

Seeds

Aug/Sep 2024

encourage - inspire - challenge

Augustine
United Church



Creative re-ordering

Revd Fiona
Bennett



As Julia Cameron has written, 'Creativity is God's gift to us. Using our creativity is our gift back to God.'

We are entering the Seasons of Festival (August) and Creationtide (September), both of which invite us to remember and develop the joy and discipline of creativity.

Creativity is not the sole province of those who can draw or make music, it is about ordering and re-ordering our world through the stories with which we shape our existence. To relearn to live without a loved one takes a creative reshaping of the story of our lives. To find a new route home when our train is cancelled takes creative problem solving. To work out what shopping we can buy for the week takes creative planning. Our creativity is about our ability to imagine, re-imagine and shape our world, and the stories by which we perceive and express our lives.

The seasons of Festival and Creationtide are reminders that our creativity is a gift of God and a fundamental part of our humanity as God has intentionally created it. In Genesis chapter 1, God created patterns of life from the chaos of existence. Later, Jesus re-ordered the world around him, welcoming those deemed dirty or dangerous and adapting the rules and expressions of faith. There is a clear sense that God's call to humanity is about creating and re-creating abundant life for all.

Creativity is a divine gift which can offer deep joy and satisfaction, but is also a discipline involving risk and growth.

The season of Festival is a time in Edinburgh to encounter human creativity expressed in the Arts (see p.10). As they have always been, the Arts use the discipline of creativity to express highly condensed pictures of Life. As humanity grows increasingly anxious and desperate in the shadow of the environmental crisis, conflict, and the divisions between rich and poor, we are in emaciated need of nourishing, truth-filled stories of Hope, Love and Faith to honour and steer us. If we can value, nurture and support them, the Arts are the tellers of these stories. There are challenges in the Festival and Fringe of cost and crowding, which need creative consideration and perhaps re-ordering, but it is still an incredible opportunity to catch imaginative glimpses of those pictures of Life which the Arts offer.

The Season of Creationtide invites global humanity (us!) to use the discipline of creativity to re-order our world so that all may live. Taking the wisdom of our faith story (that each and every life and species is divinely intended as critical parts of a healthy whole), Creationtide urges us to use the discipline of creativity to re-imagine what as Christians we treasure, and re-order our world to reflect those values and treasure. Julia Cameron (author of *The Artist's Way*) said: 'Creativity is God's gift to us. Using our creativity is our gift back to God.'

Whether or not we can paint or write, using our creativity to re-imagine, re-order, re-shape our minds, lives and world, to bring fullness of life to all is God's gift and calling to each and all

This Month

ERIC LIDDELL

Memories of the great Scottish athlete and committed Christian



JOYOUS PRIDE

Images of friends and supporters celebrating Inclusive Church



SAFE SPACES?

Carol Joyner considers a recent visit to Australia



FRINGE FUN

Members and friends of AUC featuring at this year's festival

The Edinburgh Festival
fringe



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WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN AUC?

Do you feel called to get more involved in the life and ministry of AUC? Then joining the volunteer rota might be for you! We are always looking for new people to join the rota to provide our inclusive ministry of hospitality for all.

There are many different roles available and full training will be given, mainly by shadowing current volunteers. The rota is planned quarterly, so it is always a great time to get in touch.

Please pick up a 'Sharing' card at church or email **Lewis Reay** directly on rota@augustine.org.uk.

Local and Global

News from the United Reformed Church



SPIRIT JUSTICE EXHIBITION

An exhibition of paintings by URC minister and artist Elizabeth Gray-King will be held at Morningside United Church, 3-25 August. Elizabeth's paintings include images which call for justice alongside images which speak of the power of God's Spirit to respond to that injustice. Forty per cent of income from sales, including prints from the paintings, will go to anti-racist organisations.

The exhibition will be open Saturdays, 10-12am; Sundays, 1- 5 pm; Wednesdays, 10-1am & 7-9pm; Thursdays 1-5 pm. More about the exhibition on Elizabeth Gray-King's website elizabethgrayking.com.



SEASON OF CREATION

AUC will mark Creationtide throughout the month of August. You can also explore resources devised by Eco-Congregation Scotland following the theme 'To hope and act with Creation'. They include six full-length video reflections featuring Eco-chaplain and AUC member David Coleman. All the materials can be found at ecocongregationscotland.org/creation-2024/. Also see p.11.

DEVOLUTION 25 YEARS ON

Are you interested to hear about 25 years of the Churches' work in parliamentary and political engagement in Scotland, and think about the future of religion and politics?

A one-day conference organised by the Scottish Churches Parliamentary Office and the Centre for Theology and Public Life will take place at New College on Wednesday 4 September, 10:30am - 6:30pm.

Speakers will include The Right Hon. Lord Wallace of Tankerness (Former Deputy First Minister), Dr Alison Elliot and Professor Mona Siddiqui. Book at Eventbrite (search under 'devolution @25', 'Edinburgh') or email divinity.news@ed.ac.uk.

JUST MONEY

JustMoney Movement is holding an online supporter conference on Saturday 5 October, 9.30am-1.30pm. Get training in the skills you need to advocate for a fairer, greener world. Engage and learn through practical workshops and an inspiring address from Chine McDonald, Director of Theos and author of *God Is Not A White Man*.

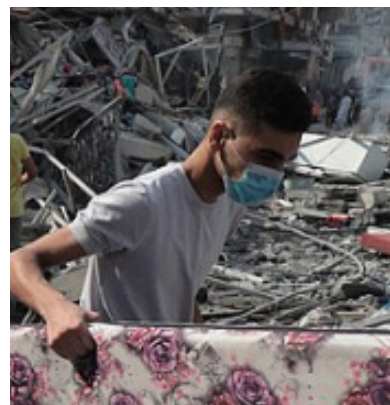
To register, go to bit.ly/46hFbXF.



GAZA APPEAL

An appeal launched by the URC's Commitment for Life team in response to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza has topped more than £15,500. The team would like to reach £20,000. Funds

will be directed towards the work of the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee, which has cleared land in the middle area of Gaza and is co-designing a fully accessible internally displaced persons camp focussing on people with disabilities.



Kevin Snyman, Programme Officer (Global Justice & Partnerships), said: 'Everyone at Commitment for Life has been deeply touched by the generosity of URC members. People have given what they can, and then more.' Go to bit.ly/4bTpHu7.

EXPLORING SYNOD ASPIRATIONS

The URC National Synod in Scotland weekly programme of workshops inspired by the Synod Aspirations will re-start in August. Sessions will run until February 2025 on Wednesday nights, 7.30-8.30pm, via Zoom.

You can choose how and when to join sessions. All the information is at www.urcscotland.org.uk/news (see 'Expanding the tent', April 18th) and you can read the synod's aspirations at www.urcscotland.org.uk/synod-aspirations. More information, and Zoom link, from Gemma Walker (pa@urcscotland.org.uk).

Life on the Bridge

News from Augustine United Church

SCOTLAND'S LEGACY OF SLAVERY

Autumn 2024 Book Group: *What White People Can Do Next: From allyship to coalition* by Emma Dabiri.

The Peace and Justice Team is offering a new book group (facilitated by Jim Kerr) continuing the Legacies of Slavery Group (LOSG) from last autumn. The group will discuss Emma Dabiri's *What White People Can Do Next: From allyship to coalition* over three meetings in the autumn. Meetings will take place in church after the services of 15 and 22nd September, and on 6 October, 12.45-2.15pm. Everybody is welcome – we hope to re-connect with the members of the LOSG from last time but would also love to welcome some new faces.

The only required pre-reading is the book itself, which is short (c.150 pages).*

What White People Can Do Next can be purchased for around £5-7. It is available as an audio book.



The author, Emma Dabiri, is an African Irish author, academic, teacher and broadcaster. In recent years, she has made significant contributions in the fields of Black studies and African diaspora studies. This small book is a concise, well-structured collection of essays. Dabiri draws on her lived experience of racism and years of academic study to offer challenging and thought-provoking insights on systemic racism, racial injustice and the need for fundamental change in society. With intellectual rigour, wit

and straight talking, Dabiri articulates her powerful personal vision for meaningful and lasting change.

* If you would like to access some further reading on the topic, the AUC website has a list of books recommended by Lisa Williams of the Edinburgh Caribbean Society. Go to 'Fellowship and Learning' and then 'Scotland's Legacy of Slavery'.

ALL YE VOLUNTEERS, COME GATHER ROUND

AUC volunteers are getting together on Sunday 1 September, 1-3pm, gathering for sandwiches from 12.45pm. The finishing time may be earlier, but there is a packed programme of activities planned.

Let Lewis know whether you will be able to attend (rota@augustine.org.uk). There are quite a few new people who have joined the rota in the last few months so this will be a great opportunity to get to know them.

Giving thanks

In June, a 'Forest of Gratitude' and prayer was created during an interactive service to celebrate the end of the school year.





Joyous Pride

AUC and Our Tribe were joined by friends and supporters from Northern Lights MCC (Newcastle), Glasgow and North London MCCs, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Edinburgh Methodist Church, and several Episcopal churches. We also welcomed a university Chaplain and the Moderator of the URC Synod of Scotland. There was breakfast, cake, huge appreciation from the marchers, and the great joy of celebrating Inclusive Church.



Junior church fun on The Meadows

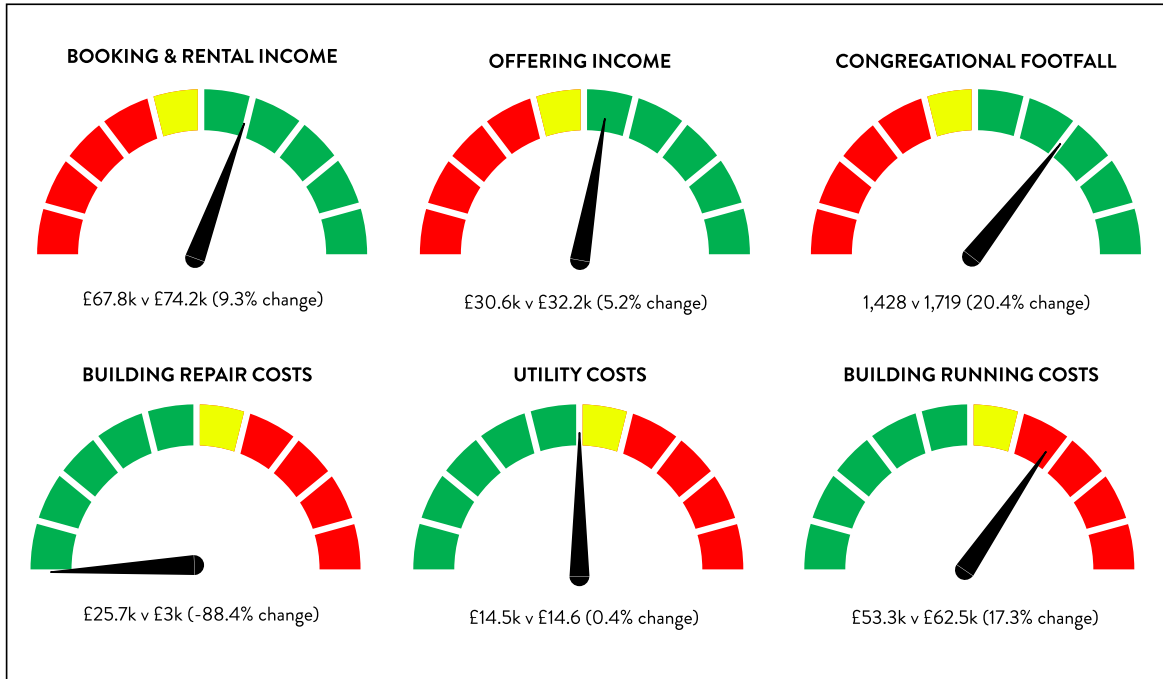
A picnic. In Edinburgh. In July. And no rain! How lovely to get to The Meadows – to share food prepared by Pat Tweedie, and enjoy parachute games (for all ages!).



How are our finances doing?

A 2024 half-year update from the Centre, Property & Finance Church Life Mission Team

Below is a comparison of Jan-Jun 2023* versus Jan-Jun 2024. The eagle-eyed will notice we have replaced the gift aid indicator with congregational footfall (the number of people attending church services – in person and virtually). We'd love to hear your feedback on whether you find this style of reporting useful/informative.



NOTES

Swing: each segment of the chart represents a 10% change for better (green) or worse (amber/red).

***Indexation:** To provide a like-for-like comparison, the 2023 figures have been adjusted by CPI.

Gift Aid declaration forms are available on the website: www.augustine.org.uk/gift-aid-declaration

Reform is changing – join the journey

Where can you be challenged about Jesus' place at the margins?

Or read about the URC's new Moderator speaking of his own challenges, as a young gay man growing up in the conservative churches of rural Virginia? Or discover what 'crafty' activism looks like?

In the most recent edition of *Reform* magazine is where.

Where can you find out how an accident with a horse changed one person's spiritual life? (And no, it's not Princess Anne.) Or start to understand how the Church we are a part of is planning for major changes UK-wide?

In the next edition of *Reform* magazine is where.

Reform is the national magazine of the United Reformed Church. It's a magazine of ideas and responses to the social, political and religious

questions alive around us. It's a magazine that opens up the broad, life-embracing horizons of faith and asks pertinent questions about our local churches and communities.

The September issue of *Reform* will reveal a whole new look. If you already get *Reform* regularly, let others know about it. Want to try it out? You can find out more at www.reformsubs.co.uk or have a chat with Laurence Wareing.

A Safe Space?

Carol Joyner considers what 'safe spaces' look like following a recent visit to Australia.

It was by pure chance that, for the second year running, my annual holiday with my younger son coincided with a Pride event in a major city.

Last year we found ourselves immersed in the colourful (if somewhat commercial) Berlin Pride; this year saw me visit him in Australia during Sydney's Mardi Gras.

We arrived at a time of significant tension between the New South Wales police and the organisers of the Mardi Gras due to the murder of a gay national TV star, Jessie Baird, and his partner, Luke Davis, by a serving police officer. This tragedy led to the Mardi Gras committee banning LGBT police from being part of the parade this year.

Despite the signs in Sydney's Pride Square declaring this site 'a safe space', this has not always been the case. Earlier in the week, I had met the gay Christian activist, Anthony Venn-Brown OAM (pictured), founder and CEO of Ambassadors and Bridge Builders International, an Australian organisation that seeks to advocate for LGBT Christians.

Anthony said there were not only tensions between the police and the queer community; there are also tensions between the conservative Sydney churches and the LGBT community, leading Anthony to be labelled in one article as a 'poster boy for sin' with 'demons in his eyes'.

The previous Sunday, I had attended a church service in a Sydney suburb. Despite the friendly welcome, it was clear from the outset that this was a church where women were not allowed in positions of leadership.

Furthermore, the songs were laden with references to hell, sin and addiction. Before we had even entered the building, we were asked

our name in the church garden and given name badges, freshly printed from a labelling machine. This felt fraught with potential problems for transitioning or introverted visitors. The social time afterwards was even segregated along gender lines, with the women congregated at tables outside while the men spoke to one another. This was not a church in step with 21st century sensibilities – was this deliberate?

When the associate pastor asked me my views of the service, I communicated my misgivings around the message conveyed by the song lyrics and the patriarchal structure. It did not feel like a 'safe space' to me. I later learnt from Anthony that Sydney



Diocese is renowned for its conservative views on women in leadership and LGBT issues, and is part of GAFCON, the Global Anglican Future Conference of Conservative Bishops. This puts it in communion with Churches in countries such as Uganda, which still inflicts the death penalty on 'aggravated acts of homosexuality'.

The concept of Safe Space was to become a motif for the week. Later that week, we witnessed a heavy police presence at a large and noisy Pro-Palestine demonstration. We also visited Sydney's Jewish Museum, which houses a large display on LGBT Jewish rights.

It was a powerful fortnight where we found ourselves inadvertently witnessing the battle for safe spaces, amid the tension of opposing world views – from the vocal street protests against police brutality, and the actions of the IDF in Gaza, to the more silent advocacy of minority religious, sexual and indigenous rights in the exhibitions we visited in the galleries and museums of Sydney.

I wonder where Matt and I will find ourselves next year...

Memories of Eric Liddell

The Olympics, which come centre stage in August, were last held in Paris in 1924. On that occasion, the Scottish athlete and committed Christian Eric Liddell withdrew from the 100m competition, his favoured discipline, because the heats were to take place on a Sunday. That story, and what happened next, was re-told in the Oscar-winning film, *Chariots of Fire*, and is the inspiration for this year’s Eric Liddell 100 celebrations.

Liddell later became a minister in the Congregational Church and, like his parents before him, a missionary in China. When back in Scotland, he worshipped at Morningside Congregational Church, now Morningside United.

Carcant – tennis, running, and rabbits

Eric Liddell’s sister, Jenny, married into the Somerville family in 1932, becoming the wife of Dr Charles Somerville, the great-uncle of Robert Somerville and Elspeth Somerville Harley.

Elspeth writes:

Eric Liddell is best remembered through the 1981 film *Chariots of Fire*, but his name was familiar to me long before that.

Eric was both an outstanding athlete and a Christian missionary. He studied, lived and taught in Edinburgh and represented Scotland in Rugby and Athletics.

At the 1924 Summer Olympics in Paris, Liddell refused to run in the heats for his favoured 100 metres because they were held on a Sunday. Instead, he competed in the 400 metres, held on a weekday, and won gold.

He returned to China (his birthplace) in 1925 to serve as a missionary teacher. He only came back to Scotland for two furloughs, one of which he spent at Carcant (pictured), [an area of land in the Moorfoot Hills in Midlothian, in part owned by the

Somerville family]. His sister Jenny was married to Charles Somerville, my great uncle, and I sometimes met her at Carcant when my family visited my grandmother and aunt who lived there.

While Eric was there, I am told he ran on the hills – training? or for the joy of it? or both? He also played tennis with various family members on a rough grass court they tried to maintain in

father), was a member of AUC until his death in 2017. At Carcant in 1940 he remembered Eric as an excellent tennis player too. He also ran down rabbits!

Elspeth concludes:

Eric remained a missionary in rural China until his death in a Japanese civilian internment camp in 1945 [of a brain tumour and haemorrhage].

There he inspired both internees and guards by his cheerfulness and his deep spirituality.

He led physical exercises, taught classes to keep minds sharp, and shared his faith. Even in the camp he lived as he lived his whole life – with passion, compassion and integrity.

Eric said, ‘We are all missionaries. Wherever we go we either bring people nearer to Christ or we repel them from Christ.’

A tartan (below) specially commissioned for the Eric Liddell 100 includes a recurring green stripe, ‘to represent his family

holidays at Carcant and his love of field sports’. (The Scottish Register of Tartans)



the cow park – where two milking cows grazed.

Robert adds:

There were two relevant Charles Somervilles: the elder was a doctor in Bonnyrigg. It was he who became brother-in-law to Eric. His nephew, ‘Charlie’ Somerville (Elspeth’s and my



Life in Tianjin

Kathleen Ziffo recalls getting to know Lorna Cammock, who handed her a photocopied handwritten letter from Eric Liddell to her late father, the Revd Charles Cammock.

Mr Cammock ministered in several churches in Glasgow and the west of Scotland, and had known Eric a little while they were training for the ministry. The letter includes what Eric calls some 'cameo sketches' of his life in China at the end of 1934.



My dear Cammock,

It was good to get your letter & hear of your work in Oban. Why, of course I remember you; wasn't it you who took for his text in the sermon class '... that I may know Him & the power of His resurrection...'. Well those days are past now, I often wish I had made more use of them. You want a note from China – it will have to be brief but may help to bring a little interest to some. I'll write it in two or three little sketches...

1. The fellowship of prayer

I am working in a College [the Anglo-Chinese Christian College in Tianjin, run by the London Missionary Society] as a teacher of Science. This last term I gave a special invitation to several of the teachers to join with me each morning before classes start. At first only one or two did but slowly we have had others adding on. We turn to prayer; we challenge ourselves so as to help us intentionally to keep close to the Holy Ghost [?]. It has brought a fine spirit between us which I hope will spread.

2. The place we work in

Tientsin [Tianjin] hardly seems like a Chinese city as it is so foreign in many ways. We are situated in the French

Concession with all the modern conveniences – electric trams outside our doors etc.

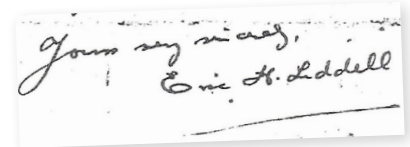
There are all the difficulties of a city for education work, especially fields for games. This year we have been fortunate in securing an adjoining piece of ground. It was covered with bricks – stones – boulders etc & with the boys all helping & outside workmen we have been able to clear it so that there is a football field right next to us.

3. The Church

On the opposite side of the road there is the church with all its activities.

Two or three days ago they gave a bag of meal each to people who had been selected as desperately in need. My, they were too. We don't understand such poverty and filth.

All the best of wishes for 1935. May it be the best year you've had with a rich blessing on your congregation.



Eric finds fandom

A service celebrating the life of Eric Liddell was held at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh on Saturday 22 June.

The preacher was the Revd Lindsey Sanderson, Moderator of the National Synod of Scotland. She shared stories of how the teenagers at Morningside Congregational Church – where Liddell led Bible study sessions – formed a fan club...

On 17 December 1925, Eric Liddell wrote a letter to Elsa McKechnie, acknowledging the founding of 14-year-old Elsa's Eric Liddell Club. 'I do not know what I might be let in for,' he wrote. 'However, there are times

when we have to risk a little' – and to receive the adulation of some teenage girls was clearly something Eric considered a risk.

Many years later Elsa would recall having heard Eric speak at Morningside Congregational Church, and reflect that it was his sincerity and humility which drew her and her friends to their expression of fandom.

“IT WAS HIS SINCERITY AND HUMILITY WHICH DREW HER AND HER FRIENDS”

Elsa found in Eric a role model. Fast forward almost 60 years, and the release of *Chariots of Fire* introduced

me to Eric Liddell. A little younger than Elsa, here for me was someone with whom I could identify – someone who was nurtured in the Congregational Union of Scotland that was nurturing me, and significantly someone whose own commitment to not running on a Sunday chimed with my experience growing up – that Sunday was a day for church and family, and not friends' birthday parties or, the one I did particularly struggle with, school skiing lessons in Glen Shee.

Role models are important for all of us, especially when we see ourselves in others and take inspiration from that.

Celebrating the Revd Eric H. Liddell

Morningside United Church (MUC), Liddell's 'home' church, is proud of its association with the famous runner.

His name, together with those of his brother and sister-in-law, is included on the Morningside Congregational Church Missionary Roll of Honour. ,

The congregation remains involved in supporting The Eric Liddell Community, located across the road in the former North Morningside

Parish Church. The Community supports people living with dementia, including through its flagship day care service; runs a wellbeing programme for unpaid carers; and operates a community hub, including a café and office space for social enterprises and charities.

Events over the summer celebrating the Eric Liddell 100 include:

22 July – 4 August. Around 30 shops and businesses from Bruntisfield to Comiston celebrating the Liddell centenary with window displays.

25 July – 12 September. Eric Liddell exhibition at the Scottish Parliament.

6 August (Tuesday), 6.15-7.30pm. BBC Radio 4 recording a service of hymns and choral music at MUC. To be broadcast at 8:15am on Sunday 11 August to mark the close of the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. All singers welcome.

10 August (Saturday), 2-4pm. Dedication of Eric Liddell Peace Garden & Garden Party, MUC

16 August (Friday), 1.30-2.45pm. *Eric Liddell: The Chariot of Fire* – a theatre performance by Searchlight Theatre, MUC. Tickets £12:50. See EdFringe 2024 (searchlighttheatre.org)

Lots of information about Eric Liddell and the centenary events at ericliddell.org/the-eric-liddell-100/

Hope in creation

This year's Season of Creation resources are inspired by the letter of St Paul to the young church in Rome, and especially his words about all of creation benefiting from what he calls 'the first fruits' of God's Spirit (Romans 8: 19-25).

The passage begins: 'For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God ... in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.'

As well as the resources produced by David Coleman and Eco-Congregation Scotland, the ecumenical Joint Public Issues Team has curated a list of other creative resources and materials to help us reflect, hope and act as part of God's creation: jpit.uk/creation

**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

Seeds of hope in Scotland

One plan yielding change and hope for our planet is being pursued right here in Scotland. Positive. News recently highlighted Scotland's 'rainforest revival'. They reported that volunteers have collected 2.2 million rare native seeds.

'The haul is part of a three-year project to grow 1.5 million native trees from seed. Many of the species included have unique genetics, and date back to the end of the last Ice Age. Those collected so far include aspen and juniper, from surviving fragments of ancient woodland, including on Skye, the Western Isles and Orkney, and west coast temperate rainforest.'

The result, says Roz Birch, coordinator of the Tree Seed Collection Project, will be the preservation of genetically precious and rare species – in turn helping restore native ancient woodland and rainforest, and providing homes for wildlife.'

Fringe fun

Looking for Fringe ideas? Don't know where to start? How about with some members and friends of AUC?

Full details and booking at tickets.edfringe.com (except Jo's guided walk)

Jo Clifford: **Searching for the Sacred** Tuesdays/Thursdays, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22 Aug, 2.15pm, St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place. (£10) (reflective walk, story-telling)

Jean Franzblau: **My Mother Doesn't Know I'm Kinky** 2-10, 12-14 Aug, 10:15pm, theSpace @ Niddry St (Venue 9 – Lower Theatre) (comedy, true-life, 18+)

Carol Joyner **Binocchio, the Bisexual Liar** 2-10 Aug, 7pm, Paradise Green at Augustine (Venue 152) (stand-up, 16+)

Laurence Wareing **Around the World in 80 Days** 12-17 Aug, 6.15pm, The Royal Scots Club (Venue 241) (family-friendly theatre)

Also see Eric Liddell centenary events listed on p.10.

Season of Creation

(Extract from a prayer by the Revd David Coleman – part of the Eco-Scotland Season of Creation resources.)

Sustaining God, Frail Flesh, Wild Wind,

To live and breathe
is to be called to praise you *in many, many, many ways with many, many, many* kin –
according to their kind:
Our fellow creatures,
Seen and not yet noted;
Heard and not yet hearkened to;
Humans, of all nations.

And far more:
Through Christ, who on the Tree
with all of life repurposed death,
Baptise our hearts
in those nourishing springs
of Creation's seasons and cycles, both of growth and flourishing
and, yes, such *decay as reclaims goodness*,
rising bread, maturing wine, and feeding next year's flowers!

What's On?

Most of our gatherings and resources are currently online. You can find out details on our website www.augustine.org.uk.

STAYING IN TOUCH

If you wish to receive weekly updates of AUC events please register to receive the Friday email by contacting our Centre Manager (centre.manager@augustine.org.uk).

Find us on 

Check our posts on the AUC Facebook page.



Giving made easier with AUC's QR code

August / September 2024

Every Sunday at 11am Blended Sunday worship and after-service Zoom social.

Contextual Bible Study starts again in September, at the new time of **Monday** at 7.30pm, and on Thursday at 12 noon.

NHS Mental Health Drop-in cancelled until further notice.

August		
Thu 1	7:30pm	Our Tribe LGBTQI+ Gathering
Sun 4	2-4pm	Edinburgh Bookshop Ukrainian refugee event, Morningside United Church
Wed 7	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together (see p.3)
Wed 14	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together
Sun 18	10am-3pm	TLC Pilgrimage (meeting at AUC)
Wed 21	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together
Fri 23		International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
Sun 25	1:30pm	Coffee Social: Come OUT with Our Tribe (LGBTQI+) Coffee Saints, Little King Street
Wed 28	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together
	1:30pm	Coffee Social: Come OUT with Our Tribe (LGBTQI+), Coffee Saints
September		
Sun 1	12:45pm-3pm	AUC Rota Training
Tue 3	7:30pm	Church Council online
Wed 4	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together
Thu 5	7:30pm	Our Tribe LGBTQI+ Gathering
Sun 8	12:30pm	AUC Harvest Lunch
Mon 9		Fairtrade Fortnight begins, including 'Be the Change' challenge
Tue 10	7:30pm	Church Meeting
Wed 11	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together
Sun 15	12:45pm	What White People Can Do Next (Book Group) (see p.4)
Wed 18	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together
Sun 22	12:45pm-3:45pm	Belonging Course
	12:45 pm	What White People Can Do Next (Book Group)
Wed 25	7:30pm	Exploring the Synod Aspirations Together

Seeds deadline

The next issue of **Seeds** will be a double issue for October and November. The copy deadline for the October/November edition is Wednesday 18 September.