

It was You who set all the  
boundaries of the earth; You

made both

Summer

and winter

Psalms 74:17

**Need prayer or someone to pray with you?**

Email Mary Fennell: [prayercoordinator1995@gmail.com](mailto:prayercoordinator1995@gmail.com)

**Need to talk? Questions about the Christian faith**

Contact the Session Clerk, who will find the right person to speak to you. Details are on the last page.

**Website:** [www.sschurch.co.uk](http://www.sschurch.co.uk)

**Notices:** [lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk)

**Mission Statement**

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





# Update on Clèir Eilean Ì: A Journey of Faith Together



Clèir Eilean Ì, meaning “The Presbytery of the Island of Iona”, is the new presbytery that came into being on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024. The name honours our Christian heritage, dating back to Columba and his companions. It unites over 100 congregations across Scotland, from the Mull of Kintyre to John O’Groats, and from the Western Isles to West Moray. This includes island churches, rural communities, and city dwellers, all sharing a common mission found in Matthew 28:19-20:

**“Go out and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**

This passage emphasises the importance for all of us who are Christians to proactively share our beliefs, live authentically according to Christian values, support others in their spiritual journey, and find reassurance in the continuous presence and guidance of our faith. For Clèir Eilean Ì, our task is to support congregations to do this in ways that are relevant to 21<sup>st</sup> century life and to alleviate the long-standing administrative challenges that have hindered the church until now.

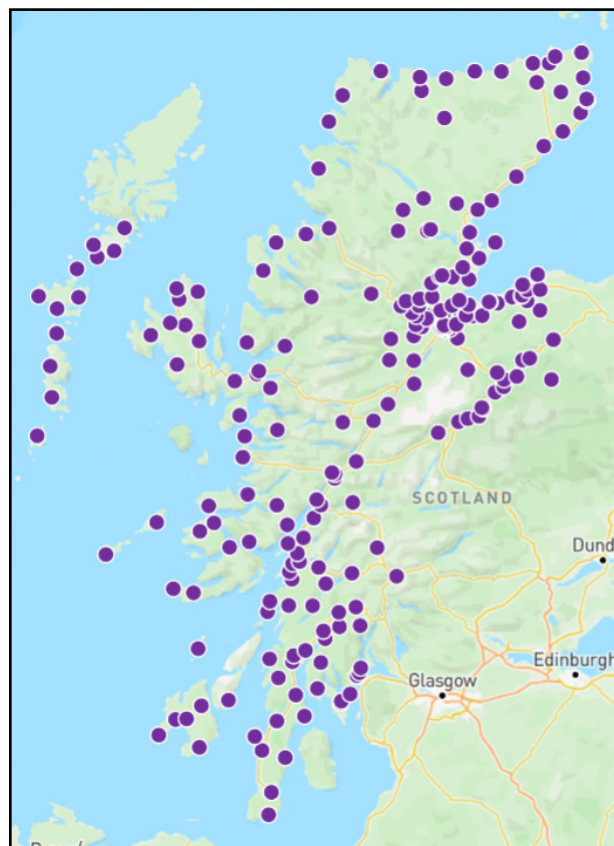
Almost six months in, and while we have a long way to go, a lot has happened. Monika and her team in Mission Planning have been consolidating the nine mission plans of the presbyteries that came together to form Clèir Eilean Ì into one new mission plan. Meanwhile, in Mission & Ministry, the committee I am part of, we have been busy developing pastoral care, training programmes, and exploring digital ministries and outreach to connect with younger generations (ie, under 50s).

One initiative that is almost complete is an interactive One Stop Shop for mission and ministry resources. This accessible tool is available on the Presbytery website, designed with search and filter options to help make finding specific resources easier. We have also recently appointed a Gaelic Representative to the Mission & Ministry committee to ensure Gaelic is well represented throughout the presbytery. If you have ideas for Gaelic or other projects, please get in touch.

As we continue this journey together, let’s pray with steadfast faith and confidence in a bright future, bringing Christ’s teachings to life in our communities.

For more information, visit Clèir Eilean Ì’s website: [cei.presbytery.org.uk](http://cei.presbytery.org.uk)

Anne Sikorski  
Mission & Ministry Development Worker, Clèir Eilean Ì



Churches in Clèir Eilean Ì

## Contents

Update on Clèir Eilean Ì <i>Anne Sikorski</i>	2	Wordsearch <i>Bàbaidh NicThòmais</i>	12
Ministering in a Faraway Place! <i>Peter McDermott</i>	3	Kilmore News A Prayer of Commitment <i>Marianne</i>	13 14
Autumn Newsletter Deadline	5	The Weaver Poem Is Gràdh Dia <i>Peter Piddock</i>	14 15
A Journey of Faith and Transformation <i>Anne Sikorski</i>	6	Funny Thing? Poem <i>Anne Bethune / Doreen Smith</i>	15
Curry Night for Jackie	9	Apricot and Walnut Bread Recipe <i>Jane McDermott</i>	16
Sleat Make it Count Group	9	Church Life	16
Young Church at Kyleakin	10	Cuyler Black Cartoon	17
Kilmore End of Term Service & YV Graduation <i>Nicola Thomson</i>	11	Contacts	18
Kilmore Church Ladies Bible Study <i>Joy Westerman</i>	12		

## Ministering in a Faraway Place!

“And why actually are you going to Mongolia?”

It’s a question I was asked quite a few times by folk in the parish as I prepared to travel over 6000 miles to Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. Reasons for going stem back to 2002 when a dear friend, Joe Ewen, then pastor of three churches on the east coast of Scotland, asked me to travel with him to visit churches in Siberia. Joe is connected to a large American missionary ministry called Antioch whose vision it is to plant churches and make Christians in the least hospitable places around the world. They had planted two churches either side of Lake Baikal (the largest freshwater lake by volume on the planet), to the west, Irkutsk, and to the east, Ulan Ude. On our 2002 and subsequent annual trips we spoke and ministered in healing and prophecy at the churches and their re-hab centres for drug and alcohol addictions.



In 2009 a pan-Asian conference was held in Mongolia called World Mandate Asia, attended by the Siberian churches, and it was there where I met and fell in love with the Mongolian people. Here we heard of amazing stories of God’s provision in the vast open spaces of the Mongolian plain. I remember one lady called Latke, who must have been in her 80s, tell how she had been visiting a remote village in winter to spread the gospel and was caught in a ferocious snowstorm as she trekked back to her home. As the snow began to drift she could see that her chance of survival would be slim, she prayed, “Lord, please help, send me a guide.” A few minutes later a large yak came into view; it was slowly trudging through the mounting drifts of snow in the direction of Latke’s home. She positioned herself at its rear and



walked in its wake, the bulk of the animal protecting her from the storm as well as clearing a path through the snow. Eventually she made it home safely.

My last trip to Siberia was in 2019 after which Covid and the war in Ukraine effectively closed the door to Russia. However, World Mandate Asia, which had now become a regular event, provided the opportunity to at last see my dear Siberian friends as well as re-connect with the Mongolians.

So it was that, at the end of May 2024, we travelled from Edinburgh to Istanbul and then overnight to Ulaanbaatar. Back in 2009 there was only one airport with a single road leading to the city which was covered in potholes and ruts. Now, 15 years on, a new airport, with a beautiful two lane highway stretching right into the heart of the city. This wasn't the only difference, extensive building work made the city unrecognisable, and the traffic (which was bad 15 years ago) was now unbelievable!

Back in 2009 we were accommodated in a Soviet style conference block in the middle of nowhere, miles outside of the city. This time everything was going to take place in the heart of Ulaanbaatar so that meant we'd be staying at a nice hotel (praise God!), although most of the time the hotel was just a base for a few hours sleep before waking at 5am for two hours of prayer before breakfast.

The duration of the trip was seven days, the first three devoted to the Siberian churches. Their contingent consisted of the main leaders and their wives from the now seven churches (including Moscow) which had grown from the initial two. It was wonderful to hug and embrace old friends and hear of their passion for Jesus amidst the difficulties that the war has brought. Those three days were devoted to teaching church leadership and encouraging a multi-generational outlook to their ministries.



World Mandate Asia started on the fourth day and here the Mongolian believers provided a wonderful time of praise and worship which brought the presence of God powerfully into the meetings. We saw a number of salvations and healings as well as hearing testimonies of what God had been doing amongst the believers.



where the arrival of fruit was guaranteed, so a time of celebration and joy. Outside the church were some trees with new leaves and blossom and, as I was walking towards the church door, I heard the Holy Spirit say to me that I had to break off a branch and touch folk on the head to receive the promise of fruit and particularly healing! "Oh no, Lord, why me?!!" was my first thought but, if that's what He wanted, so be it! Well, everyone was touched on the head, the Siberians were still there so they got touched too. In fact, during the second service of the day, people were actively running over to be touched. At the end of the last service, with the branch almost denuded of blossom and leaves, the pastor's daughter, who must have only been 4, took the branch from me and started waving it over the people - was that a sign of fruit and healing for the next generation? Only God knows. Later that day, while having dinner with the Siberians, I was wondering why I had to release healing with the branch as its purpose was primarily the promise of fruit. One of the Siberian leaders shared that in fact the tree was a Siberian elm and that all aspects of the tree had healing properties, so healing was very appropriate - wow, who knew?! God does move in mysterious ways!

So, "What was the effect of all of that?", you may ask. I'll never know until I return next year. So often in the past you only get to hear the outcome of prayer and prophecy when you return. When previously visiting the Siberian churches people would come to you and say, "You prayed and..." stories of barren wombs now bearing children, deaf ears opening, people walking away from wheelchairs, as well as doors opening for career improvement, people finding a new direction and purpose, etc etc. So I wait with anticipation and expectation for that call from Joe to see if I'm ready for another trip East in 2025!



*Peter McDermott*

## Autumn Newsletter Deadline: August 26th

If you have anything coming up in the autumn or news of how God is moving in your life that you'd like to share with the church, please send in plain format with photos as attachments to me at [alisonorr1@gmail.com](mailto:alisonorr1@gmail.com). I would also very much appreciate any feedback on the newsletter. Is there anything you really like or don't like about it? I will do my best to take on board all your comments. Thank you!

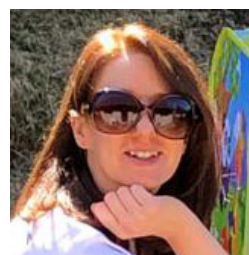
*Alison Orr, Newsletter Editor*



## A Journey of Faith and Transformation

*I sat down with Sam Stevenson-Roseblade to discuss her remarkable transformation and faith journey. Her story of overcoming profound loss and anger through her Christian faith is both inspiring and deeply moving. Here is Sam's story told in her own words. - Anne Sikorski*

**Anne:** Can you tell me about your early life and how your spiritual journey began?



**Sam:** I grew up just outside Glasgow. My nana, a devout Christian, was a constant presence, taking me to church every Sunday. These early experiences instilled in me a deep connection to God, providing a sanctuary from the chaos at home. At 10, during a particularly moving church service, I experienced a spiritual awakening. My friends and I wrote our names on post-it notes and stuck them on a cross, symbolising our commitment to Christ. This act marked the beginning of my lifelong, albeit tumultuous, relationship with God.

**Anne:** Can you tell us a little about the tragic events in your life and how they affected your faith?

**Sam:** When I was 11, we moved to Sleat in Skye. My mum had become a Christian and been freed from drink and drugs. We relocated so she could attend the Gaelic college there. Life seemed to be back on track, but that was short-lived. When I was 13, I lost my mum, nana, grandad, and uncle within one year. My dad wasn't part of my life, so my brother and I were left without any family support.

These sudden, devastating losses plunged me into a state of anger and rebellion. I turned my back on God and the church, feeling abandoned and betrayed. My trauma and grief led me to keep the wrong company, although I didn't have an addiction, other than smoking, but that changed when I was 27 and broke my back.

When I was in the hospital with this, I was given strong pain relief. One of my in-laws was addicted to this tablet and wanted me to give my tablets to them, telling me to try amphetamines instead, which they gave me. This was where my journey of drug abuse began. Amphetamines are a dangerous, highly addictive drug that seriously impacts brain chemistry, often leading to psychosis and violence. For me, this triggered a severe eight-year psychosis. During one episode, I spent a year trying to establish an alibi, convinced I was being framed for a murder.

**Anne:** What was the turning point for you?

In 2013, on New Year's Eve, I had a spiritual encounter. By this point, I was living in Renfrew and had four children. Walking down the road, I saw an old couple getting into their car and asked them for a lift. They agreed. At some traffic lights, the car's locks went down, and I thought, "Oh no". But then I saw a guy I knew crossing the road and told them he was a bad guy. They said, "Yes, you know." It was very freaky. It was like they were discerning that I knew God and goodness. Then they started talking about God. As I left the car they gave me their phone number and told me to contact them.

Within a month, I was in a really bad place, absolutely broke. I remember it was a Sunday morning, and I got the kids up and said, "Right, we're going to church". We went to church, and guess who the pastor was – the old man and his wife. Not only that, but the postie and my daughter's nursery teacher were the worship leaders - and they had all been praying for me. Why did I pick that church to go to? I don't know. It could only be God. At that point, I started to come off everything and realised that God was after me.

I also realised I needed to leave Renfrew and, in early 2014, I returned to Skye. Initially, everything seemed to be going well, but I went to Renfrew for the summer and when I returned to Skye, I was extremely high. I had contacted the social services as I was struggling to look after the children with back pain. What followed is a story for another time, but they took my children from me.

This period marked one of the darkest times in my life. I faced overwhelming injustice and corruption within the system, but my own behaviour left me defenceless. Ultimately, I lost my children for good.

This loss propelled me into a deeper spiral of aggression and violence than anything I had experienced before, fuelled by injustice, corruption and unresolved trauma from my childhood. Multiple adverse experiences compounded into complex post-traumatic stress disorder (CPTSD). As my counsellor later explained, the accumulated traumas built up until they became unmanageable, causing me to reach a breaking point.

My emotional state became so volatile that when I was finally imprisoned, I preferred the confinement of a cell over the stress, pressure and corruption I faced on the outside. Prison seemed like the only escape from the relentless pressure. I was in such turmoil that I couldn't even explain my feelings.

As I sat in that prison cell, I reached a pivotal moment. I prayed, "Lord, make this better. You have to show me not just how to improve my situation so I can get my kids back, but so that everyone gets well and has peace." This desperate plea marked the beginning of a profound transformation in my life and that night, I had a dream about my drug and alcohol abuse.

**Anne:** Can you tell us about that dream?

**Sam:** It was really vivid. In it I saw a man I had known five years earlier, who had attended Teen Challenge Christian rehabilitation ministry, baptising me in a river. This dream provided a sense of clarity and direction that had been missing for years. When I woke up, I felt an overwhelming sense of peace and a lifting of the heavy burden that had weighed me down for two decades. This spiritual awakening led me to seek help at Teen Challenge. The centre I attended was Benaiah, their women's residential recovery centre near Aberdeen.

**Anne:** How did Teen Challenge impact your recovery?

**Sam:** Teen Challenge became the turning point in my life. The programme offered Christian counselling and Biblical tools to address my PTSD and other life-controlling issues. The supportive environment allowed me to confront and heal from my past traumas and equipped me to live a normal life. It was at this point in Teen Challenge that I realised the power of the Holy Spirit in connecting the dots in my life.

I started to see that God's goodness had been following me all the days of my life, even through the bad times. I now know that while we are free to make choices, we are not free from the consequences of those choices, including the choices made by our family members before us. I began to understand that the impact of other people's choices also plays out in our lives. I saw the thread of God's presence, chasing me through my life from age 10, through each encounter with Godly people. Everything made sense, and I could discern the truth from the lies that were dressed up as truth.

Here, I truly understood the power of the Holy Spirit working in my life. Teen Challenge gave me counselling, but the pain was initially too raw and overwhelming to face on my own. I had to draw on the power of the Holy Spirit, and that is essentially what Teen Challenge helped instil within me.

**Anne:** Can you share more about your prophetic dreams and their impact?

**Sam:** During my time at Teen Challenge, I began to experience prophetic dreams regularly. These dreams often provided guidance and reassurance during difficult times. One particularly significant dream involved my eldest son. In the dream, I saw him smashing a CCTV camera. Months later, I learnt that my son had been charged for an incident involving arson and vandalism of a CCTV camera, just as I had dreamt. These prophetic experiences reinforced my faith and affirmed the presence of the Holy Spirit in my life.

Initially, I didn't fully understand my prophetic dreams and even sought medical help, thinking they were nightmares caused by my PTSD. Over time, I realised these dreams were the Holy Spirit's way of





guiding me, and I was thankful that God had made me receptive to listen. The Holy Spirit is with every Christian; however, it's up to us to be receptive and listen. I'm still on that journey, still wondering what made me so receptive. Was it my lowest point? I'm not sure why I became so open to the Spirit, but I'm thankful that I did.

My journey of recovery also led to the restoration of my relationships with my children. My middle son now lives back in Skye full-time, and I have regular contact with my other children. This is a beautiful outcome of God's restoration, as it's not only about restoring family but also about healing and renewal.

**Anne:** *What challenges have you faced within the church community?*

**Sam:** Throughout my journey, I've encountered judgement and misunderstanding within the church community. For example, once a lady from my church shook her head disapprovingly at my clothes. Such experiences can be deeply hurtful, highlighting the need for more compassion and understanding within church communities.

**Anne:** *What is your perspective on the Holy Spirit and His role in our lives?*

**Sam:** People often make the Holy Spirit more complicated than necessary. My journey showed me that understanding the Holy Spirit is not as daunting as it may seem. The Holy Spirit is present in the lives of everyone who has accepted Jesus Christ.

However, understanding the Holy Spirit can seem confusing without proper guidance. Many people, including myself initially, can find it challenging to recognise His voice in daily life. This is where the church can play a crucial role. My experience at Teen Challenge highlighted the importance of clear teaching and support in understanding and experiencing the Holy Spirit. They provided a model that helps people to connect with the Holy Spirit in a meaningful way, and it changed my life - giving me the power and everything I needed to break the cycle of adverse experiences that resulted in PTSD, addiction, the loss of my family and imprisonment.

**Anne:** *What message would you like to share with the church community?*

**Sam:** We need to approach those in need with compassion and understanding. Adverse childhood experiences are often at the root of drink, drugs, crime and family breakdown in our communities today. Judgement can alienate those who are already struggling. Simple acts of kindness and support, combined with understanding, can make a significant difference. The church has everything it needs to make a truly powerful difference in the lives of many broken and hurting people in our communities. It really does have the golden bullet. It can help so much more by providing clear teaching and showing people how to recognise the Holy Spirit's voice in their daily lives, and apply this to their situation, just as Teen Challenge did for me.

**Anne:** *What would you say to those in need?*

**Sam:** You don't need to be in church to communicate with the Holy Spirit; you can do it anywhere. My journey truly began when I reached an all-time low, cried out to God in desperation, and started listening to and obeying the Holy Spirit in a prison cell. For those seeking help, reaching out is a sign of strength. Programmes like Teen Challenge offer Christian counselling and practical tools for recovery. Find a Christian anywhere and ask for help, Google "Teen Challenge" or pick up the phone and call me.

**Anne:** *If someone wants to contact you to speak about your journey, or theirs, can they, and how should they do that?*

**Sam:** Absolutely. I am more than happy to share my story and offer support to anyone who needs it. You can contact me by phone on 07826 321378 or through my Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/sam.stevenson.73932](https://www.facebook.com/sam.stevenson.73932)

**"You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. LORD my God, I will praise you forever."**

Psalm 30: 11-12

## Jackie's Curry Night

A farewell curry was held in May, to thank Jackie MacLennan for all her work as Parish Development Assistant. Jackie had attended the Kirk Session meetings in her role as PDA, along with Margaret Macrae, our Treasurer.



## Sleat Make it Count Group

Some of the lively bunch who attend the Sleat Make it Count Group (otherwise known as the Baby and Carer Group). You might notice that a new member is expected any day now! What a joy it is to spend time with them all (and, yes, we do have dads who attend too - just not that day!). New members always very welcome.

*Jean Gillies*





## Young Church at Kyleakin

We are so happy that Sunday School and YC (Youth Church) continue to flourish. Two from Sunday School have moved up to YC this term. We were able to co-ordinate our Bible references to help them move easily between the 2 groups. In Sunday School we had been looking at the 12 disciples up to Christ's ascension so, when we joined with YC, we all looked at what the disciples (old and new!) did next, how they managed to set up the new church, and, of course, Paul.

Huge thanks go to Jackie, Angus, Ruth and Janette who lead the YC group (and make the hot chocolate too!) and to Kirsten, Ruth, Jenn and Greta, who help me with the wide range of younger ones in our Sunday School (youngest just 2 years old!).

*Lesley Jones*



*Photos left to right: Paul's conversion; Peter's vision of the sheet full of animals  
Front: Our end-of-term Family Service*



## Kilmore End of Term Service & Youth Vestry Graduation

Kilmore enjoyed their end-of-term service which was special this year as it was the Youth Vestry's first graduation! Caramarie, Emily, Eubha and Iain have all now completed their YV journeys and are moving into adulthood, which means no more hot chocolate! We have so enjoyed having them as part of our congregation and hope they will continue to be, whether regularly for those staying local or during the holidays for those going further afield.

YV received handmade books with some guidance on next steps, a scrapbook of photo memories, and some words of wisdom which had been collated by the Kilmore congregation earlier this year.

The next YV cohort - Cailean John, Lexy and Sam - received a handwritten card from YV with their best wishes for moving up to YV and for CJ and Lexy who are about to start high school.

The Sunday School numbers remain healthy and it is always an encouragement to see the children turning up, week in, week out. Grateful thanks as always to our dedicated team of volunteers.

*Nicola Thomson*



*Photos left to right: YV received student bibles and a book of memories and words of wisdom from the congregation; a token of thanks from YV to the congregation  
Front: Kilmore Young Church 2024*





Kilmore Church Ladies Bible Study meets every week, except school holidays, on Thursday afternoon at 2 pm. The session starts with a cup of tea or coffee, sometimes cake or a biscuit, then we are ready to start!

There are around 9 of us if we all can attend. Through the winter months we looked at the books of Ruth and Esther. We decided our next study would be “Meeting the Spirit”. We have done 10 studies learning about the Holy Spirit.



We have been challenged by our studies, we are bonding and getting to know each other as a group and supporting each other to grow in our faith and relationship with God. We are excited for what God wants to do in our lives and through our lives in the future.

We will be starting our next study after the school holidays in which we will introduce a praise and worship time into our study. We are looking forward to seeing God doing great things in us and through us.

Come and join us on Thursday at 2 pm. Contact Jean Gillies at [jeangillies@btinternet.com](mailto:jeangillies@btinternet.com), 01471 844281, for further details.

Joy Westerman

Can You Find The Disciples?

From Bàbaidh NicThòmais



ANDREW BARTHOLOMEW JAMES JAMES JOHN JUDAS MATTHEW  
PETER PHILIP SIMON THADDAEUS THOMAS

Farewell to Melvin. Chuirear soraidh slàn air Melvin a bha na oileanach aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig agus na phàirt de choitheanal na Cille Mòire agus den Bhuidhinn Bhìobaill.

CHaidh a’ Bhuidheann a stèidheachadh airson cothrom a thoirt don choitheanal, do dh’oileanaich agus do mhuinntir na sgìre leughadh tron bhìobail agus bruidhinn mu dheidhinn sa Ghàidhlig. Chuirear crìoch air soisgeil Eòin o chionn ghoirid agus bithear a’ coimhead air litrichean Pheadair is Eòin às deidh an t-samhraidh.

Bhiodh fàilte chridheil ort - bidh sinn a’ seinn bho Sheinneamaid Còmhla, agus ag obair tro cheistean stèidhichte air na h-earranan a leugh sinn. ‘S e buidheann bheag chàirdeil a th’ annainn. Gach Diciadain, aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, aig 7.30f. (a’ tòiseachadh a-rithist 21/08). Gheibh sibh srupag cuideachd!



YV met with Rev George and Mary al-Kopti, their hosts from the Jordan trip, on Zoom in June. The Jordanians are hoping to finally get a chance to visit Strath & Sleat in June 2025. It is expected that around 8-12 teens will visit alongside George and Mary and that YV members will be home on their holidays from college and uni. As part of the planning, Nicola and Archie are looking to hear from anyone who would be interested in being a host family for up to 2 teens for up to a week. We expect to have a very full programme but would like at least one evening to be with their host family for a meal. If you’d be interested, and at this stage just registering an interest, please let Nicola know on [strathandsleat@gmail.com](mailto:strathandsleat@gmail.com).

Nicola Thomson



# A Prayer of Commitment to God

Marianne sent in this prayer from UCB Word for Today. She says, "I try to pray this prayer most days and I would like to share it with others. I find it says all that I want."

**I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.**  
John 17:4 (NKJV)

If the desire of your heart is to please God and fulfil His will for your life, here is a prayer for you:



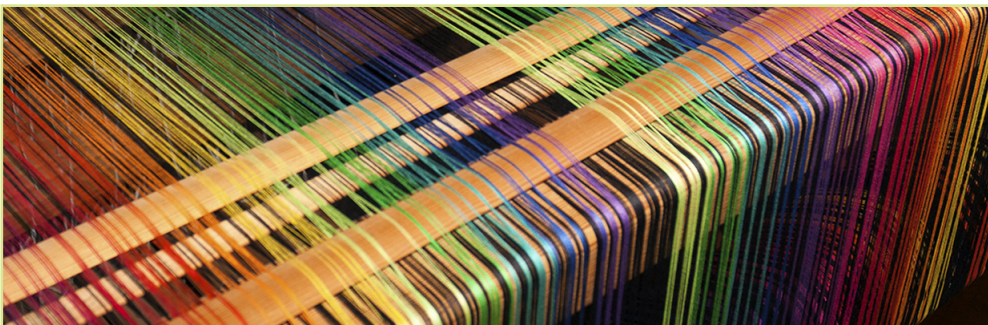
"Lord, I thank You that even though You know everything about me, You still love me. You know my thoughts, my mistakes, my sins, and yet You still call me your child. Your grace towards me is beyond comprehension. More than anything else, I want to know You intimately and sense Your presence in my life each day. If there is any part of me that I have kept from You, show me that I can invite You to rule and reign there. Come into me, Holy Spirit, and revive my soul with rivers of living water. Then flow out through me into a dry and thirsty world (see John 7:38-39). Help me to keep my eyes fixed on You instead of others (see Hebrews 12:1-2).

Lord, be my richest treasure always. Help me never to make an idol out of anyone or anything or allow possessions or the distractions of this world to get in front of You in any way. You are my healer, my hope, and my strength. When I need freedom, You are my deliverer. You are my shield from the Enemy, my counsellor when I need guidance, and my stronghold in the day of trouble (see Psalm 32:7). Truly, You are the God of miracles. Work Your miracles of grace in my life and keep changing me from day to day in Your likeness (see 2 Corinthians 3:18). In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

# The Weaver

*This anonymous poem metaphorically describes life as a tapestry woven by God. It highlights how we might not understand the reason behind the events in our lives, but God, the weaver, has a greater plan that we cannot see until it is complete.*

My life is but a weaving	Not till the loom is silent	He knows, He loves, He cares;
Between my God and me.	And the shuttles cease to fly	Nothing this truth can dim.
I cannot choose the colours	Shall God unroll the canvas	He gives the very best to those
He weaveth steadily.	And explain the reason why.	Who leave the choice to Him.
Oftentimes He weaveth sorrow,	The dark threads are as needful	
And I in foolish pride	In the weaver's skilful hand	
Forget He sees the upper,	As the threads of gold and silver	
And I the underside.	In the pattern He has planned.	



# Is Gràdh Dia

We buried Norman's ashes yesterday.  
I took the service, at Armelle's request,  
The first funeral I have ever done.  
I was very nervous, and concerned that I should do it justice.  
Did I need an HND? (Norman would have asked.)

When we went to the cemetery  
Norman's ashes rode on a wooden bicycle  
That he had made.

After the interment, I walked over to your grave.  
I stood in silence to admire afresh the beautiful piece of work  
That is your memorial,  
Lovingly crafted by Liondsaidh.

You're not there, though, are you?  
Only your remains.  
The "you" I loved lives on  
In a place that needs no created light.  
A new and better world of peace and love.  
Of love, with God,  
Who is love.

Peter Piddock, March 2024

# Funny thing?

Anne Bethune was given this poem for the newsletter by Doreen Smith.

Funny how long a couple of hours spent at church are,  
but how short they are when watching a movie.  
Funny how thrilled we get when a football game goes into extra time,  
but complain when a sermon is longer than usual.  
Funny how laborious it is to read a chapter in the Bible,  
but how easy it is to read 200-300 pages of a best-selling novel.  
Funny how we believe what the newspapers say,  
but question what the Bible says.  
Funny how people scramble to get a front seat at any game,  
but try to get a back seat at church.  
Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray,  
but don't have any difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.  
Funny how we take directions from a total stranger when we are lost,  
but are hesitant to take God's direction to be found.  
Funny how people are so consumed with what others think about them,  
but less concerned with what God thinks about them.

Anonymous



## Apricot and Walnut Soda Bread

Jane's loaf was very popular when she took it to Broadford one Sunday to illustrate John 6:35:

**"I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger,  
and he who believes in Me shall never thirst."**

400g plain flour

50g porridge oats

½ tsp salt

1 level tsp bicarbonate of soda

50g ready to eat dried apricots, chopped

50g walnut pieces, roughly chopped

250ml natural yogurt

175ml milk



1. Heat oven to 200c/fan 180c/gas 6. Line a baking sheet with baking parchment. Tip the flour, oats, salt and bicarb into a large bowl. Add the apricots and walnuts (or whatever combination of fruit and/or nuts that you like! Cranberries are good too), then stir to mix everything really well.
2. Stir the yogurt and milk together, then pour into the dry ingredients and mix lightly with a knife to make a very soft dough. Don't overmix or the dough will toughen. Put the ball of dough on the baking sheet and pat to make a rough 18cm round.
3. Cut a deep cross in the top of the loaf with a sharp knife and bake for 30 – 35 mins, or until the loaf sounds hollow when it is tapped from underneath. Wrap in a tea towel – this helps to keep the crust soft – then cool the loaf on a rack before slicing.

Really good toasted as well!

Jane McDermott

## Church Life

*Be Still*  
AND KNOW  
THAT I AM GOD  
-PSALM 46:10

### Funerals

Broadford  
6/6/24

Mary Watson MacInnes, Fred Vincent, Thomas McKellar & Sons

### Weddings

Kilmore  
18/05/24

Emily MacDonald & Rory Douglas (by Rory MacLeod)



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# Services and Meetings

## OUR CHURCHES

### Broadford

High Street  
Broadford  
Isle of Skye  
IV49 9AB

### Kilmore

Kilmore  
Sleat  
Isle of Skye  
IV44 8RG

### Kyleakin

Meuse Lane  
Kyleakin  
Isle of Skye  
IV41 8PH

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**All three churches have an 11am Sunday morning service**

**NB** Except 4 times a year when the whole parish meets in one church to celebrate Communion (please see weekly notices for dates)

**Kyleakin** 4.30pm **Nourish**, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of term-time months  
6pm **Fellowship**, on the other Sundays

**Gaelic Services** 3pm **Broadford**, 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays  
3pm **Kilmore**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

## MID-WEEK MEETINGS (please contact one of the elders for more information)

**Mondays** 10.30 -12.30 **Make It Count Sleat** - babies with parents/carers - in the Sleat & Strath Free Church, Teangue, *will resume in August*

11am **Prayer for Revival** (on Zoom)

**Tuesdays** 10.30 -12.30 **Make It Count Broadford** - babies with parents/carers - in Broadford Church

7.30pm **Kyleakin Prayer Meeting** in Kyleakin Church hall

**Wednesdays** 7.15pm **Buidheann Bhiobail** ann an Seòmar Eige, ACC, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

7.30pm **Broadford Bible Study** - in Broadford Church

**Thursdays** 2pm **Ladies' Group Meeting** in Kilmore Church - all ladies welcome - please speak to Jane or Jean for further info. *We're taking a break over the summer holidays but will have 1 or 2 one-off meetings which will be intimated separately.*

## Contacts

### CHURCH SESSION

#### Broadford / Elgol

Mairi Dick  
mairid375@gmail.com 01471 822441

Farquhar Graham  
wfgat14lb@gmail.com 01471 822671

#### Kyleakin

Tony Breen  
strathandsleatworship@gmail.com 07758 978615

Lesley Jones  
lesleyinskye@yahoo.co.uk 01471 822023

#### Sleat

Jean Gillies  
jeangillies@btinternet.com 01471 844281

Jane McDermott  
janemcd.aird@gmail.com 01471 844362

Peter Piddock  
misty.croft@btinternet.com 01471 855245  
07942 360450

#### Session Clerk

Nicola Thomson  
strathandsleat@gmail.com 01471 833255  
07825 302548

### INTERIM MODERATOR

Rev Fred Vincent 07971 507 952  
fvincent@churchofscotland.org.uk

### TREASURER

Margaret Macrae  
mfmacrae@aol.com 01599 534695

### YOUNG CHURCH LEADER

Timmy Currie timmypcurrie@gmail.com

### PRAYER SECRETARY

Mary Fennell 01471 820168  
prayercoordinator1995@gmail.com

### WORSHIP TEAMS

**Broadford** Mary Strachan 01471 822262

**Kilmore** Heather Dodgson 01471 833295  
Peter McDermott 01471 844362  
Joy Westerman

**Kyleakin** Tony & Kirsten Breen 07758 978615  
Harry Saunders 01599 534145