

MEADOWBANK

Church of Scotland

UPDATE
8th April
2020



www.meadowbank.church



Dear friends

TELEPHONE & ZOOM connections

I have been able to have one-to-one phone calls with a good number of people and amazed at some of the great things people have shared. Zoom and Skype are two systems which allow smartphones, laptops and PCs to link people with real-time video and we even had a Kirk Session gathering on-line. Peter, Jackie and I were also part of a webinar with 60+ other people about 'digital church' and we were able to see the ways church services can be on-line with different people taking part. This Covid-19 crisis is prompting churches to become better at using internet in new and creative ways.

Keep phoning and sending cards and letters to folks in the church and Zoom & Skype if you are able.

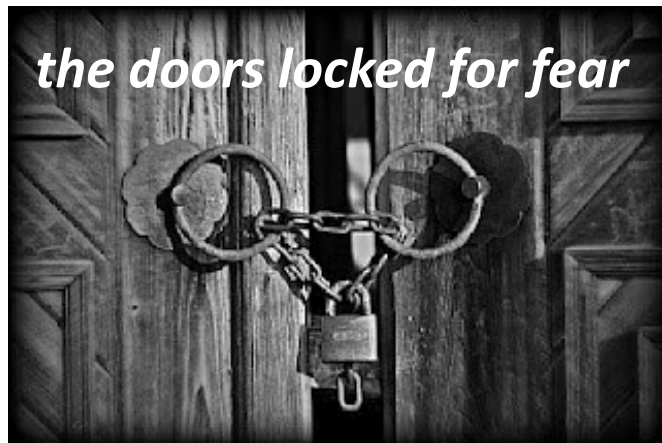


**The Holy Spirit makes
good connections
off-line & on-line!**

**Christ is Risen
Christ is risen indeed!**

easter message

the doors locked for fear



The Risen Jesus

*On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the disciples were together, with the
doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders,
Jesus came and stood among them and said,
"Peace be with you!" John 20:19*

The disciples were behind locked doors, afraid and feeling very confused and alone ...

... and Jesus came and stood among them and offered these wonderful words of peace—SHALOM!

May we know the presence of Jesus to be very real.

**May we hear him speak our name
as he did to Mary in the Garden**

**May we hear his word of SHALOM speak to our
hearts and minds and spirit as in the Upper Room.**



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Meadowbank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh is a Scottish Charity SCO000052

our offerings



During this time the church faces a real challenge in keeping its income without Sunday Services and the loss of hall rental this year.

The Presbytery Treasurer has made some good suggestions where we rely on members givings:

- That we encourage members to give by bank transfer or standing order. Details and forms are available if you contact meadowbank@meadowbankchurch.com
- That we encourage others to set aside their offering weekly to be given when this crisis ends and Sunday Services start again

I was well impressed by one older woman in my congregation in Glasgow who placed her church offering on the mantelpiece as soon as she received her pension—the first call on her purse!

- That we encourage the use of Digital Giving - we are looking into setting up a web page to allow people to donate by credit card

Mustard Seed is still providing for the homeless and rootless from St Margaret's Church on Easter Road. Food is provided as takeaways or home delivery on every Thursday (Soul Food), Saturday (Soul Food Families) and Sundays (Mustard Seed Gathering) where help is needed for deliveries.



If you can help contact please email either

richard@mustardseededinburgh.org

liz@mustardseededinburgh.org

Also please continue to pray for this loving, caring work offered in Jesus name to the most needy.

Easter Sunday Service



from **11.25-12noon**
the Very Rev Kathy Jones leads a service from Bangor Cathedral in North Wales.



Songs of Praise
1.15pm on Sunday

Katherine Jenkins is in Birmingham to celebrate Easter Sunday, in an episode recorded before the current restrictions came into effect. She hears how a new church, St Luke's Gas Street in the heart of Birmingham, has grown in just four years.



loneliness

***'How is it that you three were not able to keep watch with me even for one hour? Keep watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.'* - Matthew 26:40-41**

We are so aware that many people in isolation at this time will be lonely and struggling for want of human contact. We are all different in this respect where some people can be alone but content with that while others even in company may be lonely.

Jesus's last week saw him in the company of his friends. They had shared the meal in the Upper Room then he led them into the Garden to pray. Sadly, all his friends had dozed off had left him very much alone in prayer. His friends were later to abandon him as he was arrested and it was the women and John who stood under the Cross.

Jesus surely shares our experiences of loneliness and abandonment