

## WELCOME

Thank you for the positive response to the launch of the Lockdown Weekly last week. This is a free resource to help people keep in touch with events in the Church of Scotland and related organisations during the Coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown. Please feel free to download and distribute as widely as possible.

### VE Day

The Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rt Rev Colin Sinclair, has asked Church members to remember the 75th anniversary of VE Day (today, Friday May 8) in prayer. A prayer marking the anniversary is on the Church of Scotland website, [www.churchofscotland.org.uk](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk)

### Virtual Heart and Soul

A digital version of Heart and Soul, the annual celebration of the life of the Church of Scotland, will be broadcast on Sunday May 17. The programme, which will run for just over two hours from 2pm via the Church website and Facebook page, will feature worship, music, stories and conversation.

### Annual Gathering Cancelled

The Church of Scotland Guild's Annual Gathering on September 5 has been cancelled. A statement on the Guild's Facebook page said 'it has not been an easy decision but one that is right under the circumstances'.

### Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week begins this Sunday, May 10. There is material on running online fundraising events, free daily worship and fun quizzes at [www.christianaid.org.uk/caweek](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/caweek)

### CrossReach 2.6 Challenge

More than £12,500 was raised for the Church of Scotland Social Care Operator by a series of fundraising events across the country, including:

- The Rt Rev Colin Sinclair and his wife Ruth raised more than £5500 through a stair climb
- The Guild held a 'virtual soup lunch', which brought in more than £3500

## Church Spreading Seeds of Hope



An Aberdeenshire church is helping to spread some colour and sunshine around its village. In Banff Parish Church's "Son'flower Seeds of Hope' project, launched at the weekend, sunflower seeds are being distributed to members and friends of the church. The hope is that spotting the sunflowers around the town will not only bring a smile to people's faces but also remind them that Jesus can be in our midst helping us find hope and new life together as we slowly, hopefully, emerge from lockdown. Church minister the Rev David Locke is pictured with his wife Marie, and son Isaac.

- Claire Griffiths of Glasgow played 26 tunes 26 times on her violin and raised £420
- Martha Bogle walked 2.6 miles around Bridge of Allan and raised nearly £1500
- Ian Hunter of Glasgow raised more than £1000 through a putting challenge, and his 11-year-old granddaughter, Abigail Lamb of Wishaw, completed a maths challenge and raised £37.

### Parish News

- An Orkney Church has become the fifth congregation in Scotland to gain an Eco-Congregation gold award. Westray Parish Church gained the award in part for its role in community energy projects which have helped lift island homes out of energy poverty.
- A minister has been called to a Highland church that has been vacant for 18 years. The Rev Iain MacLeod said he was delighted to have been inducted to the congregation of Assynt and Stoer in Lochinver.

### Life and Work

We apologise for any delayed deliveries, and ask for your patience. If you need to contact us, email [admin@lifeandwork.org](mailto:admin@lifeandwork.org) for deliveries, orders, or subscriptions, or [magazine@lifeandwork.org](mailto:magazine@lifeandwork.org) for the editorial team; or call 0131 225 5722. Visit [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org) for the latest news and a series of Coronavirus Diaries from Church of Scotland mission partners around the world.

### Resources

- 10 Bible Stories has new resources on several Old and New Testament stories at [www.10biblestories.org](http://www.10biblestories.org)
- The Scottish Bible Society has a new all-age video on The Good Samaritan at [www.scottishbiblesociety.org](http://www.scottishbiblesociety.org)
- Messy Church has Covid-19 resources at [www.messychurch.org.uk](http://www.messychurch.org.uk), and Facebook Live sessions every Wednesday at 9am and 8pm.