

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

April 2019: No. 748

Interim Moderator: Rev Dr Bruce Ritchie



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 7th April	Morning Worship at 9.30am and at 11 am with Rev Morven Archer Followed by special prayers
Sunday 14th April	Morning Worship at 9.30 am with Rev Morven Archer Morning Worship at 11 am with Rev Doug McRoberts
Thursday 18th April	Evening Worship at 7pm
Friday 19th April	Evening Worship for Good Friday at 7pm
Sunday 21st April	Celebrating Easter Morning Worship at 9.30am with Rev Morven Archer Morning Worship at 11 am with Rev Doug McRoberts
Sunday 28th April	Morning Worship at 9.30am with Rev Morven Archer Morning Worship at 11 am with Rev Doug McRoberts
Sunday 5th May	Morning Worship at 9.30am with Rev Morven Archer Morning Worship at 11 am with Rev Doug McRoberts Followed by special prayers

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

‘We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and shield.
In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.
May your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in you’
(*Psalm 33: v 20—22*)

Christian Aid Week 2019: 'All mothers should live'

Sierra Leone is the world's most dangerous place to become a mother. Every day 10 women die from giving birth. In Sawula district, the community struggles with a clinic which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

Jebbeh is heavily pregnant but as her baby grows, it's not joy that fills her heart, but fear. When Jebbeh's sister Fatmata went in to labour, there were so few ambulances that Fatmata had no choice but to walk for three hours under the baking sun, to the nearest hospital. The journey was long and with every step Fatmata struggled to keep walking. Jebbeh told us: 'My sister was crying out with hunger. She died on the side of the road. She never gave birth.'

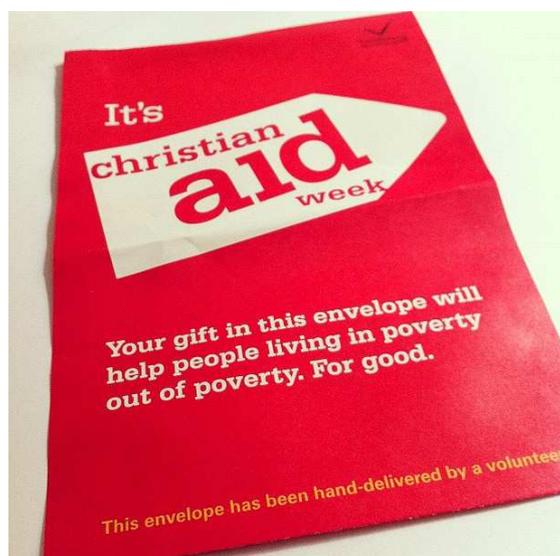
Together, we can make childbirth safe for mothers and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the world's poorest mothers a chance to live.

This Christian Aid Week, **12-18 May**, Crown Church will as usual be carrying out a door-to-door collection in our parish. Last year, despite not being able to go to every door, we still raised nearly £3,200. That's £3,200 more than Christian Aid would have had if we had felt it was no longer for us, or had thought it too daunting, or had just not bothered. So when we're tempted to say 'Not again', let us instead say 'Yes again.....and again, and again, and again' until the world is a safe place for all mothers to give birth.

Be an agent for change. Thank you,

David Crippin

Christian Aid Representative



Organists

We are happy to report that Louis Jones has been confirmed as our main organist, playing at the 11am services most Sundays, with Ian Livingstone playing one Sunday a month. A big welcome to both Louis and Ian! We are also glad to have our volunteer pianists continuing to play for the 9:30am services, afternoon Communion and 6:30pm services. We have not yet been able to make an appointment to the role of Choir Director but we are very grateful to have Mary Robb leading the choir meantime, assisted by Pat Crippin.

David Crippin

The Guild

The Guild's year concluded with the AGM on the 19th March. After the business was transacted we were entertained by Stewart Robertson with his memories and photos of the church trip to the Holy Land. Obviously everyone who went found it a memorable experience.

The summer rally is on June 4th at Daviot Church. If you wish to go and require transport please contact any committee member. Also our coffee mornings will be as usual in June, July and August, the dates of which will be in the Sunday notices.

The plans for our summer outing are still to be finalised so will be intimated later.

We wish all our members a lovely summer, with hopefully good weather and happy holidays.

Dorothy Mein
Guild Correspondent



Congratulations!

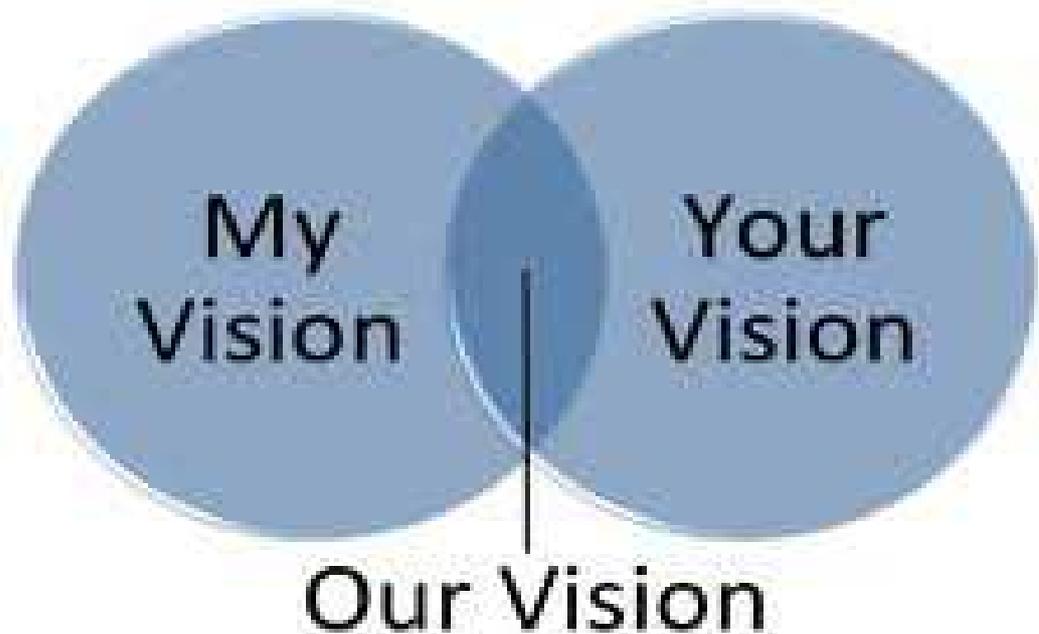
To Heather and Kenny Beck who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary recently



Stamps Update

Thank you for your ongoing support of the World Mission Council Stamp Appeal. We would like to express our thanks to everyone involved in collecting the stamps. At the end of February we had raised an amazing £2433 for the Hungarian Reformed church of Transcarpathia who give valuable support to children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Heather Grant



**CROWN
20/20**

Re-imagining our church
You are invited to hear all the ideas put forward from organisations using our halls on
Sunday 28th April after the 11am
morning service in the Lower Hall. Tea or coffee will be served.
And we want to hear your views!

CROWN 20/20

The title Crown 20/20 was chosen as shorthand for us taking a clear (20/20 vision) look at what our church should look like for the next generation, and to do everything that needs to be done for our premises to be recognised as a **community hub**. We also want to make significant progress in delivering our goals in 2020!

The exciting suggestions which have been fed into our consultation have given us a great start. We have invited each organisation which uses our halls to dream about their ideal space and tell us what it would look like if they could have exactly what they wanted. Taken together, these ideas will provide a blueprint for re-imagining our premises. We'd like to share these with you, and invite you to come through to the Lower Hall after the 11am service on 28 April when we will show you what has been suggested over a cup of tea/coffee. We hope you will be there to ensure we have taken your ideas on board, and share with us any ideas which are triggered on the day. And if you have anything you want to share with us in advance of this meeting, please speak to any of the group. They are Jimmy Gray (Chair), Liz Forbes and Liz Gray, (Jt Treasurers), Alan Nelson, Gordon Fyfe, Mairi Fraser, Bob Forrest, Charlie Forbes, Liz Forbes, Gordon Cameron, Eileen Ardern.

Thanks are also due to those who have enthusiastically begun planning some small fundraising over the coming months. When we have agreed a strategy for our premises and embark on large scale funding applications, it will make such a difference to demonstrate a large number of entries in our balance sheet highlighting the breadth of support we have received. To that end, individual fund raising efforts which raise just a few pounds would be greatly appreciated. Why not host a fund raising coffee morning, and enjoy the company of friends? Young people could offer to car wash. And everyone has a talent which with time and patience they could offer to share with someone else –for a small donation to Crown 20/20. The possibilities are endless. Individually, or better, working with a friend, why not have a go?

Eileen Ardern for Crown 20/20



The Youth Band, Blair McAra, Juel Madeleine and Jack Finnigan after playing at the 9.30 service on 17th March. New players, and singers would be very welcome to join. Contact Eileen Ardern (eileenardern@hotmail.com).

Crown Church Breakfast

It has been noticeable that the breakfasts in the lower hall on the last Sunday of every month are becoming more and more popular. The picture below was taken on Sunday 31st March. These breakfasts are proving a wonderful opportunity of doing a bit of "*catch up*" between the services. It does not matter whether you are attending the 9:30 service or the 11 o'clock service (or both!) All are welcome -the more the merrier!



LIFE AND WORK
APRIL 2019

Biblical Animals

As the humble donkey takes centre stage on Palm Sunday, Jackie Macadam focuses on the stories of the animals in the Bible.

'All We Need to Know'

Journey through Holy Week with the Moderator of the General Assembly

God is the Heart

Interview with vicar and author the Rev Dr Sam Wells

150 Years of Care

Continuing to celebrate the Church of Scotland's care legacy, Thomas Baldwin hears about the work of The Bungalow, an award-winning home for adults with multiple and profound disabilities

Youth Column

Connor Macfadyen describes his faith journey

Walking Together With the Guild

A new project bridging the generations

Power and Powerlessness

Continuing his series on themes of slavery in the Bible, the Rev Richard Baxter emphasises the importance of grace

Making the Most of Lent

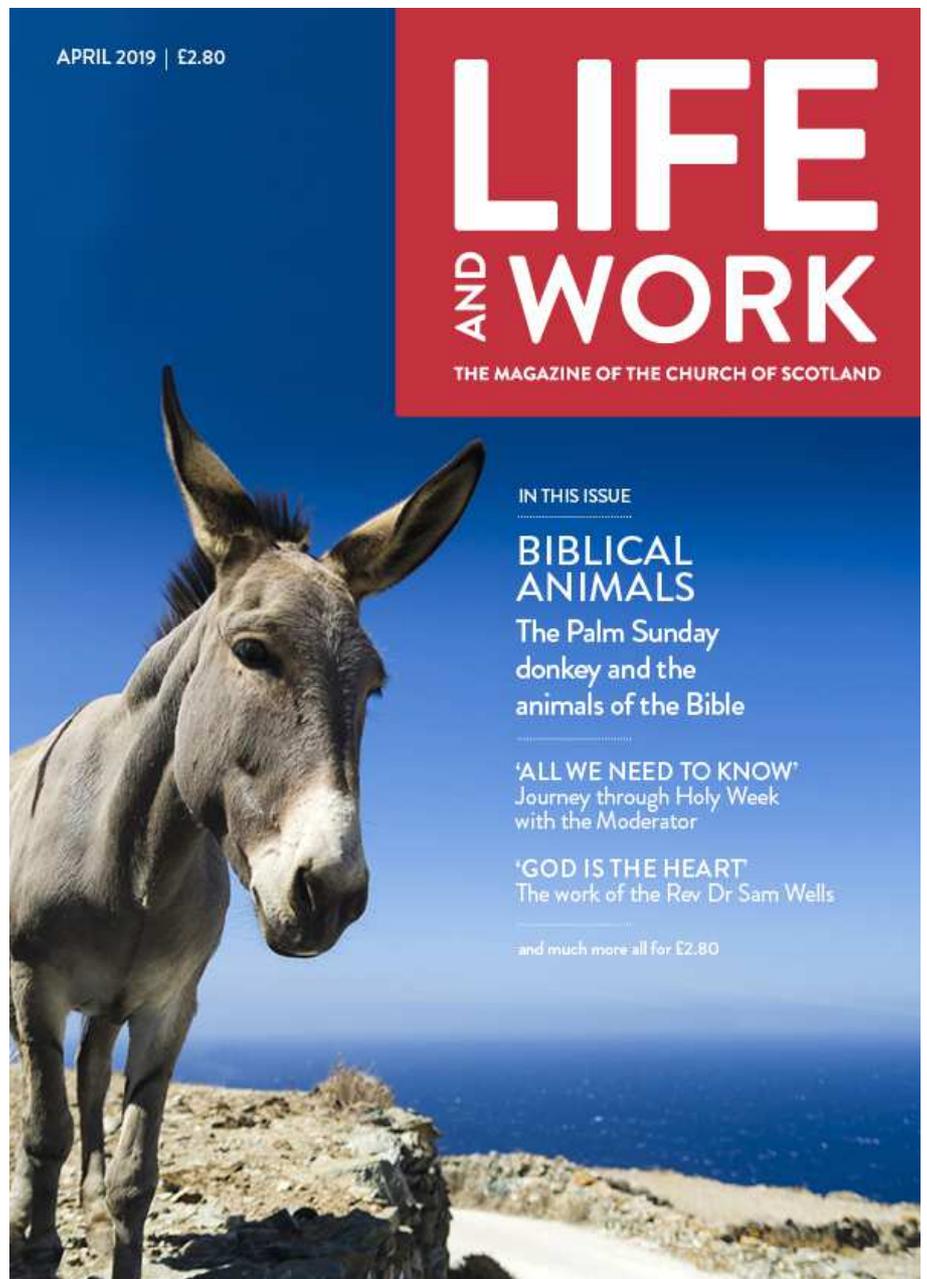
The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

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Prayer Diary

April 2019

This prayer diary has been prepared by the Discipleship Team. We hope that you will find it useful. You may like to detach it from the newsletter and use it to pray for our church and community. If you have particular prayer requests for the next month (May 2019) please do send them to the *church secretary* who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine; judedmond@yahoo.co.uk

April 1 – 7

Thank you God for spring time, for brighter weather and the reminder of renewal and fresh life, and all the goodness of your creation.

Give thanks for the period of Lent; Pray for the various house groups doing the Lent Bible study and other bible study groups, for the time and attention paid to personal examination and reflection on our relationship with God.

Pray for Rev Morven Archer and Rev Doug McRoberts, together with Struan McRoberts and Judith Macleod, and the rest of the Ministry Team, that they be blessed with increasing strength and energy as they continue leading the worship during the vacancy period.

Pray and give thanks for all those who help with organising and serving tea and coffee every week after Sunday service; Pray for all who come along and rejoice in sharing time and fellowship.

April 8-14

As we go through Palm Sunday and the Holy Week, we give thanks to God for his love, goodness and mercy; Praise God for the shining light in our lives, through the suffering and resurrection of Christ.

Pray for those who are grieving, those whose lives have changed through loss, that they will know the peace of God that passes all understanding. May they know that they are helped in the palm of God's hand.

Pray for our neighbours, for people who live alone, for people who are struggling with illness and for God's peace to fall on them. Pray for protection and safety over our neighbours' homes and families, and ask God to give us opportunities and courage to share His love with those around us.

April 15-21

As we celebrate a blessed and joy-filled Easter, pray God to sharpen our visions and brighten our views of the world with renewed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

Praise God for sending Jesus! Praise Jesus for the hope we have because of His sacrifice, for the joy we have in knowing that we are free to live life to the full because we have the security of eternity.

Pray for God's blessing's on the Communication Team and its Convenor; Pray that God will guide and lead them in their work in supporting others.

Pray for the business community and services in the Crown Church parish; Pray that they continue to flourish and develop for the service of the people.

April 22-28

Pray for teachers and pupils heading back to school after the Easter break. Ask God to guide and inspire teachers as they prepare, and to instil in children the desire and confidence to learn and grow. Thank God for the opportunity of education and learning.

Pray for the children and young adults you know. Pray that they would know that they are loved by God, and that they would have an awareness of their value in Christ. Pray for opportunities to support and love the young people in your life.

Pray for YC Inc, the new weekly youth club being launch this week for primary 4 to 7 children. Give thanks for Struan McRoberts, for all the work he has been doing together with other young leaders, to inspire young people in their journey to know and follow Christ.

April 29 – May 5

Pray for each and every member of the congregation, that God's spirit continues to flow throughout their lives whatever their circumstances.

Give thanks for this day; help us to use it wisely and as well as we can. Help us to be loyal and caring to those who need us.

Pray for **CROWN 20/20 group**, for blessings and guidance in taking forward the vision for the future of Crown Church.

Pray for our local council – for guidance for the decision makers, for good relationships between the council and churches and for Christians to be elected into positions of authority where they can make a more positive influence for God's glory.

**The Discipleship Team together with the congregations request ongoing prayer for:
The vacancy – that God is preparing the calling of someone to come to Crown Church
The Nominating Committee and their responsibilities
The teams that are working hard together to ensure that during the vacancy period,
the work of the Church continues and moves forward.**



3rd Inverness Boys' Brigade Company News

As usual, a New year brings a busy time for all sections of the BB Company....

Company Section Boys have taken part in the Battalion swimming gala, badminton and table tennis competitions; they've also helped out with a water station at the Inverness Half Marathon. The boys that took part in the badminton celebrated individual success and collected the team trophy as well.

The boys also progressed to the Scottish Final of the Masterteam quiz, narrowly missing out on qualifying for the National Finals.

The boys have also won another few rounds in the National badminton competition and have since qualified to represent BB Scotland in the National Finals in Ireland at the end of April.

The Company Section drill squad successfully retained the Battalion Drill Trophy; a few of the senior boys also formed the Colour Party at the annual Battalion Parade.

The Junior Section boys have also had a few activities that they have taken part in – they were 2nd in the swimming gala and 3rd in the Figure Marching competition. The boys also had a fun evening at Ness Bank and some attended the parade as well.

Not to be left out, the Anchor Boys have been kept busy too!! They had a fun evening at Ness Bank, made some wonderful crafts, including bird feeders for their gardens.

This month also saw the graduation of one of our young officers. Over the past 2 summers, Duncan MacKnight has attended the Brigade's KGVI training scheme; the young officers gathered at St Ninian's Church in Stonehouse where they were presented with their certificates.

Just a little advance warning – it is our Annual Display and Parent's Night on Friday 17th May 2019 starting at 7.15pm. All family and friends welcome to join us. **Gary McAra**





Junior Section Swimming Team



Masterteam Team



Badminton Team



Drill Squad



Duncan MacKnight KGV Presentation

Daily Bible Readings for April

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

April 14, 2019 Matthew 21:1-17

Monday, Psalm 118:26-29, Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 26:31-75, Betrayal of Jesus
Wednesday, Matthew 27:1-26, Passion
Thursday, Matthew 26:17-30, Words of Institution
Friday, Matthew 27:27-61, Crucifixion
Saturday, Matthew 27:62-66, The Guard at the Tomb

April 21, 2019 Matthew 28:1-10

Monday, Psalm 118:19-24, Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 28:11-15, The Report of the Guard
Wednesday, Acts 1:12-26, Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas
Thursday, Acts 2:37-42, The First Converts
Friday, Acts 5:12-16, The Apostles Heal Many
Saturday, Acts 5:17-42, The Apostles are Persecuted

April 28, 2019 Matthew 28:16-20

Monday, Psalm 40:9-10, Psalm
Tuesday, Acts 7:54-8:1, Stoning of Stephen
Wednesday, Acts 8:4-25, Philip Preaches in Samaria
Thursday, Acts 8:26-40, Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch
Friday, Acts 9:1-19, The Conversion of Saul
Saturday, Acts 9:36-43, Peter in Lydda and Joppaus

	Readers	Creche	Coffee
Apr 7	Marion Barbour	Muriel Choppy & Chrisanne Robertson	Mary Ann Buchanan, Marion Barbour
14	Ann Johnston	Kay MacDonald & Chrisanne Robertson	Kimm Currie, Eileen Ardern, Kay MacDonald
21	Helen Boynton	Jane Smith 7 Muriel Choppy	Helen MacLeod, Irene Munro, Fiona Carter
28	Liz Forbes	Kay MacDonald & Chrisanne Robertson	Anne Bowen, Mairi Main, Nanci Nicol
May 5	Janet MacPherson	Marjory MacKenzie & Muriel Choppy	TBA

<p>April Count Team</p> <p>Liz Gray Bruce Merchant, Douglas Taylor & Margot Tuley</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>
<p>May Count Team</p> <p>Liz Forbes John & Marion Barbour, Mairi Main, Kay MacDonald</p>	<p>May Welcome Team</p> <p><i>North Door</i> Isabelle & Donald MacKenzie <i>South Door</i> Mairi & David Main <i>Midmills North</i> BBs <i>Midmills South</i> BBs</p>

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

DEATHS

Mr Alan Duncan, died on 22 February



Highland Foodbank is grateful for your continued support. Items needed are:
Tins of ham , tins of corned beef, tins of mince/
stew, tins of potato , tins of custard Small
packets of soap powder and small bottles of
washing up liquid.

The deadline for the May newsletter will be Sunday 28th April

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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The Church website is to be found at www.crown-church.co.uk