

Weekly Church Bulletin

We are a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland. We gather each Lord's Day to praise and worship the only true and living God.

Sunday 3rd October 2021



SUNDAY SERVICES

We are thankful to gather in the Church this Lord's Day for the public worship of God. We meet at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. Both the services will be conducted in English and taken by the Minister.

Services this Sunday

At the 12.00noon service we will continue our short study of *Lessons from the Return from Exile* in the Old Testament. The focus of the service this Lord's Day will be on Nehemiah 4:21-23 and Ephesians 6:13-18 and the title of the sermon is *The Christian in Complete Armour*. At the 6.00pm service we will consider Colossians 2:6-10 and the title of the sermon is *Faith, Fulness and Fulfilment*.

Psalm Singing

The praise will be led by our precentor and the Psalms for this Lord's Day are as follows:

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 45:3-7	Sing Psalms (57)	Psalm 20:1-6	Psalter (224)
2	Psalm 51:6-7	Psalter (281)	Psalm 107:5-9	Psalter (383)
3	Psalm 47:5-9	Psalter (272)		

English Services

The English services in the Church at 12.00noon and 6.00pm will be live streamed and will be available on the Shawbost Free Church of Scotland **YouTube Channel** by clicking [here](#). An audio-only recording of the English services will be available on Sermon Audio at 2.00pm for the 12.00noon service and at 8.00pm for the 6.00pm service. The services can be accessed on the Shawbost Free Church **Sermon Audio Page** by clicking [here](#).

Gaelic Service

A pre-recorded video service conducted in Gaelic from the same passage as the 12.00noon English service will be available on our YouTube Channel at 10.30am on Sunday. The audio-only recording of the Gaelic service will be available at 12.00noon on Sunday on the Shawbost Free Church Sermon Audio Page. The audio-only recording of the Gaelic Service will also be available as usual on the **Twilio service**, accessed by dialling **0131 510 2471**.

COVID Restrictions

We continue to observe the one-metre physical distancing in our services in the meantime to help allay people's anxieties in public gatherings in the light of the ongoing presence of the COVID-19. We will also continue the practice of taking a register of all those attending our services.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet in person in the Hall again this Lord's Day. The young people will be in the Church service from 12.00noon until leaving the service for the Sunday School at approximately 12.15pm. The teachers will ensure that all relevant COVID-19 guidance is observed.

WEEKLY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Prayer and Bible Study meeting will take place in the Bragar Meeting House at 7.00pm this Wednesday, 6th October 2021. We will observe the same one-metre physical distancing and take a register of those attending the meeting in line with our practice for Sunday services.

CONGREGATIONAL AGM – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Congregational AGM took place on Wednesday 29th September as announced in recent weeks. The Treasurer, Neil Macleod, presented the Statement of Accounts for 2020. The Deacons' Court is thankful to note the level of congregational income for 2020 despite the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on families and on Church services. Receipts to the General Fund were £54,843, with total payments of £55,436, resulting in a small deficit of £593. Receipts to the Development Fund were £19,792, with total payments of £14,460, resulting in a surplus of £5,332. The Statement of Balances at 31st December 2020 shows Unrestricted Funds of £24,248, Designated Funds of £2,160, and Restricted Funds of £18,328.

Thanks

We thank all our donors and contributors for your support of the ministry of the gospel and pray that the Lord will enrich you all greatly with the blessings freely offered to us in Jesus Christ. The refurbishment of the Church and the Manse buildings is a long-term project, and we are thankful to you all for your ongoing support of our fundraising efforts through the Development Fund.

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE

The [Weekly Bulletin](#) is available under the News item on the Main Menu bar of the Website. The Lord's Day services are available on the [Listen to the Latest Sermon](#) and the [Watch the Latest Sermon](#) buttons on the Home Page.

Donations & Givings

A facility has been set up on our Congregational Website for One-off Donations, arrangements for regular givings using the Standing Order system, and for the completion of a Gift Aid Form if you are a taxpayer. These facilities are all available under the [Donations](#) menu option on the website.

BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2021 – LEWIS & HARRIS

The local Blythswood Shoebox Appeal 2021 Centre will be at **Woodys, Rigs Road**, in Stornoway. The Centre will be open on the following days to receive shoeboxes: **Thursday 28th October**, 3pm - 6 pm; **Friday 29th October**, 3 pm - 6.30 pm; **Saturday 30th October**, 10 am - 12 noon. **The APPEAL will CLOSE on Saturday 30th OCTOBER at 12 noon.** Shoeboxes from schools, churches, organisations, families or individuals SHOULD NOT be handed into the Blythswood Shop on Kenneth Street. This is to safeguard against double-handling and in line with COVID Guidance.

Blythswood Shoebox Leaflets are available for collection from the Blythswood Shop, Stornoway and Ness, Nicolson's Newsagents, some schools, and churches. They are also [available online](#). Further information can be sought from [Blythswood Care on Facebook](#) or from the Lewis and Harris Blythswood Support Group, contacts below: Nicola Finlayson – 07340623677; Jackie Keddie – 07908207267; Nana Maclean – 07818861637; Anne Blythe – 07733441017; Mairianne Campbell – 07876202073; D.J. Macleod – 07730377137; Charlie Nicolson – 07717816476.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

3rd October 2021

Urray & Strathconon

Minister: Rev. Gordon Martin

Urray is a beautiful parish, west of Inverness, which has Muir of Ord as its main centre of population. (approx. 3000 people). Strathconon lies further west and is also picturesque with lochs and rivers. It is sparsely populated.

Prayer Points:

1. That the church, both individually and corporately, might know its role in the kingdom and mission of God.
2. That we maximise the evangelistic opportunities God has given us through contacts with young parents who attend the very popular Noah's Ark tots group.

Kirkcaldy, Kinglassie & Glenrothes

Minister: Rev. John Johnstone

Kirkcaldy is a Fife coastal town of 50,000 people but with few Bible-believing churches. There is only one with over 75 attendees, underlining the enormous gospel need here. We are a small, united congregation, with about forty-five people attending our morning service, and fifteen at the evening one. We are thankful to have a good mix of ages and people from a wide variety of backgrounds. The church is located in one of the poorest areas in Fife. We have a positive reputation in the local community, after years of serving through various forms of community work.

Prayer Points:

1. Over the next five years, hundreds of new homes are being built close to the church; pray that we would find creative ways to reach the new people who will live here and that many would be won for Christ.
2. Pray for wisdom as the church looks for an apprentice or church worker who would start work in the summer of 2022. Pray that their time here would be a valuable preparation for future gospel ministry and that their gifts and faith would be strengthened.