



# The Columns Online

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### South Carolina native to Moderate Church of Scotland

The Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton has led Christian Aid in Scotland for the past six years.

(PNS) — The head of a Christian charity combatting global poverty has been named as the next Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. The Rev. Sally Foster-Fulton, 58, who has led Christian Aid in Scotland since 2016, will take a year's sabbatical to become the Church of Scotland's ambassador at home and abroad for 12 months beginning in May 2023. She said she is looking forward to meeting and encouraging people involved in church work at local, national and international levels at a time of unprecedented challenge and opportunity.

Foster-Fulton will serve at a time when Scottish presbyteries are making radical reforms against a backdrop of falling income, declining membership and fewer ministers to ensure that the Church operates more effectively and efficiently to meet 21st century mission needs.

\*\*Continued.\*\*



Foster-Fulton.

photo courtesy of the Church of Scotland.

#### South Carolina native to Moderate Church of Scotland continued

"It is painful but at the same time there is a deep desire to get this done and move forward," Foster-Fulton said. "It is difficult and necessary, but a critical piece of work for today, and there will be more work when we begin to live out the new plan."

Foster-Fulton is married to the Rev. Stuart Fulton, a fellow Church of Scotland minister who serves the parish of Newlands South Church in Glasgow, Scotland. The couple have two adult daughters.

Foster-Fulton's faith journey began in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in South Carolina. She was captivated by Bible stories that sparked her imagination, turning her into a reader and a writer who has published three books of prayer and reflection as well as countless reports, articles and commentary. As a teenager she had so many questions and doubts that she wondered if she could remain in the church. But after she shared them with a retired minister who spent a year at her church in South Carolina, her Christian faith was strengthened.

"Dr. Gettys told me that it is our questions that keep our faith alive, and that just blew the door wide open for me," she said.

After earning a degree in English literature and religion from Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC, she attended Columbia Theological Seminary, where she met her future husband, an exchange student from Glasgow. Foster-Fulton subsequently received an exchange scholarship to Glasgow University's Trinity College, where she completed her divinity training.

She served as a hospital chaplain before being accepted as a candidate for ministry in the Church of Scotland. Ordained in 1999, she spent four years as a parish minister before she and her husband were called as co-pastors of Seneca Presbyterian Church, the PC(USA) congregation in Seneca, South Carolina, where they ministered for four years, building partnerships with Habitat for Humanity, United Way and other organizations. They returned to Scotland in 2007, where she was appointed associate minister at Dunblane Cathedral, where she served for 10 years before taking up her current role

at Christian Aid, an international charity with local partners in 29 countries fighting extreme poverty with immediate humanitarian aid, long-term sustainable development projects and advocacy for long-lasting change.

"Partnership work is what I love to do," Foster-Fulton said. "Christian Aid works with people of all faiths and none to eradicate poverty in every part of the world."

Foster-Fulton campaigned on behalf of detainees and led the Church's work with ecumenical and interfaith partners to create networks of support for asylum seekers and refugees. Convening the Church of Scotland's Church and Society Council from 2012-2016, she helped advance the Church's work on human rights, climate justice and support for people struggling to overcome poverty in Scotland as well as overseas.

In the run-up to the 2014 Scottish Independence Referendum, she helped create space for respectful dialogue between campaigners on both sides of the debate.

"Sometimes we talk about local and international work as if it is an either/or, but if there is one thing my work with the Church of Scotland, Christian Aid, this recent pandemic and the climate crisis has affirmed, is that we are all in this together," she said. "There is no separation between what we do for people in our global neighborhood and what we do here at home...There is no them and us - there is just us and we have all got to look after one another."

"So, we need to lift our gaze, remember who we are and why we're here — to love God and each other," she said. "The message of Jesus Christ is not just hope for the future but is life giving right here and right now."







## **Music Notes for November 6**



The Battle of Agincourt.

This week's anthem, DEO GRACIAS, is an ancient tune. The music, also known as *The Agincourt Hymn*, was originally written to accompany the tale of Henry V's victory over the Normans on October 25, 1415.

This week's closing hymn is ST ANNE, with music written by William Croft (1678-1727). The English composer spent most of his life in the Chapel Royal, as a child chorister, a Gentleman and organist.

In 1708, Croft was appointed Organist of Westminster Abbey, Master of the Children and Composer to the Chapel Royal, positions he held for the rest of his life. He wrote scores of works, including pieces for the funeral of Queen Anne (1714) and the coronation of King George I (1715). Other composers have incorporated the tune into their own pieces. Johann Sebastian Bach used the melody for his Fugue in E-flat, BWV 552, George Frederick Handel incorporated the melody into the anthem O Praise the Lord and Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry used the melody in his Coronation Te Deum (1911).



Worship This Week
Scripture lessons: Psalm 17:1-9
Luke 20: 27-38
Sermon: A small heaven.

## Our Worship Channels





# This Week in History.



Mercury Theatre on the Air presented *The War of the Worlds* on the CBS Radio Network. A dramatization of H.G. Wells' story of a Martian invasion of New Jersey, its simulated radio news bulletins panicked millions of Americans.

October 30, 1938



Future Hall-of-Famer Earl Lloyd (1928-2015) takes the floor for the Washington Capitols, becoming the first African American to play in a National Basketball Association (NBA) game. He would go on to lead the Syracuse Nationals to the 1955 NBA Championship.

October 31, 1950



The Maastricht Treaty takes effect, creating the European Union. November 1, 1993



The Hughes H-4 Hercules NX37602 makes its only flight off the coast of Long Beach , CA. Commonly known as the *Spruce Goose*, it is the largest seaplane, and the largest wooden airplane ever built.

November 2, 1947



The first inhabited space capsule is launched by the U.S.S.R.

Sputnik II carried a dog named Laika, who perished on the fourth orbit from overheating caused by an air conditioning malfunction.



Mary Todd marries Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, IL.

November 4, 1842

November 3, 1957