

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

**December 2019/
January 2020: No. 755**



SUNDAY SERVICES

"O come let us adore him—Christ the Lord"

All people, of any age, are welcome to participate at all our services. We have "Treasure Seekers", age related fun and learning activity for children, every Sunday at 11 am

Sunday 1st December	9.30am	The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev Morven Archer
	11am	The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev Doug McRoberts
	3 pm	The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper Rev Doug McRoberts
	6.30 pm	Thanksgiving Worship Stewart Robertson then prayers
Sunday 8th December		Morning Worship at 9.30am Rev Morven Archer and at 11 am Rev Doug McRoberts
Sunday 15th December		Morning Worship at 9.30 am Rev Morven Archer and at 11 am Rev Doug McRoberts
Sunday 22nd December		Morning Worship at 9.30 am Rev Morven Archer and at 11 am Rev Doug McRoberts
Christmas Eve	6.30pm	All-age carols & candles Rev Doug McRoberts and Struan
	11.15pm	The Watchnight Service Rev Doug McRoberts
Christmas Day	10.30am	Family Worship Rev Doug McRoberts
Sunday 29th December		Morning Worship at 9.30am Rev Morven Archer and at 11am Rev Doug McRoberts
Sunday 5th January		Breakfast at Epiphany Morning Worship at 9.30am Rev Morven Archer 10 am Breakfast and at 11 am Morning Worship Rev Doug McRoberts
Sunday 12th January	11 am	Very Rev David Lunan and Rev Douglas Robertson
Sunday 19th January		Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11 am
Sunday 26th January		Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11 am
Sunday 2nd February		Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11 am

Also, every Friday at 12 noon, prayers - at which people may be remembered by name. Please make requests known

COME AND JOIN THE CELEBRATION – IT'S A VERY SPECIAL DAY...

That's what we sing at Christmas – but it's equally true of **10th January 2020**. Put the day in your calendar as a "must do"! That's when we welcome Douglas and Alison Robertson to Crown officially. Douglas will be inducted as our minister at a special service on that Friday evening, at 7.00pm.

What's more, it will be my privilege to induct him – because I'm the Moderator of Inverness Presbytery this year. It's a very rare thing for a Moderator to be able to induct a minister to his own church! The service itself is a Presbytery service, but I'd like to encourage everyone to come. This is one of the most significant events in the life of any congregation; it marks a new chapter in Crown's mission and ministry here, and it's happening just as so many other things are also coming together, including the extended ministry of Young Crown and the vision of our Crown 20-20 project.

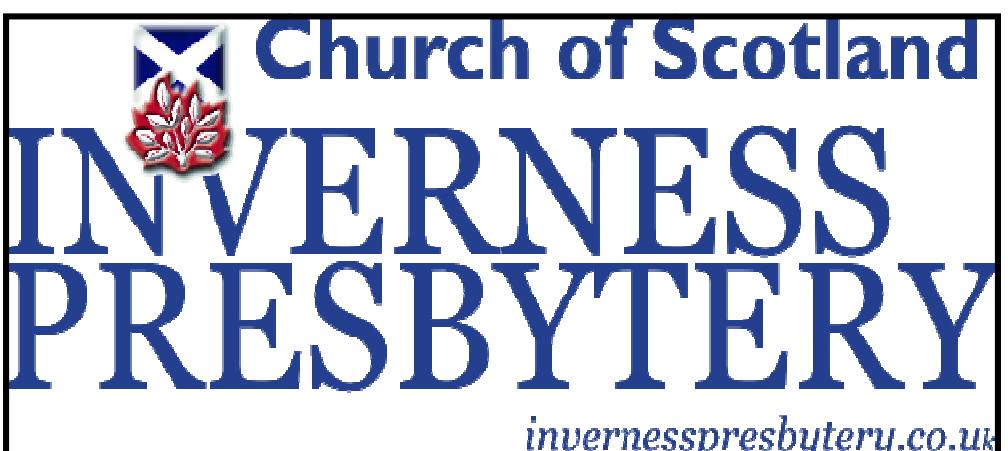
The service itself is interesting. As we normally do on such an occasion, we invite a recent arrival to our Presbytery to open the worship, and so become more known to others. This will be Rev Scott Polworth, who recently became minister at Kinmylies. The act of induction itself will involve everyone; Douglas will make his vows, representatives of the congregation will act as readers, and will present him with visible symbols of the ministry of Word and Sacrament – a Bible, a pitcher of water and the Communion elements of bread and wine – and the whole congregation will also be asked to make a promise to engage with and support this ministry.

After this, one of Presbytery's senior ministers will "give the charges" to Douglas and the congregation – this will be Rev Bart Buell.

It's a moving service, and one that means a great deal to the minister being welcomed. When I was inducted into St. Andrew's Scots Church in Malta, one of the elders there pinned a copy of the promises made by me – and by the whole congregation – to the church notice board. It stayed there throughout my ministry; a reminder to all of us of how we vowed to work together for Christ. And what work that turned out to be! So, on behalf of the Presbytery of Inverness, I invite you all to come and engage with Douglas in this new chapter of ministry through Crown.

It's also, of course, a real celebration – and so, once the Presbytery service has concluded, we all get a chance to really enjoy the hospitality and entertainment on offer...

Doug McRoberts



And afterwards - - -

Following on from the service, after the members of Presbytery have left, and after a comfort break, we will continue in the church for a short while to welcome Douglas Robertson and his wife Alison, and to hear from Douglas. We will also take the opportunity to thank those people who have supported us during the vacancy, and to enjoy some musical items. Thereafter we will all move through to the Lower and Small Halls for refreshments and conversation.

The celebrations continue at the morning service on the 12th January, when Very Rev David Lunan will be 'preaching in' our new minister. For that one day we will not hold a service at 9.30am, and ask everyone to come along at 11am.

A note about parking: Crown School will be open for parking, and the small car parks are free in the evening. As members of Presbytery will also require parking space on the Friday, please, if you can, make arrangements to car share.

Eileen Ardern

A note from Dorothy

We will require loaves of sandwiches and baking for the social part of the induction. If you would like to donate either, please give your name and phone number to either Dorothy Mein or to Gloria MacKintosh in the church office (231140) as soon as possible, with a note of your donation. Your help would be greatly appreciated as we expect a large attendance at this event. **Dorothy Mein**

And some dates for your 2020 diary:

Elder's Annual Conference - Saturday 25th January 2020

This is being planned for Saturday 25th January 2020 under the theme 'Discipleship'. The venue will be confirmed and invitations going out shortly. We are expecting to have Reverend Martin Fair who will address participants in the keynote presentation.

Day Retreat - Saturday 22nd February 2020

The Discipleship Team is organising a Day Retreat on Saturday 22nd February 2020 at the Kincraig Christian Centre. This will be a great opportunity to learn, re-vitalise and build on our fellowship with each other in a relaxed environment. Any one interested, please contact Jude Madeleine or Lesley McRoberts.



Whose we are and Whom we serve

The Guild

On 29th October our speaker represented the Sandpiper Trust. This organisation has trained paramedics who act as first responders in cases of emergency where ambulances are delayed or are not immediately available. They carry specialised equipment with them so are able to give immediate treatment to patients until the ambulance or doctor arrives.

Jean Smith, a member of our congregation, came along on 12th November to tell us about her very interesting holiday in North Korea. She illustrated her talk with many photographs which showed the amazing buildings and streets, almost devoid of people. It was obvious from her talk that the North Korean people lead very regimented lives without the freedoms which we enjoy.

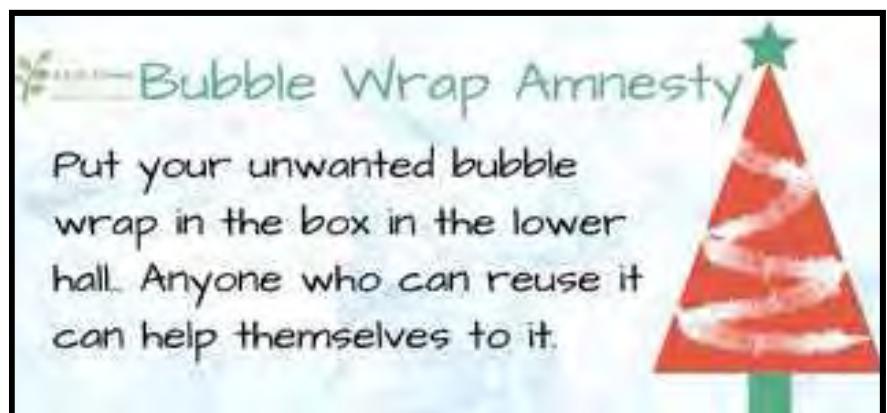
Our guest night is next Tuesday when we will welcome the Rev Gordon Strang to talk about our project for World Mission. This project is designed to help young women and their children in Zambia to reach their full potential.

On 10th December we have our Christmas meal at the Palace Hotel followed by the Florians Panto - 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves.'

As well as having meetings in the church we have two other outside events to look forward to. The first is to Cameron House Residential Home where we are entertaining the residents with Christmas carols and songs. And the second is to lead the Action Group service in the Kingsmills Care Home on 15th December. A good turnout of Guild ladies is requested on both of these occasions.

Dorothy Mein

Guild Correspondent



CHRISTMAS IS COMING...

Look out for visitors to our lovely church garden over this advent season. Arriving first are Mary and the Angel Gabriel. The Mission & Discipleship Team wanted to create a Nativity Scene to share with all the Crown community, intending to unfold the Christmas story week by week.



Many unsuspected talents have come to the fore and much fun has been had in the planning and preparation. Some children and adults from YC have been working alongside the sewing group to produce a truly inventive display.

To celebrate the final arrival at Bethlehem, please come along to our Community Christmas Carol event on Sunday 22 December at 3.30pm. There will be mince pies and hot chocolate for all. The only stipulation is that you should also come dressed as a nativity character to join in the fun... Yes, adults too! **Lesley McRoberts**

ECO Crown Report

Our **Big Climate Conversation** was attended by 16 people and the outcomes from our discussions have been sent to the Scottish Government. This was a very good opportunity to talk about the issues which concern us; be sure to sign up for the next event!

Recycling in the church is improving and new labels on the waste bins should help everyone to take more care with deciding which bin to use. Our ECO Group has decided that we will each bring five items to our next meeting and attempt to allocate them to the correct bins. This will generate better understanding of the more difficult recycle such as different types of plastic. We hope to have a similar event in the new year in which everyone can join.

We are having a **Bubble Wrap Amnesty** for Advent. Bubble wrap does not recycle easily so we will place a box on a Lower Hall windowsill for you to place in it any unwanted bubble wrap. Anyone using the halls can then reuse the wrap, rather than purchasing yet more wrap. Also when **wrapping present parcels** this Christmas, can we ask you to think about eco-friendly ways of doing this for example using non-shiny paper and ribbons rather than sticky tape.

Bill Mein



The Stamp Appeal of 2019 will support the Chigodi Women Centre in Blantyre Malawi who are also celebrating their 50th anniversary.



The Chigodi Women Centre delivers a broad range of skills training to address the challenges faced by women in Malawi.

Through providing training in tailoring, fashion design and chicken farming the Centre will improve the women's skills in marketing and entrepreneurship. The aim is that the women's socio-economic status is improved and their chances of future employment increase. By selling the produce made at the Centre the plan is that when the funding finishes the project will be self-sustainable – able to continue to improve the lives of women in Malawi.

Please bring your used stamps to either of the front doors where there are boxes marked 'stamps'. It would be a great help if you could keep foreign and British stamps separate. This year, £2,240 has been earned from the stamps.

Would anyone be willing to take on this job in future? It involves tidying the stamps and arranging for their delivery to Glasgow Presbytery. **Heather Grant**





Crown 2020 Update No 3

This is the latest in a regular flow of communication from the Crown 2020 Team to keep you informed of developments in a project which aims to make Crown Church a modern forward-looking church with the community at its heart.

As you will recall, the 16-strong team has the blessing of the Kirk Session to progress proposals for a major reconfiguration of the church building to ensure it meets the needs of our congregation into the future.

Making the building fit for mission in the twenty first century, making church a focal point of the Crown community, and attracting more worshippers and church users lies at the heart of our regeneration project.

The recent focus in our deliberations has centred on discussions with The Highland Council, as owners of the neighbouring Crown Primary School, who wish to enter into a long-term agreement with the church over the use of the Lower Hall to accommodate two pre-school classrooms.

I am providing this update as I have been leading the negotiations with the Council on behalf of the Crown 2020 Team and recently updated the Kirk Session on the proposal/negotiations.

Given that he is a current and active Highland Councillor, it is fully recognised that our Chairman, Jimmy Gray, should take a back seat in these particular discussions.

Before I set out the offer that is on the table from The Highland Council, I want to emphasise that it will be you, as members of the congregation, who will decide the way forward early in the New Year. You will have all the information at your fingertips as Crown 2020 is committed to full transparency in this hugely important matter.

Already many members of the congregation have provided very valuable input and Crown 2020 is working hard to provide the answers and assurances that are sought. To recall, it is widely accepted that our historic church would significantly benefit from care and investment to make it more welcoming and accessible and maximise the use of the space we have.

Soon after the formation of Crown 2020, we were approached by The Highland Council to lease the Lower Hall for two classrooms for 60 or so pre-school aged children as Crown Primary has a considerable shortage of space.

In our discussions, the Council is proposing that the school should have exclusive use of the two nursery rooms, nursery toilets and cloakrooms. Their staff will share use of our adult toilets during nursery hours.

We would continue to have use of the refurbished kitchen and small hall dining areas, outwith nursery opening hours, and access will be provided earlier in the day than is currently the case.



Providing a lift to the upper hall is a critical feature of the Council's proposal which will allow redevelopment of this large upper area to accommodate some of the displaced groups, and allow disabled access.

This cost of the lift - estimated at £100,000 – will be met by the Council and is included in the Council's refurbishment costs estimated at £250,000. Other improvements include enclosing the rear fire escape and upgrading toilets, kitchen and small hall dining area.

We are discussing a long-term lease which will generate a rent income of £25,000 per year, with a rent review every five years in line with CPI inflation. This guaranteed income of £25,000 per year over at least 25 years is a major assistance to the church in securing the future of the building. No other rental that we have at the church provides us with this kind of guaranteed income. Indeed all existing lets could be broken at little or no notice.

I recently presented these details to the Kirk Session, who voted in favour of Crown 2020 continuing with negotiations with the Council and progressing the detail of plans for the refurbishment of the church building to provide:-

- a more welcoming main entry to the church building which makes it obvious to visitors as to how to access our buildings
- improved circulation within the church building;
- improved disabled access
- provision of adequate storage space
- retention of the garden area
- In response to your comments, we will also fit a kitchen upstairs.

There are members in the congregation who believe that the pace of change should not be dictated by the Council and that more time should be set aside for the refurbishment planning process.

However, opportunities like this do not come around too often and the offer in front of us from the Council does appear to be one worthy of our most serious consideration. In the first instance, you will only be asked for your agreement to the leasing of the lower hall, knowing the outline plans for the rest of our premises, and your input to these will continue to be welcomed. In due course you will be asked to give final approval to these other plans.

Our new Minister, the Rev Douglas Robertson, will be with us early in the New Year. I know that he supports the vision of Crown 2020 and appreciates the groundwork being done by the team ahead of his arrival, when he will take charge of our future deliberations.

Alan Nelson, Elder on behalf of the Crown 2020 Team



Consultation timetable

The congregation will be at the heart of the decision making process. In the first instance we will decide whether we agree to the long lease of the lower hall for Nurseries for Crown School.

In advance of this there will be powerpoint presentations at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15 January and on Sunday 19 January after the 11am Service. These will present the updated changes planned which will more than compensate for the loss of the lower hall, and we will go into the financial implications

of the expected lease. No decisions will be made at these meetings, but questions will be welcomed. It is likely some drop-in dates will be offered in the following week to provide an opportunity for further questions.

If the Kirk Session meeting on the 25th January approves the lease, an EGM will be called for the 9th February after the 11am service, when your vote will be invited.

Acclaim Choir Christmas Concert: Saturday 7 December at 7.30pm in Free North Church, Bank Street. Free admission with donation if wished to the Highlands & Islands Youth for Christ. Tickets from CLC Bookshop & Choir members.



Prayer Diary

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 (February 2020) please do send them to our church secretary, Gloria who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine.

December 1 – 7

On this day 1st December, Word Aids Day, as a global community pray for healing and comfort for all those infected with HIV/AIDS, as well as the wellbeing of their loved ones.

Give thanks to God for the Advent season as we wait in anticipation with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love for the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray for the homeless and those cut off from their families, in particular during those long cold winter months, that practical help be made available to meet both their physical and spiritual needs.

December 8 – 14

Pray for all elderly people in our community, for those living in their own homes or nursing homes and care homes. Pray for strength, resilience and peace among them, their families and staff who support and help look after them.

Give thanks for the opportunities that God has provided for Crown Church to be involved in some of our local schools. Give thanks for the involvement of Youth for Christ in the local schools. Pray that this side of our work continues to flourish and grow, and touch young lives, providing healing and restoration so that they can enjoy their childhood, adolescence and harness hope for their future.

Pray for those who live alone and are lonely. Pray also for people affected by mental illness, and ask that God will grant them strength and hope for the future.

December 15 – 21

Pray for those who will find the coming festive season difficult; those who have lost loved ones recently and are facing the first Christmas without them or those who spend the festive period alone. Pray that God will be with them all and provide comfort.

Give thanks for the work of Foodbank; Pray for all those who contribute generously with kind donation of food; for continuing support, and for all those who benefit from the donations of food. Pray for the safety of those travelling to join families and friends during the Christmas period.

December 22-28

We rejoice at the Christmas story and give thanks for the birth of Jesus, and knowing that He came on earth and died to save us. Pray that the real meaning of Christmas is not missed, and that the precious truth remains a reality in the hearts and lives of everyone.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus with family and friends as joyous occasion, please remember those who find the time of year filled with sadness and even despair because of their personal circumstances.

Give thanks for the Street Pastors and pray for spiritual guidance and strength for the work they do in helping and supporting vulnerable people in our town, particularly during the late winter nights.

December 29 – January 4

[Give thanks to God for the New Year ahead, and hope and pray that each day of the coming year be filled with joy, peace and love.](#)

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 all the flowers donated every Sunday for decorating and lightening up the Sanctuary. Pray for everyone who makes donations for the flowers, those helping with the flower arrangements, those helping with distribution of the flowers and pray for those who receive these flowers.

January 5 – 11

Give thanks to God for Reverend Douglas Robertson, on his induction as the new Minister to Crown Church. Pray for God's blessings over Doug and his wife Alison as they settle in the Crown family and community.

Give thanks to God for Rev Morven Archer and Rev Doug McRoberts, together with Struan McRoberts and Judith Macleod, and the rest of the Ministry Team; for God's Blessings and Grace over them and the encouragement that they have shown in delivering and leading worship during the period of vacancy.

Give thanks to God for all the skills, experience and talents among the congregation that continuously keep the church vibrant and support the church to develop and grow. Pray that more people will come forward to offer their skills and talent to support the church community that will further your Kingdom.

January 12 – 18

Pray for practical and political help for all those suffering from fuel poverty and for those most at risk in the cold. Ask God to open our eyes to neighbours or other people in our community who are perhaps struggling to heat their homes, and whether there's anything we can do to help

Pray for God's light and love to shine into the minds of all who are depressed, anxious or suffering from dementia.

Remember those in prison and pray they may feel a sense of peace and purpose as they serve their sentence.

January 19 – 25

Pray for all those who will be attending our Elder's Conference with a focus on 'Discipleship', on Saturday 25th January; Pray for success of the day, and that the participants will be uplifted by God's spirit in creating and deepening disciples.

Pray that just as God loves and cares for us, we would also similarly love and care for others. Help us to be loyal to those who need us.

Pray and give thanks for all those who help with organising and serving at the monthly breakfast service; Pray for all who come along and rejoice in sharing food and fellowship.

January 26 – February 1

Offer a prayer of personal thanks to God today: Lord, I thank You for prayer – that I can come before You and call You Father; that You listen to me and care about everything I bring before You. Today, above all else, I choose to give You thanks.

Pray for God's revival in our community and congregation. Ask God to open the eyes of the people around us, that they would see His unfailing love and sense His powerful presence and purpose for our lives.

Give thanks for the ongoing work of **Crown 20/20 Committee** and pray for everyone involved in the future development of the church facilities; Pray for wisdom and guidance in decision making and for the views of the wider congregations to be considered in line with God's purpose and Mission.

New Start Highland

New Start Highland exists to help people in communities across the Highlands. 1 in 7 families in our community now live in poverty.

People have come to us when no-one else has been willing to help. People who have lost everything through a series of unfortunate events and we have been able to provide a bed and a starter pack to allow them to create a home from where they can start to rebuild their lives. During the past year we helped 1081 families make their house a home. A total of 3,177 items furniture! We urgently need donations of chests of drawers, sofas and small dining tables and dining chairs to help more people.

Volunteers make a huge contribution towards this vital work!

We need volunteers to deliver this vital work. We have vacancies for the following roles:-

- drivers
- receptionists / administration assistants
- retail workers
- warehouse operatives – sorting, cleaning, lifting and shifting
- furniture repair “experts” (DIY enthusiasts)
- painters
- upcyclers
- bike mechanics

We would love to hear from you! Telephone us on 01463 715615. To volunteer email volunteering@newstarhighland.org or to donate furniture donate@newstarhighland.gov.uk

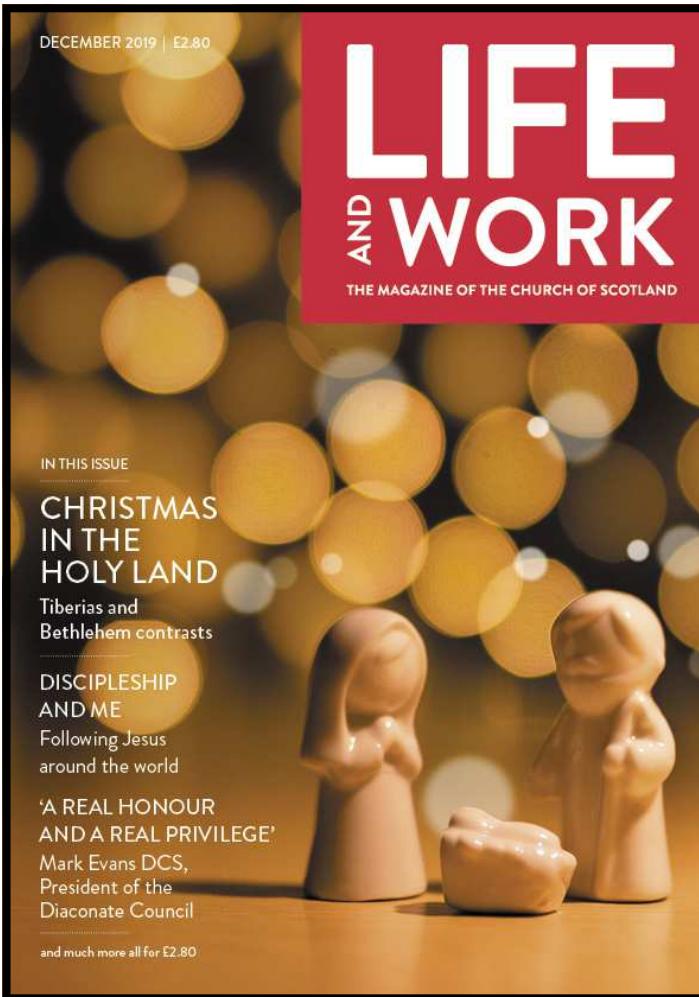
Mairi Twaddle
Administration Trainer

Direct Line: 01463 723992, Mobile:07718 976214, |
Email: mairitwaddle@newstarhighland.org



New Start Highland, 9
Carsegate Road North,
Inverness, IV3 8DU |
01463 715615





LIFE AND WORK

DECEMBER 2019

Christmas in the Holy Land

Church ministers offer contrasting pictures of Christmas in Tiberias and Bethlehem

Discipleship and Me

Perspectives on following Jesus from Christians from Nigeria, Uruguay and the Czech Republic

'A Real Honour and Privilege'

Interview with the newly elected President of the Diaconate Council, Mark Evans DCS

'My Story is Also My Work'

The background to a new series of portraits of refugees, painted by church artist Iain Campbell and on display at the Royal Society of Edinburgh

Transforming Lives in Christ's Name

Viv Dickenson reflects on a year of social care celebration for CrossReach and the Church of Scotland

'Our Church is Awesome!'

Two young Fife sisters describe their experience as part of the Church family

Speaking and Acting

The Rev Dr Martin Fair continues his study of 1 Thessalonians

Plus all the regular columnists, news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

Online visit us at www.lifeandwork.org for regular news and exclusive features, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @cofslifeandwork

Subscribe online from £12, or download a digital copy for £1.99; return the form in the magazine or speak to your church's Life and Work coordinator.

Gift subscriptions to Life and Work are available – see the form in December's magazine or visit www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe



Dear Liz,

Highland Food Bank – Harvest 2019

We would like to thank the members and friends of Crown Church for responding to our 2019 Harvest Appeal and donating an amazing 263 kilograms of food. Your donations will enable us to meet the ongoing need within communities across the Highlands.

Earlier this year Margaret was referred to Foodbank. Margaret is a lone parent and has 2 young children. Margaret has a good job, but because she does not have family living in the area, this has implications on childcare. When Margaret visited Foodbank she was paying over £1000 a month on childcare which did not leave her enough for emergencies like new school shoes for her children. Foodbank was able to help with food, allowing Margaret to buy the much-needed shoes. So thank you for your part in helping people like Margaret, her children, and thousands more who are helped by Foodbank each year.

Please find enclosed our list of items for November, December and January. Very many thanks.

**Lorna Dempster
Highland Food Bank Manager
And here is the list!**

Cartons of long life fruit juice
Small washing powder/gel
Tins of corned beef
Tins of ham
Jam

News From Our Congregational Board

At the November meeting of the Congregational Board our Treasurer, Donald Mackenzie, estimated that the end of year our finances would show that our income would be £150,265 against expenditure of £146,738 giving a surplus of around £3,500 but this will include bequests amounting to £13,424. No immediate action was planned but this will be discussed with our new minister.

A request for the Board to set a budget for the 2020 group generated a discussion about the role of the congregation in the future. The Board adopted the Treasurer's recommendation that a budget of £5,000 be set to allow development of the concept behind the proposals.

The final list of work needed at the Manse was discussed. This includes professional cleaning of carpets, provision of curtains to some windows, fitting carpets for all four bedrooms and other floor coverings. There will be updating of safety alarms and electricity provision. The whole interior of the manse has been painted in neutral colour thanks to Robbie Mackintosh; the choice of colours and of carpets and the extent of replacement of furniture and equipment required in the kitchen will await decision by Mr and Mrs Robertson once they have settled into the manse. This will mark the end of a three year updating of the manse; our thanks go to David MacLennan and David Mackenzie for the many hours they have devoted to obtaining and overseeing the work of the many tradesmen involved. **Bill Mein**

Highland Malawi Trust

Another year comes to a close and it's hard to believe that it is actually eleven years since the Trust was set up.

Our annual coffee morning on 23rd November once more bore witness to the unfailing support that we have had over the years and as always we feel totally overwhelmed and deeply grateful for that support. Total £1218.

2019 was a year the 'maidens' had hoped to visit but due to many events in their personal lives it was decided not to travel. Plans are afoot however for a trip in June 2020.



During 2019 we provided Thandagza Primary School with 60 new desks and we provided the pre-school centre at Chamalaza with toilets and bathing rooms. After a very successful Strawberry Tea, we were able to set the wheels in motion to start building a functional, two-roomed nursery block at Chamalaza . Our Coffee

Morning proceeds as usual will be used for the feeding programme over the rainy season.

We hope to do a soup lunch in February to update you all with our Malawi 2020 plan. Once more we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your interest, support, love and prayers over the last eleven years. Wishing you all the peace and joy of Christmas and a happy and blessed 2020.

Chrisanne, Reay, Brian & Doug



Daily Bible Readings for December and January

December 2

Monday, Mark 8:27-29, Who Do You Say that I Am?
Tuesday, Jeremiah 1:4-10, I Am Only a Boy
Wednesday, Jeremiah 1:11-19, Boiling Pot
Thursday, Jeremiah 2:1-8, Jeremiah Speaks
Friday, Jeremiah 33:19-26, Covenant with David
Saturday, Jeremiah 34:1-7, Promise of Salvation
Sunday, Isaiah 40:1-11, Isaiah of the Exile

December 9

Monday, Isaiah 41:1-20, Israel Assured of God's Help
Tuesday, Isaiah 41:21-29, The Futility of Idols
Wednesday, Isaiah 42:1-9, The Servant, a Light to the Nations
Thursday, Isaiah 42:10-20, A Hymn of Praise
Friday, Isaiah 42:21-25, Israel's Disobedience
Saturday, Isaiah 43:1-7, Restoration and Protection Promised
Sunday, Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13, Rebuilding the Temple

December 16

Monday, Ezra 3:5-13, Foundation Laid for the Temple
Tuesday, Ezra 4:1-5, Resistance to Rebuilding the Temple
Wednesday, Ezra 4:6-24, Rebuilding of Jerusalem Opposed
Thursday, Ezra 5:1-17, Restoration of the Temple Resumed
Friday, Ezra 6:13-18, Completion and Dedication of the Temple
Saturday, Ezra 6:10-22, The Passover Celebrated
Sunday, Luke 1:5-13 (57-80), Zechariah's Song

December 23

Monday, Luke 1:14-38, An Angel Speaks
Tuesday, Luke 2:1-14 (15-20), The Birth of Jesus
Wednesday, Luke 2:8-20, Shepherds Visit
Thursday, Matthew 2:1-12, The Magi
Friday, Luke 1:39-56, Mary's Song
Saturday, Luke 2:21-24, Jesus Circumcised
Sunday, Mark 1:1-20, Beginning of Good News

December 30

Monday, Psalm 91:9-12, Psalm
Tuesday, Malachi 3:1-7, The Coming Messenger
Wednesday, Isaiah 40:1-11, Comfort, Comfort
Thursday, Isaiah 44:1-8, God's Blessing on Israel
Friday, Joel 2:28-29, God's Spirit Poured Out
Saturday, Isaiah 42:1-9, The Servant, a Light to the Nations
Sunday, Mark 1:21-45, Jesus' Ministry Begun

January 5

Sunday, Mark 1:21-45, Jesus' Ministry Begun

Monday, Psalm 103:1-5, Psalm

Tuesday, Isaiah 42:10-20, A Hymn of Praise

Wednesday, Psalm 2, Psalm

Thursday, Psalm 113, Psalm

Friday, Psalm 146:5-10, Psalm

Saturday, Psalm 108:1-4, Psalm

January 12

Sunday, Mark 2:1-22, Jesus Heals and Teaches

Monday, Psalm 103:6-14, Psalm

Tuesday, Mark 2:23-28, Pronouncement about the Sabbath

Wednesday, Mark 3:1-6, The Man with a Withered Hand

Thursday, Mark 3:7-12, A Multitude at the Seaside

Friday, Mark 3:13-19a, Jesus Appoints the Twelve

Saturday, Mark, 3:19b-30, Jesus and Beelzebul

January 19

Sunday, Mark 4:1-34, Parables in Mark

Monday, Psalm 126, Psalm

Tuesday, Mark 3:31-35, The True Kindred of Jesus

Wednesday, Mark 4:35-41, Jesus Stills a Storm

Thursday, Matthew 13:1-8, Parable of Sower

Friday, Matthew 13:9-12, Disciples Question Jesus

Saturday, Matthew 13:13-23, Parable of Sower Explained

January 26

Sunday, Mark 5:1-20, Gerasene Demoniac

Monday, Psalm 89:1-4, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 8:23-33, Jesus Casts out Demons

Wednesday, Luke 8:31-41, Jesus Casts out Demons

Thursday, Luke 16:13-19, Jesus Heals

Friday, Luke 9:37-47, Jesus Heals a Boy

Saturday, Acts 14:4-14, Paul Heals

February 2

Sunday, Mark 5:21-43, Jairus' Daughter Healed

Monday, Psalm 131, Psalm

Tuesday, Matthew 15:23-22, A Woman Healed

Wednesday, Luke 7:2-12, A Centurion Slave Healed

Thursday, Luke 8:40-52, Jairus' Daughter Healed

Friday, Luke 14:1-6, Healing on the Sabbath

Saturday, Luke 17:10-20, Jesus Heals

Volunteers needed!

We all know what a difference a warm welcome can make to how you feel when coming into church. More volunteers are needed for the welcome team. If you feel you can help, please contact Gloria in the Church Office.



December Count Teams

1st & 8th December Liz Gray

Bruce Merchant, Douglas Taylor, Margot Tuley

15th December Liz Forbes

John & Marion Barbour, Mairi Main, Kay MacDonald

22nd December Alastair MacPherson

Alan Nelson, Richard Ardern, Robert Shanks

29th December Sheena Ferguson

Heather Beck, Robert & Aileen Laing, Helen Boynton

January Count Team

Liz Gray

Bruce Merchant, Douglas Taylor, Margot Tuley

February Count Team

Liz Forbes

John & Marion Barbour, Mairi Main, Kay MacDonald

December Welcome Team

North Door Sheena Ferguson & Douglas Taylor

South Door Jane Smith & Fiona Carter

Midmills North Alison Donald & Jude Madeleine

Midmills South Liz Forbes

January Welcome Team

North Door Linda & Charles Moncur

South Door Bruce Merchant

Midmills North Sanders Campbell

Midmills South Helen Boynton

February Welcome Team

North Door Jane Wilson

South Door Heather Beck

Midmills North Jean Hamilton

Midmills South Una Hamilton

	Reader	Crèche	Coffee
Dec 1	Communion	Muriel Choppy & Chrisanne Robertson	Isabelle MacKenzie, Fiona Carter, Anne Bowen.
8	Gill Silver	Kay MacDonald & Marjory MacKenzie	Mairi Main, Eileen Ardern, Eleanor Ross.
15	Ian S Fraser	Muriel Choppy & Chrisanne Robertson	Lesley McRoberts, Janet MacPherson, Kay MacDonald.
22	Alice Morrison	Kay MacDonald & Muriel Choppy	Helen MacLeod, Irene Munro, Liz Munro.
29	Alastair Campbell	Muriel Choppy & Chrisanne Robertson	Lena Clarke, Kimm Currie, Dorothy Morrison.
Jan			
5	Bruce Merchant	Kay MacDonald & Marjory MacKenzie	Fiona Carter, Isabelle MacKenzie, Anne Bowen.
12	Linda Moncur	Jane Smith & Chrisanne Robertson	
19	Bob Forrest	Kay MacDonald & Muriel Choppy	
26	Alistair Macleod	Jane Smith & Marjory MacKenzie	
Feb 2	Mairi Main	TBA	

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

DEATHS

David Christie, on 20 September

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

Concert



The Inverness Singers, Conductor Lila Senior, Accompanist Ian Livingstone present Carols at the Crown – Songs of Christmas Old & New in the Sanctuary of the Crown Church on Wednesday, 4th December at 7-30 pm. Admission by Programme, priced £10 (£5 for children and students) available from members of the choir and at the door on the night. Sales table at the interval. A donation from Proceeds will be made to Carr Gomm. Parking in the Crown School playground.

The deadline for the February newsletter will be Sunday 26th January

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

Open Tues-Fri (9.30-12.00) 231140 office@crown-church.co.uk

Session Clerk macgill@outlook.com

Brian Macgill, 9 Lochardil Place, IV2 4LN 224650
brian.macgill@outlook.com

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