

Intimations 11th January 2026

1. **Today: 11th January 2026:** 9.30am Early Service (Cluny Hall) and 10.30am Morning Worship. Theme, That is my Name. Tea and coffee will be served in the St Matthew Hall after the services. Please make an appropriate donation.
2. **Minute For Mission - Umbrella Festival:** Over the last few weeks many of you will have started to hear mention of umbrellas and perhaps you even noticed the odd umbrella creeping into the children's nativity and wondered what is it all about? This is our 2026 Roof Repair Fundraising Campaign called "The Morningside Umbrella Festival". The estimated cost of our roof repair is at least £300,000. Aimed at involving not only Church members but the wider community we plan to raise money by inviting you, your family, your friends and neighbours to visit the church during the 2-week festival which will start on Saturday 30th May to view our beautiful church which we hope will be decorated with over 150 coloured umbrellas and umbrella art sculpture. Church members together with local businesses and the wider community are now being invited to consider pledging £100, or what they can afford, towards our roof repair. To date we have secured pledges of £3,000. Over the next 5 months we will be holding a variety of events that we hope you will support with some very special evenings planned for our festival period. To reach our target there is much to do, and so we are asking for your help and support. We need bakers, painters, knitters, gardeners and anyone good at DIY. We need people willing to help serve teas and coffees or act as an event steward. We need you to start to spread the word – something unique and wonderful is happening at our Church in June so start to tell your family and friends now. Please contact Kerry Watt on 07530 971367 or email kerryelgey@hotmail.co.uk for further details and to offer help.
3. **Flower List 2026** - The Flower List is quickly filling up and only 4 dates remain to be filled namely 19 July, 6 and 13 September and 6 December. If you would like to supply flowers on one of these Sundays, please put your name and phone number against your chosen date on the list on the vestibule noticeboard. The cost is £45 and cheques should be made payable to 'Morningside Parish Church Flower Fund'. Payment can be made by bank transfer if you prefer. If you are a UK taxpayer and can give by Gift Aid, please confirm that you are registered with the Gift Aid Convener or fill in one of the Gift Aid envelopes. Monies can be put in the Flower Committee pigeonhole or sent to the church office clearly marked for the Flower Committee. Please contact me direct on 0131 449 2866; e-mail: irene_a_wilson@btinternet.com if you require details to make a bank transfer.
4. **Church magazine** Items for the February edition are due on Friday 16th January 2026 and should be sent to editor@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

5. **Morningside Hope:**
Music and Memories - 2-4pm, workshops for those with dementia and their partners/carers. The next workshop will be on Monday 19th January 2026 in the Cluny Hall.
Heart for Art workshop for those with dementia and their partners/carers, every Tuesday 11am - 1pm, in the St Matthew Hall.
Gentle Exercise Class – dementia-friendly and also open to all 60+. Next classes on Mondays 12th and 26th January 2026, in the Church, 2-4pm
Games Afternoon – 2-4pm, dementia-friendly and open to everyone. Wednesday 21st January 2026 in the Braid Hall.
6. **Baby and Toddler Group:** our weekly Baby and Toddler Group meets on Mondays from 10am – 11.30am in the St Matthew Hall. All are welcome.
7. **Wednesday Coffee Morning:** in the Braid Hall on, 10am – 11.30am. We look forward to seeing you and your friends. If you need any further information or wish to volunteer to join the Rota to help, then please contact Lesley Murphy (mobile: 07981 265308)
8. **Christmas Tree Festival:** This was well attended and much enjoyed. Thanks to all of those who helped in any way. Its purpose is to welcome visitors to our church, but we also raised around £1,400 to be split between Morningside Hope and the David Nott Foundation.
9. **SE Edinburgh Foodbank:** Thank you to everyone who responded to the pre-Christmas appeal for donations to the Foodbank at Southhouse. Almost 30kg of food was collected and nearly £1,700 (including Gift Aid) was donated. These very generous donations will help replenish stocks in the New Year and help us meet the needs of those who struggle to make ends meet following the demands placed on household budgets over the Christmas period.
10. **Weekly Email:** A weekly email can be emailed to you so that you can keep up to date with events going on in the life of the Church, particularly if you miss the Sunday intimations. If you would like the Weekly email (and the Church Magazine), please email the Church Office to request. office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk
11. **The Open Door Day Services:** We launched our new Wednesday service at the end of October and are now delivering services 5 days per week, Monday to Friday. Places are available for anyone over 50 you know that would benefit from both practical assistance and a chance to socialise, with support from trained staff and volunteers, or for families in need of respite from caring for their loved ones. Day services help maintain independence, mobility and confidence, and delay the move into residential care.

Minibus - we are looking for a number of volunteer drivers for our electric bus - requirements: aged between 25 and 75, have held a B car licence for 2 years with a maximum of 3 points - please get in touch with us if you can help one morning or afternoon a week to help get our day service members to or from our centre

Volunteers - we're recruiting Drivers and Day Service Volunteers.

Trustees - our Board is seeking 3 new Trustees with current experience in **business, marketing or HR**

For further information please get in touch with Simon or Lynnette on 0131-447-9757, email us on hello@theopendoor.org.uk or drop in to talk with us at The Open Door, 420 Morningside Road, EH10 5HY

12. **Stewarding at the 2026 General Assembly:** We are seeking some new volunteers who can assist with the stewarding at the forthcoming General Assembly. This will be taking place at the Assembly Hall from Friday, 15 May to Monday, 18 May 2026. To fulfil our various responsibilities, we need about 100 stewards and at the moment we require to find some 35 new volunteers. Mobility is important and the Assembly Hall has many steps!

If you are interested, please contact the Chief Steward, Neil Proven: assemblystewards@churchofscotland.org.uk

13. **The Minister and Pastoral Assistant thank you:** thanks to everyone who sent cards and gifts over Christmas. It was much appreciated.

14. **Next Sunday, 18th January 2026:** 9.30am Early Service (Cluny Hall) and 10.30am Morning Worship. Theme, Behold, the Lamb of God. Tea and coffee will be served in the St Matthew Hall after the services. Please make an appropriate donation.

Contact details:

Minister: The Very Revd Dr Derek Browning 0131 447 1617

Email: derek.browning@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral Assistant: Jacqui Lindsay 07834 364628

Email: pastoralassistant@morningsideparishchurch.org

Church Office: 0131 447 6745

Email: office@morningsideparishchurch.org.uk

In the Event of the Fire Alarm sounding: Please take a few moments to make yourself aware of the fire exits in the Church. Should the fire alarm sound during the service please evacuate the building using the nearest safe fire exit to you.

If you are able, please assist those around you to evacuate. Elders will be on hand to direct you once outside the building.

Sunday Service live-stream: the cameras for the live-stream of the church service go live at around 10.15am. One of the camera shots is of the front half of the Church. If you do not wish to appear in the camera shot, please find a seat in the back half of the Church.

Sunday Contact: if you become aware that there is a problem with the Sunday service broadcast, please phone – 07712 118033 or email a.bleck55@outlook.com.

Intimations: If you wish to have intimations included in the Sunday order of service, please email these to the Church Office by **Thursday, 12 noon** at the latest

Financial Giving to the Church: Please keep up to date with your financial giving via standing order or direct debit or save your envelopes and other financial gifts and bring them to church.

In Church every Sunday there is opportunity to make your donation through the open plate which is passed around at the time of the offering, and for those who are ‘cashless’ there is a card machine located in the vestibule.

QR code in order of service: To use the QR code, please open the camera app on your smart phone, point it at the QR code, and follow instructions on your screen.

Increase regular donations: please consider instructing your bank to increase your existing standing order if you are able. Cheques can be posted to the Church Office for processing.

If you would like to make a one-off donation, please use the new ‘Donate’ button on the Church website or use the QR code.

Your continuing, or increased, generosity is very important. It enables so much to happen in and around our Church. **Thank you.**

Be a good neighbour: many Church members, elders and visitors, along with the Minister, Pastoral Assistant, are keeping in touch with people by telephone or email. Face-to-face visiting is now available by arrangement with the Ministerial team. Everyone is encouraged, where possible, to keep in touch with neighbours, friends, and family, whether they are Church members or not. If there is anything you wish to pass on to the Ministerial team, please contact them as soon as possible.

Morningside Parish Church Website and Facebook: the website www.morningsideparishchurch.org.uk has details of services and sermons and information about the Church. You can also ‘like’ the Morningside Parish Church page on Facebook. This will be one of the regular means by which you can keep informed about what is happening at the Church.

Becoming part of the Church family: we’ve had a number of people asking to become members of our Church family at Morningside in recent weeks which is wonderful. There are a number of ways to do this:

- i. *By profession of faith - coming along to one of the Enquiry classes run by the Minister at different times in the year, then taking vows during a Sunday morning service.*
- ii. *By transferring your membership ('lines') from a congregation you were a member of to our congregation. You will need to ask the Roll Keeper of your former Church to send you the certificate. Then hand in the paperwork to our Roll Keeper, Minister, or to the Church Office.*
- iii. *Admission by Resolution of the Kirk Session. If you're not sure where your membership lies, or you come from another Christian tradition, the Kirk Session can formally admit you into membership.*