

PRESBYTERY BULLETIN

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LIFE OF
OUR PRESBYTERY



HELLO & WELCOME



Greetings in Christ! We're so glad you're here! This 'live' bulletin is going out to all of the active members here at Clèir Eilean ì, to not only remind you of our upcoming Presbytery Meetings, but to keep you updated of important events and information and also to encourage you to explore our digital platforms! You are now part of a growing community connecting everyone across our presbytery. This notice board will be updated, changed and edited frequently and a weekly email reminder will *ping* into inboxes to remind you to view new entries. All formal Presbytery business and meeting invitations will continue to be transmitted via email. A PDF VERSION IS NOW AVAILABLE THAT WILL BE EMAILED FOR PRINTING PURPOSES.

IF YOU NEED TO MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR DETAILS OR INDEED WISH TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THESE MAILINGS YOU CAN FIND OUT HOW TO DO THIS ON THE LAST INFO BOX.

MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.” Genesis 1. 27

'S ann ann an cruth boireann agus fireann a chaidh sinn a chruthachadh. Is e sin bun-stèidh phòsaidh daonda agus an dòigh far a theachd Ìosa Crìosd. Chaidh Slànaighear an t-saoghail gus a bheatha a chur sìos air sgàth 's na h-eaglaise, bean na bainnse aige. Iongantach gu dearbh agus airidh air ar mothachadh nuair a meòraicheas sinn a thaobh naomhachd phòsaidh san latha an diugh.

If you were among the 250 who gathered for that webinar on Wednesday evening, you will be aware that the Benefact Trust is eager to scatter its financial munificence north of the border! Though based in England, the Benefact Trust operates across denominations and across borders to support churches, with a particular emphasis on mission.

Chief funding officer, Andrew Bass, was at pains to encourage anyone looking for financial support to visit their website (www.benefacttrust.co.uk) and, if you like what you see, to get in touch via email (andrew.bass@benefacttrust.co.uk) or phone (01524 782825 or 07391 861909). It is important to get in touch with Andrew, so he can guide you towards an application which will be successful.

You won't get everything you need but that is as it should be. Everything we do needs to be sustainable and so we musn't put all our eggs in one basket. Instead we need to build coalitions of innovation in order that what we do lives beyond its initiation, taking root and flourishing – for the glory of God and the advance of his Kingdom...



CONNECT GROUPS AND WEBSITE

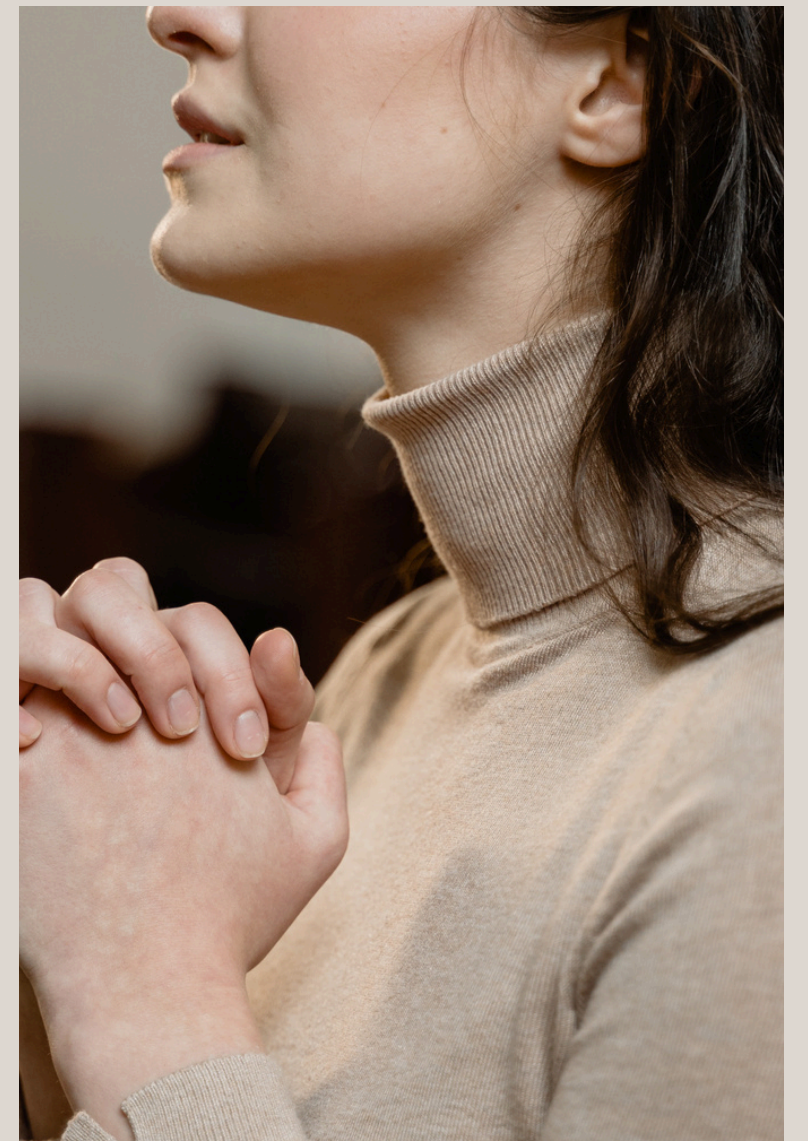


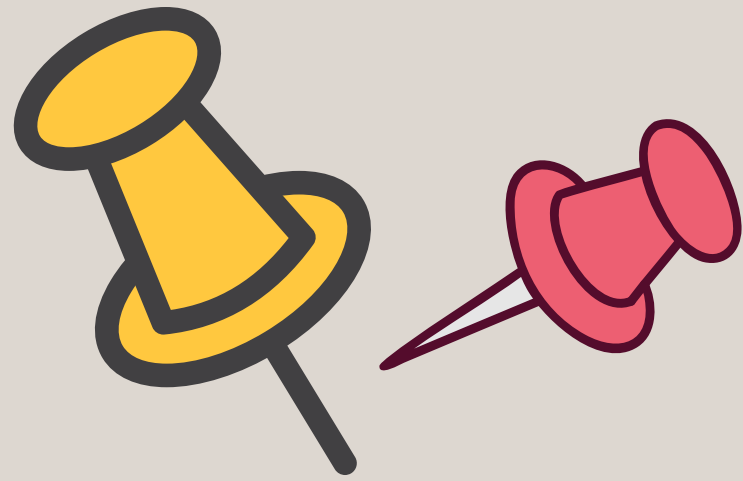
[Facebook Group Page](#)



[Clèir Eilean ì: **Highlands and Hebrides**](#)

FIND OUR FACEBOOK GROUP TO SHARE YOUR FAITH JOURNEY WITH US.
CLICK ON THE LINKS OR ICONS ABOVE TO VIEW AND JOIN.





DIARY DATES

PRESBYTERY SPECIAL SERVICES AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2024

CULBOKIE & MUNLOCHY – SERVICE OF UNION & INTRODUCTION

4th September @7.30pm

September Conference - 11th September 2024 - Links and invitations have now been issued, please check 'spam' and 'junk' folders to ensure you received this - more info on page/slide 7

Presbytery will meet 15 minutes before each service.

Any live stream links for services will be posted on the website and in our Facebook Group Page

PRESBYTERY MEETINGS

WORK IN PROGRESS



We are **now pleased to say we are in testing phase** of getting the directory and paperwork up and into the website. This has been due to delays with data feedback, please ensure your data is up to date, this is a GDPR and a personal responsibility - if you have completed the annual data request many thanks, if you need to complete this please do so **HERE**

Unfortunately you will be denied access if your data has not been confirmed/up to date

ALL PRESBYTERY ZOOM MEETING LINKS WILL BE EMAILED IN DUE COURSE

PRESBYTERY CONFERENCE



11th September 2024 Meeting

Keep your eyes peeled for updates here

September Conference - 11th September 2024 - Links and invitations have now been issued, please check 'spam' and 'junk' folders to ensure you received this - Members have been issued invites based on the data we hold (cross-referenced with our databases), please let me know if you have received an invite in error or indeed if you are a Member who has not yet received an invite.

Hello everyone, I am aware that some people have emailed regarding availability at the hotel - whilst we would love to accommodate everyone, there is limited space in all hotels in the area - I apologise for any frustrations, we did consider other areas for the conference and we were faced with similar issues, I don't think we really have a quiet 'tourism' period anymore, I will update any of the hotel availability when I can.



PRESBYTERY CONFERENCE



Hotel availability in the area as at 23/08/2024

<https://uk.hotels.com>

Birchbank B&B - £149

Stronlossit Inn - 1 room left at £170

Onich Hotel - £144

Alltonside Guest House - 1 room left at £154

10th-11th September, also availability for next night

And some additional hotels too



www.booking.com

10th-11th September

Various availability in hotels within presbytery expenses limit, the link above will take you to pre-filled dates

Presbytery expense claim forms can be found on the website 'one-stop-shop' page or by clicking HERE

PRESBYTERY CONFERENCE

We are planning a 'book swap stall' at our conference - please bring any books with you, that you have read or wish to swap - maybe you will find a hidden gem that you can read on the journey home!



LEGO

LEGO Lookout - do you have any old bricks or pieces of Lego lying around or stored away in a loft/cellar that you no longer need? Our Presbytery is looking for Lego donations - you can bring these to the conference or contact

AAnderson@churchofscotland.org to arrange collection or post

PRESBYTERY NOTICES

Lets talk strategy.....

Over the next coming days you and your Congregation will be asked to come together and share tea and cake to consult together and help us on creating a Strategic Plan that will guide us over the next 5 years, but to be able to formulate that plan we need to listen to the views and vision of all members of the Church. To this end, we invite you and all members of your congregation to participate in discussion and feedback. Information will be sent to Ministers, IMs and Session Clerks - please ensure to share this info!



PRESBYTERY MEETINGS - 'HUBS' and links



OUR HUB LOCATIONS

- Duncansburgh Church, The Parade, Fort William, PH33 6BA
- Oban Church Centre, Glencruitten Road, Argyll, PA34 4DN
- Clachan Church Hall (North Uist)
- Rosskeen Church, Perrins Road, Alness IV17 0SX
- Thurso West Church, 10 Sinclair Street, KW14 7AJ
- Pulteneytown Church, Argyle Square, KW1 5AL
- Alvie & Insh church hall
- Inverness Crown Church
- Culbokie
- Aviemore, St Andrew's Church Hall
- West Church Hall, Dornoch
- Portree Church/Church Hall
- Church Hall, Tarbert, PA29 6SX



Find out where your local church is on our **location map**

UPCOMING ZOOMS, WEBINARS & TRAINING



Dear friends in Cleir Eilean I,

You may remember that our fully funded Cairn Learning Community begins on Friday 4 and Saturday 5 October, in Inverness: Inshes East for those who can make it, and online for those too far afield to be there in person.

We have some churches signed up to join in, but we'd love some more! If you know you are signing up and bringing some of your leaders along, please do sign up using the attached Google Form. I know of 3 or 4 churches who have told me they want to come but haven't signed up yet - please do sign up on the form folks, so we can be effective in sending you information and planning for it.

There may be others who don't feel they know enough about it to commit to signing up for a two year process and four Friday evenings and Saturdays - fair enough! I'm running two 90 minute online taster sessions to give people a brief experience of what we'll be doing, to give you the chance to consider with your leaders if it's something you'd like to join in with. The links for those sessions - on Wednesday 28 August at 7.30pm or Thursday 29 August at 2.00pm - are below.

I do hope that more of you will join us for this season of Learning Community when the funding is already in place to do it. I'll be at the ministry candidates' conference in a couple of weeks time, doing one of the seminars on a weekend that's training these people putting themselves forward for ministry on the centrality of discipleship - of Jesus' 'follow me' call - do join us as we take time to rediscover how we can do it in our existing churches and ministries., Scott

Your paLearning Community Taster call - evening Scott McRoberts is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Cairn Learning Community Taster - Evening
Time: Aug 28, 2024 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84755132717?
pwd=aErUMhfyDqpo2fOxNxfltFTsEEIZdN.1](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/84755132717?pwd=aErUMhfyDqpo2fOxNxfltFTsEEIZdN.1)

Meeting ID: 847 5513 2717

Passcode: 0Hkr8g

~

Learning Community Taster call - daytime Scott McRoberts is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Cairn Learning Community Taster - Daytime
Time: Aug 29, 2024 02:00 PM London

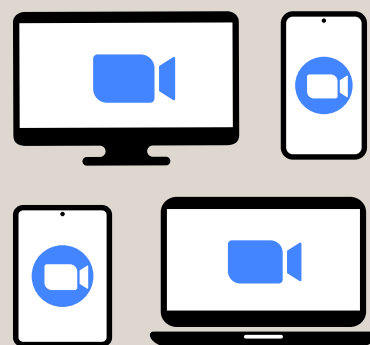
Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88094031696?
pwd=3iUGesemCF5p3i6xGLiH9QXF6s6QdN8.1](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88094031696?pwd=3iUGesemCF5p3i6xGLiH9QXF6s6QdN8.1)

Meeting ID: 880 9403 1696

Passcode: 5mGsLj

agraph text



UPCOMING ZOOMS, WEBINARS & TRAINING

Workshop 2	
2A	Discipleship – Jonathan Fraser (Highland Theological College) Studies show that the presence of at least one significant adult in a young person's life, beyond their family, makes a positive difference that lasts a lifetime. Why is this, and what might it look like to implement mentoring with young people in our churches? <i>This session is for: anyone looking to explore the impact mentoring can make in young lives.</i>
2B	Using Puppets as a Ministry Tool – Chris Watt (Out of the Box) The material calls for the use of a puppet to help share the Bible story, but no-one knows how to use a puppet, so you skip that bit. This hands-on workshop will give you some basic skills in bringing a puppet to life. <i>This session is for: anyone involved in children's ministry.</i>
2C	Listening to our Young People – Janet Logue (Culduthel Christian Centre) Offering young people the gift of being really listened to can enhance wellbeing, improve mental health, enable change and most importantly it communicates the love and value which God has for each and every young person. This session will help us to learn about the importance of heart listening and give opportunities to practice so that we are equipped to offer this important gift to young people. <i>This session is for: people who work with teenagers in any context.</i>
2D	Using the Bible with Primaries – Alex MacQueen (Highland International Church) and Elaine Watt (Hilton Church) We want to help children explore the Bible to learn the truths of the Gospel and discover what it means to have a relationship with God. This session aims to give you some tools to do that in fun and engaging ways without leaving the meaning behind. <i>This session is for people working with primary aged children in Sunday groups, school SU Groups, midweek clubs and residential events.</i>
Workshop 3	
3A	Working with Young People Who Have ASN – Elaine Tait (SU Scotland) We want our churches to be welcoming places for families who have children with additional support needs. This workshop will guide you through how we can make our churches more welcoming, how to understand the different needs of young people and how to make our activities inclusive for all. <i>This session is for: people who have children with additional support needs in their church and want to grow their understanding, or people who want a beginner's guide to this topic.</i>
3B	Inspiring Prayer Amongst Children and Teenagers – Gill Ferguson (Culloden Balloch Baptist Church) We know prayer is crucial to owning and living out a personal faith in Christ and we are called to pray together as believers, but how do we inspire an active prayer life amongst our children and teenagers? In this session we will consider what prayer is, what personal prayer might look like for children and teenagers, and how we can encourage and support them to pray together. <i>This session is for: children and youth volunteers in churches and SU Groups.</i>
3C	Finding Your Best Identity – Helen Cuthbert (Culduthel Christian Centre) "Who am I?" and "Who do I want to be?" are two of the key questions that define the journey of adolescence. The cultural landscape surrounding young people as they explore these identity issues has changed dramatically in recent years. This session explores some of the complexities of contemporary LGBTQ+ social trends and how we can help young people understand and find their best identity in Christ. <i>This session is for: people who work with teenagers in church-based contexts.</i>
3D	Making the Most Out of Games – Chris Dixon (Inshes East Church) Games, whether they happen in the games hall or in a small room, are great fun and often a key part of our programme. This session will look at how to lead a great game, give you some ideas for new games and inspire you to see how games can be an integral part of our gospel message. <i>This session is for: people working with primary or secondary aged young people in churches, school SU Groups, residential holidays, and missions.</i>

Working with children and young people is an exhilarating experience; often surprising, never predictable, sometimes difficult, always requiring effort. We all face similar challenges whether in church, school or during the holidays.

Whether you are continuing in work with children and young people, getting involved for the first time, or returning after a break, **Grow** aims to offer volunteer children's and youth workers, aged 16 and over, the opportunity to:

- Discover new skills and ideas
- Be encouraged and inspired
- Think through big issues in children's and youth ministry
- Pick up the latest resources

We want children and young people to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ and grow a dynamic relationship with him – investing in training means that we can all do this more effectively.

Programme	
9:30am	Registration and Coffee
10:00am	Worship and Bible Focus
10:40am	Workshop 1
12:00pm	Workshop 2
1:00pm	Lunch (please bring your own lunch – drinks provided)
1:50pm	The Grow Show
2:30pm	Workshop 3
3:30pm	Closing Session
4:00pm	Finish

The cost of the day is £12 per person.

Culduthel Christian Centre has plenty of on-site free parking if you are coming by car or bike. For information on public transport visit stagecoachbus.com.

Grow is organised by a group of Christian children's and youth workers from across Inverness. The group includes people who work in local churches and for Christian ministries including Out of the Box who is administering the event.



How to Book

Registration, workshop selection and payment can be done via our website.

growconference.co.uk

This website, where you will also find booking forms to print if needed, will link you through to Eventbrite who we are using to process bookings and payments.

If you are unable to book online call 07761 022846.

Places for Grow are limited. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Bookings close Tuesday 17th September 2024, 12:00pm

In the event of you being unable to attend Grow, booking payments are non-refundable.

Workshop Choices

Workshop 1	
1A	Toddler Groups: Hidden Treasure – Nicki Hutchison (Culduthel Christian Centre) Research shows that 74% of families who have children under 5 years old are in contact with churches in Britain. This means the all-age missional opportunities of toddler groups are significant and have potential to transform childhoods, families and communities. This workshop will celebrate the precious opportunities found within these groups, and explore the strategic role for churches to develop relationships and faith connections with the community around them. <i>This session is for: people working with toddler age children.</i>
1B	Using the Bible with Secondaries – Colin Carmichael (SU Scotland) As teenagers grow and develop, we want to help them have an understanding of the Bible and a desire to explore it both now and in the future. This session aims to give you some ways you could help teenagers get into the Bible on their own and with others. <i>This session is for: people working with secondary aged young people in churches, SU Groups, residential holidays and missions.</i>
10:40am - 1:40pm	
1C	The World of Young People: Why Do Unchurched Young People Matter? – Sandra Blair (Youth for Christ) The world of young people is constantly changing, and the impact of the pandemic is still being seen and felt. This session will look at what we can learn from current research and how it impacts our youth work practice. We will dive into Youth for Christ's "Z to A of Spirituality" research and discuss how these findings can heighten our urgency and focus in how we engage both unchurched young people and the young people already in our care. <i>This session is for: youth workers and volunteers who want to explore what current research is shining light on as we seek to love, support and guide the young people God has both placed in our care and called us to reach out to.</i>
1D	Crafts – Hannah Steeds (SU Scotland) This practical and resourceful session allows us to explore a variety of crafts and how it can open the door to faith conversations with children. <i>This session is for: anyone involved in children's ministry.</i>

For more information click [**HERE**](#) or on one of the pictures above

A Grow training day for youth and children's work volunteers is planned for Saturday 21st September at Culduthel Christian Centre. This has been organised by a group of Christian youth and children's workers who work in Inverness, and aims to equip and inspire volunteers from across all churches.

UPCOMING ZOOMS, WEBINARS & TRAINING

Funeral Training

The Mission and Ministry Committee have now secured training places for those interested in conducting funerals, if you are interested please let us know by clicking **INTERESTED** or on the image - once we have gathered interest requests we will be in touch with dates/times and venues.



UPCOMING ZOOMS, WEBINARS & TRAINING

Disability Awareness Week 15-22 September



A news bulletin from charity Through the Roof:

New Disability Awareness Sunday video and free resource!

'Go out quickly into the streets ... Bring in those who can't see or walk' (Luke 14:23)

Join the journey with Jesus! Travel with us for Disability Awareness Week 15-22 September.

Register for a free Disability Awareness Sunday 2024 resource to use in your church at: <https://throughtheroof.org/forchurches/disability-awareness-sunday/>

Encourage your church to watch Andrew's Story at <https://youtu.be/jsKXLUU2Q2g> about his life-changing accident. Share it in church on **Disability**

Awareness Sun 22 Sept, and pray for full inclusion of disabled people.

Note: any Sunday can be Disability Awareness Sunday! So it's never too late to join in.



Disability Inclusion: How to break down barriers in your church

Looking for a topic for your house-group or small-group meeting? Watch this podcast video from funder, Benefact Trust, to reveal the hidden challenges disabled people face in church:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLGZaSHfSaA>

In this 30-min. interview, two disabled Christians who are wheelchair users share their lived experience of disability and how small changes can make a big difference for all.

Hear the difference Roofbreaker disability champions make in church and Christian life. Think about how your church could welcome and more fully include disabled people.

Contact: annette@throughtheroof.org and janet@throughtheroof.org

Visit: www.throughtheroof.org for more information. Tel (main office): 01372 749955

For more information click

HERE

'Go out quickly into the streets ...
Bring in those who can't see or
walk' (Luke 14:23)

Join the journey with Jesus! Travel
with us for Disability Awareness
Week 15-22 September.

Register for a free Disability
Awareness Sunday 2024 resource
to use in your church **HERE**

RETREAT - Kilmalieu, Abernethy

I'm not sure if you saw the article in the Life and Work this month, but a new Christian retreat centre has been established at Kilmalieu on the west coast, about 20 miles from Fort William. In one sense it is 'new', but in another we are restoring what was an important place of prayer in the early days of Christianity in Scotland.

The seeds of the vision for developing this place of prayer and hospitality were sown during my 15 years as a Mission Development Worker for the Church of Scotland, when I realised the value and importance of opportunities for people, especially those in church leadership, to slow down, pray and reflect – sometimes gathering with others, sometimes in solitude.

During the coming months we plan to offer some free-of-charge opportunities for church leaders (and their spouses if appropriate) to come and experience an overnight retreat here. If that might be of interest to you, please get in touch.

Kilmalieu is a 3000-acre estate, a place of rugged beauty, hills, coastline and woodlands. The main accommodation is a renovated eighteenth-century hunting lodge, with a variety of comfortable rooms. Guests have access to a small library, chapel, art room, games room and gym. A fire pit and are also BBQ available.

In addition to the main house, a separate lodge in the grounds overlooks Loch Linnhe and provides a comfortable base for a self-catered retreat for an individual, couple or group of 3 or 4 people.

As well as offering scheduled retreats (which you can see on the website by [clicking here](#)), the centre also offers an ideal base for small groups (up to 24, depending on the configuration of singles, couples etc.) and we would love to host groups from churches around Scotland. No group is too small. We can offer input or guidance from our team here – or just provide the hospitality for visitors to do their own thing.

If you would like to explore the possibility of coming for a visit, bringing a group to Kilmalieu, or joining one of the retreats already on offer – please email kilmalieu@abernethy.org.uk or call 01967 411222. If you would like to follow developments here, please follow 'Abernethy-Kilmalieu' on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

Every blessing,

Steve Aisthorpe
Centre Director, Kilmalieu



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



Scottish Bible Society

"I think it's really important that we read the Bible together as a family...our children are learning to love Bible stories. They're learning to love reading for themselves."

-Lynne

It's time to register babies born in 2024!

We had over 400 babies register in 2023 and now our registrations are open for babies born in 2024. To register a child, you can be the parent or carer, or known to the parent or carer. You must ask the parent or carer's permission before registration.

Argyll Convention 6-8 August 2024
Corran Halls, Oban.

Attention, parents! Would you like to join us for one of the morning sessions but have children of primary school age to care for?

Would they like a morning of fun activities with films, crafts, toys, games.....

Kidzone is a new venture just for them. Come along to a morning session of the Convention (10am to 12pm) and we will give them a good time upstairs with experienced and vetted helpers.

Just email us at argyllbibleconvention@gmail.com for further information and sign up for whichever day/s you like (6th, 7th and/or 8th August.)



[Bibles for Bairns is back for 2024 - online registration is open - CLICK HERE](#)




GOOD NEWS

Please continue to share good news - our latest updates can be found online - on our webpage and Facebook group. You can share and post your good news and photos directly to our Facebook Group page.

If you encounter any issues please let me know **AAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk**

CELEBRATORY ANNIVERSARIES

A large, simple stone cross stands on top of a white stone archway. The archway has a large opening in the center. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The lighting suggests it might be early morning or late afternoon, as the stone has a warm, golden glow.

Do you have a significant anniversary coming up soon, perhaps it's a celebration of long and faithful service or perhaps a big achievement that is meaningful to you - let us know..

**please email our Presbytery Support Officer with details
AAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, NOTICES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION



MEMBERSHIP - The beginning of a new presbytery year on 1 July offers an opportunity to refresh membership of Clèir Eilean Ì and our committees.

Congregations which have united and now contain more than one presbytery elder can take advantage of the requirement for “balancing elders” (to make up numbers of ministers not in parish appointments) and “additional elders” (of up to 1/3 of congregations within a presbytery). Volunteers may still be co-opted onto committees without being members of presbytery. Please can all congregations confirm their designated presbytery elder for the new presbytery year which begins on 1 July and any nominations for balancing/ additional elder spaces. Please submit any last nominations to AAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk



REMINDER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, NOTICES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

How to apply to Seeds for Growth – free online webinars

This information has been sent to Presbytery Clerks, Session Clerks and Presbytery Mission Officers but please feel free to pass on to anyone you think would benefit from the contents.

On Wednesday the 19th of June and **Monday the 2nd of September**, we will be holding a free online webinar to work through the Seeds for Growth application process and forms.

The event will take place 1900-2100hrs and we will attempt to work through all four levels of funding application. We hope this will assist you in applying for funding.

If you would like to attend this online ZOOM meeting please email grants@churchofscotland.org.uk – please specify the June or September meeting in the subject line of your email.

Seeds For Growth supports projects aimed at church growth of existing Church of Scotland congregations and new worshipping communities. Ecumenical working is encouraged.

Project ideas must cover one or more of the following criteria:

- Developing mission through new church communities (including church planting and funding training in Pioneering and Pioneer Ministry)
- Developing and nurturing faith in those under the age of 40 (including engaging in intergenerational approaches to church through new worshipping communities)
- Fostering discipleship and revitalisation within established congregations, with the aim of growing the existing congregation or developing a new worshipping community.



EASY LISTENING

You can listen to the programme on FM Radio, On Alexa or Google Home or on the [internet](#)

The New Normal August 4th 2024

Breaking the glass ceiling

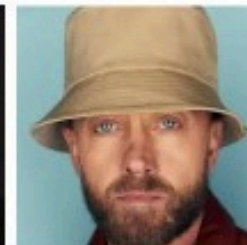
Sunday 17.00 – 18.00



My Guest – Bishop Libby Lane



Your Host – Ian Hall



With music from: Ruth Campbell, Sidewalk Prophets, Brian Tucker, Toby Mac, Karen Mattheson, Anthem Lights, Leahy, Citizen Way,

107.1 FM Radio or www.speysound.com

Repeats: Tues 6th Aug 15.00, Thurs 8th 13.00, Sat 10th 02.00

MODERATORS MISSION PROJECT

Our Moderator, Rev Doug McRoberts, at Al Shurooq School for Blind Children, in Bethlehem, as featured at our June Presbytery meeting... Doug has asked that churches throughout Clèir Eilean Ì consider supporting this school, and Jeel al Amal orphanage and school in Bethany, with prayers and fundraising. Both work with disadvantaged children – including some from Gaza – almost entirely through voluntary donations.

Both, of course, are beyond the Separation Wall from Israel. And both depend on the direct support of McCabe Educational Trust (MET) – the charity arm of McCabe Pilgrimages. Until the 7th October atrocity, and the war in Gaza which followed, MET was funding Christian-led care and education of children (of any faith) in the West Bank and elsewhere, children who are blind, deaf, orphaned or poor – and sometimes more than one of those things, spending about £250,000 a year, all of it raised through charity donations. But there is now an urgent need; a recent report from MET said:

Up until October 75% of McCabe's pilgrims were visiting the Holy Land; for the last ten months this has been impossible... The income of MET has halved virtually overnight; we are fast running out of money. But the needs of the children we have been supporting have more than doubled.

At Jeel the MET has recently financed two projects which have greatly cut costs and improved life; we have fitted a solar power system that has brought down their monthly energy cost from 7,000 shekels to 200 shekels; and we have installed a water cistern that is now providing them with clean water; until then water was delivered once a week and had to be paid for by the tanker load. Their biggest problem now is the salaries of the staff: the Palestinian Authority has run out of money and most staff are accepting half a salary or no salary at all until funds are made available. Funds are also needed for food, new mattresses, medicine, stationery... MET have guaranteed Jeel £4k a month, but their costs are more like £20k a month, and other funders have had to reduce or cancel their contributions.

The same is true for Al Shurooq. Their new sensory room, funded by the Trust, has to be seen to be believed. There are real problems getting blind children, some from Gaza, to school in these trying times, and staff there too are working for half pay or less.

Doug says: "Please pray – and consider whether your church, or group of churches, could help financially, particularly during the next year when the funding crisis is at its peak. These children are part of the future in the Holy Land; but they need our love and support right now. Thank you."

To donate click [HERE](#)



NEWS AROUND PRESBYTERY & BEYOND



Partner Plan - Keith & Ida Waddell's Newsletter - August 2024

PARTNERPLAN

Keith & Ida Waddell - Zambia August 2024

The United Church of Zambia
Mwandi Mission
Box 60693
LIVINGSTONE, Zambia
keithida2014@gmail.com

Dear Family and Friends

10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

As Christians, God calls us to use our gifts to serve others by doing what needs to be done. It is his work we are all involved in. You don't always manage at first and so we often need to go back and try again. Writing these quarterly letters help us to see what we have done and what still needs to be done.

April was a busy time for us dealing with the work in hand and preparing for our deputation in May and June. At the beginning of the month we welcomed Hannah and Erin, two medical students from the Edinburgh School of Medicine, who were doing a month-long Tropical Medicine Elective.



Dr Mukoka - MOIC Mwandi

Simultaneously, Dr Chikwanda arrived from Lusaka to run the Endoscopic Workshop. He was followed by Jane and Maggie from Hands around the World who came to do an on-site visit and look at how that organisation might support our work at Mwandi. Mid-month Ida was involved with the US Trust's Board Meeting before beginning the operations with the American surgical team who undertook 81 procedures in 10 days mainly, thyroidectomies, hernias and gynaecological operations.

On that Sunday I was preaching. At the end of the service, Ida was called to the front of the congregation and we were both publicly thanked for the 20 years' service we had given at Mwandi. To our delight and great surprise, we were presented with a picture, chitenge and cake. It was a very moving occasion. We were then prayed for and sent on furlough with the Church's blessing.



121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
T: +44 (0)131 225 5722 E: FaithAction@churchofscotland.org.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SCO11353

PARTNERPLAN

Ida then departed for Lusaka to chair the CHAZ Board Meeting. Keith remained with Mubita and ensured that workers' wages and other financial commitments could be met in our absence. There were similar requirements regarding chicken and fish feed as well as quarry dust sand and cement for the lock-making.

Keith and Mubita then joined Ida and spent our last weekend before flying with Catriona, Will and the grandchildren in Lusaka. We left on Sunday 28 and were met in Edinburgh by Kirsten. We spent a few days with them before moving into our furlough flat on the Thursday. Marjorie Clark, an old friend from World Mission and now an interim moderator in Perth, picked us up and drove us to Callender for the start of our Presbytery of Perth deputation.

It was good to catch up and thank Jeff, Dorothy and the congregation there for their faithful support. In the evening, we had our usual evening with St Serf's, enjoying the music and fellowship. Towards the end of the week, we visited Brechin and Farnell for the first time and were warmly welcomed by Adriaan, Sanelle and their congregation. The next day was Stanley Primary School in the morning followed by the lunch-time Fellowship at Luncarty. Rev Susan Thorburn, whom we met in NE Fife on previous furloughs as a community chaplain, kindly drove us to and from Perth. It is always a great joy for us to return to Cambusbarron, our sending Church which we did on the Sunday. The work in Perth finished with a first visit to Dunkeld for a Tuesday evening meeting where we were once again warmly received.

On our return from Perth we had our Debriefing, our eyes checked and our Psychological Assessments: these were on-line for the first time. On Saturday, the General Assembly opened, with us attending as Commissioners for the first time. It was good to learn where the Church is at the moment and where it wants to go. The Rev Shaw Paterson took over as Moderator from Rev Sally Foster-Fulton. Getting down to business, reforms and finance took centre stage with the Church working to balance its budget by 2027. While savings are being made, the most deprived areas should not be forgotten. Calls were made for the cost of the Assembly itself to be reduced. Most Presbytery Mission Plans were now in place.

Joanne Billeh, a Palestinian Christian, now living in Jordan, spoke movingly of how she and her family had been personally dispossessed by the conflict. The Assembly called for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, a stop the export of armaments to Israel and the implementation of a two-State solution.

The establishment of a Committee to consider the Church's work with social justice, ecumenical and interfaith matters and work with international partners was moved. Ida spoke congratulating Central Africa Churches for their work over the past 100 years but urged the Kirk not to forget the valuable work done previously by the former World Mission. She spoke of the drought currently affecting the area. The Church should continue to look out to the wider Church and make its valued contribution there too. The Great Commission does not stop in Jerusalem. Other major topics discussed were Social Care, the shortage of Armed Forces Chaplains, Assisted-Dying and Safe-guarding. The Guild also reported on its significant work at home and overseas.

As Commissioners we were invited to a variety of social functions where we were able to meet other delegates from Scotland, other British Churches and from overseas; these included visitors from the Central Africa Churches, the Middle East, the Uniting Church of Australia, the Italian Waldensians and Hungary. Our invited guest from the Egyptian Church was not granted a visa by the Home Office. The Duke of Edinburgh was the High Commissioner this year. We were invited for a glass of prosecco and some canapés at Holyrood on the very wet Wednesday evening, introduced to His Grace, who encouraged us to keep up the good work.

Once the Assembly was over we headed to Lochaber and Appin where we were hosted once again by Malcolm and Marion Kinnear. We spoke at Kinlochleven, Duror and Fort William on the Sunday and at a Presbytery Zoom Meeting on the Monday. We were invited to become the Mission Partners for all of the Presbytery of Cleir Eilean I.

121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
T: +44 (0)131 225 5722 E: FaithAction@churchofscotland.org.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SCO11353

PARTNERPLAN



Knit and Natter Group. Donating baby clothes and blankets

We next started to work in Fife with the Sunday service at Dunfermline Abbey. Later in the week we were given the opportunity to speak to pupils at two schools in Fife. The children were engaged, knowledgeable and asked very good questions.

On our days off we tried to meet up with family and friends and spend some time with them. Gregor, Maia and Elsi came up for a few days during half-term. We have also seen Kirsten, Stuart Iona and Euan on a few occasions as well. Our old friends Jackie and Brendan visited us too.

On the Sunday morning, we took the electric bus to Bridge of Earn and were picked up by our old friend Rev Valerie Walker and taken to the morning service at Newburgh with Abdie, the Parish of Lindores. This was Ida's Dad's former charge, so it was a special time together with old friends, great to see such a lively and missional congregation and to enjoy a tasty lunch together. A special thanks to Natalie for taking us all the way to the park and ride at North Queensferry. It shortened our bus journey considerably.

Next followed a meeting organised by Ian Alexander and Liz Grant to see if Edinburgh University could perhaps help Mwandi Mission Hospital now it was a General Hospital. Liz and her team were receptive to them looking at Rural Health Care, help with visits from a Surgical Unit and capacity building through research being undertaken in Mwandi. She also set up a meeting with the Scottish Government's Zambia Desk.

We met Niall and Mulenga at Victoria Quay and they went through what was on offer from the Scottish Government and pointed us towards the Non-communicable Disease Programme for a later date. Charles Sim joined us. He is head of Fair Trade in Scotland and involved with Eco-Congregations. Through him, we have managed to become members of the Church's Credit Union and we will look at a Toilet Twinning at Sikuzu Primary School. Keith went for an X-ray which was normal that afternoon; then a very enjoyable dinner with Valerie, Duncan, Jennie and Ainsley - old World Mission friends.

It was good too, to be able to celebrate Iona's 12th Birthday in Lenzie with all the family including Ina and Duncan. The next weekend we caught up with Eric and Helen in Strathmiglo then on to Muriel and Jim's in St Andrews for the Coffee Morning and Plant sale at St Marks.

It was a successful morning and again so grateful for the hard work and generosity of those involved. We were delighted to catch up with Rev Janet Foggie, whom we knew from Stirling University. She is the locum at St Marks. She and her husband live in the Dunbog Schoolhouse where Ida attended Primary School. After Sunday service, we enjoyed a few hours company with Lily Musk a former Missionary to Zambia at her home.

In our last week Ida caught up with a number of nurses she did her training with 50 years ago. Our furlough flat was in Marchmont, where Ida lived during that time. Another fine get-together was with the Church of Scotland HIV/Aids Group. Then we set off for Houston and Kilellan.



121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
T: +44 (0)131 225 5722 E: FaithAction@churchofscotland.org.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SCO11353

PARTNERPLAN



We had a great afternoon of 10 pin bowling at Braehead followed by a delicious meal at the Inn in Houston. We stayed in Kate Jackson's house. We got to know her as we worked with her daughter and son-in-law at Chengelo. After the Sunday Service a wonderful three course meal had been prepared by Caroline and her team.

After our farewells we returned to Edinburgh to pack and clean the flat. Just before we left we managed to meet with Annie, Ida's sister and David, her husband in Perth.

We spent the last two nights at Kirsten and Stuart's. Kirsten drove us to the airport early Thursday morning. After a fairly lengthy transfer in Doha, where we all caught an awful flu from which we are just recovering, Will picked us up on the Friday morning in Lusaka. We set out early on the Sunday morning for Mwandi to prepare for the arrival of Kirsten and Stuart with their family and friends. By concentrating three months deputation into two meant it was quite a tight schedule with little downtime in Scotland, but it meant we could spend time with Kirsten and the family here in Zambia.

With our love
Keith, Ida & Mubita



121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
T: +44 (0)131 225 5722 E: FaithAction@churchofscotland.org.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SCO11353

NEWS AROUND PRESBYTERY & BEYOND



Merchant Navy Day

The Seafarers' Charity is calling on organisations, communities, and individuals across the UK to honour the people behind the Merchant Navy Flag by flying the Red Ensign, whether physically or digitally, on Merchant Navy Day, Tuesday, 3 September.

For further details please visit their website at

<https://www.theseafarerscharity.org/get-involved/merchant-navy-day>

It's a fun thing to do and a collection can go a long way to helping men and women who have or are earning their living from the sea. As an island nation we should be honouring and encouraging all those involved with the sea.



PRESBYTERY PENNIES

COMING SOON

Every penny counts.....this page will give advice on all things 'financial' to help aid your congregational budgets, spending and give up to date knowledge of grants and advice....

Reminder How to Apply to Seeds For Growth - free online Webinar - Monday 2 September (thank you to those of you who have already registered for this event).

The Seeds For Growth Team will be holding a webinar on How to apply to Seeds For Growth On Monday the 2nd of September, we will be holding a free online webinar to work through the Seeds for Growth application process and forms.

The event will take place 1900-2100hrs and we will attempt to work through all four levels of funding application. We hope this will assist you in applying for funding.

If you would like to attend this online ZOOM meeting please email grants@churchofscotland.org.uk



QUICK ONLINE RESOURCES

PLEASE SEE OUR RESOURCES PAGE ON THE WEBSITE AND HAVE A LOOK AT OUR 'ONE STOP SHOP' ON THE WEBSITE - CLICK ON THE ICONS BELOW

RESOURCES PAGE



ONE STOP SHOP PAGE



PRESBYTERY GALLERY & MUSIC



Captured a piece of heaven? Send your pictures and background music selections to AAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk

JOIN SUNDAY SERVICES AND OTHER SERVICES ONLINE VIA THE LINKS HERE

- **ONLINE? LET US KNOW**

CHURCH ONLINE

**Kilmuir/Logie
Easter**

Sunday 11.00am

<https://www.facebook.com/Kilmuir-Logie-Easter-Church-of-Scotland-323528971170799>

**High St - St
Stephens**

Sunday 10.30am

<https://www.youtube.com/@oldhighststephens4462/streams>

Rosskeen

<https://www.facebook.com/rosskeenparishchurch>

Sunday 10am

<https://www.facebook.com/KLLparish/live/>

Kinlochleven

<https://peninsulachurches.org.uk/online>

Peninsula Churches



STAY CONNECTED



AAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk
CleirEileanI@churchofscotland.org.uk



Rory MacLeod 07841 654 281
Amanda Anderson 07906 758 720



www.cei.presbytery.org.uk



Face Book Group Page



[Presbytery - Youtube](#)



Presbytery [Podcast](#)



[pop in to your local church](#)

STAY CONNECTED - COMMITTEE CONVENER CONTACTS

Business - Donald McCorkindale

DMcCorkindale@churchofscotland.org.uk

Finance - Lorraine Sinclair

LSinclair@churchofscotland.org.uk

Land & Property - please contact AAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Mission & Ministry - Janet MacKellar

JMackellar@churchofscotland.org.uk

Mission Planning - Monika Redman

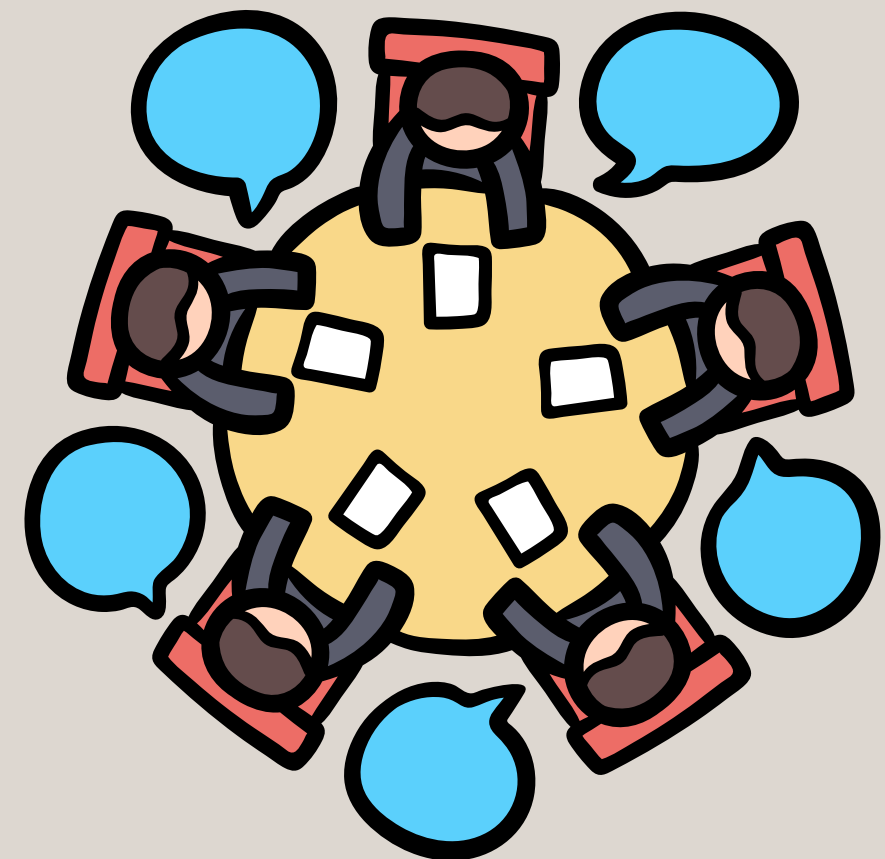
MRedman@churchofscotland.org.uk

Safeguarding - Malcolm Kinnear

MKinnear@churchofscotland.org.uk

Superintendence - Lyn Peden (desig.)

LPeden@churchofscotland.org.uk



NOTE A CHANGE

If you wish to be removed from the monthly mail reminder please click [HERE](#)

Changed your details or need to add your details? No problem at all, please let us know so we can stay in touch....note any changes you have by clicking [HERE](#).

We adhere to strict GDPR guidelines with sensitive data at all times.

Members can request a copy of the Presbytery Directory
[HERE](#)

