

St Anne's Magazine



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Letter from the Minister

My Dear Friends

“The times they are a-changing,” wrote Bob Dylan in 1964, and in 2022 it is probably fair to say never have truer words been penned! It was pointed out to me (although I had noticed) when I returned to Church after my “summer” break that, apart from a new organist, new prime minister and new King, not a lot had happened, really...

...but it has, and it is: the times are a-changing.

On Sunday, August 28, we said farewell to David Stewart, our organist and choirmaster of 12 years. As many will know, he was also a stalwart, and highly valued member, of our Kirk Session during that time – a voice of wisdom, when one was needed. I should like formally to record again my personal thanks to David for everything he did during his time here. Things move on, “the times they are a-changing”, and on the following Sunday we welcomed Christopher Black, our new organist and choirmaster, and we look forward to him continuing the tradition of excellence in music and worship at St Anne’s.

The weeks I was away were indeed marked by “change”: the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth so soon after appointing her 15th prime minister led to events that will live in the memory of us all, whether we are (as I said in my sermon on September 25) monarchist, republican or indifferent to one, the other, or both. The televised services from St Giles’ Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and St George’s Chapel, Windsor, paid testament to the faith of the late Queen, who had seen change, be it social, political, national or international, through her 70 years on the throne and which must have, at times, felt more than a little disorientating.

We are told that she planned much of the services, and in the choice of prayers, texts and praise there was an emphasis (and in “older” language at that) on the continuity of God throughout the changing history of humanity. The reading at Windsor was taken from the book of Revelation:

Forthcoming Services

Morning worship takes place every **Sunday at 11am**; all are welcome, both in person and online.

Services of particular note:

Oct 23, 11am

During this service, we shall pay tribute to all those in our community who died during the time of the pandemic, as well as to the late Queen.

Oct 30, 11am

Holy Communion

Nov 1 (Tues), 7.30pm

A Service for All Saints Day

Nov 13, 10.50am

Morning Worship with Act of Remembrance

Nov 27, 11am

Advent Sunday

Save the date

Articles for the November issue of the magazine to be in the office by **Monday, October 17**

Saturday, December 17

Christmas Sweetie Making, more details in next month’s magazine.

The New Heaven and the New Earth

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' ⁶ Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. **(Revelation 21:1-7 - NRSV)**

Worry is never far from our minds at the moment, worry driven by uncertainty and relentless change. None of us is immune to it, and it invades every part of our lives at the moment – in the church as much as anywhere – and it can be very difficult at times to “let go and let God”. Perhaps we need to focus on the local rather than the national or international level – seek out what we can do, and do it, rather than fret about the things over which we have no immediate control. What we can do, too, is hold on to the promise in that reading from Revelation: that God is present and aware; that change is part of the eternal; and that in the eternal is where we shall find our rest.

Over the next days, weeks and months, take a moment each day to try to lay aside the worry, and rest with the One who is our God; who can and will give us the strength to deal with all the changes we ever have to face, if we let Him.

May God bless you.



Our new Organist & Choirmaster

Christopher Black was born and raised in Portobello, Edinburgh. His passion for music started at the young age of seven, playing the guitar. He went on to train as an electric guitarist and completed a HND in popular music at Jewel and Esk Valley College. While at college he became increasingly interested in Baroque music, particularly Fugue.

After College he worked at the Assembly Rooms on George Street and studied piano and music theory with the aim of studying music at university. After two years of study he was awarded a place at the University of Aberdeen, where he studied piano and organ under Professor David J Smith and Rodger B Williams. During his studies he had the honour of attending masterclasses on performance style and improvisation with the organists James O'Donnell, Sietze de Vries and Johann Vexo.



Christopher is extremely driven, hardworking and passionate about music. He is a dedicated and loving partner to Lesley-Ann and devoted step-father to her daughter Mia. He is very much looking forward to expanding and developing the music at St Anne's. New members of the choir are always welcome.

Safeguarding Training

It was agreed at the General Assembly, 2022, that refresher training for Session members and volunteers working with children and young people and vulnerable groups would now be mandatory every five years, and recommended every three years.

Despite an already packed training calendar, the Edinburgh and West Lothian Presbytery safeguarding trainers have generously agreed to provide face-to-face training for volunteers and Session members who have still to attend an Introduction to Safeguarding.

The Introductory Safeguarding Training session will take place on **Saturday, October 15, at 10.00am in St Anne's**, and is likely to last approximately two and a half hours.

Because of existing training commitments, the date is non-negotiable so it will be a rare opportunity to complete the training requirement in person, rather than online on Zoom.

If you are interested in attending the training, please e-mail Mags Menzies, safeguarding co-ordinator at **menziestwin@outlook.com** or add your name to the sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the Sanctuary

Mags Menzies

Caring&Sharing @ St Anne's

Caring&Sharing@St Anne's began the new session on Friday, September 2, when we welcomed Dr Phillip Neville to talk about the work of "Versus Arthritis."

We have several speakers arranged throughout the session but still have a few dates to fill in 2023. We are working to complete our list of speakers and when those dates are confirmed we will provide a printed programme.

Meanwhile, in the near future, we look forward to welcoming speakers from Deaf Action and Vintage Vibes, a group whose aim is to help to combat loneliness.

As part of our commitment to "sharing" we have been able to provide from our funds six new tables for use in the Belgrave Room and we hope that everyone will enjoy using them.

Please do join us on alternate Friday mornings. You will be warmly welcomed.

Ellison Bishop

The Guild

As autumn approaches, we have resumed our fortnightly Guild meetings. The first was held on September 6, when we took a moment of silence to remember Anne Marquis, a very loyal and faithful member of the Guild for many years. Several matters of business were then discussed, followed by a game of Guild Bingo, which was accompanied by much hilarity. It was felt that because there were quite a number of points to be raised for discussion with members, we would not have a guest speaker on this occasion.

Date for your diary: Tuesday, October 25, at 7.30pm:Corstorphine Guilds Joint Meeting will be held in Carrick Knowe Church.

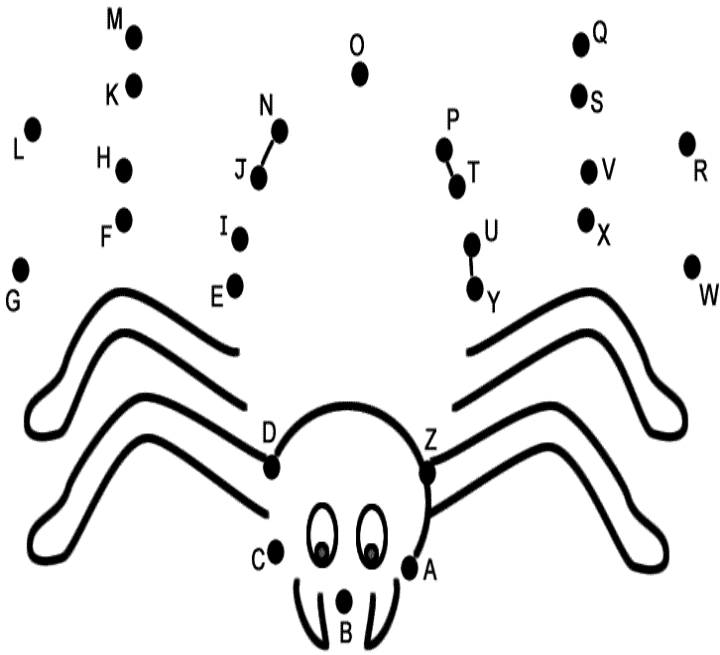
The syllabus for the coming months is now available from any member of the Guild committee, should you wish to see details of our upcoming meetings. We are always pleased to see new members, both male and female, who are very welcome to join us. There are normally two meetings a month, one at 2.30pm and the other at 7.30pm, to accommodate those who may be unable to attend at certain times of the day. Both are held on Tuesdays in the Kaimes Hall.

Ethel Thomson



Junior Page

Alphabet Dot to Dot



Colour the Picture

HALLOWEEN Scavenger Hunt



A pumpkin



Cobwebs



A hanging skeleton



A Witches Hat



A Bat



A Candle



Someone Dressed as a Zombie



Blood and Gore



A VERY Creepy House



A creepy spider



A Halloween Sign



A black Cat

Prayer:
 Every new morning
 God gives us freely
 hearts that are thankful,
 strength for the task,
 people who love us,
 joy in our service,
 all we have need of
 if we but ask.



Joke:
 Q: Why don't duck's fly upside down?
 A: because they'd quack up!!!!