Welcome to Stonehaven Fetteresso



22nd February 2021



Services at Fetteresso

Due to the current lockdown Fetteresso Church building is now closed. Worship will take place online on Sunday mornings until further notice.

Online services and CDs of the service will be available as usual.



LENT STUDY SERIES

17 February to 25 March

Join one of two online study groups:

Wednesdays, 2 to 3 p.m. 17 February to 24 March or Thursdays, 7 to 8 p.m. 18 February to 25 March Lent is, in the words of Alexander Schmemann, 'a school of repentance, to which each Christian must go every year in order to refresh the understanding of his faith'. This year, you are warmly invited to mark Lent by joining others from Carronside and Fetteresso churches in a six-week programme of Bible study and conversation centred on the Gospel of Matthew.

To get started, simply download a study guide from www.fetteresso.org.uk. There you will find a complete set of readings as well as all the information you will need to join an online study group of your choosing.

The series begins on Ash Wednesday, 17 February, but you are free to join at any time. We look forward to sharing Lent together with you this year.

For more information, contact Donald Wood at dwood@churchofscotland. org.uk.

Join together in prayer with CrossReach this Lent

CrossReach is combatting isolation this Lent by inviting everyone to send them a prayer from 17 February to 3 April, which will be collected together and released on Easter Sunday.

Entries can be submitted to the Church of Scotland's social care arm as a short 10-second video, audio



file, or letter, which will then be used to create a single online prayer stream.

The 'Prayer Share' aims to cut through the loneliness of the pandemic and encourage people across Scotland to share our personal wishes for ourselves, our loved ones, our neighbours and the world.

Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, will provide the first prayer and has made a short video message encouraging people to take part.

"So many of us pray - even folks who wouldn't necessarily go to church or even think of themselves as religious, and yet we find ourselves praying," he said.

"It's something within us that suggests we want to connect with something outwith of us."

Viv Dickenson, CrossReach's chief executive officer, said:

"Crossreach supports people of all ages who face significant challenges in life, and this year we know that life has been challenging for an awful lot of people.

"For some, however, feeling lonely or isolated is nothing new. Before this pandemic struck many people told us they were isolated, perhaps struggling with an addiction, their mental health, having lost a home or experienced a family breakup; perhaps living with the reality of grinding poverty or perhaps

simply just growing older and being unable to participate any more in their communities: each one an individual all longing and praying for a connection, a listening ear and a helping hand.

"So this year, in the lead up to Easter, we'd love you to join us in something powerful and special but really simple."

CrossReach is one of Scotland's largest voluntary social care agencies and operates more than 70 vital services across the country. Every year CrossReach helps more than 10,000 of Scotland's most vulnerable people supporting them to overcome their addictions, win their battles with depression, ease their anxiety and live the life they deserve.

Ordinarily CrossReach supporters take part in fundraising activities including walking pilgrim routes, running marathons and abseiling off the Forth Bridge, all of which have not been possible since the pandemic. Instead, the 'Prayer Share' is a great way to get involved whilst we can't be together physically.

"Easter Sunday brings with it the clarion message of forgiveness, of hope and of new life," Viv says.

"Every prayer you send us will make a difference and will help us offer hope to another this Easter.

"If you'd like to support in another way we will be taking donations which will help us to answer the prayers of people in vulnerable situations all over Scotland."

To submit a prayer online please go to

https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2021/jointogether-in-prayer-with-crossreach-this-easter

for more information and links

Submit a 10 second prayer by sending it through Whatsapp on the number 07368844767

Post a prayer by letter to: Supporter Development CrossReach, Charis House, 47 Milton Road East, Edinburgh, EH15 2SR

For more information on the 'Prayer Share' and to donate please go to the CrossReach justgiving page.

https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/crossreachprayershare

Moderator encourages Kirk members to use Lent as a period of reflection

Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair is encouraging people to use Lent as a time for reflection.

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland is encouraging people to use Lent, which this year runs from Wednesday 17 February until Saturday 3 April, as a period of reflection.



Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair also suggests that rather than give something up as is traditional, it could be used as a time to proactively start something new.

"This year let's try to avoid reducing Lent to 'I'm not going to eat chocolate'," he said.

"Perhaps don't think so much about what you're giving up - think about what you're taking up.

"What am I going to do this week that's positive? Think about what you might do.

"Lent is a period of contemplation and reflection and as we look to the eventual easing of lockdown what have we all been through this last year?

"Can we use Lent as a period to reflect on that? To think about what is important and what our priorities are and to introduce the spiritual into that. What will the journey towards Easter mean for us this year?

"For Holy Week we will be producing a series of daily reflections which will run from Palm Sunday to Easter day."

A prayer for Lent

Loving Lord,
Today we set out to walk towards Easter
To the cross and eventually to an empty tomb.
As we travel, open our senses, we pray,

To what you would have us see and hear and taste along the way And all that Jesus might come more clearly into sight.

Our desire is just that;

To see him more clearly

That we might love him more dearly and follow him more nearly.

Amid the talk of giving things up for Lent,

Forgive us for ways in which we have trivialised spiritual discipline

And lead us to what you would have us take up for Lent

And not least that desire for more of Jesus.

As we travel, shape our souls by your Spirit

And inspire our living by your Word.

We pray in Jesus' name,

Amen

Get involved

For more information and live links for articles listed below please go to:

https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2021/moderator-encourages-kirk-members-to-use-lent-as-a-period-of-reflection

Rt Rev Martin Fair is running a photography competition for all ages, 'Hidden in Plain Sight', until Wednesday 17 March. Find out how to enter. You can see the entries so far on the Church of Scotland website.

CrossReach are inviting people to submit short prayers which will then be collated and released on Easter Sunday.

Look out for updates on the Church of Scotland website or social media channels about online events during Holy Week

Contact Us

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Stonehaven Fetteresso Church



www.fetteresso.org.uk



Minister (

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Church Administrator:

Ailsa Conkey

The office is currently closed please

phone 01569 730143

Reading for Sunday 28th February

Fxodus 7:14-24

Listen to the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Right Reverend Doctor Martin Fair's Sunday service, every Sunday on

https://youtu.be/tWT-oojZq7Q

To contact the Church Administrator please phone Ailsa on 01569 730143.

The Yale lock on the main door into the hall has been changed. If you need a key for this door please contact Ailsa - the church administrator or Dick lenkins.

February 2021 Prayer Focus A New Way Forward



Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Lamentations 3:22-25

The days may still be cold. The pandemic continues, still we are waiting for things to improve. Yet outside there are signs of new life as green shoots slowly begin to appear. We look forward to the hope of spring.

We give thanks for our new minister Rev Mark Lowey and his new ministry amongst us. God is faithful. Despite the current pandemic we look forward to the days ahead and look expectantly for all that God will yet do.

Scripture reminds us of the new hope we have in Christ.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! **2 Corinthians 5:17**

God is in the habit of doing new things.

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. **Isaiah 43:19**

We look forward to the time we will join anew in worship and song together.

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him. **Psalm 40:3**

This month let us pray on for the new way forward together.

Creator God, each morning you are faithful. The sun rises and your glory is seen. Thank you that each day you offer us a fresh start to begin again. Thank you that you have heard and answered our prayers and have provided a new leader for us at Fetteresso. Help us to be your faithful disciples, to seek your plans and to commit to serving you each day. We look forward in faith and trust to the days ahead together. Amen

We offer a thought for your prayers for each day this month. Take a moment. Copy them into your daily diary or your calendar. Let's pray together daily.

1st. Rev Mark Lowey and new beginnings here for all the family.

2nd. A new way forward together at Fetteresso.

3rd. Children starting new schools in lockdown.

4th. Expectant mums, new mums and new babies.

- 5th. Those starting new jobs.
- 6th. Those settling in new homes and places.
- 7th. New ways to worship God together.
- 8th. Teachers finding and learning new ways of delivering education.
- 9th. The New Presidency in America.
- 10th. Session as they meet with Mark for the first time.
- 11th. For a way forward out of the pandemic
- 12th. New ministers.
- 13th. A praying Church.
- 14th. The vaccine supply and programme worldwide.
- 15th. Give thanks for our refuse and recycling collectors.
- 16th. Coast guards and all rescue services.
- 17th. Those parenting alone.
- 18th. Young widows and widowers.
- 19th. For revival in our nation.
- 20th. All who are ill and suffering.
- 21st. Give thanks for our abundant supply of fresh clean water and pray for those who lack it.
- 22nd. All who have suffered bereavement.
- 23rd. For the deaf who now cannot lip read because of masks.
- 24th. Those longing for a child.
- 25th. Those caring for those with disabilities.
- 26th. Teenagers and their future.
- 27th. New businesses.
- 28th. Children and young people struggling with lockdown and home learning.

Grampian Coronavirus Assistance Hub

If **you** need help, support or advice.

Anywhere in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire or Moray.

> 0808 196 3384 www.gcah.org.uk

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