



Diocese of Edinburgh
Scottish Episcopal Church

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The Communicant

News & Notices for the Diocese of Edinburgh

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CHRIST IS RISEN

EASTER 2021

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

We regret to say that James parsons is moving on from his role as Diocesan Communications Coordinator. Whilst we are sorry to lose James, we wish him well in his new job as Marketing Manager at Wisden Cricket. We are pleased to say that this will keep him in Edinburgh, and we will still see and hear him in the Cathedral Choir.



In the meantime, we are taking the opportunity to review this post. It has been a challenge to fit in and accommodate all the requirements of the job on the basis of one part-time post. In addition, lockdown has given us new challenges and glimpses of a possibly rather different and enhanced role for the future.

As a result, we will not be advertising for a replacement just immediately, and we would be grateful if you would please bear with us in the meantime.

Godfrey Robson
Diocesan Secretary

The email address of communications@dioceseofedinburgh.org will be checked as often as we are able but, as we also currently have only one of our 2x Administrative Assistant posts filled at present, do forgive us if we are not able to respond as quickly as we would want.

DIOCESAN SYNOD ATTENDANCE

We have been trying to complete the list of attendees at the recent online Diocesan Synod, sent to us by Sanctus Media. These were taken direct from Zoom, but we are struggling to identify a few people on that list. There are some duplicate entries, where people have logged out and back in – possibly to correct their user name – but there are still just a few we want to make sure of, where we have more than one person with that first name and there is also no email address attached, so we cannot confirm the identity. Could you possibly email David (dlewis@dioceseofedinburgh.org) if you might have logged in as any of the following?:

- “Ruth's iPad”
- “iPad Noreen”
- “Ruth”
- “Cat”

- “wendy”
- “Mike”
- “Liz”
- “Howard”

NOTICES

COVID-19: UPDATED GUIDANCE

The most up-to-date guidance regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) for the Scottish Episcopal Church can be found at <https://www.scotland.anglican.org/coronavirus-updates/>. **Please familiarise yourself with this guidance to minimise risk to yourself and others.**

With [the news](#) that the Scottish Government intends communal worship to be permitted for up to 50 people from 26 March, the SEC is working to produce further guidance on the re-opening of churches for worship. We encourage you to check the guidance webpage frequently to ensure you know what will change, and when.

HELPFUL LINKS

The Diocesan website has a **list of online resources** that may be of use at this time, and a **list of churches** in the Diocese offering online worship. These can be viewed at <https://edinburgh.anglican.org/coronavirus-resources/>

The latest Scottish Episcopal Institute (SEI) newsletter can be viewed [here](#).

DIARY

BISHOP'S DIARY

Sunday 11 April – Bishop John takes part in the Online Provincial Service
(<https://www.scotland.anglican.org/>)

Monday 12 April – Diocesan Buildings Committee meets

Thursday 22 April – Bishop John attends Provincial Standing Committee

CARBON NEUTRALITY AND CHURCH HEATING

In response to the discussion at Diocesan Synod on 13th March about church heating systems and the goal of being carbon neutral by 2030, I am advised that the Diocesan Standing Committee plans to discuss this at its next meeting. This will no doubt give rise to further detailed work to produce a coordinated Diocesan approach, and the establishment of a small group to carry things forward.



I spoke to several people after Synod who are interested in exploring church heating systems; some with a more pressing need to replace old boilers, whilst some have a less pressing need but wish to engage in discussions and options for the future. I was pleased to sense that many churches are taking the climate emergency and the Province's goal of being carbon neutral by 2030 seriously.

At St James the Less (*Penicuik*) we have started gathering information on various systems. I have feedback from 3 churches that have installed infrared systems in the last few years (none in our diocese though), and other

churches have started their own projects. At St James we are mindful that any carbon neutral replacement heating system, apart from keeping our congregation warm, needs to be kind to the fabric of the building.

With COP26 and the need for the church to be seen to be taking action in caring for God's creation, I am thankful that the Diocesan Standing Committee will be discussing this and are wishing to coordinate action. In the meantime, it would be useful to know who is interested; either looking to replace within the next three years, or those working to a longer time-frame, as well as those churches who have changed heating systems and can offer their experiences.

Nick Bowry

Rector, St James the Less, Penicuik & St Mungo, West Linton

Image by PeterVauhn - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=80397501>

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH & CHILDREN OFFICER

- **The Provincial Youth Newsletter** is out now! Find out [here](#) how young people have been staying connected across the Province during lockdown.
- **Glen 21** will happen, no matter what – we just don't yet know quite what form it will take: online, in person or a blend of the two. Booking details and further information can be found on our new Provincial Youth Week page [here](#). **Closing date for applications is 11th April.**
- **The Lego Lent Challenge** is here! From Monday 15 March until Easter, there will be a daily Lego build challenge posted online, together with a Bible reading and a short reflection. The aim is to help children engage creatively with the story of Holy Week: for daily updates, like the [Edinburgh Diocese Youth & Children Facebook page](#).



Claire Benton-Evans

FAIR TRADE IN EDINBURGH

The Diocesan Office received this from Russell Salton:

I am the chair of the [Edinburgh Fair Trade City Steering Group](#), which consists of the Lord Provost and a number of Councillors; representatives from major institutions such as Edinburgh University and Napier; Scotmid; small businesses such as One World Shop and Hadeel, and individual volunteers. Our Group is responsible for maintaining Edinburgh's status as a Fairtrade City and promoting fair trade to all organisations within the city and beyond.



Although we are aware anecdotally that a number of Scottish Episcopal Church congregations in Edinburgh are already registered with Fairtrade status and/or use fair trade products, there is no central record of them and none participates actively in our Edinburgh Fair Trade City Steering Group. It would greatly help to coordinate fair trade activities in Edinburgh if congregations would sign up to be part of our network, so if yours is a Fairtrade congregation or interested in the movement can I please ask you to respond to this email and we will add you to our network. Being part of our Group requires no commitment but would allow us to keep you informed of any fair trade activities and/or events during Fairtrade Fortnight, World Fairtrade Day and other times. Of course if a member of your congregation wished to participate more actively in our Group, they would be very welcome.

At the same time [The Scottish Fair Trade Forum](#) has launched a national campaign to ask places of worship to [commit/recommit to Fairtrade status](#) and suggesting that, if they are not already a member of the Forum, to [join it](#) and help promote fair trade within Scotland.



**Scottish
Fair Trade
Forum**

If you need any support to revive or refresh your status as a Fairtrade church, or have any questions regarding fair trade, we will be glad to help.

Russell Salton

Chair, Edinburgh Fair Trade City Steering Group

LENT APPEAL

BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2021

Like so much else, our Lent Appeal this year must take account of the pandemic.

Many congregations are responding generously to local need, such as foodbanks and support services for the lonely and the anxious and I hope this will continue into Lent and beyond. My concern is that this focus on the local and personal, on simply getting through the crisis, takes our attention away from pressing needs in other parts of the world, where there is no NHS, no benefits safety-net and where life is constrained by poverty. Hence my proposal that this year we support a single, outward-looking cause.

The ***Together in Unity Appeal*** was set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury to support virus prevention and emergency relief for vulnerable communities across the Anglican Communion. At a time when the UK government has, disappointingly, decided to cut international aid this provides an opportunity for us to reach out in solidarity to our sisters and brothers, our neighbours in this small world, whom Jesus calls us to love as we love ourselves.

I know there is less money around this year but I would ask you to be generous. Perhaps we might see our giving as an expression of gratitude for the blessings that we so easily take for granted.

+John

‘How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!’ Psalm 133.1

The Anglican Communion Fund has already begun responding to COVID related needs, allocating over £180,000 across 21 provinces of the Communion. We are supporting the Church in its ministry, providing food relief to the vulnerable, communicating ways of staying safe from the virus, and providing handwashing facilities and PPE. In the South Sudanese Diocese of Maridi, an ACF grant provided food items, soaps and seeds to over 200 pastors and lay-readers and provided bicycles and hand microphones for pastors to carry prevention messages into remote areas. Speaking of the support, Bishop Moses Zungu said, “You held our hand during our most trying moments.”



[DONATE HERE](#)

Please use the reference DIOCESE OF EDINBURGH

To donate via BACS please give to: Friends of ACF / Account no. 00030397 / Sort code 40-52-40

https://www.give.net/Together_In_Unity/oneoff

N.B – We have received a few donations for this at the Diocesan Office, which we are, unfortunately, unable to process. Please use the details above for all donations. Thank you



A TIME OF CHANGE

Constant change is part of life. Some changes are big and powerful and take place rapidly; others are small and slow and almost imperceptible. Some are expected; others unexpected. Some are feared. Others cause rejoicing.

Climate change affects the entire planet and the whole of life; convalescence above all concerns the individual.

There is no life without change. Between life and death are a myriad of things that do not remain the same. Photographs, for example, are windows to the past that testify to the relentless power of change.

No photo exists of the events of Easter. It is the biblical accounts of Jesus's resurrection and the miracle of the empty tomb that testify to its change. The events of a couple of days previously at Golgotha had been bleak and without consolation. The death of Jesus seemed to wipe away all the good and precious things his followers had experienced. The meaningless of it all felt overwhelming. Yet this was not the end.

The change expressed by the empty tomb – the resurrection of Jesus – was powerful and far-reaching. We still celebrate Easter, because it is a change affects this world. Thanks to what happened on Easter morning, darkness becomes light over and over again, fear becomes courage, despair becomes hope, and death becomes life.

Easter invites us to participate in this change towards the light, both in ourselves and in the world. Because death is defeated, reality takes on a very special hue – that of eternity.

"But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.'" (Matt. 28.5-6)

I wish you a joyful Easter!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Tapio Luoma".

Tapio Luoma
Archbishop
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland

EVENTS



CHANGE IN A TIME OF CHAOS

A Series of Science & Faith webinars with St Columbas-by-the-Castle

Tuesday 27th April at 19:30

How can we secure climate justice and trade justice together?

With Ed Johnson-Williams of Traidcraft Exchange

St Columbas-by-the-Castle Episcopal Church, Edinburgh. SCO16571



The "Change in a Time of Chaos" series of webinars focuses on some of the issues about climate change in the run up to COP26.

Fourth Lecture: Tuesday 27th April, 7.30-8.30pm

"How can we secure climate justice and trade justice together?"

Our main speaker is Ed Johnson-Williams, Senior Campaigns Officer at Traidcraft Exchange

Trade and trade agreements are responsible for huge amounts of the world's carbon emissions. The climate crisis is hitting the poorest countries the hardest – the countries that have created the fewest emissions. So how can we change the rules of trade to tackle both climate change and poverty?

Ed Johnson-Williams, Senior Campaigns Officer at Traidcraft Exchange, will be talking about the impact of climate change on people in the world's poorest countries, international trade's role in the climate crisis, and how we can campaign together to make trade and trade agreements greener.

Please register here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cvLqqzJYSDe3wea0DYqDZQ

and invite others within your networks.

“AM I GOOD ENOUGH?”: Resilience and wellbeing in work and ministry

The Guntrip Trust Annual Lecture in association with York St John University.

A free Zoom Webinar with The Revd Canon Professor Leslie J. Francis and The Revd Professor Andrew Village.

Date and Time

Friday, 30 April 2021

17:30 – 18:30 BST

Eventbrite ticket registration link [here](#).

Guntrip Trust website link [here](#).



Leslie Francis and Andrew Village work both as Christian theologians and as social scientists. Their research focuses on how theology and social sciences (particularly psychology) can work together to promote resilience and wellbeing among Christians in the workplace and among ministers in the Church. In this presentation they draw on two of their recent studies to illuminate how the theology of individual differences rooted in scripture, psychological type theory rooted in the work of Carl Jung, and the balanced affect approach to wellbeing can collectively promote personal and professional resilience. Their two recent studies concern the Resilience in Ministry Survey conducted among over 500 Church of Scotland ministers, and the Coronavirus, Church & You Survey completed by over 10,000 participants.

You will receive your joining link closer to the date of the event.

If you have any questions regarding this event please contact A.Village@yorksja.ac.uk.

OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS

Going FREE (or a donation if you're feeling generous)!

84 wooden seated and backed stacking chairs and 5 Round Tables



The Taoist Tai Chi Society in Edinburgh have 84 wooden seated and backed stacking chairs and 5 round tables diameter 100cm height 74cm, originally bought from Sainsbury's, to dispose of. Collection is from their Meadowbank/Marionville Road centre. You will need to arrange your own transport (van) and uplift (people power). This is time sensitive, so a swift response is requested to avoid disappointment.

Contact **Fr Martin Robson** on **0131 623 1179** or martinrobson42@gmail.com

VACANCIES

None at present

See our [website](#) for any future vacancies