



**SHAWBOST  
FREE CHURCH**



THE VISION OF THE  
FREE CHURCH OF  
SCOTLAND IS



**A Healthy  
Gospel Church  
for Every Community  
in Scotland**



**CHURCH BULLETIN**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

## INTRODUCTION

We are a congregation of the [Free Church of Scotland](#). We gather for public worship on the Lord's Day at 12.00noon and at 6.00pm. We use the [ESV version of the Bible](#) in the public worship of God. We use both the [Scottish Psalter](#) and [Sing Psalms](#) versions of the Psalms for the praise items in our public worship. More details on the Congregation and our ministry are available on our website [here](#).

## SUNDAY SERVICES

The services today will be taken by Rev Roddy John Campbell. For the **12.00noon service**, the reading is from John 1:29-51 with a focus on John 1:29.

At the **6.00pm service**, the reading will be from John 10:1-30 with a focus on John 10:11-15 and 24-29.

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	Ps 19 v7-11	Psalter	Ps 78 v51-55	Psalter
2	Ps 51 v5-8	Psalter	Ps 73 v23-26	Psalter
3	Ps 40 v5-8	Psalter	Ps 23	Psalter
4	Ps 69 v30-32	Psalter	-----	-----

## 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](#).

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will meet as usual this Lord's Day. We continue to seek God's blessing on this aspect of our gospel ministry.

## SERVICES NEXT LORD'S DAY

The services next Lord's Day will be taken by Mr Donald MacAulay (Carloway).

## MINISTER UPDATE

We are pleased and thankful to note the Minister returned home to the island from Glasgow's Queen Elizabeth Hospital on Tuesday of last week. He continues his recovery, resting and exercising as advised by the medical consultant. Callum and Catherine are thankful for the prayers of the congregation, kind messages of support and would greatly appreciate ongoing prayer.

## BEREAVEMENT

We note with sadness the passing of Ian "Sgadan" Macleod (Glasgow and Doune Terrace, South Bragar). We extend our condolences and prayerful sympathies to his wife Christine and daughters Carol, Donna and Elaine and their wider family. We also remember Roddy, Mairi Ann, Callan, Dondy, Christopher and Alex and their respective families.

## PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY

The Prayer and Bible Study Meeting will take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.00pm in Bragar.

## SATURDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study in Bragar Meeting Hall every second Saturday has resumed. The group is currently studying the gospel of John. The next meeting is 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

## ORDINATION AND INDUCTION OF REV DONALD M MACLEOD

The ordination of Rev Donald M Macleod and his induction to the North Tolsta congregation of the Free Church of Scotland will be held on Friday 10th February at 7.00pm. Rev Paul Murray, Moderator of the Presbytery, will preach and preside.

Following the service, a reception will be held in the North Tolsta Community Hall to which everyone is cordially invited.

Please pray for Rev Macleod as he settles into the community and that his ministry will be abundantly blessed by God to all who hear it.

## MARSALI CAMPBELL - NEWSLETTER FEB 2023

The February 2023 newsletter from Marsali Campbell can be found [here](#) on congregation website.

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed in the congregation on Lord's Day 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The programme of services will be as follows:

Day	Service	Location
Friday Evening	English Service	Church
	Gaelic Service	Bragar
Saturday Morning	English Service	Church
Sunday Morning	English Service	Church
Sunday Evening	English Service	Church

The English services will be taken by Rev. Andrew Macleod, Assistant Minister at Tain and Fearn. The arrangements for the Gaelic service in Bragar on Friday evening have still to be confirmed.

## LITTLE ACORNS TODDLER GROUP

Little Acorns Parent and Toddler/Baby Group meets at Providence Christian School, Cearns Community Centre, every Friday at 10am. You would be most welcome to join us for a time of fun for little ones and a chance for a cuppa and catch up for parents. Snack and refreshments provided. Bring along a friend! If you would like more information, contact Sharon on 07963005245.

There is no obligation for anyone attending to have any intention of moving on to use Providence for Primary education and it is a group that is open to all in the community including child minders or grandparents etc. The group have enjoyed home-schooling families using this group, other families who use state schooling for older siblings, as well as those within our own school circle. A warm open welcome is extended to all.

Little Acorns also has a Facebook page which you can visit [here](#).

## PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

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

### **Monday 6th February Castletown and Community**

Please give thanks to the Lord for his financial provision through the generous support of individuals and congregations. As a consequence, the congregation was able to meet its financial commitment for 2022.

### **Tuesday 7th January Osamu and Mairi, Japan**

Please pray especially for The Tohoku Keswick Convention to be held between 9th and 11th Feb. in Yamagata South Church in Yamagata-ken. The venue is changed due to the stricter covid restrictions which Miyagi-ken has. The concern is less number of people will be able to attend the convention because of snow. The new venue is located in the area which has much snow at this time. Pray that people will join the convention by Youtube.

**Wednesday 8th February**  
**Dingwall and Strathpeffer**

Dingwall & Strathpeffer has been vacant for over three years. While grateful for the preaching supply we have had, we long to have a pastor of our own. Please pray that the Lord would enable us to identify the right person soon.

**Thursday 9th February**  
**Central Office**

Give thanks for the appointment of Fraser, legal and compliance officer. Please pray for him as he settles into his role. Pray his work will be of blessing to the denomination.

**Friday 10th February**  
**Castletown and Community**

Please ask that, out of the Father's glorious riches, he would strengthen us with power through his Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith, and that, being rooted and established in love, we may have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge, that we may be filled to all the fulness of God.

**Saturday 11th February**  
**Dingwall and Strathpeffer**

Please pray that the Lord would help us maintain the unity of the Spirit as we continue our witness in the communities.

**Sunday 12th February**  
**Osamu and Mairi, Japan**

Pray for Osamu who will be translating for Dr. D. Olford, a Keswick speaker, at Yamagata South Church Sunday service on 12th.

**C.H. SPURGEON DAILY READING – 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

"At that time Jesus answered."

[Matthew 11:25](#)

"This is a singular way in which to commence a verse--"At that time Jesus answered." If you will look at the context you will not perceive that any person had asked him a question, or that he was in conversation with any human being. Yet it is written, "Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father." When a man answers, he answers a person who has been speaking to him. Who, then, had spoken to Christ? his Father. Yet there is no record of it; and this should teach us that Jesus had constant fellowship with his Father, and that God spake into his heart so often, so continually, that it was not a circumstance singular enough to be recorded. It was the habit and life of Jesus to talk with God. Even as Jesus was, in this world, so are we; let us therefore learn the lesson which this simple statement concerning him teaches us. May we likewise have silent fellowship with the Father, so that often we may answer him, and though the world wotteth not to whom we speak, may we be responding to that secret voice unheard of any other ear, which our own ear, opened by the Spirit of God, recognizes with joy. God has spoken to us, let us speak to God--either to set our seal that God is true and faithful to his promise, or to confess the sin of which the Spirit of God has convinced us, or to acknowledge the mercy which God's providence has given, or to express assent to the great truths which God the Holy Ghost has opened to our understanding. What a privilege is intimate communion with the Father of our spirits! It is a secret hidden from the world, a joy with which even the nearest friend intermeddeth not. If we would hear the whispers of God's love, our ear must be purged and fitted to listen to his voice. This very evening may our hearts be in such a state, that when God speaks to us, we, like Jesus, may be prepared at once to answer him."