



# GREYFRIARS COMMUNITY NEWS

Keeping you up to date with what's going on in and around  
Greyfriars Kirk

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](tel:07715069041) or by email at [minister@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:minister@greyfriarskirk.com), or
- Ken on [07488 258 875](tel:07488258875) or by email at [associateminister@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:associateminister@greyfriarskirk.com).

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## THIS SUNDAY: 15 NOVEMBER 2020

**11.00 am** In-Person Services: book your place at <http://bit.ly/greyfriarsinperson>  
Online Services at [greyfriarskirk.com/online-services](http://greyfriarskirk.com/online-services)

## COMING UP THIS WEEK

**Thurs 1.10 pm** Midweek Prayers at the Kirk (Live-streamed on Facebook and available at our [Online Services](#) page)

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## Kirk Opening

The Kirk is open each **Thursday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm** for visitors throughout the autumn and winter. Do come and enjoy the space while it is open. Please check the website for latest information on the day of your visit.

## Don't Forget to Book Ahead for In-Person Services

We are delighted to be holding in-person services once again. We want to assure you that your safety and the safety of our ministry team and staff is our top priority. Don't forget to [book in online](#) to ensure you have a space reserved at the services. Bookings will close when all the spaces are filled, or two hours before services, whichever comes first. If anyone comes without a booking they will be very welcome but can only be admitted if there is space within the 50-person limit. To start your booking, visit <http://bit.ly/greyfriarsinperson>.



## Radical Welcome Course: Thursdays in November

As congregations and community centres, we want to be places of hospitality and sanctuary. We want to be open for all. How can we go beyond being friendly, beyond being inclusive, to becoming radically welcoming? In four evening sessions on the 5, 12, 19 and 26 November from 8-9 pm we will:

- look at the history of our congregations and community
- reflect on our personal experiences of being excluded but also welcomed
- ask what kind of congregation and community we want to be
- challenge ourselves by aiming to become a radically welcoming place that inspires, empowers and blesses the people around us

Please come and be part of this journey. To receive the Zoom invitation with the link, please email [aross@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:aross@churchofscotland.org.uk).

## Giving to the Kirk

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 as widely, the online alternative is through this link: [www.paypal.me/greyfriars400](http://www.paypal.me/greyfriars400). Although headings on this page refer to Greyfriars 400 and Outreach, all donations will be used for the same general Greyfriars Kirk purposes as regular offerings; ministry, the Kirk building and staff. Many thanks.

if you are shopping on-line with 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 in this way without any monetary impact on your bank balance! All that you need to do is quote Greyfriars Kirk's Charity number, which is SC003761.

## Please Visit Your Kirk Gift Shop

We love to welcome friends from near and far to the Kirk shop. There are many special bespoke items to see, including bargain gift packs of clotted cream shortbread. We have a great selection of books on everyone's favourite Skye terrier, Greyfriars Bobby, including *Rab*, *Greyfriars Bobby*, *Fiddy & Fan*, written by our friend George Robinson. These wonderful books make great gifts for the holidays.

Stop by the Kirk shop on Thursdays between 11 am and 3 pm—we would love to say hello! And on Sundays, the shop can be opened after the service if you ask our beadle Damian or assistant beadle Angela.

## Study Service: Sundays at 7 pm

The topic of the Study Service on Sunday is THE MESSIAH'S "VICARIOUS HUMANITY". In the famous passage in Mark 8 when Jesus asks his disciples, first about what others say, and then about who they say he is, Peter replies "You are the Christ", the anointed one, the "Messiah" in Hebrew. Through a gift of revelation from the Father, Peter has perceived that Jesus is indeed

the long awaited Messiah of Israel, and Jesus proceeds to tell the disciples that he must go to Jerusalem to suffer, be killed and rise on the third day. But Peter, like all the disciples, cannot begin to take in what Jesus is saying and Peter actually rebukes Jesus.

Although on at least two more occasions Jesus went on to repeat to the disciples what would happen to him, they could not make any sense of it. To think that the Messiah, the great new Moses (Deuteronomy 18.15-18) and the king in the tradition of King David (Psalm 110) who had come to save them would have to suffer and die was completely unthinkable, making all talk of his resurrection simply non-sensical. They could not begin to put together such foresights as these from the Old Testament, let alone the insights of the great prophets that God's everlasting covenant with Israel ("I will be your God and you shall be my people") could only be fulfilled through the radical renewing of the covenant in a "new covenant" (Jeremiah 31), the shepherd-kingship under God of David as prince (Ezekiel 34), and in particular a servant who would take on himself the sins of all the people (Isaiah 53).

It was only after the two occasions explicitly cited in Luke 24 (the conversation of the risen Jesus on the Emmaus Road and then his meeting with the disciples in the upper room) when Jesus opened their minds to understand all the things written about him in the law of Moses, the prophets and the psalms, that the disciples began to understand what Jesus had been telling them before his death.

But what was it exactly that Jesus explained to his disciples? In the light of the disciples' mature understanding as we have it in the New Testament and the passages it cites as fulfilment of the Hebrew scriptures, we can with reasonable certainty identify several passages Jesus must have referred to, but can we go further than that?

To what extent can we conjecture how they were all put together and which if any were particularly decisive?

Interested in joining this special gathering? Please get in touch to find out more: [www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch](http://www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch) or visit the [Study Service page](#) on our website.

### Grassmarket Community Project AGM



You are warmly invited to join us at this year's AGM of the Grassmarket Community Project, to hear all about this part of the Greyfriars family and all we are doing in spite of COVID-19 pandemic to provide a warm welcome and a rich stimulating supportive community for vulnerable people in the heart of Edinburgh.

The AGM is being held by **Zoom** on **Thursday 26 November at 5 pm** for about an hour, with time for questions. The running order is:

- Some entertainment from the Grassmarket Choir
- A short video on our community
- A message from Richard Frazer as chair of GCP
- A Financial Overview from our Treasurer
- A Review of 2020 – the challenges we have faced and the support we have provided, with Jonny Kinross and two of our members.

Please register here to receive a personal link:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tjYuf-uqqjwjEtzMiDs7-F9nll2v3wl6TcbS>

### Crossreach's Heart for Art Exhibition

Our friends at Crossreach's Heart for Art are holding a special virtual exhibition of work from groups all over Scotland, showing at Elcho Artspace from 1 to 30 November. To access the exhibition, please visit [www.elchoartspace.art](http://www.elchoartspace.art).



### Online Lecture on Healing and Reconciliation

You are invited to this year's **Denis Duncan Lecture**, on the evening of Monday 16th November, from 7 pm to 9 pm. This free event is **online** and our speaker will be Ruth Harvey, Leader of the Iona Community. The title of the lecture is "Where healing and reconciliation meet". We will also hear from Gillian Straine, Director of the Guild of Health & St. Raphael, as she shares about their new initiative "Healthy Healing Hubs". The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Rev Dr Martin Fair, will form part of the panel to answer any questions following the lecture.

To register, please follow this link – <https://denis-duncan-lecture-2020.eventbrite.co.uk>.

For further information, please contact Robbie Morrison, Mission Development Worker (West) at [Robbie.Morrison@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:Robbie.Morrison@churchofscotland.org.uk).

### Pastoral Care at Greyfriars Kirk

The Kirk's pastoral volunteers enjoy staying in touch with the congregation and community. If you would like a chat, please contact Ken Luscombe (contact details at the top of this newsletter). Friendly ears and warm conversation await.

*If you would like to send in any comments, ideas, requests or queries, please email the office at [communications@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:communications@greyfriarskirk.com). Any thoughts, large or small, very welcome.*