



Towards our Union

News on progress towards the new congregation of
Newington Trinity Church

Issue 10: December 2023

Getting Together

We have enjoyed shared services on the third Sunday of each month. Our hosts have kindly done some re-jigging so that we can all meet afterwards and chat over a coffee. We are also looking at how we can better accommodate the increasing number of us with wheelchairs and walking aids.

We are also well on the way to having Kirk Session meetings together in 2024. We have a common set of dates for meetings with our first meeting pencilled in for 24 January. The intention is that at each meeting there will be an initial plenary time when matters of common interest are discussed and views expressed. The meeting will then divide into the three constituent Kirk Sessions so that any decisions can be taken. This reflects the fact that we have much in common as we approach union but that in the meantime we will still be three separate legal entities.

Getting Together during Advent and Christmas



Our next shared service will be on the third Sunday in Advent, 17 December, at

Mayfield Salisbury.

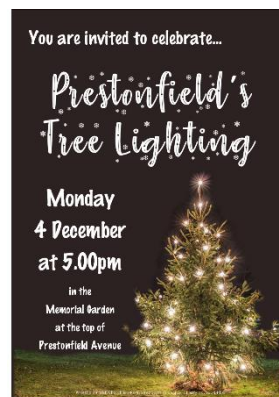
Each of our congregations has a full range of services over the Advent and Christmas season. In particular look out for:

A Carol Service with St Margaret's Singers at Craigmillar Park at 6:30 pm on 17 December.

A Choir Concert at 7 pm at Mayfield Salisbury on 10 December.

A Carol Fest at Priestfield at 7 pm on 17 December.

You will also be very welcome at:

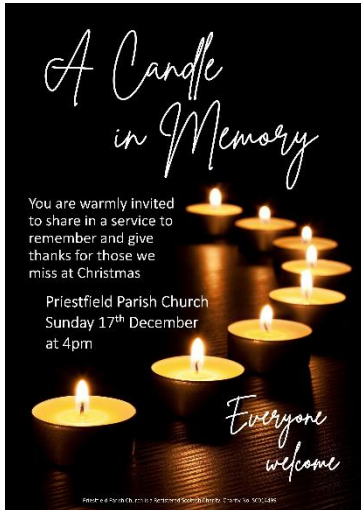


The switching-on of the Prestonfield Christmas tree lights at 5 pm on Monday 4 December. There'll be a carol or two and mince pies.



One of our Christingle Family Services.

- ❖ At 6:30 pm on 23 December at Mayfield Salisbury.
- ❖ At 4:30 pm on Christmas Eve at Priestfield.



At 4 pm on Sunday 17 December you are warmly invited to 'A Candle in Memory.' This is a shared service to remember and give thanks for

those we miss at Christmas.

Pioneer Ministry

Between New Year and Easter we'll be inviting you to join a small group(s) to look at what pioneer ministry means in our context and where God is leading us. We'll be using material entitled 'How to Pioneer' and our own local resources.

Our Union – an Update on the Legal Issues

There have been several developments since our last newsletter.

The Ministers and Kirk Sessions of Craigmillar Park and Priestfield have now been contacted by the sub-group of Presbytery's Deployment Committee as the sub-group is to meet with the Ministers and Kirk Sessions of all Reviewable Charges during the early part of 2024. The visits are to review the Reviewable Charges, consider how ministry may continue and guide discussions about implementation of the Presbytery Plan. Our Ministers and Kirk Sessions have asked for these meetings to be programmed in January. This additional procedure is likely to further delay our union.

At its November meeting the Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian agreed to



permit the sale of the Craigmillar Park church building. In line with the agreement of all three Kirk Sessions and congregations, the Kirk Session of Craigmillar

Park Church had requested permission to sell the building so that it can enter into negotiations with an interested denomination as a preferred purchaser. This has the general support of the Law Department and the General Trustees. The objective is to reach firm agreement on a sale with an entry date of mid-2024. The final step in this process is receiving permission from the General Trustees and this is now awaited.

Who's Who?

Andrew Carter is in the first year of his



training as a candidate for the ministry, studying at New College. Since completing his PhD at St Andrews, he has been exploring a call to the

ministry. Andrew is based at Craigmillar Park and Reid Memorial Churches so you should see him at our shared services.

Next Issue

Our next issue will be in February 2024.