

Fellowship of the Least Coin

Newsletter January 2025

Good News from 2024

Donations received by FLC Scotland in 2024 will allow us to donate £1,200 to the FLC International funds. Thank you for your prayers, commitment and generosity. Please continue to encourage others to join in this ministry of prayer and action. It is vitally needed in our world today to transform communities and individual lives.

As promised last year, FLC Scotland now has **a new website:**

<https://flcscotland.com/>

If you have internet access, please have a browse and join in with the regular prayer reflections and activities. We are always happy to hear your views and suggestions so do email or write to me as Secretary FLC Scotland. secretary.flcscotland@gmail.com **OR** Secretary FLC, 40 Park, Thornhill, Dumfries and Galloway, DG3 5JP. Tel: 07900512062

Looking forward to 2025

FLC Scotland now has a good working relationship with the International Secretary and our European links and the developments in 2025 come from having these closer links.

FLC Publications and Grants



Last year I was invited to write a reflection, prayer and comment for the FLC Prayer Circle. This, and earlier publications can be viewed on our **Website section Prayer Circle.**

Following on from this, the International Committee approached me to ask if members in Scotland knew of any Project that may benefit from a FLC Grant because no applications had been received from Europe in 2024. The application deadline was quite tight, but I did circulate the request to Church Leaders and Associated Groups.

2 Projects were identified, and we learnt in October that one had been successful. The successful Project is one supporting families recovering from domestic abuse. The Project is run by Mothers' Union Scotland and is called Away From It All (AFIA) and provides a safe time away for respite but also provides a valuable space to work with professionals to create supportive networks for the future. The grant will fund an AFIA holiday in 2025 for twenty-five participants plus some supportive days away to build relationships with future participants.

Details of how to apply for FLC grants are posted on the Website Section Projects. Something to consider if you are working in any of the areas of ministry falling within the FLC guidelines.

There are also reports from Projects receiving grants in past years.

Call To Prayer

The International Committee also encourage times of Prayer for members to come together on Zoom for reflection and intercession. In Scotland we invite members to come together on the **last Friday of each month at 12.00 Noon** for no more than 20min. Do join us for this time of prayer and encourage others also. Please contact me at the above address for the Zoom link.

Members can join Call to Prayer by phone, please ring the

secretary for link details. Each month we will use a different Reflection from the Prayer Circle and have time to share personal intentions for peace and reconciliation: either personal, from our local community, national or international.

Gathering-In Liturgy

During the Summer, the International Committee post the annual Gathering- In Liturgy. It is suggested individuals or groups meet to pray together in the autumn (similarly to WDP in the spring). **In 2024 this liturgy was streamed for the first time using Church Leaders and FLC supporters from across Scotland.** The liturgy provides material that can also be used whole or in part by for Guild or Church Services. For members it offers a time to collect and send their annual donations, share the story of FLC and to worship together. **Thank you to all those who took part in 2024!**

Would like to be involved in the creation of this Liturgy in 2025?

I would love to hear from you! We need a church space and possibly a group of singers to do some live recordings and the other sections can be Zoom recordings in your own space. I will do the linking together. **Do look at the 2024 Liturgy on the Website.**

If you are reading the FLC Newsletter for the first time you may like to join us in this important ministry and pray either individually or as a regular pray group. Each time you pray you join an ecumenical worldwide movement focused on reconciliation and peace. This may be a prayer for a local family situation, one of concern in a local community or the offering of prayer for a national or international situation.

FLC Prayer

O loving Creator, we present ourselves in your divine presence to thank you for all the bountiful gifts of life. We are especially grateful for the Fellowship of the Least Coin which binds us together in love and forgiveness around the globe.

Today we pray for.....

Free us from all doubts and prejudices, we pray. Inspire us to live in solidarity with humankind that we may know the joy of giving and receiving.

Dear God, accept this least coin, 'symbol of love'. Make us mindful of the miracle of these coins. Let us honour your creation with love, as shown through the life, death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

As a sign of commitment to this life changing possibility members are asked to put aside one coin, the lowest denomination of their country, in Scotland this is 1p. This is the miracle that the gathering of coins across the world, transform people's lives by providing

- education and training,
- opportunities to meet in a safe place to bring new understanding and commitment between peoples divided by conflict or cultures
- resources and aid to areas of need, whatever the cause.

FLC give regular updates of those projects funded and you are the ones making the difference for a membership donation of £3.65 !

Is God calling you to this ministry?

Is God calling you to pray faithfully for justice, peace and reconciliation?

Finance Report 2022-2023

A full financial Report is available on request from the Secretary.

The Treasurer, Beverley Clews writes: Hello and Happy New Year to all Members of FLC!

We have had donations from twenty different groups/individuals and after expenses have been deducted, the balance at the close of business on 31st December is £1429.28.

I suggest we send £1200 to the FLC International Fund in the New Year leaving a small working balance for future communication/publicity in 2025.

Thank you to all members for their support and contributions throughout the year!

Our financial year is from 1st January – December 31st.

Please send donations by Direct Bank Transfer:

Account: Fellowship of the Least Coin

Sort Code: 82.65.24

Account number: 50033484

Or

Send a cheque made payable to Fellowship of the Least Coin:

The Secretary FLC

40 Park, Closeburn, Thornhill, DG3 5JP Dumfries and Galloway

We are encouraged to do more and more online communications to save funds so monies can be directed to the Projects and that we may act responsibly from an ecological perspective. Therefore, if it is possible could you **send me an email contact for future mailing** and sharing of FLC news. Use this as an opportunity to share the work and ministry of FLC with you church community or a family member or a friend who are online and can share FLC news and worship resources with you. In doing so we are spreading the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ and demonstrating our care and prayers active in his name.

We continue to care for those without internet access and these members and any new members will continue to receive postal communications if requested.

A conversation, with the blessing of the International Committee, continues of a closer working with scattered FLC members in the UK. Sadly, members in Wales have decided to close and

transferred their remaining funds to Scotland at the end of 2024. We thank their Secretary, Anna Cory for her past commitment and echo the International Secretary's message to Anna that can be extended to everyone supporting FLC over many years.

"Dear Anna- I am grateful to you and in praise to God for all faithful women like you! Thank you for your witness, and I pray more women will come and join FLC circle in the future." Lisa Lamis. (International Secretary).

FLC Prayer Circle 2024 – 2026 Heal Ourselves: Heal our World!

This publication contains a reflection and prayer from Scotland.

LOVING THIS WORLD WITH GOD'S LOVE

Psalms 77:1 "I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, that he may hear me"

People cry out, from situations of war, conflict, deprivation, and adversity. I minister in Southwest Scotland and in partnership with many skilled and gifted people I reach out to people trapped behind closed doors experiencing domestic abuse; all self-confidence gone. In that space of hope I stand. The incidence of domestic abuse is now so high, following Covid and the severe restrictions created by Government cuts to social assistance, that the Refuge Staff 's possibilities to create a safe space are chained by restrictions. So, like the Psalmist we cry out, both the victim and the those fighting to begin the rescue.....**for the full reflection see**

Website: Prayer Circle No 27

Would you like a talk, presentation or display of FLC Ministry?

Please contact the Secretary.

FLC Secretary, Revd. Deacon Ann Wren

January 2025