



NEWSLETTER

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ABOUT US

Edinburgh Churches Together is an ecumenical group of churches working in partnership across Edinburgh City. Its member churches are the Church of Scotland, Methodist Church, Roman Catholic Church, Salvation Army, Scottish Episcopal Church, United Free Church and United Reformed Church.

The purpose of Edinburgh Churches Together is to help member churches work together so as to:

- *jointly address issues of concern and interest within our city and beyond
- *support each other in times of challenge and celebration
- *provide a meeting point between the Christian Church and the City
- *encourage local congregations to work together
- *share resources, ideas, insights and best practice
- *create city scale projects and events as a witness to the presence of Christ in Edinburgh



<http://edinburghchurchestogether.org.uk/>



Edinburgh Churches Together



@ECTEdinburgh

NEWS

The Listening Service

Multi-Faith Chaplaincy for Edinburgh Sheriff Court

A project run by Edinburgh Churches Together and Edinburgh Inter Faith Association.



"The first time, you're really on your own." The desperate plea of a mother whose grown up son was appearing in court for the first time ever. Not only was she trying to make sense of life when her whole world had fallen apart, but she was having to navigate the norms of an unfamiliar environment. "Where can you go?" "What is likely to happen?" "Why can't I see my son?" So many questions, so little emotional energy.

This real experience was the inspiration for the development of the chaplaincy based 'Listening Service' at Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

Volunteers come from different faith backgrounds and are available for people of all faiths and none. They offer a non-judgemental listening ear which has been warmly welcomed by court users and staff. After only six months the service is expanding rapidly, now with 30 volunteers, allowing listeners to be available five days a week.

The service constantly need new people to join the project to provide what one court based Police Officer described as a 'godsend' in the life of the court. Our volunteers are thanked daily by staff and court users.

Please help equip the next group of volunteers and donate at:

<http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-listening-service-1>

Contact Information:

Rev Andrew Letby

Email: revandrew.edinburgh@gmail.com / courtchaplaincy@gmail.com

Tel: 0131 662 8635



EdinburghCourtChaplaincy

EVENTS

2017 Edinburgh Churches Together event

Let's Make a Song
and Dance About It

New Ways of Doing Church Together

Saturday 24 June 2017 | 10.30am-12noon



Key speaker: Alan Cowe, speaking about
the Arts Outreach Project

A workshop to explore new forms of Church, an
opportunity to share your story and learn new ideas.

10:30-12:00 with registration and tea and coffee **from 10:00**

St Andrew's and St George's West 13 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PA

For further information, contact: Nicola Robinson, nicola.robinson.ect@gmail.com



Register at:
www.eventbrite.co.uk



<http://newwaysofdoingchurch.eventbrite.com/?s=76022667>

Concerts and Ceilidhs



Edinburgh City of Sanctuary

Edinburgh City of Sanctuary is hosting a ceilidh to celebrate the many people, places, initiatives and organisations that make Edinburgh a welcoming city for people seeking sanctuary. This is not a fundraising event: it is an invitation to join us to mark the good things that are happening in our city, in a season when much news seems negative.

So - please join us! We are hosting the ceilidh together with The Welcoming Edinburgh and Re-Act. There will be many interesting people to meet and stories to hear.

There will be shared food, music and dancing. It will be a family-friendly event open to folk of all ages. Tickets are free for people who are refugees, asylum seekers or volunteers / staff of hosting organisations.

When: Saturday 1st July, 5-11 pm

Where: King's Hall, 41A S. Clerk St, Edinburgh EH8 9NZ

You can find more details and ways to book at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/391575221235798/>

or

<http://www.ceilidhcollective.org/>

Spirituals At Six

June 30 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Free entry, retiring collection for Anti-Slavery International



Come and listen to the sensational Dick Lee Trio and sing spirituals with soloists and a super quartet.

The programme includes favourites like Summertime, Swing Low, Sweet Chariot, He's got the whole world, O when the saints go marchin' in .

Entry is FREE.

Donations – taken at the end of the night as a retiring collection – are welcome to help cover costs. After costs, any surplus will support Anti-Slavery International. Anti-Slavery International is the oldest human rights charity in the world, fighting slavery since 1839.

Some very cool blues and some very hot Jazz – don't miss it!

ṣalaṁ alāikūṁ

Saturday 17 June 2 - 5pm

St Columba's by the Castle, Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh

"Hello"; "My name is ..."; "How can I help?"; "Would you like a drink?"

With churches offering support and help to refugees and others, in an increasingly diverse city, this is an opportunity to learn some basic conversational Arabic to help make people welcome and feel at home.

The event is free, to book a place please contact d.patonwilliams@gmail.com 0131 622 2277

(In collaboration with Edinburgh University's
Alwaleed Centre)

Edinburgh Inter-Faith Association



Friday 16 June, 9pm, Edinburgh Central Mosque, 50 Potterrow, Edinburgh EH8 9BT

Sunday 18 June, 9pm, Iqra Academy, 10 E Suffolk Rd, Edinburgh EH16 5PH

Tuesday 20 June, 9pm, Annandale Mosque, 43-45 Annandale St, Edinburgh EH7 4AZ

Last year Edinburgh Interfaith Association launched the #Unite4Ramadan campaign.

This year, local Muslim women are hosting Ramadan Community Dinner's (Iftar) across Edinburgh to give local community members an opportunity to come together and join in the breaking of the fast. The Unite4Ramadan campaign has added 3 extra dates to their Iftar (meal) calendar and they would love for you to join them.

Please keep checking into the "Unite4Ramadan" or EIFA Facebook page for further details.

For more information and to rsvp please contact the ladies at:

beyondtheveil@hotmail.co.uk

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL



July Community Meal

Monday 10 July, 18:30, Edinburgh Baha'i Centre, 44 Albany Street, EH1 3QR

July's Community Meal will take place at the Baha'i Centre in Edinburgh where Francesco Cappellari will give a presentation on the "Life of the Bab", who is the forerunner of Baha'u'llah, Founder of the Baha'i Faith. The Bab was martyred on the 9 July 1850 and so is a Baha'i Holy Day.

This year celebrates the Bicentenary of the Birth of Baha'u'llah, and we hope to welcome our EIFA friends at the community meal.

The presentation will be followed by the meal.

This is a free event and open to all but please do rsvp to: info@eifa.org.uk

Celebrating Columba 2017



8th-15th June
at St Columba's by the Castle

Art from Iona

an exhibition of paintings by Clare Arbuthnott inspired by the island of Iona
10am-4pm daily

'The Meeting of Sun and Moon: Brigid as Sister of Columba'

a lecture by Philip Newell for St Columba's Day

Friday 9th June at 7.30pm (please note the change from the earlier advertised time of 7.00 pm.)

in support of refugees accessing Higher Education in Edinburgh

'Evergreen Volume 3: Columba'

the launch of this new volume by local writers and Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust

Wednesday 14th June at 7.00pm

All are welcome

14 Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh, EH1 2PW

Sunday Introductions

St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston
Place, Edinburgh

All are invited to a continuing
series of talks, on Sundays in
front of the High Altar 12noon -
12.45pm



18 June (NB change of date): Helen Hood TSSF: An
Introduction to Franciscan Spirituality

3 September: Revd Annie Naish, Bishop's Enabler of
Mission: An Introduction to Mission in 21st Century
Scotland

22 October: Revd Andrew Bain: An Introduction to
Benedictine Spirituality

Further information faithandgrowth@gmail.com or
phone the Cathedral Office 0131 225 6293

Spirituality and Special Services

The River Walk

Sunday 18 June* Afternoon

A reflective walk in the city inspired by the writing of Margaret Silf. The River Walk is an invitation to reflect on our faith journey by walking with reflective materials along the path by the Water of Leith in Edinburgh. By still waters, and occasional rapids, we are invited to connect once again with the living water which flows in and through us.

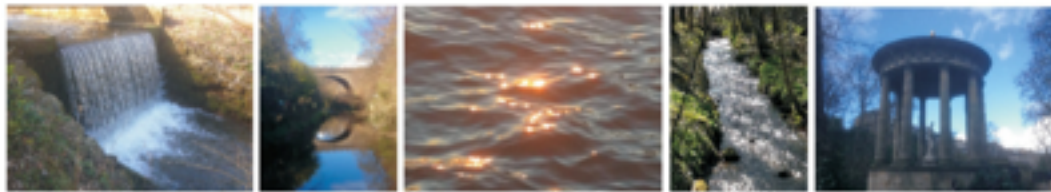
The walk starts from the Water of Leith Visitor Centre (24 Lanark Road, Edinburgh), please register with us there between 1pm and 3pm and collect your material. Walk at your own pace, alone or with friends, with reflective material provided in a printed booklet and audio guide. The River Walk is inspired by Margaret Silf's river reflections, and developed by Susan Mansfield, creator of the Passion Walk. In the evening, please join us for...

An Evening with Margaret Silf

Sunday 18 June 7.30pm, St James Church, Goldenacre, Edinburgh

Join the acclaimed writer and speaker on Christian spirituality for talk of rivers and journeys and much more.

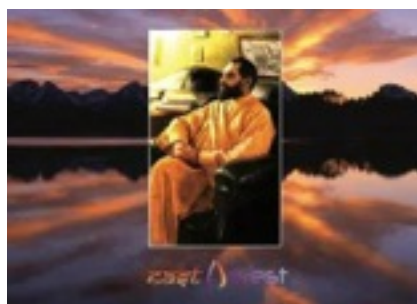
For more information or to book, email reflectivewalks@gmail.com or call 07879 014344. The Walk costs £7, the evening event £5, or pay £10 for both. Booking is essential, we cannot guarantee to have enough material for walkers who have not booked. *Please note the date of Sunday 18 June; earlier publicity gave the date as Saturday 17 June but we have had to change this to avoid clashing with a major fundraising walk on the same path!



Sadhu Sundar Singh Evening Service in Edinburgh

Date: Monday 19th June 2017, 7.00pm

Venue: St John's Church, Princes Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4BJ



Sadhu Sundar Singh is annually celebrated as a Saint in the Anglican Church on the 19th June. In 1920 large crowds were attracted to his message of love and peace in Glasgow and Edinburgh as he travelled the UK. The Sadhu has so much to teach us about God's love and serving one another. I was privileged as a CMS mission partner to visit India to research his life and put together an order of service for this special Day. It is an honour to be a leading a reflective service at St John's Church in Edinburgh for the first time in Scotland. It would be great to see you there to experience a fusion of east and west spiritually through the meditations, prayers, stories, readings and reflections on the Sadhu.

Adventures in Faith

Into Silence

Fridays 1.30 - 3pm at Christ Church Centre, Holy Corner, Edinburgh

26 May, 23 June, 21 July, 25 August, 29 September etc

A newly started Adventures in Faith group of around 15 people continues monthly. Come occasionally or regularly. Offering guided introduction, stillness and 30 minutes of silent prayer. Led by spiritual director and counsellor Mollie Paterson. Just come along, donations of £5 on the day. Enquiries to 0131 346 9081 adventures@dioceseofedinburgh.org

Who Has Your Back

Fridays 7.15 – 9.15pm 28 July, 25 August, 29 September, 27 October

Venue TBC in north Edinburgh

A soulful, reflective practice group for people looking for support in a variety of work roles. What gets you out of bed in the morning? What keeps you going at work? What is draining and what's going well? Who or What 'has your back'?

Using a mixture of conversation and creative approaches here is an opportunity to re-energise vision for work, find help with tricky encounters and refresh courage and compassion towards both yourself and those with whom you work. Open to people from a variety of backgrounds e.g. NHS/ social workers, teachers, alternative therapists, charity workers, clergy, volunteers, anyone in 'people roles' or organisations. We will create the space between us using images, objects, action and 'soulful seeing' to go in search of focus, support, and re-equipping.

Group of 3 to 6 people. £30 per session with a commitment across these 4 dates, then the choice to stay or leave with new folk joining as space allows for another block of 4. Early bird rate £110 for 4 sessions if paid in full by 30 June. To aid the group process you are greatly encouraged to come to all dates. If you know at the time of booking that you need to miss one date you will not be charged for this, thereafter the commitment of £30 is to all dates.

Booking/further information reflectivespaces@yahoo.co.uk

Reflection for Life

This group will run in north Edinburgh as the need arises, with dates and times arranged to suit. If you wish to express interest please email reflectivespaces@yahoo.co.uk

A monthly small group exploring faith and life. For people who have some experience of one or more of the following:

- A Retreat in Daily Life
- Spiritual Direction
- Quiet Days
- Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living course or similar
- Exploring, or wanting to explore, their own prayer life

This group is rooted primarily but not exclusively in the Christian tradition and will draw on scripture, nature, spiritual writers, poets, creativity and conversation to grow in awareness and in sharing our journey together. The group aims to help the interweaving of 'spirit' and life. As life turns like the layers of a spiral, this group may be one way to revisit themes, questions and experiences in a deeper way. You may be part of a church or feel 'on the edge' of church; you may be in a time of transition or looking for like-minded friends; you may be keen or tentative. We will try out different ways of praying and reflecting, individually and together and the group will be shaped by its member's own interests and suggestions.

Group of between 3 and 5 people. Cost £20 per 90 minute session. If cost is the only reason not to join please be in touch for a conversation.

Informal enquiries welcome. reflectivespaces@yahoo.co.uk 07952 198379

VOLUNTEERING AND TRAINING

Asian Awareness in Scotland

Towards understanding and working with the diverse faith communities in our towns and cities

Date: Thursday 22nd June, 10.30am – 1pm

Venue: Bethany Christian Trust

65 Bonnington Road, Edinburgh EH6 5RQ



An introduction to South Asian fusion culture and engaging with faith communities.

The training event aims to equip Christians to understand the diversity in the Scottish Asian communities and how to build bridges of friendship and respect.

The informative and inspirational sessions will be led by Pall Singh and Asian Concern in Scotland.

The training event is free but a £5 donation on the day would be appreciated towards the Asian lunch.

You can book online at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/asian-awareness-in-scotland-tickets-34568217469

Email us on Pallsingh@bethanychristiantrust.com ring or text on 07969 771659

NEXT EDITION

Please note that the deadline for material on ecumenical events, courses, training and volunteering is Monday 24 July.

You can send your material to Nicola Robinson at:

nicola.robinson.ect@gmail.com