

Newsletter

Crown Church, Inverness

March 2018: No. 737

Interim Moderator: Rev Duncan MacPherson



WORSHIP SERVICES

All people, of any age, are warmly invited to participate at all of our services
We have “Treasure Seekers”, age-related fun and learning activity for children every
Sunday at 11.

**Sunday 4th March The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper: at 9.30, 11 am and
3 pm also Thanksgiving Worship at 6.30 pm (with monthly Special Prayers)**

Sunday 11th March Morning Worship at 9.30 and 11 am

Sunday 18th March Morning Worship at 9.30 and 11 am

Sunday 25th March Morning Worship at 9.30 and 11 am

**Sunday 1st April Morning Worship at 9.30 and 11am (with monthly Special
Prayers after the 11am service)**

Also prayers every Friday – remembering people by name.

**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
Christ Jesus.**

Philippians 4: vs 6 and 7

What happens next at Crown Church

Having said our goodbyes to Peter and Brigid and hearing that Peter has now been preached-in at Airdrie, we await a formal permission from Inverness Presbytery to search for another minister.

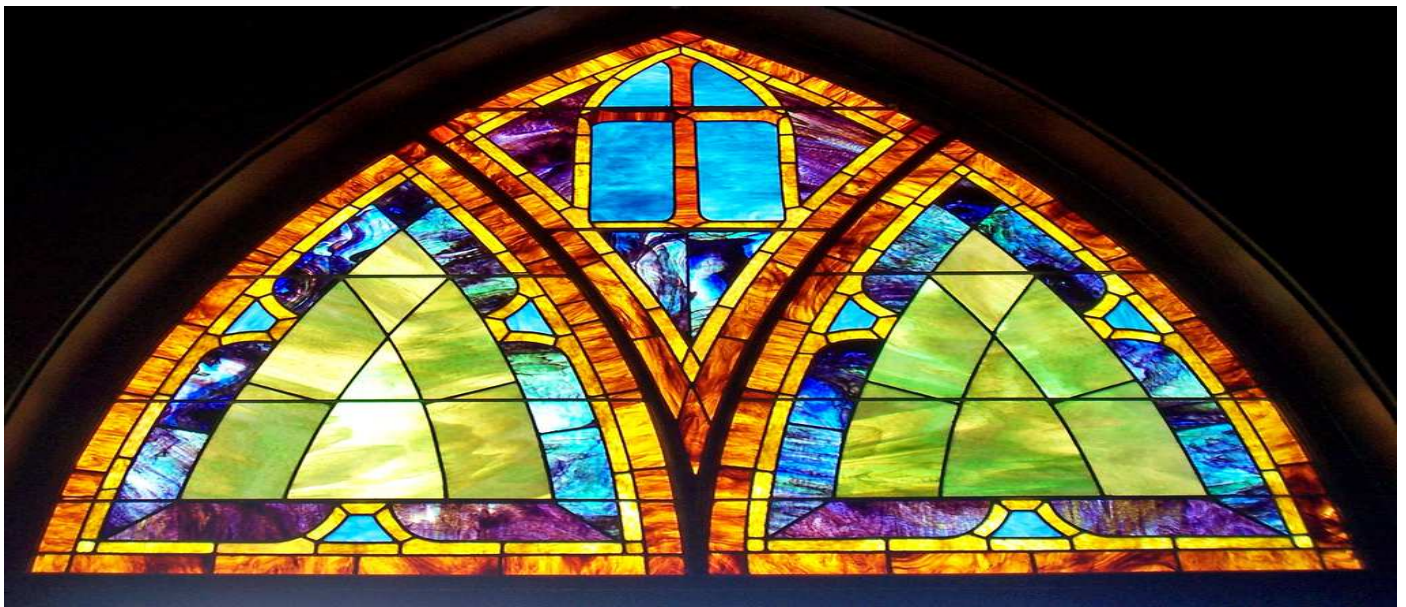
We know that Presbytery has named the Rev Duncan Macpherson, Minister at Hilton Church, to be our Interim Moderator. The Interim Moderator carries the rights and responsibilities of an incumbent minister. He will expect and should receive full support from the Elders, office bearers and members in the Church. At Crown we have a tradition of being well organised and approach our vacancy with confidence so we hope that Duncan need only exert a 'light touch' and can look forward to chairing our Kirk Session meetings.

There are a number of formal steps to be taken during a vacancy: preparing a Parish Profile; attesting a congregational voters roll; electing a 'Nominating Committee' (formerly known as 'Vacancy Committee') which will be responsible for looking for and recommending to the congregation an individual to preach as sole nominee, and so on. At each stage our local Presbytery will both advise and approve actions being taken by Crown Church.

We have a strong worship team at Crown and Sunday by Sunday we will involve a variety of pulpit supply at both the first and second services as well as at the intermittent series of evening services. It is hoped that Kirk Session will consider appointing a 'locum' minister which will have the benefit of maintaining a sense of continuity both in the pulpit and in pastoral visiting.

The Church office continues to operate as usual; please note that Gloria is willing to pass on news about anyone taken seriously ill, hospitalised or recovering at home. A volunteer is sought to act as sick roll keeper during the vacancy.

SBD Macgill, Session Clerk



The MacGilp Window

The meeting of the Congregation after worship on 11th February strongly favoured undertaking full conservation of the window as recommended by the artist in stained glass. The meeting also agreed that the work should proceed without delay so that it can be accomplished during the period of vacancy. Feelings about obtaining a second quote were mixed so it has been agreed that a second one should be obtained. The total cost of the conservation will be around £70,000.

The team looking after this project currently consists of Bill Mein (Board chairman), the three members of the fabric committee (David MacLellan, David Mackenzie and Gordon Cameron) and Donald Mackenzie (church treasurer) with advice from Donald Morrison and John Finlayson. We would like to have anyone with experience of organising a project of this nature or of aspects of it (such as obtaining grants and fund raising) join the team. Our most urgent need is for a small group to tackle fund raising. Please phone Bill Mein or contact any member of the team if you feel you can help.

Whilst the sums involved seem daunting, we are hopeful that at least half can be raised from grants. We would need to show that we can raise much of the balance. To put the task in perspective, we could say that if 200 of our members and adherents donated £100 each over the year ahead we would raise £20,000.

Bill Mein

Volunteers Needed!!

We are looking for help in a number of areas of the work of the Congregational Board. In particular, there is a need for help in setting the heating programme for the church week to week (contact Eddie Adie and help with counting the collection on Sundays (contact our Treasurer Donald MacKenzie). After several years of keeping the minutes of meetings and other records of the Congregational Board, Judith Macleod wishes to step down as our Clerk. If you wish more information or to volunteer, contact Judith MacLeod. Finally, we will be looking for new members to join the Congregational Board in April; members usually serve for three years at a time. Please find time to join the Board. **Bill Mein**

Guild Report

February has been a busy month for the Guild. Our main fundraising event, a Soup and Pudding Lunch, was held on the 3rd. This raised about £350 for our projects. We would like to thank everyone who supported this venture.

On the 6th, Ramsay MacGhee entertained us with a musical quiz. With over 30 questions it certainly exercised our brains and memories. A good fun night.

The annual inter-guild quiz was held in our church hall this year. Other Guilds from the Presbytery attended but our own Guild was once again successful as they won the competition.

The last meeting of the month was a return visit from Maureen Kenyon with photos and films from earlier times in Inverness. For those of us raised in Inverness these brought back many memories and for others a glimpse of what Inverness looked like in the past and showing just how much it has changed over the years.

Surprisingly we only have two more meetings this year....the Haiti Project with Fiona Dolan from Mission International and our AGM when Janet Fraser will do flower arranging.

As usual we encourage anyone in the congregation to come along to our meetings where they will be made most welcome and enjoy a very warm fellowship.

Dorothy Mein

Guild Correspondent



Highland Foodbank

The need for donations for the Foodbank is as urgent as ever. The Foodbank is short of the following items: tinned mince/stew/ham, UHT milk and tins of custard. There is a continuing need for essential toilet-ries, feminine products and toilet rolls and chocolate.



LIFE AND WORK

MARCH 2018

The Church of Scotland and Brexit

How the Church, at home and abroad, is preparing for Britain's exit from the European Union

'There are just so many questions': a Church elder based in Brussels talks about her concerns for the future in post-Brexit Europe

A Divine Gift

The Very Rev Dr James Simpson reflects on the benefits of humour

Faith and Frankenstein

The Rev David McCarthy reflects on the Christian messages of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, first published 200 years ago this year

Not posturing, but justice

Ron Ferguson considers the deeper messages of Lent

Words Matter

The Rt Rev Dr Derek Browning emphasises the importance of free speech and silence

The End of the Road

In the last of his series on people on the move in the Bible, the Rev Richard Baxter asks whether a journey's end is really a new beginning

Climate change is a 'moral issue'

A Zambian minister's message to the developed world

Handling the Holy Word

The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers considers one of the sensitive touchstones of Church life

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

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SPECIAL OFFER

Life and Work readers receive a 10% discount on Saint Andrew Press books, resources and stationery.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

On a crisp February morning a group of eager, and some anxious, travellers arrived at Aberdeen Airport to begin a journey faith and discovery - a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Our group consisted of seventeen Scots, four Sri Lankans, and a Canadian - and thanks to Lesley McRoberts' thorough group counts, we made sure no one was ever left behind. On arrival in the Holy Land, we quickly bonded with our very knowledgeable tour guide Na'el, and fearless bus driver Paulus; who ensured that we were able to safely visit the Holy sites on our itinerary (which included sites in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Galilee, and more).

Throughout the trip we were reminded of the significance of each site through Bible readings and acts of worship, expertly put together by our group leader Doug McRoberts, and every member of the group was encouraged to become involved. Fellowship was continuous throughout our journey: while travelling, eating, and resting. This created a great atmosphere in which our Christian faith could grow.

Each group member will be sharing their highlights and insights of the pilgrimage in the next issue of the newsletter, but for the time-being here is a link to some photographs taken by myself:

<https://1drv.ms/f/s!AtZO3NQu-H0CnzwjAC0qI0zEa3BE>

Gordon Cameron

Gordon's photograph of the Garden of Gethsemane below



Gordon's
photograph of
the Sea of Galilee



The Rev. Heidi Hercus

Heidi was ordained and inducted as Minister at Ullapool Church on Saturday 24th February. A number of Crown members attended her induction which was followed on Sunday by Heidi's being preached in by Peter. Our heartfelt congratulations to Heidi!

CROSSREACH

COMPETITION

CrossReach will print the winning entry as a card and sell it through the CrossReach Christmas Card & Calendar Collection 2018 catalogue and website. The Winner will receive a certificate and a supply of their winning design as printed Christmas Cards.

The card must be an original design

Submit your card design on a sheet of paper/card no larger than A3 size
Computer generated designs must be original and printed out as a hard copy

Avoid textures, 3D effects or metallic colours, which can be difficult to reproduce in print

You can suggest a Greeting and/or Bible verse for your design

Please enclose an appropriate stamped addressed envelope if you wish your design(s) returned to you

The competition is open to all supporters of CrossReach of any age.

Remember to write the name of the person or group who designed the card, age (if age 16 or under) and a contact person's name, address and telephone number on the back of each entry.

While copyright of all entries remains with the entrants, by submitting an entry, each entrant agrees to grant an irrevocable, perpetual and worldwide licence to CrossReach Trading Ltd to use it for the purpose of their Christmas cards and any promotional material connected to that.

Closing date: Tuesday 3rd April 2018

Send your entry to:

Christmas Card Competition

CrossReach, 47 Milton Road East,

Edinburgh, EH15 2SR

The Church of Scotland Social Care Council



CrossReach Information Sheet

'Groundbreaking' Campus in Erskine

CrossReach has announced ambitious plans to open a 'first class' education campus in Renfrewshire. The new development in Erskine will provide a high standard of education for around 30 looked after children, aged 8-16 years. The campus is being delivered by Portakabin Scotland and comprises of modular buildings, which will be built off-site and craned into position in April. CrossReach Chief Executive Viv Dickenson, who broke the ground at the site at Erskine Waterfront to formally start the building work said: "This is an exciting day for CrossReach as work commences on our new education campus. Our existing staff team and their pupils are looking forward to moving into bright, modern classrooms containing all the facilities they need to make it a first class learning environment. We have been delighted with the welcome already extended by the local community and look forward to building on the good relationships already in place as we develop the outdoor areas and explore ways of working together." CrossReach has been providing residential care and education for children, who for various reasons cannot live with their families, for more than 25 years. Over the last four years, there has been a move away from CrossReach's larger care and education provisions at Geilsland School in Beith and Ballikinrain School near Balfroun to a model of smaller community houses, which will be clustered round a central education hub. CrossReach is leasing the ground from Renfrewshire Council and expects to take possession of the campus at the end of May. The existing education team and pupils will move from their current base in Ballikinrain to the Erskine site in August for the start of the new school year.

New research undertaken by CrossReach Counselling

Head of Service (Children and Family) Jacqui Lindsay and Anne Goldie, manager of the Tom Allan Centre in Glasgow, recently undertook some research into the outcomes from the counselling which CrossReach offers. This research is currently featured at MissionBox - a global online and connection hub for non-profit organisations and charities. Both Jacqui and Anne found the research 'energising and exciting', and there were some surprises in the results. For example, a client aged seventy, was finally able to move on with her life to the extent that, from living a very limited life that had always been shadowed by severe depression, she was able to travel to the developing world and work with children in an orphanage. To read the adaptation of Jacqui and Anne's work, please use this link: bit.ly/CrossReachResearchMB

Heart for Art Exhibition

Members of Heart for Art's Edinburgh group recently held an exhibition of their artwork in the Charteris Centre in the Pleasance. The participants, all of whom have dementia, meet fortnightly in the former Kirk O'Field Church which is now a 'centre for community' with halls, meeting rooms and office space. Hazel, who has been coming to the the class for 18 months, said: "The group has given me the chance to be somebody, even if it's just a little somebody, but it's a better than a nothing somebody." Hazel originally discovered the group through attending an I.T. workshop at Charteris Centre as Heart for Art project worker Laura Macleod explained: "When the space was being set up for our group she enquired what it was and has been coming ever since. Hazel is a wonderful character and is fabulous at sharing stories and uses her artwork as a snapshot of these stories. She enjoys the company and has found a real home at Heart for Art." You can watch a video of Hazel and her paintings at:

www.facebook.com/CrossReach1869

February 2018

www.crossreach.org.uk

Daily Bible Readings for March/April

March 4, 2018

Sunday, John 18:12-27, Peter's Denial
Monday, John 11:45-57, The Plot to Kill Jesus
Tuesday, John 12:1-8, Mary Anoints Jesus
Wednesday, John 12:9-11, The Plot to Kill Lazarus
Thursday, John 12:12-19, Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem
Friday, John 12:20-26, Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus
Saturday, John 12:27-35, Jesus Speaks about His Death

March 11, 2018

Sunday, John 18:28-40, Jesus and Pilate
Monday, John 12:36-43, The Unbelief of the People
Tuesday, John 12:44-50, Summary of Jesus' Teaching
Wednesday, John 13:18-30, Jesus Foretells His Betrayal
Thursday, John 13:31-35, The New Commandment
Friday, John 13:36-38, Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial
Saturday, John 14:1-14, Jesus the Way to the Father

March 18, 2018

Sunday, John 19:1-16a, Jesus Condemned
Monday, John 14:15-31, The Promise of the Holy Spirit
Tuesday, John 15:1-17, Jesus the True Vine
Wednesday, John 15:18—6:4a, The World's Hatred
Thursday, John 16:4b-15, The Work of the Spirit
Friday, John 16:16-24, Sorrow Will Turn into Joy
Saturday, John 16:25-33, Peace for the Disciples

March 25, 2018

Sunday, John 19:16b-22, The Crucified Messiah
Monday, John 17:1-19, Jesus Prays for His Disciples
Tuesday, John 17:20-26, Jesus Prays for His Disciples
Wednesday, John 18:1-11, The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus
Thursday, John 19:23-30, Jesus' Last Words
Friday, John 19:31-37, Jesus the Passover Lamb
Saturday, John 19:38-42, Passover Lamb

April 1, 2018

Sunday, John 20:1-18, Resurrection
Monday, John 21:1-14, Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples
Tuesday, John 21:15-19, Jesus and Peter
Wednesday, John 21:20-25, Jesus and the Beloved Disciple,
Thursday, Acts 5:1-11, Ananias and Sapphira
Friday, Acts 5:12-16, The Apostles Heal Many
Saturday, Acts 5:17-42, The Apostles Are Persecuted

CONTACTS

INTERIM MODERATOR	Rev Duncan MacPherson
OLM ASSISTANT	Rev Morven Archer,
YOUTH WORKER	Struan McRoberts,
SESSION CLERK	Brian Macgill,
ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER	
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPT	Patricia MS Crippin,
BOARD CHAIRMAN	Bill Mein,
CLERK TO BOARD	Judith Macleod,
TREASURER	Donald MacKenzie,
FREEWILL OFFERINGS	Robert Shanks,
GIFT AID TREASURER	Robert Hendry,
CHURCH SECRETARY	Gloria Mackintosh, Church Office 231140 office@crown-church.co.uk
SAFEGUARDING	Lynn Forbes,
FACILITIES -CONVENER	Gordon Cameron, David MacLellan,
HALLS BOOKINGS	Irene Whyte,
CARETAKER	Eilidh Ross,
GUILD SECRETARY	Adrienne Adie,
LADY VISITORS	Jane Wilson,
FLOWERS CONVENER	Ruby Coe,
NEWSLETTER EDITORS	Bob & M Forrest
CHURCH OFFICE	Crown Church Tues-Fri (9.30-12.00) 231140 office@crown-church.co.uk
WEBSITE	www.crown-church.co.uk

Mar	Readers	Creche	Coffee
4	Communion	Helen Grant & Kay MacDonald	Communion
11	Craig Fraser	Irene Munro & Rhona MacKenzie	Marion Barbour, Seonaid MacLellan, Mary Ann Buchanan
18	Kelsey Barbour	Marjory MacKenzie & Muriel Choppy	Mairi Main, Eleanor Ross, Janet MacPherson
25	Duncan Macknight	Helen Grant & Jane Smith	Lena Clarke, Isabelle MacKenzie, Alison Caird
Apr			
1	Rachel Macgill	Irene Munro & Kay MacDonald	Eileen Ardern, Kimm Currie

<p>March Count Team</p> <p>Liz Gray Bruce Merchant, Douglas Taylor, Margot Tuley</p> <p>April Count Team</p> <p>Liz Forbes Marion & John Barbour, Mairi Main, Kay MacDonald</p>

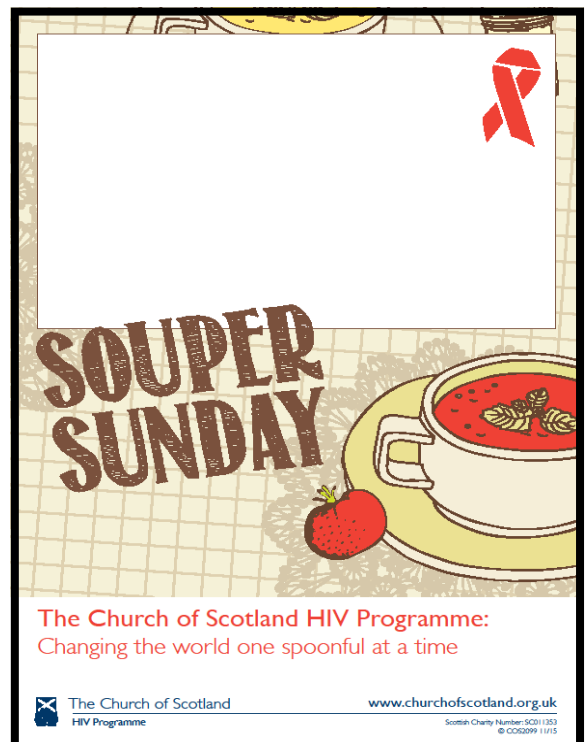
<p>March Welcome Team</p> <p><i>North Door</i> Doug & Lesley McRoberts <i>South Door</i> Calum Macleod & Bill Mein <i>Midmills North</i> Janet MacPherson <i>Midmills South</i> Alison Harbison</p> <p>March Welcome Team</p> <p><i>North Door</i> Anne Bowen & Lily Baillie <i>South Door</i> Ruby Coe & Adrienne Munro <i>Midmills North</i> Colin Baillie <i>Midmills South</i> Mary Ann Buchanan</p>
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NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

DEATHS

Mrs Agnes Ross, on 17 January
Graham Cooper, on 10 February
Mrs Violet MacLeod, on 10 February

A huge thank you to all those who supported Souper Sunday on 18th February. A total of £390 (including Gift Aid) was raised for Church of Scotland HIV projects



The copy deadline for the April newsletter will be Sunday 31st March

Contributions should be sent to the Forrests
or left in the 'F' pigeonhole.

Please note that the newsletter can also be accessed via the church website where you will be able to see the photographs in colour.

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The Church website is to be found at www.crown-church.co.uk**