hear that she and her family

are safe and secure, that they have a solid foundation on which to build a new life. But flash flooding in recent weeks means we haven't been able to raise

her home yet.

We're still hoping to do this soon, and we've helped her move temporarily to another house until the floods subside. As soon as we know more we'll let you know.

In the meantime, please hold Morsheda in your prayers. You might like to reflect on the recent picture above as you do so. It shows Shohida combing her mother's hair, as the two younger daughters look on and little Murshid peeks out from Morsheda's protective embrace.

Just as Morsheda holds Murshid, we know Christ holds this whole family in his arms.

Thank you for all you've done this Christian Aid Week, for the love you are extending to families like this.

*I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope.*

*Psalms 130 verse 5*

## Christian Aid – Greenbank

You will see from the article above that Christian Aid have followed up with a thank you to everyone who made Christian Aid Week a success.

I want to add my own thanks to our 46 volunteers who delivered to and collected envelopes from 1,369 households in Greenbank Parish, as well as to the team of 'counters'. The amount sent to Christian Aid was £4,265.08, on top of which Christian Aid will be able to reclaim approximately £563 from Gift Aid.

**Pam Jack**

## Winter's Coming!

Socks, hats, gloves, men's underwear, new or nearly new are very welcome for the homeless. The Greenbank congregation has always been very generous in giving these items, for which Bethany is extremely grateful. As usual, The Help the Homeless Group, providing meals at some of the night shelters run by Bethany, will take the above items for distribution.

Please leave your donations in the food box situated in the porch entrance to the church. Thank you.



**Pauline Walker**

*The Holiday Club helpers, plus Lara and Ivy. (Bill Stone is missing – he was taking the photograph.)*



## Friendship Club

The Friendship Club is well named, so if you are a senior citizen living in the Greenbank area do come and join us and make some new friends. We meet on alternate Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Lower Hall, where a varied, interesting and entertaining programme of speakers awaits us, always followed by chat over tea and biscuits. We also have a monthly musical afternoon, a Christmas Party and a Summer Outing.

Our new session begins on **Wednesday 5th October** with the welcome return of Fred Daniels with *Golden America*. So join us then, bring your friends and we will welcome you all. The annual subscription is £12 and includes refreshments.

For any further information please contact **Val Smart** or **Margo Fraser**.

## Elders Retiring From the Kirk Session

Two elders have retired recently from the Kirk Session.

**John George** was ordained to the eldership and admitted to the Kirk Session at Greenbank in 1977. He became a District elder in 1978 and looked after District 9 for some years. Recently he has been elder for District 66A and part of District 67. John was Preses of the Congregational Board for eight years from 1997. From 2012 and until this year he was Convener of the Nominations Committee.

**Alasdair Mainland** was ordained to the eldership and admitted to the Kirk Session at Greenbank in 2009 and has served on the Communications Committee. He has also helped with IT projection at morning worship.

These retirals were accepted with regret at the June meeting of the Kirk Session. The two elders were thanked for their committed and enthusiastic contributions to the work of the Session and the congregation.

**Valerie Macniven**

## The Greenbank Work Party Needs You!

We knit hats for the homeless, cardigans and jumpers for the *Edinburgh Clothing Store* and *Children 1st* and other charities. Our first meeting of next session will be on Thursday 6th October 2016 at 2.30pm in the Hermitage Room and thereafter fortnightly. Come and join us. All welcome.

**Anne Oxbrow**

## Girlguiding

**162A Guides (Wednesday)**

**162 Guides (Thursday)**



Guide units meet at Greenbank on Wednesday and Thursday evenings during term time. We run two units with approximately thirty girls in each group and continue to welcome new Guides who make the transition from Brownies throughout the year as well as girls who have never been part of the Guiding Association before.

We try to ensure that our programme has as much input from our girls themselves as is possible – with only the wildest suggestions being dismissed! This has resulted in a packed and diverse schedule this year including activities ranging from trampolining, sailing, bowling and kayaking through to chocolate workshops and exploring the Hermitage. We celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday as well as hosting our own mini Olympics. Personal Safety and independent living have been hot topics, with girls from the Thursday unit gaining badges in these. In true Guiding style, we have worked towards gaining a number of different badges. We also encourage patrols to work together to achieve patrol 'Go For It' badges.



## Rainbows

Rainbows are the youngest members of Girlguiding and are for girls aged between 5 and 7 years. We meet on Thursdays between 6.30pm and 7.30pm in the Centenary Hall at Greenbank Parish Church.

Our main focus is the Rainbow Roundabout programme. This offers the girls a wide range of games, crafts, and other exciting things to do. Our Rainbows are encouraged, with support, to make their own choices and to learn and develop new skills. This is all done in an atmosphere of fun and friendship, always keeping in mind our Rainbow promise and close links to the other members of our Girlguiding family.

This year our Rainbows have been busy completing a range of activities for their

Roundabout badges, which have included making edible sparklers, foot-painting, chalk and water pavement painting and our very own Carnival party! We have also had fun trying some Zumba moves as well as a trip to paint pottery.

In addition our Rainbows have also enjoyed a fund-raising ceilidh for the STV Children's Charity Appeal, our Christmas trip to the King's Theatre Panto and our annual Division event, which this year was a Hollywood themed party!

**We are currently looking for adult volunteers.** If you would like to know any more about this or Rainbows in general please contact:

**Christina Milne or Frances Wallace**

We like to hold joint events between the two companies and this year we've had an evening of Halloween fun and a tea party in celebration of the Senior Section's 100th birthday.

A number of our older members are working towards their 'Baden Powell' award – which challenges the girls further and encourages a greater level of independence.

Both units have strengthened their links with the wider community by visiting the local care home, 'treating' the residents there to some Christmas carols. We have visited the local library to mark world book day and volunteered in a clean-up initiative in Braidburn Valley park.

Our girls were extremely keen to assist in the 'In Our Shoes' initiative to try and collect footwear for refugees. Along with our Brownie unit and lots of donations from the church we were able to smash our own target of 100 pairs.

We are always keen to hear from adult volunteers with a sense of fun, who would like to join the largest voluntary organisation for girls and women in the UK. There is a structured training and development programme, a huge number of opportunities.

If you would like more information on joining us as a guide or a volunteer, please contact us by email.

[162aguides@gmail.com](mailto:162aguides@gmail.com)

[162edinburghguides@gmail.com](mailto:162edinburghguides@gmail.com)

## Brownies

Thursday Brownies have enjoyed another varied and fun-packed year, our highlight being a weekend away at the Fordell Firs Scout Centre which involved challenges such as crate climbing, ropes course, orienteering, grass sledging – and 18 of us living in a tiny house with one loo!

We very much enjoyed going to see our Brownie Alex appear in the Gang Show, had an Easter Egg hunt in the dark on the Braid Hills and went ten pin bowling and ice skating. We completed our Designer Badge and our Science Investigator Badge, learning Newton's Third Law (which we could even remember for at least two

minutes) and were visited by Mrs Claire Hill and our former leader Mouse who told us about their work as a District Nurse and Orthodontic Nurse respectively.

We submitted lots of recipes to the church recipe book, held a fundraising evening, and were taught how to play rugby and cricket by Brownie Dads Malcolm Reid and Colin Archibald. We are always at full capacity with a large waiting list, but have a well-staffed, experienced team including our young leaders Anna, Niamh and Sheena who are continuing with us for a third year.

**Lisa Pirrie**



## Crèche Rota



### September

- 4 Lorna Htet-Khin, Shona Murray
- 11 Ailsa Cameron, Vivien Hutchison
- 18 Lucy Teall, Hazel McLachlan
- 25 Carrie Reid, Ailsa Cameron

### October

- 2 Isobel Thom, Jenny Wright

## Coffee Rota



### September

- 4 Communion (*no coffee*)
- 11 Mission and Service
- 18 Elizabeth Htet-Khin (D39 & D40)
- 25 Scouts

### October

- 2 Country Dance Club

## Greenbank Pre School

Pre School meets in the Centenary Hall during term times, with morning and afternoon sessions for children from the age of 3 years to school entry. Our staff team of early years practitioners is led by our experienced teacher/manager Mrs Kyra Okoth.

Over the last year parents, staff and children have developed the garden area – we have added willow, herbs and vegetables to the fruit trees.

A management committee comprising members of congregation and parent representatives oversees the running of Pre School.

**Joan Ritchie**

**Chair of the management committee**

## Flower Rota

*Provided by*

*Delivered by*



### September

- |                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 Hutchison Family | Julia Dunbar                  |
| 11 Lorna Sharp     | Margaret Pearmain             |
| 18 Christina Black | Fiona Connal                  |
| 25 Katy Maguire    | Pamela Jack<br>& Janet Walker |

### October

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 2 Rhian Ferguson | Alison Ambler |
|------------------|---------------|

## Welcome Teams

### September

- 4 **John Ritchie**, Eric Brown, Ralph Davidson, Susan Inch, Gill Sweetman, Ian Thomson, Clare Campbell, Susan Jackman
- 11 **Rosemary McCulloch**, Rona Ferguson, Fiona Grant, Christina Morrow, Alison Murison, Malcolm Reid, Joan Ritchie, Toby Tucker, Alastair Ross
- 18 **Keith Winton**, Eileen Campbell, Richard Dunbar, Clifford Hastings, Chris Horne, Doris Laing, Enid Mowat, Robin Nimmo
- 25 **Stuart Sanders**, Moira Davidson, John Murison, Rachel Cadell, Jenny Wright, Sandy Cameron, Carrie Reid, Moira Land, Julia Dunbar

### October

- 2 **John George**, Rhian Ferguson, Alastair Hunter, Kathleen Patrick, Dorothy Whitehead, Tony Foster, Diana Teasdale, Mark Fergusson

## The Scouting Movement

Greenbank is home to a thriving Beaver colony, Cub pack, Scout troop and Explorer unit.

The Explorers (young people of 13½–18 years) have had an adventurous and sociable year including trips to Foxlake Water Park, a ghost tour, segwaying, Xtreme-karting, walking part of the west Highland Way, canyoning and climbing the only Via Ferrata in Scotland. The Scouts (boys of 10½–14) went for a week's camp on the Galloway coast and spent summer Friday nights outdoors – canoeing on the canal, camping high in the Pentlands, geocaching at Balerno and helping fight invasive weeds in the Braidburn Valley. The Cubs (boys of 8–10½) and the Beavers (boys of 6–8) do activities which are more hall-based but which include shorter camps at places like Bonaly. Each year, Explorers and Scouts spend three weekends ski-ing at Glenshee, which this year coincided with great



weather and plenty of snow. On the not-so-distant horizon is a trip to an international Jamboree in Denmark next July, for Scouts and Explorers. Want to join? Explorers and Scouts meet on Fridays (7.15pm to 9.15pm), Cubs meet on Thursdays (6.30pm to 8pm) and Beavers meet on Tuesdays (6.30pm to 7.30pm). The best initial contact is via

[4thmorningsidescouts@gmail.com](mailto:4thmorningsidescouts@gmail.com)

But it's a tribute to our success that we have few spaces!

Want to help? Our main fundraising efforts are the sale of Christmas trees (delivered to your door) and that Greenbank institution the Jumble Sale (on Saturday 8th April next year) – both of which depend on the support of the congregation and the neighbourhood. And we'd be delighted to hear from anyone who wants to join our team of enthusiastic leaders, especially for the Beavers. Do email us if you can help.



# Greenbank Calendar: September 2016

## September

- 2 Fri** 19.30 Pre-Communion Service. All welcome
- 4 Sun** Communion Services at 9.00, 10.30 and 15.00  
Young Church meets as usual at 10.30
- 6 Tues** 19.00 Autumn Lecture Series starts  
10.30 Guild Coffee Morning  
19.30 Kirk Session Meeting
- 7 Wed** 12.30 Midweek Prayer Group
- 10 Sat** 16.00–18.00  
Messy Church
- 11 Sun** 10.30 Morning Worship  
19.00 Autumn Lecture Series
- 14 Wed** 9.30 Ladies Badminton starts  
12.30 Midweek Prayer Group
- 18 Sun** 10.30 Morning Worship  
19.00 Autumn Lecture Series
- 19 Mon** Pre-school closed
- 21 Wed** 12.30 Midweek Prayer Group
- 22 Thurs** 19.30 Choir Practice starts
- 24 Sat** 18.30 YACHT Ceilidh
- 25 Sun** 10.30 All Age Worship for Harvest  
19.00 Autumn Lecture Series

- 28 Wed** 19.30 Country Dance Club starts  
12.30 Midweek Prayer Group

## October

- 1 Sat** 14.00 YACHT Family Treasure Trail  
15.00 Recipe Book & Calendar Sale, Baking Stall
- 2 Sun** 9.30 First Sunday Service led by Trailblazers (S1–S3)  
10.30 Morning Worship with Sacrament of Baptism

## Monday Bible Study Group

We plan to meet fortnightly in the Pentland room on Monday evenings, commencing **5th September at 7.30pm**. We are currently studying the Gospel of St Mark, using Tom Wright's *For Everyone* series study guide. For more information please contact

**Gillian Sweetman or Joan Ritchie**



## Bookstall

Four times a year we bring a selection of books on a range of religious topics to the Main Hall. The books come on a sale or return basis from *The Cornerstone* shop beside St John's Church at the foot of Lothian Road.

The next Bookstall will be on **Sunday 11th September**. If there are any titles you would like to see on the Bookstall, please contact us.

If you wish to see a much wider range of books, cards, CDs of religious music and a selection of gifts, visit *The Cornerstone* where the staff will be pleased to help you.

**John and Joan Ritchie**

## City Centre Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage has a long history in the Christian Church and can be a rewarding and sometimes life changing experience—but not everyone is able to set aside weeks of holiday for such a journey. In a new initiative three city centre churches (St Andrew's and St George's West, St John's Episcopal Church and St Cuthbert's) have developed a special pilgrimage route around Edinburgh City Centre. You can begin your walk at any of the 15 stops along the way and complete the entire walk in around an hour.

You can pick up a pilgrimage booklet from any of the three churches, and you can also download an app to guide your walk from

[www.pilgrimforanhour.org/](http://www.pilgrimforanhour.org/)

**David Allan**

## Pulpit Diary

### **Sept 2 Friday**

**7.30pm** Pre-communion Service

### **Sept 4**

**9.00am** Communion

**10.30am** Communion

Young Church meets as usual

**3.00pm** Communion (Braid Room)

### **Sept 11**

**10.30am** Morning Worship

### **Sept 18**

**10.30am** Morning Worship

### **Sept 25**

**10.30am** All Age Worship for Harvest

### **Oct 2**

**9.30am** First Sunday Service led by Trailblazers

**10.30am** Morning Worship with Sacrament of Baptism



*The pastoral team can be contacted through the Church Office or directly:*

**Rev Alison Swindells**

**tel and fax: 0131 447 4032**

**email: [alisonswindells@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:alisonswindells@blueyonder.co.uk)**

**Rev W. Peter Graham**

**tel: 0131 445 5763**