# Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

November 2020: No. 765

**Parish Minister: Rev Douglas Robertson** 



## **SUNDAY SERVICES**

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 (a facebook account is not required to see the service)

9.30 services have been suspended for the time being.

Sunday 1st November Morning Worship at 11 am

Sunday 8th November Morning Worship at 10.50 am - Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 15th November Morning Worship at 11 am Sunday 22nd November Morning Worship at 11 am Sunday 29th November Morning Worship at 11 am

Sunday 6th December The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 11 am

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Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4, verses 4 to 7

## From the Minister

Dear members and friends of Crown Church, As we approach Remembrance Day, Laurence Binyon's poem "For the Fallen", first published in The Times in 1914, comes to mind. I haven't been in Scotland for a Remembrance Service for a very long time, so I'm not sure whether it is common to recite the verse that begins, "they shall grow not old". In Australia that verse is always recited with the laying of a wreath on both ANZAC Day (April 25) and Remembrance Day, as well as at the funerals of military veterans.

The less familiar parts of the poem recall great courage in the face of mortal danger: "They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted; They fell with their faces to the foe."



But overall it is inevitably a sad and solemn acknowledgement of young lives cut far too short by the horrors of war: "They mingle not with their laughing comrades again; They sit no more at familiar tables of home."

There is something profoundly hopeful in the thought that they will not grow old or suffer the weariness of an aging body, and maybe even a hint of eternity in the idea that they will be remembered for ever, generation after generation giving thanks for their sacrifice: "As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness, To the end, to the end, they remain."

This year, far too many have been lost to an invisible enemy, and many of our frontline workers (the phrase is very pertinent) have indeed fallen with their faces to the foe. There are too many who will never again laugh with their family or friends, or sit at the familiar tables of home.

Perhaps now, as much as we reflect on the sacrifices of military service men and women, in two world wars and since, we can also pause to remember those who have fallen to this new enemy, and the many who will carry the physical or emotional scars for a lifetime. Give thanks to God for training, equipment, dedication and incredible courage in the face of mortal danger.

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down their life for their friends." (John 15:13)

With gratitude, **Douglas** 

#### October 2020

# **Update from Crown 20/20 Group**

"Crown Church aims to invest in a major upgrade of our church buildings to provide a warm and welcoming home for worship, equip us with modern and accessible facilities to support Christian outreach into our community and to help our church meet the needs of that community."

Dear Members of the Congregation

Despite the ongoing impacts of dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, the Crown 20/20 Group has lots of positive news to report in this latest update. I will begin with the progress that is being made in the Upper Hall. A huge thanks is due to everyone who helped in clearing the hall, especially Heather and Kenny Beck and team, Struan McRoberts and to Liz Gray who realised £525 from the sale of the red canvas chairs that had been stored for some time in the cellar to Struy Antique and Vintage. We were also pleased to find a good home for surplus indoor bowling equipment. The Bradbury Centre in Bonar Bridge supports local older people in recovery from illness or those receiving Rehabilitation and Reablement services. Their members are looking forward to a game of bowls once free of the current Covid-19 restrictions. We received a £30

CROWN
20/20
...creating a
Community Hub

donation from the centre in recognition of our gift.

All this preparatory work paved the way for Contractor I&K Ferguson to move in to begin the major upgrade of the Upper Hall on 20 October. The upgrade will provide enhanced insulation and storage space, a new kitchen and toilet/showers and most importantly a facility that meets all the necessary Care Commission and Health and Safety requirements.

News from The Highland Council regarding the conversion of the Lower Hall into two nursery classrooms to be used by Crown Primary School is that work is scheduled to commence on 22 February 2021.

We are currently discussing the design of new kitchens in the two halls. Installation of a lift to the Upper Hall and enclosing of the fire escape will feature in the first phase of this work being carried out by Morrison Construction. We are confident that the Upper Hall will be completed by the time the Council is ready to move on site and that disruption to our key hall users, such as the Corner Club, will be kept to a minimum.

Last but not least is our sincere thanks to every member of the congregation who has made a donation towards the costs of the church building project. Including Gift Aid, the currently total donated is £28,180.90. This is hugely appreciated. The appeal remains open and again we would encourage any member of the congregation to consider making a donation.

We have also received a grant of £9,500 from the local Council Ward Discretionary Fund and £1,000 from the Olive Grove. £77,000 has been allocated to the project from church funds.

The generous support we are receiving from members of the congregation and from funding organisations is hugely encouraging and augurs well for the successful delivery of our ambitious plans.

## **Eileen Ardern for the Crown 20/20 Group**



# **Congratulations!**

Congratulations are due to Crown church member and beadle, Bob Shanks. Bob was awarded the British Empire Medal in the recent Honours list in recognition of his outstanding service to the Seaforth Highlanders Regimental Association and to the community in Culloden, Inverness and Dingwall . We know that Bob has long maintained an interest in medals and we are delighted that he should himself receive this one.

# **Meet the Moderator**

The following article appears with the kind permission of Dr John Dempster and Hilton Church

by John Dempster | Oct 4, 2020



John Dempster asks Dr Martin Fair about the convictions, vision, and gifts he brings to his role, the faith journey which has shaped him, and the sustaining wisdom of Christian faith in this year of crisis.

#### **Meet the Moderator**

I recently had a chat with Church of Scotland Moderator, the Rev Dr Martin Fair. I wanted to find out more about this man who seems an ideal Moderator for the year of COVID-19, ubiquitous on social media, gracious and encouraging, an excellent communicator.

He was chosen as Moderator back in October 2019 when no-one could have foreseen the challenges we would face in 2020. Looking at the impact the minister of St Andrews Parish Church, Arboath is having in the role, it seems providential that he was the person chosen. He tells me many folk have said to him '"Gosh, you've just been the right person this

year," and if that's the case then I thank God for it.'

(There follows a lightly edited transcript of the interview. As this is a lengthy transcript one half is in this month's newsletter and the second half will be included in the December newsletter. Editors)

## The gifts Martin brings to the role

I began by asking Martin what interests and gifts he felt particularly equipped him to be Moderator in the current circumstances.

MF I think, on a very ,very practical level, I've been aware for many years of the absolute need to be digitally seen. So, we've been live-streaming for nearly six years now as a congregation at St Andrews Parish Church, and we've been using social media widely. So when lockdown hit, and it was becoming evident that there would be nothing for me to do by way of face-to-face travelling and so on, then it was not a big leap for me to think 'OK, fine, I've got my laptop, I've got my phone, I've got my camera. I can make that switch really quickly and easily.'

But more so than that, I've absolutely in my ministry been nimble and flexible, in other words not committed to 'This is how we do things' but always ready to experiment, always ready to adapt the approach to fit the situation. That kind of way of operating is pretty helpful right now to be honest when you can't even see what's coming next week, never mind next year.



And then, the final thing I would say is that my ministry was locally involved morphing the congregation from what was a good congregation – as if that was an end in itself – to being a congregation that would be good because then it would be able to minister and mission in the wider world. So that missional sense is one of my

burning priorities, and therefore I've tried to lead on that. Because while we're all very concerned right now about the life of the church and 'can we get into our buildings again?' and so on, if that's all we're caring about right now at the expense of our missional calling to be in the world with good news and addressing all the need, then we really will be closing in on ourselves and we will be furthering our demise rather than turning it around. So I think right now that missional sense is really important, and it's certainly what I bring to the table.

#### Martin's formation

I wanted to explore with Martin the faith journey that brought him to where he is now. I began by inviting hm to tell me about his awakening to faith when he was young.

MF I was raised within Sunday School and so on, but then when I was a young teenager a new minister came to our church (now named Thornliebank Parish Church ) and he invited the young people to go with him on what used to be called 'seaside mission' and then subsequently became 'summer mission.' So off we went for two weeks down at Girvan on the Ayrshire coast to lead a fortnight of mission among children and young people. I did that for seven years in all, and absolutely that was foundational in the sense of call to ministry, and prior to that an awakening of faith. I would say that I appropriated the faith I had been raised in, and actually made it my own. And out of that summer mission team, seven of us became ordained ministers within the Church, so it really was very foundational in all kind of ways.

Is that because you were seeing living faith in others in practical nitty-gritty stuff, and also being forced to test your faith by doing things you weren't used to doing?

MF Absolutely the latter. I have a very, very vivid memory of the very first year, so I would have been about 13 or 14, and our then new minister asking me to read the Bible Lesson in front of what was a crowd of a couple of hundred people. And I just crumbled. I said: 'There's no way I can do this!' I'd never done anything up-front before in any walk of life. And yet, I did. And so there was a new-found confidence, and that just blossomed in the years that followed by way of sharing faith, and confidence in faith. And I think the other critical thing about being on those teams was the sense of community that built up: we knew we were together in this endeavour and that has stayed with me ever since, as an antidote to any over-privatisation of faith. It was a realisation that God calls us not as individuals but to be part of family, to be part of the Church. I think all of that was awakened within me in these days.

**JD** And then you have spoken about being awakened to the need for justice and equality?

MF Absolutely, I had an aunt who carried with her through all her life a very heightened sense of the Christian call to work for justice. It wasn't that my parents had another view, it just wasn't to the fore at home, but my aunt would bring me books and encourage me to read this, and think about that. So she awakened that sense within me.

So when I went to University I studied Politics as part of my degree, and took my first job was as a Youth Worker in a very deprived part of Leeds and Bradford. This was in the mid-1980s and that church was focused on addressing the inequality which was so evident. You'd walk into one housing estate there, and then five minutes up the road you were in leafy suburbs. I was just seeing all of this, and thinking 'This can't be right!' You know, 'there's something inherently not right about this.'

And, Martin continued, the Bible speaks powerfully into this situation MF The Old Testament, and primarily through the prophets primarily is just laden with condemnations of those societies which are neglecting those realities around them, and particularly when religion is being exercised in a kind of 'Sunday Morning' kind of way. Of course the prophets rail against the songs and the rituals and the religious acts and so on when it is devoid of any concern for justice and for the rights of the poor, the orphan, the widow. So those texts, prophets like Amos, absolutely spoke to me and informed my growing sense of what the world was like, and my growing conviction that any



fully-blown Christian ethic had to take that seriously.

# The universal need for God

spent time as a youth worker in Bermuda.
Was that also in a deprived community?

**MF** Interestingly, the very opposite. When I finished my academic training,

Elaine and I were keen on going somewhere overseas and experiencing something quite different before we settled down, if I can put it that way. So we applied to go overseas with the Church of Scotland under a programme called, I think, 'World Exchange.' But we were looking at Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania – somewhere where the Church was active in Africa. And that just seemed to us to be the right destination. But it didn't work out. They couldn't find a suitable place where both of us could go. So we just actually dismissed that, and said 'OK, it's not going to happen.'

And then, on the back of that, when the minister at that time in the Church of Scotland in Bermuda contacted the Church of Scotland, and said 'We're looking for, maybe a probationer minister or someone who could come and work primarily with youth' they phoned me up and said 'Would you be interested?' So we went.

But it was ironic, because having thought of going to one of the poorest parts of the world, we ended up in what was at that time the third richest country on earth per head of population. Totally upside-down from what we'd imagined!

But it was a massive learning-curve as well, because there I guess I saw for myself that no amount of wealth can give life a sense of completeness. I became aware that even in that kind of community, people had a need for spiritual truth and for God: there was a hunger for something more So that for me was a really important lesson, which shattered my preconceptions. And I realized that the gospel is relevant across the whole spectrum: from people who have nothing in the material sense to people who have everything in that sense.

I suppose you perhaps found that the people who have lots of stuff are harder to reach than the people who are aware of their need?

MF Yes, there's no doubt about that. In the years since my church has been very involved first in Cambodia, and then over the last 14/15 years in Malawi, I have visited these countries as have many folks from the church. And you realise that when you've got no Plan B – in other words when you have nothing – you absolutely have no recourse other than to trust in God. And not just 'trust in God' as mere words – something you might sing in a song – but 'trust in God' has to be the way you operate, you have to trust for your daily bread.

But when you are an independent person, a self-made man as you might consider yourself to be, the whole business of trusting only comes to the fore when you've exhausted every other avenue, because you taught yourself to think that 'I can handle life!'

So absolutely, I saw that for myself. In Bermuda at that time there were terrible drink problems for example, more people in prison per head of population than almost anywhere else, all kinds of social problems, marital



breakdown off the scale, drug problems. And yet it took a lot to break through some of the facades, for people to acknowledge 'actually I am in need.'

(to be continued in next month's newsletter)

## November 2020

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 (December 2020) please do send them to our *church secretary,* Gloria who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine; <a href="mailto:judedmond@yahoo.co.uk">judedmond@yahoo.co.uk</a>

## **November 1-7**

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.

Give thanks to God for the beautiful autumn days. Father, we praise You for the beauty of the world You have created, and we thank You for the mountains, rivers, seas, fields and animals You have given to us

to enjoy. We are sorry for when we take creation for granted, and thank You today for the amazing earth. Amen.

Pray Isaiah 40:31; "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like angels, they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint." Pray that God would give us all strength to do His will.

Remember all those who are in care or nursing homes and for their families, friends and relatives. Give thanks for the staff who work hard together to ensure the well-being of all people in those homes. Pray for their safety and protection against COVID-19. Amen

## November 8-14

Ask God to open our eyes today to the beauty of His world and to prompt us to care for and protect what has been gifted to us. Pray for the advancement of conservation and renewable energy and that our governments will prioritise looking after our earth. On Remembrance Day, pray for all the lives lost in conflicts and the impact on loved ones. Pray for peace, hope and healing for all those affected by conflicts.

Pray today for people who have recently suffered bereavement – particularly those who are mourning a family member. Ask God to give them His comfort, strength and hope as they grieve, and to know He is their comforter.

Pray for love, peace and hope in every home and family. Pray that God's presence be felt in the lives of our families, friends and neighbours; that His guidance be the driving force in our decisions and choices we make. Amen

### **November 15-21**

'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it' (John 1:5). Today, pause to thank God that He can bring light into every situation. Praise Him for being the light of the world and ask Him to help you reflect that light into the communities around you.

Pray for those who are homeless and give thanks for those who offer 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.

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 that we won't ever take salvation for granted. Amen

## November 22-28

Pray for those facing personal challenges or who may be experiencing ill health. May they know the peace and love of God's presence in their lives.

Pray for God's light and love to shine into the minds of all who are depressed, anxious or suffering from dementia. Pray for opportunities, resources, and new and renewed relationships which help and support people with mental health challenges in healthier ways.

Remember and pray for those who are experiencing everyday life challenges with great difficulties and whose spirits are weakened; may they find support and comfort through relationships and appreciation of life's daily triumph.

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

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#### **Lost and Found**

While clearing out cupboards in the Upper Hall, we found a small, 3x2 inches, black Common Prayer Book

It has an inscription on the inside

"Alice Florence Hitchmough a present from her uncle John on her 7th birthday

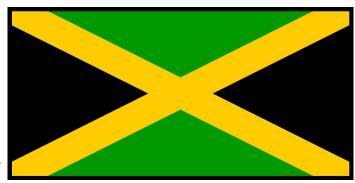
#### Nov 4th 1883"

Does the name mean anything to anyone? It would be great to find out more.

#### **Heather Beck**

## **Update Jamaica**

Our first news item is that **Bro Don Reynolds**, who has been such a strong influence in maintaining Crown's partnership with North Street, Kingston, has been awarded the Jamaican Order of Distinction, at Commander class, the higher level award, for his outstanding



contribution to public life in Jamaica. At this level (according to Wikipedia), there are only about 40 names on the list, including the very recognisable Usain Bolt and Asafa Powell in the sports category. So, in very distinguished company indeed and many congratulations, Bro Don.

In a linked newspaper article, Don explains that despite the many achievements of his accountancy career, his main and lifelong passion is for working with young people and fostering their development. From being a young scoutmaster, Sunday school and youth fellowship leader, Don has also been active in the Rotary Club youth arm, chaired school trusts, including North Street Primary, has served on the board of the International University of the Caribbean and, of course, the North Street United Educational Development Fund to which Crown Church members have contributed.

He credits his passion for giving back to youth to the mentorship he received during his formative years from persons at his church, among them Sunday school teachers. 'I would never be where I am today, if it were not for my mentors; and so, I am giving back as they gave to me'. In the wide range of potential partners available back in 2007, what a huge blessing it has been for Crown Church to twin with such a committed church and individual.

On **Facebook, North Street United Church** have established a regular presence, where you can see services recorded via YouTube, dating from 12<sup>th</sup> July onwards. Highlights include the Independence Day service (9<sup>th</sup> August) and Educational Award service (20<sup>th</sup> September), Heroes Sunday & most recently Harvest Thanksgiving . And there is a very special additional treat in every service, beautiful, live gospel singing and playing (distanced soloists only + instrumental), a real joy to hear.

And **Covid**? While we tend to think that less well off countries may struggle more in the present pandemic, especially with shared water supplies, more basic housing etc., the experience from Jamaica is strikingly different. With a population a little over half of Scotland's @ just under 3 million, they have recorded 8,786 cases with 192 deaths. Our total is 57,874 cases with 2,701 deaths (minimum count). While the health advice is broadly similar, there has been a curfew in place from 9pm to 5am from early in the epidemic and over 65s are encouraged to stay home. Clearly, island status and other factors are working well and we pray Jamaica may continue to be spared the worst effects of the current health crisis.

#### **Mairi Main**

## 'Always In Our Hearts' Collage

Highland Hospice is launching a creative initiative, which gives people a lovely opportunity to remember the life of someone special to them. Throughout the month of November, 'Always in Our Hearts' aims to fill the Highlands with A5-sized decorated hearts, each with a person's name attached.

Chaplain Norma Higgott explains, "Because of the changes 2020 has brought to society, it is important to offer people new ways of sharing their grief, finding support and celebrating all that was special about their loved ones.

"Those who have been bereaved, particularly during lockdown, have been unable to deal with their grief in the usual ways. Funerals have been very limited with no opportunity to celebrate and remember the lives of our loved ones with family and friends. The ability to even talk through grief with someone has been reduced, which makes accessing support more difficult."

The campaign takes place throughout the month of November, to incorporate Absent Friends Week, Remembrance Sunday and Child Bereavement Week. Highland Hospice will also host an online memorial service on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Norma added, "As we are dedicating the whole month of November to remembering those special to us, this is the perfect month to display these hearts, from all over the Highlands, each created in memory of someone.

"You don't have to have had any connection to Highland Hospice to participate, nor do you have to be an arty person. Often the simplest of designs work best and you can choose to stitch, draw, paint or glue your piece.

"We would like to invite individuals to create their hearts as soon as possible, and send them in, so that they can be stitched together as a commemorative piece which will be displayed to the public here at Highland Hospice in Inverness.

"It is our hope too that community groups and schools might participate and create their own collaboration for display locally, as this is such a lovely project for all ages to get involved in."

Highland Hospice invite you to remember a loved one by stitching, sewing, drawing or painting their name in a heart on an A5 piece of fabric. Instructions on how to create

your own heart can be found on the Highland Hospice website or for further information, please

email <u>alwaysinourhearts@highlandhospice.org.uk</u> Once you have finished your fabric piece, please send it as soon as possible to Highland Hospice, where it will be sewn into a collective piece (like a patchwork quilt) which will be exhibited to the public. Further details, including the address, are included in the instructions on the Highland Hospice website.



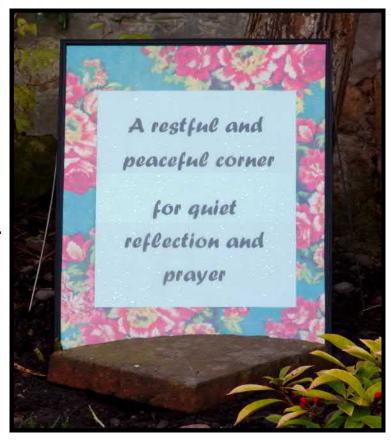
# **Let's Talk**

On a wet and cold Sunday afternoon, a wee voice sailed over the wall of the church garden. "What are you doing?" "We're making a prayer garden" said I. "What's that" said the little girl.

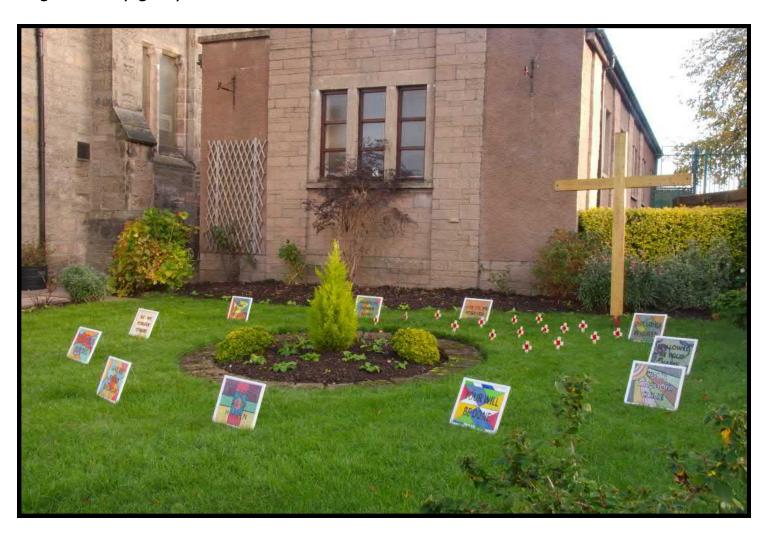
"It's to remind people that they can talk to God" said I. "Is it for Jesus?" said she. "Yes, and it's from Jesus. These are his words" said I.

Think about this: Whenever did anyone step *inside* the church building and ask such an open, meaningful and profound question?

Covid 19 restrictions on the opening of our church buildings have been frustrating and disappointing in so many



ways. However, these same circumstances have encouraged a few arty gardeners to be creative and set about designing a quiet, restful place out in the open. It's a place where anyone can enjoy peace, contemplation and prayer. Passers by can glimpse it or linger as they go by.





Our hope for the Prayer Garden is that it will be a talking point; a place to talk to God and something unusual to talk about with others. Our team of eight hesitant artists adopted a slightly stylised version of the Lord's Prayer and painted it, with beautiful effect, on glass panels. These panels have been "planted" on the lawn in front of our large wooden cross.

The artwork won't win any prizes. The panels may not hold up in winter storms. However, the message is perfect and the words go on into eternity – given to us by Jesus as an example of the best way we can talk to God, our father.

Some of the artists' thoughts on our experience –

\*I'm NOT an artist!

\*You want me to do what?

\* Explain it to us.

\* I'll give it a go...

\* We'll work in pairs.

\* We need more guidance.

\* It's not working out...

\* Explain it to us again...

\* We're enjoying this.

\* Wow! did we do that?

On reflection, these reactions remind me a lot of how the disciples first reacted to Jesus when he asked them to go out and fish for people. Some things don't change... and still so much is possible if we are willing to put ourselves "out there." Worth talking about?

## **Lesley McRoberts**

### Footnote from one 'artist'

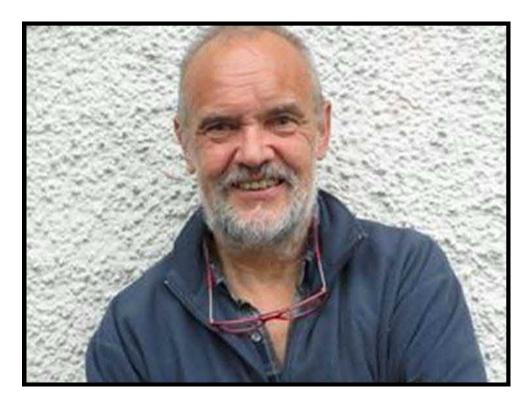
'The artists' are all very grateful to Lesley for giving them the opportunity to go beyond their comfort zone to create something new and meaningful and to have the opportunity to meet up in pairs outside. We all became most interested in the daily weather forecast!

# **Highland Malawi Trust**

Re Malawi itself there is not much to report other than Covid 19 has fortunately not spread to the extent we had feared and certainly none of our groups have been affected.

However as a Trust we have suffered a great loss - our Trustee and IT guru Doug Morrison passed away suddenly at home on 18th August. Doug re-created our website in 2014 and made it accessible for all ages (once a teacher, always a teacher). His experiences in The Gambia and his knowledge of life in Africa was always invaluable when making decisions re funding allocations etc. He knew how it worked and it was a privilege to bat ideas around with him.

Although not a Trustee, Sonia his wife was always there at fundraising events, beavering away, hugely supportive, so our love right now goes to her and their girls Jo and Sarah . Not forgetting sons- in -law Ben & Calum and a much loved granddaughter April . We will miss you Doug - thanks for everything. **Chrisanne** 



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### **Readers for November**

1 November John Barbour

8 November Mairi Mtui

15 November Heather Beck

22 November Bob Forrest

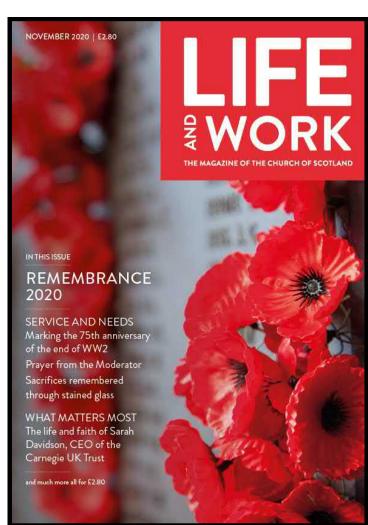
29 November Jimmy Gray

6 December Liz Forbes

## Crown Church in "Social Distancing" Mode

This picture was taken during the 11 o'clock service on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Years from now, people will probably find it hard to believe that church attendance looked like this during the pandemic. The social distancing rules mean that we have to observe 2 metre distancing and all wear masks during the service. Despite the restrictions, we had a total of 30 people attending the service and of course, many more participating via the live stream broadcast. Where there is a will, there is a way!





# LIFE AND WORK NOVEMBER 2020

### **Service and Needs**

Looking back at the Church's work providing for the forces at home and abroad during the Second World War.

## **What Matters Most**

Jackie Macadam meets Sarah Davidson, chief executive of the Carnegie UK Trust, and learns about the influence of faith on her life.

War, Sacrifice and Gratitude
Jeff Hopewell describes how
stained glass has been used in
some churches to remember the
sacrifices of war.

## **Trusting God**

The Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair says we

are going to have to get better at living with uncertainty, trusting that God is with us.

## **Stop Fuelling the Fire**

Kirsten Clarke describes her year as one of Christian Aid's Prophetic Activists

## With Scorching Heat and Drought

Adrian Shaw reflects on the Church of Scotland's history on climate change.

## Poppies, Medals and Hot Chocolate

The Very Rev Albert Bogle reflects on the month of November **Online** 

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## **Daily Bible Readings for November**

#### Sunday, November 1, 2020

Monday: Elijah Meets God, 1 Kings 19:11-18, 2 Kings 9:30-37

Tuesday: Elijah Ascends to Heaven and Elisha Succeeds Elijah, 2 Kings 2:1-18

Wednesday: Elisha Heals Naaman, 2 Kings 5:1-19

Thursday: *Amos Prophesies Against Israel*, Amos 5:18-24 Friday: *Hosea Prophesies Against Israel*, Hosea 2:1-13 Saturday: *Micah Prophesies to Both Kingdoms*, Micah 6:1-8

#### Sunday, November 8, 2020

Monday: Zephaniah Prophesies Against the Kingdoms, Zephaniah 1:14-18

Tuesday: *Nahum Prophesies of God's Wrath,* Nahum 1:1-11 Wednesday: *Habakkuk Prophesies and Prays,* Habakkuk 3:1-19

Thursday: *God Calls Jeremiah,* Jeremiah 1:1-19 Friday: *Ezekiel Sees a Vision,* Ezekiel 1:1-28

Saturday: The Valley of Dry Bones, Ezekiel 37:1-14

#### Sunday, November 15, 2020

Monday: The Peaceful Kingdom, Isaiah 11:1-10

Tuesday: *Impending Judgment on the Earth,* Isaiah 24:1-23 Wednesday: *God's People Are Comforted,* Isaiah 40:1-31

Thursday: *A Hymn of Praise,* Isaiah 42:10-20 Friday: *The Suffering Servant,* Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Saturday: *A Promise of Abundant Life,* Isaiah 55:1-13

#### Sunday, November 22, 2020

Monday: Israel Is Like an Unfaithful Spouse, Jeremiah 3:1-5, 4:1-4

Tuesday: *Mourning for the People,* Jeremiah 8:18-9:3 Wednesday: *God Will Restore Israel,* Jeremiah 16:14-21 Thursday: *The Potter and the Clay,* Jeremiah 18:1-11 Friday: *Lamenting a Fallen City,* Lamentations 1:1-22

Saturday: God Will Restore Israel and Judah, Jeremiah 30:1-24

#### Sunday, November 29, 2020

Monday: Nebuchadnezzar's Dream, Daniel 2:1-49

Tuesday: *The Fiery Furnace,* Daniel 3:1-30 Wednesday: *Belshazzar's Feast,* Daniel 5:1-30 Thursday: *Visions of Four Beasts,* Daniel 7:1-28

Friday: Seventy Weeks, Daniel 9:20-27

Saturday: The Resurrection of the Dead, Daniel 12:1-13

## **Advent Bible Quiz**

Join us for an exciting Zoom Advent Bible Quiz.

To liven up the Christmas spirit during these challenging times, The Discipleship Team is organising a Zoom Advent Bible Quiz during the four weeks before Christmas. The quiz will run for four weeks every





Tuesday evening at 7.30pm for one to one and a half hours from Tuesday 1st December. Everyone is welcome. Please email Jude or Lesley on

judedmond@yahoo.co.uk or lesley.mcroberts@btinternet.com and a Zoom link will be sent to you.

## **Items for the December Newsletter by Sunday 29th November please!**

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

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