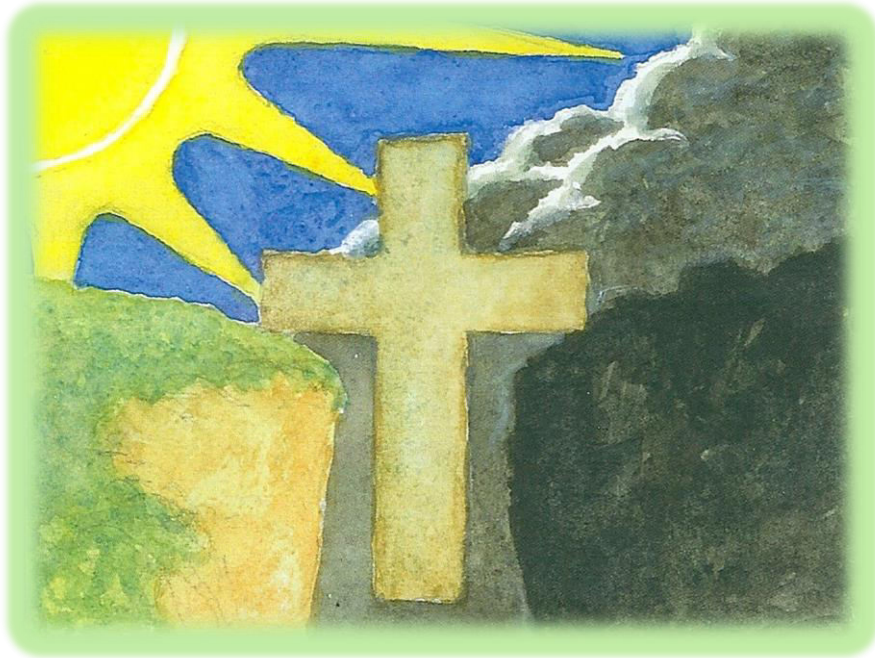


The Grace and the Gap Fund



‘So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone.’

**The book of Galatians, chapter 6, verse 10
The Christian Bible**

We are a small Christian charity run by Greyfriars & Stratherrick Free Church since 2013. Through working with services, we provide small grants and good quality household donations to individuals and families in need in our surrounding communities in Inverness.
This leaflet is for the interested individual and service(s).

Each of us can struggle at times. As a Christian church, we believe that our God – the God of the Bible – greatly cares for those who are facing hard times. We believe that He wants us to support others, including those who are struggling in our communities.

Greyfriars Free Church of Scotland , Balloan Rd, Inverness, IV2 4PP
www.greyfriarschurch.org & www.freechurch.org
Scottish Charity No. SCO13359



Grace?

Christians believe that **grace is God showing His goodness to us without us doing anything to earn it!!**

As our Creator, He loves us and wants us to experience His goodness. The most important way by which God has shown His grace was by sending Jesus to the cross of Calvary in order to **deal with the gap between us and Him.**

This gap is there because we have not put God at the centre of our lives and do things our way. **But with God's help** we can be forgiven, and have a new & permanent relationship with him! We do this by asking for forgiveness & trusting in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. **Jesus is the bridge over the gap!**

If we do so, **God has promised to be with us** in all situations - the good times and the difficult times. God is a God of Grace and through grace, **He gives our life a new direction!**



And the Gap?

The circumstances of life can mean that many of us are vulnerable to financial crisis, causing **gaps** in our daily needs.

Our aim as a fund is to help those who are struggling as a result of financial pressures and difficulties.

We work with services in and around Inverness and have identified gaps in service provision, which the fund aims to fill!

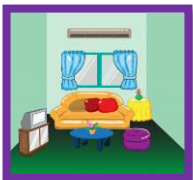
Here are some examples:



Household Cleaning Products



Essential Toiletries and Towels



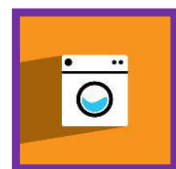
Curtains and kitchenware



Essential Baby Toiletries



Electricity Credit



Laundry Costs and Bedding

In sequence, images courtesy of Surisaki Stock, photoexplorer, Thanamat, digitalart, franky242 & atibodyphoto at FreeDigitalPhtos.net

Just a few more things about the Fund...



Opening Times...

The fund is run by a small team of volunteers, and we are open Tuesday – Friday. We would suggest that ***email is the best way to contact the fund***. Emails are checked regularly on these days. We are closed for school holidays. When the Fund is closed, we aim to let services know in advance. We only use our mobile **07842010740** to communicate with individuals who don't have internet access.



Our Funds & Areas of Support...

Our finances are raised by people attending our churches and groups, and also through fundraising events.

To offer support as much as we can and encourage independence, each individual or family can ***access the fund up to four times a year***. However, we can be flexible depending on needs and resources.

The **priority areas are our immediate communities of *Hilton, Castle Heather & East Ness***. However, if our resources allow, we can help further afield.



Keeping Information Safe...

Personal information, regarding all individuals, will be held securely by us and in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998. It will be held for record keeping purposes only, unless specifically agreed otherwise with any individual.



Our Respect to You...

Our support is not dependent on any additional interest in other groups or activities we provide as a Christian church. However, for information, we often include leaflets of our groups and other community services that may be of interest.

How an individual can access the Fund?



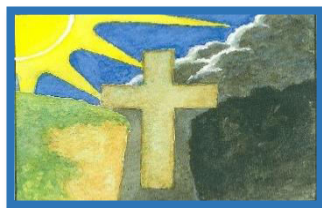
You need to be in a **financial crisis** and have **no other support to turn to**.



Contact a **service that knows you well** to **confirm** your current financial difficulties e.g.



If they feel it's appropriate, the service will then contact the Fund by email on graceandthegap@gmail.com to make a referral**.



****Alternatively**, you, the individual, may contact the fund directly, and we could contact a service on your behalf to confirm your situation.

The Fund will work with you and your referring service to see if we can offer support and if so, discuss things such as arranging payment of item(s) and delivery. With your permission, we may contact other services that may also be able to offer assistance.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Top Image courtesy of David Castillo Dominici at FreeDigitalPhotos.net