**Praying for One Another:** Please add the following points to your prayer diaries:

**Dumisani:** Pray for the commencement of Term Four the first week of September at Dumisani Theological Institute, Eastern Cape and any new-incoming students to adjust well. Also pray for the substitute lecturer for the Four Gospels course who took this on after a lecturer was unable to attend. Pray with thanksgiving for the total unity from the board of governors at Dumisani Institute, Eastern Cape in the way forward for more male dormitory accommodations. The decision has been made to use existing owned land and build a new accommodation. Pray for the Dumisani Institute governors as they work on getting things in place with an architect and a building team for the new male dorm.

**Livingston:** Give thanks for the family baptism and five members joining the church in July, and all the people God is bringing through our doors. Give thanks for all the children and young people in the church. Give thanks for unity and direction in the church leadership. Please pray for opportunities, wisdom and boldness as we seek to build relationships with the community around the church. Pray that God would use our morning series in Mark’s Gospel to help us know and trust Jesus more.

**Nairn:** Our work here continues, and shortly we will be running again our Harvest Thanksgiving programme for local schools, with upwards of three hundred children expected to attend over the course of three days.  Pray that as they hear about where and who their food actually comes from, that they will want to learn much more about the Lord afterwards

Minister: Rev. James Blackwell 07596 299970

 01599 537223

Elders: Ken MacDonald 07895 678496

 Colin MacDonald 01599 522719

 Finlay MacDonald 07445 646444

Finance Committee: Donnie Lamont

 Ronnie Lamont

 Moira Lane

 Craig Scobie

Safeguarding Co-ordinators: Barbara MacDonald 01599 522719

 Moira Lane 01599 522709



WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday 7th September 2025

Service at 12.00 noon in Inverinate Hall

and

6.00pm in Glenelg Church of Scotland

We warmly welcome you to this service of worship and would love you to join us for tea, coffee and refreshment

*“The Lord is my strength and my defence; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.* ***Exodus 15:2***

**NOTICES**

**•   Today’s Services:** We are delighted to have Rev James Blackwell, leading our 12 noon worship from Matthew 3:13-17, Sermon – *‘The King is Baptised’*. Then from James 1:1, Sermon – ‘*True Religion’*, this evening in Glenelg. The audio from both services is recorded and are accessible on our website.

* **Praise:**

Hymn – *You’re the Word of God the Father*

Scottish Psalter 119(7):49-56 (page 404) – *Remember, Lord, thy gracious word*

Sing Psalms 51: 1-15 (page 67) – *O my God, have mercy on me*

Hymn – *Holy, Holy, Holy*

* **Sunday School:**Sunday School and JaM Group will run as usual today during our service. There is also a creche for the very little ones.
* **Next Sunday 14th September:** The minister is away on leave from the 10th-17th September, the services in Inverinate and Glenelg will be taken by Mr. George Barnie an elder from Smithton. We look forward to his ministry.
* **Membership:** Following on from our mini-series on the church, if anyone has a desire to become a member or simply to ask what is entailed please get in touch with James or any of the elders and we would be delighted to chat about it.
* **Wednesday Bible Studies:** Our Glenelg Study Group are meeting at Mairi & Craig’s at 7.30pm this Wednesday and we will look at the book of James.Our Dornie group meets at Colin and Vivienne MacKenzie’s home at 7.30pm. All are warmly invited to either meeting.
* **Online Studies:**Our Ladies Study Group are continuing their Two-Year Bible Read Through study. Our Men's Study Group are continuing their study on the Shorter Catechism. It's always a great time to join up so if you are interested in joining either group please speak to Moira, Barbara or Colin.
* **Church Prayer Meeting:** Please remember that our Church Prayer Meeting is now held every Sunday at 11.15am before the Sunday Service. So please do come along and join us in prayer to our Heavenly Father.
* **Hope Explored:** ‘Hope Explored’ will continue on Tuesday 9th September at 19:30pm at the Chocolates of Glenshiel café. If you’re new to the faith or exploring what being a Christian means, this is perfect for you. Have a friend who is interested? Bring them along! All are welcome.
* **Heating Oil Scheme:** Argyle Energy have historically offered a preferential rate on heating oil for church buildings and manses. Recently they have expanded this scheme to include the personal residences of the congregation and the churches wider community. Anyone that is interested in joining can send an email asking for an application form to claire@argyleuk.com or telephone Hugh or Claire on 07760 446262 to request an application form.
* **Scottish Education in the Christian Context survey:** A survey has been commissioned by the Christian Education working group from the Free Church of Scotland to gather views, insights, and ideas for Christian Education in Scotland from a wide range of Christians across the country. The Group was established by the Free Church General Assembly in May 2024 and is chaired by Rev Allan Shearer. In the past year, the Group assisted the Public Engagement Group with the response to the Consultation on Removing Religious Observance in Schools. Answers from the survey, Scottish Education in the Christian Context, will help inform the next steps of the working group. Questions include ‘What does Christian Education mean to you? Do you have an opinion on Christian Education?’ The sections enable parents, guardians, and grandparents, those within the teaching profession and church leadership or church worker roles the opportunity to share their insights and experience.

The deadline for the survey is 4th October. Complete the survey at <https://forms.office.com/r/GA9aqnGYQd> or scan the QR code.

* **Invitation to Area Prayer Meeting – A Time of Thanksgiving & Prayer**

The vision of the Free Church of Scotland is for ‘A Healthy Gospel Church for Every Community in Scotland’. We recognise that we are completely dependent on God to bring about this vision.

Therefore, our focus in 2025 is going to be on thanksgiving and prayer. Giving thanks to God for all that he has done among us in the last 5 years and praying for the next 5 years.

We would love for you to join us at an Area Prayer Meeting at Kyle Free Church on **Wednesday 17th September**. It will start at 7.30pm but doors will be open from 7pm with the opportunity for conversation and a cup of tea.

We look forward to joining with you in prayer. In prayer we express our complete dependence on God.  And we join together in prayer asking that we might indeed see A Healthy Gospel Church for Every Community in Scotland.

To find out more, go to: [freechurch.org/hgc-area-prayer-meetings](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ccraig%5CDocuments%5CBulletins%5Cfreechurch.org%5Chgc-area-prayer-meetings)

* **COOL Resource Library:** Attendees of the Enrich conference back in March may remember me saying there were plans in the works to create a resource library on the COOL website with materials that can help with the children and youth work they are already doing. This Resource Library is now live!

The link for the resource library is below:

<https://coolscotland.org.uk/resources/>​
Thank you for your patience and happy planning