

Seeds

Oct / Nov 2026

encourage - inspire - challenge



*Augustine
United Church*

Holding the balance

**Revd Fiona
Bennett**



As we enter the Seasons of Wholeness (October) and Remembrance (November) I am interested this year to notice an increasing number of resources and talks about how to hold integrity and balance in a culture of polarisation and sound bites.

This is not an easy or simple task but an ongoing discipline which seems to be confronting a hydra empire of economically motivated media and fear driven by overwhelming change. The Seasons of Wholeness and Remembrance seem like a good time to take stock and refresh that discipline of holding integrity and balance.

When Jesus was starting out his ministry, he was asked to confront what kind of Messiah he was going to be. In the wilderness he was tempted and those temptations forced him to identify who he was and how he would carry out his ministry.

Would he seek to be a Messiah who responded to the immediate demands of hunger (this is not about starvation) or could he see farther to make wiser choices?

Would he be a Messiah who would demand specific results from God and in doing so publicise his status to the world?

Would he be a Messiah who would bow down to the ways of force, domination, violence (the ways of the Empire) because they seem to get the job done more quickly?

"he lived in the confidence but uncertainty of faith"

Jesus managed to resist these temptations; he saw the bigger picture, he lived in the confidence but uncertainty of faith, and he trusted the slow ways of love. He was not respected, trusted or understood by many of those he met, but he held his own despite that.

The story of Jesus' temptations is for me a key to following Jesus. It offers the path of the discipline of love and grace. It may be a story we generally associate with Lent, but in our present culture of polarisation and sound bites, I believe it offers Jesus' path to wholeness and a story to remember.

This Month

GUIDED BY THE POLES

Pilgrims cross mud and tide to reach Lindisfarne



QUEEN JESUS COMES HOME

Jo Clifford's prodigal daughters, from Iona to Gothenburg



MORE THAN JUST SINGING

Inclusive studio Vox Stars turns ten and finds new voices



HONOURING OUR COMMUNITIES

Reflections for Black History Month across the URC





Augustine United Church,
George IV Bridge,
Edinburgh, EH1 1EL

0131 220 1677

www.augustine.org.uk

facebook.com/AugustineUnited
Scottish Charity no. SC000385

CHURCH SECRETARY

Moira Holmes

secretary@augustine.org.uk
or via the church office

ASST CHURCH SECRETARY

Linda Harrison

linda.harrison@augustine.org.uk

MINISTER

Revd Fiona Bennett

minister@augustine.org.uk
07552 162 717

ASSOCIATED MINISTER

Revd Maxwell Reay

associateminister@augustine.org.uk

CHURCH CENTRE MANAGER

Rachel Fitzgerald

centre.manager@augustine.org.uk
0131 220 1677

WEBSITE

Thomas McPolin

web.editor@augustine.org.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA

Antonia Cahill

social.media@augustine.org.uk

SEEDS EDITORIAL TEAM

Laurence Wareing and Denis Mallon

newsletter@augustine.org.uk

Getting Involved

Within AUC there are Ministry Teams which are responsible for different areas of Church Life (CLMTs).

If you would like to know more or get involved with one of these, please email the contact person.

CENTRE, PROPERTY & FINANCE

Ewen Harley

treasurer@augustine.org.uk

CHILDREN

Kate Owens

juniorchurch@augustine.org.uk

COMMUNICATION

Denis Mallon

denis.mallon@augustine.org.uk

OUR TRIBE (LGBT MINISTRY)

Revd Maxwell Reay

associateminister@augustine.org.uk

PEACE & JUSTICE

Jim Kerr

jimeleainekerr@gmail.com

PASTORAL & MENTAL HEALTH

Moira Holmes

moira.holmes@augustine.org.uk

WORSHIP

Revd Fiona Bennett

minister@augustine.org.uk

YOUNG PEOPLE

Matt Baines

youth@augustine.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Alex Peden

safeguarding@augustine.org.uk
07594 093357

VISITOR MINISTRY

Thomas McPolin

thomas.mcpolin@augustine.org.uk

LOCAL COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING

Kathleen Ziffo

kathleen.ziffo@augustine.org.uk

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 a variety of roles available and full training will be given, mainly by shadowing current volunteers.

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



THURSO URC MAKES HISTORY

History was made when the Revd Susan Henderson, a friend of AUC, was inducted to St Peter and the Holy Rood Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) and Thurso United Reformed Church. This was the first time the URC and SEC have shared ordained ministry, an achievement that arises out of a longstanding partnership between the two denominations and the Methodist Church in Scotland. The service was led jointly by the SEC Primus, the Most Revd Mark Strange, and the Revd Lindsey Sanderson, Moderator of the National Synod of Scotland, and it began at St Peters and concluded in Thurso URC.

URC BACKS WINDRUSH PETITION FOR CHANGE

The URC's Racial Justice Advocates are urging members of the URC to sign a petition calling for the Windrush Compensation Scheme to be taken out of the government's hands. The petition highlights how, in comparison with other high-profile compensation schemes, Windrush victims are not eligible for free legal representation, with many being denied compensation. The petition is backed by members of Hillsborough Justice and Grenfell United. Read more and sign the petition at bit.ly/RJApetition.

MOD'S BLOG

Want to know what the rest of the United Reformed Church looks like? A good way to find out are the regular blog posts by the current Moderator of the General Assembly, the Revd Neil Thorogood. He uses words and his own wonderful watercolour drawings to express the life and concerns of URC communities right across the UK. urc.org.uk/general-assembly-moderators-blog. Also this year, a new monthly blog has been started by the URC's Youth Moderator, Kacie Hodgson, and Youth Moderator Elect, Alex Clements. urc.org.uk/youth-moderators-blog/



PRAYING FOR ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Christian Aid's monthly Prayers for Peace restarted on 24 September. Online on the 24th of each month at 7pm (BST/GMT), hear from partners and friends of Christian Aid and pray for a just peace in Israel and Palestine. Sign up at bit.ly/XnAP4P.

LGBTQ+ STATS

Nearly one-third of young adults in the US identify as LGBTQ+, according to a recent report from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. An analysis of 2.45 million responses to the US Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey, collected between July 2021 and September 2024, concluded

that 12% of American adults identify as LGBTQ+ and that roughly one in 43 identify as transgender or gender-expansive (more than double a 2026 Gallup finding). The report found that young people are increasingly free to come out, with nearly one in three adults under 25 now identifying as LGBTQ+. (Source: Erin in the Morning substack)



BOOKS AND BELIEF IS BACK

The sixth New College Festival of Books and Belief will be held on 6-7 November. Join a celebration of thinkers who are asking the big questions in their work – this year including including Malcolm Guite (pictured), Alycia Pirmohamed and Karine Polwart. The festival will also mark New College's 180th anniversary with a panel including historian Alec Ryrie on the hidden history of the Reformation. More at divinity.ed.ac.uk.



Life on the Bridge

News from Augustine United Church

AFTERNOON TEA AT AUC

This popular gathering to enjoy delicious food, conversation and a seasoning of entertainment returns to AUC on Sat 10 October 2 – 3.30 pm

Interested? To help with catering, please let us know if you can join by emailing Moira (moira.holmes@augustine.org.uk) or by phoning Rachel 0131 220 1677.

CONTEXTUAL BIBLE STUDY IS BACK

Fiona Bennett says that there is a real depth of conversation to be had at Contextual Bible Studies and that those who attend find the discussions deeply rewarding.

Contextual Bible Study is a methodology developed in South Africa. It seeks to understand a Bible passage in its original context and to find resonance within our own, listening for what wisdom the passage might offer today. This is an online, hour long, discussion-based study, with no previous Bible knowledge required. All are welcome to join in.

Contextual Bible Studies take place each Wednesday at 7.30 pm and Thursday at 12 noon, online. Contact Rachel for the zoom link (centre.manager@augustine.org.uk).

THE REMEMBERING SPACE

AUC's next Remembering Space will be held on Sunday 4 October at 1.30 pm in the Sanctuary, and all are welcome to join. There is also the option of joining others for lunch at 1pm.

Remembering Space is a sacred time to share stories of those we grieve and continue to hold in love.

For the October gathering, we will be thinking about places that hold memories. You are invited to think of a place that has a special connection with someone you remember. Perhaps somewhere you lived, visited together,

went on holiday, or simply somewhere that holds a particular story.

We will use a map to explore these places together, with an opportunity to share the memory or story connected with it, if you would like to.

If you wish, you are also very welcome to bring a photograph, postcard or other image of the place you have chosen. However, there is absolutely no need to bring anything; simply come as you are.



CHURCH MEETINGS

As we move through the autumn towards Christmas, we continue to mix our Church Meetings between online-only meetings and Sunday gatherings in the building. The Sunday meetings are held after the service and coincide with our Soup and Bread Lunches, so that people can be fuelled by conversation and a mug of soup before we meet. The crèche area will remain out for children during church meetings and it will also be possible to join these meetings online.

Coming up:

Sunday 11 October at 12.30 pm – in building and online

Sunday 8 November at 12.30 pm – in building and online

Tuesday 15 December at 7.30 pm – online only

A TRAVELLING OPPORTUNITY

Learn about the history of the Waldensian Church and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Waldensian Valleys on the Italian/French border in a visit being organised by the URC's Waldensian Fellowship: 6-13 May 2027.

The Waldensians are a small but remarkable denomination in Italy, with much to share both from their history and their present-day social action.

The visit will be based at Torre Pellice, southwest of Turin. Find out more from John Bremnar bremnar.johns@gmail.com.

GREEN INVESTMENT ROADSHOW

On 2 October, Augustine United Church will host the Green Investment Roadshow from Operation Noah. It aims to connect those responsible for managing church funds with inspiring, practical opportunities for ethical and green investment that address the climate crisis. The day will include speakers, interactive workshops, exhibitors showing climate impact, and a chance to connect with other financial stewards.

AUC, 2 October, 9.30 am – 2 pm.
More information and registration at operationnoah.org/roadshow2026.





“HONOURING OUR COMMUNITIES”

To mark Black History Month 2026, URC Global Majority ministers, members and staff have written a series of reflections on this year’s theme, “Honouring Our Communities”.

Starting on 28 September, the reflections will be shared each week throughout Black History Month on the URC’s Latest News website page and via social media. Hear different perspectives on community, belonging and what it means to honour the communities we are part of.

FORM OPINIONS WITH REFORMED

Ever considered subscribing to *Reformed*? *Reformed* is the magazine of the United Reformed Church. It ranges widely in its content – covering initiatives within the national Church but also raising issues and conversations that go well beyond it.

For example, the current edition asks, ‘What is the value of interfaith work?’ Five responses explore the breaking down of stereotypes and ‘rehumanising the religious other’. The magazine’s editor, Stephen Tomkins, also talks to Georgina Bye and URC minister Nathan Eddy, co-directors of The Council of Christians and Jews – thought to be earliest interfaith organisation in the UK. URC Youth Moderator Kacie Hodgson gives a round-up of the past six months, which she describes as ‘a testament to the passion, engagement and outward-looking spirit of the URC’s young people’, and Fliss Barker describes a tiny moment in the middle of a Christmas fun day that persuaded her to become a Church Related Community Worker.

Elsewhere, the climate crisis, welcoming ex-offenders into our churches, and housing asylum seekers all come into focus, and the ‘biblical message’ of Christopher Nolan’s *The Odyssey* is revealed!

How to subscribe – reformedsubs.co.uk.



Reflections from a pilgrimage

This summer's shared pilgrimage with our ecumenical partners from Greyfriars Church of Scotland and St Columba's Scottish Episcopal Church took travellers to Lindisfarne – 'Holy Island', just off the Northumbrian coast.

There was the opportunity to walk across the muddy causeway between mainland and island while the tide was out, and Iain speaks for many when he says he was able to reminisce with others about mutual friends and to get to know better some Augustine folk.

GUIDED AND GROUNDED

(Alex)

A few of us got off the bus early to walk the few miles across the causeway to Lindisfarne. 'Follow the poles,' said Fiona Bennett. I was

Anne MacKenzie, sadly no longer with us. How much she enjoyed these pilgrimages, and how good it was to have her thought for company.

I reflected that in life's journey, Anne was like one of those poles: firmly

distant sand bank, smaller in number than last time, but still there, their chorus drifting across.

THE BIGGER JOURNEY OF LIFE

(Ivy and Josef)

We were delighted to join the pilgrimage to Lindisfarne, hoping to enjoy its spectacular natural beauty and find spiritual peace in God.

A coach took us from George IV Bridge in Edinburgh to Holy Island. There, we admired the tidal landscape, historic buildings, and the Pilgrim's Way [between the mainland and the island], marked by a line of wooden poles stretching into the distance.

Our time on the island was limited by the tides. We had to abandon our original plan to walk up to Lindisfarne Castle, and we felt unequal to the challenge of the muddy pilgrimage walk. We also left the priory ruins and nearby museums unexplored. These limitations reminded us of the brevity of life and the need to set priorities. Yet the choices we made helped make our journey both memorable and meaningful.

That day also brought answers to prayers we had offered for a long time. Our son Ian had not attended church services during his university years. To our surprise and delight, while we were walking around the village, he texted to say that he had just attended a Sunday service.

Ivy had been carrying the weight of concerns arising from her interpreting for clients in social work cases and her care for acquaintances. The quiet of Holy Island gave her space to rest,



Photo: Fiona Bennett

immediately reassured, seeing them stretch unwaveringly to dry safety.

The walk became a rhythm of wet channels, sand and mud. Our route defined, I just needed to get from one pole to the next, giving me the space to think: Where were the seals I'd seen last time?

As we went along, Dariusz mentioned

grounded, a reassuring presence showing the way. I would look up more to these guides and avoid getting too bogged down in the here and now.

At the other side it was a relatively easy path to meet the others, have lunch, and enjoy the beach service. And just after landfall, we were rewarded: there were the seals! On a



Photo: Alex Peden

and helped ease her burden. During the beach service, Josef, who had completed his term on the Scottish Universities Press board at the end of last year, resolved to move forward with long-delayed collaborative projects promoting academic integrity and evidence-based research in artificial intelligence and medicine.

During worship on the beach, we used our iPhone camera to zoom in on the cross standing on St Cuthbert's Island across the water (see p.11). The beauty, tranquillity and sense of solitude made the whole place feel almost magical. What a joyful journey – and a reminder of the larger journey of life! We wished we could have stayed a little longer and hope to return in the years ahead.

MEMORIES OF SHARING

(Iain)

However we understand Communion, Eucharist, or Mass, sharing of communion bread with others has always been highly significant for me. I have taken part in Romania with colleagues from the Hungarian

"And here on a sunny Sunday we were together from many backgrounds at Lindisfarne"

Reformed Church in defiance of the old regime's militant atheism, and in apartheid South Africa with a black colleague who had known torture for resisting the evil doctrine that even Christian Fellowship means separation by race. Many times on the island of

Iona I have felt 'the body of Christ' real as we were asked to take bread out of the Abbey and share it in the cloisters with those whom we have not yet met.

And here on a sunny Sunday, overlooking the beautiful Northumberland Coast, having walked and talked across the wet and often slippery causeway, we were together from many backgrounds sharing together bread and wine at Lindisfarne.

Sometimes we forget that this act of fellowship is also one of resistance, calling us to deny the false Gods of power and wealth, and to trample on divisions of class, race, education, ability, sexuality, and much more, as did the Carpenter of Nazareth all these years ago for the good of us all.

Continued on p.11



Photo: Juliet Stephenson

Travelling home

Jo Clifford reflects on her recent travels with Queen Jesus, to Iona and Gothenburg, and on the prodigal daughters she has met on the way.

This is the time,' says Queen Jesus. 'This is the place. This is where we meet each other.'

And we did, in Iona Abbey.

Under the tower holding up the sky, the tower with its roots deep in the earth. On that island where, once again, I felt overwhelmingly aware of the intense, incredible beauty of God's Earth. And yet also eerily aware of another realm. Somewhere beyond it. In the dimension we call spiritual.

It feels like a very special privilege to perform *The Gospel According to Jesus: Queen of Heaven* in so sacred a place.

And it was a bit disconcerting to find that my main focus was not on

communicating some deep spiritual insight, but on trying to make sure that I didn't fall over.

But then maybe that's a lesson of this extraordinary place, that to reach up to heaven, we also need to be grounded on earth. And maybe dear St Columba had the same problem in his old age: the disconcerting discovery that he was becoming unsteady on his feet...

What moves me about the saint's story was that he was someone living in an age of violence and injustice, someone travelling, someone searching, someone trying to create a safe space where humans could begin to set things right.

Which I suppose is something I also do when I perform.

And the last time I performed in Iona, I found myself invited to perform in churches around the US in 2024. The first place we were invited to, me and Queen Jesus, was First Churches, Northampton, Massachusetts. This was the site of 'the Great Awakening' of the 1700s and 1800s.

The Awakening was a powerful spiritual movement built around the work of charismatic preachers; later, Northampton and its church were to become an important stopping point in the Underground Railroad that provided a safe route for enslaved people to escape from the slave states of the American South.

My performance there raised funds for a charity that was providing assistance to trans people and



Photo: Ola Kjelbye



Photo: Ola Kjelbye

their families trying to escape their persecution in the transphobic South. Pastor Sarah of the church said that it really mattered to her that Queen Jesus and I were welcomed in her church because for her this was part of a new great awakening. When churches free themselves from old prejudices and work together towards justice and peace.

Very much what the Iona community is still committed to and what we, too, are committed to in AUC...

I think it must have been a similar impulse that inspired the clergy of Gothenburg Cathedral to invite Queen Jesus to their cathedral church right after her appearance at the Gothenburg Theatre Festival.

One of the stories in the script is of the prodigal daughter:

'There was once a man who had two sons, and the younger came to know she was his daughter and didn't know what to do. And in the end, she went to her father and said, "Father, forgive me, for I can no longer be called your

son." And the father threw her out of his house...'

When I was in Brazil with Renata Carvalho, the Brazilian Queen Jesus, I was so moved to discover that the prodigal daughter story was partly her story, too. Because she was thrown out by her father when she was still very young, thrown out the house for being effeminate.

"how widely I've travelled around until now I find myself in a new and remarkable, safe spiritual home"

And in Gothenburg, I was again deeply moved to meet Alice, whose parents were old-school Pentecostalist Christians and who threw her out, too. And how after a time of deep fear and sadness, she found her way to the Queen Jesus company in Gothenburg and is now playing music for the

production and leading the choir that so beautifully sings the blessing at the end.

Above is a photo of her preparing on the steps of the cathedral.

Absolutely and totally in her right place.

Absolutely and totally at home.

And I think of how I was forced to exile myself from my own home because there was no place there or me. And how widely I've travelled around until now I find myself in a new and remarkable, safe spiritual home.

Perhaps this is everyone's story.

All of us prodigal daughters and prodigal sons, all of us trying to find our way home.

More than just singing

Lainey Vox tells a tale of confidence, connection, friendship and opportunity at Vox Stars, who regularly use the space offered by our church.

Vox Stars is an Edinburgh-based singing and performance coaching studio, founded by professional vocalist, performer and vocal coach Lainey Vox.

Building on her own extensive experience, Lainey has created a highly respected, 5-star rated studio where singers of all ages and abilities can learn, perform and grow.

And we really do mean all ages! Our students are aged six upwards, including adults and retired singers in their 60s and 70s. Some dream of performing professionally, while others simply love to sing. There are complete beginners alongside experienced performers, and everyone has their own reason for walking through the Vox Stars door.

Lessons are available one-to-one and in groups, with coaching tailored to each individual. Alongside developing vocal technique, students can explore performance skills, stagecraft, movement, microphone technique, repertoire and confidence. Lainey has supported students in gaining places at colleges, universities and prestigious performance schools, as well as helping students prepare for TV competitions.

“We pride ourselves on being an inclusive environment supporting students of various learning styles”

But perhaps the most important part of Vox Stars cannot be measured on a certificate or stage.

Over the years, Lainey has supported many students through challenging periods in their lives, helping them find confidence, friendship and something positive to look forward to. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive environment supporting, celebrating and nurturing those with additional support needs and students of various learning styles.

Vox Stars has become much more than a singing studio. When our students come together at rehearsals, showcases and performances – whether at Augustine United Church or at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe – it feels like one big

family. Students encourage one another, celebrate each other’s achievements and share the highs, nerves, fun, laughter and challenges that come with performing and the joy when it all comes together!

We hold regular showcases throughout the year and produce an annual student show at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, alongside workshops, parties, concerts and other performance opportunities. For many students, stepping onto a stage for the first time is a huge personal achievement. For others, it is the next step towards a bigger dream.



Augustine United Church has become a very special part of our journey, providing a welcoming home for our regular showcases since December 2019. Our next event is our Halloween Show on Saturday 24 October, followed by a busy Christmas season including our One-to-One Show, ASN Show, WinterFEST at Dalkeith Country Park (fundraising for Edinburgh Children’s Hospital Charity), and our Christmas performance at The Dome.

And there is another reason to celebrate: Vox Stars turns 10 in March 2027! Ten years of songs, stages, friendships, challenges overcome, dreams pursued and countless proud moments.

We will mark the occasion with a special celebratory showcase at Augustine United Church on 20 March, followed by our May Showcase on 15 May. Because at Vox Stars, we believe every voice has a story – and every singer deserves the opportunity to discover where theirs can take them.

voxstars.co.uk

Reflections from a pilgrimage (concl.)

Our thoughts and images from August's visit to Lindisfarne conclude with these extracts from a longer reflection by Tony.

A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

(Tony)

The excitement, 'intrepidation', of a day out fills me with joy and happiness and a great sense of expectation of what is to come. The sight of friends and potential new friends brings blessings and rewards in their own right, the greeting and meeting and seeking of new adventures beckons me and instills a sense of calm and peace that is spiritual and that you cannot find in this world...

I wonder, if Jesus was alive today, what would he interpret the outing to be? All that I know from the Bible is that Jesus went on many journeys of physical and spiritual awakening. Upon arriving at Lindisfarne, it gives me a sense of contentment and relief that the journey went well, thank God.

A walk to the beach was invigorating for my body and soul, and seeing the beautiful sun, sand and sea was enriching for my spirit and wellbeing. I absolutely love the beach and I especially love the fresh natural smell that you cannot obtain in the city. I definitely feel a sense of feeling blessed when I am at the beach, in more ways than one.

And upon finding two seashells, I was amazed and in awe and wonder of God's creation. The service at the beach gave me a sense of spiritual awakening and reflection. It was both beautiful and poignant, as well as refreshing, and just what I needed...

"if life was filled with good, positive experiences without the negative, then would we truly appreciate it?"

The Bible says, 'Better the end of a thing than the beginning'.* I wonder, if life was constantly filled with

good, positive experiences without the negative, then would we truly appreciate it? I don't have all the answers. All I know is that sometimes in life it is good to do something



different and go out of our comfort zone to experience something new and different. Who knows, we may like and enjoy it...

Jesus did not promise us an easy life; however, he did promise that he would never leave us or forsake us and that he would be with us until the end of time.

*Ecclesiastes 7:8



Synthetic alternatives? Three new murals from Fairtrade, in London, Bristol and Birmingham, spotlight the growing climate pressures facing farmers and workers overseas who produce some of the UK's most loved products, including tea, coffee and chocolate. Want to save your favourite cup of tea...? Find out more at bit.ly/saveyourtea.

What's On?

Many of our gatherings and resources are 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

Oct / Nov 2026

Every Sunday at 11am: Blended Sunday worship and after-service Zoom social. Worship during the Festival is in "theatre-style" with raked seating.

Contextual Bible Study is taking a break in August but will return online twice-weekly for an hour, on Wednesday at 7.30pm and on Thursday at 12 noon.

NHS Mental Health Drop-in is cancelled until further notice.

October		
Fri 2	9.30am	Green Investment Roadshow (see p.4)
Sun 4	1.30pm	Remembering Space (Lunch 1-1.30pm) (see p.4)
Sat 10	2-3.30pm	Afternoon Tea (see p.4)
Sun 11	12.30pm	Church meeting (preceded by soup lunch)
Sun 18	12.45-3pm	Belonging: Exploring Membership (hybrid)
Sun 25		British Summertime ends – clocks go back
	13:30pm	Coffee Social: Come OUT with Our Tribe (LGBTQI+), Coffee Saints, Little King Street
Thurs 29	7.30pm	Church Council
November		
Sun 1		All Saints Day
Thurs 5	7.30pm	Our Tribe LGBTQI+ Gathering
Sat 7	7-10pm	AUC ceilidh
Sun 8	12.30pm	Church meeting (preceded by soup lunch)
Wed 11		Remembrance Day
Sun 15	1:30-3:30pm	'Death & Donuts' Discussion
Fri 20		Transgender Day of Remembrance
Sun 29	12:15:00	AUC Advent Decoration
	13:30pm	Coffee Social: Come OUT with Our Tribe (LGBTQI+), Coffee Saints, Little King Street
Mon 30		St Andrew's Day

Seeds deadline

The next issue of *Seeds* will be a double issue for December 2026 – January 2027. The copy deadline for the December/January edition is **TBC** and will be shared by email.

Want to write for *Seeds*?

If you're thinking of writing a longer piece for *Seeds*, we hope this information will be helpful. Roughly speaking, we find that a good length for a one-page article is c.570 words, allowing for an image as well. A two-page article will be no more than 900-950 words.

Augustine United Church has been in ecumenical partnership with Greyfriars Kirk and St Columba's by the Castle since 2002, and we enjoy joint services and events through the year. You can discover more about our partners at greyfriarskirk.com and stcolumbasbythecastle.org.uk.

