

Weekly Bulletin - 17 March 2023

Join us for Worship in-person and on-line on Sundays at 10.30



Last weekend, along with Molly, Irene, Ruud and Dee, I attended the International Presbytery (IP) meeting in Brussels. This is my third in-person meeting, and as always, it was good to reconnect with colleagues from across Europe. In this article I want to share with you one or two things that affect us here at the Scots International Church.

1. I have been appointed as Interim Moderator of Lausanne as their minister retires at the end of June. This means ensuring that the Kirk Session and congregation follow all the necessary procedures to hopefully have as short a vacancy as possible. In the present Presbytery Plan Lausanne have been allowed to call a full-time Church of Scotland minister and will eventually be linked with Geneva when their present minister retires.
2. Joanne Evans-Boiten, known to some of you, has been appointed as Moderator of the IP. That means in October, when the Presbytery comes to Rotterdam, she will be leading our Sunday morning worship. Please pray for her in the coming year.
3. The IP debated about the cost of putting on a Presbytery meeting and certain changes are being considered. If things remain as they are then our Presbytery dues may be affected. A final decision is deferred until October.
4. The Property Committee of Presbytery are aware of our building issues and can help us obtain any necessary permissions as soon as all required quotes and forms are presented. Our own Consistory and sub-committee, the Finance and Governance team, are working on this serious issue.

It is important to remember that we are not a church on our own. We belong to an International Presbytery which in turn belongs within the wider Church of Scotland. Of course, we are also part of the world-wide Christian community. As we continue to move forward as a church let us pray for our sister congregations locally, and internationally, that we may seek to bring glory to God as the body of Christ.

Graham

The Sunday Service



The bible reading this Sunday is [Romans 5:1-11](#).

Paul, in the previous chapters, paints a bleak picture of our condition before God: sinners awaiting death – the wages of sin. However, God in his love, mercy and grace sends a saviour to rescue and restore us to a right relationship with God the Father.

Covid Restrictions Removed

A change to the look of the church from Sunday. All restrictions have now been removed regarding Covid in relation to churches in the Netherlands from Wednesday 15 March. Basically, back to normal with seating, communion and worship.

You can join us in person or online [HERE](#)

Messy Church

'Looking towards Easter'

This is tomorrow, Saturday 18 March 10.30am to 12noon in Lower Hall

An event for all the family including lunch.

Please pray for this event



The Sunday School



On Sunday the **SICR Sunday School** The children will be thinking about how God is always near even when we think God is far away. The reading they will be thinking about is Psalm 22.

The SICR Sunday School Team look forward to welcoming your children to their Sunday activities.

If you have any questions please contact Dee: delast@hotmail.co.uk?

Please pray for the Leaders and children of the Sunday School as they share together wonderful bible stories.

SICR AGM – Please note change of date

The **Annual General Meeting** will take place on Sunday 2 April in the Lower Hall following a shorter morning service.

Various groups will be asked to submit written reports in due course. Please make time for this important meeting of your church.

LFFN (Ladies Fellowship and Fun Night)



On Friday 10th March, we had our first Ladies Fellowship night. We have named it the L.F.F.N (Ladies Fellowship and Fun Night). This is an initiative we have started to invite all women of the church together in one space and get to know each other better. We see each other every Sunday, at church or other events, but we really don't know each other very well, or don't have the time to do so. Women from different ages and cultures were present and it was lovely to share laughter and stories together. We started off with some delicious food and dessert, after which we played some get-to-know-each-other games. There was much laughter, and all enjoyed the evening. We also had some time to sing together, what a gift that was!

You are very welcome to join us!

For some of us, our families are very far away or sadly, no longer with us. Some of us don't get to spend as much time with our mothers, sisters, cousins or grandmothers anymore.

So, it is amazing to get together and getting to know each other better. Therefore, finding out that what we miss from our homes and families is in the women sitting next to us. We are hoping many friendships will come out of these meetings, and that we as the body of Christ grow together, learning, helping and just being there for each other.

Did you miss it? NO WORRIES! The next one is Friday April 14th at 7:30 pm in the Lower Hall.

Other dates: June 16th, August 18th, October 13th and December 8th.

We hope that this becomes a space for pure fun, joy and fellowship among God's beloved daughters.

Feel free to contact Dee or Sofi for any questions you might have.

Till next time and God bless



House Groups/Bible Studies



Lent Studies: The Third Day

In the Manse Mondays at 7.30pm

Schiedamse Vest 121, 3012BH Rotterdam

Contact Graham (contact details on last page)

Go too [Sanctuary First](#) and click on Daily Worship [Daily Worship](#) where you can listen to their Lent thoughts which started on the 26 February.

Drechtsteden House Group:

1st & 3rd Thursdays 7.30pm

W.P Speelmanstraat 14 3333BW Zwijndrecht

Contact: Mikayla Souman (details below)

Prayer Warriors: Last Friday of the month at church from 6-9pm worship, prayer, and Bible study

Contact Frieda Enow 06 85297922

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If you are interested in house groups email Marten & Mikayla our Fellowship Coordinators

(mikayla.souman@gmail.com)

March Mission Offering



This month we support the work of Rev Richmond Kofi and 'Hope Bible & Mission Church' in assisting Tumba Community in Rwanda.

Please know it is not expected that people contribute every Sunday to the mission offering.

Friday Open Afternoons



The Lower Hall is open from 12:00 to 15:00 where you will be welcomed with tea, coffee and friendly face. Soup is available for €2. It is an opportunity to meet up with friends, enjoy a chat with others and tour the building. The sanctuary will be open if you want to find a quiet moment to pray. The Friday team look forward to meeting you'

Prayer Requests



Are you in need of prayer or pastoral care? Or do you know someone who is? Would you like the minister to phone you? Please send in your requests via email, text, phone, or PM through the

church Facebook page. Contact details below. Prayers can also be sent via the Prayer Coordinator, Irene Jardine, at pray.sicr@gmail.com.

Live Stream



Please note that the services are live streamed and this Sunday's service, and previous services (up to one year), can be accessed [HERE](#).

If the children come forward for the children's talk the camera will

only focus on the speaker.