

# ***Newsletter***

***Crown Church, Inverness***

**JUNE 2022: No. 781**

**Parish Minister: Rev Douglas Robertson**



## **SUNDAY SERVICES**

With the easing in Coronavirus restrictions there is no longer a limit placed on the number who can gather in a place of worship. Douglas will continue 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 5th June**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers

**Sunday 12th June**

Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am

**Sunday 19th June**

Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am

**Sunday 26th June**

Morning Worship at 9.30 am and 11.00am

**Sunday 3rd July**

Morning Worship at 9.30am and 11.00am followed by special prayers

**'Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us'**

**Ephesians 5:1-2**

## From the Minister

Dear friends,

In our sermons over the last month, at both the 9:30am and 11am services, and continuing through the summer, we have been looking at what “the five marks of mission” mean. These have been adopted by the General Assembly with the intention of helping us to refocus on our calling, which is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God, to nurture and care for one another, the community around us and the environment, and to stand up against injustice.



And as I write this, I am also reflecting on the sacrament of Holy Communion, which will be celebrated on the first Sunday in June. It is a deeply profound and solemn service of worship, which commemorates the death of Jesus. As we pass the elements around the congregation, we acknowledge, “this is the body of Christ, given for you”, and “this is the blood of Christ, given for you.”

This sacrament reminds us of the very heart of the gospel that we are called to proclaim: Jesus Christ, given for us.

This is our faith and our motivation, to follow Jesus, who fed the hungry, healed the sick and forgave the sinner. He socialised with the poor and social outcasts, and challenged the abuse of authority by leaders both religious and civic. And he taught – especially in the parables – of a glorious Kingdom where love, peace, grace, forgiveness, healing and wholeness are the “rule of law” of the one true King.

Jesus is our role model, the hero of our faith, but he is so much more. Only God has the authority to forgive sin. This is the “blasphemy” which was used against Jesus by those who were upset by his very direct criticism of their leadership in the Jewish faith. They were also frustrated that he was attracting great crowds and influencing the community in a way that they never could. So they turned him over to the Roman authorities who were no less corrupt as they contrived to execute a man whom even Pilate recognised was innocent.

But it was never blasphemy in the first place, because Jesus truly was the embodiment of the fullness of the creator God. In his life he showed glimpses of the glory of the Kingdom, but even his disciples didn’t understand the full extent of Jesus’ divinity until after the resurrection, and it was only then that they received their commission from Jesus to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matt 28:19).

This is the church we belong to, united with all Christian believers in the faith that is symbolised in the sacrament of Holy Communion: Jesus Christ, given for us.

May God bless you all,

**Douglas**

## Unitary Constitution

You might remember (then again you might not since it is a while ago) that we held a congregational meeting within the sanctuary on Sunday, 19th December 2021. At that meeting we agreed to move from our present constitution to adopt the unitary constitution of the Church of Scotland.

Following that meeting, I then made an application through Presbytery to obtain the necessary permission to move to the unitary constitution.

Presbytery approved the application at their subsequent meeting and the matter was then referred to the law department at 121 George St for approval. Approval has very recently been received and accordingly we now operate, as a church, under the unitary constitution.

The main difference is that we no longer have a Congregational Board and all of the business of the church will now be overseen by the Kirk Session.

It is quite important to point out that none of this changes any of the activities going on within the church. Everything continues just as before. The only real difference is that the decision-making process has now been simplified.

By the time you are reading this newsletter, the Kirk Session will have met and hopefully have agreed to form 2 new committees, a finance committee and a property committee. These 2 committees will substantially oversee the work which was formerly carried out by the Congregational Board.

We do have the opportunity of forming further committees and having a more careful look at both how the Kirk Session and Elders' Council are structured. However, at its meeting in March this year, the Kirk Session agreed that it would not be appropriate to contemplate any further changes until such time as the proposed union with Old High, St Stephen's has been completed. We recognise that it is important that those joining us should have a say in how we structure our church.

However, having said that, Old High, St Stephen's have been operating under a unitary constitution for some years and they will undoubtedly be able to bring some valuable experience into the forthcoming discussion.

I think it is also important that I take this opportunity of publicly thanking all of the members of the Congregational Board, past and present, for the sterling service which they have given, in some cases over many years, to the important, indeed quite essential work which the Congregational Board has carried out

As indicated above, the need for that work continues and anyone who would like to become involved in the new committees should, in the first instance contact myself. We are a very busy church and we do need everyone who can, to play an active part in the life and work of our church.

I do hope this brief note brings everyone up to speed with where we are with this issue. If anyone would like any further information on this topic, please feel free to contact me at my church email address which is:

[sessionclerk@crown-church.co.uk](mailto:sessionclerk@crown-church.co.uk)

**Bob Forrest**  
**Session Clerk**

*The Crown Family invites you to another....*

# **S-N-A-C Time**

*(Saturday Night At Crown)*



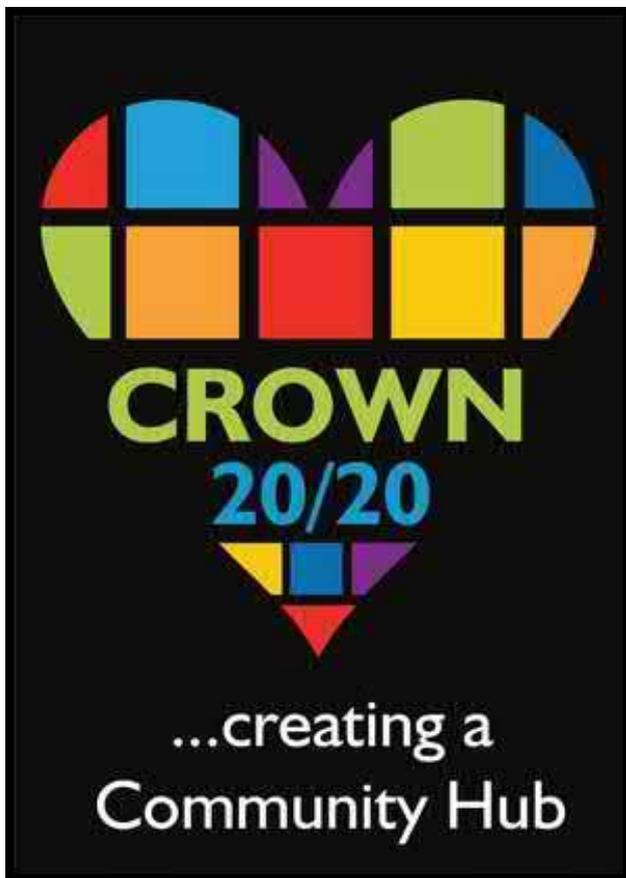
*Games, conversation and crafts*

## **'BURGER IN A BUN' NIGHT ON SATURDAY 4th**

The next of our SNAC evenings, a 'burger in a bun' night, is on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, from 5 to 7pm. It's a special weekend, combining the birthday of the church (Pentecost) and the Platinum Jubilee of the Queen, so a great evening to have a get-together. Get in touch with Gary, Pamela or Pat if you'd like to come.

*Contact Gary, Pamela or Pat to register interest*  
[pamelamcara@btinternet.com](mailto:pamelamcara@btinternet.com) [pcrippin@gmail.com](mailto:pcrippin@gmail.com)

***All ages, friends and family are very welcome.***



## 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

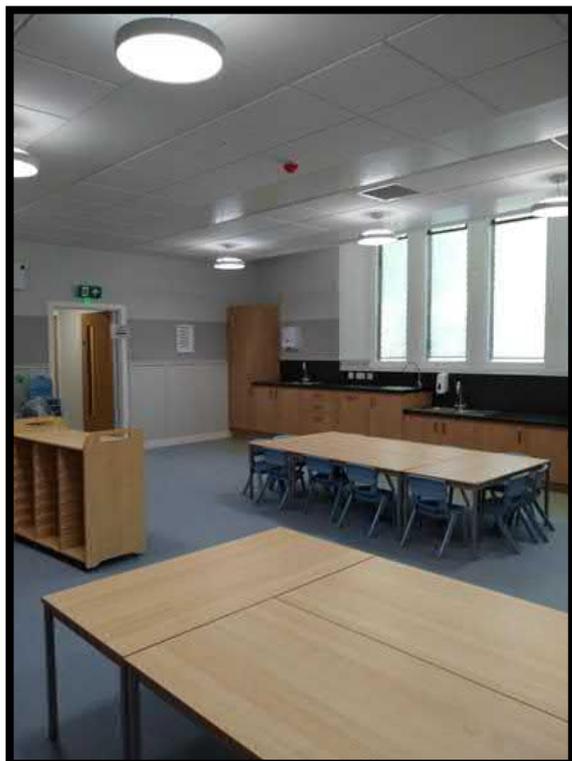
While Morrison Construction put the finishing touches to the Lower Hall, creating two nursery classrooms for Crown Primary School, the focus of our attention has been planning the upgrade of lighting and the AV system in the Sanctuary as well as making safe our attic and the refurbishment of the Lounge.

News about the conversion of the Lower Hall is that the contractor hopes to complete the work by the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, with the children moving into their new surroundings at the start of the new school session in mid August.

Still to be completed is the impressive glass entrance from Crown Primary School into the new nursery unit, which accommodates the fire escape. We are assured that just as soon as a building warrant is granted for completion of the works, we can begin to use the new 8-person lift to the Upper Hall.

As we reported in the last edition of the newsletter, we have received a grant of £74,343 from the Place-Based Investment Programme to carry out some of the necessary repairs and upgrades to the church. This is a fund administered by The Highland Council on behalf of the Scottish Government to support capital projects which deliver on community-led regeneration. Subject to approval from Church HQ, the grant will allow us to upgrade the lighting and the audio visual equipment in the Sanctuary. We also intend to improve access to our attic with wider walkways and provision of handrails and improve the insulation there. Secondary double glazing will be installed in the MacGill window to reduce heat loss. Progress has been made with the Presbytery Property Committee and the General Trustees over permissions connected with the work proposed which is covered by the PBIP grant. We now need to send in specific proposals to the General Trustees for their meeting on 21 June. Ian Ferguson Contractors, the firm that carried out the upgrade of the Upper Hall and work in the Sanctuary when we removed the pews, are ready to carry out the attic contract once we get the green light. We have received proposals for improving the lighting in the Sanctuary from three companies and these are being considered. Plans for the AV upgrade are also under active consideration.

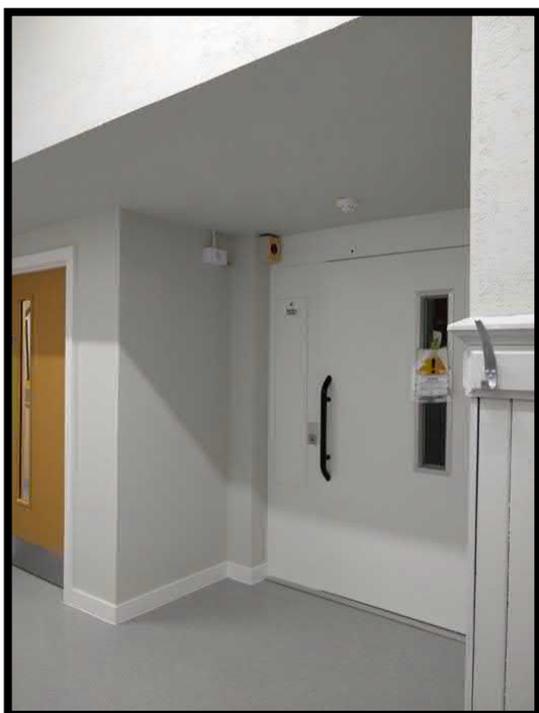
One of the Nursery classrooms



The new downstairs kitchen looking from the serving hatch



The Midmills corridor has been given a facelift thanks to a small team of volunteer painters and this area appears much bigger now thanks to the extra space created around the lift door. The emergency phone in the lift goes through firstly to the emergency out of hours team at The Highland Council who would send an appropriate engineer. Gordon Cameron, Jimmy Gray and Bob Forrest also have their numbers programmed in as fall back contacts. The lift will be maintained and serviced by the Council.



The upgrade of the lounge floor is completed and The Olive Grove team are furnishing this area so that they can resume the service they provide to the local community. It is hoped the Olive Grove will be open to the general public on Wednesdays and Thursdays by July.

In summary, excellent progress continues to be made and by the time of the next newsletter we hope to be in a position to report completion of the Lower Hall works; full use of the lift; an imminent opening of the Olive Grove in the Lounge and confirmation of the Sanctuary and Attic improvements.

### **The completed lift**

Halfway along the newly decorated Midmills Corridor, the lift is ready to be handed over once we have a completion certificate.

**Crown 20/20 Group**

# *Prayer Diary*

*June 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**

## **June 5-11**

As we celebrate Pentecost, pray and thank God for sending the Holy Spirit; for lifting, guiding and leading us in all the work of the Church; that the Holy Spirit will continue to move among us and renew us with a burning desire to grow in God's work, just as it happened for the apostles on that first Pentecost Day.

Lord, heal and bless our world. Bring comfort and hope as your light pierce the darkness. Amidst the doom-and-gloom reality we pray that Your love will illuminate and forge a path for all. Amen

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.

## **June 12-18**

Pray Psalm 100:1-5

A Psalm for giving grateful praise

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God.

It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His court with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Loving God, we ask for your healing over every part of our lives – physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. We pray that you would make us strong and resilient for the days ahead. We know that you have great purpose for those who believe in your name. Help us not to allow the distractions and struggles of our days, wear us down to the point of exhaustion.

## **June 19-25**

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.

Give thanks that during difficulties and distress, others can lift us up before the throne of grace. Help us always to remember those in great need.

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.

Give thanks for the continuing progress and success with the ongoing work to develop the church facilities. Pray that the new facilities will provide a welcoming atmosphere for everyone using the facilities and for joyful worship and meeting. Pray for God's blessings over the Crown 20/20 group for their leadership and for all those contributing.

## **June 26 – July 2**

We pray for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia who are caught up in this horrible conflict; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid and being tormented by this conflict; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear. We pray Lord knowing that only You have the power over life and death; We pray that all people can have the life you have given, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for all those killed in this conflict; for those having to flee their homes; and we give thanks the support and hospitality received.

We pray for the leaders on the world stage; that they be inspired and strengthened by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, we pray for peace for Ukraine and for peace in the world.

Pray John 1:5; "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it"

Pray for peace in our world; that all people may live free from violence, in safety and security, and with hope for the future.

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 (July 2022) please do send them to our **church secretary**, Gloria who will pass them on, or e-mail Jude Madeleine; [judedmond@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:judedmond@yahoo.co.uk)



## **Daily Bible Readings for June**

### **Sunday, June 5, 2022, Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7, Pentecost; Rejoice in the Lord**

Monday, Acts 3:11-16, Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico

Tuesday, Acts 3:17-26, Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico

Wednesday, Acts 4:1-12, Peter and John before the Council

Thursday, Acts 4:13-22, Peter and John before the Council

Friday, Acts 4:23-31, The Believers Pray for Boldness

Saturday, Acts 4:32-37, The Believers Share Their Possessions

### **Sunday, June 12, 2022, Exodus 19:1-6; 20:1-2, The Ten Commandments Part 1**

Monday, Exodus 12:33-42 The Exodus: From Rameses to Succoth

Tuesday, Exodus 13:17-22 Pillars of Cloud and Fire

Wednesday, Exodus 14:1-25 Crossing the Red Sea

Thursday, Exodus 16:1-21 Bread from Heaven

Friday, Exodus 17:1-7 Water from the Rock

Saturday, Exodus 17:8-16 Amalek Attacks Israel and is Defeated

### **Sunday, June 19, 2022, Exodus 20:3-11 The Ten Commandments Part 2**

Monday, Exodus 18:1-12 Moses Reunites with His Wife

Tuesday, Exodus 18:13-27 Jethro's Advice

Wednesday, Exodus 19:7-25 The People Consecrated

Thursday, Exodus 20:18-20 The People Feared God

Friday, Exodus 20:22-26 The Law Concerning the Altar

Saturday, Exodus 23:10-13 Sabbatical Year and Sabbath

**Sunday, June 26, 2022, Exodus 20:12-16 The Ten Commandments Part 3**

Monday, Exodus 21:1-11 The Law Concerning Slaves

Tuesday, Exodus 21:12-27 The Law Concerning Violence

Wednesday, Exodus 21:28-36 The Laws Concerning Property

Thursday, Exodus 22:1-15 Laws of Restitution

Friday, Exodus 22:16-31 Social and Religious Laws

Saturday, Exodus 23:1-9 Justice for All

**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



Following on from the short appreciation of Jimmy Gray in last month's Newsletter, Jimmy was persuaded to reflect on his long life of service to our community more fully.

## **Jimmy Gray's 22 years of civic service**

**Chair of our Crown 20/20 Group, Jimmy Gray, has retired as a Highland Councillor after 22 years of outstanding civic service.** Jimmy did not seek re-election to the Millburn Ward on The Highland Council at the recent election, wishing to spend more time with his wife, Liz, children Aileen, Rhona and Robert and grandchildren, Georgia, Alex, Erin, Rebecca, Molly and Lily. During his time as a councillor Jimmy served as Leader of the Labour Group, Provost of Inverness, Convener of The Highland Council; Chair of the strategic and area Planning Committees as well as a number of other strategic committees. He was also Chairman of the Cromarty Firth Port Authority and a Board member of Highlands and Islands Enterprise. Here is Jimmy's story.

"For much of my working life, I worked in the energy construction industry. For short spells in nuclear at Dounreay, coal at Longannet, hydro at Foyers and for 25 years in the oil and gas supply industry with McDermott's at Ardersier, where for a long period I was the Union Convener, experiencing the peaks and troughs of the industry. Our workforce fluctuated from 30 employees to 4,000, being the largest private employer in the Highlands.

With the rundown of oil and gas construction, I left the industry and was elected as a Labour councillor to The Highland Council in 2000 - just as Inverness was becoming a city, being granted this status by the Queen to mark the Millennium.

The Highland Council was the biggest employer in the Highlands with 10,000 staff and a budget of more than £700 million, delivering the majority of public services, including education, roads and transport, social work, housing and leisure and recreation.

There were 80 councillors when I joined the Council, 26 in the Inverness area, and listening to early advice, I focused my energies on areas in which I believed I was best suited. Over the years, in addition to the work in my Ward, which started as Crown and then developed into what presently is Millburn, I served on and chaired numerous strategic committees. These included one of the busiest planning application committees in Scotland the South Planning Application Committee, the Highlands and Western Isles Valuation Board, the Resources Committee, The City of Inverness Heritage Trust, the Academy Street Project, the Energy and Climate Change Group of the North Sea Commission, the Lighthouse Board, the Highlands and Islands European Trust, Provost and Chairman of the City of Inverness and Area, Convener of Highland Council.

One of the highlights of my time with the council was being elected Provost of Inverness, civic and political leader of the City of Inverness. I consider the four years I spent serving as Provost as one of the greatest privileges and most rewarding of my life. I was extremely fortunate in the fact that I had Liz alongside me for most of the civic events. Without her support my period as Provost would have been much less rewarding and fulfilling.

It was a very busy time for both of us but it also allowed us experiences and opportunities to meet people that just would not have occurred in any other circumstance. Some days you could have three separate civic functions to attend as well as dealing with all the aspects of being political leader of Inverness, the newest city in Scotland and the fastest growing city in the UK at the time. There always has to be a Council Officer present when the Provost's chain is worn as it is valued at £450,000 and robes at £50,000. The Town House itself is a beautiful building and a great venue for civic receptions and welcoming people, locals and visitors alike.

One of my first actions as Provost was to strengthen the Kirking of the Council. I had always felt it was a really significant and important ceremony which had been allowed to almost wither away and lose its significance. I was invited by Caley Thistle to some of their most important home games as well as on some of their most memorable trips away including the unforgettable Cup triumph against the mighty Glasgow Celtic in 2000 and the Scottish Cup win over Falkirk in 2015. Other notable happenings were the growth of the University of the Highlands and Islands; the return of Faith Hope and Charity to Inverness; the construction of the city centre flood alleviation scheme, major streetscape work in the city centre; and the construction of the West Link, which has proved a huge benefit to the city. I had many memorable experiences including welcoming the Queen and Prince Philip to Culloden Battlefield for their first visit to the site. One of my most memorable events was to welcome the Dali Lama to Inverness. Exciting times! I firmly believe there are many synergies between my roles as a union convener and an elected Councillor and my involvement at Crown Church.

One of my biggest challenges was dealing with change. Change is inevitable but managing and dealing with it is where difficulties invariably arise as understandably individuals react to and adapt to change with varying degrees of scepticism and understanding. When asked to be part of and assist with the Crown 20/20 Group looking at the future needs of Crown Church, I was all too well aware that not everyone could move in the same direction, at the same pace even although there was an undoubted need for change and the Church of Scotland had made it abundantly clear, that to survive, churches had to adapt and change with some urgency. I am delighted that these challenges have been overcome and we have made some quite remarkable progress in upgrading our historic church building. Much of the thinking behind the 20/20 initiative is based on the belief that all our premises should be available for sharing and that modern, accessible first class facilities will support Crown Church in its mission and outreach to the wider community.

We are extremely grateful for the funding that we have received to allow us to make these improvements. As the changes take place to our church building we will be working along with Old High St Stephens as we take forward the Presbytery Plan for our area of the city. As they have experienced over recent years change, while inevitable, can be difficult.

With God's help we will be able to move forward and strengthen his church here in the older parts of Inverness by adapting and changing at a pace that recognises and responds to the needs of the community, and places us at the hub of local activity."

## Treasure Hunt Sunday 29th May

The 9.30 Service had finished, folk, were gathering for the 11.00 Service, and a group of "Crown Kirkers", young and not-so-young, set off on a treasure hunt with cleverly devised clues, and helped by some feather-carrying stewards, the intrepid band wove its way around the streets of Inverness.

The first clue took the hunter to the Eastgate Centre where they were asked to identify the creatures on top of the ornamental clock in the Centre. Easy!



The next waypoint was to name the creature guarding the door at the main entrance to the Centre.



Check the animals at the top of the clock.

Guard at the main entrance.

The group continued on its way and discovered things they never knew existed in Inverness.

Here are some of the clues in picture form. Would you know where to find these spots in the City?





**The Treasure Hunt was a great success and enjoyed by all who took part in it.**

## FLOWERS IN CHURCH



Hopefully we are slowly returning to normal and with that in mind, from the beginning of June I will put the chart in the corridor so that anyone who would like to donate money for flowers in church on a particular Sunday can insert their name.

There is a team who will arrange the flowers for you – or if you wish, you can arrange them yourself.

Donations can be given directly to me or can be left in the office, where I can collect them. Cheques should be made out to Crown Church. If you have any questions, please get in touch with me (225467).

After the Service volunteers will wrap the flowers and deliver them to those not able to attend church for various reasons. If you would like to be one of those volunteers please get in touch with Gloria in the office (231140) – everyone enjoys getting a bunch of flowers, so it is a pleasant task.

If you would like to join the team who arrange the flowers, please give me a ring – instruction can be given!

**Ruby Coe**

## Wedding Reflections



### **It's summer time and so it's wedding season.**

Do you treasure fond memories of your big day – however many years ago? Do you keep photos to hand? Maybe you still have a dusty copy of your wedding invitation. Do you have pressed flowers or perhaps even your wedding dress or suit packed away? What was your wedding music – a favourite hymn or something sentimental for the first dance?

Would you be interested in looking them out and sharing them in an exhibition of wedding memorabilia to be held from July 21<sup>st</sup> -25<sup>th</sup>? We'd love to fill the Sanctuary with happy memories to be shared, compared and celebrated.

You don't have to have been married at Crown. All participation welcome. We've already heard a few interesting and amusing stories of what happened (or nearly didn't) on the big day.

If you would like to take part, know more or make a suggestion, please contact Lesley McRoberts [lesley.mcroberts@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.mcroberts@btinternet.com) or Stewart & Chrisanne Robertson [sjhro@me.com](mailto:sjhro@me.com) or speak to us directly.

More to follow in the July newsletter....

**Lesley, Chrisanne & Stewart.**



Old High St Stephen's  
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

*Joint Choirs  
come together*

For a short concert and friendly  
congregational singing



**St Stephen's & Crown  
Church Choirs  
In Aid  
of  
Ukraine**

**St Stephen's Church  
Thursday 16th June 7.30pm  
Tea/Coffee in hall after the  
concert.**

**Donations for Ukraine**

Scottish Charity No SC035073



# Acclaim in Concert

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
7.30pm

Free North Church,  
Bank Street, Inverness

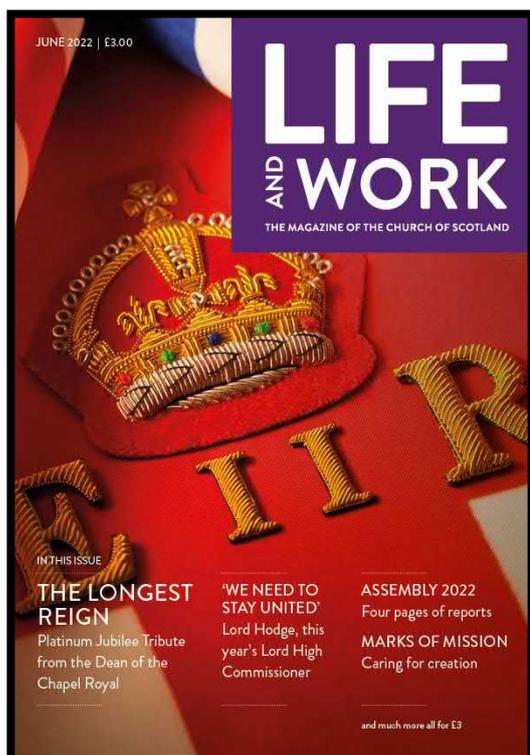
**ACCLAIM**   
*in whole-hearted worship*

Free admission with an opportunity to give to  
Children's Ministry Ukraine  
during the course of the evening.  
Tickets available from Choir Members or email  
[acclaimchoir@yahoo.com](mailto:acclaimchoir@yahoo.com)



# LIFE AND WORK

## JUNE



### **The Longest Reign**

The Dean of the Chapel Royal, the Rev Professor David Fergusson, pays tribute to the Queen on her platinum jubilee.

The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers says the Queen has been 'a living example of scrupulous honesty and integrity'.

### **'We Need to Stay United'**

Jackie Macadam meets Lord Hodge, the Lord High Commissioner to the 2022 General Assembly.

### **General Assembly**

A round-up of the reports to this year's Assembly.

### **Marks of Mission: Care for Creation**

Last in the series looking at the Five Marks of Mission

### **Faith in Action**

An official monthly update from the Faith Action Programme

### **The Power of Invitation**

In this month's youth page, twins Kim and Fiona Halliday share their faith journeys

### **'Deliver us from evil'**

David Searle continues his series on the Lord's Prayer

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## **The Guild**

The Guild is having a break over the summer but we will hold our usual summer Coffee Mornings. These will probably be in the lounge. It would be lovely to see members attend these so we can keep in contact.

**The coffee mornings will take place on Tuesdays 28th June, 26th July and 30th August at 10.15am**

All are welcome - so hope to see you there.

## **Ruby Coe, Guild Secretary**

The committee for Guilds Together representing our Presbytery arranged a service of praise for all members. This was held on Tuesday 26th April in St Ninians Church in Nairn. There was a very good turn out with many of our members attending. The service comprised readings and hymns chosen by members. The National Secretary of the Guild, Karen Gillon, was due to attend but had to send her apologies at the last minute. This was a very successful afternoon thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Presbytery is much larger now so it is more difficult to meet members from places like Burghead and Dingwall.

Our committee have met and are organising a syllabus for next session. We hope that we will be joined by ladies from Old High, St Stephens Church who have expressed an interest in joining our Guild. This should bring our numbers up to the thirties which would be wonderful.

This month we have arranged a summer outing to Coul House Hotel in Contin for afternoon tea. This will be on Tuesday 14th June. We should make our way there and plan to arrive about 3pm. We have been in the past and enjoyed the tea and the lovely gardens to explore. If anyone requires a lift please contact Ruby on 225467 or any committee member.

We will hold our usual summer coffee mornings on Tuesdays 28th June, 26th July and 30th August.

## **Dorothy Mein**

## **Guild Correspondent**

## **Good News/Bad News/Good News**

The very good news is that things are starting to happen again in our church buildings. More of the old activities are resuming, some lovely new ventures are underway and more of the regular meetings are taking place in person rather than by Zoom.

The bad news is that it is very easy to assume that we are the only group popping in and that the premises will be free whenever we want them. There have been a couple of times recently when spaces have been in use as others have arrived on spec.

The good news is that Irene Whyte is here to keep us right. If you want to use any of the spaces in the church buildings – the Upper Hall, the Sanctuary, the Olive Grove (the old Lounge) or the Meeting Room (the old Small Hall) please book with Irene in advance.

Irene will also advise whether any additional administration is needed for bookings outwith the church. Community groups and individuals are very welcome to book the premises too.

Please contact Irene by email with all your bookings

**Email:irenedrumossie@outlook.com**

## **Blythswood Highland Foodbank**

Please see detailed below the items that the food bank is short of this month. The foodbank is so grateful for our support.

Tins of corned beef

Tins of potatoes/smash

Tins of custard

Weetabix/Cornflakes

UHT milk

Cartoons of long life juice

Toilet rolls

Bags for life—new or used

The foodbank has large quantities of beans, past and soup and is unable to accept donations of these at present.



## **Something interesting to share?**

### **Here's how to let people in the Crown Church know about an activity or event !**

#### **Website** [Crown Church of Scotland \(crown-church.co.uk\)](http://crown-church.co.uk)

Email information to Bob Forrest [sessionclerk@crown-church.co.uk](mailto:sessionclerk@crown-church.co.uk). Either give the wording you wish or an explanation of what is proposed. Preferably say where in the website you would wish it to appear.

#### **Newsletter**

Our Newsletter is produced monthly and you can see copies on the website. Items for inclusion in the Newsletter should be sent to Fiona Carter, the editor, at [newsletter@crown-church.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@crown-church.co.uk)

#### **Facebook**

Items to go on our Facebook page should be sent to:- Stewart Robertson [sjhro@me.com](mailto:sjhro@me.com)

#### **Wayside Pulpit**

If you have not previously placed material in the wayside pulpit, please discuss first with Charlie Gallacher tel 234982. He will be pleased to advise and can also help by putting up notices. Notices should be at least A3 size in order to be visible from the street – we can print this size in the Church Office. Please do not remove or cover up other notices unless clearly out of date. Charlie puts up posters with religious texts etc. If there is no other space for a notice of an event or activity, then his posters can be taken down and should be put safely in the Church Office.

#### **Banners**

Banners can be displayed on the outside of the church building. There are design, cost and practical implications. If you wish to consider a banner please discuss first with either:- Struan McRoberts [struan@young-crown.co.uk](mailto:struan@young-crown.co.uk) David Crippin [dcrip01@gmail.com](mailto:dcrip01@gmail.com)

#### **Out of date material**

Once an event has passed, please remove the publicity from the Wayside Pulpit, Website etc. Consider a report or news item in the Newsletter, website and/or Facebook page with photos if appropriate.

## Welcome Team

<b>June 5th</b>	Heather Beck, Margo Tuley, Irene Whyte, Janet MacPherson
<b>June 12th</b>	Heather Beck, Helen Boynton, Jane Smith, Irene Whyte
<b>June 19th</b>	Richard & Eileen Ardern, Helen Boynton, Irene Whyte
<b>June 26th</b>	Richard & Eileen Ardern, Margo Tuley, Irene Whyte

**As restrictions are easing and we look forward to enjoying our newly re-furnished 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 June and especially July.**

## Readers

<b>June 5th</b>	Brian Macgill
<b>June 12th</b>	Jane Smith
<b>June 19th</b>	Linda Moncur
<b>June 26th</b>	Edie McRoberts
<b>July 3rd</b>	Charles Gallacher

# **NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY**

## **Baptisms**

Addison Esmee Macleod and Saoirse Faith Macleod, 15th May 2022

## **Deaths**

Mr John MacLean, Leys Drive, 17 May 2022

**Items for the July/August newsletter by Sunday 26th June 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)**

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**Minister** Rev Douglas Robertson, 39 Southside Road, 07547976054

drrobertson@churchofscotland.org.uk

**Crown Church Office:** office@crowns-church.co.uk

**Session Clerk** Bob Forrest: sessionclerk@crowns-church.co.uk

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