

Community Notes and News

Saturday 12 September 2020



The **Minister**, Richard Frazer, or **Associate Minister**, Ken Luscombe, are happy to speak to anyone to discuss any matter, whether you are a member or not, please contact either:

- Richard on 07715 069 041 or by email at minister@greyfriarskirk.com, or
- Ken on 07488 258 875 or by email at associateminister@greyfriarskirk.com.

This week's services

Sunday Service, 11am, 13 September - available at www.greyfriarskirk.com/online-services/

If you would like to join our weekly gatherings for conversation over a cup of tea after the service, please email Richard (above). Sunday services will continue online at present.

Midweek prayers, 1:10pm, Thursday 17 September – this will take place at the Kirk once more. This short service provides space for reflection and thought, you are warmly welcome to join. Recordings are still being added to the website, later in the day, for those who wish to view from home.

Kevin's Incredible Kiltwalk Challenge – Please Help

Kevin Robinson and his wife Sally are undertaking the Kiltwalk Challenge – THIS WEEKEND. Kevin has been dealing with a rare, serious form of cancer. He has faced many obstacles and challenges but is very determined, never gives up and stays incredibly positive. The preparation for this challenge for Kevin and Sally has been an incredible feat in itself.

Please keep an eye on social media over the weekend at the Grassmarket Community Project (GCP) and Greyfriars Kirk. Like, comment, share etc. Photos will be posted up of preparations and undertaking the challenge. This will likely be Kevin's last year, and so we wish to support him as we can (we would normally be at the start and finish lines with him).



Kevin is huge supporter of the GCP and would like to raise £2,000 this year. With the Hunter Foundation topping this up by 50%, this means GCP could receive £3,000! He has raised £1,628.71 at time of writing. **If you are able** to spare a few pounds to help Kevin get over his target, and help GCP, part of the Greyfriars community family, please do. Not only does the £ help, but every message Kevin gets really does spur him on.

We are rooting for Kevin this week – **GO KEVIN!!**

<https://edinburghkiltwalk2020.everydayhero.com/uk/kevin-3>

Our Tribe: Creationtide, “One Planet, One Home”

All LGBTQI+ folks, family and allies welcome at this event with Augustine United Church. Music, readings, discussion and worship will explore the theme above. Communion will be shared, so please have some bread and wine or juice available. The Zoom gathering will start from 3:30pm. Reflection time will end around 4:30pm and there will be time for socialising afterwards. If you would like to join this event, contact: www.augustine.org.uk/contact-us/



Kirk Opening

The Kirk continues to be open until Friday 18 September: **Mon to Fri, 11am to 4pm**
<https://greyfriarskirk.com/visit/>

Do come and enjoy the space while it is open. Please check the website for latest information on the day of your visit. We will provide updates in this newsletter on future services and any additional opening times.

Refugio – 20 September

The next Refugio service will take place at 7pm on Sunday 20 September, also at the Kirk. To keep everyone safe we will ensure appropriate social distancing. Please wear a mask and sanitise your hands. For the communion, please bring your own elements – a piece of bread or a cracker and something to drink. We will consecrate these together.



Kirk Team News

This Monday we are delighted to welcome back the Kirk’s communications coordinator, Enid Watkins, from maternity leave. We said thank you and goodbye to Enid’s maternity replacement, Adam Patel-Summers, recently, who was incredibly helpful over these last few months as we got used to new ways of worship and community. We also welcome a new beadle, Damian O’Riain, who some of you may have met on visiting the Kirk recently. Damian joins Angela in this role.

Both Enid and Damian have good knowledge and skills with technology, and so we look forward to their input on how we do things online – the past few months have been an incredible learning curve for us all!

If you would like to send in any comments, ideas, requests or queries, please email Gillian: coordinator@greyfriarskirk.com. Any thoughts, large or small, very welcome.

“Second Sundays” Update

With a few changes on the team, and one or two well-deserved holiday breaks planned, the new “Second Sunday” initiative will be delayed a little (so it will not start this week as we hoped). Watch this space for an update in due course.

Donations

With the church building closed to outside activity we are totally dependent on the generous financial support of our members, regular attenders, online visitors and friends.

As we cannot circulate the usual offering plate, the online alternative is through this link: www.paypal.me/greyfriars400. Although headings refer to Greyfriars 400 and Outreach, donations will be used for the same general Greyfriars Kirk purposes as regular offerings; ministry, the Kirk building and staff. Many thanks.

Other Ways to Help...

Outreach Manager Steve also suggests: "if you do are using AMAZON please can you pay via AMAZON SMILE? This is their way of giving a proportion of your purchase amount back to your CHOSEN CHARITY. Again, you can help the Kirk this way without any monetary impact on your bank balance! All you need to do is quote Greyfriars Kirk's Charity number which is SC003761."

And don't forget, while the Kirk is open the shop has some great gifts and goodies you can purchase (it's perhaps a little too early to mention events towards the end of the year, but it's never too early to bag some early-win gifts!). Some of the shop's stock is perishable too, so if you enjoy a biscuit, please do come in and purchase some. Just ask the staff.

Study Service re-starts: Sunday 6 September at 7pm

While the positive side of Zoom meetings is that people can join from all the world, the negative side is that there is not the same opportunity for the depth which can be provided by face to face discussion with everyone in the same room. The study service meeting this week will therefore consist of a discussion on the general topic of faith. It will attempt to answer common problems posed by faith and the passage chosen for consideration is Galatians 2.15-21. The key verse in this passage is verse 2.20: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life now live in the flesh I live by **the faith of** the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

The key point here is that the Greek is the faith **OF** the Son of God, not faith **IN** the Son of God. The same is true twice in verse 16 where it is the faith **OF** (not **IN**) Jesus Christ / Christ. The passage clearly makes the faith of Christ primary and says that **we live by the faith of Christ**, that is, by trusting his faith not ours. To live in Christ is to learn to live out of his strength & faith, not ours.

If you are interested in joining the study service, please get in touch to find out more: www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch/

Pastoral Care at Greyfriars Kirk

The Kirk's pastoral volunteers continue to enjoy staying in touch with many in the congregation and community. If you would like a chat yourself please contact Associate Minister, Ken Luscombe (contact details at the top of this newsletter). Friendly ears and warm conversation awaits anyone who would like this, at any time throughout the year.