

Inside Out

News from Queensferry and Dalmeny Kirks

Welcome to Inside Out...

Each week across the congregations of Dalmeny and Queensferry Churches we keep folks up to date through our 'notices' with all that's going on in the life of our congregations and communities. It will come as no surprise to you to discover that there is nowhere near the usual range of events and activities due to the current challenges we are facing during the impact of the effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

To reflect the changes in what we are facing I thought it might be more helpful to produce a regular newsletter given that life is still going on and we are all finding different ways to adapt to our new world order. We have taken the liberty of sending this to you from the Church office as we have your email address. Should it be that you'd rather not receive it please just let Esther at the office know.

So welcome to the first edition of 'Inside Out' a collection of bits and pieces from across our churches and communities which I hope will help us get the most and the best from the season we find ourselves in.

Rev David Cameron

First things first...

Pastoral Support and Practical Help:

With our Church office now closed we're delighted to report that Esther Conner, our Church Secretary, is able to work from home so the usual services provided by Esther will still be accessible to us all. Just email Esther at the Church Office and she'll pick up your messages (that's the email ones not the shopping!).

Anything I or our Associate Minister, Rev Ann Inglis, can help you with please just call us.

**Church Office
Phone number:**

0131 331 1100

Rev David Cameron

0773 791 0018

**Office
Email address:**

office@qpcweb.org

Rev Ann Inglis

0792 022 8545

HAPPY EASTER

Life after Easter... but what now...

We hope that you enjoyed our journey through Holy Week and the celebration on Easter Sunday. All our reflections are still available on the website : qpcweb.org – so go check what you missed.

And talking of things not to miss – have you had a look yet at the Spring Harvest Programme of Events running this week and [available online until the end of April?](#)

As many of you will be aware I normally head off after Easter to steward, with an amazing team of folks, at Spring Harvest in Minehead in Somerset.

This year, as you can imagine, this has not been possible however, over the last three weeks the team at Spring Harvest have been working creatively behind the scenes to present as much of the programme and theme as they can. Ironically the theme for this year is 'Unleashed', and they are looking at the way the Holy Spirit unleashed the church upon the world and as a result the things of heaven began to come to earth!

Even though events such as this may not be everyones cup of tea, let me invite you to dip in to what is a varied and inspiring programme with something for all ages. Just follow the link below and that should take you in:

<https://springharvest.org/spring-harvest-home/>

ec
essential
christian
presents
SPRING
HARVEST
For me



Stay safe - stay well - stay connected

The flowers that never fade...

Each week after our Sunday services the flowers which grace the Communion table during the services at QPC are then distributed to folks across the congregation. Obviously during the present situation we have had to adapt what we do and so each week we send out flowers online - hence the flowers that never fade 😊.

So far we have managed to show our appreciation to many of our folks working in the NHS and the health professions. This week we are planning to send them to the people working away in our communities offering so many essential services.



Do you have someone that might be blessed by such a bunch ...just contact Esther at the Church office: office@gpcweb.org or call 0131 331 1100.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING UPDATE

Attached with the covering email to this Newsletter there are links to two recently produced and very helpful local guides to Health and Wellbeing produced by Anne Mitchell, The Community Council's Health and Wellbeing Convenor. Anne offers these helpful guides and notes : "With there being so much information around at present it seems sensible to try to consolidate some of it for those who may find it helpful. I am very aware that not everybody has access to the internet and hope that families can share this information."

Topics covered include: Families and Children; Foodbanks; Mental Health; WHO and Government information re the Coronavirus situation.

Should you require a copy and can't access the internet please call Esther at the office.



CAN YOU HELP CROSSREACH ?

Crossreach, the major care and social arm of the Church of Scotland are in urgent need of volunteers to help them continue providing vital care services to some of the most vulnerable individuals in Scotland during this unprecedented healthcare emergency. The need is greatest in their residential care facilities and other services for the elderly, who are particularly vulnerable just now. This call is being issued to ministers to publicise in the hope that they might share this request for help and support.

Crossreach are particularly looking for volunteers who have experience of working in care and/or nursing. Potential helpers might have looked after a relative in the past or would even like to learn new skills. In addition, those staff with existing membership of the PVG scheme would be fast tracked into helping as soon as possible and therefore this would be a great benefit. The types of tasks they need assistance with are keeping people company/engaged, help with feeding residents, supporting hydration needs, and general cleaning tasks. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is in place and would, of course, be provided.

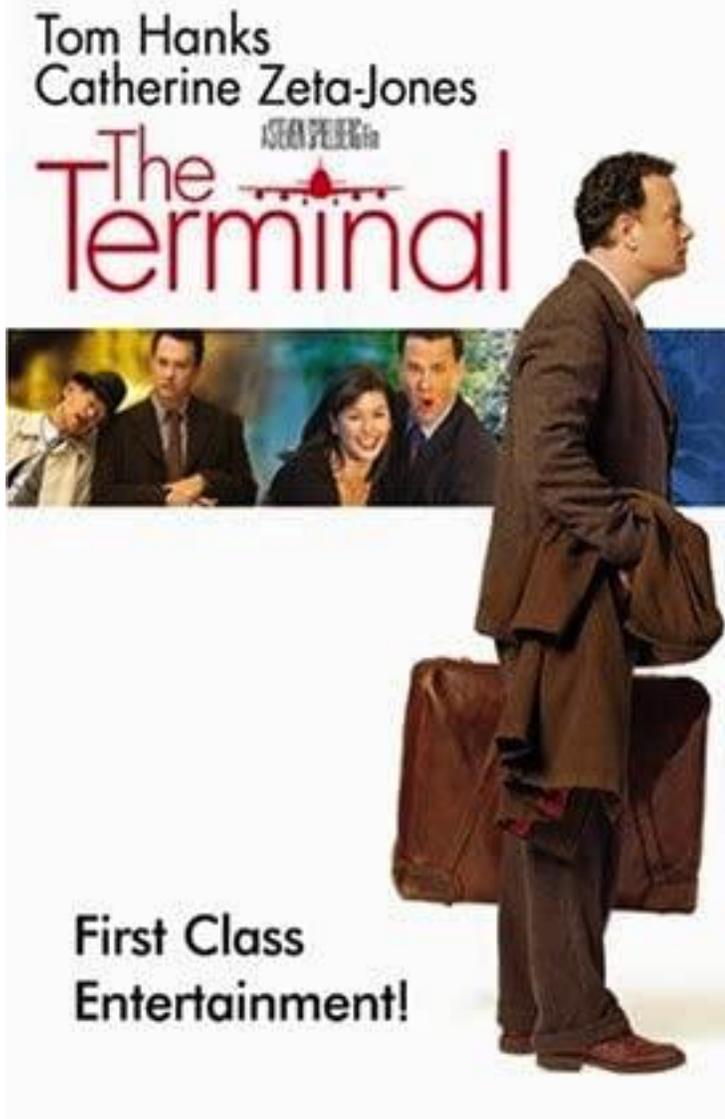
If there are any members of the congregation who are currently on furlough, from other roles, this may be something which they could take up. A spreadsheet is available at the Church office with details showing Crossreach services, their geographical areas and the relevant congregation(s) closest.

If you are able to help, please email Mari Rennie, Crossreach's Director of HR, at mari.rennie@crossreach.org.uk.

They would be immensely grateful for our support at this time.



The Terminal



During one of our recent services, as we were heading into the first week or so of limited movement, I referred to the moment Lesley and I found ourselves captivated one night as we watched Tom Hanks and Catherine Zeta-Jones in the movie : ‘The Terminal’.

The basic premise of the plot is Tom Hanks plays the part of someone travelling from Eastern Europe into the States. As he arrives in JFK airport he discovers that during his flight his country had been the subject of a terrorist coup. As a result he finds himself without a national identity, his passport is therefore invalid and he cannot depart into the States.

He is on effect on ‘lock-down’! Sound a familiar scenario?

So might our Tom have anything to teach us during his time inside?

I think he does and over the coming issues I’d like to share these thoughts with you – perhaps in the hope that we too might discover some new things to get up to during this season.

The first thing that struck me during his time inside was that he became very *creative*. Not only at making a wild concoction of mustard, mayonnaise and ketchup to fill those little aircraft crackers you get but, given that he had been mildly smitten by Catherine he took a leaf out of Napoleon’s book and created a beautiful ornate mosaic fountain!



**In the face of his restrictive environment he became widely creative!
Have you discovered a new surge of creativity during this unfamiliar season?
Being creative, is we discover, part of our DNA and this from our very formative days at the beginning of creation. In Genesis 1: 1-5 then 26-27 we read :**

“First this: God created the Heavens and Earth—all you see, all you don’t see. Earth was a soup of nothingness, a bottomless emptiness, an inky blackness. God’s Spirit brooded like a bird above the watery abyss.

God spoke: “Light!” And light appeared. God saw that light was good and separated light from dark.

*God named the light Day, he named the dark Night.
It was evening, it was morning—Day One.”*

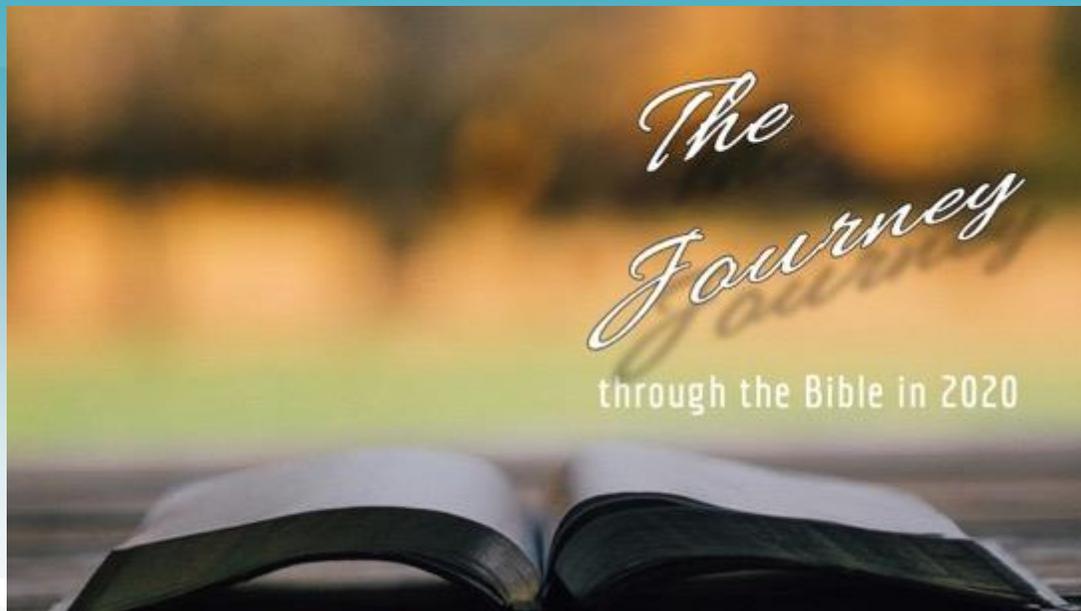
Come day 6 God was arriving at his ultimate masterpiece: “God spoke: “Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature.”

**You and I are made in the image of a creative God and therefore we, like God, are creative!
Feel a bit under resourced for such creativity? Well why not have a peek at Exodus 35 vs 30 – end.
There we discover that the same Holy Spirit who hovered over the nothingness at the beginning of time and created this awesome, amazing universe and planet comes upon ordinary people in order to provide them with creativity too.**

**So what’s it going to be – mosaic fountain anyone... maybe start smaller –
how about a bowl of wild garlic pesto... today’s creative treat –
and you don’t have to walk too far in South Queensferry
to find the garlic 😊**

Send us your photos of your creative moments to the office for the next issue. Mosaic fountains welcomed!





THE JOURNEY CONTINUES....

So after our opening season of introductions to the Bible in January, we have just come to the end of the gospels, hopefully giving us the window through which to look at the remainder of the scriptures. Had the chance yet to sit down and read through a gospel of your choosing?

Next we are about to drop back in time to the season of beginnings during which we will explore the Creation and the Covenants.

This should take us up to Pentecost in early June when we will discover the excitement of the birth of the early unleashed church in the book of Acts after which we start our major focus on the key events of the Old Testament: from the Exodus to the Promised Land, through the season of the Judges and Kings before heading off into the Exile and the Prophets.

So coming up what have we got ...

26 April : Creation and Covenants - The Opening Story Genesis 1-3

3 May : Noah - Genesis 5-9

10 May : Abraham - Genesis 12-36

17 May : Joseph - Genesis 37 & 38

Let us pray: Lord as we journey through this challenging season in life we pray today for protection for all those who are facing the dangers of contamination from coronavirus due to the close proximity of the care they are called to give; we pray for healing for those who are fighting this disease and finally we pray for courage for everyone fearful of this silent and unseen force. Amen

And finally...

Wouldn't be a 'proper' newsy thing unless we had a wee photo page... here a few from our collection of pics from over the last couple of weeks... next time let's see some of yours... just email the office...

Waiting...



A 5.30 am sunrise behind a familiar local landmark...



**Dundas Loch
with
Dundas
Daffs...**

Join us on Sundays at 10.30am through the wonders of modern technology:

<http://www.qpcweb.org/live>

or catch up later:

<http://www.qpcweb.org/replay>

**Dalmeny Parish Church
A Charity, Registered in Scotland,
No: SC010971**

**Queensferry Parish Church
A Charity, Registered in Scotland,
No: SC002329**