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## *Walking the Way, By Rev Fiona Bennett*

In May 2018 over 340 URC Ministers and church-related community workers, gathered in Staffordshire. The gathering offered opportunity to reflect on our own roles as disciples of Jesus and to consider what it means to serve in a Church that seeks to empower everyone in their call to and participation in missional discipleship.

The overarching theme was Walking the Way: Discipleship. Amidst lots of good speakers and worship, one set of talks which stood out were those delivered by Rev Dr Rowan Williams. Dr Williams offered three talks entitled 'Discipleship in the Modern City' – through the lives of three women, Maria Skobtsova, Dorothy Day and Madeleine Delbrel. Each of the women were Catholic or Orthodox and each of them sought to live out their discipleship to Jesus in radical service and hospitality.

Their stories were a reminder

that while our discipleship can be shaped by our culture, study and prayer, it is lived out most profoundly in our actions and relationships with others, with ourselves and with the planet. The small acts of grace, kindness, willingness to listen and generosity are significant places where God meets us, shares with us and transforms us. The stories of these three women were also stories of courage and determination to keep on loving, trusting and hoping when the needs around them were overwhelming.

Rowan Williams' talks are available in YouTube:

1. Disciples in the Modern City: Maria Skobtsova - Race, Refugees and Martyrdom  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGILm6QyxWY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGILm6QyxWY)
2. Disciples in the Modern City: Dorothy Day – Homelessness, Peace and Poverty  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=EujUjW2zQIE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EujUjW2zQIE)
3. Disciples in the Modern City:

## Getting Involved

Within AUC there are Ministry Teams which are responsible for different areas of Church Life. If you would like to know more or get involved with one of these please e-mail the contact person.

### Centre, Property & Finance

**Tom Murray**

treasurer@augustine.org.uk

### Children & Young People

**Kirsty Murray**

juniorchurch@augustine.org.uk

### Communication

**Eilidh Carmichael**

eilidh.carmichael@augustine.org.uk

### Our Tribe (LGBTI Ministry)

**Rev Maxwell Reay**

associateminister@augustine.org.uk

### Peace & Justice

**Harriet Davidson**

harriet.davidson@augustine.org.uk

### Pastoral & Mental Health

**Anne MacKenzie**

anne.mackenzie@augustine.org.uk

### Worship

**Rev Fiona Bennett**

minister@augustine.org.uk

If you would like to get involved volunteering within AUC or the local community:

### AUC Volunteering

**Fiona Somerville**

rota@augustine.org.uk

### Local Community

#### Volunteering

**Della Morris**

della.morris@augustine.org.uk

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Madeleine Delbrel – Ordinary Holiness for People in the Street

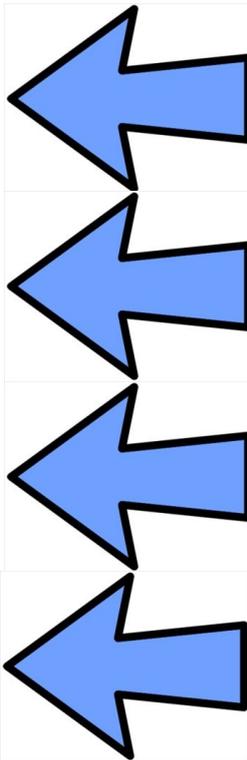
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=i--mnGqammkt](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i--mnGqammkt)

### Pastoral Care

Please note Fiona, our Minister, will be on holiday from Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June until Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July. In the case of pastoral emergency during this time, please contact the Church Secretary, Kathleen Ziffo in the first instance.

Phone – 339 1095 or [secretary@augustine.org.uk](mailto:secretary@augustine.org.uk)

### Emails



We're in the process of changing the email addresses used by Elders, Ministers and post holders at AUC.

We're aiming to make this as seamless as possible, but do have a look at the addresses to the right and send any correspondence to these accounts. Don't worry though, we'll still be keeping an eye on existing accounts while the handover is taking place. If you have any doubts, or don't think your message is getting to the person it should, contact [administrator@augustine.org.uk](mailto:administrator@augustine.org.uk). That address is staying exactly the same and the administrator will make sure your email gets to the right person. Thanks for your patience!

### Leading Prayer of the People Workshop

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> June 7.30-9pm**

As part of our Sunday morning worship we join together as a community to pray for the world. We call these the Prayer of the People. These prayers are written and lead by different members of the congregation. If you would be interested in writing and leading these prayer, or if you already do and would like some new inspiration, please come along to our annual prayer writing & leading workshop on Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> June 7.30 -9pm, led by Laurence Wareing. Please register in advance by emailing at [laurence.wareing@augustine.org.uk](mailto:laurence.wareing@augustine.org.uk)

We welcomed two new members in May: Karen Bass and Dr Ewen Harley.

# Facebook and AUC: A Guide

Facebook has been in the news a lot recently, raising some concerns about privacy and the influence Facebook has over our lives (and elections...). This is the first in a short series of Seeds articles about Facebook, privacy and AUC.



## What is Facebook?

Facebook is a worldwide social network. You create a profile and add some information about yourself, then connect with other people that you know. Organisations (including AUC) also use Facebook to share news with people who might be interested in them.

## How does AUC use Facebook?

AUC uses Facebook to share news with current members, provide space for discussion and to reach people who wouldn't otherwise hear about the church. We have a Facebook page ([facebook.com/AugustineUnited](https://www.facebook.com/AugustineUnited)) and a Facebook group ([facebook.com/groups/101049703055](https://www.facebook.com/groups/101049703055)), there is also a Facebook page for Our Tribe ([facebook.com/ourtribeauc](https://www.facebook.com/ourtribeauc)) and a group for Our Tribe ([facebook.com/groups/our.tribe.auc](https://www.facebook.com/groups/our.tribe.auc)). Facebook pages and groups are quite different, here's a quick explanation.

**An organisation's Facebook page is completely public**, it can even be viewed by people who don't have a Facebook account. The AUC Facebook page is managed by a small group of people (Fiona, Maxwell, Nicola and Lucy), who write updates about the church. If you like or comment on a post on the Facebook page, it will be visible to everyone who looks at the page. Facebook might also show those you connect with on Facebook this information, but only if they thinks your friends will be interested... Depending on your point of view, this is either good or bad. Liking, sharing or commenting on an AUC post spreads the message of the church, but you do need to consider how much you share and remember that things you write will be publicly visible.

**AUC's Facebook group is much more private**. Anyone with a Facebook account is able to see the names of the group members (unfortunately Facebook doesn't allow us to hide the names), but only members of the group can see what is written inside. Anyone who wants to become a member of the group must be approved by a moderator, currently this is Fiona, Eilidh or Jonathan. Members can share messages within the Facebook group; it is a space for discussion and sharing within the AUC community. Although everything within the group is restricted to members-only, you will still want to consider what you write.

## AUC, Facebook and Your Privacy

AUC shares news about the life of the church publicly on the Facebook page, as well as on our website and Twitter page. We will always ask your permission to publish anything that clearly identifies you (by name, in a photograph or otherwise), it is perfectly fine to say no.

If you would like anything that identifies you removed from our website or social media, please contact [administrator@augustine.org.uk](mailto:administrator@augustine.org.uk).

## Coming up...

I hope this short introduction to AUC's presence on Facebook has been informative, tune in next month for a closer look at how to protect your privacy online. In the meantime, please feel free to chat to me about Facebook, the internet and all things digital.

Lucy Parker

## Pastoral Care

*"...bearing with one another in love..."*

*(Ephesians 4:2)*

At AUC, we aim to provide a web of care which promotes growth in relationships and good spiritual/mental health, through both informal and formal contacts. If you are looking for individual support please contact a minister: **Rev Fiona Bennett (minister@augustine.org.uk)** or **Rev Maxwell Reay (associateminister@augustine.org.uk)**. As well as offering 1:1 support in the setting which is most appropriate for you, they can link you with the pastoral visiting team which offers regular support to the housebound.

Prayer requests are welcomed. They can be shared with the ministers directly or via the Church Office. If you would like support due to a mental health issue, you would be welcome at the Mental Health Drop-in, held weekly on Tuesdays 10.30am-12pm in the Sanctuary. This is hosted by AUC and run by the NHS Lothian Spiritual Care team. Further details available on through Maxwell.

## A journey with St Bridget and St Fillan TLC Pilgrimage



Sun 19th August 2018  
10am- 3.30pm

Cost @ £10 Please register in advance

Sharing with our ecumenical partners, we are invited to journey from St Bridget's Chapel to St Fillan's Kirk with a service on Aberdour beach, followed by a visit to the Burnt Island Kirk's Exhibition on the story of the King James' Bible.

**If you are interested to share in this pilgrimage can you please register by 17<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**By contacting:** Kathleen or email: [administrator@augustine.org.uk](mailto:administrator@augustine.org.uk)

On Sun 19th Aug 2018, the coach will leave AUC at 10am taking us to St Bridget's Chapel near Dalgety Bay for a short reflection. Those who wish to can then walk the coastal path to St Fillan's Kirk in Aberdour and others can travel there by coach. Time to lunch in Aberdour, will be followed by a service on the beach and coach trip to the Burnt Island Kirk exhibition, returning from there to AUC around 3.30pm.

## Remembering Brian Teyhan

**B**rian came to AUC through the work we share in with the Chaplaincy based at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, and principally through a trip they ran to Iona.

The group who travelled together to Iona in a mini bus (that is a lot of hours!) had a transforming experience. For Brian, it was finding a space and group of people with whom he could be completely himself, which enabled him to connect in a new way with his spirituality and his sense of God.

The Chaplaincy also run a weekly drop-in and other events at and with AUC, and gradually over time Brian became part of a number of different groups within the church and took up membership.

He found great connection and support in Our Tribe. He was our representative on Nite Kirk (an alternative worship space offered jointly with our partner churches). He made friends with many regulars, who he used to sit and chat with on a Sunday morning. He came to many church events such as away days for planning and thinking and one member particularly remembered from an away day that: *"Brian conversed at such a deep level, seeing deep into people's hearts and desires, their core and inner motivations. This really helped our group gel and move forward with appreciation of each other. I would say Brian was very good at 'soul talk' and was incredibly positive, respectful and loving."* Brian's warmth, affirming nature and cheery smile touched many lives at AUC.

The other thing at AUC which Brian was greatly valued and appreciated for was his help in the Grassmarket Community Project. I would like to share some quotes with you from a few of the people who worked alongside him there and were very grateful to have known him:

*"He had an amazing way with people. Not only just saying hi, but sitting down with them, remembering their names, getting to know them and listening to their problems. Giving advice and anything else that he could do. This went on for many years, with Brian being there every Monday and getting to know new members. He treated everyone with respect. He would also come in a little earlier on a Monday and make teas and coffees for the volunteers before we started our work. He had a great sense of humour, was always laughing and talking about his son Gabe. At the end of the day, when the washing up and the kitchen cleared, we would go across the road to a little pub called Under The Stairs, share a glass of wine, talk about the day and general chit chat. It was privilege to know him and call him a true friend."*

*"Brian was fun and generous not only with time spent finding out about people and listening to them, but with his last cigarette! We missed him not being around at GCP over the past year, and miss his friendly grin when he came into the kitchen or hall particularly."*

*"I loved Brian's company and have missed him."*

We will miss him too.

**Rev Fiona Bennett**



### Helplines:

LGBT Support: 0300 123 2523

Samaritans: 116 123

Childline: 0800 1111

Rape Crisis: 8088 010 302

Breathing Space: 0800 838587

Edinburgh Crisis Centre: 0808 8010414



## Back to Nature



**Gardens and Summer:** Have you been able to get outside much to enjoy our much improved weather? I write this in late May, and the sun has been shining again - though from behind little wisps of North Sea 'haar'. What about visiting gardens this summer, as well as beaches and woodlands? They are great areas for walks and gentle exercise. Remember that on 19<sup>th</sup> August our away is to Fife (see p.4)!

I have been doing some gardening. Eco-congregation people and many others, including the likes of TV gardener Monty Don recommend keeping a wild part of any garden, even just a square metre or so, for wild flowers (weeds), insects, small creatures, birds. Growing bee and insect-friendly plants is a good idea too—anything with lots of pollen but particularly native species. Making bird boxes or making a small wood-pile to encourage bumble bees and other creepy-crawlies gives them safe habitat when so often it seems to have vanished. When did you last see a hedgehog? I cannot remember when last I did! They need wild areas and bits of hedge and ground cover – not totally manicured grounds.

**Clearing up Litter:** Have you tried plogging yet? Plogging is jogging while picking up litter – a Swedish idea evidently! When you set out, you take a bag and a pick-up stick (or wear rubber gloves) and pop litter into the bag as you jog along – and then dispose of the litter properly.

**Eco-Congregations Chaplain:** We send every good wish to Rev Trevor Jamison in his new charge of St Columba's URC at North Shields. Trevor will be inducted there on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June; we hope that Trevor and Sue settle quickly on Tyneside, and that their flitting from AUC and Edinburgh goes well. It is now announced that Rev David Coleman (presently at Greenock West URC) is to be the new Eco-Congregations Chaplain. David will be inducted into his new post at AUC (as was Trevor before him) on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 3 pm.

**Kathleen Ziffo**



### The Listening Service: Multi-Faith Chaplaincy for Edinburgh Sheriff Court

*A project run by Edinburgh Churches Together and Edinburgh Inter Faith Association.*

"The first time, you're really on your own." The desperate plea of a mother whose grown up son was appearing in court for the first time. Not only was she trying to make sense of life when her whole world had fallen apart, but she was having to navigate the norms of an unfamiliar environment. "Where can you go?" "What is likely to happen?" "Why can't I see my son?" So many questions, so little emotional energy.

This real experience was the inspiration for the development of the chaplaincy based 'Listening Service' at Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

Volunteers come from different faith backgrounds and are available for people of all faiths and none. They offer a non-judgemental listening ear which has been warmly welcomed by court users and staff. After only a year, the service is expanding rapidly, now with 30 volunteers, allowing listeners to be available five days a week. The service constantly need new people to join the project to provide what one court based Police Officer described as a 'godsend' in the life of the court. Our volunteers are thanked daily by staff and court users.

**Contact Information: Rev Hilda Warwick Email: [courtchaplaincy@gmail.com](mailto:courtchaplaincy@gmail.com) Tel: 0131 662 8635**

**Annual Theme: "Beginning and Belonging - Stories of Faith and Life".**

**I**n June, we will be working through our modules 'Fruits of the Spirit' and 'Paul'.

We will approach our modules from different angles of craft, games and cooking—and hear a Godly Play story called 'Paul's Travels and Letters' and share a Feast together afterwards.

The end of the month brings an All-Age Service with food sharing afterwards.

**Coming to Junior Church soon.....**

**July:** We are looking forward to Summer now that the weather is a bit warmer! We have a new project - The Bible According to Dr Seuss. If you want to know what this is about, speak to one of the team!

**August:** There will be outings and festival-related adventures.



Image from  
[www.godlyplayresources.com](http://www.godlyplayresources.com)



Junior Church welcomes families in all their wonderful diversity. We do our best to offer a safe and nurturing space for families and their friends. We have varied activities each week, from storytelling, to crafts, games and video making. We have a crèche for little ones and baby changing facilities are available. We use materials to appeal to children's different learning styles using the PowerXpress curriculum, and also use Godly Play ([www.godlyplay.org.uk](http://www.godlyplay.org.uk)).

Children at Augustine are welcome to receive communion and to fully participate in the life of the church. Children regularly help during services, and sometimes serve communion to the wider church community.

Please feel free to contact us using the details on p.2 of Seeds if you have any questions.

# Calendar

Worship Services at 11am on Sundays at AUC, George IV Bridge. All events at AUC, unless otherwise stated. Later updates on website/notice sheet

June		Season of Pentecost
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Walk & Talk
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	2-4pm	Augustine Assignments (Youth Group)
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Morning Worship, led by Rev Fiona Bennett
	3pm	Our Tribe, showing of the film 'Pride' with popcorn!
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Study Group 'What is Jesus' Prophetic Message for Us?'
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Pride March, leaving from Augustine
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Morning Worship with Communion, led by Rev Fiona Bennett with preacher Dr Nicola Robinson
	3.30-4.45pm	Karl Macrae's Student Concert, fundraising for AUC and the Amy Moar Charity
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Prayers of the People Workshop (see p.2)
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2-4pm	Augustine Assignments (Youth Group)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	11am	All-Age Worship, led by Laurence Wareing
	12.30pm	Celebratory Church Lunch
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30-9pm	Coffee, Cake & Conversation
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	1.30-3pm	Coffee, Cake & Conversation
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup>	TBC	Visit from Eco-Congregation Assessors
July		
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	11am	Morning Worship, led by Rev Andrew Bain
	12.45pm	Church Business Meeting

A few folk from AUC were up bright and early to support those undertaking the Edinburgh Marathon in May. Thanks to Linda for the pictures!



**Please note the deadline for material for the July/August issue is Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June.**

DISCLAIMER: Although we check all information, as ever we can give no warranties as to accuracy or relevance and encourage active checking. The views expressed in our newsletter are those of the individual contributor, they are not necessarily those of AUC or the editor.