

MEADOWBANK

Church of Scotland

**UPDATE
October
2019**



www.meadowbank.church

Dear friends

I am really looking forward to the month ahead where we have some really important events. Three of our folk will be joining the church by **Profession of Faith** — hugely encouraging for a small congregation — and a **joint conference with our neighbouring congregations** — will help us look ahead beyond Transition Ministry to think how our small congregations might work together.

The folk making **Profession of Faith** met together over a couple of months and shared honest and lively conversations about what it means to live as a Christian in the 21st century. We are thrilled that they want to make this commitment.

The **Joint Church Conference** at Willowbrae follows on from the gathering at Meadowbank in March where we learned about the 'hub-style ministry' being tried out in different parts of Scotland. We look to carry on this important conversation.



Well done Elaine Farrow! as chair of the Friends of Montgomery Street Park in giving such a great lead to organise the Summer Fair on Saturday 14th September. It was a brilliant afternoon and great to have our Meadowbank Church stall

where we invited old and young to write Prayers for our Planet and offered information about the church along with my own balloon twist animals.

Blessings to you all

dates for your diary

Saturday 28th September 2-4pm

Circle Dance in the church hall.
No need to book, just come along!

Sunday 29th September 1pm

Afternoon Walk in Lochend Park –
Graham Checkley is a volunteer Ranger. He will lead us on a short guided walk. We will have a sandwich lunch after the service before setting out.

Sunday 6th October 11am Service

Ursula Glienecke – leads our morning worship when Russell is on holiday. Ursula is a Probationer Minister

Saturday 12th October 10am-12

Conference at Willowbrae Church for elders and any interested members. We will be looking at future ideas for ministry and buildings which might involve Greenside, Meadowbank, Willowbrae & St Margaret's Restalrig

Sunday 13th October 11am

Profession of Faith – 3 of our folk will join the church by making a profession of their faith. This will allow others to make a recommitment of their faith

Sunday 20th October 11am

Harvest Thanksgiving - you are invited to bring harvest goods for the Fresh Start Foodstore. We will provide a list of useful items to help those folk supported by Freshstart in Edinburgh

Wednesday 23rd October 7pm

Kirk Session Meeting — please pray for our elders as they meet together to make important decisions about our congregation's life.

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Tent of Nations Olive Grove Chapel

John McCulloch, our Mission Partner in Israel-Palestine asked for help where the Christian farmer, Daoud Nassar, once again faced the threat of Israeli destruction of his olive grove. Daoud has responded peacefully and creatively on every occasion over 30 years of such threats but the situation is getting worse where large Israeli illegal settlements now surround the farm. Following Russell's Study Tour visit in March, our congregation made a gift of £1000 from Mission Funds earlier this year and John asked that we would support this project to help save this farm under threat.

The steel structure is now in place ready for the stone communion table and wooden cross



Dear Russell,

Just a quick note to update you on progress with the olive Grove chapel, which has only been possible because of Meadowbank's incredible generosity.

As you can see from the pictures, the basic structures are now in place. The chapel is opposite one of the settlements, threatening their land. Branches, climbing vines will cover the structure, so that it is completely covered. Your money will also pay for a stone communion table and wooden cross. The idea is to celebrate a weekly communion there, with wine which is produced by Tent of Nations, and grapes that are literally growing from the chapel walls and roof.

With Area C being taken over by settlement expansion and probable annexation, Daoud says that your support could not have come at a more crucial time.

Now the World Mission Council will send out an appeal for the Tent of Nations - but it has all started with the General Assembly 2019 deliverance and Meadowbank Congregation's initial incredible generosity.

Blessings and warmest regards to you and your congregation.

John

Montgomery Street Park Fair



It was great to be part of it all!

Urzula Glienecke will lead the service on 6th October. She has been involved with our neighbouring congregation at Greenside over the past year in carrying out research in the parish area to find out how the church might best serve its community. Urzula will share some of her findings with us in part of the service.



Urzula Glienecke

Born in a country with closed borders, she went on the Barricades for freedom of thought and faith when she was 17. She then traveled the world and studied Theology in Latvia, Norway, Germany and Ireland. Currently she is a probationary minister in the Church of Scotland at Greyfriars Church in Edinburgh