**Imagine**

Neil’s monthly reflections for the Westminster College community

**Something for Summer**

As the summer continues to unfold there are significant things going on. The teaching staff team will be different by the time the new term starts in September. After a year with us we’re saying goodbye to Jane McLartey who has taught New Testament with us and the Cambridge Theological Federation this year. Jane came from being Senior Tutor at Wolfson College. Jane’s post was always going to be temporary, but she has filled it with wonderful energy, kindness and skill. She has quickly settled into life with us and been a really positive part of the team working with students and teachers and sharing very fully in delivering our wider training across the URC. It has been a privilege to share with her and we have been greatly blessed. Jane goes on now to do similar work at Westcott House for a year so we’ll still look forward to welcoming her as part of wider Federation work.

As Jane moves on so we’ll welcome our permanent New Testament tutor. Jonathan Soyars will arrive in August with his wife and two children and it will be fabulous to welcome them. They are currently in Louisville, Kentucky, USA, where he’s been teaching. They will bring much to the college and it will be a delight for us to welcome them and help them settle into this exciting new chapter. We’re already working with Jonathan on the URC and Federation teaching he’ll be involved in within weeks of his arrival.

We also have a brand new website and Colleen and Nick have devoted a great deal of time and skill to getting everything set up. We’ve got a whole new set of excellent photos and videos about the college and all of our work, both on the URC and the commercial sides, available as a window through which the entire world can look in on what Westminster is and can offer. Already we’re picking up interest because of the website and what it shows of what we do.

I know so well that these are just a few examples from the host of wonderful aspects of the hard work you all give. In acknowledging these I also want to thank you all for the hard work, skill and commitment you bring to making Westminster flourish as we are. We need it all.

**Time for Wellbeing**

This month, we again shared with others in hosting some of the activities for the annual Festival of Wellbeing the university now runs with various partners (https://www.welfest.admin.cam.ac.uk/). Helen did her glorious tours of the college, Igor and the team provided a fabulous afternoon tea and I ran a couple of workshops in the art studio. It all reminded me of just what it means to break out of routine and deliberately give ourselves a gift of time to feed ourselves in body, mind and spirit. I find it so easy to feel guilty if I step away from the endless To-Do list. It made me think again about crafting a balance in my life that actually recharges me so that I can then be more helpfully, creatively and gladly available to others. It’s great that Westminster is such an established partner in this festival. I need to keep learning these simple yet transformative lessons about the gift time can be when we’re wise in its possibilities.

May God be with you in every pass,
Jesus be with you in every knoll,
Spirit be with you by water’s roll,
On headland, on ridge, and on grass;
Each sea and land, each moor and each mead,
Each eve’s lying-down, each rising’s morn,
In the wave-trough, or on foam-crest borne,
Each step which your journey does lead.
Amen.

A traditional prayer from the Hebrides