



Gorbals Church Chat

Dear Friend,
The last weekend of September has been our Harvest weekend. At this time we give thanks for all that is good in God's creation and remember our part in caring for it. Fifty of us came together for a Supper on the Friday night: a good mixture of Sunday folk, weekday folk and our new friends from Gallowgate and Calton Parkhead congregations. Zainab and Khaltouma put together a delicious meal of chicken and rice which included donated vegetables from the Co-op. This was followed by too many desserts, if that's possible, brought along by diners. Kate, Frances and Helen provided music and story-telling, and Jo created a beautiful harvest centrepiece. We tried to finish promptly at 8.30 so people could catch buses but as Jean said later, 'If you'd told me we were finishing at ten, I'd have said "Can we stay later?"'. On Sunday, Jo and Karen led a service of celebration which included our own creations from God's goodness as you can see from the photos. A great celebration.

September is a time of new beginnings for young people going off to college and university or arriving in the city to study. We have had two families come along, one from China and one from Nepal. We hope they will find a home with us, and in Glasgow as a whole. It's been interesting to learn from Christians who are the first generation of believers. It's so different from our hundreds of years of living in a Christian tradition. Maybe we are a bit complacent and can learn from people for whom following Jesus is very fresh.

We're hunkering down now to provide a place of warmth, welcome and worship over the winter and (whisper it) have started making plans for Christmas...

Until next time...

Catriona Milligan
Community Development Worker
CMilligan@churchofscotland.org.uk
07933789819



EVERY WEEK

Sunday
11-12 Morning Worship

Monday
11-1 Men's Group
1-3.30 Zest for Life relaxation with gentle movement.

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



The **Wednesday Bible Study** group have been looking at the parables that Jesus told. These are stories which have a deeper meaning and teach us more about God's love for all of us. The discussion is always lively and new people are always welcome. We can get you a Bible if you don't have one, or try www.biblegateway.com to read the Bible online. We meet **Wednesdays 2-3 in the small meeting room.**

Civil War in Sudan

More than 5m people have now been displaced by the civil war in Sudan and the conflict is spreading. While this may all seem distant, Sudan was a British colony from 1924-56 so we have been closely connected in living memory. Several of our volunteers are directly affected through family members who are living in dangerous and terrifying circumstances. Please pray for an end to the conflict and for our UK Government to afford the same protection to those affected that we offered to people from Ukraine and Syria.

We have noticed an increase in people coming into the church who are homeless for a variety of reasons. Housing services are stretched and at times can only offer a sleeping bag. Please pray for organisations like the Lodging House Mission and Glasgow City Mission who are able to offer expert, compassionate care. They also welcome volunteers and financial support from those who are able.



Homeless Jesus statue, Glasgow city centre

A prayer for Sudan

Father God, we lift up Sudan and pray for stability in the region. May those who covet power and those who seek to fight choose to walk the path of peace. Bring justice and healing to this divided land, we pray. Out of this darkness, we pray that light will come.
Amen

Open Doors UK



The wee boy in the picture is giving himself over to the present moment and enjoying every bit of it. This can be harder for adults. The next part of this Bible passage can help us. It says:

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Amen to that!

