

# St Andrew's and St George's West Church



Magazine March 2015



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Enjoy the newsletter - many thanks to all contributors. The magazine is published monthly, in advance, to keep our community in touch with what is happening and to reflect its many facets.

April copy deadline Monday 16 March. Contact us at magazine (at) stagw (dot) org (dot) uk

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# Loyalty and Lent

- from the minister

Have you notice that all sorts of companies and organisations offer loyalty cards these days? They use words like **bonus**, **advantage** and **privilege**, and much care is devoted to devising these schemes, always to find an edge over some competitors.

My friend Bill Clinkenbeard brought this fact to my attention and also to the consequences. Waitrose my corner shop in Comely Bank offers free newspaper plus a coffee if you spend more than £10 on a visit, but you must sign up for their brand card. It does attract many customers who read and sup contentedly. Some companies go further offering small prizes to Caribbean cruises or if you sign up and collect enough points. There are two problems, one is you often have to give your mobile phone number and via a smart phone the firm is able to detect when you are their store and where you are in the store to within a few feet. Card owners are being monitored and your purchases analysed. It will happen with SMART television also, allowing people to be targeted with the most suitable adverts according to the analysis. This reduces freedom for the individual and I, for one, am not keen on constant monitoring. Secondly the drive is for the consumer to spend more time and more money in fewer shops and the local newsagents in Comely Bank will not last long if everyone uses their privileges and gets their papers and coffee at Waitrose. I refuse to have a Nectar, Boots nor any privilege card for these reasons.

Jesus did not operate like this; in fact, quite the reverse. When Jesus disciples asked what reward they would receive for their loyalty, he promised them the *dis*-incentives of suffering and persecution. Jesus did not disguise the costliness of discipleship. He modelled it and promoted it, saying, "This...is not the way it should be among you. If one of you wants to be great, they must be the servant of all."

There is no loyalty card for following Jesus through Lent, but it can lead to a change in attitude towards self, to others, to the globe and to God. Please consider where you loyalty lies?

Enjoy life, love abundantly throughout Lent,

Ian Y Gilmour

## Worshipping God at St Andrew's and St George's West

### Sundays

9 - 9.30am Communion,  
9.45 - 10.15am Learning Together  
11 -11.55 am Morning Worship

### Monday - Friday

1 -1.15 pm Prayers (Tuesday Communion)

### Communion

We celebrate Communion every Sunday at 9am, every Tuesday at 1pm and at or after Morning Worship on the last Sunday of every month. Everyone is welcome at our table.

## Worship in March to Easter Day

Jesus said, 'I am the Good Shepherd'

Albert Schweitzer said, 'Do not let Sunday be taken from you If your soul has no Sunday, it becomes an orphan.'

The Psalmist said, 'For the director of music... A song, God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. (Psalms 46:1 NIV)

Sunday 1 March **Living Legacy** Reading Mark 8:31–38

Friday 6 March at 1pm **World Day of Prayer** in the Chapel

Jesus said to them, "*Do you know what I have done to you?*"

Sunday 8 March **Cosmic Law** Reading John 2:13-22

Sunday 15 March **Rich in Love** Reading Ephesians 2:1-10; Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

### **A Covenant Service**

Sunday 22 **Heart Promises** Reading Jeremiah 31:31–34

Sunday 29 **Palm Sunday - Steps towards Covenant**

Reading Mark 11:1–11

### **Holy Week**

Monday 30 March 7pm **Covenant and Commitment** Reading Ps 19

Tuesday 31 March 7pm **Covenant and Cantata** Reading Gen 2

Wednesday 1 April 7pm **Covenant with Tears** Reading Lamentations 1

Thursday 2 April A **Tenebrae Service** in St Cuthbert's Church -  
**Covenant with Neighbours**

Friday 3 April 7pm **Cross and Covenant** Reading Mark 15: 21- 39

Saturday 4 April 7pm **Covenant and Quietness** Reading Mark 15:40-47

**Worship Strengthens and Transforms**

Worship is helpful for our growth as followers of Christ, so consider joining us Sunday by Sunday. You can attend Communion at 9.00am, the All Age service at 9.45am or enjoy our progressive pattern at 11.00am, or come to all three!

**Exploring Silent Prayer:** a group meets in St John's Church, in the side chapel, on Tuesdays from 3.30-4.15pm, 10 and 24 March. All are welcome; you do not need any previous experience of such groups; we are all learners.

**Monday 9 March - Amnesty AGM and Pot Luck Supper**

Again anyone interested in the work of our Amnesty group is very welcome. If you plan to attend the AGM please contact Katie McNeill or Ruth Forrester via the Church Office to let us know what you will bring to the feast!

**Saturday 7 March 10am Reach Out and Listen:** seminar at **Dalziel St Andrew's Parish Church, Motherwell**, on what we can do to include as many deaf and hard of hearing people as possible in worship.

**Saturday 7 March Greyfriars Kirk 7.30pm**

**Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony:** Edinburgh Charity Orchestra & Chorus (which includes our church choir).

Conductor - Iain McLarty, John Kitchen and Henry Wallace, Organ. In support of Waverley Care. £10 (£5 U16/students) from *TicketSource*, [edinburghcharityorchestra.ticketsource.co.uk](http://edinburghcharityorchestra.ticketsource.co.uk)

## Diary March 2015 to Easter Day

<b>Sun 1 Mar</b>	<p><b>9am Communion</b> (spoken liturgy)  <b>9.45am Learning Together</b> - all age worship,  10.30am Sunday Discussion Group (adults)  <b>11am Morning Worship</b>  <b>(Bright Sparks for children from 11.15)</b>  <b>12 noon Fellowship Lunch</b>  <b>6pm Scottish Palestinian Forum. Where are we and where are we headed?</b> Talk by Ruth Edmonds, Advocacy Officer of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions in Jerusalem.</p>
<b>Mon 2 Mar</b>	<p><b>6.15-7.30pm StAGW BB &amp; Girls' Association</b></p>
<b>Tues 3 Mar</b>	<p><b>10am – 2pm Little Ducks</b> - Parent and toddler drop in, with 50% reduction in café  10am Circle Scotland Kinship Carers' Choir</p>
<b>Thur 5 Mar</b>	<p><b>1pm at St John's Ecumenical Friends</b>  Carol Finlay: Mary Slessor and her legacy</p>
<b>Fri 6 Mar</b>	<p><b>1pm World Day of Prayer</b> in the chapel</p>
<b>Sat 7 Mar</b>	<p><b>10am-12.30pm Messy Church</b>  <b>7.30pm Greyfriars Kirk: Edinburgh Charity Orchestra &amp; Chorus</b> (which includes our church choir)  <b>Saint-Saens Organ Concerto, conductor Iain McLarty</b></p>
<b>Sun 8 Mar</b>	<p><b>9am Communion</b> (spoken liturgy)  <b>9.45am Learning Together</b> - all age worship,  10.30am Adult Discussion Group  <b>11am Morning Worship</b>  <b>(Bright Sparks for children from 11.15)</b></p>
<b>Mon 9 Mar</b>	<p><b>6.15-7.30pm StAGW BB &amp; Girls' Association</b> <b>7.30pm</b>  <b>Bellringing practice</b>  <b>Amnesty AGM and pot luck supper</b></p>
<b>Tue 10</b>	<p><b>10am – 2pm Little Ducks</b> - Parent and toddler drop</p>

<b>Mar</b>	in, with 50% reduction in café 10am Circle Kinship Carers' Choir <b>3.30-4.15pm, St John's Exploring Silent Prayer</b>
<b>Thur 12 Mar</b>	<b>1pm at St John's, Ecumenical Friends.</b> John Monro leads a Lent meditation in the final meeting of the year.
<b>Sun 15 Mar</b>	<b>9am Communion</b> (spoken liturgy) <b>9.45am Learning Together</b> - all age worship, 10.30am Sunday Discussion Group (adults) <b>11am Morning Worship</b> <b>(Bright Sparks for children from 11.15)</b>
<b>Mon 16 Mar</b>	<b>10.30 -12 Book Group</b> in the chapel <b>6.15-7.30pm StAGW BB &amp; Girls' Association</b> <b>7pm Edinburgh Presbyterian Guild Council Spring Rally</b> <b>7.30pm Bellingring practice</b>
<b>Tues 17 Mar</b>	<b>10am – 2pm Little Ducks</b> - Parent and toddler drop in, with 50% reduction in café
<b>Wed 18 Mar</b>	<b>10am-1pm Creative Together (house meeting)</b> <b>2.30pm Evergreens</b>
<b>Fri 20 Mar</b>	<b>7.30pm Stockbridge Church – joint congregations' Scots Night for Malawi</b> <b>7.45 pm Georgian Concert Society.</b> Baroque Ensemble LUX: The City of Light £18 (£16, £5)
<b>Sun 22 Mar</b>	<b>Covenant Sunday</b> <b>9am Communion</b> No 9.45 service <b>11am Morning Worship</b> <b>(Bright Sparks for children from 11.15)</b> Congregational Photo and Fellowship lunch
<b>Mon 23 Mar</b>	<b>12. 15 – 1pm Amnesty Undercroft Group</b> <b>6.15-7.30pm StAGW BB &amp; Girls' Association</b> <b>7.30pm</b> <b>Bellingring practice</b> <b>7.30pm Kirk Session</b>
<b>Tues 24</b>	<b>10am – 2pm Little Ducks</b> - Parent and toddler

<b>Mar</b>	drop in, with 50% reduction in café 10-12 Circle Kinship Carers' Choir <b>3.30-4.15pm, St John's Exploring Silent Prayer</b>
<b>Sun 29 Mar</b>	<b>9am Communion</b> (spoken liturgy) <b>9.45am Learning Together</b> - all age worship, 10.30am Adults Discussion Group <b>11am Morning Worship</b> <b>(Bright Sparks for children from 11.15)</b>
<b>Mon 30 Mar</b>	<b>12.15 Amnesty Undercroft Group meets</b> <b>6.15-7.30pm StAGW BB &amp; Girls' Association 7pm</b> <b>Music and Reflection for Holy Week</b> <b>Covenant and Commitment</b> <b>Music by Henry Purcell, Andrew Carvel and</b> <b>Spirituals. Tenors and Basses from the choir</b> <b>Accompaniment – Brigitte Harris</b>
<b>Tue 31 Mar</b>	<b>10am – 2pm Little Ducks</b> - Parent and toddler drop in, with 50% reduction in café <b>7pm Music and Reflection for Holy Week</b> <b>Covenant and Cantata</b> <b>Bach Cantata 54 <i>Widerstehe doch der Sünde</i></b> <b>Sarah Lucy Penny, Alto, with a string ensemble,</b> <b>directed by Andrew Carvel</b>
<b>Wed 1 Apr</b>	<b>7pm Music and Reflection for Holy Week</b> <b>Covenant with Tears</b> <b>Music by T. L. de Victoria, Francis Poulenc and</b> <b>Andrew Carvel. Sopranos and Altos from the choir</b>
<b>Thurs 2 Apr</b>	<b>7pm Music and Reflection for Holy Week</b> <b>A Covenant with Neighbours</b> <b>Tenebrae service in St Cuthbert's</b>
<b>Fri 3 Apr</b>	<b>7pm Music and Reflection for Holy Week</b> <b>Cross and Covenant</b> <b>Choral music for Good Friday by Felice Anerio and</b> <b>Andrew Carvel</b>
<b>Sat 4 Apr</b>	<b>7pm Music and Reflection for Holy Week</b>



	<b>Covenant and Quietness Organ: Brigitte Harris</b>
<b>Sun 5 Apr Easter Day</b>	<b>9am Communion</b> (spoken liturgy) 9.45am Easter Breakfast <b>11am Morning Worship with choral music for Easter</b> <b>(Bright Sparks for children from 11.15)</b>

Find our online diary under the **WHAT's ON** tab on the website  
[www.stagw.org.uk/whats-on/](http://www.stagw.org.uk/whats-on/)

### Regular Events at STAGW

#### Monday

1pm Daily prayers  
6.15pm–7.30pm Boys' Brigade and Girls Association  
7.30pm-9pm Bellringing practice

#### Tuesday

10-2 Little Ducks parent and toddler drop in Undercroft Cafe  
10-12 Circle Scotland Kinship Carers Choir sings in the Sanctuary  
1pm Communion

#### Wednesday

1pm Daily prayers  
AA meets (Davidson Room)

#### Thursday

1pm Daily prayers  
7.30-9pm Choir practice (Davidson Room)

#### Friday

1pm Daily prayers

#### Sunday

9am Communion 9.30am Choir practice 9.45am Learning Together  
10.30am Adult Discussion Group  
11am Morning Worship 11.15 Bright Sparks (for children) 12 noon Bellringers

#### Every month

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday** Fellowship Lunch; bring dry goods for Fresh Start  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday** 10.30-12 Book Group  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday** 10-1 Creative Together; 2.30 – 4pm Evergreens  
**Last Sunday** 12 noon Communion  
**Last Monday** 12.15-1pm Undercroft Amnesty Group

# Children and Families News



## **Boys Brigade and Girls Association.**

The children are well on their way to receive their Green Target and Bronze badge at the end of the session. There will be no BB/GA

on Monday 6 April (Easter Monday) and the last day of BB/GA this session will be on Monday 20 April. BB/GA will resume again on 31st of August 2015. It is hoped the children will receive their badges in church on Sunday 19 April in church. (Date to be confirmed)

## **Little Ducks**

Little Ducks are meeting as a drop in sessions in the Café on Tuesdays anytime between 10am-2pm where there is an opportunity to create and play. This is proving successful with four children and parents having already taken part. Their art work can be seen displayed in the Chapel.

## **Cradle Roll Service**

The cradle roll service proved a good success on Sunday 15 February. 18 children received books at the 9.45 and the 11am services. It was wonderful to see nearly all the children and families over the day.

## **Messy Church**

The first Messy Church is to take place on Saturday 7 March meeting in the Undercroft from 10am-12.30pm. 14 families have received invites to Messy Church within STAGW and all families and children are welcome.

**Angela Grant**, Child Youth and Family Worker

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## Announcements

**Baptism** Freddie James Wilton on Sunday 1 February,.

**Funeral** Margaret Campbell, on Friday 13 February at Pentland Chapel at Mortonhall. Margaret was a former member of SGW and helped in the cafe for many years and at for a time was President of the Women's Guild.

## Creative Together

Helped by other ladies in the congregation, we managed to knit 46 woolly hats for the Sailors' Society. At our February meeting Tim Bell who is Port Chaplain, Leith came along to collect them all and tell us about his work.

It was very interesting to hear about such a different workplace and what can be done to help the sailors who arrive from distant countries when they dock at Leith. The main priority is to contact their families so he carries a stock of phone cards! There could be need for medical attention, disharmony between skipper and crew, a need to get out of cramped spaces and view the world from Arthur's Seat or be taken to Mass. Every day is different.

We could be asking for help next January again for more woolly hats! If you haven't any other plans, you could start now!

We next meet on **Wednesday 18 March, from 10am -1pm** at my home. This year we have voted to support local charity L'Arche Edinburgh, and we will be working towards our sales event on Saturday 28 November.

Maggie Morley

# A NIGHT FOR MALAWI A CEILIDH WITH MUSIC AND SCOTTISH DANCING

20 MARCH 2015  
7PM

TICKETS £10/£8  
REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED



STOCKBRIDGE CHURCH  
7B SAXE COBURG ST. EDINBURGH

Tickets from the church office at Stockbridge  
Church and St Andrew's & St George's West,  
or email [Malawi@stockbridgechurch.org.uk](mailto:Malawi@stockbridgechurch.org.uk)

COME AND SUPPORT  
MULANJE MISSION HOSPITAL, MALAWI.

# 2015 Christian Aid Sale

Christian Aid Week is the time when 20,000 churches join together to represent Christian Aid. Last year £12 million was raised by this alliance of which we were part. In this, the forty-second year of the Sale, we will have another great opportunity to raise funds at this church in the centre of the Scottish capital which is perfectly situated for the purpose.

Vital dates in 2015

**Sorting :** Monday 27 April to Friday 8 May

**Sale:** Saturday 9 May to Friday 15 May (except Sunday)

The quest for a new patron each year is always a pleasure and we are proud to announce that Lord Smith of Kelvin, Knight of the Thistle, has agreed to support our 2015 endeavour. Among the special books this year were two about the Order of the Thistle, Scotland's premier Order of Chivalry founded in 1687 by James VII. Our Special Books Convener proposed that these should be offered directly to the latest Scot awarded this honour, that is, Lord Smith of Kelvin. Thus Lord Smith acquired these two books from us, and agreed to be our patron for 2015. I would like the donor of these books to hear this story.

As a commentator of the day has recently said: "the figure 15 is a date that seems to leave marks big enough to be celebrated hundreds of years later". One thinks of Magna Carta in 1215, Agincourt in 1415 and Waterloo in 1815. There was the first Jacobite rising in 1715, then the "Forty-Five", the Young Pretender's uprising 270 years ago. On 30 January the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill was commemorated. Let us hope that our History and Biography section will reflect all this.

For our Literature Section too there are important centenaries to mark. Anthony Trollope was born in 1815 and we hope that for his bicentenary we will have editions of all his books, especially those now out of print. Already in store for the Sale is a set of his Barsetshire novels which has been bequeathed to us by a member of the Religious Books Team who died last year. We would be thrilled if we were to be presented with a fine copy of Alice in Wonderland, first published 180 years ago. It was fifty years ago that T S Eliot died and the Literature team will be hoping to have many editions of his poetry.

Our Religious Books Team will have an opportunity to honour the memory of the legendary Scottish missionary, Mary Slessor. It would be good to have for sale some copies of the classic biography Mary Slessor of Calabar so that the modern generation could be made aware of the achievement of this revered Scottish heroine who sailed from Dundee to Southern Nigeria in 1876, to face a land ravaged by the slave trade and where human sacrifice and cannibalism were common practice.

Up in the organ gallery the Science Team will be remembering that this is the 150th anniversary of the publication of James Clerk Maxwell's ground-breaking theory of electromagnetism and also that it is 100 years since Einstein produced his general theory of relativity.

Our Sale of Pictures will have an anniversary of its own, for it was 10 years ago that John Bellamy was our inspiring patron and benefactor. We hope that his widow, Helen, will attend the Sale.

Mary Davidson  
Sale Convener

## Visit of German Choir, 29 March

The **Cantarem** Choir from Hollage, Germany, is visiting Scotland for the first time and will take part in both the 9.45am and the 11am Service on Palm Sunday, 29 March. They are directed by Maria Hartelt and are very much looking forward to singing at St Andrew's and St George's West.



They sing at the Catholic Church of St Josef Hollage, near Osnabrück. Within the past ten years, the choir developed from a group of about ten women to a mixed choir (SATB) of about forty motivated singers between the age of 15 and 55 - 28 of them will be singing.

\*\*\*\*\*



In Stockbridge Church on Wednesday 25 March, our own Laura Cioffi and Clara Galea will be playing solos in an Edinburgh Napier Orchestra concert. The concert will be at 7.30pm and will include Mozart's Overture to *Marriage of Figaro*, Beethoven Symphony No.1, Wienawski Legende for Solo Violin and Orchestra and Doppler 's Fantasia on themes from the opera *Rigoletto* for 2 flutes and orchestra. (soloists: Laura and Clara). Tickets are £7 / £5.

## **StAGW major new exhibition – This is your story**

From June 2015, an exhibition in the sanctuary will tell our many visitors about this church – the building; its history; and our present-day activities. Part of the exhibition will be a book of congregational memories, and for this we need your help.

There will be a section on weddings in the church – so if you have a family wedding photograph, please bring it to us and we will scan and return it. We want photographs of any church event. We want your memories and stories of people and events – funny or serious. Please dig into your memories and tell us about them.

For example: Were you one of the Bible Class which was once locked in Waverley Station with Lord Birsay? Do you remember the early days of the Christian Aid Book Sale? Do you have memories of a well-loved minister or Sunday school teacher? If you don't want to write it yourself, tell us and we will transcribe it for you. We hope you will tell friends or Elders' District members who may be housebound now, and encourage them to take part. **This is your story.**

**The collators and organisers of this book are Barbara Ramsay and Mary Godden, who look forward to hearing from you. Material can be handed in to the church office.**

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**Earth Hour Saturday 28 March 8.30pm**  
**See here for more resources**  
**<http://earthhour.wwf.org.uk/useful-resources/>**



## Being Different: A Question of Identity

Some years ago as part of Remembrance Sunday, I talked about refugees and asylum seekers. This year, around the time of Holocaust Memorial week, two unconnected incidents have prompted me to say some more about being Jewish by race, and as a refugee, about always being different.

Some of you may know that my sister Marianne and I came to Britain by Kindertransport as refugees from Nazi Germany. Since we were third generation Christians, the family experienced what it meant to be Jewish by race only when Hitler's edicts began to affect us. Just as in the 1960s the US Jim Crow laws classified a person as Negro if he/she had even one black ancestor going back to the fourth generation, having a Jewish surname (Friedenthal) was enough to classify my family. In Berlin, my parents were part of the Confessing Church which opposed Hitler's laws. It was a church organisation which helped some of my family to escape in the early forties. Because we were not Jews by faith, the Jewish agencies were not available to us.

Before 1938 I had been at a state school. My parents vetted the birthday parties I could go to. They decided I should not go to the house of a prominent government official and did not allow me to get an attractive Hitler Youth jersey, which I coveted as "everyone was wearing one". No reasons were given for these embargos. When somebody at school called out, "Your father is a Jew", I answered, "Oh no he's not, he's a lawyer!" This was the measure of my ignorance.

With hindsight, I wish our parents had not protected us so much or had explained more. When my sister and I were forced to go to a Jewish School, we were again different. It was only then that we began to hear what was happening to Jews (although we still didn't identify with being Jewish). Our mother had not told us that our father had spent time in one of the early concentration camps and was only released on condition that he left the country immediately. We followed him to Switzerland, by which time the family was stateless and did not belong anywhere.

When I arrived in England, aged 12, having been sponsored by an elderly lady in Britain, all I wanted was to be like the other girls at school and to belong. However when war broke out, my name suggested I was an enemy, whatever my circumstances. My headmistress started calling me 'Ray' (instead of Renate), which I felt at home with since my mother had often called me that. I kept a very low profile and had few friends of my own age.

My parents miraculously escaped to England and spent the war years partly on the Isle of Man as Enemy Aliens, interned alongside Jews and Nazi sympathisers. Although this was a very difficult time, what mattered to us was that they were alive.

I shall always be grateful that I was so fortunate compared with so many other Jewish children and was given asylum, a good secondary education and a scholarship to London University. By that time I felt very much that I belonged, and I celebrated when I was old enough to become a naturalised British citizen.

Work took me to Scotland and again I was different - educated in England, by now with an English accent and brought up as an Anglican. But to many Scots I was just German - the one identity I had rejected entirely. Yet to this day, being German and being Jewish have continued to be labels applied to me by other people. When I married Richard I started a new life with a new name. For some of the Foreign Mission officials I was suspect – different again but this time because I was not Presbyterian!

Why am I telling you this now?

**It has taken me until my eighties to accept my differences and that these do not only relate to my origins. This concerns all of us as we try to live in this multi-faith, multi-cultural world.**

Ray Baxter

# On The Edge

## The Edinburgh Easter Play

2.00pm Saturday 4 April, West Princes Street Gardens.

Free

A tenth anniversary production

“Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.” (Mark 15:41)

The Edinburgh Easter Play is set to mark its tenth year with a radical new perspective on the Easter story. Scripted by writer and journalist Susan Mansfield, this year’s performance casts the spotlight on some women and men in the margins of the Bible, as the story of Jesus’ death and resurrection is seen through the eyes of the often overlooked characters around him. Seen from the point of view of wives and daughters, soldiers and siblings, the play offers an idea of the way in which Jesus affected the lives of the ordinary people around him.

First staged in 2005, the Edinburgh Easter Play has grown into a large-scale community production, with a cast and crew of volunteers drawn from groups all across the city. Last year’s performance drew crowds of up to 2500 people, one of the largest audiences the production has enjoyed in its ten year history.

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



**“After Genocide”** Sue Lieberman, 3 March

Sue Lieberman will present her book 'After Genocide. How ordinary Jews face the Holocaust' on Tuesday 3 March at 7.45pm at Laudate House, 1 Chalmers Crescent, next to the German speaking church. Drawing from interviews with "ordinary" Jews from across the age spectrum, *After Genocide* focuses on the complex psychological legacy for the wider Jewish community of such a devastating history as the Holocaust. Published Karnac Books £25.99

## Covenant Sunday 22 March

Three years ago the congregation committed to increase its giving. Last year, thanks to some significant legacies we balanced the books for the first time in the life of this congregation. It may not feel as if three years have passed, but it is important that we reflect on our financial commitments at a minimum every three years. Three years on we now have a much better idea of the work and witness which the congregation is capable of doing in the City Centre; and work and witness in the City Centre is the main reason for this congregation continuing to exist.

We anticipate that 2015 will bring further financial challenges and as part of disciplined service, we should be looking at what we give to the church. The Kirk Session has agreed that we should meet to recommit ourselves, our time, our talents and our money to God at a service on 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Passion Sunday. Although there will be a 9am service, there will not be one at 9.45 that day.

We also hope to take a congregational photo that day – the first of this congregation – and to have a fellowship lunch. And so, for all these reasons, every member of this congregation is invited to attend at 11am on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

### Stewardship Group

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### Duncan Forrester – Living and Loving the Mystery

“Although we often speak of worship as ‘celebration’ it’s usually solemnity that is stressed rather than joy and playfulness. ‘What if worship is a kind of play – the joyful play of the kingdom of God?’ It’s too easy to regard ‘liturgy (the *work* of God’s people), as ... a way of striving to earn God’s approval’. In order to recover the ‘proper Christian emphasis on grace and the love of God, we should expect enjoyment and delight, even playfulness, in worship’ whilst still taking evil and sin seriously.

Important to remember Matthew 18:3 where Jesus says that unless we become like little children we shall not enter the kingdom of heaven – in worship we should perhaps be like children who ‘dare with confidence and delight to call [God] Abba, Daddy!’ We should *enjoy* God!.....”

(notes from adult discussion group)

## News from the Wider Church

General Assembly of the Church of Scotland 16-22 May 2015: **Can You Help?**  
Stewards play a significantly important role to ensure that many of the backup services, in support of the General Assembly, operate in a highly efficient, welcoming and friendly manner. *Please contact William Mearns, Chief Steward, tel. 0131 667 1522 or 0780 801 1234: Email: William(at)mearns(dot)me*

 The Church of Scotland  
Social Care Council  
Operating as CrossReach, Scottish Charity No: SC011353

**CROSSREACH**  
providing a caring future

## JOIN US & GET CREATIVE!

**CROSSREACH HEART FOR ART** offers the opportunity for people with dementia, their carers and family to:

- take part in therapeutic art sessions based on visual arts
- meet new friends & build supportive relationships through creative sessions
- access, support and advice on dementia from dementia experts
- enjoy cup of tea/coffee and lovely homemade cake

### Where?

Kirk o' Field Centre  
Greyfriars Kirk  
140 Pleasance  
Edinburgh EH8 9RR

### When?

Every second Thursday  
at 2pm - 4pm

### Do I have to pay?

No! Our service is free

### How do I book?

- Chat, advice on dementia - no need to book, just drop in at any point!
- Creative art session - please contact Heart For Art on: 0141 620 3092 or [heartfor.art@crossreach.org.uk](mailto:heartfor.art@crossreach.org.uk)





**Saturday 28th March 2015 10am-4pm**

Creative workshops for everyone in the church, to make connections with congregation and community:

- Craftivism
- Doodling in Tongues
- Drama
- Graffiti
- Poetry
- Worship Spaces

Dalziel St Andrew's Church  
43-47 Merry Street  
Motherwell  
ML1 1JJ

Registration is required and places are limited. Please register online at [www.resourcingmission.org.uk/events](http://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/events) indicating which TWO workshops you would like to attend (full details are given on the website).

The registration deadline is 19 March 2015, but please note that workshops will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, so book early to avoid disappointment!

This is a FREE event (lunch is supplied), but a £10 charge will be levied for any cancellations received after 19 March.



The Church of Scotland  
Mission and Discipleship Council

Scottish Charity Number SC011353

[www.churchofscotland.org.uk](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk)

# Slavery and Song

A brilliant evening!

Over 300 people packed the church on 19 February for Slavery and Song, a superb programme of words, music and images put together by Ian Gilmour following his study time last year in the USA.

The music ranged from the familiar, rich voice of Paul Robeson, to a specially-commissioned new arrangement of spirituals, written by Andrew Carvel and sung by the church choir. Andrea Baker was the guest soloist - her spine-tingling voice was a particular highlight in an evening of many talents including our own Frances Cooper and Stuart Mitchell. We heard stories from the life of Booker T Washington, and examples of slavery still existing in the modern world. The Edinburgh Signing Choir were a real treat to watch, and we saw testimony on film from people interviewed by Ian during his study time – notable people whose ancestors had been enslaved. We learned about the Underground Railway, the escape route for fleeing slaves, and about secret, coded directions to safe houses, sewn into patchwork quilts. And we joined in singing some of the most familiar of the many spirituals, their words using imagery from the Bible to express a deep longing for freedom and justice.



Slavery and Song was truly an evening of information, inspiration and entertainment, and the audience appreciation was loud and long.

(Photos courtesy of James MacPherson)

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## ***Prayer of Approach***

Lord, when we approach you in worship  
we praise you that you  
fling wide the gates.  
When we enter your courts  
you clear a path before us.  
Your welcome knows no bounds  
and your love no conditions.  
For it is your will that all who wish  
should meet you here.

And so,  
with your welcome ringing in our ears  
may our hearts always be prepared to  
make room for others,  
to scoot along and budge up  
so that everyone finds a seat  
and none are prevented  
from meeting you here,  
and from experiencing, in us,  
the God who always accommodates  
all who want to worship.

**St Andrew's and St George's West, 13 George Street  
Edinburgh EH2 2PA 0131 225 3847 [www.stagw.org.uk](http://www.stagw.org.uk)**

**Office open** Mon - Fri 10am-3pm  
**Church open** Mon - Fri 10am - 3pm: Sat 11am-2pm  
**Undercroft Café** Mon - Fri 10am - 2pm

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Rev Ian Y Gilmour</b>
<b>Joint Session Clerks</b>	<b>George Burgess Katie McNeill</b>
<b>Joint Treasurers</b>	<b>John Innes Allan Sim</b>
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Brigitte Harris</b>
<b>Children, family and youth worker</b>	<b>Angela Grant 07731 465 642 angela.stocks1975(at)btinternet(dot)com</b>
<b>Church manager</b>	<b>Jean Howard (Monday-Thursday) 0131 225 3847 churchmanager(at)stagw(dot)org(dot)uk</b>
<b>Church secretary</b>	<b>Joyce Garland (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) 0131 225 3847 info(at)stagw(dot)org(dot)uk</b>

**TOGETHER Chair** Ian Gilmour  
**TOGETHER City Centre Chaplain** Tony Bryer  
**0131 229 6542 or 07834 748129**  
tbryer(dot)wpcscotland(at)gmail(dot)com

**TOGETHER Trustees from St Andrew's and St George's West**  
Christina Bowen, Frances Cooper and James McNeill

**St Andrew's and St George's West Church of Scotland  
Edinburgh is a registered charity.  
Scottish charity number SC 008990**