

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 17th April 2022



SUNDAY SERVICES

We gather for public worship on the Lord's Day at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. More details on the Congregation and our ministry are available on our website [here](#).

Services this Sunday

The services this Lord's Day will be taken by the Minister. At the 12.00noon service we will look at John 12:20-27. The subject of the sermon will be '*Easter Sunday – The Cross & Reproduction of Life.*'

At the 6.00pm service, we will conclude our study on *The Life of Samson*. The Sermon will be based on Judges 16:23-31. The subject of the sermon will be '*Samson – The Epitaph of a Life of Failure.*'

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 118:19-29	Sing Psalms (156)	Psalm 27:7-14	Sing Psalms (32)
2	Psalm 92:12-15	Psalter (353)	Psalm 71:9-14	Psalter (310)
3	Psalm 22:28-31	Psalter (229)	Psalm 18:46-50	Psalter (222)

Audio-visual Equipment

We are still running with our interim arrangements for live streaming as we await the repair of our ATEM live stream switch. The repaired switch has been despatched by the manufacturer and should be with us soon.

English Services

The English services in the Church at 12.00noon and 6.00pm will be live streamed on our **YouTube Channel** [here](#). An audio recording of both services will be available on Sermon Audio as soon as possible after the services end. The services can be accessed on the Shawbost Free Church **Sermon Audio Page** by clicking [here](#).

Gaelic Service

A pre-recorded 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 on the Twilio service, accessed by dialling 0131 510 2471. The video recording of the Gaelic service will not be available until our equipment is repaired and back in place.

COVID RESTRICTIONS

We continue to exercise care in order to provide a safe environment for all our Church services. We continue, therefore, to observe the one-metre physical distancing in our services.

Although regulatory requirements to wear face coverings in places of worship was removed from 4th April, the Scottish Government's guidance still strongly encourages the use of protective measures to reduce risk, including wearing of face coverings where appropriate to help keep each other safe. We therefore recommend that those who are attending our services wear a face covering while entering the Church building and then take advantage of the change in the legal requirement by removing your face covering once you are seated if you wish.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be no Sunday School this Lord's Day due to the School holidays. The Sunday School will resume next Lord's Day, Sunday 24th April 2022.

PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The weekly Prayer and Bible Study Meeting will be in the Bragar Meeting House on Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 7.00pm. The Minister will be attending the meeting of Presbytery in Stornoway to sign a Call to Rev. Calum M. Smith to be their Assistant Minister. The meeting in Bragar on Wednesday will, therefore, be taken by the Elders.

CHURCH ENVELOPES

The congregational envelopes for this year have been distributed by the Office-bearers to contributors. These include the Blue Envelopes for Weekly Donations, Yellow Envelopes for Weekly Donations (Gift Aid), and Green Envelopes for Property Repair and Development Fund. Contributors are encouraged to complete a Gift Aid Form if they pay income tax on regular income.

Anyone belonging to the community, wishing to support the work of the congregation and that of the gospel, and who aren't currently registered as regular contributors/donors, should contact the Treasurer, Mr Neil Macleod, who will offer guidance. Information on donations, etc., is available on the Congregational Website [here](#).

SLAVIC GOSPEL ASSOCIATION

The [Slavic Gospel Association](#) (SGA) is resuming the annual visit of representatives to the Western Isles on the first week of May this year. We are delighted that Pastor John Birnie, Director of Field Ministries with SGA, will be with us for the 12.00noon service on Sunday 1st May 2022. Mr Birnie will preach at the service and will also give an update on the work of SGA with particular focus this year on events in Ukraine. It has been our practice to have a collection for missionary organisations when representatives visit the congregation. There will therefore be a collection taken for SGA on Sunday 1st May at the 12.00noon service.

FREE CHURCH BOOKS

Free Church Books was established in 2018 and the shop is located in the Free Church Office building on The Mound in Edinburgh. They stock a wide variety of reformed books on Bible study, worship, prayer and reflection, Christian living in contemporary society, etc., which are Biblically faithful, spiritually encouraging, and at the right level for everyone from children's books to scholarly study. Book reviews are updated regularly, and new books are promoted on their website regularly. You can shop online at Free Church Books and browse the available stock on their website [here](#).

WESTERN ISLES WfM – LADIES ANNUAL EVENT

The Western Isles branch of the Women for Mission (WfM) Group will hold its Annual Event on Friday 20th May 2022 in the Cabarfeidh Hotel, Stornoway. Booking Forms are now available for the Event. Any ladies interested in attending the Event should inform Catherine at the Manse on 710216. The closing date for the submission of booking forms is 30th April. There are only 150 seats available as the capacity has been reduced for safety and comfort. Donations of baking, jams, marmalades, crafts, rhubarb, and plants would be gratefully accepted to sell at the event. All money raised will go to this year's WfM Fundraising Project – Hope for the Hurting projects – which is raising funds for safe families Scotland, Lakhnadon Christian Hospital in India, and Community House Damaris in Greece. More information on the Project and on WfM is available on their website [here](#).

PFOA – PRAYER POINTS

The following are prayer points issued by the Mission Board under the Praying For One Another Scheme (PFOA) in the past week.

Duirinish

Please remember the congregation as we enter a vacancy, the congregation is numerically and financially fragile. Pray too that Rev. David Miller's health would be restored.

Elgin & Forres

As we restart our Tuesday drop-in café please pray we would have sufficient volunteers each week, and that we would see many friendships renewed and new contacts established.

As we take steps towards linking with our neighbouring congregation of Burghead pray that the process would go well and that both congregations would know God's wisdom and leading.

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.

Richard and Barbara, a European City

Pray for Emile and Emily (not their real names) as they meet each month to read a chapter of John's gospel. Despite their denials of the deity of Christ, the people are still keen to read with a teachable spirit. Pray for the Holy Spirit to be their teacher.