



Gorbals Church Chat

May 2024

Dear friend,

As I write, it's May Day. Tradition says we should all have been out washing our faces in the dew to ensure beauty for the year ahead. Of course, around here we believe that beauty comes from inside. Everyone is made in God's image whatever their outer appearance may be.

It's been a busy three weeks since the Easter break. We have welcomed several new volunteers and some people are back whom we haven't seen over the winter. We are also continuing to support our volunteer whose family were stuck in Sudan. They have reached Egypt and we hope to see them in person very soon. On Sundays we have welcomed new people along to our services and enjoyed a variety of worship styles.

The current news headlines announcing the deportation of refugees to Rwanda and the withdrawal of benefits for some people with mental ill-health are causing anxiety among people who come in during the week. This only strengthens our resolve to be a place which offers radical hospitality to everyone who comes across the door. At times, this can be challenging when people rub each other up the wrong way, and we work hard to come to a point that can hold everyone together.

Most of the time we host a building full of laughter, deep sharing, warmth, and nourishment of body, mind, and spirit. It's a privilege to have a space and a willing congregation to make that possible.

Until next time...

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What's on Every Week

Sunday

11-12 Morning Worship

Monday

11-1 Men's Group

1-3.30 Zest for Life
relaxation with gentle
movement.

7-9 Singing for Everyone

13 May

Tuesday

10-3 Make, Do and Mend
Drop-in and crafts.

Wednesday

10-2 Cooking and baking.
Community lunch served c.
12.30

2-3 Bible study

Thursday

10-2 Cooking and baking
12-1 All for 1 Yoga then
lunch

FIRST SUNDAY

Sunday Club 11-12

Fun for all school-age
children

Two of us were sitting at the long table when a man came in off the street and asked if we feed people. He also wanted to know who could be fed, our answer being 'Anyone'. He replied, 'In that case I'd like to make a donation'.

He had passed by the previous week and noticed everyone eating together. He remembered how he was hungry as a child and how he would have loved somewhere that he could get a decent meal. He made his donation and after chatting for a bit, he went on his way.

There was silence after he left and it felt as if we'd been visited by an angel. What do you think?



Scottish Covid-19 Enquiry

One of our members Anne Walker has been asked to give evidence at the Scottish Covid-19 Enquiry on her experience of being a carer through the pandemic. She is due to appear on Friday 17 May. Please pray for her to be able to say everything she wants to share and for those taking evidence to really hear her. It's good to know our community is being represented in this way.

Well-being Gathering

Four volunteers recently attended a Wellbeing Gathering run by Faith in Community Scotland. They learned techniques such as hand massage to promote their own health and to help others. Ann is a natural and has been offering her new skills to people coming to Make, Do and Mend. She says it help her to feel good as well.

A Prayer for Christian Aid Week 2024

Loving God,
 Help us to hear the voices of those enduring extreme poverty.
 It is hard to listen to stories of pain.
 Show us how compassion for others can bring healing and fullness of life for all.
 Help us to understand that we are one through your love,
 for every human being is loved by you, beyond measure.

Loving God,
 you call on us to build your kingdom of justice, mercy, and truth.
 It isn't a task for the faint-hearted.
 When we lose our sense of purpose, fill us with faith.
 When we doubt or throw up our hands in despair, fill us with hope.
 When we pass by our neighbour as though we did not know them,
 Fill us with the love that turns us back and takes us to their aid.

In Jesus' name,
 Amen.



Are you trying to end an addiction to drugs?

Narcotics Anonymous and Cocaine Anonymous meet every week in the church no matter what. Just turn up and you will be made very welcome.

NA Thursdays 7-9
 Saturday Night Fever CA Saturdays 7-9

We offer all our activities for free so everyone can be included. If you would like to donate to their running costs or to general church funds please use one of these QR codes to online giving.

Otherwise contact Judith, our treasurer on 07762503970 for more information on giving regularly or as a one-off. There is also a card machine and a money box on the counter. Every gift makes a difference. Thank you.



Sunday Offering

If you would like to make a Sunday Offering using your credit or debit card please use this QR code



Weekday activities

If you would like to support our weekday activities please use this QR code