

Intimations 1st February 2026

1. **Today:** 9.30am Early Service (Cluny Hall) and 10.30am Morning Worship. Theme, Blessed. Tea and coffee will be served in the St Matthew Hall after the services. Please make an appropriate donation.
2. **February Magazine:** Now available for collection and online. The deadline for the March issue is Friday 13th February. Items to editor@morningsideparishchurch.org
3. **Morningside Umbrella Festival:**
Knitters We Need Your Help

Please contact Morag Shankland, Catriona Reid, Rona McLaren or Kerry Watt if you can help with a very special project to be displayed at our Festival in June. Please share our appeal with family and friends Wool, pattern and Instructions all available after coffee from Sunday 25th January 2026

Crafters We Need Your Help

A very special craft project has been designed to be displayed at our Festival in June, but we need your help. If you can cut fabric, use a glue stick and complete a simple sewing task please help us. This is activity is suitable for all ages, your enthusiasm is more important than the neatness of your stitching. Please contact Kerry Watt on 07530 971367 / kerryelgey@hotmail.co.uk for more details and to get involved

With only 4 months to go we need as many volunteers as possible.

Please contact Kerry Watt on 07530 971367 or email kerryelgey@hotmail.co.uk for further information, or Euan Murray, euanmurray@me.com on how to donate. The website and church email 'Donate' button allows you to make an electronic donation, but please stipulate in the 'note' that you want the donation to go to the Umbrella Fundraiser.

Friday, February 27th, 7.30pm - 11.30pm, Ceilidh Night at Boroughmuir Rugby Club Please contact Kerry Watt for further information and tickets.

NEW Unwanted Gift Appeal: Did Santa overload you with too many bath sets that you will never use, perfumes you don't like, booze you will never drink? Don't despair, we would love your **NEW** unwanted gifts for our spring tombola. Please don't let these lovely gifts sit and gather dust, pop them in the plastic box under the pigeonholes where they will get used by the Morningside Umbrella Festival to raise funds for our roof repair.

4. **Morningside Hope:**
Music and Memories - 2-4pm, workshops for those with dementia and their partners/carers. The next workshops will be on 2nd and 16th February 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 Monday 9th and 23rd February 2026, in the Church, 2-4pm

Games Afternoon – 2-4pm, dementia-friendly and open to everyone. Wednesday 18th February in the Braid Hall.

5. **Lent Studies - Living Generously** The first Sunday of Lent is on 22nd February. This year's Lent Studies are drawn from the recent Church of Scotland Stewardship Department book, **Living Generously - a whole-life response to God's love.** (*Saint Andrew Press 2024*)

Generosity for Christians really is about the way we choose to live - so much more than, but not less than, how much we decide to drop into the offering on Sundays (or the amount we give via direct debit or standing order). The attitude of gratitude moves us a million miles away from an approach that is fashioned around, 'crumbs from the rich man's table'. It's a lifestyle that begins not from, 'what I have got left', but from, 'what have I got to start with...'

Whilst there are still some who argue as soon as finance and stewardship is raised that, 'the church is always after your money', we are nevertheless called by God to live generously, and certainly not considering, 'what's in it for me?'

A considerable proportion of what Jesus teaches in the gospels - including nearly half the parables - relates to money and wealth and our attitude to them.

Even in financially challenging times for individuals, and charities, and governments, and churches, Christians still see people reflecting God's generosity in the way life is lived, through the gifting of time, talents and money. For Christians, we do this in the context of our relationship with God, through Jesus, and inspired by the Holy Spirit. Our Lent studies will give us to reflect on this spiritual and practical understanding of what faith can be.

There will be a morning option and an evening option for these studies: **Wednesdays 18th and 25th February, and 4th and 11th March - 11am in the Cluny Hall** (*have a coffee at the Wednesday coffee morning in the Braid Hall first!*)

Wednesday 18th, Tuesday 24th, Wednesday 4th, Thursday 12th March, 7.30pm at the Manse (20 Braidburn Crescent, EH10 6EN) refreshments served.

Week 1. A closer walk with God

Week 2. Volunteers - Christianity with its sleeves rolled up

Week 3. Money - Your money where your heart is

Week 4. An attitude of gratitude - God's generosity is transformational, not transactional

6. **Flower List 2026:** The flower list for 2026 is now complete and all dates have been filled. Thanks to all those who have put their names down. The flowers are an important part of our church's ministry by beautifying the church on a Sunday morning and then being distributed

to members of the congregation after the service. We know from the letters received that they are always much appreciated.

7. **Jam, Baking and Making Stall:** The total raised from the stall held last Sunday was £327.60, an excellent start to another year of fundraising for our own church funds. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to this success.
8. **Fresh Start:** Donations for Fresh Start can now be left in the box under the pigeonholes in the corridor. Please look up the website www.freshstartweb.org.uk to ensure your donated goods are suitable and in good condition.
9. **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
10. **Next Sunday, 8th February 2026:** 9.30am Early Service (Cluny Hall) and 10.30am Morning Worship. Theme, Salt and Light. 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 the building.

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.

Baby and Toddler Group: our weekly Baby and Toddler Group meet on Mondays from 10am – 11.30am in the St Matthew Hall. All are welcome.

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).

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

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

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.*