

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

March 2019: No. 747

Interim Moderator: Rev Dr Bruce MacRitchie



SUNDAY SERVICES

All people, of any age, are warmly invited to participate at all of our services
We have “Treasure Seekers”, age-related fun and learning activity for children every Sunday at 11
also Cloud 10 for secondary aged young people every Sunday at 11.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sunday 3rd March | The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper at 9.30am with Rev Morven Archer and at 11am and 3pm with Rev Doug McRoberts
Thanksgiving Service at 6.30 with Stewart Robertson followed
by special prayers |
| Sunday 10th March | Morning Worship at 9.30 am with Rev Morven Archer
Morning Worship at 11 am With Rev Doug McRoberts |
| Sunday 17th March | Morning Worship at 9.30am with Rev Morven Archer
Morning Worship at 11 am with Rev Doug McRoberts |
| Sunday 24th March | Morning Worship at 9.30am with Rev Morven Archer
Morning Worship at 11 am with Rev Doug McRoberts |
| Sunday 31st March | Morning Worship at 9.30am with Rev Morven Archer
Morning Worship at 11 am with Rev Doug McRoberts |
| Sunday 7th April | Morning Worship at 9.30am and at 11 am with Rev Morven Archer
Followed by special prayers |

Also, every Friday at 12 noon, prayers – at which people may be remembered by name.

**Wait for the Lord;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.**

Psalm 27:14

Young Crown – next steps

I was excited to be able to share with both congregations recently a little of our vision for the re-imagining of our youth group output. We've been thinking and praying about both how delighted we've been with what's gone on through Energize so far and also what God could be calling us to next. As part of this

process, the youth club leaders decided to take the [feels quite bold] step of stopping the youth club for this term; but have been continuing to meet weekly to plan and pray over the next steps for the club.

By taking this time out to plan, we've started to dream, and dream BIG! It's become clear to us that what we're looking to do is not simply implement a list of improvements to the youth club as it stands; but to run something really quite different – a whole new club. The following is just a summary of what we're looking to institute in terms of change; what the aims are and what we might need in order to achieve the desired changes. The decision to stop and re-assess was a difficult one to take, but given the plans we're putting together I hope the right one. The plans right now feel a little ambitious, but I think that is a sign of moving with faith – it doesn't take much faith to run something we know we're easily capable of!!

Aims:

- To run a Christian youth club for P4-7 with strong involvement from young leaders (S1+). The club is primarily for sharing the gospel and uses Luke 2:52 for its mission statement (growing in wisdom, stature and favour with God and people). Thursday evenings from 6:30-8pm, with after-hours for young leaders too.
- Hopefully starting after the Easter holidays.
- For the club to run sustainably – requiring a team to work. As I'm 3 years in to a 5 year contract, I'm aware of the need to build structures which will outlast my personal involvement.
- For the club to make stronger connections between the wider church and the young people. **The operation of the new club will not work unless there is significant involvement from the wider church!**
- To use the club as a vehicle for making stronger links with families.
- To use many spaces within the church to increase familiarity with the building.
- To offer many different activities to suit many tastes.



(Young Crown continued)

Changes / dynamics

- Club to run with a sort of 'Holiday Club' style. The idea is that in coming to the club, the young people will be transported not just into a church hall, but into a whole new world – of space exploration or the North Pole; through a time machine to the past or, indeed, the future.
- The club will be called YC inc. The YC stands for lots of things (Young Crown; Youth Club; You Can; Yeah Cool; Your Club, etc)...
- The club night will run roughly as follows:
 1. Enter / register (registration / welcomers will be at the Midmills door and then send kids to the upper hall)
 2. Group time – the upper hall will be divided into year groups where activities will be available upon arrival.
 3. Teaching time – where everyone is together and there is a Bible story shared through various methods possibly including talk, video clip, drama, etc.
 4. Breakout / elements:
 - Games (Upper Hall)
 - Games tables / consoles (Upstairs / the Den)
 - Tuck shop / café – includes toasties and some prepared food
 - AV - film clips / shows (Sanctuary)
 - Craft / knitting (Lounge)
 - Choir (Lower Hall – choir have indicated that if any young people would like to join them, they would be welcome)
 - Parents' Café (Olive Grove) – every second week, the Olive Grove is to be opened and available for parents to use whilst their young ones enjoy the club.
 - [One week every month] Parents' night – where guardians are invited to stay and share in the activities of the evening – activities to be designed around having them involved.
 5. Close – where we'll have announcements, team points, a silly video, etc. Done in the Sanctuary (to increase visibility and awareness of the space)
 6. Pick up – will be from the front doors to the Sanctuary so people become more familiar with using these spaces.
- This is obviously an ambitious programme requiring significant investment from people. We're in the territory of journeying in faith – because it's too big for us to achieve without God's help!!

(Young Crown continued)

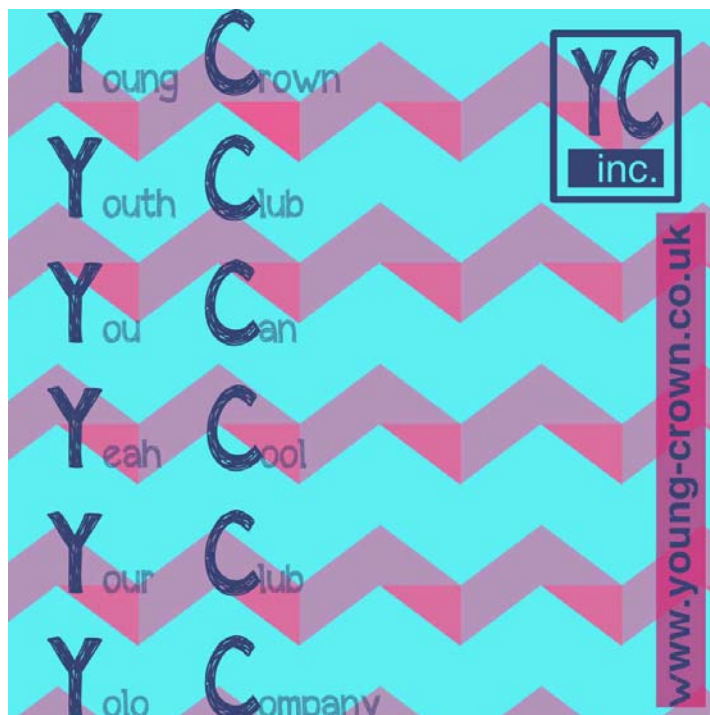
Investments required

- Team. Our planning team are: myself, Jude Madeliene, Lynn Forbes, Michael MacAulay, Duncan MacKnight. **We need more people to make this work.** People who can do welcome / registration; people who can be leaders at group times and people who'll just help out! We're really hoping that the whole church can catch a glimpse of this vision to host this as a strong outreach every week and get on board with it.
- Olive Grove volunteers.
- Prayer – a whole church involvement!
- Programme – we're looking initially to use SU's Guardians of Ancora material to theme the club over the first term – which is backed by an app (of the same name). The app is a great way to bring the Bible stories and the club experience back into the homes of those attending.
- Equipment: we have a big list of equipment we're looking to bring in to run this club well. For now, we'd be really interested in hearing from anyone who has a **spare TV** or **tablet** around the house!

I hope the flavour we've given you of what we're planning is exciting you – we really think this is a strong project going forwards in not just youth outreach but also to families and community too. We also hope that the way we've put it together gives **you** opportunity to be involved – even if youth work "isn't *your thing*."

Can we do this? Only with God's help. And yours.

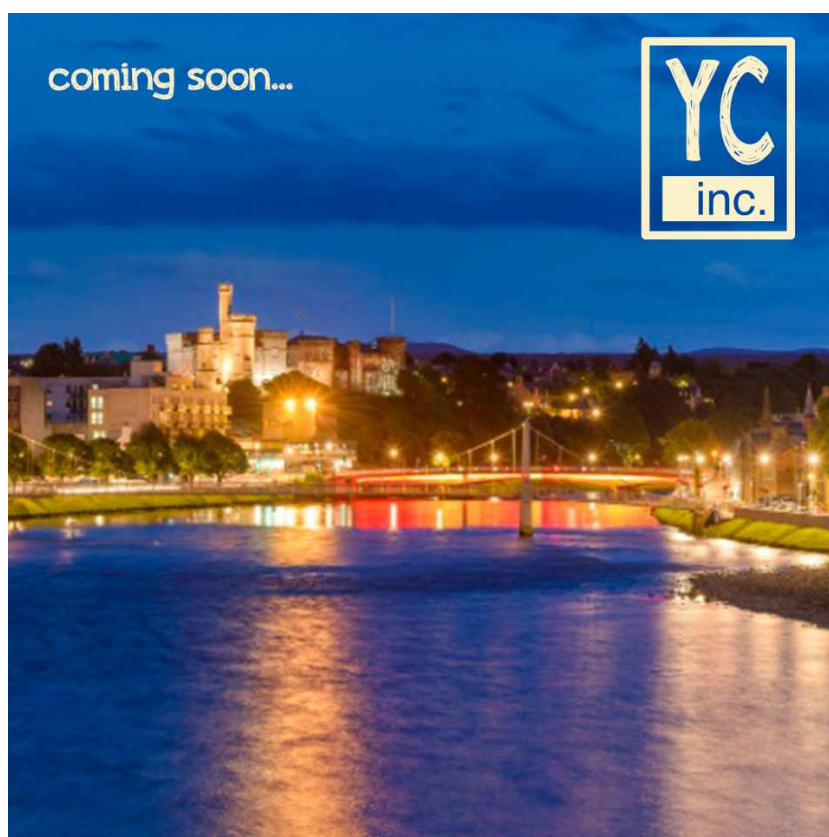
Struan (and the YC inc. planning team)



And in the words of one of the young leaders, Duncan:

Myself and several others are launching a Youth Club in The Church on Thursdays from 6.30pm to 8pm. This is open to anyone at school in the years Primary 4 to S3. We feel a youth club is a great idea as it will bring youngsters together who perhaps, don't go to church and this will get them familiar with a church environment. They will be able to do lots of practical activities which we shall have in several of the rooms around the church. We shall also be able to build a strong relationship with the youngsters and the church members with this club whilst simultaneously making Crown Church a more advertised place for people to come to on Sundays and during the week. Also, some of the older youngsters will be given responsibilities in the activity sessions to build their leadership skills and make them feel valued. The Olive Grove will also be open (where possible) so parents can also interact with Church Members and thus will help improve the connection with the Church and the wider Community

Duncan Mack



The Guild

February began with our fundraiser, a soup and pudding lunch, on the 2nd. This



event has proved extremely popular with members of our own church and others from within the community. Six delicious soups were on offer and at least ten different puddings. It was really difficult which to choose. Needless to say there was not much left at the end! Where else in town could you get soup, pudding, coffee or tea and short-bread for £5? We raised over £400 pounds which will go towards our two chosen projects.

Colin and Sandie Craig who own the Oil and Vinegar Place in Union Street were our

speakers on the 5th. We tasted different oils and learnt quite a few tips on how to use them and which oils and vinegars go together. We were given the chance to buy some of their goods.

A completely different evening for the 19th. Mattie MacDonald, well known to many of us, came along to teach us how to make various flowers from ribbons and to show us some of the crafts she has perfected.

By the time this Newsletter comes out we will have held the annual World Day of Prayer service at Kingsmills Home. On the 5th we have one of our project meetings, this time for the Seema Project and then we have our last meeting of the year, our AGM, on the 19th. Stewart Robertson will come along and after our business meeting, he will tell us, accompanied by photographs, about the congregational trip to the Holy Land.

This has been a successful year thanks to the many speakers we have had and also to the many faithful members who attend so regularly.

Dorothy Mein Guild Correspondent

Volunteers Are Required!

The church continues to urgently need some new volunteers to join the flower delivery rota and also the tea/coffee rota. Anyone who is able to help is asked to contact Gloria at the church office. The telephone number is 01463 231140.



Meet the Neighbours

How would you cope in a new area? in another country? in another language? surrounded by another culture? You may have come here seeking opportunities or you may have been forced to flee here, with no prospect of going back 'home'. Would you need support to adapt and become at home here?? Of course!

Enter HiMRA - Highland Migrant and Refugee Advocacy - based just along from church on the corner of Charles Street/ Ardconnel Terrace. The organisation provides drop in centres in Alness, Dingwall, Inverness and Kinlochleven where our newest Highlanders can access support, information and advice, be directed to specific services or support groups they may need, make friends across cultures and explore activities and events in their new home area. HiMRA also provide an advocacy service for those with specific immigration issues.

Until 16th March, everyone has the opportunity to read many migrant stories in their own words, pictures and objects at the exhibition 'Stories of Movement' at Inverness Museum (lower floor entry hall and learning room). Some of the stories are truly moving - in the heartfelt sense.

There is also a continuing need for local volunteers to help in the two way process of making new Highlanders of all ages become a valued part of our community. If you could help or would like more information, please contact the project direct or check out their website www.himra.org or FaceBook page: tiffanyhimra. **The Outreach Team.**

Highland Foodbank

Lorna Dempster from the Highland Foodbank has written to me to thank Crown Church for our donations to the Foodbank during 2018 and I wanted to pass this on. Lorna said in her letter that last Christmas was a difficult time for many people here who were struggling so much financially that they didn't have money to buy food. All of their foodbanks in Highland were busy in the lead up to Christmas. The Glebe Street Foodbank in Inverness supported 144 people in the week before Christmas! Lorna mentioned that without your support, Blythswood care would not be able to run the Foodbank Project.

Items that the Foodbank are short of just now are:

- Tins of mince
- Cartons of long life fruit juice
- Washing powder (small)
- Washing up liquid (small)

and the Foodbank would be grateful for donations of these during March. As always, they are also grateful for donations of supermarket carrier bags.

Liz Gray



There has been great excitement in the Macgill family leading up to the marriage of Mr Stewart Wilson to our elder daughter Kathryn.

Once upon a time Kathryn was active in the Cygnet youth group at Crown and became friends with a lady who was then the Director of Youth at Wyckoff Reformed Church in New Jersey USA. We all now know this lady as Rev Heidi Hercus, parish minister at Ullapool Church of Scotland. Rev Heidi performed the marriage ceremony at Laggan, Gatehouse of Fleet, Galloway.



Heidi made it a lovely ceremony on a sunny afternoon surrounded by an adoring company of family and friends.

Brian



Update from Highland Malawi Trust

What a happy 2019 it will be in Malawi now that this wonderful new school building is finally ready and what a splendid building it is - they didn't quite get the sign right but they have the name - Hats off again to the wonderful school community at Noss Primary Wick - who totally financed this building through various fundraising activities. Along with the finishing of the building, the Malawians have been busy planting and fertilizing the maize and enjoying a daily nutritious meal throughout the rainy season all due to the wonderful support that the Trust receives through fundraising and donations.

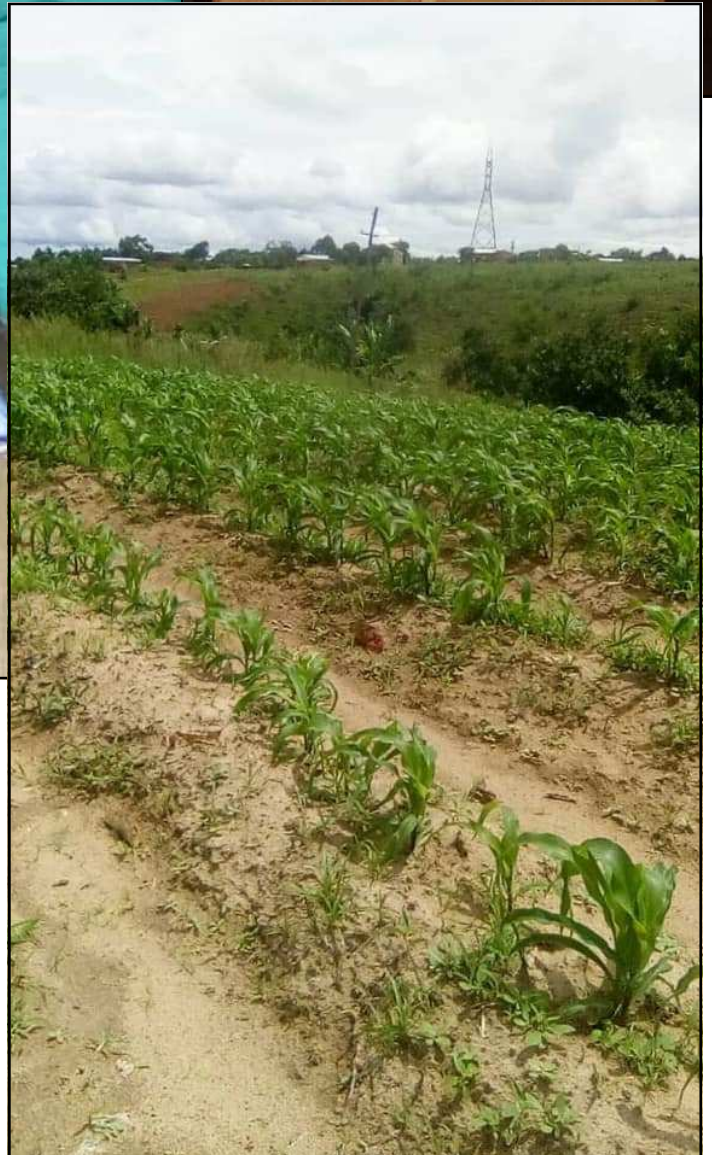
Our annual coffee morning in November more or less finances that feeding programme and for your support every year we give heartfelt thanks. The fertiliser ensures good crops that then ensures food for the other eight months.

At the moment we are getting quotes for furniture for the school building. Another little school, Teanassie Primary School, has fundraised towards that and along with furniture we shall provide new kitchen equipment. This will complete our work at the Primary School and our efforts then will focus on getting our Nursery complex at Chamalaza on par with those at Thandazga and Chittatata .

It has been an incredible ten years and your love and support has been beyond measure. Grateful Thanks and God bless you all .

The maidens, Brian and Doug .





Many thanks to Chrisanne for the update and the photographs including one of the new school.

Congregational Board

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held in March. There will be a meeting of the church trustees (i.e. elders and members of the Board) within that evening. The main business is to receive the accounts for 2018, approve a few appointments – in particular appointments to the Congregational Board - and hear reports on the work of Kirk Session and the Congregational Board. We guarantee that the whole evening will be informative, sociable and interesting. Please come along and enjoy tea/coffee and cakes with friends old and new.

Bill Mein



MacGilp Memorial Window Appeal

So far we have raised donations of £32,000 and have attracted grants of £16,000. We hope that another Trust will grant us £35,000. That would yield a total of £83,000 which would cover the £78,700 we need for the conservation. Whilst the response of the congregation has been outstanding, grants have proved very difficult to acquire. It would therefore be sensible not to be too dependent on success with the final application. Could you please consider making a donation if you have not yet done this; if you have donated, could you consider making a second donation? If you have ideas for fundraising activities, please consider trying to raise some money.

Bill Mein

INVERNESS INTERFAITH GROUP

Thursday 28 March, 7.00pm in Crown Church Lounge

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (at about 8.00pm)

following a **Presentation** at 7.00pm by Elaine Fetherston , executive manager of Inverness Women's Aid

Interval break for tea/coffee/cakes : All welcome

Further details from John Barbour.

MARCH 2019 | £2.80

LIFE AND WORK

THE MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

IN THIS ISSUE

HEALING THE WOUNDS

The role of the
Church in healing
polarised division

'MY LIFE WAS CHANGED'
The life and faith of John Sturrock QC

MINISTRY OF FATHERS
The impact of a charity bringing
dads and their children together

and much more all for £2.80



LIFE AND WORK MARCH 2019

Healing the Wounds

The role of the Church in healing division

'My Life Was Changed'

The life and faith of John Sturrock QC, mediator with Place for Hope

Ministry of Fathers

The work of a charity bringing together dads and their children

Westminster, Confessions and the Church

The Rev Dr Donald MacEwan highlights a conference to examine the

Westminster Confession of Faith

The BB and the Rhema Foundation

A young BB's visit to Romania

Doing as Jesus Did

The Rt Rev Susan Brown urges us to treat everyone with equal respect

The Powerless are Not Forgotten

The Rev Richard Baxter explains why the powerless are not ignored or ne-

glected by God

A Church in 'Little Scotland'

The work of a Church of Scotland south of the Border

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

Online visit us at www.lifeandwork.org



Just a Reminder: Coming at the end of March!

New Taoist Tai Chi beginner classes in the Lower Hall at Crown Church

We will be holding a free Open House evening event on Thursday 28th March 2019 from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

The purpose of the Open House is demonstrate part or all of the 108-move set, tell you a little about the Taoist Tai Chi Society and give you the opportunity to try a few of the moves yourselves. You can just turn up, there is no need to book and no cost for the Open House.

If you are interested you can then enrol for membership and the Beginner Course, which starts in the following week on Thursday 4th April also from 7:30pm to 9:00pm, at which we teach the basic moves of the set over a 4-month period.

If you would like to find out more about Taoist Tai Chi and our organisation, please go to our website at www.taoist.org



Or, if you have any questions you can contact us via email at highlands@taoist.org
We look forward to seeing you at the Open House.

**Annie Woolston and Ian Ramsden
Instructors, Highlands & Islands branch
Taoist Tai Chi Society of Great Britain**

Daily Bible Readings for March

March 3, 2019 Matthew 16:24—17:8

Monday, Psalm 41:7-10, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 13:47-53, Parables of Jesus

Wednesday, Matthew 18:1-9, Who Is the Greatest?

Thursday, Psalm 146:7c-10, Psalm

Friday, Psalm 51:1-3, Psalm

Saturday, Matthew 13:54-58, Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

March 10, 2019 Matthew 18:15-35

Monday, Psalm 32:1-2, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 14:1-12, Death of John the Baptist

Wednesday, Matthew 14:34-15:9, Teachings of Jesus

Thursday, Matthew 15:10-20, Teachings of Jesus

Friday, Matthew 15:21-28, Teachings of Jesus

Saturday, Matthew 15:29-39, Teachings of Jesus

March 17, 2019 Matthew 20:1-16

Monday, Psalm 16:5-8, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 16:1-12, Teachings of Jesus

Wednesday, Matthew 16:13-23, Jesus Foretells His Death

Thursday, Matthew 17:9-27, Teachings of Jesus

Friday, Matthew 18:10-14, Parables of Jesus

Saturday, Matthew 19:1-30, Teachings of Jesus

March 24, 2019 Matthew 22:1-14

Monday, Psalm 45:6-7, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 20:17-34, Works of Jesus

Wednesday, Matthew 21:18-22, The Fig Tree

Thursday, Matthew 21:23-27, The Authority of Jesus Questioned

Friday, Matthew 21:28-32, Parables of Jesus

Saturday, Matthew 21:33-46, Parables of Jesus

March 31, 2019 Matthew 25:1-13

Monday, Psalm 43:3-4, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 22:15-33, Questions for Jesus

Wednesday, Matthew 22:34-46, The Greatest Commandment

Thursday, Matthew 23:1-36, Woes

Friday, Matthew 23:37-39, Lament over Jerusalem

Saturday, Matthew 24:1-28, Teachings of Jesus

April 7, 2019 Matthew 25:31-46

Monday, Psalm 98:7-9, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 24:29-51, Teachings of Jesus

Wednesday, Matthew 25:14-30, Parables of Jesus

Thursday, Matthew 26:1-5, The Plot to Kill Jesus

Friday, Matthew 26:6-13, The Anointing at Bethany

Saturday, Matthew 26:14-16, Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

CONTACTS

INTERIM MODERATOR	Rev Bruce MacRitchie
OLM ASSISTANT	Rev Morven Archer
YOUTH WORKER	Struan McRoberts,
SESSION CLERK	Brian Macgill,
ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER	
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPT	Patricia MS Crippin,
BOARD CHAIRMAN	Bill Mein,
CLERK TO BOARD	Janet MacPherson
TREASURER	Donald MacKenzie,
FREEWILL OFFERINGS	Robert Shanks,
GIFT AID TREASURER	Robert Hendry,
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HALLS BOOKINGS	Irene Whyte,
CARETAKER	Eilidh Ross,
GUILD SECRETARY	Adrienne Adie,
LADY VISITORS	Jane Wilson,
FLOWERS CONVENER	Ruby Coe,
NEWSLETTER EDITORS	Bob & M Forrest
CHURCH OFFICE	Crown Church Tues-Fri (9.30-12.00)231140 office@crown-church.co.uk

Mar	Readers	Creche	Coffee
3	Communion	Jane Smith & Kay MacDonald	Lena Clarke, Isabelle MacKenzie
10	Alison Harbison	Marjory Mackenzie & Chrisanne Robertson	Eileen Arden, Kay MacDonald, Kimm Currie
17	Lesley McRoberts	Kay MacDonald & TBA	Helen MacLeod, Irene Munro, Fiona Carter
24	Marion Forrest	Lesley McRoberts & Muriel Choppy	Mairi Main, Nanci Nicol, Anne Bowen
31	Charles Gallacher	Jane Smith & Marjory MacKenzie	Eleanor Ross, Lesley McRoberts, Janet MacPherson
Apr			
7	Marion Barbour	Muriel Choppy & Chrisanne Robertson	Mary Ann Buchanan, Marion Barbour

<p>March Count Team</p> <p>Sheena Ferguson Heather Beck, Robert & Aileen Laing, Helen Boynton</p> <p>April Count Team</p> <p>Liz Gray Bruce Merchant, Douglas Taylor & Margot Tuley</p>

<p>March Welcome Team</p> <p><i>North Door</i> Lesley McRoberts & John Logan <i>South Door</i> Calum Macleod & Bill Mein <i>Midmills North</i> Janet MacPherson <i>Midmills South</i> Ann Johnston</p> <p>April Welcome Team</p> <p><i>North Door</i> Anne Bowen & Lily Baillie <i>South Door</i> Ruby Coe <i>Midmills North</i> Colin Baillie <i>Midmills South</i> Mary Ann Buchanan</p>
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NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

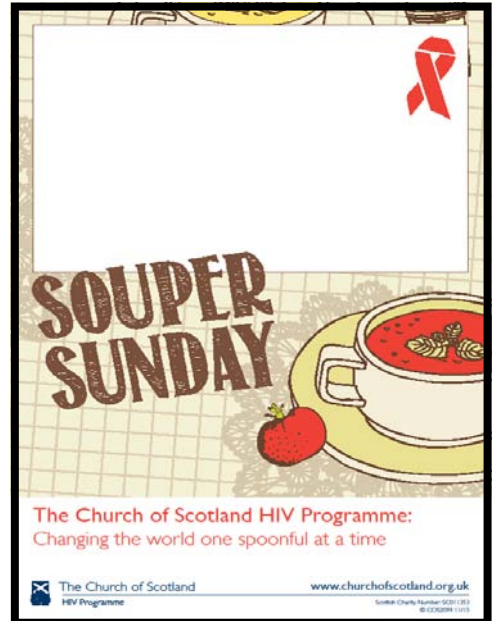
DEATHS

Mrs Margaret Swan, on 3rd February
Mra Mairi Akers, on 18 February
Mr Eric Christie, on 18 February

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep” (Romans 12.15).

The annual Souper Sunday will take place in the Lower Hall on Sunday 10th March (please note change of date!). All welcome!

The deadline for the April newsletter will be Sunday 31st March



Please send any articles or news to the Forrests at:
marionandbobnewsletter@gmail.com or left in the 'F' pigeonhole.
Please note that the newsletter can also be accessed via the church website where
you will be able to see the photographs in colour

Crown Church Office

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Published by Crown Church, Inverness (Church of Scotland)
Registered charity SC 018159
The Church website is to be found at www.crown-church.co.uk