

## 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.

19th May 2024



### WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY

Today's services will be taken by Mr Scott Macleod, Minister in Training (12noon) and Rev Gordon Matheson (6pm). Our services are livestreamed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@shawbostfreechurchofscotland>

At the **12:00 noon service** the Scripture readings will be from Mark 6:30-44 and Mark 8:14-21 with a focus on Mark 6, verse 34.

At the **6.00pm service**, the Scripture reading will be from Colossians 1 and the sermon is entitled *What is Growth?*

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 65:1-7	Sing Psalms	Psalm 46:1-5, 10-11	Scottish Psalter
2	Psalm 65:8-13	Sing Psalms	Psalm 92:10-15	Scottish Psalter
3	Psalm 22:26-31	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 84:4-12	Scottish Psalter
4	Psalm 23:1-6	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 138:4-8	Sing Psalms

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school will be at the usual time today during the service and the children will go to their classes in the Hall during the second item of praise.

### SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Rev Ewen Matheson.

### CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

There will be a congregational fellowship in the hall immediately following the evening service next Lord's Day. The speaker will be Rev Ewen Matheson. Tea and biscuits will be served and everyone is warmly welcomed and encouraged to attend.

### WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The weekly prayer meeting and Bible study on **Wednesday 22nd May at 7pm** will take place **in the Church Hall**. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

### SATURDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING

All are warmly welcome to an informal prayer meeting **in the Manse on Saturday evenings at 7pm**. Please access the Manse via the rear door.

### COFFEE MORNING

A total of **£872** was collected at the coffee morning held yesterday in the Church Hall, (in aid of Bethesda). A sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those in the congregation for the fantastic effort that was made with all the preparations. Thank you also to everyone who attended and supported the coffee morning, and we give thanks to God for a time of blessing and further opportunity for fellowship.

### PUBLIC LECTURE & DISCUSSION: GOD AND SUFFERING, WITH PROF BOB AKROYD

There will be a public lecture and discussion on the theme of God and Suffering at Carlway Community Centre on **Wednesday 29th May at 7.30pm**. This event is aimed towards people with questions about Christianity or who struggle with doubts about God in the face of all the suffering we see and experience. It is hoped that this will be an opportunity for Christians to invite friends, family and colleagues who may not come to church or who are unsure about what they believe. The speaker will be Prof Bob Akroyd, and all are warmly invited to come.

### GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE! (FORMERLY GIDEONS UK) WESTERN ISLES BRANCH ANNUAL RALLY

The Annual Rally of Goof News for Everyone will take place in the Associated Presbyterian Church, Keith St, Stornoway, **Friday 7 June 2024 at 7.30 pm**. The main speaker is Bill Thomas, former National President. All Welcome - refreshments served afterwards.

### THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS: St. BASIL OF CAESAREA

#### Accusing and Being Accused

Be ye angry and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath (Ephesians 4:26)

The Christian shouldn't begrudge another's good reputation, nor gloat over anyone's defects; filled with Christ's love, he should weep and be downcast at his brother's failings, and rejoice over his brother's good accomplishments. He shouldn't be unconcerned or silent toward those who are at fault. But whoever points out another's sin must act with all gentleness, in the fear of God, and with one purpose – the sinner's repentance. The sinner who is convicted or rebuked should accept it gladly, realising that his correction is for his benefit. When an accusation is being made, no one should contradict the accuser; but if someone thinks the accusation is wrong, he should speak to the accuser privately, and either convince him, or be convinced. If someone has a complaint against *you*, do everything you can to make peace with that person.

No one should nurse a grudge against a repentant sinner, but forgive him totally. Whoever says he has repented should not just be inwardly pricked with sorrow for what he did, but display fruits demonstrating repentance. Whoever has been set right for committing a sin for the first time, and received forgiveness, if he sins again, stores up for himself a judgment of indignation greater than before. Whoever keeps sinning after the first and second admonition should be brought before someone in authority, so that an official rebuke may perhaps make him more ashamed. If even this doesn't set him right, he must be cut off from the fellowship as a stumbling block, and treated as a Pagan and a tax collector (Matt. 18:17)... The sun shouldn't set on a brother's anger (Eph. 4:26), in case the night falls between brother and brother, and then, when the day of judgment dawns, accusation prevails.

"The Bible is a stable, infallible revelation of God's mind and will." John Owen

"Apply the commands and warnings of Scripture to yourself, as if God had delivered them to you by name." Thomas Gouge