

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

June 2020: No. 760

Parish Minister: Rev Douglas Robertson



SUNDAY SERVICES

During the Coronavirus lockdown we are not allowed to hold our usual worship services in the Church. Douglas will be broadcasting live on Sunday mornings at 11 am. To watch these and previous recordings please go to the Crown Church facebook page.



Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.

Matthew 22: 37 –39

From the Minister

On Sunday May 31, Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair, the Moderator of the General Assembly, led an online worship service to celebrate the Day Of Pentecost, the birthday of the church.

This year was different, of course. Not only are we all so well a-tuned to 'online worship' that it was feasible – I imagine for the first time ever – to hold a single service on a Sunday morning, to unite together the whole Church of Scotland and many friends, frae a' the airts and pairts and beyond.



Just as 'online worship' has no geographical boundaries, Martin took us outside our normal geographical location of church, which is usually constrained by 4 walls (and in the case of Crown Church, an awful lot of doors), and into the freedom, the liberation and exhilaration and God's beautiful creation in the mountains and glens of Bonnie Scotland.

One of the things he did in preparation for this service was to ask parishes around the country to send him thoughts in exactly 7 words, about what 'the church' means to them. These were then flashed across our screens during the service, but unless you paused the video you probably didn't get enough of a chance to really appreciate and contemplate them.

Well, a parishioner in Cambusbarron Bruce Memorial Church decided to write a poem to express her thoughts about what 'the church' is, or does, or should do, following the same idea of each line containing exactly 7 words. Not an easy feat, I imagine, but the effort was worth it. I share it here with permission:

*Bringing the good news to every nation
Sharing God's love, His purpose, His might
Bearing witness to the joy of salvation
In our human darkness, shining God's light.*

*Spreading the gospel to all God's people
Taking care of our elders, our youth
Proclaiming His glory from steeple to steeple
Opening hearts to the Spirit of Truth.*

*Praising our Lord, our Father in heaven
Worshipping God, with no fear or dismay
Forgiving our debtors, as we are forgiven
Embracing the stranger who happens our way.*

*Praying to God for comfort in sorrow
Teaching that help comes from heaven above
Planting His seeds for today and tomorrow
Telling the world that Jesus is Love.*

*© Liz Walkington June 2020
Cambusbarron: The Bruce Memorial*

Every blessing,

Douglas

The staff of the Orchard are extremely grateful to the ladies and friends of the Crown sewing group who so kindly made and donated the four sets of scrubs and laundry bags. Many thanks to you all.

Reay Macgill





HELP NEEDED

As no visitors are allowed into Care Homes, the residents are becoming short of toiletries

Both male and female residents require shampoo, soap, deodorants, etc. If you can help, please leave any items in a bag on the door step of 22 Damfield Road, Inverness and I will arrange for them to be delivered to Struan's STORE from where the Homes can access them.

Second Plea

It seems that families with children with special needs are struggling with schools being closed.

Drummond School has said they would love to receive 88 craft boxes. The boxes would be made up of new felt pens, glue sticks, paint and paint brushes, stickers, balloons, bubbles, plasticine, pipe cleaners and craft paper.

If you can donate any of these items, once again please leave on the doorstep of 22 Damfield Road and they will be delivered to the collection point at Inshes Church on the set date.

I do not want anyone to break the law by delivering items! You can drop them off when out walking or on the way to the supermarket. If there are any problems, please contact me on 07791486912.

Thank you in advance for your help

Heather Beck

Victory in Europe Celebrations

As we all know, the planned celebrations to mark the anniversary of Victory in Europe have been somewhat diminished by the pandemic. Nevertheless, we are very grateful indeed to Donald Matheson for the photographs on this page. Much to our surprise, we learn that Donald is old enough to have been around at the time of the original celebration.

Donald appears in the picture on the extreme right of the photograph with his late brother, John. In the centre at the front is his mother with his baby sister, Jane



Donald has explained that the party had a picnic lunch in what was then the Crown school canteen. The party was led by 2 pipers from the Boys Brigade and they marched to the garden of the Boys Brigade leader, Mr Fraser, in Darnaway Road where the photograph was taken.

In the evening, the group met in Walker Park where there was a bonfire on which they cheerfully burned an effigy of Hitler.

June 2020

CrossReach Information Sheet

COVID-19 Emergency Appeal

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting everyone and frontline care services face unprecedented challenges. The impact of COVID-19 means CrossReach residents can no longer receive visits during this worrying time. Staff are also under immense pressure as they continue to provide vital support in CrossReach's residential and non-residential services. The organisation has also been hit hard by the suspension of normal fundraising activities due to Coronavirus.



The CrossReach COVID-19 Emergency Appeal has so far raised more than £230,000 to help support the charity through the crisis. To support visit:

www.crossreach.org.uk/news/crossreach-coronavirus-covid-19-emergency-appeal

Digitally connecting thanks to overseas churches

Two overseas churches have donated more than £29,000 to CrossReach's COVID-19 Emergency Appeal. The Evangelical Church of Westphalia in Germany donated £17,596 while the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan has pledged £12,065.

CrossReach has invested heavily in digital technology that will allow care home residents to connect with loved ones and will help to provide staff with the resources needed during the pandemic. These generous gifts are greatly appreciated and will make a real difference.



Read the full story at:

www.crossreach.org.uk/news/overseas-partners-make-generous-gifts-to-crossreach

In conversation at Heart & Soul



With this year's **Heart & Soul** taking place online, Viv Dickenson, Chief Executive Officer of CrossReach joined BBC Health correspondent Hugh Pym and Professor Jason Leitch, National Clinical Director of the Scottish Government, to discuss the impact the Coronavirus Crisis on Health and Social Care.

"Staff have been fantastic...I've been constantly amazed as people rise to the challenges" (Viv Dickenson, CEO of CrossReach)

You can watch the full interview on the CrossReach Vimeo Channel:

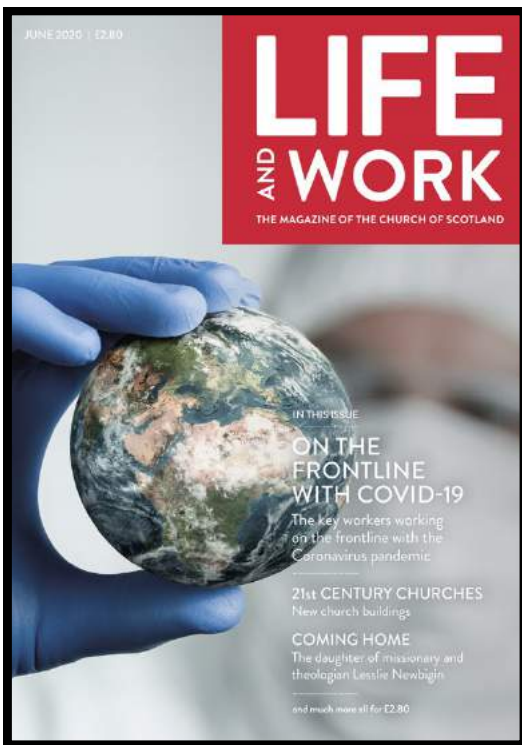
vimeo.com/420251397/1911b8bea0

Get creative!

If you live close by a CrossReach service, why not get creative with your children and draw a picture to send in to encourage residents in isolation and the staff that are providing their care.

Find a service closest to you: www.crossreach.org.uk/our-locations

Looking to share ideas on local social care and outreach projects? The Social Care Forum is your one-stop-shop for social care resources. Visit: www.socialcareforum.scot/



LIFE AND WORK

During this challenging period, Life and Work is committed to helping keep our Christian community connected. The magazine continues to be published and distributed to our loyal readers. If you need to contact our team please email editorial enquiries to magazine@lifeandwork.org or all other enquiries to admin@lifeandwork.org. This month, we have launched **Lockdown Weekly**, a free weekly update which we hope will be a useful resource to help people keep in touch with events in the Church of Scotland while churches are shut and many of us are in isolation. Free every Friday to download from www.lifeandwork.org/features/features/view/441-lockdown-weekly

JUNE 2020

On the Frontline With Covid-19

The stories of some of the frontline workers – in hospitals, prisons, schools and the police force – dealing with the impact of the pandemic

Coming Home

Jackie Macadam hears about the early life of Margaret Beetham, daughter of Church of Scotland missionary and theologian Leslie Newbigin

21st Century Churches

The start of a new series looking at church buildings in the 21st century hears from a minister and an architect who have been involved in new building projects

The Strength of a Seed

In the continuing series marking the 50th anniversary of the Church of Scotland's SRT, biologist Ruth Bancewicz says the church should draw attention to the wonders of God's creation

In Love, Faith and Hope

Dana McQuater, the last Moderator of the Church of Scotland's National Youth Assembly in its current form, reflects on some of the highlights of her year in office.

Family Feuds

Continuing her series on conflict and reconciliation, Ruth Harvey looks at Joseph's story in Genesis 37.

'We Are Deeply Connected'

The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers considers the long-term impact of the Coronavirus Covid-19 on churches.

Prayers for June 2020

June 1-7

Give thanks and praise God for the digital technology which has enable continuing worship among Crown congregation and beyond, and among many other churches during the lockdown. Remember those who do not have or are unable to use the technology; that they continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

Pray for an early end to the transmission of COVID-19 that has been harming all of us; pray for life, health and peace for all through God's mercy and loving care.

Pray for God's healing and peace over everyone affected by the coronavirus; that they will find strength, encouragement and support.

Thank God for each new day of grace and the many blessings that we have from Him.

June 8-14

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.

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.

Thank God for everyday blessings; for the joy of families and friends and the knowledge that His love surrounds us each day.

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

June 15-21

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 those who have lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic; for God's light and strength to be upon them, that they will receive the support and assistance needed, and the prospect of future employment.

Pray Psalms 31:24: 'Be strong, be courageous, all you that hope in the Lord.' Give thanks to God for all he does for us and the promises He gives in his word.

Pray for our new Moderator the Right Reverend Dr Martin Fair; for God's blessings and wisdom in his leadership to advance the work of the Church of Scotland.

June 22-28

As the lockdown due to the pandemic starts to ease, pray for understanding and strength among the whole population in adapting to the new normal of social distancing; for protection and safety in keeping the coronavirus under control. Pray for those who live alone and are lonely. Pray also for people affected by mental illness, ask that God will grant them strength and hope for the future.

Pray Romans 8:39. 'Whether in heights or depths, light or darkness, may you never forget God's unending love for you'

Pray for the work of the Eco-Congregation Scotland. Praise God today for the earth that He has gifted to us, and all the beautiful plants and animals He has created for us to enjoy. Commit to caring for every part of God's creation, and ask Him to prompt you to be a good steward of the earth.

June 29 – July 5

Pray for those who are homeless and give thanks for those who provide financial and practical support. 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 for God's light and love to shine into the minds of all who are depressed, anxious or suffering from dementia.

Pray for those who are struggling with loneliness and ill health. May the Lord be with them and bless them.

Give thanks that in this world of uncertainty, there is always the hope and praise that He is there for all of us at all times.

This prayer diary has been prepared by the Discipleship Team. We hope that you will find it useful. If you have particular prayer requests for the next month (June 2020) please do send them to or e-mail Jude Madeleine:
judedmond@yahoo.co.uk



Highland Malawi Trust

This report should have been coming from Malawi itself but Covid 19 put a stop to that . It also put a stop to the very popular Annual Strawberry Tea which had been scheduled for 23rd May. The maidens were feeling a bit low so to lift their spirits they held a virtual Strawberry Tea with family and helpers via Zoom on that day . Whilst planning that they thought " why not hold another one for any members of the congregation who might wish to join us "

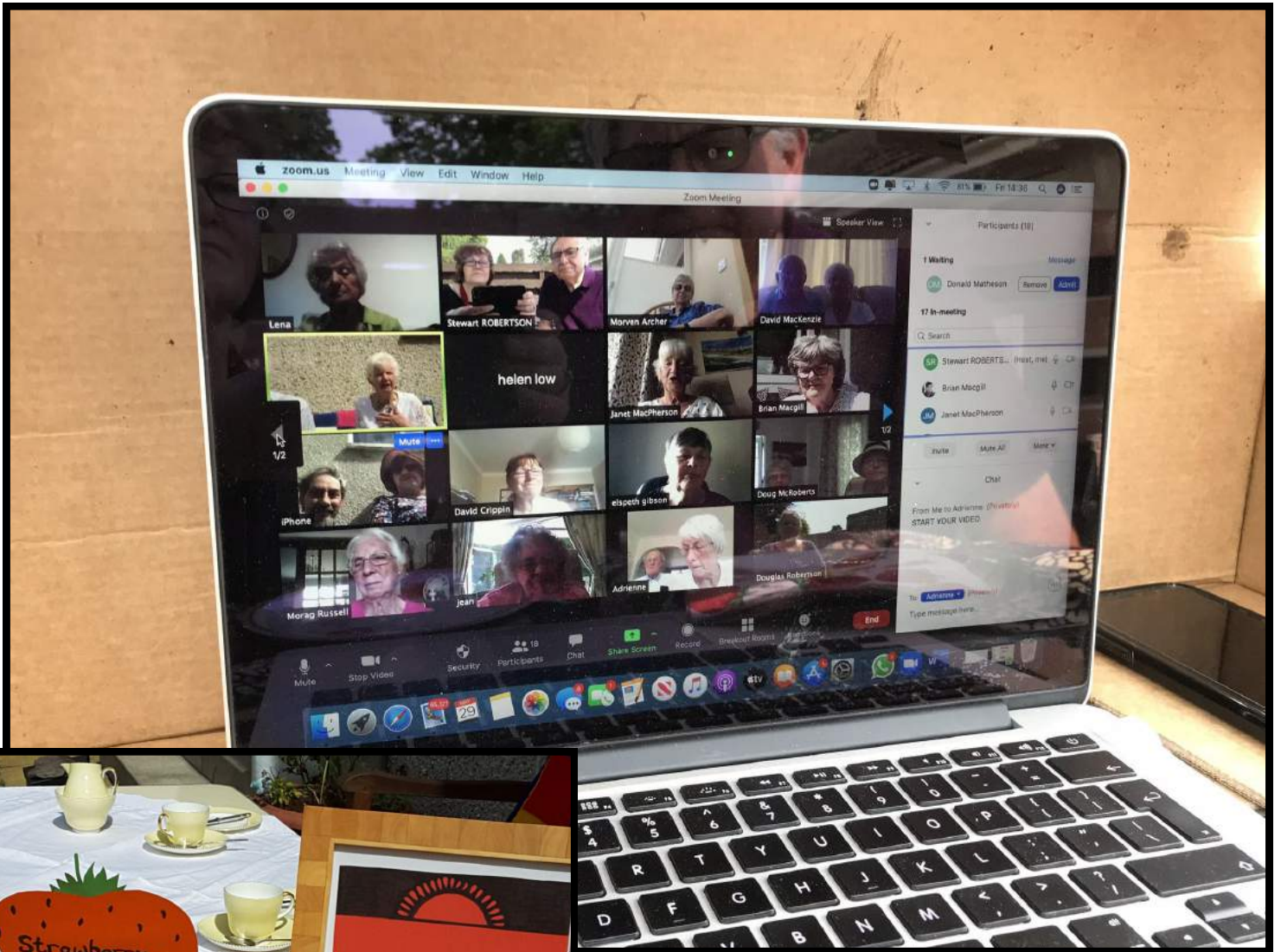
The date was set for 29/05 (the day they should have been arriving in Malawi) and Douglas kindly announced it during the Service on 24th.

People started to respond and the meeting was set up. The 'maidens ' wanting to show their appreciation, got a lot of pleasure, delivering little surprise goodie boxes to the doorsteps of those who were attending . Chrisanne particularly enjoyed a wee trip to North Kessock whilst Reay discovered areas in Inverness that she had never been in before . Milton of Leys is quite an area !



2pm the sun was shining and the party started. Tables and trays had been set up, parents' wedding china was on display and the maidens truly appreciated the effort that had been made. It was a lovely afternoon sharing stories and laughter and the bonus was a couple of tunes from Doug with his guitar . That was a brilliant first - live music !! People as always have been so generous and donations are still arriving in different ways so we shall update you with the total next month.

The news from Malawi is not good - on the whole the figure of 208 deaths does not seem a lot when compared to the hundreds of thousands we hear of in Europe but the worrying thing is that it spiked by over 100 last week when Malawians returned from South Africa . Also there are concerns that the figures are not true - they are heading towards elections in July so the government does not want to look as if it's not doing its job properly by "keeping the virus at bay !! " Please keep them in your prayers . Take care, stay safe and God Bless . **Chrisanne, Reay, Brian & Doug**



Thanks to Catriona Livingston, to Adrienne and to Alison and Douglas for photographs. Special thanks to Stewart for his photos and organising the Zoom meeting on the day.



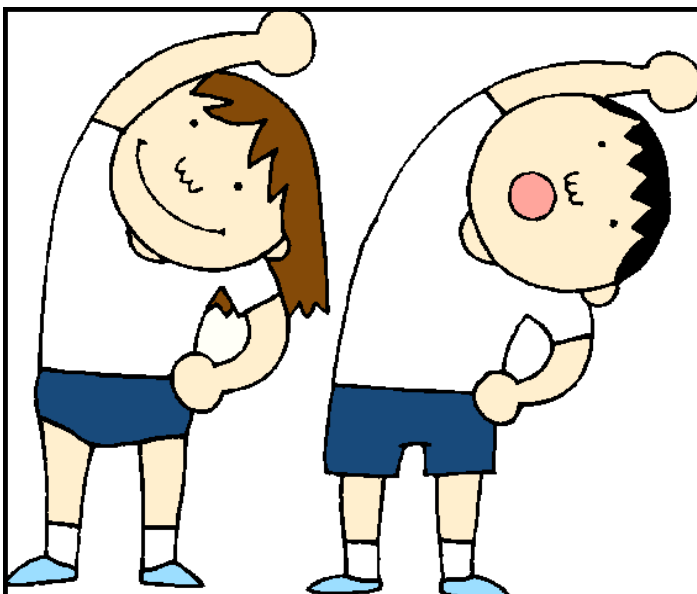


On the 23rd May Ryan and Isla made chocolate strawberries at home and thought about children in Malawi .

Musical expressions

You might like to turn your mind to seeking out the musical expressions suggested by the pictures on the next page.

For example, the expression below is 'Fit as a Fiddle'. Our thanks to Eileen Ardern for the Quiz. Answers are on page 14.





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3



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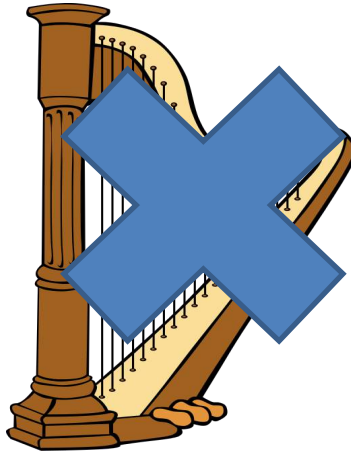


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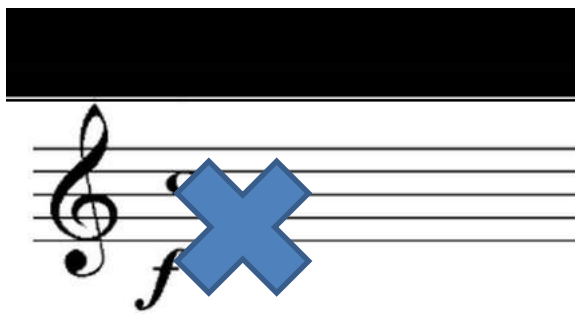
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Thy Kingdom Come

You may have seen from the Crown Church Facebook page that the church was taking part in "Thy Kingdom Come" a global prayer movement calling on christians of all denominations to join in prayer from Ascension to Pentecost, from 21 to 31 May 2020. You can still see some of the prayers and images on the Crown Church Facebook page. This is one of the images taken from the page:

Loving God, thank you for the way You love us. Please help me by the power of Your Holy Spirit to love as You love. May all people come to know You.



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 1Corinthians 13: 4-7

Music Quiz Answers:

1. Pulling out all the stops
2. Playing second fiddle
3. Strike the right note
4. Playing your own trumpet
5. Singing from the same hymn sheet
6. It ain't over until the fat lady sings
7. Don't harp on about it
8. That strikes a chord
9. That rings a bell
10. It's not my forte

Daily Bible Readings for June

1 June 2020

Monday 1 Acts 2: 14 – 21

Tuesday 2 Acts 2: 22 - 28

Wednesday 3 Acts 2: 29 – 41

Thursday 4 Acts 2: 42 - 47

Friday 5 Acts 3: 1 - 10

Saturday 6 Acts 3: 11 - 26

7 June 2020

Sunday 7 Psalm 103

Monday 8 Acts 4: 1 - 12

Tuesday 9 Acts 4: 13 - 22

Wednesday 10 Acts 4: 23 – 31

Thursday 11 Acts 4: 32 - 37

Friday 12 Acts 5: 1 – 11

Saturday 13 Acts 5: 12 – 16

14 June 2020

Sunday 14 Psalm 104

Monday 15 Mark 3: 7 – 19

Tuesday 16 Mark 3: 20 - 35

Wednesday 17 Mark 4: 1 – 9

Thursday 18 Mark 4: 10 - 20

Friday 19 Mark 4: 21 – 34

Saturday 20 Mark 4: 35 – 41

21 June 2020

Sunday 21 Psalm 105

Monday 22 Mark 5: 1 – 20

Tuesday 23 Mark 5: 21 – 34

Wednesday 24 Mark 5: 35 – 43

Thursday 25 Mark 6: 1 - 6a

Friday 26 Mark 6: 6b – 13

Saturday 27 Mark 6: 14 - 29

28 June 2020

Sunday 28 Psalm 106

Monday 29 Song of Songs 1: 1; 2: 1 - 7

Tuesday 30 Song of Songs 2: 8; 3: 1 - 11

Wednesday 1 Song of Songs 4: 1 - 16; 5: 1

Thursday 2 Song of Songs 5: 2; 6: 1 – 3

Friday 3 Song of Songs 6: 1; 7: 1 - 9a

Saturday 4 Song of Songs 7: 9b; 8: 1 - 14

5 July 2020

Sunday 5 Psalm 107

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

DEATHS

Mrs Rona Robertson, formerly of Oldtown Road and latterly of Edinburgh on 9 May

Bessie Reid, latterly of Kingsmills Care Home on 9 May

Mrs Doreen Webster, formerly of Argyle Terrace and latterly of Highview House Care Home on 28 May

Mrs Mary Mackenzie, formerly of Crown Drive and latterly at Aden House Care Home on 30 May.

Mrs Edna Simpson, formerly of Heatherley Crescent and latterly of Main's House Care Home, Newtonmore on 30 May

Items for the July Newsletter by Sunday 28th June please!

Please send any articles, photographs or news to the Forrests at:
marionandbobnewsletter@gmail.com

MINISTER Rev Douglas Robertson, 39 Southside Road, 07547976054
DRRobertson@churchof Scotland.org.uk

**Crown Church Office is closed at present as Gloria is on furlough.
If you need to contact the church, please phone the Minister direct
on the above number.**

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