

Covid-19 and the Church

As all other congregations The **Scots International Church Rotterdam (SICR)** have had only online services for most of the time over the last seven months. Due to Covid-19 members of our congregation couldn't come to church. And even when restrictions were relaxed, most members stayed at home and listened to our services who as always were broadcasted live on the internet.

We could host 30 and later 100 people to attend (by online registration) the service in our sanctuary from June. But that maximum was only (almost) reached twice: when our Nominating Committee had announced that they would make known the name of the *sole nominee* during worship, and when the Rev. Graham Austin preached as sole nominee. More about that later.

Locums

Our first Locum from February **Rev. Alex Douglas** and his wife Jill left Rotterdam in March because of the Covid-19 rules in March. We were blessed with the help of Rev. Irene Bom (OLM) as temporary locum, Rev. Joost Pot (Auxiliary Minister Rotterdam) and a Worship Team.



Since the beginning of October we have the **Rev. Kleber Machado** (pictured left) from St. Andrew's West Parish Church Glasgow.

Vacancy

Due to Covid-19 the Nominating Committee altered their two weekly meetings in

church to online meetings. Even the first interview with a candidate was online. The second interview and inspection of the Manse was done in Rotterdam, but it meant that the candidate had to go in self quarantine when returning to the UK.

In September the Nominating Committee announced



that **Rev. Graham Austin** was the sole nominee. After preaching as such in church the vote (on ballot paper and online) of the congregation was unanimously that he would be our new Minister.

The induction of Graham is on Friday



October 30 (broadcast live, see details at the end of this report) and the

first worship with him as our Minister is Sunday November 1.

Listen



You can listen live to our services by scanning the QR code on the left. Service starts at 10.30 h.

Scots International Church Rotterdam (SICR)
www.scotsintchurch.com *October 2020*

