

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

JULY and AUGUST 2022: No. 782

Parish Minister: Rev Douglas Robertson



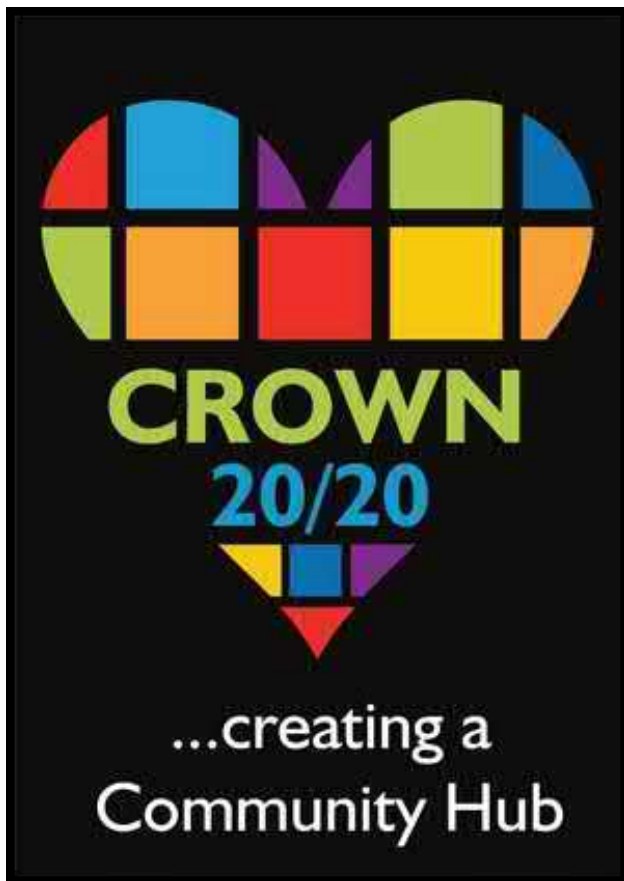
SUNDAY SERVICES

With the easing in Coronavirus restrictions we are once again able to meet regularly for our Sunday Morning Services. Douglas is however continuing to broadcast on Sunday mornings at 11.00 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).

Sunday 3rd July	Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers
Sunday 10th July	Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am
Sunday 17th July	Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am
Sunday 24th July	Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am
Sunday 31st July	Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am
Sunday 7th August	Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers
Sunday 14th August	Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am
Sunday 21st August	Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am
Sunday 28th August	Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am
Sunday 4th September	The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers

'Declare his glory among all nations, his marvellous deeds among all peoples.

Psalm 96 :3



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

We are delighted to confirm that Morrison Construction have now completed the conversion of the Lower Hall into two classrooms that will accommodate sixty four 3 and 4-year-old nursery pupils attending Crown Primary School.

This brought to a conclusion a contract that included the upgrading of our ground floor kitchen and toilets, the installation of an 8-person lift to the Upper Hall and the removal of a significant quantity of asbestos within the building.

The contract for The Highland Council took longer than we would have liked but we fully appreciate the challenges the contractor faced in carrying out such a major overhaul of a 100-year-old-plus building – and during the Covid-19 pandemic. We would like to thank the Morrison team for their workmanship and their help and understanding throughout.

Completion of the work enables the new nursery to open on Wednesday 17 August, one day after the primary school returns. Nursery pupils will access their new classrooms via an impressive glass entrance which will be accessed by a path from the Crown School playground through the new nursery garden.

Acting Head Teacher at Crown Primary, Mrs Bev Douglas, has liaised closely with the church and the contractor throughout the construction of the new classrooms.

She said: “We are delighted to be able to meet the growing demand to provide learning and childcare for 3 and 4-year-olds through this community partnership. The children are all very excited about the move to their new classrooms and have been busy making artwork for the new rooms and choosing new items for the nursery garden. I really do think this partnership project is a leader of change in so many ways and we are excited to be part of it.”

As we have reported before, the Upper Hall has benefited from a £150,000 refurbishment to accommodate church and community groups who formerly used the Lower Hall. These include the Breakfast Club, Corner Club (After School), BBs, and Guides and the Young Crown Youth Club. The investment makes better use of space, improves heating, lighting and insulation, provides greater storage and features a new kitchen and utility room, new toilet/showers and new audio/visual facilities.

A more flexible use of the Sanctuary has been created by the replacement of pews in the main area with individual seats. Work is pending for a major upgrade of the lighting and audio/visual system in the Sanctuary. A grant of £74,343 from the Place-Based Investment Programme - administered by The Highland Council on behalf of the Scottish Government – will help deliver on this element of the community-led regeneration.

The space available in the church is augmented by the creation of a Meeting Room (originally the Small Hall) for smaller group meetings in the evenings, and weekends in term time and at any time during the school holidays. During term time the nursery children will eat lunch here. The Lounge has been given a facelift and will accommodate groups of 20-25 as well as being The Olive Grove, moved over from the shops at Kingmills, initially to be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays each week.

In conclusion, we have learned so much about our building while this work has been carried out. The need to effectively maintain it in the years ahead is crystal clear. Much has still to be achieved. But we feel we have reached a major milestone in the journey and look forward to opening our doors to the congregation and wider community at an Open Day on Saturday 13 August.

Crown 20/20 Group

OPEN DAY

You are invited to drop in to see the refurbished premises in Crown Church, and the new Crown Primary School Nursery and garden on Saturday 13th August from 10-4.

Parking in Crown School

All Welcome

A Date For Your Diary

We are throwing the doors of Crown Church open to showcase the many recent changes and upgrades to our historic building. Our Open Day will take place on Saturday 13 August – four days ahead of the schools returning after the summer holidays. (The nursery opens one day later than the primary school – on Wednesday 17 August.)

Doors will be open from 10 am until 4 pm and we will be providing free refreshments in the Olive Grove (the old lounge) after guided tours of the building.

Invitations are extended to members of the congregation, groups who use our facilities; parents and families of the nursery and Crown School pupils, and indeed any interested member of the Crown Community and beyond.

We will begin in the Lower Hall which has been converted into two classrooms for 64, 3 and 4-year-old nursery pupils attending Crown Primary School. A new entrance has been created and the pupils will access the nursery by a path from Crown School playground. Our ground floor kitchen and toilets have been redesigned and upgraded.

A new 8-person lift is available to take visitors to the Upper Hall, which has undergone a £150,000 upgrade, with new kitchen, double glazed clear windows, improved insulation in the walls and ceiling, new toilets, more efficient storage and state-of-the-art audio visual equipment.

When you return to the ground floor please have a look around the Sanctuary, where the pews have been removed from the main area and replaced by individual seats. Children might like to stay awhile as a variety of toys and games will be set out. Carers can supervise with a cup of tea or coffee in hand. Everyone is welcome to enjoy refreshments.

Work is still to be completed in upgrading the AV and lighting systems in the Sanctuary and upgrading the Attic but this work will not in any way impact on our Open Day.

We hope you will come along and see what has been achieved at the church over the past two years and consider whether any of the activities which will be taking place on our premises in the autumn might be of interest to your family. Please pass on this information to anyone who might be interested and note the date in your diary.

Church and Community Co-ordinators

There is so much about to happen at Crown Church in the autumn that a new team has come together to help manage the many and various activities.

Lesley McRoberts and Chrisanne and Stewart Robertson are acting as Co-ordinators for the church and community making sure that as many people as possible can participate in what's going on and encouraging more to be involved.

Lesley said "We have so many enjoyable things already happening here in the building - Toddlers on Wednesday and Thursday mornings and the Olive Grove opening for coffee or lunch midweek. There's our very popular Saturday evening family time at SNAC on the first Saturday of the month too. With lots more about to restart and new ideas developing for keeping our beautiful building open, it's a very busy place".

"In the Sanctuary, the main and most important event, is our worship on Sunday mornings at 9.30 and 11am. We like to think though that by serving the community in this same place through the following days we continue to represent Jesus in everything we do. All are welcome and we need you - our church family - to welcome everyone who arrives. This includes those from the wider community who are booking the church spaces for any reason."

The team want to gather a pool of helpers to make sure that the church buildings are open for most of every day. They are keen to have as many helpers as possible to keep things running smoothly. Particularly, they are encouraging everyone to think about what they enjoy doing and to offer themselves for a little time each week to make even more possible. They need people who like to chat and people who like to do admin and people who like to mend things and people who sing or are musicians and people who are into IT.

Stewart said "The church is an important part of our lives and we would love to see it being enjoyed by everyone in the community. We'd love to see every user of the building being welcomed by us and to have it buzzing through the weeks."

Chrisanne added "It's going to be a hard winter coming so we want this place to be a warm and happy place, open to all. We can offer heat and we can offer company and so many interesting people to meet. We're going to need lots of time and enthusiasm, but just a little from everyone. We'll be scouting for talent, so be ready for the call!"



To All Church Organisations

We are planning to advertise all the activities which we offer on our premises with colourful posters on the notice boards during the Open Day, when we are hoping for a good attendance from the local community as well as from the congregation.

Please take this opportunity to promote your group – either make an A4 poster which states who the group is for, gives meeting times, a programme if relevant, and contact details for new people to get in touch for further information. Or if you prefer we can prepare a poster for you if you send in the details.

Attach your poster to an email to Eileen Ardern eileenardern@hotmail.com or pass on the details by the end of July please.



Olive Grove Again

After an absence of over two years, the Olive Grove is coming gently back to life. Based in the revamped church lounge, we plan to operate as a cafe on Wednesdays and Thursdays from early July, starting with teas, coffees and cakes on 6th/7th July.

Initially, we'll be working on a donation basis, but the first two days will be free as team Olive Grove starts serving food & drink in our new surroundings. We'll be very grateful for your feedback as we work to create a warm and welcoming social space where anyone can drop in and share in coffee and company, or tea and talk.

Intended hours are 10.30 - 4.30. If necessary, we'll update you of any further changes through the Sunday order of service. As ever, we also extend a warm welcome to any new volunteers.

Mairi Main

Prayer Diary

July and August 2022

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

July 3-9

Give thanks for the summer sunshine that brightens the days during the summer months. Pray for safety, relaxation and happy times for everyone in our community.

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 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.

Pray for God's light and love to shine into the minds of all who are experiencing the challenges and concerns arising from depression, anxiety or dementia.

July 10-16

Pray Psalm 62:5-7, 'Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. My salvation and my honour depend on God.'

Pray for people living in fear in their own homes to be able to ask for help. Ask God to provide help for healing of the physical and psychological wounds of those who are suffering domestic violence, and pray for health and social care services, and the police, to be able to keep vulnerable people safe.

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.

Lord God, help us to live as an expression of sacrificial love at home, at work and in our communities. Amen.

July 17-23

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.

Whatever your own family situation today, thank God that He has adopted you as a son or daughter into His family. Thank God for relationship and the opportunity to share life with other people, ask Him to reveal more of His intended plan for families to You and to teach you how to love those around you like He does.

Lord God, You offer freedom and peace to all people. We pray for those in prison. Please break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with Your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in His strength and in His spirit, now and every day.

July 24-30

Whatever your circumstances, say a prayer to God; Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to You, in every way. Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet. Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say. Amen

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 28th July – World Nature Conservation Day, pray for the recognition of a healthy environment as the foundation for a stable and productive society and for the future generations. Pray for protection, conservation and sustainable management of our natural resources.

Today 30th July, International Day of Friendship, pause and thank God for all the friends that He has blessed you with. Pray for friends that you have lost touch with, for friends who you know are going through a difficult time, and for health and happiness for your friends in the future.

July 31 – August 6

Pray for peace in our world; that all people may live free from violence, in safety and security, and with hope for the future. We ask for wisdom for our leaders that they make appropriate decisions on behalf of all of us.

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.

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.

Pray for the homeless and those cut off from their families; that the much needed practical help and support be made available to meet both their physical and spiritual needs.

August 7-13

Father, thank You for sending Jesus into the world so that we could have a relationship with You. Help us to be part of sharing the gospel with the world. Amen

Remember and pray for those who have been affected by substance use; may they receive love, compassion and support, and may God guide them through difficult times.

Oh God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.

On this day 12th August, International Youth Day, Pray for the children and young adults you know. Pray that they would know they are loved by God, and that they would have an awareness of their value in Christ. Pray for opportunities to support and love the young people in your life.

August 14-20

On this day 19th August -World Humanitarian Day, pray for all countries experiencing disasters and crisis; pay tribute and give thanks for all aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service.

Lift up the emergency services today and pray for the people in our daily lives who we often take for granted. Thank God for the everyday heroes who risk so much for us so that we can live safe lives, and pray for opportunities to thank them ourselves.

Pray for those who are experiencing a form of terminal and long term illnesses or have a family member or friend affected; may they be comforted, experiencing strength and courage in their treatment.

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.

August 21-27

Bless us Lord with hope in you and the power to share this hope with those around us. We love you; we praise you, and we put our faith and hope in you, knowing that you and you alone have everything in the palm of your mighty hands.

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.

Father God, we love You and we care for the world You have made. Direct us as we seek to be good stewards of creation. Amen.

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

August 28 – September 3

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. Amen.

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.

Pray Micah 6:8, Father God, open our eyes, stir our hearts and teach us how, 'To act justly and love mercy and to walk humbly with you today'.

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

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 September 2022 please do send them to our **church secretary**, Gloria who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine; judedmond@yahoo.co.uk



Daily Bible Readings for July and August

Sunday, July 3, 2022, Exodus 20:17 The Ten Commandments Part 4

Monday, Exodus 23:14-19 The Annual Festivals

Tuesday, Exodus 23:20-33 The Conquest of Canaan Promised

Wednesday, Exodus 24:1-8 The Blood of the Covenant

Thursday, Exodus 24:9-18 On the Mountain with God

Friday, Exodus 25:1-22 The Ark of the Covenant

Saturday, Exodus 25:23-40 The Table and the Lampstand

Sunday, July 10, 2022, 1 Peter 1 First Peter: Chapter 1

Monday, July 11, 2022, 1 Peter 1:1-5 New Birth into a Living Hope

Tuesday, July 12, 2022, 1 Peter 1:6-9 Rejoice Despite Trials

Wednesday, July 13, 2022, 1 Peter 1:10-12 Bringing Good News

Thursday, July 14, 2022, 1 Peter 1:13-17 You Shall Be Holy as I Am Holy

Friday, July 15, 2022, 1 Peter 1:18-23 Born of Imperishable Seed

Saturday, July 16, 2022, 1 Peter 1:24-25 The Word of the Lord Endures Forever

Sunday, July 17, 2022, 1 Peter 2 First Peter: Chapter 2

Monday, July 18, 2022, 1 Peter 2:1-3 Pure, Spiritual Milk

Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 1 Peter 2:4-8 Living Stones

Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 1 Peter 2:9-12 A Royal Priesthood and a Holy Nation

Thursday, July 21, 2022, 1 Peter 2:13-17 The Authority of Human Institutions

Friday, July 22, 2022, 1 Peter 2:18-19 Slaves Obey Your Masters

Saturday, July 23, 2022, 1 Peter 2:20-25 Suffering for What Is Right

Sunday, July 24, 2022, 1 Peter 3 First Peter: Chapter 3

Monday, July 25, 2022, 1 Peter 3:1-6 Wives, Convince By Your Own Example

Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, Honour Your Wives

Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 1 Peter 3:8-12 Unity of Spirit

Thursday, July 28, 2022, 1 Peter 3:13-17 Sanctify Christ in Your Heart

Friday, July 29, 2022, 1 Peter 3:18-20 Noah Saved through Water

Saturday, July 30, 2022, 1 Peter 3:21-22 Baptism as an Appeal to God

Sunday, July 31, 2022, 1 Peter 4 First Peter: Chapter 4

Monday, August 1, 2022, 1 Peter 4:1-3 Turn Away From Sin

Tuesday, August 2, 2022, 1 Peter 4:4-6 Live in the Spirit

Wednesday, August 3, 2022, 1 Peter 4:7-11 Maintain Constant Love for One Another

Thursday, August 4, 2022, 1 Peter 4:12-14 Rejoice in Suffering

Friday, August 5, 2022, 1 Peter 4:15-16 Suffering as a Christian

Saturday, August 6, 2022, 1 Peter 4:17-19 Entrust Yourself to a Faithful Creator

Sunday, August 7, 2022, 1 Peter 5 First Peter: Chapter 5

Monday, August 8, 2022, 1 Peter 5:1-4 Elders, Tend the Flock of God

Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 1 Peter 5:5-6 Youth, Accept the Authority of the Elders

Wednesday, August 10, 2022, 1 Peter 5:7 Cast Your Anxiety on God

Thursday, August 11, 2022, 1 Peter 5:8-9 Be Steadfast in Your Faith

Friday, August 12, 2022, 1 Peter 5:10 God Will Restore You

Saturday, August 13, 2022, 1 Peter 5:11-14 Stand Fast in God's Grace

Sunday, August 14, 2022, Ruth 1 The Book of Ruth: Chapter 1

Monday, August 15, 2022, Ruth 1:1-5 Elimelech's Family Goes to Moab

Tuesday, August 16, 2022, Ruth 1:6-7 Naomi and Her Daughters-in-Law

Wednesday, August 17, 2022, Ruth 1:8-14 Naomi and Ruth

Thursday, August 18, 2022, Ruth 1:15-18 Naomi and Ruth

Friday, August 19, 2022, Ruth 1:19-21 Naomi and Ruth

Saturday, August 20, 2022, Ruth 1:22 Naomi and Ruth

Sunday, August 21, 2022, Ruth 2 The Book of Ruth: Chapter 2

Monday, August 22, 2022, Ruth 2:1-3 Ruth meets Boaz

Tuesday, August 23, 2022, Ruth 2:4-13 Ruth meets Boaz

Wednesday, August 24, 2022, Ruth 2:14 Ruth meets Boaz

Thursday, August 25, 2022, Ruth 2:15-16 Ruth meets Boaz

Friday, August 26, 2022, Ruth 2:17-20 Ruth meets Boaz

Saturday, August 27, 2022, Ruth 2:21-23 Ruth meets Boaz

Sunday, August 28, 2022, Ruth 3 The Book of Ruth: Chapter 3

Monday, August 29, 2022, Ruth 3:1-5 Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

Tuesday, August 30, 2022, Ruth 3:6-7 Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

Wednesday, August 31, 2022, Ruth 3:8-9 Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

Thursday, September 1, 2022, Ruth 3:10-13 Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

Friday, September 2, 2022, Ruth 3:14-15 Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

Saturday, September 3, 2022, Ruth 3:16-18 Ruth and Boaz at the Threshing Floor

Sunday, September 4, 2022, Ruth 4 The Book of Ruth: Chapter 4

Monday, September 5, 2022, Ruth 4:1-4 The Marriage of Ruth and Boaz

Tuesday, September 6, 2022, Ruth 4:5-6 The Marriage of Ruth and Boaz

Wednesday, September 7, 2022, Ruth 4:7-10 The Marriage of Ruth and Boaz

Thursday, September 8, 2022, Ruth 4:11-12 The Marriage of Ruth and Boaz

Friday, September 9, 2022, Ruth 4:13-17 The Marriage of Ruth and Boaz

Saturday, September 10, 2022, Ruth 4:18-22 The Marriage of Ruth and Boaz



Highland foodbank *can you help?*

Items we're shorter of July 2022

- UHT milk
- Long life fruit juice
- Tins of potatoes/smash
- Tins of ham
- Tins of corned beef
- Tins of custard/rice
- Shampoo
- Bags for life (new or used)

Our stocks are fine for everything else at the moment.

We've got plenty

- Pasta
- Beans
- Soup

So don't need donations of these.

Thank You!

01463 717630
 foodbank.admin@blythswood.org
 Registered Charity in Scotland 048001
 Company Number 583493



As energy and food costs soar the demand on Foodbanks will increase greatly. Rising inflation and the deepening cost of living crisis are sending increasing numbers of people into poverty. People and organisations will have to make difficult choices.

As a Church we will be called upon to support those most in need. There will be boxes at all doors of the Church for you to drop your donations into.

**“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord”
 Proverbs 19:17**

Liz Gray

FLOWERS IN CHURCH ON SUNDAY

We are grateful to the following for donating money so that we can arrange flowers for our Sunday Services in July:

- 3rd July - Heather Beck
- 10th July - Adrienne and Eddie Adie
- 17th July - Janet Fraser
- 24th July - WEDDING EXHIBITION
- 31st July - Gus McGowan

If you would like to donate money for the church flowers you can add your name to the Flower Chart in the corridor on a date that is special to you.

Ruby Coe (225467) will then be in touch with you about your choice of flowers.



A banner for the 'wedding reflections' exhibition. It features a silhouette of a bride and groom in the center. The background is a mix of soft pink, orange, and light blue brushstrokes. The text 'wedding reflections' is in a large, bold, black font. Below it, in a smaller font, is 'an exhibition celebrating weddings past, present and future'. To the right, the dates 'July 21-26th' and time '10am-4pm' are listed, along with the website 'www.crown-church.co.uk'.

wedding reflections

July 21-26th
10am-4pm

www.crown-church.co.uk

an exhibition celebrating weddings past, present and future

Wedding Reflections Exhibition

It's nearly time for the exhibition! If you have looked out some photos or other mementos, please bring them to the Upper Hall on Monday 4th July from 10am -1pm. Stewart, Chrisanne and Lesley will be waiting there to collect them. They would also love you to bring a short message, an anecdote or memory of the day – please write it in advance if possible.

The team is particularly keen to have framed wedding photos to display.

If you want to lend a wedding dress, please let them know as soon as possible but DO NOT bring it until the day before the exhibition starts. Please bring it on Wednesday 20th July from 10am in the Sanctuary. Dresses cannot be safely stored in advance. Please arrange to collect them again the following Tuesday afternoon 26th July from 2pm or Wednesday 27th July from 10am.

Stewart, Chrisanne and Lesley can arrange to collect and return by arrangement. Speak to them or contact lesley.mcroberts@btinternet.com for further help.

For Hospitality

We'd like to greet visitors to the exhibition with a glass of non-alcoholic bubbly and a piece of fruit cake. If you would like to contribute a bottle of fizz or some cake (shop bought is great) please bring it to the Upper Hall on Monday 4th July from 10am -1pm (as above - dropping off wedding mementos).

Evening Reception

You are invited to an evening reception on Saturday 23rd July at 6pm. This event will be catered by Café Artysan which is an excellent charity organisation training young people into employment.

Tickets are available for a suggested donation of £10. Children will be free, but please make sure they have a ticket (for catering numbers).

Look out your best dress, kilt and even a hat. We want to make this a special evening of celebration, food, fun and dance.

Tickets available from Chrisanne, Lesley and Stewart.

Excess donations to Young Crown.

We will take very good care of everything on loan but please note that items on display will be at the owner's risk.



A good evening was had by all...

The final choir evening of the 2021-22 session was gloriously transformed into an informal and joyous concert. What made it special (for the choir members and I think for the audience too) was that it was a combined effort, the Crown Church choir joining with the Old High St Stephens choir under their director Pam McCulloch and accompanist Alyn Ross – the Dream Team – not forgetting the third element in the partnership, the audience.

The audience helped us out with several well-known hymns while a few less familiar hymns and other works completed the choir's input. That was not the whole programme however because Daniel Finnigan (grandson of Eileen and Richard) started the evening off with a moving rendition of the Ukraine national anthem and followed that with a flawless performance of The Great Escape theme.

Finally a member of the audience, Olena Mary Brown, recited her own heartfelt prayer/poem, "For Ukraine", dedicated to the memory of her father Mykola Faryma. It was fitting that, to mark the occasion, which raised £650 for the Ukraine Appeal, participants wore blue and yellow colours, the colours of the Ukraine flag, at last giving me a reason to wheel out my yellow tie!

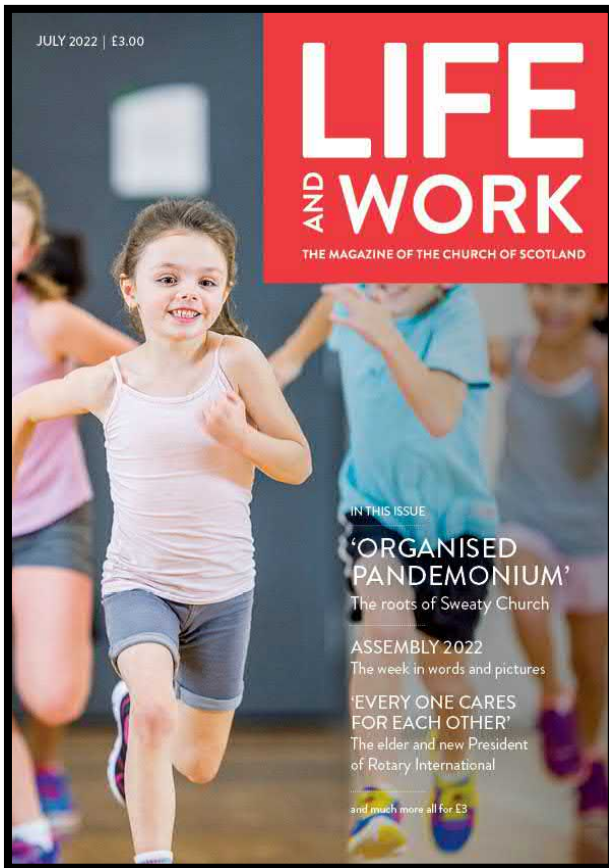
The Crown choir has enjoyed this term of working with Old High St Stephens, not least singing in a bigger choir without having to worry if there would be anyone else singing one's part! I won't say that Charlie wasn't missed – he has split vocal chords which seem to allow him to sing bass and tenor at the same time (almost), even alto at a squeak – but at least having the two choirs together meant that the rest of us could cope! Come back soon however, Charlie!

And finally, could you make this combined choir even bigger and better...? Please join us!

David Crippin

LIFE AND WORK

JULY



'Organised Pandemonium'

Thomas Baldwin learns about the roots of 'Sweaty Church'

Assembly 2022

The week in words and pictures

'Everyone Cares for Each Other'

Jackie Macadam meets the new President of Rotary International, Church of Scotland elder Gordon McInally

Faith in Action

Official monthly update from the Faith Action Programme

Making Connections

In this month's youth column, David Moodie highlights the work of Granton Parish Church's Acorn group.

Love and Grace

The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers reflects on what it means to lift up the marginalised and excluded – and condemns the plan to move asylum seekers abroad.

The Glory of God

In the final part of his study of the Lord's Prayer, David Searle considers the last words.

Plus

News, letters, readers' pictures, crosswords and registers

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We believe in life before death

“Together we can turn hunger into hope”

That was the slogan for this year’s Christian Aid week. Did we do it? Well, we certainly played our part creditably. The bare statistics are that via envelopes and the two Just Giving webpages we have raised a total of £2688 to date. Envelopes (sanctuary and parish distribution together) made up 43% of that total, the Crown Church Just Giving webpage 33% and the “300,000 Steps in May” challenge not too far behind on 24%. (I more than completed the challenge by the way, walking 359,000 steps.)

Taking estimated gift aid into account, the grand total is £3674. My sincere and grateful thanks to all who contributed and to all who helped deliver, receive and count envelopes.

The total of £2688 before gift aid is up a wonderful 35% on the figure from 2021. That is excellent. Behind the figures however there is food for thought. I am very pleased of course but as you’ll expect me to say I am not satisfied, not when in 2019 we raised £3770 from the congregation and parish. So, for next year I must try to build on the aspects that were successful this year and improve the aspects that were less successful. The harsh point is that with climate change, covid, global strife and increasing trade injustice the need has gone up, not down, so we must try to respond accordingly.

To paraphrase the prayer, “Lord help us to respond, and start with me.”

David Crippin

Welcome Team

3rd July	Kay MacDonald, Margot Tuley, Alison Harbison
10th July	Mairi Main, Margot Tuley, Maureen Campbell
17th July	Val Little, Margot Tuley, Douglas & Jane Wilson
24th July	Kay MacDonald, Janet MacPherson, Val Little, Margot Tuley
31st July	Kay MacDonald, Janet MacPherson, Douglas & Jane Wilson
7th August	Mairi Main, Jude Madeleine, Alison Harbison
14th August	Val Little, Jude Madeleine, Alison Harbison
21st August	Val Little, Mairi Main
28th August	Val Little

As we look forward to enjoying our newly refurbished upper hall, perhaps now more so than ever it is important that we can offer a friendly presence at our doorways. If you feel you could help, even if it is just one Sunday, please do contact Gloria at the Church Office. We are in need of volunteers for July and August.

Readers

July 3rd	Charles Gallacher
July 10th	Helen Boynton
July 17th	Ella Low
July 24th	Morag Russell
July 31st	Gus McGowan
August 7th	Richard Ardern
August 14th	Douglas Young
August 21st	Alastair Campbell
August 28th	Mairi Main
September 4th	Jude Madeleine

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

Deaths

Mrs Isobel Roodhouse, Kingsmills Nursing Home, 23rd May 2022

Mrs Linda Fraser, Crown Drive, 31 May 2022

Mr John Finnigan, Glenburn Drive , 11th June 2022

Items for the September newsletter by Sunday 28th August please!

*****Please note our new email address*****

Please send any articles, photographs or news to :

newsletter@[crowns-church.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@crowns-church.co.uk)

Minister Rev Douglas Robertson, 39 Southside Road, 07547976054

drrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Crown Church Office: office@[crowns-church.co.uk](mailto:office@crowns-church.co.uk)

Session Clerk Bob Forrest: sessionclerk@[crowns-church.co.uk](mailto:sessionclerk@crowns-church.co.uk)

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