

How your support is transforming lives.



All things new

Developing women's work

We look at the work of our Women's Project Development Worker, Leeanne, as we seek to support more women in Glasgow.

When I was in prison

As Christians we are called to visit those in prison, Joe gives us insight into this area of our work.

The artwork and the artist

Our art class meets every Friday. Learn how Urban Art results in more than just beautiful paintings.

Make all things new

In the book of Revelation, chapter 21, we see a vision of the eternal future in which God dwells with his people. Suffering and crying are no more, and all things are made new. It's a beautiful section of the Bible offering a picture of hope for when all the struggles of life are done and we can live for eternity in God's presence, in His new creation.

Hope, promise, restoration. What's not to love about that picture? Many of us think about being a better version of ourselves in all sorts of ways. Many of us are political and would hope to transform the world by political means. But a whole new creation? This isn't just a makeover being described, not restoration of the old but brand-new new!

You might add; 'that's all well and good for the hereafter but what about now?' Fair enough. What does 'making all things new' look like in the here and now? That is Jesus' challenge to the community of faith for every generation.

Consider; a move from chaos to new life. From addiction to freedom and sobriety. From poverty and alienation to participation and planning a future. From slavery to all manner of things physical, emotional, and spiritual to freedom the likes of which you could never have imagined! All possible and all testified to in the lives of our team and of our guests through the centuries of this ministry.

What can we do today to make the Kingdom a reality to a broken and hurting world? What little bit can you do to make all things new?



Charles Maasz
Chief Executive

Fresher and brighter

We are excited to share news and pictures with you of the refurbishment of our Child and Family Centre.

Our Centre needed a substantial upgrade to modernise the toilets, kitchen, main hall, side rooms, ceilings and flooring. The refurbishment is going well, it is now 80 per cent complete. The contractors were able to do more work than we had anticipated this summer. The first phase of the refurbishment is now finished and the building was ready when we welcomed the children returning to nursery on 17 August.

Changes

Extensive changes happened during the school holidays when the building was quiet. We have had a new kitchen fitted, with a top of the range oven. This will give the opportunity to do baking with the kids. Both sets of toilets have been updated. The contractors have painted inside and outside, flooring has either been replaced or sanded and revarnished. New storage and shelving units and new radiators have also been fitted. The result of these changes will be a more welcoming place to work and play.

Summer holiday programme

We were thankful to have the garden space in Elder Park for our summer family holiday program. The staff navigated some tricky situations, with grace and innovation, to provide three weeks of the family holiday programme in the park, while the refurbishment was happening in the building.

The team also arranged trips for some of our families throughout the summer.

Treehouse

The contractors have been great. They came to our summer BBQ, and this gave our Child and Family Centre Manager, Anne, the chance to say, "It would be great to have a treehouse in that tree, wouldn't it?" To which the builder she was talking to replied, "Yes, we can do that for you." We now have a tree house!

A fresh start

It is so heartening for all our staff to see the Centre becoming a fresher, brighter working environment. This attractive and safe environment will be a great space for our children and families to flourish. It is a blank canvas, ready for lots of colourful artwork and activities to be displayed.

The refurbishment has also generated a lot of chat with people passing by; it is lovely that people are noticing. We look forward to welcoming members of the local community into the building in the months ahead.



Developing women's work

Working with vulnerable women, helping them to move from chaos to fullness of life

Leeanne shares findings from her research of women's needs and services in Glasgow.

Leeanne is the Women's Project Development Worker at Glasgow City Mission. If you have been following our news stories on the website, you will know Leeanne from the Upcycling Furniture story, and that Leeanne has been able to support some people like Ayen* on their next steps. However, what you may not know about Leeanne is the vital research aspect of her role.

Why do more men access the City Centre project than women?

This research was inspired by the question "Why do many more men access the City Centre project than women, when we know there are women in need in Glasgow?" Leeanne broke this down by asking, "What provision is already in the city for women from other services?" and, "What are the needs of women in the city?" Leeanne's research has inspired the Mission's decision to employ two new workers to develop women's work, create a new 'women only' space in the city centre, and to partner more closely with churches. Leeanne commented, "My heart and vision is to help people get free, the thought of people being healed and stepping forward is what it's all about."

Glaswegian themes

Leeanne began her research with a mapping exercise to create a picture of all the services for women in Glasgow. After this initial mapping, Leeanne visited women's projects all over the UK looking for examples of best practice. She noticed that there is a lot of support available for women in crisis in Glasgow, but little ongoing support.

Leeanne conducted a focus group with women in emergency accommodation at Bellisle House, asking the women, "What help did you need? What help did you get, or not get?" The overwhelming answer coming

from the group was that they wanted to feel valued, for example, by being phoned back and people being available to talk to them.

UK wide themes

Two highlights of Leeanne's UK wide project visits were Azaelea, in Luton, who employ some men in their work. Azaelea are rooted in their Christian identity and encourage men to relate in a healthy way to women. London City Mission inspired Leeanne, especially in their model of embedding staff into churches across London.

Leeanne says, "God weaved together all the bits I liked from each visit and put them together, to think through the way we use our space in Glasgow."

New way of working

Our next step is to employ two new workers: an International Women and Children Worker, and a Women's Restoration Project Worker. In Crimea Street we only work with adults over the age of 18, this means women can't bring children into our building. Also, because we are very busy some women feel uncomfortable around our building. The new work will create a new 'women only' space in the city centre, alongside closer partnerships with churches.

Following London City Mission's model, we are going to partner more closely with local churches. These partnerships will incorporate a Bible based approach to trauma, from the Trauma Healing Institute with the Scottish Bible Society.

If you and your church are interested in being part of this new work with women, responding to trauma with the truth of the Bible, please get in contact with Leeanne. Her email is leeanne@glasgowcitymission.com.

“ My heart and vision is to help people get free, the thought of people being healed and stepping forward is what it's all about.

Leeanne

Three main research findings:

- ✓ Closer partnerships with churches
- ✓ Create a 'women only' space in the city centre
- ✓ Two new workers



When I was in prison you visited me

Joe visits one person a week in prison. He recognises that his work is a calling.

Working with those in prison, or after they leave prison, can be challenging. However Joe is dedicated to this work and the opportunities for positive change it brings. This aspect of the Mission's work is at times complementary to our Rehab Pathways team as we seek to break the cycles of people coming out of prison and reoffending.

Beginnings

Our prison work has developed over time, starting with HMP Greenock and HMP Lomoss. Joe remembers, "The first guy who wrote to me had heard about the service, and I ended up working alongside him, he got on really well and he did a placement here. It was the most horrendous case, this guy's crime was one in a million. He is free now, and he is following Jesus."

Joe visits these men, and offers to pray with every person he visits. Joe links with Prison Chaplains and Prison Fellowship Scotland. He seeks to help those leaving prison to get ready for life outside.

“ He is free now, and he is following Jesus.”

Next steps for people

Once released it is very important that we enable people to move into safe accommodation. "We've been able to get houses for a lot of the guys who are coming out", says Joe. "With some we've actually helped them walk out of prison directly into a house. However, it's also linking people in to appropriate support, accepting people as they are, and saying that there is hope."

Tough questions

As a consequence of his role, Joe sometimes goes into schools to give talks. One girl asked "Do you believe people can reform? How would you feel if someone murdered your brother?" Joe respected this question, and answered with another question, "How would you feel if your brother was the murderer?" The girl thought this was a good answer.

Next steps for the work

Joe would really like to see the service grow.

Our Project Team pray for the work, and trust the Holy Spirit is working in people's lives in both unseen and visible ways. There is momentum building after Covid changed the landscape of how agencies could work in prisons. We want to take advantage of this positive momentum for our guests' benefit.

Please pray for officials in the justice system to make positive changes and reforms that focus on the needs of individual people, both inside and on coming out of prison.

“ I wouldn't do this work if I didn't think people could change.”

Joe



The artwork and the artist

Every Friday we run our art class in Urban. Here we give a volunteer's reflection on the class.

Visitors to Crimea Street will have seen some of the fabulous artworks that grace the walls. These have been produced by members of Urban Art, a weekly class at the Mission. The class runs on Friday mornings from 10:00 to 12:00 and is structured to allow each participant to work on a unique project according to their preference and ability.

The art class has run for many years, and a number of qualified, dedicated art teachers and staff have contributed over the years to make the class what it is today. Urban Art is currently led by volunteers Wilma, Ann and Bill. The focus is on wellbeing. Giving people an art challenge enhances wellbeing; because it gives them something to focus on. Wilma says, "I can't teach painting, it's in the doing that we learn."

"What does Urban Art mean to you?"

Some of the Urban Art members shared their thoughts on what being part of the class means. One woman said, "This class means a lot to me. It helped me when I was depressed and isolated. I've been coming for eight years and it makes me happy."

Someone else said, "I like being with people, chilling out and using my brain."

"Urban Art is fun, good, and I get to meet people," said Sam*.

Sam, the artist

Bill, one of the volunteers, shares a story with us about Sam and his artwork.

I started to volunteer at the art club in Urban in 2014. I wasn't trained in art. I made coffee and talked to people and tried a bit of painting. There were two aspects to the art club: the artwork and the artist. It wasn't long before I realised that they were connected.

One regular member, Sam, is a first-class artist and when I started at Urban Art, he was painting very good pictures that had a racehorse theme. They were done in acrylics and were full of colour and vitality.

He had been retired for some time and like many retired people had become isolated. I knew the feeling myself. It is very common for people to become lonely in a city; it generates anxiety and a feeling of despair. His doctor referred him to the Mission.

I used to think the Mission was a place which helped those in addiction and people who were homeless, and so it does, but it also helps retired people who miss the friendship of work colleagues.

Sam's artwork

Sam missed work when he retired and did not know what to do sometimes, he watched Channel 4 horse racing on the television. As he attended the Urban Art, what he saw on television came out in his paintings.

I have always found horse racing on television to be dull, but Sam's paintings are not dull. They were interesting, colourful and exciting.

I discovered as I helped in the art class that art is the mirror of the soul. What Sam was seeing on television was mirrored in his art. It was good for his confidence to produce such good art, and it was good for those who saw his pictures to see beauty in racehorses.

How impoverished we would have been if Sam had not come to the Mission. How impoverished he would have been; but now the world is a better place.

Exhibition

The artists are working towards an upcoming exhibition of their artwork. Keep following Glasgow City Mission on social media to see more Urban artwork, and keep your eyes peeled for updates about the exhibition.



News round-up

> Our Winter Project Manager

Elyse started back with us as the Winter Project Manager on 29 August. Her role is to develop the work we have been doing in the Overnight Welcome Centre each year. Elyse is putting together this season's staff team as we move towards the reopening of the Overnight Welcome Centre on 1 December.

See www.glasgowcitymission.com/about/jobs/ for details of the roles available.

> European Association of Urban Missions Conference

In order to deepen and develop relationships and learn from others' experiences in Missions throughout Europe, some of our staff are attending the European Association of Urban Missions Conference 2022 in Birmingham from 26 to 28 September. The conference is titled, *Serving the city: Sharing light and hope in times of struggle*.

> Open Morning

We are hosting an open morning for churches, at 20 Crimea Street, from 10:00 until 12:00 on Saturday 1 October. Church members can come along to speak to our staff about the breadth of work we do over our three projects. There will be refreshments and a time of worship to end the event.

For more information, please go to our event page: www.glasgowcitymission.com/event/churches-open-morning.

> Glasgow Central Station Collection

On Friday 25 November, we will be in at Glasgow Central Station for a bucket collection. If you are a train commuter then please put this in your diary and say hello to our volunteers as you pass through the station.

Pray with us

- > Give thanks for the renovation at the Child and Family centre and for the very positive relationship with the contractor.
- > Pray for our work in the nurse at the Child and Family Centre. Pray also for the families in Govan, who are in the cycle of poverty, to be positively impacted, by our staff and volunteers who genuinely care about them.
- > Give thanks for our new guest interns who have just started in Crimea Street as they adjust to their new roles and responsibilities.
- > Pray for the new way we are working with women, that as we approach trauma from a Biblical perspective many women would find freedom. Please pray that churches across Glasgow would catch this vision and want to be involved in this work.
- > Pray for people who we meet who are lonely. Pray that we would be listening well, and be on the lookout to encourage and befriend our guests who are struggling with loneliness.
- > Pray for the Overnight Welcome Centre starting on 1 December. Pray for our guests in their difficult circumstances and for our staff as they deal with the issues that will arise.

More online

Stay up to date with our latest news and plans on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

www.glasgowcitymission.com



Respond

"I want to transform lives in Glasgow"

1 I'd like to set up a monthly donation

The sum of £3 £12 £24 £36 £50 Other £ _____ every month

On the 1st 15th of every month, starting in _____ MONTH _____

Account holder: _____

Account number: _____ Sort code: _____

Charities Aid Foundation processes donations on our behalf and will send you a Direct Debit Guarantee and advanced notice letter before your first donation.



I'd like to give a one off gift of £ _____

I enclose a cheque (payable to Glasgow City Mission) Or Please debit my card

Card No: _____ Expiry: _____ Start: _____

Security code (last 3 digits on the reverse of your card): _____

Please tick here if you do **not** require a receipt and please be assured of our thanks.

2 Title: _____ First name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel: _____

I want to make my gift worth 25% more at no extra cost.

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I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

We'll not share your details with any third parties for the purposes of their marketing or phone you to ask for more money. We'd like to let you know the impact of your support but if you don't want to hear from Glasgow City Mission in the future, tick here .

3 Please send me more information about:

- volunteering booking someone to speak at my church/group
- fundraising I want to receive prayer news by email
- leaving a gift in my will

Email: _____

Completed forms can be posted to: 'Freepost, Glasgow City Mission'

Reg Charity SC001499

WIN22

Return of First Friday Tours!

Join us in 20 Crimea Street on the first Friday of the month, starting on Friday 7 October, to see first-hand the impact your support has on our work with our guests.

This free guided tour of our five-storey building will include refreshments and a Q&A session.

Book online at www.glasgowcitymission.com/event/first-friday-tours-october-2022/

or scan the QR code



Registered charity SC001499.
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We look forward to welcoming you to Glasgow City Mission.



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