



# KIRKWALL EAST LINKED WITH SHAPINSAY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

## March 2021



### Invitation to Communion On Sunday 7 March 2021

A Communion Service will be held online at our Facebook page 'Kirkwall East linked with Shapinsay' and our YouTube channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Yg\\_uFSQsU7UWDC2SSnyCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Yg_uFSQsU7UWDC2SSnyCA)

Please join us to share in the Lord's Supper  
Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at this table.

If you have a friend or family member who would like to receive communion please extend this invitation to them. They do not have to be a member of Kirkwall East, Shapinsay or of any other church.

(you will receive communion in your home in bread and wine/juice which you had prepared)



*Then Jesus declared,  
"I am the bread of life.*

*Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty". St John 6:35*

Dear all,

Spring outside certainly gladdens the heart! The days are getting longer, there is better weather (or so we hope!). In the church calendar we are moving through Lent to the brightest festival which is absolutely foundational for Christianity—Easter. We won't get there until April but the Holy Week will begin this month already. We will be taking part in the ecumenical services brought to us by the Kirkwall Council of Churches plus we're going to have our own **Maundy Thursday communion service** at 7 pm on the 1st April. To join it, you can do so either via Zoom or over the phone. The details are below:

Kirkwall East Church linked with Shapinsay Church of Scotland is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95996095632>

Meeting ID: 959 9609 5632

Dial by your location: +44 208 080 6591 United Kingdom

We hope you can join us.



We hope all of us will be well and healthy but if for any reason this is not the case, I would like to let you all know that even though a patient in the **Balfour Hospital** is only allowed one designated visitor, if you ask the staff, I will be able to come and visit you there too in addition to your relative. This can only happen if you expressly ask for me though. Please bear this in mind if you fall ill and need to stay in the hospital.

Every blessing for the month of March!

**Rev Julia Meason, 874789, [jmeason@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jmeason@churchofscotland.org.uk)**



## EASTER WITH TRAIDCRAFT

The Traidcraft Spring catalogue is now available on line. Should you wish to use a hard copy please let Beryl Matthews know (873378).

The catalogue is full of lovely products from food and drink to fashion, to things for the home including cleaning products and also items relating to Easter. All the products have Trade Justice, Social Justice and Environmental Justice at their heart.

There is an array of competitively priced Easter cards as well as an assortment of Easter eggs beginning at £5.00 for a Meaningful Easter Egg which comes with a 24 page Easter story-activity book. There is even a prize competition worth £200 inside the egg. To place an order (with free delivery) please contact Beryl by 19th March at the very latest. Alternatively place an order direct with Traidcraft. Orders over £50.00 delivered free of charge.



Collect-a-coin for Christian Aid

For some years now we have been giving out tubes of Smarties to folk and encouraging them to collect coins up until Easter to fill their empty tubes for Christian Aid. As we are not able to meet at the moment we'd like to ask people to think about buying a tube or using some other little container to collect donations in. Looking further ahead this year, e-envelopes will again be available in order that people can donate online. Last year the Kirkwall churches raised an amazing £2076 through the Smarties collection and donations. It would be amazing to hope for your support again in these uncertain times. There is more information about Christian Aid Week 2021 here. <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week>







## World Day of Prayer - 5th March 2021

The service this year has been prepared by the women of Vanuatu. There won't be the usual service in Kirkwall this year, but there are services available online:



Starting on Tuesday 23rd February, we're invited to '10 Days of Prayer'. These will be posted on the Scottish World Day of Prayer website and Facebook page every morning. Leaders of 10 denominations in Scotland will be sharing a Thought for the Day focusing on Vanuatu and one of the Scottish Committee will end with a prayer.

There will also be a Zoom Service at 2pm on 5th March - it'll be hosted by Augustine United Church in Edinburgh, with participants from across Scotland. There are joining instructions on the Scottish WDP website, or use the following Zoom link:

ID: 895 9398 3883

Passcode: 901656

If you don't have internet access, you can join using a landline - phone 0131 4601196. You'll be asked for the webinar ID and passcode. (Note that there may be costs involved for this option.)

The service will also be posted on the Scottish WPD website and Facebook page. <http://www.wdpScotland.org.uk/>

You can access our services in any one of four ways:

- \* Through Kirkwall East linked with Shapinsay and Kirkwall Council of Churches Facebook pages where our joint services will be published every Sunday
- \* Through the YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Yg\\_uFSQsU7UWDC2SSnyCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7Yg_uFSQsU7UWDC2SSnyCA) or search for Kirkwall East Church, Shapinsay Church or Moncur Memorial Church.
- \* By dialling 01856 404667 from your phone and listening to the audio recording of the service. You will be charged as you would normally be for a local phone call (and that of course depends on your contract).
- \* By getting a script of the service by e-mail (do contact Julia if you would like that).

### — — — Church Register — — —

Admissions      Kirkwall East  
Jean Ward, 3 Cusiter Close, Kirkwall  
Deaths      Shapinsay  
Kathleen Johnston, Hewan, Shapinsay





**2020 is the year of Scotland's coasts and waters.**

Scotland has a beautiful coastline, offering a variety of seascapes from the wild cliffs that are home to cathedrals of sea birds to flat rolling sandy beaches with mobile dune systems. The coast has always had an important place in Scottish life too, for example Nairn was known as the Riviera of the North and was the must-visit holiday destination for generations from wealthy Victorians to family “staycations,” peaking in the 1970’s. “Going to the beach” has been a highlight of so many childhood memories, days spent making sandcastles on clean sandy beaches.

Marine pollution is now noticeable all along our coastline and also in our rivers. Plastic bottles, cigarette butts, cotton buds, crisp bags and sanitary applicators form the top five pollutants found on beaches. Much of this waste enters the food chain.

Fishing is still an important part of the economy and identity of many coastal communities. However, it is not without controversy - for example, fishing quotas lead to edible fish being returned dead to the sea and overfishing of sandeels has reduced a vital source of food for sea birds. Climate change will bring sea-level rises and more extreme weather, which will affect vulnerable parts of Scotland’s coasts and threaten the very existence of some nations and communities across the world.



### **Conversation Starters:**

Talk about a time when you have enjoyed time at the coast. How does the sea make you feel?

Do you experience connection to God at the seashore?

Have you ever found litter on the beach?

How do you feel about current fishing methods and quotas?



### **Some ideas for actions for the young at heart (And not so young)**

Create an artwork on the theme of pollution of our coasts and seas. Could it be displayed outside your church or meeting place?

Organise a walk by the seashore, a loch or river. Perhaps invite a coastal ranger or sea shepherd to talk to you about all that you can find living on the shoreline.

Hold an open air service or lay out a reflective labyrinth by the shore.

Join an organised beach clean.

Rewrite the Footprints prayer.



### **Bible References**

**John 21:4 and 21:15-17.** What conversations and insights come to you on the threshold of the sea and land?



**Prayer** written by Rev Jenny Adams one of the trustees of Eco-Congregation Scotland.

For all working in the marine environment, for the protection of the marine environment by all people and by politicians, for all communities and nations affected by increasing sea levels due to climate change.

Jesus,

you walked on the shore of Lake Galilee,

at a threshold of land and water.

You loved those who worked at that threshold,

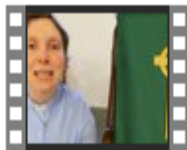
calling them to come,

forgiving them their mistakes,

and sending them to share your love.

## e-Videos for Worship and Messy Church

To follow on from the article in February by ee-organist (I was brought up in Caithness), I feel it might be useful to explain a bit about how the videos for worship and messy church are created each week.



Julia decides on the theme and a plan for the e-Worship and e-Messy each week. She organises the people who have offered to contribute material for the service. As Alan has described in his article, the music is agreed, and he prepares the sound files. Helen and Bill Stevenson prepare the words to be displayed for the hymns. A reader is chosen from the rota and records either an audio file or video with the reading. Likewise, a volunteer from the list of those who have offered to do messy craft, is chosen and records the messy craft. Julia records her own parts of the service and messy church and prepares a script for both services for people who like to read the service. The files created by the contributors are uploaded (sent) to Microsoft Teams where they are available to the video editors for creating the finished article.

Currently, Peter Fay, Neil Gordon and Colin Gunn take it in turns (usually 2 weeks at a time) to join all the parts together to create the finished video.



Apple users tend to use software called iMovie and Windows users are using Video Pad. As with all things computer there are many different programmes available for video editing. Alan did all the video editing as well as the music, for the first 4 months until we got the rota for preparing the video going.



The completed videos are then uploaded to You Tube and Face Book so that they can be viewed from the following Sunday. An audio file of the worship is uploaded to the telephone service so that people who don't use the internet can listen to the service.



Contributions for the videos come from the East Kirk, Shapinsay Church and Moncur Memorial Church Stronsay.

Putting it all together is huge fun and very satisfying. However, the shortcomings in technology and broadband can be very frustrating. In March last year it could take several hours to upload a few minutes of video from the Manse. The Manse broadband was upgraded in the summer and has made a huge difference to the process (and Julia's sanity). Unfortunately, Stronsay and parts of Shapinsay have a very poor broadband service which means people in these areas are limited in their ability to share in creating and watching the videos. There are still wide areas of Orkney where internet connections are poor or not available at all.

Information from You Tube and Facebook suggests that the e-services and e-messy are watched around 150 and 85 times respectively and from as far away as the USA.

Access to public worship in our churches is very limited at present and likely to be for some time to come. When we get back to worshipping in our churches it is hoped we will be able to stream (send out live video at the time of the service) and post up recordings to You Tube and Facebook as we do at present.

The first Facebook video was uploaded on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The first video was uploaded to YouTube for Sunday 31 May 2020. As with a lot of things in our churches when a task is broken down into smaller parts and people take it in turns to do the work it is much easier to sustain. (continued on next page)



If you think you could help or would like to know more about helping in any way, please contact Julia or me.

Colin

colin.gunn@kyrombi.co.uk or 07872998364



**MON 29 - WED 31 MARCH 2021**

**A daily reflection available from 1.15pm on the Kirkwall Council of Churches Facebook page, led by a different denomination each day.**

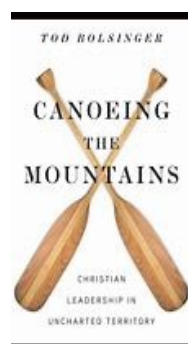
**GOOD FRIDAY, 2 APRIL 2021**

**To replace the Walk of Witness, from 12pm there will be a short reflection from each of Kirkwall's eight churches on the Facebook page.**



## Faith Quest

A group has been meeting to consider Tod Bolsinger's 'Canoeing the Mountains'. It is such a rich and worthwhile book that we are going through it chapter by chapter. At the end of March, we will look at chapter 8 of the book, entitled "MY ITALIAN GRANDFATHER WAS KILLING ME". We are going to look at relationships the culture of a church which can be either positive or destructive. If you would like to join us, please do get in touch with Julia.



If you have a device (tablet phone or computer) with a camera and microphone but are not sure about connecting to Zoom, please let me know. I can set up a practice session and talk you through it. If you are not sure what your device is capable of doing you can phone and I will help, if I can.

Colin 07872 998 364

## East Kirk Guild. March 2021

Hello ladies ( & any gentlemen reading this)

As I have chaired our AGM for the last eight years or so, I thought I would take it upon myself to do it once more!! I would like to share Isaiah chapter 40 : verse 31  
“ But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary., they will walk and not be faint.”



This session 2020-2021 has been somewhat different - in as much as it has never happened! There is no Secretary's Report nor Treasurer's Report. I would like to say thank you to you all for the payment of subscriptions and for the lovely notes received. Thanks to our treasurer, Anne Findlay, for attending to the necessary banking and paperwork.

In spite of lockdown, the project totals are amazing and listed below:

Crossreach.	£96,602.45
Sailors' Society.	£71,286.22
The Boys' Brigade.	£88,362.84
World Mission ( Zambia).	£73,671.37
Malawi Fruits.	£78,910.84
The Free to Live Trust.	£90,018.43
Total :	£499,058.25

I would like to thank Dorothy for continuing to make sure that folk are thought of by sending cards.

Orkney Guilds Together have held two Zoom meetings which have been very worthwhile. They have been completely informal but, more important, a means to remind ourselves that we still exist. Thanks to Julia and Colin for helping with this - I knew I would have to shout help when I tried to set up the meeting by myself!

Who knows where we will be with restrictions and social distancing come another September. As always it will come round quickly. With vaccines now being rolled out at least we have hope. The new strategy for the next three Guild years is “ Look forward in faith” I very much look forward to seeing you all whenever it becomes possible.

Lillian

An Irish blessing:

May the road rise to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
May the rain fall soft upon your fields,  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.