

HOLY WEEK EVENTS

What wonderful joint events we have in Holy Week! Perhaps you haven't experienced them yet, but why not make this the year!

Firstly there's the **Passover Meal** at St. Catherine's, Monday 14th April at 7pm. You must have a ticket to come to this event, and demand is high!

Then there's the **Stations of the Cross Service** on Wednesday 16th April at 7.30pm, in Liberton Kirk for the first time—a very special and moving service.



On **Good Friday** from 10am all the churches **prayer walk** through their communities to Morrisons, Gilmer-ton Road for an **open-air service** at 11am. Then you can warm up in Morrisons café! (Just come to the service if you can't walk.)

On **Good Friday** at 3pm we all meet at Gracemount High School for a **joint service** when we think about the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and celebrate all it means to each one of us. There's a chance to chat over tea and hot cross buns afterwards.

CROSSTALK is the Newsletter of SEECAT and is published by Ruth Davies, Liberton Kirk Centre, 28 Kirkgate, Edinburgh EH16 6RY.
The churches in SEECAT are Liberton Kirk, Liberton Northfield, KLM, Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun), St. Barnabas', St. Catherine's, St. John Vianney's and St. Gregory's. Our website at www.seecat.org has links to individual churches.

PRAYERS NEEDED . . .

- for the folk of Liberton Northfield as they go through the process of finding a new minister, and for the right person to come forward.
- for sufficient helpers for the Summer Holiday Club to be run at Tron Kirk Kirk Moredun from 14th to 18th July. The churches involved are Tron, St. John Vianney's, Ferniehill Evangelical and St. Barnabas.
- for good fellowship and discussion at our Lent Groups.
- for our Good Friday events, that they would be a shining witness in our communities to our united Christian faith.

There is a colour version of this newsletter on our website.

The next issue will be in May, but comments and suggestions would be welcomed before then—please let one of the SEECAT representatives in your church know what you think, what you would like to know, and what you would like to see in the future.



SEECAT

Issue 1 February 2014

SOMETHING PRECIOUS

At all our get-togethers since last summer what has been made very clear is that people involved in our activities regard SEECAT as something to be cherished. It is not like this everywhere—there is something special in South East Edinburgh. There's a feel-good factor in being part of the wider Christian community.

What a witness we can give in a society used to sectarianism, struggling to find joy in life, and unaware of God's love!

CAMERON TOLL CHAPLAINCY

The two chaplains, Reuben Addis and Danielle Milne, are forging good links with the management and staff of both the Centre and the shops.

They are financed and supported by SEECAT and NCT (Newington Churches Together), so it is OUR chaplaincy. If you are shopping between 10.30am and 11am on Tuesdays or Fridays, look for the Chaplains in the Mall outside Sainsbury's and say "hello". They have badges and fleeces which identify them as Chaplains.

CROSSTALK

South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together

ALL CHANGE!

Father Jock Dalrymple left the Roman Catholic Cluster in September 2013 to move to parish priest at St. John's Portobello and St. Mary Magdalene's, Bingham. Father Jock gave great support to SEECAT activities and we were all sorry to say goodbye, and send him our very best wishes.

A big welcome to Father Anthony Caruana, who came from a post in Livingston in September to join the Roman Catholic Cluster in our area. He is responsible mainly for St. John Vianney's and St. Gregory's, and is based at St. John Vianney's. Father Anthony is also the R.C. Chaplain to the Royal Infirmary. The people of St. Catherine's have had a chance to get to know him during Father Mike's six-week trip to Tanzania. (Father Mike will be back at the beginning of March)

John McPake retired as Minister of Liberton Northfield Church at the end of December and we wish him a long and happy retirement. We will be seeing him again in April as he has agreed to speak at our service on Good Friday afternoon.

LIVING WELL IN LATER LIFE

The Neighbourhood Partnership is running an event for the over 50s at the Faith Mission on Wednesday 12th March, from 11am to 3pm. The intention is to let the over 50s know what there is available in the area for them. SEECAT will have a stall there—come and say “hello”.

MEETING TOGETHER IN LENT

For five weeks in Lent, beginning week commencing 10th March, we have a chance to get together with people from the different SEECAT churches in informal groups in people’s houses or church halls.

The subject for study this year, Referendum year as we all know, is “Values for Scotland”, based on the values inscribed on the mace of the Scottish Parliament—wisdom, justice, compassion and integrity, and finishing with a study of forgiveness and reconciliation. We will be talking about what sort of country we would like Scotland to be, and not about politics!

There is a choice of daytime and evening groups, and sign-up sheets are in the churches now.

PROUD GRANDFATHER

John Young is now in this category after the birth of Holly Grace Elizabeth Bull on 23rd December!

ELLEN’S GLEN HOUSE

SEECAT holds a half-hour service on the first Sunday of the month at 2.30pm in the Thistle Dining Room on the Ground Floor. Could you spare an hour from 2.15 to 3.15pm once a month to help with this? Some patients need assistance finding hymns, following words, or just a reassuring presence. If you can help, please contact Fiona Devoy on 666 1004.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 7th March, 2pm at the Hub, Ravenscroft Street, with an interesting speaker about Egypt.

STARRING ROLE

Ruth Rankin (wife of Dave, KLM Minister) has been featured for the past six weeks in the BBC Alba Series on Ministers’ Wives, and Dave, KLM, and of course Ruth’s work at the Hub were highlighted.

HOMELESSNESS



Bethany
Christian
Trust

Bethany’s work with the homeless in our city will be highlighted at an evening run by SEECAT’s Justice and Peace Group on Wednesday 7th May, 7pm at Tron Kirk Moredun. Paul Drury from Bethany Christian Trust will be the speaker.

Admission £1, and there will be refreshments, a Tombola, and a Traidcraft Stall.



CASTLE
Credit Union

THERE IS A CREDIT UNION HERE!

SEECAT volunteers man the collection/information point at Gilmerton Community Centre every Monday, 1.30 to 3.30pm, and on the first Thursday of the month, 6 to 7.30pm. We need publicity for this venture. A day at Morrisons was good, and we have been promised another in the summer. Now Cameron Toll have agreed that we can have a table on Tuesday 18th March outside Sainsbury’s, from 10am to 6pm. Great news!

Setting up local access to Credit Union facilities is an attempt to encourage people to save and then have access to loans at reasonable rates. Do you know somebody who would benefit from joining?

HOLY ISLAND

David Dixon is organising a small retreat on Holy Island from 8th to 10th September, places limited, cost approx. £90. More information from David on 01875 812985.

REFERENDUM HUSTINGS

Two open evenings are planned before the Referendum, where politicians from both the Yes and No to Independence sides of the campaign can give their points of view and take questions. These will be in the Hub, Ravenscroft Street, and in Liberton Northfield Church. Dates and speakers will be advertised nearer the time.

THE SEARCH IS ON!

Liberton Northfield are looking for a new minister following John McPake’s retirement. The way it works in the Church of Scotland is that the local Presbytery (in this case Edinburgh) approves the filling of the vacancy, provided it is in line with their Plan for the area.

A Nominations Committee is then elected by the congregation, and it advertises the post, interviews and selects someone to preach to the congregation one Sunday as its “sole nominee”. The congregation vote after the service to approve this person as their new minister. The result of the vote could be “no” but this rarely happens.

Liberton Northfield is at the stage of advertising, and we wish them well.

NEW FACES IN THE CHURCHES

David McNeish is a Probationary Minister at Liberton Kirk until the end of 2014. You’ll see him when he speaks at the Open Air Service on Good Friday.

Amos Chewachong is the part-time locum at Liberton Northfield. He is a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Cameroon, in Edinburgh doing a PhD.

Helen Guy is the new Parish Worker at Tron Kirk (Gilmerton & Moredun), focussing on children’s activities like Holiday Club and Messy Church, toddler groups, and the Discovery Course.