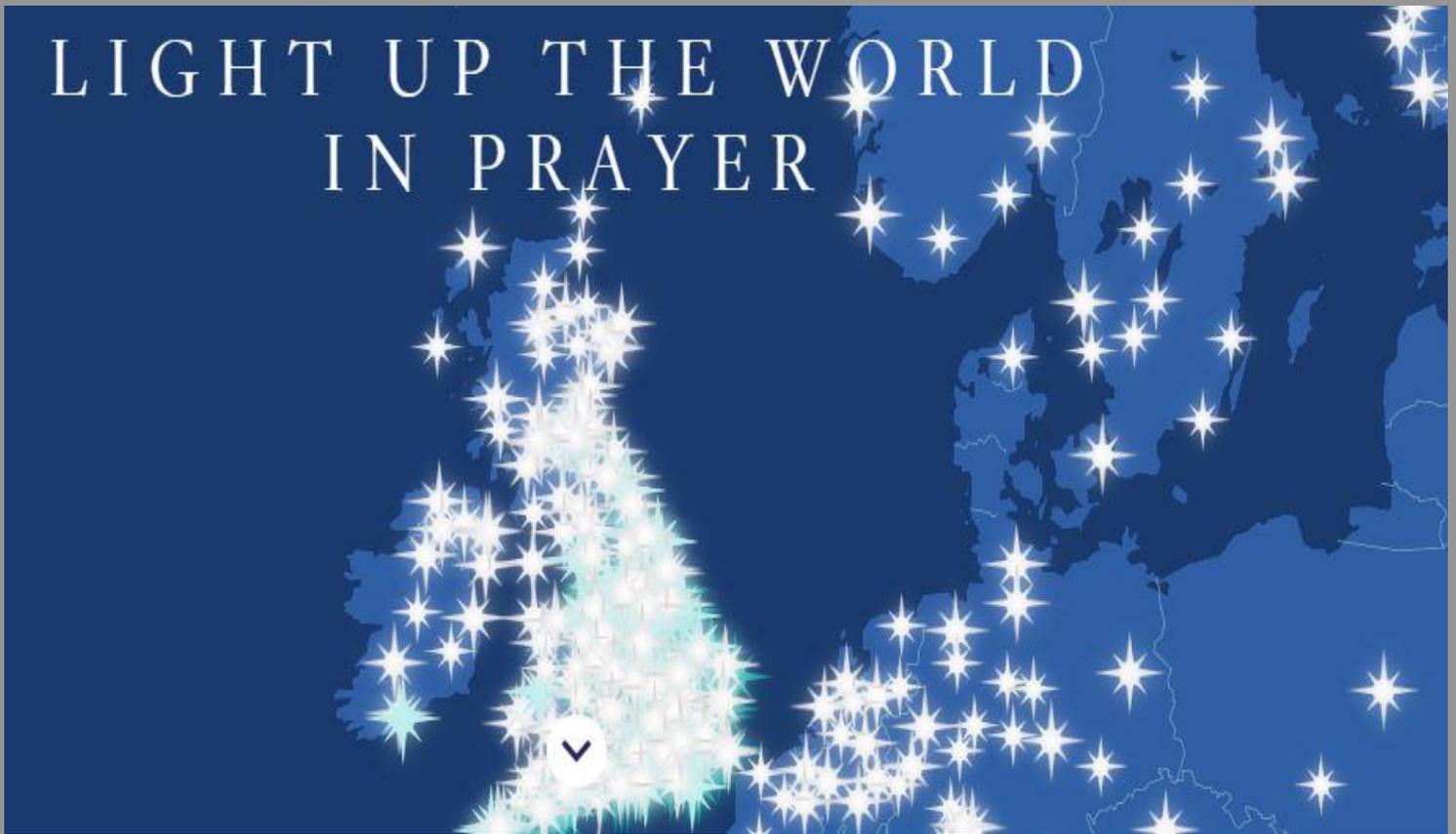


LIGHT UP THE WORLD
IN PRAYER



EDINBURGH CHURCHES TOGETHER

Newsletter

MAY - JUNE 2019

In this edition:

- Thy Kingdom Come - join the global prayer movement
 - Walks for Action
 - Refugees in Edinburgh
 - Meet Your MSP
- and more....



WELCOME!

With the world reeling from the recent attacks on people at prayer in faith communities around the globe, it seems fitting that this edition of the ECT newsletter starts with an international invitation to pray: **Thy Kingdom Come** is a prayer movement in 114 countries involving congregations, churches and families who will come together in prayer between Ascension and Pentecost. In response to feedback, posters from the newsletter are now available on our website to download and print for your own notice-boards. Go to <http://edinburghchurchestogether.org.uk/resources/newsletter-resources/> Please continue to send us news of events and what's on. If you miss the newsletter publication deadline, we can always post it on Twitter and Facebook. Our contact details are on the last page. Thank you for contributing so far!

THY KINGDOM COME



During the period from Ascension to Pentecost (30 May - 9 June) Christians around the world from South Sudan to South Korea will be encouraged to come together in prayer. Events will take place worldwide during this time such as round-the-clock-prayers, special walks, prayer stations and family activities. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, said: "Over the past three years more and more worshipping communities around the world, of every denomination and tradition, have rediscovered the riches of the tradition of praying 'Come Holy Spirit' between Ascension Day and Pentecost. I hope that this is a great blessing to the Church and bears fruit throughout the years to come in our effective witness to Jesus Christ." Those who wish to join Thy Kingdom Come can 'Pledge2Pray' via the Thy Kingdom Come website. In addition to an award-winning app, resources such as videos and prayers are also available.

For more information go to: www.thykingdomcome.global/#Pledge2PrayCounter



THY KINGDOM COME

WALK FOR ACTION!



Join us on May 5th as we celebrate our city's diversity with the annual interfaith peace walk. Faith Communities will come together for promotion of peace and harmony in Edinburgh.

Meet at 1:45pm St. Mary's York Place. Walk begins at 2pm

In recent tragic events including the attack on innocent people at worship in Christchurch New Zealand, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania and now Sri Lanka, it has never been more important for people of all beliefs, of all faiths and none to come together in solidarity. To show that hate has no place in our society and that we are stronger together, join us as we promote peace and harmony in

Edinburgh and enjoy conversations with new friends as we walk around Edinburgh stopping at different Faith Communities for a moment of reflection.

Walk stops Baha'i Centre, Annandale Mosque, Edinburgh Hindu Mandir, Buddhist temple and ending at Guru Nanak Gurdwara for refreshments and a short interfaith service. Please note the above stops are subject to change. This is a free event, but please RSVP so that we may coordinate a safe walk based on numbers. It is recommended that participants bring along a water bottle, and keep a close eye on the weather to bring appropriate necessities, whether that is sunscreen or an umbrella!

Email info@eifa.org.uk if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!

SCOTTISH CHURCHES HOUSING ACTION



Scottish Churches Housing Action
no room for homelessness!

Scottish Churches Housing Action
(Scottish Charity No SC022214)
We believe in a Scotland free of homelessness

WALK OF UNITY 2019

Come and join us to walk together from Princes Street to Portobello to raise awareness of homelessness and raise funds to help Scottish Churches Housing Action tackle homelessness.

We will be walking as an act of Unity amongst the different churches. All are welcome to join us, people of all faiths and none, come and join the fun!

Come and walk from Princes Street to Leith (2.5 miles) or Leith to Portobello (3 miles) or all the way (5.5 miles).

When and where?

Friday 7th June 2019

Setting off at 10 am from St John's Episcopal Church, West End to walk to the United Reformed Church, Duke Street, Leith.

Then setting off from URC Duke Street at 11.30am to walk to St John the Evangelist's Roman Catholic Church, Portobello.

Enjoy refreshments at URC Duke Street and St John the Evangelist's.

Contact SCHHA at info@churches-housing.org for more details and to register to take part.
A minimum fundraising target of £25 is required.

SCOTTISH FAITHS
ACTION FOR REFUGEES

SUPPORTING REFUGEES IN SCOTLAND

We're offering workshops and information sessions on refugee integration.

If you'd like us to come to your faith group, we'd love to hear from you!

sfar.org.uk

@WithRefugees

schalmer@churchofscotland.org.uk



This project is part funded by the EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. Making management of migration flows more efficient across the European Union. Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees is administered by the Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity Number SC011353

Image © Emily MacInnes www.emilymacinnes.com

Are you interested to know more about refugees in Scotland and Edinburgh? Would your church like to be involved in welcoming refugees in your local area? If so, we would love to hear from you! Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees is offering a series of events, practical workshops or information sessions on these topics. Please get in touch with the National Faith Groups Refugee Integration Coordinator, Sabine Chalmers (schalmer@churchofscotland.org.uk, tel. 07388 376 784) for more information. Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees (SFAR) builds on common values of hospitality and welcome, and coordinates and promotes action by faith communities in Scotland to support asylum seekers and refugees. Building upon this ongoing work, a new project 'New Scots Integration: Rights & Communities' was designed with the Scottish Refugee Council to ensure that refugees are effectively integrated into Scottish society and that communities are supported and prepared to welcome refugees and involve them in community life. SFAR is committed to increase understanding and engagement with this issue and work with local churches and faith groups to develop and support their work with refugees, and we would welcome the opportunity to come to speak with you. Our desire is that churches can set an example on what it means to welcome people irrespective of where they are from. With your ambition and support we would like to help create a hospitable Scottish community that says no to hostility and yes to welcoming the stranger; a society that embraces differences and celebrates diversity; a community that extends a hand of friendship to unfamiliar faces; and a people of faith who serve their new neighbours out of the love they have received from Christ. This project is part funded by the EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. Making management of migration flows more efficient across the European Union.

SCOTTISH FAITHS
ACTION FOR REFUGEES

MEET YOUR MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT



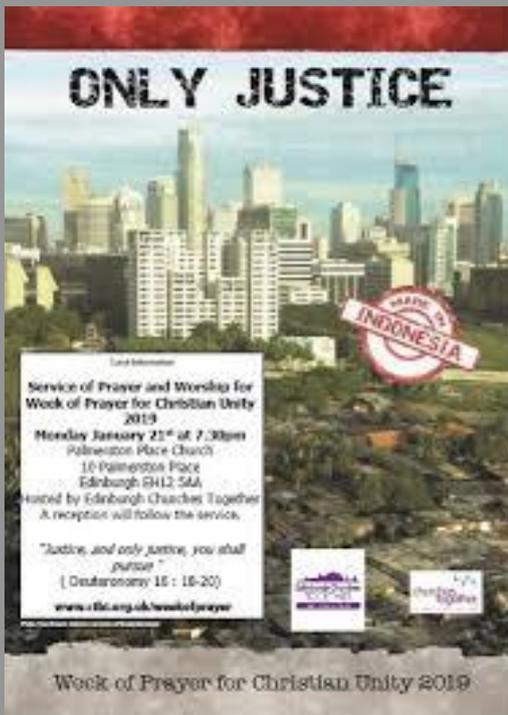
The Meet Your MSP project is a simple one - to create change in your community, get to know the change makers. The Scottish Churches Parliamentary Office (SCPO) who lead the project has been equipping congregations to contact their local MSPs, inviting them to get involved in something that their church is doing and start a relationship. In February, Colin Beattie MSP for Midlothian North and Musselburgh, visited the recent transformation of Mayhouse and Easthouses Church in Midlothian into a multipurpose community hub.

Mr. Beattie said: "It is fantastic to see that the work to create a modern, comfortable church in the heart of Mayfield has now been completed. I hope that this will be a real asset to the community and open up opportunity for people to get involved and see the future possibilities for the church." MSPs have been asked along to special services, attended informal coffee mornings, visited homelessness projects and launches of foodbanks, met church goers at environmental lobbies, and frequently met

with church groups over pots of tea and coffee. The Meet Your MSP project is ecumenical and there have been over 130 meetings taken place so far across Scotland. The Scottish Churches Parliamentary Office would like as many churches as possible to get involved and for all 129 MSPs to be reached. We need your help to do this, so please spread the word and let us know what you have planned!

For more information go to <http://www.scpo.scot/meet-your-msp/>

CHRISTIAN UNITY



Edinburgh Churches Together (ECT) hosted a service of prayer and worship to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for the first time this year and the service was held at the Church of Scotland's Palmerston Place Church in Edinburgh on Monday January 21st.

The traditional period in the northern hemisphere for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is 18th -25th January. Those dates were proposed in 1908 by Paul Wattson to cover the days between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul, and therefore have a symbolic significance. In the southern hemisphere where January is a vacation time, churches often find other days to celebrate the Week of Prayer, for example around Pentecost (suggested by the Faith and Order movement in 1926), which is also a symbolic date for the unity of the Church.

Each year the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity in Rome, who have ultimate responsibility for the Church Unity Octave, invite a national church to choose a theme and prepare worship materials for the week. For 2019, the Christian Church in Indonesia chose the theme of "Justice, and only justice, you shall

pursue" (*Deuteronomy 16: 18-20*).

Our service was led by Mgr. Philip Kerr, Parish Priest of St. Patrick's and Convener of ECT and Rev. Marjory McPherson, Presbytery Clerk, Edinburgh Presbytery, Church of Scotland and Vice Convener of ECT, assisted by Rev. Fiona Bennett, St. Augustine URC and Rev. John Conway, Provost of St. Mary's Cathedral. The guest preacher was Rev. Colin Sinclair, Moderator Elect of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. There was a large attendance, representative of all the Christian denominations in the city and the council of ECT will soon decide if this is to become an annual event. Our thanks go to Patrick Ferry for his work in co-ordinating and organizing the service.

CHRISTIAN AID BOOK SALES - NICOLSON SQUARE AND ST ANDREW'S & ST GEORGE'S WEST

Edinburgh is famous for its Christian Aid book sales. The two original book sales have been held in the city during Christian Aid Week in May every year for more than 40 years - at St Andrew's and St George's West on George Street and at Holy Corner. These have raised well over £2m for the work of Christian Aid. Since 2017, The City of Edinburgh Methodist Church at Nicolson Square has been a new sale location in the south east of the city. Although based at the Methodist Church, the event is run with volunteers from other Edinburgh churches. The mini book festival this year features:

- Rosemary Goring, writer and journalist
- Lin Anderson, crime writer (creator of forensic scientist Dr Rhona MacLeod)
- Richard Frazer, featuring a new book about pilgrimage
- Lesley Glaister, Young Adult fiction writer
- Claire Askew, poet, novelist and Writer in Residence at the University of Edinburgh.

Taking place at the same time is the book sale at St Andrew's and St George's West, a giant book fair that overflows onto George Street. Both the sales run from Saturday 11th to Friday 17th May 2019.

BOOK SALE
— WITH —
ART & COLLECTABLES

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

Saturday 11 May 2019 10 am - 4 pm
Monday 13 May to Friday 17 May 10 am - 3.30 pm
Antiques, Toys & Records will close at 1.30pm on Friday 17th May
Thursday 16 May late opening until 7 pm

Undercroft Café open all day

Prayers in the Undercroft Chapel each day at 1pm

- **Books of every kind**
antiquarian, out of print, many languages, paperbacks
- **Paintings** · Drawings · Prints
- **Antiques** · Collectables · Linen · Household Goods
- **Printed Ephemera** · Maps · Photographs
- **Sheet Music**
- **Stamps and Postcards**
- **Records** · CDs · DVDs
- **Toys** · Games · Jigsaws
- **Baking** · Cakes · Preserves

christian aid

ST ANDREW'S & ST GEORGE'S WEST

PLACE FOR HOPE

Place for Hope and Partners invite you to a 'Gathering in Glasgow on Conflict and Faith' at The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall and Adelaide Place Baptist Church, Glasgow starting on Thursday 31st October at 10:00 and finishing on Saturday 2nd November at 12:30, 2019. Registration begins at 09:00 on Thursday. For more information join the Place for Hope Peacemakers Network at

<http://www.placeforhope.org.uk/peacemaker/join>

where you will be the first to hear when bookings are open. Or contact us via info@placeforhope.org.uk or 07884 580 359.

STAY IN TOUCH!

Visit us at www.edinburghchurchestogether.org.uk



<https://www.facebook.com/ECTogether>



@ECTEdinburgh

Email us at: imogen.gibson.ect@gmail.com

Please send material for July/August newsletter by Monday 17th June 2019