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“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’ ”

Matthew 3:3

This week's services
Sunday 21 January 10.30am

Matthew 3:1—12 Who is the Messiah? For whom does John prepare the way?

We meet each Sunday for prayer in the McNab Room from 10.10am until 10.25am. All welcome.

All welcome to join any of our services in person or on our YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/@craiglockhartchurch3157>

While our sanctuary is being decorated all our services on Sundays will take place in the Large Hall.
We will not be able to live stream services from the Large Hall.

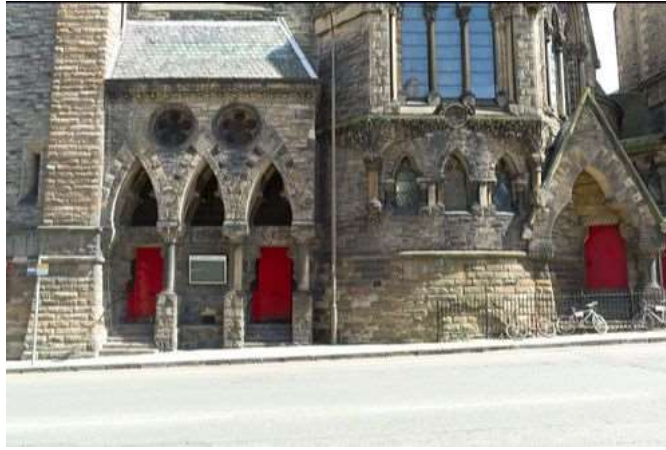
What's on in January

Sunday 21 January	Kingdom Builders 2.30-4 pm
Monday 22 January	Welcome Space 10-12 noon
Thursday 25 January	Bible Study 10.30-11.30 - Centenary Hall
Monday 29 January	Welcome Space 10-12 noon
Monday 29 January	Book Group 7.30pm

Kingdom Builders - Saturday
21 January 2.30-4pm
Craiglockhart Church

Our theme will be Joshua and the Walls. There will be snack, story, songs, lego building, crafts and activities. All families are welcomed. For more information contact craiglockhartkingdombuilders@gmail.com





Evening Services at Barclay Viewforth 6.30pm for 7pm

Join us for a Sunday evening service at Barclay Viewforth - 6.30pm for coffee/tea and cake. The service begins at 7pm.

From Sunday 28 January, for seven weeks. We will be looking at the New Testament book of Colossians. This sermon series will be shared by David Clarkson, Fiona Kennedy and Gordon Kennedy.

The letter to the Colossians is one of the last letters written by the apostle Paul during his time of imprisonment. Having followed Jesus for many years and preached the gospel to many, Paul writes in this letter of the need for disciples of Jesus to Continue In Christ. This challenge is as relevant for us today as it was for the Colossians in Paul's day. **You are all welcome to come and join us for this time of reading Colossians and challenging one another to Continue In Christ.**

This week's Bible Reading and Prayer Readings

Daily prayer

Friday 19	Pray for all who are suffering from poor mental health, may they find the support they need from carers, family and friends, may they know God's presence strengthening them day by day.
Saturday 20	Give thanks for our 4 congregations' Burns' Supper this evening, pray that we will grow in our relationship with one another in this shared time of fellowship.
Sunday 21	"Come down O Love divine; seek out this soul of mine." Let us pray for one another that God's Spirit would come into our lives as we worship together today. Pray for Kingdom Builders meeting this afternoon, that a good number of families would come along.
Monday 22	Pray for the four congregations of Barclay Viewforth, Craiglockhart, Polwarth and St Michael's as we journey together through this year praying and preparing for the union of our congregations. Pray for the process of finding a new name for our congregation that God would lead us all in his way.
Tuesday 23	Pray for Christians in Ukraine, many have stayed in their communities to serve others but are facing great danger being in the frontline of a war zone. Pray that the good news of Jesus would be heard by many in Ukraine in this difficult time.
Wednesday 24	Pray for our local Scripture Union groups in Oxgangs Primary and Firrhill High School, for Gordon McBirnie and the volunteers who lead these groups and for all the young people who come along each week to hear the good news of Jesus.
Thursday 25	Pray for the Impact youth group which meets on Thursdays, give thanks for all the leaders and all the young people who regularly come along. Pray for new members to join the team of leaders who support this work in our congregation.
Friday 26	Pray for the work of the Bethany night shelter, and for those of our congregation serving in the Bethany Winter shelter preparing meals during this season.

Daily readings

Day	Psalms	Old Testament	New Testament
19	18:25-50	38-39	Matthew 12:22-50
20	19	40-41	13:1-30
21	20	42-43	13:31-58
22	21	44-45	14:1-21
23	22:1-18	46-47	14:22-38
24	22:19-31	48-49	15:1-20
25	23	50-Exodus 1	15:21-39
26	24	2-3	16

Our United Congregation - Our Name

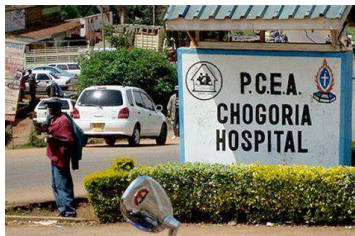
Our four Kirk Sessions have agreed a **process for selecting a new name for our new united congregation**. We are beginning work on this in January and aim to have a new name agreed by June this year.

The General Assembly have instructed that Congregational names must have three elements, a geographical reference, additional words to identify the congregation within that location, and the words 'Church of Scotland'. For our congregation this will look like 'Edinburgh: ?? (Church of Scotland)'. The central element is what we are seeking to agree at this time. The four Kirk Sessions have agreed that we will not consider a new name which is simply a long list of the names of the existing congregations, i.e., Edinburgh: Barclay Viewforth, Craiglockhart, Polwarth and St Michael's (Church of Scotland).

The first step in our process is to invite members of congregations to propose names. Over three weeks, beginning on Sunday 14 January until Sunday 4 February members will be invited to submit their suggestions for a name. At our services on Sunday we will have slips of paper and pens and a box to post your suggestions in. If you would like to email a suggested name for our new united congregation please email it to: office@craiglockhartchurch.org

During February each Kirk Session will consider all the proposed names and select three from all those suggested. Each Kirk Session will submit the three names to the Implementation Team, giving a total of 12 proposed names for a further sifting. There will be a further round of congregational and Kirk Session involvement in April and May and details of this will be given nearer the time.

Please do pray that we will agree a new name for our united congregation which will reflect our mission. Please do talk with one another about your ideas for a new name and please do join in this process to help us agree our new name.



Chogoria Lunch - a big Thank You

The unusual setting for last Sunday's morning service encouraged a good number to stay on for the Chogoria Lunch. Norma and her team did a great job in dealing with the situation with the result that the amount donated was £430, another remarkable total. **The next Chogoria Lunch is on 11 February.**

Holiday Club 3-5 April

If you would like to be part of the team for the holiday club that we are running together with our partner churches on 3rd-

5th April, could you email Gordon McBirnie to confirm. gordon@craiglockhartchurch.org



Upcoming Services

Sunday 28 January 10.30am

Matthew 3:13—17 Who is the Messiah? Who does John baptise?

At this service we will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Sunday 4 February, 10.30am

Matthew 4:1—11 Who is the Messiah? Who resists temptation?

We meet each Sunday for prayer in the McNab Room from 10.10am until 10.25am. All welcome.

All welcome to join any of our services in person or on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@craiglockhartchurch3157>

Four Churches Burns Supper

20 January, 7pm
Craiglockhart Parish
Church

Tickets £15
BYOB

Tickets are limited, and can be bought from your Church Joint Events team reps. Please also let them know of any dietary requirements.

Four Churches Burns Supper

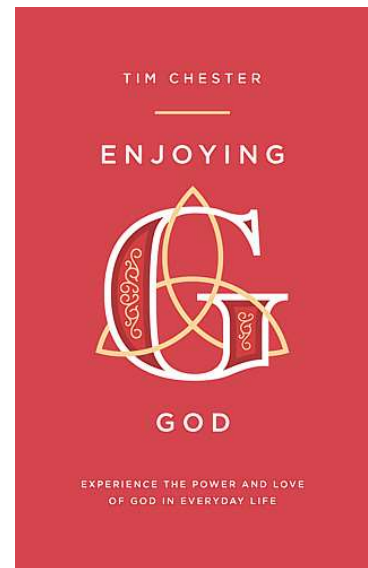
Saturday 20 January 2024 at 7pm in Craiglockhart Church

Tickets are now on sale, priced £15. Please e mail office@craiglockhartchurch.org or speak to Sandra Millar to reserve your tickets . Please also advise any dietary requirements. Tickets are limited so get them quick.

**Book Group - Monday 29
January 7.30pm -
Craiglockhart Church**

**At this group we'll be discussing
Tim Chester's book Enjoying God:
Experience the power and love of
God in everyday life.** We believe in
God, we serve God, we love
God, **but do we ENJOY God** as
much as we can? Does our head
knowledge translate into affection of
the heart? Do we have a meaningful
relationship with someone we can't
see? Do we feel excited about God
every day, in every context?

This isn't a book about the Trinity.
It's a "how to" book exploring how we
relate to God (for which we need a
true understanding of the Trinity). In
day-to-day life, how do the three
persons of the Trinity relate to us,
and how do we respond?



**Please support us - bring your friends and family
Saturday 20 January 10-12.30 Polwarth Church**

TRAUMA AID FOR GAZA

**Coffee Morning
and sale of goods**

to raise money for the medical
trauma teams working in Palestine

**Saturday 20th January
10am - 12.30pm**

Drennan Hall, Polwarth Parish Church
36-38 Polwarth Terrace

Good quality art work, jewellery,
clothing, crystal, china, books,
preserves, and assorted items.

St. Michael's Parish Church
140 Years Service in our Community



Lent Course

ACT ON POVERTY

This shall be a series of meetings held in St Michael's
Church Hall

All gatherings commence at 7.30pm

Tuesday 20 February – **Prophetic**

Tuesday 27 February – **Broken**

Tuesday 5 March – **Generous**

Tuesday 12 March – **Located**

Tuesday 19 March – **Hopeful**

Tuesday 26 March – **Together**

What's happening locally



Polwarth Church Cafe

The cafe is open 10.30am until 1pm every Tuesday in the Drennan Hall. Come along and enjoy a range of teas, filter coffee, sweet treats and soup.

Weekly Activities at Polwarth



Wednesday
Activities
at
Polwarth
10am - 12noon

Drennan Hall
Polwarth Parish Church
EH11 1LU

A meeting place where you can learn skills,
share skills, make new friends.
Go outdoors, go indoors, join in,
connect with your local community.
All welcome! (18+) All tools and materials provided.

Buses 10 & 27
stop outside
the church

For more information contact
polwarthwedactivities@gmail.com

Activities include:
baking, gardening,
outdoor & indoor, art &
crafts, health & well being
sessions, book group,
poetry, photography, board
games, quizzes, dominoes,
topical presentations,
computer work.
Bring your own skill to
share!

If you have suggestions / features for future editions of Weekly News please send to office@craiglockhartchurch.org or pie@craiglockhartchurch.org



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