SUMMER EDITION

11TH JULY 2025

NEWSLETTER



NEW MODERATOR FOR THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

This summer we welcomed Rev Janet MacKellar as our new Moderator of Cleir Eilean I - she takes over this massive role from our very first Moderator Rev Doug McRoberts.

A Moderatorial Handover Service took place at Kirn & Sanbank Church in Dunoon on Saturday 21st June 2025 - you can watch this service by clicking <u>HERE</u>.







CAKE, SONG & CELEBRATION

This summer we welcomed Rev Janet MacKellar as our new Moderator of Cleir Eilean I - she takes over this massive role from our very first Moderator Rev Doug McRoberts.

Rev Doug McRoberts, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination as well as a 'big' Birthday before handing over his moderatorial robe and *fully* settling into retirement.

> Rev Doug McRoberts, is a man of many gifts and talents and was instrumental in the intial set up and planning of Cleir Eilean I, offering guidance and vision - to read more about his background, his faith and his hopes...click <u>HERE</u>



"Welcome to our first Presbytery Prayer journey which takes us to the Isle of Iona and the isle of Mull. Over the next weeks I will be inviting you to join me as we travel through our beautiful Presbytery." Rev Janet MacKellar - Moderator JOIN HERE

Our Moderators second journey takes us through Glencoe and the Isle of Skye - watch <u>HERE</u>

"If I was talking to anybody now thinking about going into ministry, my advice would be to absolutely push the envelope." -Rev D

McRoberts

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INDUCTIONS

Rev Carol Ann Porter induction HERE

A wonderful Service was held in Dornoch Cathedral on Saturday 14 June to induct the Rev Carol Anne Porter to Dornoch Firth Church of Scotland. It was extremely well attended by members of the congregation, members of other denominations and local dignitaries and was lead by the then Presbytery Moderator, the Rev Doug McRoberts. Rev McRoberts explained that the words of the Induction had changed since the General Assembly in May, making this service special.

Following the service a reception was held in the West Church Hall to celebrate Rev Porter's appointment.



Huge thanks to everyone for making this such a joyous day.





INDUCTIONS

What a joyous day at Beckie's induction on the Isle of Skye - a day of new beginning for both Rev Rebeccah (Beckie) Bartocho as she embarks on her new ministerial adventures and also the first service of induction that Rev Janet MacKellar attended since taking up her Moderatorial post. A beautiful place with beautiful people.

Beckie's induction took place on Saturday 28th at Staffin Church followed by a reception at C1400 many thanks to everyone in making this happen - and welcome Rev Bartocho!

"Hi folks,

My name is Rev. Rebeccah (Beckie) Bartocho. I was born and raised in rural Kenya, East Africa, where I also completed my early education before moving to Nairobi, the capital city, for university studies.

In 2011, I responded to God's call to full-time ministry, and in 2019, I was ordained by the Reformed Church of East Africa (RCEA). I sensed God leading me to serve with the Church of Scotland in April 2020, and I began my journey in Scotland at Williamwood Parish Church in Glasgow in January 2022.

Since then, I've had the privilege of serving in several congregations across Glasgow and am currently serving at Newton Mearns and Queen's Park Govanhill Parish Churches, both in Glasgow.

I am absolutely delighted and deeply honoured to be called as Minister Elect, and I truly look forward to becoming part of the vibrant and welcoming Isle of Skye community.

I'm excited to see what God has in store for us in the journey ahead. Wishing you all God's abundant blessings!" Beckie



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A great opportunity to think about our scholarship fund which currently stands at £2024.83, only a little bit more to go to achieve our target of £3000, to enable us to financially support one student through their entire studies ! If you haven't contributed yet, and you would like too. Here's the link:

https://givealittle.co/c/CEIMalawiFund



MALAWI'S BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday Malawi!

I am writing this on 6 July, Malawi's Independence Day. Malawians are proud of their country and proud of their independence. But, sadly, there is a rueful tone to the independence celebrations as most people recognise that the reality is far short of what was hoped for when Malawi became an independent nation in 1964. There is a lot that is inspiring about Malawi, but miserable economic conditions inevitably take their toll. How to build a prosperous economy and a flourishing society? Efforts from outside, however well-intentioned, will never be enough. It is Malawians themselves who need to take the lead, and they are ready to do so. Provision of quality education to future leaders is therefore highly strategic and Zomba Theological University seeks to play its part.

How wonderful that Clèir Eilean Ì can give a "birthday present" to Malawi in the form of a scholarship for a promising Masters student at ZTU. Through Malawi Sunday on 8 June and other congregational initiatives, the Presbytery has made a flying start to its fundraising efforts. In difficult times, this gives hope for the future. The Scotland Malawi Partnership is currently running a webinar series on Malawi's 60 years as an independent nation - https://www.scotlandmalawipartnership.org/events/malawi-at-60governance-webinar-series Just in case you would like to know more.

Ken's Blog - www.thinkingmission.org



SUMMER PRAYER

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer! Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight. Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation. Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season. Draw me closer to You this summer. Teach me how I can prav no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence and light my path with Your Word and Counsel. As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

Amen

EMAIL CONTACTS - SUMMER

The Clerk - cleireileani@churchofscotland.org.uk

Presbytery Office - Amanda Anderson*

AAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Finance - Tom Jordan TJordan@churchofscotland.org.uk

Land & Property - Paul Baker

Paul.Baker@churchofscotland.org.uk or

propertyCEI@churchofscotland.org.uk

Pastoral

pastoralsupportCEI@churchofscotland.org.uk

*on holiday until 28th July

www.cei.presbytery.org.uk