



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, or
- Ken on 07488 258 875 or by email at associateminister@greyfriarskirk.com.

THIS SUNDAY: 4 JULY 2021

11.00 am In-person service at the Kirk - **no booking required**, provide Track & Trace details at the door.

Online Services -- watch on your YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/greyfriarstv>.

Following the morning service, we'd like to invite you to share in fellowship with one another at a **Greyfriars Family Picnic** in the Kirkyard, celebrating the ministry of the Revs Anne and Philipp Ross and the blessing they have been to our community. Please bring your own picnic items and follow Scottish Government guidelines regarding social distancing between family groups. We're excited to share this time together! Should you have any questions, please connect with the Kirk office at contact@greyfriarskirk.com.

Midweek Prayers

We are delighted to announce that in-person Midweek Prayers have returned to Greyfriars Kirk. Join us each Thursday in the sanctuary from 1:10 - 1:30 pm for this special time of prayer and reflection. Watch online at <https://bit.ly/greyfriarsmidweek>.

Kirk Opening - at last!

The Kirk is now open to visitors from 11.00 am to 3.00 pm daily except Sundays and Mondays (with a short break for Midweek Prayers on a Thursday). Please keep checking the website for any days when the Kirk will be closed for other events.

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: <https://bit.ly/greyfriarsdonate>. Although headings on that page refer to Greyfriars 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 right back to Greyfriars Kirk. Again, you can help the Kirk in this way without any monetary impact at all on your bank balance! All that you need to do is quote Greyfriars Kirk's Charity number, which is SC003761.

Study Service: Sundays at 7.00 pm

The Study Service topic this week is **Communion: what is it to feed on the risen Christ?** Baptism and Holy Communion are the two great sacraments of the Christian church, both instituted by Jesus for our growth and nurture.

Baptism is the sacrament that tells us Jesus was baptised and died for us while we were still sinners. It is the once for all sacrament which teaches us that our baptism is a baptism into his baptism and therefore a participation in all he did and is now, before we ever knew about it.

Holy Communion is likewise a participation in Christ, but it is the sacrament of our continual feeding on him and therefore should be celebrated regularly in worship. It is the sacrament in which we vividly recall all he suffered and won for us and in which he himself is present to us in such a way, that, as we bring to mind the fruits of his passion and the joy of his risen life, so he feeds us with his word and very self.

But what is it to feed on the risen Christ? In biblical language, what is it to eat his flesh and drink his blood?

What is it to live as branches in the vine, being fed by him and not out of ourselves?

If you are interested in joining this special Zoom gathering, please get in touch to find out more: www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch or visit the [Study Service](#) page on our website.

Ecumenical Orchard/Gardening Group at GCP

We still exist! The pandemic has not hindered our apple and pear trees from growing and blossoming. What a sign of hope! The group will meet weekly on Saturday mornings from 10.30 to 12.30 to care for our little orchard but also to do gardening at the Quiet Garden at St Columba's. We're now running as a GCP group in ecumenical partnership. If you want to join us in digging, sowing, planting, pruning and eventually harvesting, please drop me (Anne Ross) a line: aross@churchofscotland.org.uk.

Grassmarket Community Project - Activities to Join in

The GCP is running various online activities and from the 26th April a limited number of activities in the centre. These activities are a great opportunity to socialise with others in the Greyfriars and Grassmarket communities, learn something interesting, or have a bit of fun! Online there is Scottish History, Community Choir, a book group, cinema chat, mindfulness and more. There are also coffee break sessions, at which it's always particularly nice to see some new face, and good for those that just want to drop in for a bit. In person activities include Art, Reading and Writing, Tartan Skills and IT where people are gaining skills to go online as well as many other useful tips.

Check all these out here: [Plan C – Grassmarket Community Project](#). You are very warmly welcome to join in! If you'd like any more information, to receive the regular community bulletin saying what's on, or to speak to someone at the GCP, you can call 0131 225 3626 or email info@grassmarket.org.

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).

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