



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

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## THIS SUNDAY: 8 NOVEMBER 2020

**10.55 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).

## Hunting for a Laptop

As in-person services begin at the Kirk once more, we are hoping to integrate technology for playing video clips and having the words to the hymns up on the projector screen in the sanctuary, with an eye to fully live-stream Sunday services online in the future. One thing that would help to simplify this process is to have a simple laptop to use on Sunday mornings. If you have an old laptop that you aren't using anymore, would you consider donating it to the Kirk to help us to continue journeying down this new tech road? We're excited about the new avenues to connect with others, and if you'd like to donate, just contact the office at [communications@greyfriarskirk.com](mailto:communications@greyfriarskirk.com). Thank you very much!



## 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 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.

## 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. 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!

## Study Service: Sundays at 7 pm

The Study Service topic for this Sunday is the nature of love. It has been argued that the church and society in general have “feminised” love. It is certainly true that love is regarded as a supreme power and is commonly separated from God. But what is “love” and what is the biblical understanding of love?

In the bible, it is God (and in the full sense God alone) who is love, but also, love cannot be separated from what is right. This is because true love always wants what is right and best for what is loved. If “love” and what is right are separated, then love is still tender and precious, as it should be, but it ultimately becomes weak and powerless to effect change. Two things then stand out in the bible:

(1) The bible regards God, and God alone ultimately, as love in the true sense, and therefore does not separate love from God and regards all human love as a gift of God, even if we do not know God or believe in him.

(2) The bible never separates love from judgment and here is it important that the primary meaning of judgment for the bible is to “put right”. It means to correct, put right, undo wrong and therefore right oppression and injustice. In Psalms 96 and 98, for example, the whole earth is called to shout for joy because God is coming to judge the earth, or in other words, put things right. In the nature of the case, this also means a judgment (in the negative sense) on evil and wrong, but it is the positive sense which is uppermost in the bible.

We will be discussing to what extent the church (and society) have indeed “feminised” love, and if so, how we can help to construct a better understanding of love.

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.

## 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 1-30 of 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.*