

## 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.

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024



### WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY

Today's services will be taken by Mr Kenneth Ferguson (Retired). Our services are livestreamed at: <https://www.youtube.com/@shawbostfreechurchofscotland>

At the **12:00 noon service** the Scripture reading will be from Mark 5 with a focus on verse 25 and following.

At the **6.00pm service**, the Scripture reading will be from Revelation 3 with a focus on verses 20 and following.

	12.00 Noon Service		6.00pm Service	
1	Psalm 51:1-6	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 1(a):1-6	Sing Psalms
2	Psalm 63:1-8	Sing Psalms	Psalm 19:7-9	Scottish Psalter
3	Psalm 113:1-9	Scottish Psalter	Psalm 65:1-6	Scottish Psalter
4	-	-	Psalm 119:17-24	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.

### GAELIC SERVICE

Rev Donald A MacDonald will be taking the Gaelic service in **Bragar, tonight at 6pm.**

### SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Rev Iain Thomson (Garrabost).

### WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE STUDY

The weekly prayer meeting and Bible study on **Wednesday 5th June at 7pm** will take place **in the Church Hall**. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to attend.

### VACANCY COMMITTEE MEETING & KIRK SESSION MEETING

There will be a Vacancy Committee meeting on **Wednesday 5th June** immediately following the prayer meeting and Bible Study. There will be a Kirk Session Meeting immediately following the Vacancy Committee meeting.

### 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.

### PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL LIGHT LUNCH

There will be a light lunch and baking stall at the M.A. Macleod Memorial Hall in Stornoway on Saturday **8th June from 12-2pm** in aid of Providence Christian School. All are welcome and encouraged to come along.

### LADIES GROUP – POT-LUCK SUPPER EVENING AND FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting of the Ladies Group will take place on **Thursday 13th June at 6.30pm at Shawbost Manse** and will be in the form of a pot-luck supper evening and fellowship. Bring along a savoury or sweet dish. All ladies welcome.

### PRAYER POINTS 3rd - 9th June 2024

**Monday 3rd June – Garrabost** - Give thanks to God we have a number of parents who come to church and bring their children to Sunday School. Pray that God would send us more families and that they would be led to make a commitment to Jesus.

**Tuesday 4th June - Loch Ness (Glenurquhart and Fort Augustus)** - Please pray for the youth in the Glen, especially those who attend Boys Brigade, Sunday school, Sunday youth night and other outreaches, that they would know and love God.

**Wednesday 5th June – Dumisani** - Give thanks to the Lord for Principal Wilbert Chipenyu's visit to Scotland at the end of May and early June to attend the Free Church of Scotland General Assembly and also visit churches. May the visit renew and strengthen bonds in this historic relationship between Dumisani Theological Institute and the Free Church of Scotland and other fraternal delegates and bring new updates for many.

**Thursday 6th June - South Sudan** - Give thanks for Rev. Patrick Jok's recent visit to Scotland for the General Assembly. Please pray that God would grow the friendships and partnerships made, and that may will continue to pray for the work of the Church in South Sudan.

**Friday 7th June – Garrabost** - Garrabost is made up of two congregations coming together. We are currently using two large church buildings but cannot afford the upkeep of both in the long term. The Deacons Court have recently been joined by two experts in the field of assessing buildings. Pray that they will be able to advise us on how to make the best use of our resources and that the congregation would remain united in the decisions that will have to be made.

**Saturday 8th June – Dumisani** - Pray for the annual June Winter School at Dumisani Theological Institute in the Eastern Cape, SA. Pray that this event will be a blessing for all involved.

**Sunday 9th June - Loch Ness (Glenurquhart and Fort Augustus)** - The lonely, homeless and hungry are on our hearts. Please pray for God to open doors for the church to give practical care wherever it is needed.

### THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS: St BASIL OF CAESAREA (330-79)

#### The Christian's Need of Fellowship

*For the body is not one member, but many. (1 Corinthians 12:14)*

Other people may be great, strong, and self-assured. I, however, am nothing, and I'm worth nothing. Therefore I could never assume the burden of even thinking I can cope with life's affairs without the help of others. I'm well aware that I need the assistance of my brothers, each one of them, more than one hand needs the other's help. In fact, the Lord has taught us the need of fellowship from the very way our bodies are made. When I look at my limbs, and see that none of them can get along by itself, how can I think I'm capable of fulfilling life's duties in isolation? One foot alone can't walk rightly without the other's aid. One eye alone can't see in proper perspective without the other's cooperation, both seeing together. The sense of hearing is more accurate when both ears receive sound. The hand's grip is more secure when made by all the fingers in "fellowship" with each other.

To sum up, in everything accomplished through natural action and by the human will, I see nothing done except by the joint working of powers in alliance. Even prayer itself, when it isn't the prayer of believers united together, loses its proper effect; the Lord tells us that it's when two or three call upon Him in joint prayer that He will be in the midst. In the very plan of salvation, the Lord worked to bring about togetherness between things on earth and in heaven, through the blood of His cross. For these reasons, my prayer is that for however many days are left for me here below, I may spend them in harmonious fellowship with others; and when I come to die, I pray that I will die in such peace.