



CHURCH BULLETIN

SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER 2023

INTRODUCTION

We are a congregation of the [Free Church of Scotland](#). We gather for public worship on the Lord's Day at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. We use the [ESV version of the Bible](#) in the public worship of God. We use both the [Scottish Psalter](#) and [Sing Psalms](#) versions of the Psalms for the praise items in our public worship. More details on the Congregation and our ministry are available on our website [here](#). Our services are livestreamed and available on our [You Tube channel](#).

LORD'S DAY SERVICES

The services today will be taken by the Minister. As the Minister prepares for his retirement in the coming weeks, we continue the series of sermons entitled '**Parting Counsel from the Words of Paul**.'

At the **12.00noon service**, the sermon will be based on 2 Corinthians 5:16-21. The sermon title is '**A Plea for Obedience to the Gospel Message**.'

At the **6.00pm service**, the sermon will be based on 2 Corinthians 13:1-6. The title of the sermon is '**A Plea for the Recognition of Genuine Faith**.'

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

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalms 32:1-5	Psalter	Psalms 11:1-7	Sing Psalms
2	Psalms 40:7-12	Sing Psalms	Psalms 139:17-24	Psalter
3	Psalms 36:1-6	Sing Psalms	Psalms 62:5-8	Psalter
4	Psalms 71:14-17	Psalter		

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The children will go to their classes in the Church Hall as normal during the second item of praise.

GAELIC SERVICE

The Gaelic Service in **Bragar tonight at 6pm** will be taken by Rev Roddy John Campbell.

SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by the Minister.

PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The Prayer and Bible Study Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 4th October 2023 at 7.00pm in Bragar**.

MINISTER'S RETIREMENT

As previously announced, the Minister will retire from the pastoral ministry in the congregation, effective from 31st October 2023. He has three weeks holidays to take before this date. **This means that the last Lord's Day on which the Minister will preach will be Sunday 8th October.** Pulpit supply has been arranged up until the end of October. Rev. Calum Macdonald (Callanish) will take over as Interim-Moderator on the 1st November 2023.

In connection with the above, there will be a Retirement Presentation at **The Old School Centre, Shawbost**, on **Friday 27th October 2023** to which everyone is invited and most welcome to attend. Further details regarding the evening, and a special collection, will be provided in the coming weeks.

CONGREGATION CODE OF CONDUCT & CONGREGATION COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The Kirk Session has approved the following documents, in line with the Church's recommendations, for display on the Church's Noticeboard and the congregational website – (1) Congregation Code of Conduct; (2) Congregation Complaints Procedure. The documents are available on the website [here](#). Please note the documents and be familiar with the standards of behaviour expected in the Code of Conduct.

PRESBYTERY YOUTH CAMP - SAVE THE DATE!

A Presbytery Youth Camp is being planned for the S3-S6 age group at **Scaladale 24th – 27th November 2023**. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

BLYTHSWOOD CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2023 - LEWIS AND HARRIS

Bring joy at Christmas! Each shoebox is an expression of your care and kindness towards a stranger in need. Filled with small, practical items, the individually-wrapped boxes have been distributed in schools, hospitals, orphanages and care homes, and to households in very low income communities. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Blythswood Shoebox **Leaflets** are available for collection from the Blythswood Shop, Ness and Balallan, Nicolson's Newsagents, some schools, and churches. They are also available [online](#).

The Appeal Centre will be at Woodys, Rigs Road in Stornoway, in one of the units at the back and will be open on the following days to receive shoeboxes:

- **Thursday 26th October** 4pm – 6.30 pm
- **Friday 27th October**, 4pm - 6.30 pm
- **Saturday 28th October**, 10 am – 12 noon

The APPEAL will CLOSE on Saturday 28th OCTOBER at 12 noon.

Please adhere to the above times.

Further information can be sought from Blythswood Care on Facebook or from the Lewis and Harris Blythswood Support Group, contacts below:

Jackie Keddie - Tel: 07908207267
Nana Maclean - Tel: 07818861637
Catherine Maciver - Tel: 01851 703187
Anne Blyth - Tel: 07733441017
Mairianne Campbell - Tel: 07876202073
DJ Macleod - Tel: 07730377137
Charlie Nicolson - Tel: 07717816476
James Muir - Tel: 07527501005
Sam Murray - Tel:07484106715

Thank you.

CALLANISH FREE CHURCH COMMUNION TIMETABLE

Thursday 5 th October	7.30 pm.	Gaelic	Rev Callum Macleod - Shawbost
Friday 6 th October	7.30 pm.	English	Rev Dr Malcolm Maclean - Inverness
Saturday 7 th October	12.00 pm.	English	Rev Dr Malcolm Maclean - Inverness
	6.00 pm.	Bi – Lingual Prayer Meeting – Elders	
Lord's Day 8 th October	11.00 am.	English	Rev Dr Malcolm Maclean - Inverness
	6.30 pm.	English	Rev Dr Malcolm Maclean - Inverness
<i>There will be a short Prayer Meeting after the Evening Service</i>			

CROSS FREE CHURCH COMMUNION TIMETABLE

Friday 6th October	7.30 pm.	English	Rev Alasdair Macleod - Smithton
Saturday 7th October	12.00 pm.	English	Rev Alasdair Macleod - Smithton
	6.00 pm.	Bi – Lingual Prayer Meeting in Hall - Elders	
Lord's Day 8th October	11.00 am.	English	Rev Alasdair Macleod - Smithton
	6.00 pm.	English	
<i>There will be a Fellowship Meeting after the Evening Service</i>			

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER (2nd – 8th OCTOBER 2023)

Monday 2nd October Ayr and Kilwinning

Pray that after a vacancy of 3.5 years the congregation will soon secure a suitable minister. We are also looking for a Congregational Worker for the Kilwinning part of the congregation.

Tuesday 3rd October Commission of Assembly

Please pray as the commission of the General Assembly meets that the Lord would grant wisdom to the commissioners as they make decisions.

Wednesday 4th October

Healthy Gospel Church

Pray that we can work together to see God's Church become increasingly healthy right across Scotland, and beyond. Jesus Christ is at the very centre of a gospel church.

Thursday 5th October

North Uist, Grimsay & Berneray

We are praying for Gods guidance as we are waiting for God to provide us with a minister & his family to shepherd our folk with a settled ministry.

Friday 6th October

Asian Outreach

Please pray for Muslim friends as they are reading about Jesus Christ in the Scriptures (the passages are Luke 5:17-26; 7:11-23; 8:22-25; 19:1-10).

Saturday 7th October

North Uist, Grimsay & Berneray

Please pray that the Lord would strengthen and encouraging His people with the hope of the gospel. Pray the congregation would be a light to this gospel in their community.

Sunday 8th October

Ayr and Kilwinning

Pray that with a largely aging congregation we may still be able to take appropriate initiatives both in helping one another and in reaching outsiders.