



## on earth as it is in heaven HeartEdge Annual Conference 2 - 3 October | Edinburgh

### Press Release

'How do we reach out with compassion to those on the edges of faith and life, and what do we learn from them when we get alongside them? What does our faith and our experience of life challenge us to explore and to share? How do we take our faith and put it into practice so that it might make a difference for good? HeartEdge asks all of these questions, and suggests, in context, some of the possible answers.' The Very Reverend Dr Derek Browning, Minister, Morningside Parish Church, Edinburgh

This October HeartEdge welcomes US theologian Winnie Varghese, asset-based community worker Cormac Russell, and many other exciting contributors for a two-day conference 'On earth as it is in heaven' – a gathering of the HeartEdge community in Edinburgh (2 & 3 October 2019).

Revd Jonathan Evens, Associate Vicar HeartEdge, St Martin-in-the-Fields says, 'We are thrilled that Winnie Varghese has accepted our invitation to speak at the 2019 HeartEdge conference. Her experience in and focus on issues of social justice and reconciliation is now gaining an international dimension through her Global Initiatives role at Trinity Church Wall Street. Church meeting world and what the Church can become are just some of the themes she has explored which are of real contemporary relevance in relation to our theme of 'On earth as it is in heaven'.'

The programme also includes The Right Rev Colin Sinclair (Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland), The Most Reverend Mark Strange (The Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church) and Dr Sara Parvis (Senior Lecturer in Patristics, University of Edinburgh) in conversation with Sheena McDonald on the theme of Renewing the Church.

This year Sam Wells, Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, is delivering the Chalmers Lectures. Entitled 'A Future that's Bigger than the Past', these lectures are concerned with the theology and methods of HeartEdge as a movement for renewal in the Church. The conference includes the opportunity to hear the final three lectures in the series; the first three in the series being held in September.

Revd Dr Sam Wells says, 'I'm especially thrilled that the invitation to explore the theology and significance of HeartEdge has coincided with the second annual HeartEdge conference in Edinburgh. It feels like in the evenings we'll be proposing the theory and during the days we'll be exploring the practice. What a wonderful model of church.'

The HeartEdge Conference is a practical, two-day intensive of ideas, theology and connecting. It includes workshops on enterprise and commerce, launching cultural projects, developing congregations and sustaining community response, plus time to make connections and find encouragements. This two-day intensive will pack in lots and prioritise practical input and resources.

Among others taking part are: Rosie Addis; David Bradwell; Derek Browning; ID Campbell; Jonathan Evens, Sally Hitchiner; Simon Jay; Jonny Kinross; Tania Kovats, Deborah Lewer; Suzanne Lofthus; Maxwell Reay; Scott Rennie; Fiona Smith; Peter Sutton; Bev Thomas; and Adrian Wiszniewski.

The conference venues are The Parish Church of St Cuthbert and St John's Church, with the Chalmers Lectures held at Greyfriars Kirk.

Register at <https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/ODYyLTEz/t>.



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### Notes to Editors

Initiated by St Martin-in-the-Fields, HeartEdge is a membership-based organisation, an ecumenical network and movement for renewal. We are about churches developing four Cs:

1. Commerce: Generating finance via enterprise.
2. Culture: Art, music, performance re-imagining the Christian narrative for the present.
3. Congregation: Liturgy, worship and day-to-day communal life.
4. Compassion: Addressing social need via our congregations.

We think nurturing each of these is essential for renewal of the church. We do this via networks, communication and resource, growing the movement.

Further information is available from Revd Jonathan Evens, Associate Vicar HeartEdge, St Martin-in-the-Fields - Tel: 020 7766 1127, Email: [jonathan.evens@smitf.org](mailto:jonathan.evens@smitf.org).

## Contributor Profiles

- Rosie Addis is Associate Rector at St John's Episcopal church, Edinburgh
- David Bradwell is co-ordinator for Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees. He works for the Church of Scotland's Church and Society Council as Building Global Friendships Programme Manager. He is a member of Humble Parish Church (Church of Scotland) in East Lothian.
- Derek Browning is Minister of Morningside Parish Church, Edinburgh and was the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland from May 2017 to May 2018 Church of Scotland Moderator. He is a broadcaster and a council member of the Scottish Church History Society. He tweets at @DerekBrowning2.
- ID Campbell; Iain Campbell is a Glasgow based portrait painter and is an Affiliate Artist of the UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts. His work focuses on bold portraits, exploring life in the face of adversity. He is artist-in-residence at St. George's Tron Church of Scotland in Glasgow, where he is working on a three-year project: painting the Gospel of Luke in a contemporary, Glasgow context. Iain is best known for his painting, Our Last Supper, featuring thirteen guests of Glasgow City Mission. He has also painted for Christian Aid, The World Council of Churches, and has worked on a series of paintings for Tearfund's 50th anniversary, after visiting their projects in Nepal. He has also had painted live at events like Greenbelt, Solas and The Church of Scotland's General Assembly.
- Jonathan Evens is Associate Vicar HeartEdge at St Martin-in-the-Fields. He is secretary to commission4mission. He is co-author of 'The Secret Chord,' an impassioned study of the role of music in cultural life written through the prism of Christian belief.
- Sally Hitchiner is Associate Vicar Ministry at St Martin-in-the-Fields. She was previously co-ordinating Anglican Chaplain and inter-faith advisor at Brunel University, and is the founder of Diverse Church, a charity which supports LGBT+ Christians.
- Simon Jay lives in Birmingham and with his partner Rachel set up Haven Community Project on the Welsh House Farm estate. He is currently studying for a masters at Bristol Baptist College.
- Jonny Kinross is CEO of Grassmarket Community Project, the award winning social enterprise based at Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh. He tweets at @JonnyKinross.
- Tania Kovats, makes drawings, sculpture, installations and large-scale time-based projects exploring our experience and understanding of landscape. She is best known for Tree (2009), a permanent installation for the Natural History Museum in London.
- Deborah Lewer is senior lecturer in history of art at the University of Glasgow. An expert on Dada, the radical modern art movement, she is a regular speaker in churches, theological colleges and festivals and a popular retreat leader, writer and occasional broadcaster.
- Suzanne Lofthus is Artistic Director at Cutting Edge Theatre Ltd in Edinburgh.
- Sheena McDonald is a leading journalist, television reporter and broadcaster, a producer and presenter at BBC Radio Scotland, before moving to Scottish Television, Sheena joined Channel 4 and for six years presented its flagship programme on international affairs 'The World this Week'. She presents current affairs radio programmes, writing for The Guardian and New Statesman.
- Sara Parvis is an academic at the University of Edinburgh with a research interest in development of orthodoxy, construction of heresy, sources of authority in the Church and some of the hidden voices of early Christianity.
- Maxwell Reay is a Metropolitan Community Church minister who works as a chaplain and focuses his ministry on LGBTQI+ and mental health needs.

- Scott Rennie is Minister of Queen's Cross Parish Church and serves on the Church of Scotland's Taskforce on Human Sexuality.
- Cormac Russell is Managing Director of Nurture Development and faculty member of the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at Northwestern University, Chicago. Passionate about community-driven change and citizen-centred democracy his motto paraphrasing Benjamin Franklin is 'When it comes to Community Building, well done is better than well said'.
- Colin Sinclair is Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and minister for Palmerston Place Church in Edinburgh.
- Fiona Smith is minister of Ness Bank church in Inverness.
- Mark Strange is the Bishop of Moray, Ross and Caithness in the Scottish Episcopal Church. Since 2017 he has also been Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church.
- Peter Sutton is a former Black Watch Officer, Chaplain of Loretto, Perse, Gordonstoun, IAPS Ardvreck Headmaster, and Minister at The Parish Church of St Cuthbert, Edinburgh. He tweets at @RevPete1965.
- Bev Thomas is an ordained ecumenical minister working for over 25 years in the UK and internationally as a trainer / speaker on social justice, youth work, sexuality, singleness, politics and 'race'. Bev currently works as a freelance consultant, project manager, speaker and lecturer.
- Winnie Varghese is a blogger for the Huffington Post; author of Church Meets World; editor of What We Shall Become; and author of numerous articles and chapters on social justice and the church. She is Priest and Chief Justice and Reconciliation Officer at Trinity Church Wall Street in New York City. There she oversees the domestics grants programme, directs service and outreach, and programmes in areas of service and justice.
- Sam Wells is Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields. He has served as a parish priest for 20 years – 10 of those in urban priority areas. He also spent seven years in North Carolina, where he was Dean of Duke University Chapel. Sam is Visiting Professor of Christian Ethics at King's College London. He has published 33 books. His recent publications include Walk Humbly and Face to Face.
- Adrian Wiszniewski is a Scottish artist and one of the members of the New Glasgow Boys a group of artists who emerged from Glasgow School of Art and led the resurgence of Scottish figurative painting in the late 20th century.



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Conference flyer

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**HeartEdge Annual Conference  
2-3 October | Edinburgh**

A practical two-day intensive.  
Ideas | Theology | Workshops | Community

Growing congregations,  
Launching church commerce,  
Developing cultural projects,  
Deepening compassion.

Winnie Varghese, Cormac Russell,  
ID Campbell, Sally Hitchiner,  
Deborah Lewer, Sheena McDonald,  
Mark Strange, Colin Sinclair, Sam Wells.

Tickets:	Early bird	Full Price
Adult	100	140
Youth - 25 & under	45	70
65+	75	80
Day Rate:		
Adult -	70	
Youth -	35	
65+ -	40	

Early bird till 30 June. Includes lunch + refreshments.

Book online at <http://bit.ly/2HFpEIS>

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