

# COLUMBA FEST

**Glasgow, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**'GATHERING', a SHARED JOURNEY in  
STORY, SYMBOL, SILENCE & SONG**



hosted by the Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community

[iona.org.uk/columbafest-2023](http://iona.org.uk/columbafest-2023)

## Intro

### Welcome to ColumbaFest 2023!

ColumbaFest is a festival held on the anniversary of the death of St Columba, the holy man who came from Ireland to settle on the island of Iona and, in time, established the religious settlement there.

Columba christianised Scotland; and the mission work of his followers spread out from there to reach parts of central and southern Europe.

The festival explores themes from Columba's life, such as learning, mission, exile, prayer, spirituality and social engagement.

This year has a particular emphasis on what we are gathering from all we experienced with Covid and the lockdowns; the lingering fragility and unprocessed grief; the unseen struggles and changed-forevers.

Our gentle festival day will be a shared journey by stages, marked in story, symbol, silence and song.



**Wild Goose Resource Group**  
**Iona Community, Suite 9 Fairfield,**  
**1048 Govan Rd, Glasgow, G51 4XS**  
[wildgoose@wildgoose.scot](mailto:wildgoose@wildgoose.scot)

## Programme

### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June**

@ Govan & Linthouse Church

**10.00 Arrivals** with coffee

**10.30 Gathering Liturgy**

**10.45 Art After Crisis**

*with*

**Debbie Lewer**

**11.45 Fragility, Flux & Faith**

*with*

**Carol Marples**

**12.45 Midpoint Liturgy**

**13.00 Lunch**

**13.45 Writings & Retellings**

*with*

**Leanne Clelland  
& Jo Love**

**14.45 Tea & scones**

**15.00 Panel** on learning & recovery

*with*

**Elaine Hough  
Marion Hughes  
Catriona Milligan  
Stacey Morrison**

**16.00 S/ending Liturgy**

**19.30 Siskin Green**

*Full details on the following pages*

**SATURDAY 10th June**

## **COLUMBAFEST**

### **‘GATHERING’**

10.00am-4.15pm, 7.30-8.30pm

@ Govan & Linthouse Church

**10.00**

**ARRIVALS** *with coffee*

**10.30**

### **GATHERING LITURGY**

*led by members of the ColumbaFest Steering Group*

**10.45**

### **ART AFTER CRISIS**

*with Debbie Lewer*

Debbie will explore ideas of ‘gathering’ by considering visual art in and after times of crisis. Thinking about art and artists in extremis may help illuminate what it means to live creatively with loss, personal and collective, and to create new visions of hope grounded in reality and relationship.



Debbie is an art historian at the University of Glasgow. Working with many audiences she explores how the visual arts can enrich lives of faith and challenge habitual ways of seeing.

## **COLUMBAFEST 2023**

**11.45**

### **FRAGILITY, FLUX & FAITH**

*with Carol Marples*

Carol will lead us through a hands-on creative meditation based around our theme.

~

*This being human is a guest house.  
Every morning a new arrival.*

*A joy, a depression, a meanness,  
some momentary awareness comes  
as an unexpected visitor.*

*Welcome and entertain them all!*

from ‘The Guest House’ - Rumi

~



Carol is an artist, teacher, liturgist and development worker for Soul Marks Trust, enabling creativity, particularly through the visual arts, to express and inspire faith in God.

**12.45**

### **MIDPOINT LITURGY**

*led by members of the ColumbaFest Steering Group*

**13.00**

### **LUNCH**

*provided by Café 13*

## SATURDAY 10th June

13.45

### WRITINGS & RETELLINGS

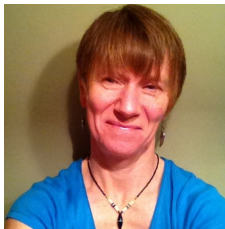
with **Leanne Clelland & Jo Love**



A creative uncovering of lockdown memories



Leanne shapes words into sentences for work, for fun and for academic purposes. She has recently completed an MPhil in Theology through Creative Practice, adapting the ancient story of Naomi for today's middle-aged women. Leanne also works with the Iona Community.



Jo is a Resource Worker with WGRG. In work and play she loves exploring the power of words, and is an inveterate journal keeper. Drawing others into creative thinkings and doings is her passion and delight.

## COLUMBAFEST 2023

14.45 TEA & scones

15.00 PANEL

a group discussion with Q&A on learning and recovering

with

**Elaine Hough ~ Marion Hughes**  
**Catrina Milligan ~ Stacey Morrison**



Elaine is a Healthcare Chaplain and Trustee of Hope Wellbeing, a community support centre in Ayr with a team of trained 'listeners', 'befrienders', counsellors and mental health workers putting faith in action.



Marion has an extensive background in Community Education and went on to work for six years as a Forest School Leader. She brings a depth of knowledge and passion about the natural world as a powerful setting for children's resilience, health and life skills.

# SATURDAY 10th June

## PANEL



Catriona is a Community Development Worker at Gorbals Church, a place of welcome where people from all walks of life cook, bake, mend, de-stress, discuss and worship.



Stacey is a senior occupational therapist in the East Ayrshire community mental health team. She is trained to deliver Behavioural Family Therapy, Behavioural Activation and Decider Skills. Stacey is also a Hope Wellbeing Trustee.



16.00

## S/ENDING LITURGY

*led by members of the ColumbaFest Steering Group*

*For those not rushing away, there's plenty of time to stay, browse books and chat!*

# COLUMBAFEST 2023

19.30-20.30

## SISKIN GREEN

**Siskin Green** are a contemporary Scottish folk trio, drawing on themes of faith, feminism and justice. They weave close harmony singing with evocative folk instrumentation, in a sound that moves between earthy and ethereal.



**Jane Bentley** (percussion), **Suzanne Butler** (fiddle, guitar) and **Margaret McLarty** (guitar, banjo, piano) balance fiery protest songs by re-imagined hymns and their own new material.

They have recorded songs for BBC Scotland's 'Reflections at the Quay' and BBC One's 'Songs of Praise' from the island of Iona.

At the Edinburgh Fringe on 21<sup>st</sup> August, in St. Andrew's and St. Georges West Church, they will be launching their **debut album 'Siskin Green'**; songs springing from contemporary and historical women's voices – reaching out beyond the boundaries of religion and dogma, to embrace the joys and concerns of our daily lives. First single 'Will Your Anchor Hold' released on 9<sup>th</sup> June!

## Bookstall

### The Wee Wild Goose Shop



Over coffee and lunch, a chance to browse some new titles from Wild Goose Publications.



## Gorbals Church

If you're still in Glasgow on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June, please join us at **Gorbals Church** for a Columba-themed 11am service led by the Gorbals worship team.

## Photography

We will be taking photographs to use for publicising and sharing news of the event.

If you'd prefer not to be photographed, please let a member of the ColumbaFest team know.

## Acknowledgements

The ColumbaFest Steering Group would like to thank:

Rev David Gray and Govan & Linthouse Parish Church for their generous help and collaboration, the Iona Community for its support, and of course, all our wonderful Contributors!

## Venue & Directions

### Govan & Linthouse Parish Church

796 Govan Road, Glasgow, G51 2YL

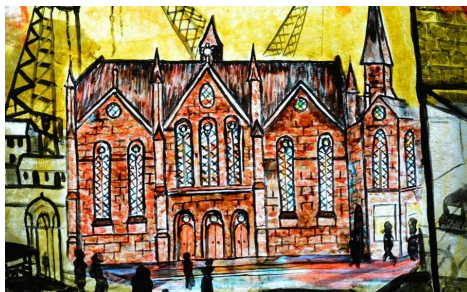
**Rail:** From Glasgow Queen Street or Central Station, take the Underground from Buchanan St.

**Underground:** the church at Govan Cross is just over the road from Govan Subway, only 10 minutes from the City Centre.

**Bike:** National Cycle Network, Route 7 (cross the river at Bells Bridge)

**Bus:** numbers 23, 34, 49, 90, 121 and 189 pass through central Govan.

**Car:** Govan is accessible by car from the M8, M74 and M77. From the West End you will arrive through the Clyde Tunnel, or from the city centre via the Squinty Bridge.

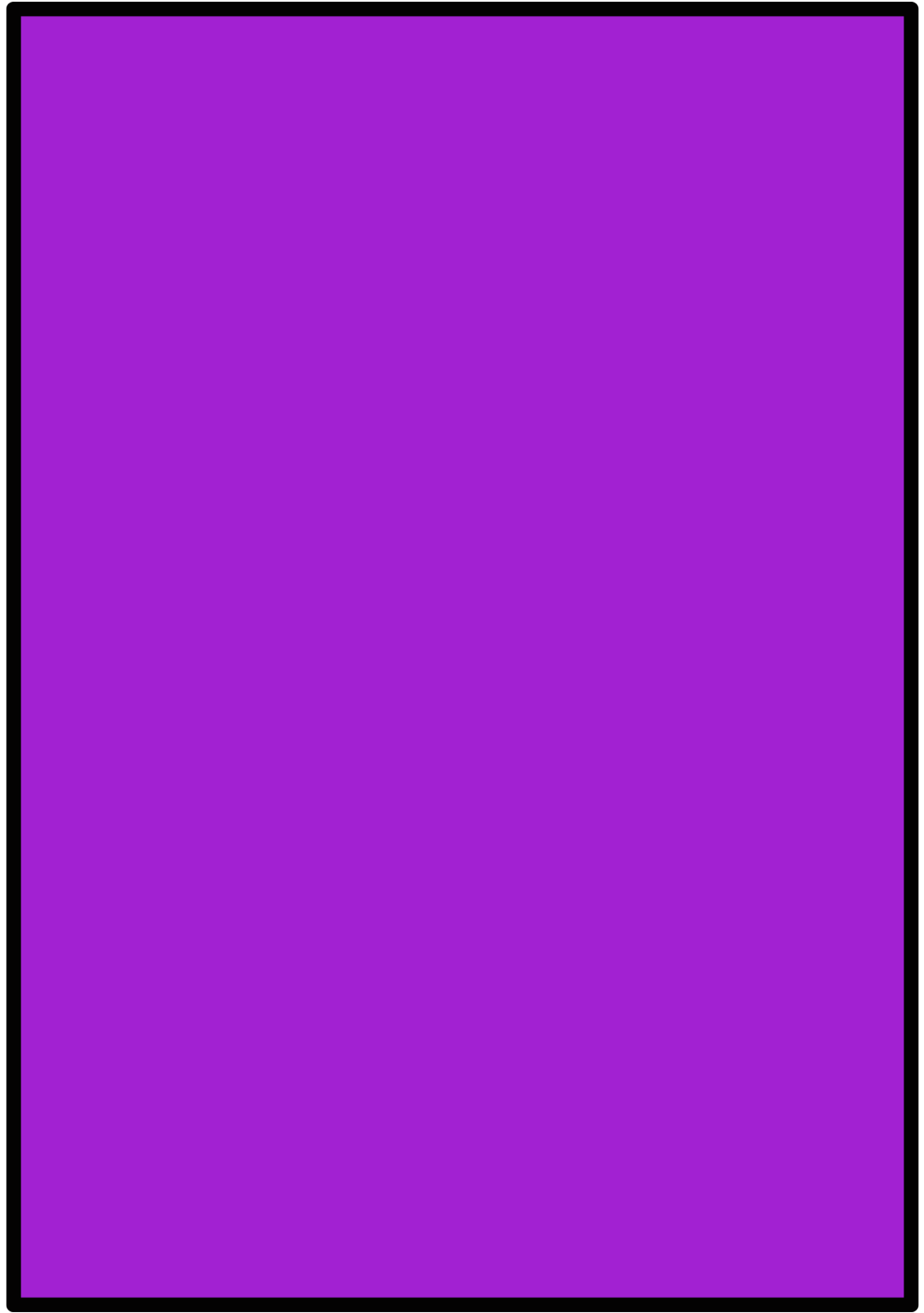


## Accessibility

@ Govan & Linthouse

Disabled access – ramp to Sanctuary, where ColumbaFest sessions are held.

Toilets – accessible toilet on lower level. Additional toilets on first floor up stairs via entrance vestibule.



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