

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 21st February 2021



LORD'S DAY SERVICES – CHURCH CLOSED

The Western Isles is still in Level 4 of the Scottish Government's COVID-19 restrictions. This means that it is a legal requirement for places of worship located within an area having Level 4 restrictions to close for communal worship and individual prayer. This, of course, means that we will not be able to meet for public worship in the Church today (Sunday 21st February 2021) and the Church will remain closed until such time as the Level 4 restrictions have been lifted.

LORD'S DAY SERVICES – 21st FEBRUARY 2021

The arrangements for the Lord's Day will revert to what has become the normal arrangements during COVID-19 restrictions.

Sunday Services

This Lord's Day we will continue our study of *The Titles of Christ in the Epistle to the Hebrews* by looking at Hebrews 3:1-6 and *Jesus – The Builder of the Church*.

Availability of Services

The Sunday Service in Gaelic and English conducted by the Minister will be available on the [Shawbost Free Church Sermon Audio](#) page as from 12.00noon on Sunday. Simply click or tap on Shawbost Free Church Sermon Audio underlined above from your phone, tablet, laptop, etc., to take you directly to the site where you can access the services.

The **Sunday Service in Gaelic** can also be **accessed from landline / home telephone** by dialling the number **0131 510 2471**. Please note that 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 resume today, Sunday 21st February 2021, at 11.00am using the Zoom audio-visual technology. The Sunday School will continue to meet in this way until the current COVID-19 restrictions on children attending School have been lifted.

WEEKLY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

The meetings of the weekly Prayer and Bible Study (PBS) Group will resume this Wednesday, 24th February 2021, at 7.00pm using Zoom audio-visual technology. We will study Chapter 4 of the book entitled '*Gentle and Lowly – The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers*' by Dane Ortlund this week. The Chapter is entitled *Able to Sympathise* based on Hebrews Chapter 4:15.

The PBS Group is an open group and those who wish to join the group using Zoom can do so from mobile phone, tablet or computer using the meeting details below. The Zoom Meeting ID is - 811 1884 3263. The ongoing Meeting Password is issued separately by contacting the Minister.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Youth Fellowship will meet this evening, Sunday 21st February 2021, at 7.30pm using the Zoom audio-visual platform. The speakers for the event are Iain and Marion Gray, Knockbain Free Church. They will speak on *The Importance of True Friendships*. The Zoom connection details will be issued to young people and/or parents in good time for the meeting. We encourage our young people to note the meeting and to ensure that they have the details. Further information is available from Lynn Hebditch on Mobile 07557 123808.

PASTORAL VISITATION

Pastoral visitation in homes is not permissible under the Level 4 COVID-19 restrictions in the Western Isles announced by the Scottish Government First Minister on Friday 29th January 2021. 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 We are especially mindful at this time of those who are in Care Homes and in Hospital and their families during times of highly restricted visiting and not being able to spend precious time together.

SLAVIC GOSPEL ASSOCIATION

The latest edition Slavic Gospel Association news update, *The Inside Story*, is available on the SGA Website at <https://projects.sga.org.uk/the-inside-story/> The Inside Story is collection of news stories from across Eastern Europe, Central Asia & Far East Russia.

PRESBYTERY PRAYER TIME

The Presbytery has introduced a rota system for Ministers to offer prayer points for the allocated prayer time from 8.00-9.00pm on Monday. The Bible passage **Psalm 62** and the **following prayer points** for Monday 22nd February 2021 have been forwarded by Rev. Calum I. Macleod, Minister of the Lochs congregation.

Prayer Points:

1. Give thanks for the unchangeableness of God, and his faithfulness to his promises.
2. Give thanks for the stability that his unchanging words can give us in every situation.
3. Pray that our people and families will have life-changing discoveries of God in his word through these difficult times, and that these times will be blessed to us. Also, for our people to be preserved or restored from backsliding, with longing to be back in church when we are allowed and able to reopen, and that in the meantime they'll have desire to access the resources presently available.
4. Pray for those unable to access live stream service provision in our congregations, and that whatever resources they have will be greatly blessed to them.
5. Pray for the unconverted who follow the live stream services, and those who happen to tune in unexpectedly, that God will change them through his word.
6. Pray for those suffering with their mental health, that God's words will bring light, life and healing into their darkness and sense of hopelessness, and that they'll be relieved, and delivered.
7. Pray for our children to be converted, and that they will have longing to be back at all the church activities they were part of before restrictions, and that they'll use the opportunities for online Youth Fellowship and such meetings, leading to their conversions. Also, for our youth workers to be encouraged and inspired.
8. Pray for our government leaders to be converted, and for us to be encouraged go ask this by the examples in the Bible of God changing leaders' lives, and through that, changing history.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

21st February 2021

Maryburgh and Killearnan

Minister: Rev. Alec Stewart

The church is located in Maryburgh, 2 miles south of Dingwall. The parish also covers the south part of the Black Isle from Muir of Ord to Tore.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray that we remain united in our fellowship, that we continue to seek the Lord and mature in him.
2. Pray that we can find ways to reach those around us with the hope of the gospel. Pray that we see a minimum of 20% growth in our membership (We have committed ourselves before the Lord to pray at least once a week throughout this year for a minimum of 20% increase in the membership), and that our Sunday School will flourish.

Hope Church, Blackwood & Kirkmuirhill

Minister: Rev. Ian M. Watson

We are mostly ex-Church-of-Scotland members, having formed a Free Church congregation in 2014. We have our own building in the centre of the village. Our aim is to be at the heart of gospel out-reach in our community.

Prayer Points:

1. To keep reaching out to our community with the love of Christ despite the pandemic. We distributed small gifts at Christmas time and plan something similar at Easter.
2. We partner with a ministry to addicts called Street Connect. This was proving to be very fruitful before lockdown. The recent lockdown has curtailed much of our work. Pray for those with addictions who cannot receive the help they need.