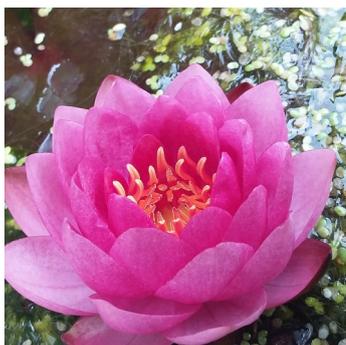


UPDATE
11th June
2020



www.meadowbank.church



Photos from Jenny's garden in Lower London Road



My new greenhouse with first wee tomato & courgette and the gorse in bloom in Holyrood Park

Folks

Those of us with gardens have been really fortunate during this time. We have the opportunity to breath fresh air and growing vegetables and seeing flower bloom is really therapeutic. Others near Meadowbank have Holyrood Park, Lochend Park or Montgomery Street Park as somewhere to enjoy nature and take exercise. I know that it has been much more difficult for those restricted to their home and we think of you right now.

The Celtic Christian approach to faith understood that there were two books important for life:

the big book (nature)
and the wee book (the Bible).

God is there in the wonder of creation before the scriptures were spoken or written and Jesus and David and the Prophets all look to the natural world for teaching from the heavens, the elements, from plants and from the birds of the air.

Anne Frank, documented the fears and experiences of daily life, while living in a secret annex of an old warehouse in Nazi occupied Amsterdam during the Second World War. In the face of love, loss, death, war and personal demons, she wrote

**The best remedy for those who are afraid,
lonely or unhappy is to go outside,
somewhere where they can be quiet,
alone with the heavens, nature and God.
Because only then does one feel
that all is as it should be.**

For me, my work in the garden also teaches me patience. I am impatient with myself, with the church and also with God often asking—
'why so long?'

In my garden I need to understand that some seeds take longer to germinate and then lots of tender loving care.

**Enjoy God's 'big book'
and have patience**

Jackie Wilson-Tagoe

Programme & Outreach Worker

(Jackie is on furlough until July 2020)

Russell McLarty—Transition Minister

Mobile – 07751 755986

russellmclarty@churchofscotland.org.uk

Meadowbank Church of Scotland, 83 London Road, Edinburgh EH75TT

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Zoom Prayer!

Every Tuesday at 9.30am I join with some local ministers and church workers from different denominations for an hour using Zoom video communications. This has been such a good way to support one another and begin to think of how we can work together as we move forward over the next months and years. Zoom has also allowed me to be part of conferences and training, Kirk Session meetings, meetings with colleagues and this Friday the Moderator is offering a celebration of Communion by Zoom!



weekly mailing

Every Thursday the Weekly UPDATE is emailed to the people on our emailing list but it is also posted to about 18-20 by 'snail mail'. As I fold each sheet, hand-write the names and addresses, stick on the stamp and add a wee drawing to the top-left corner of each envelope I take time to pray for that person. Instead of being a chore this is a time I look forward to as I feel prayerful connection to these good-folk-of-faith.

Some of you have also taken time to keep connected by phone or writing or by our Friday 7pm Zoom Meeting. It will be a while before we can meet in larger groups so it seems really important to keep working on all these ways we can maintain friendship and support and encourage one another.



Your prayers

Rather than offer a form of words I invite you to 'fill in the blanks' below—either in your mind or by writing them down. If you send me words or pictures I can fit them into the UPDATE and onto our Meadowbank Facebook posts.

Pray for the climate crisis and the way we look to live more in balance with planet earth

Pray for action on racial injustice—that the Black Lives Matter concern might be heeded

pray unceasingly

Pray for our schoolchildren and teachers—that education would be a real priority

Pray for those who are bereaved—thinking of families who have lost people to Covid-19 and especially among health & care workers

Pray for our churches—that we will know how best to start up with worship and how best to engage with our local communities

Pray for two other people each day among our Meadowbank Church friends