# STRATH & SLEAT Church of Scotland

# newsletter July 2020

serve our community in Jesus' name, truth and grace." and enjoy God, proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, strengthen one another in our spiritual life, and influence our world through prayer, witness, 'Our purpose is to honour

**Mission Statement** 

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"



Matthew 28:19

The other night at the Kilmore Bible Study someone suggested that every Christian (ie not just ministers and evangelists) should be able to share the Gospel and give an account of their own testimony (how they came to believe and how their faith continues to affect their life). This was music to my ears, as one of my ambitions for 2020 is that every member of Strath & Sleat should be so equipped. In this month's newsletter, you will find my attempt to describe what we all need to know to be faithful to the call of Jesus to "be his 1. 8) and to "make disciples" witnesses" (Acts (Matthew 28.19). I have never asked you to do this before but please would you read my article in the hearing of every believer in your home? Then discuss it and, if appropriate, let me know what you think.

Your Minister and friend, Rory MacLeod

Need prayer or someone to pray with you?
Email Mary Fennell <u>prayercoordinator1995@gmail.com</u>

**Need to talk? Questions about the Christian faith**Contact the minister, who will find the right person to speak to you. Details are on the back page.

Strath & Sleat Church: Isle of Skye is a Charity registered in Scotland No SC001285

Website www.sschurch.co.uk

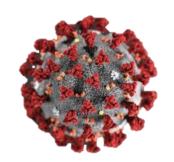
Notices lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk

# CORONAVIRUS PROCEDURES

### **Church Provision**

### Summer 2020

Due to the Coronavirus, all planned group activities have been cancelled to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We are meeting through Zoom, putting up daily blogs on the website, and updating facebook regularly. We will try to keep people updated on each church through e-mail. If you currently do not get church e-mails,



please let us know so that we can add you to the list. E-mail <a href="Lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk">Lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk</a> to get added onto the Broadford/Kyleakin/Elgol lists, or <a href="strathandsleat@gmail.com">strathandsleat@gmail.com</a> for the Kilmore list.

If you are not on the internet, please let us know, and we will maintain contact through telephone. You can still join the Zoom LIVE BY RINGING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS JUST BEFORE THE START OF THE SERVICE — enter the ID number and password when prompted (and remember to only 'un-mute' your phone if you are asked to)

0131 460 1196 OR 0203 481 5237 OR 0203 481 5240

11am Morning Worship: Meeting ID: 173 461 111 Password: 458436

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**3pm Gaelic service** (1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays): ID:995750933 ,601375

3pm Fig Sunday Gathering (2nd and 4th Sundays): Meeting ID: 746 821 9967

6pm Fellowship: Meeting ID: 660 693 462 & Password: 389583

### What about my weekly offering?

**Thanks to all** who continue to or have started giving through standing order, and we ask that you **continue to do so**. If you previously donated by weekly envelope / open plate we now encourage each of you to consider setting up a Standing Order. Our outgoings will continue as before so it is imperative that church giving continues, if at all possible. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND at this time that a lot of people may be affected by current economic climate, so we ask that you **give what you can**.

The bank details you will need are Strath & Sleat Church of Scotland

Sort code: **80-05-83** Account number: **00930508** 



First my heartfelt thanks for established and new Standing Orders, cheques in the post directly to me and weekly envelopes directly to our church cashiers (or any variations of these methods of giving). Your continued faithfulness is essential during this unprecedented situation to maintain our Parish finances and offset essential expenditure which does not go away even while our buildings are closed.

While talking to some of you on the telephone I've become aware of your difficulty contacting your bank if you don't bank online or want to make one-off payments rather than set up a recurring Standing Order. The national Church of Scotland has now set up an online system which should make things much easier (see link below). If you choose to use this system please click first on **Donate to a Congregation** and then type **Strath & Sleat** in the relevant box. If you choose to Gift Aid your donation on the generic form and you are not already one of our Gift Aiders please let me know at mfmacrae@aol.com so that I can send you the correct form (or print one from our website).

Also hoping and praying that those I have not heard from so far will treat this as a well-meaning and helpful prompt. Please e-mail or phone me if you are not able to donate online or set up a standing order, but would like to give.

Yours very sincerely

Margaret F Macrae

The new online donation system at <a href="https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/?cong=422304">https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/donate/?cong=422304</a>

### Donate to the Church - Church of Scotland

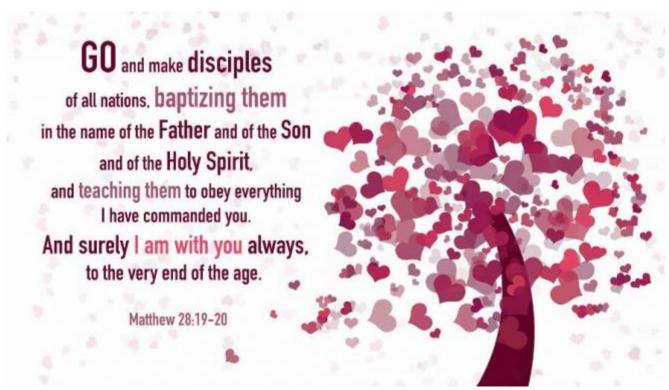
Donate to the Church. The impact of the global pandemic Coronavirus has forced us to close our church buildings and stop many of our usual activities, but the vital work of the Church goes on and is needed now, more than ever.

cos.churchofscotland.org.uk



# **QUTREACH: 'A CALL FOR ALL'**

As mentioned in the introduction, my objective for 2020 is to equip every member of Strath & Sleat to share the Gospel and give an account of their own testimony. So here is what I believe we all need to know to be faithful to the call of Jesus to "be his witnesses" (Acts 1. 8) and to "make disciples" (Matthew 28.19). As I begin, let me apologise if you find the bracketed Scripture references intrusive but everything I shall quote comes from the Bible and I want you to have easy access to its source.



There are two elements to faithful Christian outreach: one is an ability to present the whole Gospel in a nutshell and the other is the readiness to describe how one's own story fits in. Some may think that re-articulating the Gospel for seasoned Christians is like teaching grandma to suck eggs, while others will be horrified at the idea that they are expected to step up and speak out. Let's just say this is about bringing us all onto the same page and developing abilities which will enrich our lives in general and our faith in particular, while enabling us to share what is most precious with those who are nearest and dearest. So bear with me and read this letter with your loved ones, then discuss it and, if appropriate, let me know what you think.

The Gospel is the story of how God made and then rescued the world and how one day he will restore the original goodness of creation, making it even better than before. One way that people have found helpful in getting their heads around the bigger picture and remembering how it unfolds is to think of the grand narrative of the Bible as a drama in 6 acts.

Act 1 describes how God made the world culminating in human-beings, whose special responsibility was to be caretakers of creation. Act 2 explains how it all went horribly wrong when our ancestors, Adam and Eve, abused that trust and the whole of creation suffered the consequences. To limit the damage, God introduced many restrictions - even to life itself. In Act 3 God initiates a rescue plan, beginning with one man, Abraham, through whose descendants God creates a nation – with a mission. That mission was not to be bigger or better than any other nation but to be different, to show everyone else what living under God looks like. Israel failed but, through Israel, God himself came into the world.

Act 4 is about Jesus. Being born of a woman through the power of the Holy Spirit is the basis for our belief that he was both God and man. Despite being subject to the same weaknesses and temptations as we are, Jesus lived a perfect life and so he was able to offer that life as a sufficient sacrifice to pay for the sins of the whole world. On the instigation of the Jewish authorities he was killed on a cross by the Romans. But death is the consequence of sin and because Jesus never sinned he could not remain dead. On the third day, Jesus rose in the power of the Holy Spirit as the first-born of a new order of creation. After showing convincing proofs that he was physically alive again to more than 500 believers, Jesus ascended to heaven, promising to return at an unspecified time. Act 6 looks into the future when Jesus returns, holds everyone to account for their lives and establishes the New Creation, not by abolishing the Old



Creation but by bringing heaven to earth. At last everything is as it should be and better than we can imagine.

Acts 1-4 are about the past and Act 6 is about the future, that leaves Act 5, which is about the present age in which we find ourselves. It is called the "Age of Grace" because, instead of

condemning us for all the bad things we have done, God is offering the free gift of forgiveness and new life to everyone who embraces Jesus as Saviour and Lord. Furthermore, we are promised God's Holy Spirit to be our constant companion and guide, enabling us to do what we could never manage on our own. During this era we are free to write our own script, in the awareness that God's will shall still be accomplished in the future as it was in the past.

So what convinces you to consider yourself a Christian? The answer to that question is the means by which faith is passed from one generation to the next. That is why is it important that we all play our part. Rather than use my own story as if it were worthy of imitation, let me offer you two examples from the Bible which illustrate the two ends of the testimony spectrum, with the likelihood that most our stories are somewhere in between. At one end is the account of the disciples on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24. 13-35). God was there all along and they didn't realise - until they looked back! At the other end is Paul's Road to Damascus experience (Acts 9), where he meets the Lord out of the blue in a dramatic encounter which transforms his life in an instant. Both examples are valid, as are all variations in between. What counts is that you now know the Lord and have put your trust in him, confessing your sins and receiving his new life. So what is your story? It may be dramatic but it doesn't have to be. Often the most effective stories are the most ordinary. What matters is that it is a faithful account of how God has entered your life and the difference He is making.

In closing and for inspiration, I offer three stories from the Bible which demonstrate how to share the Gospel appropriately and therefore effectively. This is important too because if we are insensitive the chances are we shall be ignored (or worse) and therefore our efforts will be rendered ineffective. But if we can learn to communicate appropriately, then there is no limit to our potential effectiveness. The stories are: Jesus and the Woman at the Well (John 4. 4-26), Philip and the Ethiopian Official (Acts 8. 26-40), and Paul in the Areopagus (Acts 17. 16-34). As you read these stories may the Lord fill your heart, with gratitude to Him and with love for others. My parting prayer is that God would transform Strath & Sleat Church of Scotland into the kind of place where everybody is equipped to share their gifts while also being free to fail, confident in the knowledge that they belong to a supportive community which will always encourage and never judge them.

# HOPE AND FAITH SCHOOL, LUSAKA

I managed to speak to Rosemary, founder and Director of Hope and Faith School, yesterday, 1st July and was able to get an update on the situation there.

Like schools all over the world, Hope and Faith School has been negatively impacted by the covid 19 pandemic. Although Zambia (and Africa in general) has so far not had such a high rate of infection as many other parts of the world, the Government has taken precautionary measures, including closing down all schools in March. The impact of this on children and their families has been massive; not least being the loss of the midday meal, which, for many, was the their only proper meal of the day. Adding to this, due to the effects of the restrictions on economic activity, the casual labour work opportunities, which provides the main income for many of the families, dried up.

Without school, children have largely been left to their own devices. Although the Government did try to provide some educational support online, the vast majority of the families in Ng'ombe do not own a television, never mind a computer on which to access such material. Rosemary is very worried about how all of this will have impacted on the well being of the children and the fall-out they are likely to have to deal with when school does start up again.



However, the situation is improving and about a month ago they were able once again to have 3 year groups back in school with social distancing measures in place. The groups



which were allowed back were grades 7, 9 and 12 - the years which sit the compulsory national exams. They have also unofficially heard that the other children may be allowed back on 1st August and the teachers are busy preparing for that eventuality and the extra help, educational and emotional, the children are likely to need.

Throughout this period, aware of the lack of a financial safety net for their teachers, most of whom have young families, the school has endeavoured to continue to pay the salaries. At the same time, income from fees has almost dried up completely, leaving the school bank account almost empty and without the resources to pay any salaries next month.

However, I was able to reassure Rosemary that our local support group, Friends of Hope and Faith School, would be in a position to send them our regular biannual donation within the next two weeks. It's a wonder you didn't all hear her exclamations of joy on hearing this news and she asked that, on behalf of all the children and staff at the school, I pass on their eternal gratitude.



Our ability to send this life-saving money is due in large part to Portree High School's fundraising venture during lockdown, doing sponsored walking/cycling and we would like to pass on our sincere thanks to all who took part in that and to those who gave sponsorship. It is still possible to make a contribution on givey, or at the Friends of Hope & Faith facebook page:

https://www.givey.com/phsvirtualcycletozambia https://www.facebook.com/friendsofhopeandfaith

Covid-19 also had the effect of cancelling the proposed exchange visits of teachers between Hope and Faith and Portree High Schools that should have taken place this Spring. However, it is hoped they can take place next year. We look forward once again to having that personal contact with our friends from Ng'ombe.



Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back

# WELL-EQUIPPED SPACES IN THE RIGHT PLACES

Change the atmosphere, Build Your kingdom here, We pray

(Rend Collective)

During the last two years the General Assembly has been developing a Radical Action Plan to grow the church nationally. A key part of the plan looks at how we manage, develop and make best use our church buildings. It is a fact that we have too many church buildings and that many of those are not fit for purpose. Earlier in the year, we enjoyed a visit from Presbytery representatives when launching our Kilmore Windows project and we were left in no doubt that there is a real risk in losing our local churches if we do not put them to the best of use. That means more than just church on Sundays and Wednesday evenings.

So having pondered this over the last few months, and with the idea of our "church without walls" during having now become a reality, the Kirk Session has agreed on the following broad plan, essentially to try and secure the future for our buildings, being mindful of key aspects such as local mission, being a visible part of our communities and removing barriers (physical or otherwise) to our church services and worship.

We hope to roll out this plan during the next 12 months, and some work has already begun. There will be additional detail to follow but we wanted to share with you now the main elements that have been agreed in principle:

Live Streaming We have agreed to install modern and hi-tech audio visual, sound, wi-fi and recording systems in Kyleakin, Kilmore and Broadford churches to enable services to continue to be live streamed, even when we return to church. There will be plenty of people who will not yet feel comfortable returning and others who are simply enjoying accessing church from their homes. This system will also provide a streaming service for funeral services which we felt would be very welcome for those unable to attend church. We shall require planning consent for Kilmore, as a listed building, as the work will entail an antenna being fixed to the exterior wall.

**Broadford Church Hall** The Broadford Church Hall has been on many a Kirk Session and Congregational Board agenda over the last 10 years, with many heroic attempts to try and

salvage it in some shape or form. However, as a condemned building the only sensible option now is to demolish it. There are low levels of asbestos which means a specialist team will be required to carry out this work. This will cost a substantial amount of money but it needs to be done; by clearing this site, it will enable possibilities for a new building/space in the future.

**Broadford Church** Broadford Church has been used by a number of groups during the last few years and with increasing demand for a community space, the Session have decided that the church should be transformed into a multi-use space that can be accessed by all. The benefits of such a change would be two-fold:

- More flexibility for the use of the church for services, youth and children's outreach (i.e. Sunday School and Youth Groups could meet at different times of the week) not just on Sundays
- Opening up additional access to the community, who could make use of the hall and would be in close proximity to the public toilets.

The plans currently being drawn up would include removing the pews and replacing them with easy-to-move seating and putting in a new heating system and flooring.

**Elgol Church** Elgol church needs major refurbishment and its physical location has made that a real challenge. While the option of using the Community Hall is there, the congregation feel strongly that they would want to continue using the church as far as it is possible with its rich history and connection to the community. We wish to respect and support them in this as far as it will be possible and safe to do so. We are very grateful to all those in the community and beyond who have in the past and, with kind offers, in the future, been willing to help with maintaining the building to allow services to continue.

**Kilmore Windows Project** And finally, the Kilmore windows project which is getting close to the sum required to replace all windows, will hopefully begin soon. We are finalising the contract with Compass and our aim is to get the work started before church returns to normal so that when we do go back, later in the year, the church will be double-glazed, warm and dry for winter!

A huge thank you to all of you who have supported, engaged with and contributed to project ideas, missional and outreach opportunities, funding and building work/maintenance. We know that any major plans will attract a range of views, but we would be happy to hear from you either way- email or send a letter to Nicola Thomson, Rònaigh, 14 Camuscross, Isleornsay, Isle of Skye, IV43 8QS.





strathandsleat@gmail.com

BUILD YOUR KINGDOM LORD!

# COOL ONLINE HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

We are so disappointed that we cannot run our usual Holiday Bible Clubs this year but fear not, there is a fantastic opportunity for your children to be involved in our online Holiday Bible Club. There will be a short video featuring some of the children's favourite local faces and supporting resources which include colouring pages, challenges, crafts and more.



These will be made available every Sunday at 4pm, starting from Sunday 5th July 2020, for you to decide when best suits you and your children to join in together during the week ahead. There will also be an opportunity for you to post photos and videos of your children taking part, and for them to see how others are getting on.

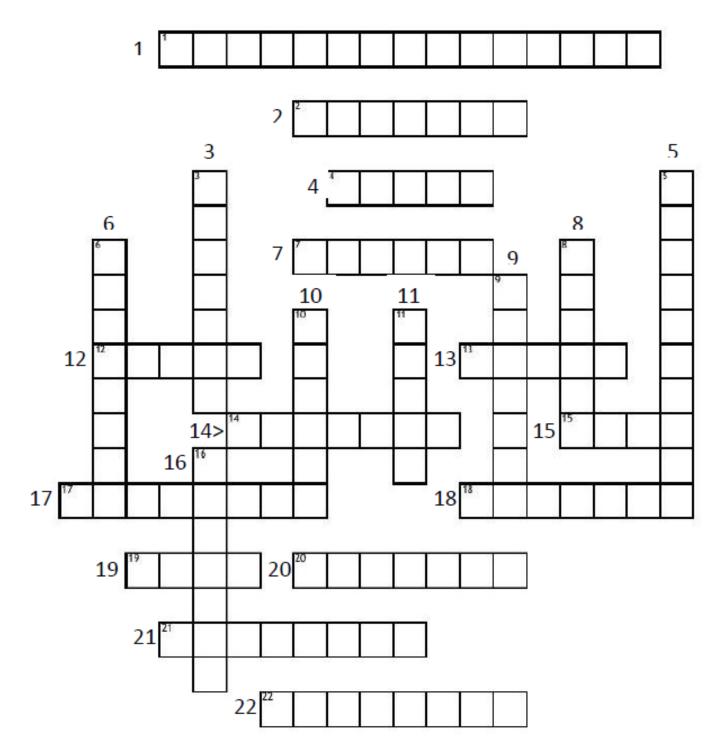
To register for the club, and receive the videos and resources, please complete the online form by using the link, <a href="form.jotform.com/Timmy\_COOL/onlinehbc">form.jotform.com/Timmy\_COOL/onlinehbc</a>





# EARLY CHURCH CROSSWORD

The Book of Acts tells about the early years of the Christian church. All the answers to the crossword come from chapters 1-9 – that can be your reading for the next week!! The clues are on the next page This Month's crossword



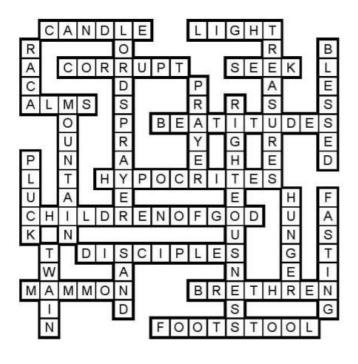
### **Across**

- 1. Who did Philip meet on the road to Damascus?
- 2. Who placed his hand on Saul and the scales fell off his eyes?
- 4. Who was a sorcerer in Samaria but became a believer and was baptized
- 7. Which of Jesus' followers went to Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah?
- 12. Who healed the lame man at the temple gate Beautiful?
- 13. Who explained to the Jews in Jerusalem why the apostles were speaking in tongues?
- 14. Who was one of the seven men chosen to serve who was from Antioch?
- 15. Who persecuted and tried to destroy the church?
- 17. Who was chosen to replace Judas as an apostle?
- **18.** Who is the husband who sold a field but lied about giving all the money to the apostles?
- 19. Who was blinded by a bright light?
- 20. Who was the disciple in Joppa who died but was healed by Peter?
- 21. Who brought Saul to the apostles?
- 22. Who is the Pharisee who spoke to the Sanhedrin about releasing the apostles?

### Down

- 3. Who was the first of seven me chosen to serve the widows of the church?
- 5. To whom is the book of Acts addressed?
- 6. Who was the wife who lied about how much money she gave to the apostles and died?
- 8. Who was the paralyzed man in Lydda who was healed?
- 9. Who called the Sanhedrin stiff-necked people and then was stoned?
- 10. What was Tabitha's Greek name?
- 11. Who was the high priest that questioned Peter and John before the Sanhedrin?
- **16.** Who was the 'man in the past' who was killed for saying he was somebody and having followers?

### The Sermon on the Mount - Solution



Across: 1 Candle, 3 Light, 7 Corrupt, 8 Seek, 10 Alms, 13 Beatitudes, 15 Hypocrites, 18 Children of God, 20 Disciples, 22 Mammon, 23 Brethren, 24 Footstool.

Down: 2 Lord's prayer, 4 Treasures, 5 Raca, 6 Blessed, 9 Prayer, 11 Mountain, 12 Righteousness, 14 Pluck, 16 Hunger, 17 Fasting, 19 Twain, 21 Sand.

Bible Crossword by BiblePuzzles.org.uk

# CREATION CARE -SUMMER 2020

**Jubilee**- June's Creation Care study considered Jubilee and the implications for us as Christians in 2020.

You shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you. Leviticus 25: 10

Jubilee pauses 'business as usual' and is a time:

- to renounce overconsumption and economic systems based on constant economic growth at the cost of the Earth and those who are poor.
- when those who have consumed the most must make restitution to those who have suffered the most.
- of rest for the land from constant exploitation, to restore ecosystems and people.

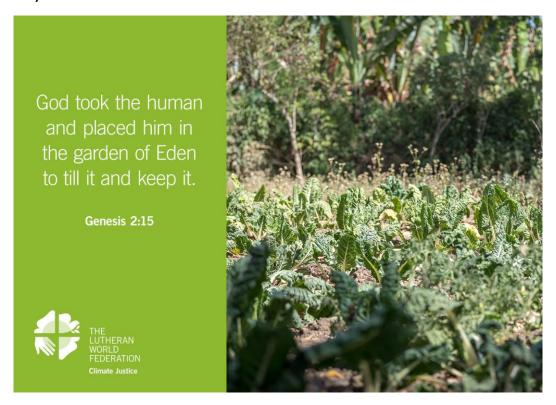
The concept of Jubilee is rooted in Biblical teaching that there must be a just and sustainable balance between social, economic and ecological realities. Greed, inequality, and destruction of God's Earth have contributed to Covid-19 and caused the climate to change.

Our pre-Covid lifestyle was unsustainable, and "our dominant philosophy of 'permanent growth at all cost' carries the seeds of destruction of the life that God called good. Over and above the foolish stewardship of land and resources, yet closely allied to it, is the crisis of values, and of spirituality; a twisted and self-deceptive view of 'profit'. The whole Christian family now has an unprecedented opportunity and calling: to bring together mission, justice, stewardship, and study: to bring out of our 'treasure' the determinative priorities and values that are so different from those piloting Creation towards catastrophe. And above all, to take note of, and act on, and trust in, the worth we are given (each and all of us) in Christ. The worth and encouragement we may give to our neighbour, and our fellow creature, in partnership, rather than exploitation." (David Coleman, Eco-congregation chaplain).

Coleman also points out that "there is need to balance the arrogance of 'care FOR Creation' with the humility of acknowledging how we might be cared for BY Creation". After all, creation provides us with all the necessities of healthy life including food, water and shelter, as well as opportunities for re-creation and inspiration, reflecting God's care and provision for us – enough for everyone (if we share it).

The 'Season of Creation' is an annual international and ecumenical Christian celebration of prayer and action to protect creation <a href="www.seasonofcreation.org">www.seasonofcreation.org</a> This year's theme is "Jubilee for the Earth". I joined an encouraging webinar a few weeks ago, now available on You Tube: Season of creation webinar "Jubilee for the Earth" New Rhythms, New Hope. There were brief talks from speakers in the Philippines, France, Latin America, UK, and the Vatican followed by a good Q+A session. Make yourself a cuppa and watch it.

The pandemic has highlighted our shared human nature and the inter-connectivity of our economies, political structures, health care systems, food production chains, energy and transportation systems in devastating ways across the world. In many places however, nature has been released from human oppression — like a mini-jubilee. In our study, we noted an increase in wildflowers this year. They bring beauty, but also enable beneficial insects to thrive, to pollinate, to manage some pests, and in turn, to feed other creatures in the ecosystem. (I admit to difficulty accepting the beneficence of midges). This is a time of challenge, but of amazing opportunity. Can we hold onto the good that has come out of lockdown while repairing the terrible harms? Do we slide back into our old ways or do we strive for God's will to be done on this earth by striving to embed jubilee principles in the new normal? That applies to personal lifestyles, but also requires us to encourage our community and political decision-makers to ensure a just and sustainable economic and social recovery.



### **Creation Care Group update**

- July Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30 9pm. Our next Zoom study. (Link in the notices). Join us! Topic: Covid, Climate, Creation and Christianity
- September 27<sup>th</sup>: we are delighted that David Coleman will be joining us for the Sunday service and Annual Church Conference. Eco-congregation Scotland is based at Church of Scotland HQ in Edinburgh. I'd encourage you to visit their website <a href="https://www.ecocongregationscotland.org">www.ecocongregationscotland.org</a> and to consider if Strath and Sleat parish should become an Eco Congregation.
- Is there interest in practical workshops by Zoom or in person to learn how to "Live Simply that others may simply live"? Let me know what you would like to learn, teach, or discuss. Perhaps making / adapting clothes, growing / preparing food, contributing to the Food Bank and other community projects, repairing things, intergenerational sharing and learning ... Please send ideas to Anne MacLennan aomacl@tighgorm.scot 01471 822 501

The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine (...) Throughout the land (...) you must provide for the redemption of the land.

Leviticus 25:23

THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION Climate Justice

# Learning Gaelic? Fluent but would like to learn more about scripture in Gaelic?

New weekly Zoom book club reading through the Tiomnadh Nuadh, New Testament new translation. Join in by contacting Duncan Sneddon, Church of Scotland Gaelic Development Officer at sneddon.duncan@gmail.com

# FIG GATHERINGS -

# SO IS THAT FOR ME?

Hi everyone, I wanted to explain what the FIG gathering on Zoom is all about which happens every second and fourth Sunday in the parish at 3pm, and which is included as part of the parish notices.



As you may or may not know Jane and myself pastored FIG Christian Fellowship (based in Broadford) for over 18 years from 2000 to 2018. During 2018 the Lord indicated the season for the ministry was coming to an end, and after a set of divine circumstances we saw the work finally close. No longer formally meeting and with only the occasional gathering in our home we felt His call back to the Church of Scotland in the autumn of 2019, where I must say we were very warmly welcomed. Since then we've been part of the Kilmore Church family and enjoy contributing to the worship, preaching of the word and the general church community.

The calling of FIG back in 2000 was to provide a place for people to come and participate in extended contemporary worship, going deeper to seek the presence of God and to move in the gifts of the Holy Spirit such as healing, prophecy and speaking in tongues. Interestingly the original intention wasn't to create a fellowship at all, but rather have this as an additional Sunday meeting within the Church of Scotland. Twenty years ago the prevailing attitudes prevented that possibility but things have changed throughout the parish, and I believe one of the main reasons the Lord closed FIG was to provide access to these deeper things of God for the wider church.



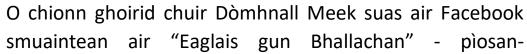
So, although it's called the FIG Gathering (FIG standing for Fruitful in God), it's not meant to be a separate 'church' entity. The name FIG is only there to provide a clue as to the direction and flavour of the meeting. I can well remember the loyalty I felt as a young man to the church I was attending and wouldn't have dreamed of visiting any other place of worship. You may too feel that zooming into a FIG meeting perhaps compromises your home church loyalty, please don't, the gathering is intended for everyone whether in or out of the Church of Scotland. The aim is simply to provide yet another opportunity within the meeting structure of the parish to go deeper with Him.

So, everyone's welcome, we have folk from Scotland, England, Cyprus and America, even on one occasion Haiti! We'd love you to be part of what happens at 3pm so please don't be put off or feel it's somehow exclusive and not for you. Together I believe the gathering is intended to not only add to the richness we already have within the parish, but to provide a fun space for us to grow together into the exciting things of God

God Bless-Peter

# EAGLAIS GUN BHALLACHAN

## LE DÒMHNALL MEEK





sgrìobhaidh air leth inntinneach agus iomchaidh airson ar suidheachadh aig an àm seo. Seo dìreach criomag bho na sgrìobh e:

Tha sinne an-diugh ann an suidheachadh a tha gu tur ùr dhuinn uile. Tha na h-eaglaisean mar thogalaichean dùinte, tha na ballachan air an trèigsinn rè ùine, tha na dorsan glaiste.

Ach chan eil Spiorad an Tighearna glaiste. Tha Spiorad an Tighearna fhathast ag obair. Tha an teachdaireachd fhathast a' dol a-mach, agus cha tèid Facal Dhè a chur an cèill gun toradh no gun bhuannachd. Tha cothroman mòra ùra ann dhuinn am meadhan nan cunnartan. Agus tha deagh fhios agamsa gu bheil daoine ag èisdeachd ri teachdaireachd na slàinte nach robh riamh am broinn togalaich a bhuineadh don eaglais.

A bheil do chreideamh-sa agus mo chreideamh-sa comasach air a bhith beò, agus eadhan a bhith a' fàs, taobh a-muigh ballachan na h-eaglais? Agus a bheil thusa agus mise a' tuigsinn, agus a' creidsinn, gu bheil Dia comasach air a bhith ag obair nuair a tha dorsan nan togalaichean dùinte?

Mura h-eil, nach iarr sinn air Dia dorsan ar cridheachan fhosgladh le neart a Spioraid?

Cuir fios gu Mairead aig <u>capasdal1@hotmail.com</u> ma tha sibh ag iarraidh lethbhreac de na h-artaigilean air fad. Mòran taing do Dhòmhnall fhèin airson cead an sgaoileadh. The famous Skye landmark Bodach an Storr – the Old Man of Storr – is at a loss. Where have all the visitors gone.

### Bròn Bodach an Stòrr

An seo nam aonar gun sgeul air daoine

Càit air an t-saoghal a bheil an sluagh

A b' àbhaist bhith taomadh suas an aonaich

Le ceuman aotrom làn gàir' is luaidh?

An-uiridh fhèin bha an t-àite ag èigheach

Le iomadh treubh bho feadh an t-saoghail,

Ag ràdh slàint' dhut a bhodaich chàirdeil

Ach an-diugh tha sàmhchair is gainnead dhaoin'.

'S iomadh bliadhna a sheas mi ciatach

A' fulang shiantan le teas is fuachd,

Ach chan fhaca mi riamh e mar tha e 'n bliadhna

Grian Òg-mhios dian 's gun duin' mun cuairt...

Tha an t-àm seo neònach, no a' dol gòrach,

A' phàirc tha leòmach, i falamh lom,

Gun bus na càr innt', cho fad bhon àbhaist

'S gu bheil e gam fhàgail tinn is trom.

A chlann nan daoine dè thachair dhuibhse

Le camarathan daora a' togail dhealbh?

Tha gàire air m' aodann, is bithidh daonnan,

A' feitheamh ribhse a thighinn gam shealg.

A chlann nan daoine dè thachair dhuibhse?

Tha fhios gun taom sibh a-rithist nam chòrr;

Mi 'g ionndrainn dhaoine, 's mi seo nam aonar,

Gach là is oidhche a' sileadh dheòir.

Miles Campbell, 23/06/2020

# STRATH & SLEAT Church of Scotland

# Times & Contacts

### **Our Churches**

Broadford High Street Broadford Isle of Skye IV49 9AB



Elgol

Elgol Isle of Skye IV49 9BL



Kilmore Kilmore Sleat Isle of Skye



Kyleakin Kyleakin Isle of Skye IV41 8PH

Regular meetings and services are postponed until further notice. If you are self-isolating, let us know how we can help:

Picking up shopping	Posting mail	
A friendly phone call	Urgent supplies	
Contact your local elder or minister below.		
Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.  #ViralKindness		

# Church Session BROADFORD/ELGOL

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•	Harry Saunders	01599 534145