

MEADOWBANK

Church of Scotland

UPDATE
17th June
2021



www.meadowbank.church

Dear friends

REFUGEE WEEK EXHIBITION

I love the way we can speak of Refugees as 'New Scots' and the sense that we have so much to learn and to gain from people coming to Scotland.

The fact that so many people need to leave their homes and resettle is disturbing. War and conflict forcibly displaces 79.5 million people and the climate crisis has meant many more need to move from their homeland because of the disruptions of monsoons, unprecedented drought and sea levels rising causing flooding. While some of the poorest countries have had to provide refuge to neighbours it seems right that the UK should welcome a fair share of those looking for refuge.

Fiona(s) leading services

A huge thanks to Fiona Beveridge and Fiona Tweedie for leading the services over the past 2 weeks. I had a wonderful week walking round Arran with our daughter, Margaret, including a welcome from one of the very inquisitive seals.



With love to all!

Russell

Jackie Wilson-Tagoe

Programme & Outreach Worker

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We have 24 places for the 11am service
To reserve a seat please text/phone/email Russell

11am Sunday 20th June

Come along to visit the Refugee Week Exhibition in Meadowbank Church organised with Edinburgh City Mission & our neighbouring churches at Abbeyhill Baptist, Mustard Seed/St Margaret's and Willowbrae

**12-4pm Wednesday 16th
till Saturday 19th June**



Natalie, Fiona & John from Edinburgh City Mission were part of the 'team' planning and setting up the exhibition in the church. The exhibition includes a wonderful variety of artworks, stories and prayers.

It seems very important for the churches to show compassion and concern for refugees where our Bible has so much to say about how we treat our neighbour and outsiders with hospitality.



Russell McLarty—Transition Minister

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Meadowbank Church of Scotland, Edinburgh is a Scottish Charity SCO000052

Refugee Week Exhibition at Meadowbank Church



What does welcome mean for you?

Where would you find refuge?

These are some of the questions asked in the exhibition.

A few lines from a poem ‘Refugee Witness’ by Sabir Zazai are very challenging

War was my witness when I was deprived of my livelihood
 Conflict was my witness when it stole my childhood
 Along the way, humanity was my witness
 when fellow human beings held my hand
 Community was my witness when it stood for my rights



This is one of 3 paintings by Gordon Ackerman

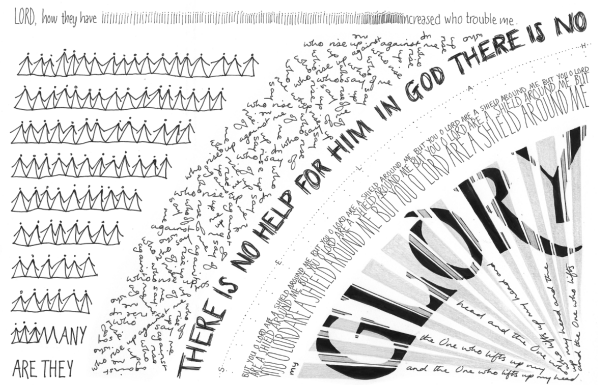
The warmth and sense of safety in the painting are an expression of the type of welcome that the artist hopes refugees would find in our land.



**The Lord will be a refuge for the oppressed
A refuge in times of trouble
And those who know your name
Will put their trust in you
For you, Lord,
have not forsaken those who seek you
PSALM 9 v 9-10**

Heather Holdsworth is an Edinburgh Artist and Theologian who started to 'draw' bible verses to get wisdom for living and peace for the day. In March 2020 she developed long Covid and this practice became even more important for her.

**There are three of her drawings in the exhibition
and you can find out more on Facebook**



O Lord, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;
many are saying of me,
there is no help for him in God.
But thou, O Lord, art a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.
PSALM 3 v 1-3

pray for those who are forced to leave their homes