

Weekly Church Bulletin

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

Sunday 13th June 2021



ATTENDANCE AT 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 the Service will be conducted in English. We encourage all our people to join with us in the worship of God each Lord's Day.

Coronavirus Protection Level 0

The Western Isles is now in Level 0 of Scottish Government COVID-19 restrictions. There is no change at this time to arrangements for public worship and Church gatherings apart from the freedom to resume congregational singing, effective from 31st May 2021. The capacity limit, determined by the size of the building and the observance of the 2-metre physical distancing rules, still applies regarding attendance at Church services. We are now able to use the balcony in the Church and the capacity of the building has increased accordingly.

Ongoing Registration

Registration for attendance at services in the Church on the Lord's Day is necessary under Scottish Government COVID-19 guidelines. The arrangements for registering your intention to attend the services, and to complete the relevant documentation, have been set up on the Congregational Website [here](#). The deadline for submission of the names of those who wish to attend the service will be 12.00noon on Friday.

Mr Donald MacPhail, Deacon, is the Seating Coordinator for the Church services and enquiries regarding attendance should, in the first place, be directed to him on 710328 or dan.macphail@icloud.com. Alternatively, you may contact the Minister on 710216 or cmacleod@freechurch.org. If you are unable to use the online registration process, please contact Mr MacPhail or the Minister to register your intention to attend the service.

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.

LORD'S DAY SERVICES – 13th JUNE 2021

This Lord's Day we continue with our study of *The Christian's Experience of Grace* as a follow up on our study of *How we become Christians in the Gospel of John* earlier in the year. The study for this Lord's Day is from Philippians 4:4-7 and focussing on *The Peace of God*.

English Service

The English service in the Church at 12.00noon 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 service will be available on Sermon Audio at 2.00pm and can be accessed on the Shawbost Free Church **Sermon Audio Page** by clicking [here](#).

Gaelic Service

The pre-recorded video of the Gaelic Service will be available on our YouTube Channel at 10.30am on Sunday 6th June 2021. The audio-only recording of the Gaelic service will be available at 12.00noon on Sunday 6th June 2021 on the Shawbost Free Church **Sermon Audio Page** by clicking [here](#).

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**. (Note – there is a delay of approximately 35 seconds from the time at which the call is answered until the service commences)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet this Lord's Day, Sunday 13th June, at 11.00am, and will continue in the meantime using the Zoom audio-visual technology. The last meeting of the Sunday School for this School Session will be Sunday 20th June 2021.

WEEKLY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Prayer and Bible Study (PBS) Group will continue this Wednesday, 9th June 2021, at 7.00pm using Zoom audio-visual technology. We will continue our study of the book entitled 'Gentle and Lowly – The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers' by Dane Ortlund by looking at Chapter 13, *Why the Spirit*, based on John 14:16.

The Zoom Meeting ID is - 811 1884 3263. The ongoing Meeting Password is issued separately by contacting the Minister or any member of the group.

Resumption of In-person Meetings

The Kirk Session met last Tuesday, 8th June, and discussed arrangements for services in the light of the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions now being at Level 0 for the Western Isles. It was agreed that the Weekly Prayer and Bible Study Meeting would resume in-person meetings on Wednesday 1st July 2021. The Meeting will be at 7.00pm and will operate the usual rota system of alternating between the Church Hall and the Bragar Meeting Hall. The Meeting on 1st July will be held in the Church Hall under the requirements and restrictions for public worship.

The Kirk Session also agreed that the Sacrament of Baptism would be available for parents seeking baptism for their children. Other matters, such as the Sunday evening services and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, will be kept under review by the Session as they monitor any changes to COVID-19 Scottish Government restrictions.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Youth Fellowship will meet next Sunday, 20th June 2021, at 8.00pm. The meeting will be held over Zoom and details will be sent to parents and young people in due course. Young people are encouraged to come along to what will be the final YF meeting of this School Session.

CONTRIBUTORS & FREE WILL OFFERING ENVELOPES

We continue to give thanks to the Lord for the faithfulness and commitment of our people in their financial support of the Church in what continues to be a difficult time due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Following the recent practice during COVID-19 restrictions, the Church Hall will be open on Saturday 19th June from 10.00am to 12.00noon to give contributors and donors an opportunity to hand in their weekly offerings' envelopes. Thanks for your support.

PASTORAL VISITATION

The movement in the Western Isles into Protection Level 0 of the Scottish Government's COVID-19 restrictions has brought about welcome changes in the rules regarding socialising and mixing with family and friends.

Pastoral visitation in homes is now possible. Pastoral visits will be carried out by the Minister and the Elders at their own discretion and subject to family and household arrangements as required. Please keep the Minister, and the Elders, informed of new situations where pastoral support is required. The Minister can be contacted on 710216 or via email at cmacleod@freechurch.org

CONGREGATION GENERAL

We are delighted that we now have a new team in place to help with the general upkeep of the Church and surrounding area. Iain H. MacKay, Carnan View, North Shawbost, and Murdo Maclean, 59 North Shawbost, have agreed to share the duties of Church Officer. Chrissy Macleod, 13 Carnan Park, has taken up the duties of Church Cleaner. We give thanks to the Lord for their willingness to serve in their respective duties. We give thanks to Mr John N. Macaulay and Mrs Dolly J. Maclean who have served as Church Officer and Church Cleaner respectively in recent years.

FCYC CONNECT PRAYER DAY

I hope you're well. The Free Church Youth Camps Group has appointed this Lord's Day, Sunday 13th June, is our **FCYC Connect Prayer Day**. The Youth Camps Programme has been blessed by the Lord down through the years and many can give personal testimony to the impact of the Camps' ministry on their lives. As is the case with so many other activities in the past year, the Camps' Programme has been affected by COVID-19 restrictions. The Free Church Youth Camps Connect will be hitting screens this summer with using Zoom each evening from Monday 12th July to Friday 16th July. More information is available here - <https://www.freechurchyouthcamps.org/connect/>

The prayer points for the FCYC Connect Prayer Day are as follows:

- Pray for inspiration and energy for the Connect leaders as they plan for the Kids, Juniors and Seniors events
- Pray wisdom and insight for those giving talks and leading discussions

- Pray that God would prepare the hearts of the young people who will be attending
- Pray that the young people would be greatly blessed through meeting old friends, making new ones, and spending time with older Christians
- Pray that the technology would work well with no glitches – everything is possible with God!

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

13th June 2021

Trotternish

Minister: Vacant

Interim Moderator: Rev. Gordon Matheson

Trotternish is the northerly peninsula on the Isle of Skye, and meets in the townships of Staffin, Kilmuir and Uig. It is a rural community, and the congregation is in a fourth year of pastoral vacancy.

Prayer Points:

1. The congregation has been vacant for over four and a half years. Please pray that God would guide us and provide a minister who connects with, and make disciples among, a younger population in our community. We are thankful for our interim moderator Rev Gordon Matheson who takes our mid-week prayer meeting every week.
2. Give thanks that the congregation remains united and attendances are good even with the restrictions. And pray for our community; rural Skye, like the whole rural Highlands and Islands, is struggling. There are profound challenges - social and financial deprivation and the problems that come with these are hidden, but present. Our community needs radical transformation, which only grace revealed in the Gospel can bring

Pairc

Minister: Rev. Iain MacRitchie

Situated on the rugged, yet stunning east side of the Isle of Lewis, Pairc Free Church serves the community of South Lochs. Within the community we have a Primary School, Doctors Surgery and Shop. This is a sparsely populated area, covering ten villages with a total population of around 400; around 10% of this population currently part of our congregation. Our community is made of up a mixture of indigenous people, as well as those who have moved into the area. We remain an extremely united congregation with a strong desire to reach out to our community with the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Prayer Points:

1. As a congregation, we have been trying to form natural links with existing community groups. Please pray that bridges will continue to be built, which in turn will lead to gospel opportunity. As a community, we have few younger families. Please pray that God would lay it on the hearts of two families to move into our community and become an active part of our congregation.
2. We are currently in the process of making funding applications for our church refurbishment. Please pray that God will provide for us financially so that we are able go ahead with our plans to make our church building a more comfortable and welcoming environment.