

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 19th September 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 2:17-20 and Isaiah 49:13-18 and *Faltering Faith in Times of Crisis*. At the 6.00pm service we will consider Psalm 118:17-24 and *The Formation and Focus of Faith*.

Psalm Singing

We have been blessed with the use of technology to assist us with our Psalm singing in our Sunday services since public worship was resumed after the COVID-19 restrictions. This Lord's Day we will resume the normal practice of having our praise led by a precentor. The Psalms for the services are as follows:

| | 12.00 Noon Service | | 6.00pm Service | |
|---|--------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | Psalm 149:1-5 | Psalter (450) | Psalm 42:1-5 | Psalter (262) |
| 2 | Psalm 43:3-4 | Psalter (264) | Psalm 24:7-10 | Psalter (230) |
| 3 | Psalm 27:7-11 | Psalter (236) | | |

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**, which can be **accessed from landline / home telephone** by dialling the number **0131 510 2471**.

COVID Restrictions

There is now no legal requirement for physical distancing in church services. However, we will 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. People attending church services are still required to wear face coverings except for children under the age of 12. In accordance with the revised guidance and recommendations issued on Friday 27th August 2021, we will 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. According to the normal practice, 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, 22nd September 2021. Those who wish to attend are reminded that Bibles and Psalms Books will not be available at the door during the current COVID-19 restrictions. A register of those attending the meeting will be taken at the door.

CONGREGATIONAL AGM & DEACONS COURT

The Congregational AGM at which the Trustees Report and Statement of Accounts will be presented by the Treasurer, will take place on Wednesday 29th September 2021 in the Church at 7.00pm. This will be followed immediately afterwards by a meeting of the Deacons Court.

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.

RETIREMENT OF REV. KENNY I. MACLEOD

Rev. Kenny I. Macleod, Assistant Minister at Stornoway, officially retired on Monday 2nd August, his 69th birthday. Kenny preached his final sermon on Sunday 25th July, choosing to focus on the unchangeable nature of our Lord Jesus Christ from Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." A special farewell service to mark his retirement was held on Friday 17th September. We join with the Stornoway congregation in thanking Mr Macleod for his many years of faithful service and wish him every blessing in his retirement.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

19th September 2021

Smithton-Culloden

Minister: Rev. Alasdair Macleod

Smithton Church, based on the east side of Inverness, has a vision to 'Know Jesus and make Jesus known'.

Prayer Points:

1. With all the encouragement of the Sunday service livestream over the last 18 months, which has been used thousands of times, please do pray that people will be encouraged to attend in person - perhaps even for the first time after watching online.
2. Pray for new works of outreach into new and existing developments on the east side of Inverness, with the hopes to plant new churches in future. And through whatever ministries can return, in time, pray that the church would be a beacon of hope and truth in difficult times - for people to know the Lord Jesus.

North Uist, Grimsay & Berneray

Minister: Rev. Calum M. Smith

Our Islands are part of the chain of Islands known as the Western Isles. We have beautiful views across the Minch to Skye and out to the Atlantic with St Kilda on the horizon. The Church is based in Carinish, North Uist, in a former Inn that was renovated for Church use in 2008.

Prayer Points:

1. For a fortnight in August the Faith Mission visited for a series of 'Drive In' Gospel events and preaching engagements. Pray that this time will have encouraged Christians in meeting together for worship and fellowship, that the Word would be blessed to all who attended and that connections made may be followed up.
2. We have now returned to all our Sunday and midweek services being in person, alongside live streaming, which is a great encouragement. Pray that with restrictions easing and more seating area available people will feel comfortable to return to Church. Pray too for the Sunday as it resumes after the holidays and give thanks for the way our young people have been able to engage with others throughout the Western Isles through online fellowships.