

# MONTHLY MEMO

## MARCH 2025

### ENCLOSURES

- **New Trustee Awareness Training Slides**
- **Teens' Conference Slide and JPEG Image**

### Board Updates – Board of Trustees

The Board next meets on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March. We will be meeting in person this time, in Edinburgh. Please pray for us as we meet. The Board will be considering applications for loans and property purchase grants, possible options for a new remittance system, the management accounts for 2024, updated legislation from the Practices and Procedures Group, and reviewing key risks. We continue as well to facilitating the Healthy Gospel Church Vision and co-ordinate work with other boards.

### Teens' Conference 2025 – Booking now open!

Booking has opened for the 2025 Teens' Conference.

The conference will take place from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at Lendrick Muir. Rev. Robin Gray, of Gardenstown Free Church, will speak on the theme of One with Jesus: The Blessing of Being in Christ. Anyone S5 or S6 age, as of January 2025, whether already a Christian or just interested to find out more, is very welcome. Do share this information with your congregations.

To book, go to: [Teens' Conference – Free Church of Scotland](#)

### Healthy Gospel Church Area Prayer Meetings

Three Healthy Gospel Church area prayer meetings are being held this month - and you are invited to join in prayer.

As part of the Healthy Gospel Church Vision our focus in 2025 is on thanksgiving and prayer. A number of area prayer meetings will be taking place this year.



The March and April dates are:

Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	St Peter's	Dundee Area
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Dowanvale	Central Glasgow and West of Glasgow
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Cumbernauld	East and North of Glasgow
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Buccleuch	Edinburgh Area
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	North Harris	Harris Area
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Stornoway	Lewis Area

The area prayer meetings will start at 7.30pm but doors will be open from 7pm with the opportunity for conversation and a cup of tea. For more details go to: [Healthy Gospel Church Area Prayer Meetings – Free Church of Scotland](#)

### **Free Church Youth Camps**

We're still looking for leaders at some camps and need a couple cooks. We are especially in need of a cook for Kincaig Juniors. You can find details [here](#) about how to sign up.

The Team Leaders' Training Day is this Saturday in Cornerstone Church Edinburgh. We have an exciting programme for the team leaders including sessions from Tom Muir, Robbie Sweet and MC Martin.

### **Board of Ministry – Resources to help identify counselling services**

We are delighted to share this link with you for resources to help identify appropriate counselling services for those who are in need. This has come from the Board Ministry Reference Team who would be happy to help if you wish any further guidance on this matter.

<https://freechurch.org/board-of-ministry/#bom-resources>

### **Board of Ministry – Guidelines for Interviewing resources now available**



The Board of Ministry has produced Guidelines for Interviewing, accompanied by a short video. These resources are available in the Secure Resources section of the website. Their purpose is to support anyone involved in conducting interviews within the church, promoting good practice, regardless of the context. We trust this will be of benefit to all involved.

### **In-Service Talks**

Talks from the 2025 in-service training are now available to listen to online. These can be found under the Secure Resources section of the website.

### **Women for Mission**

Women for Mission would appreciate if you would spread the news to the women in your congregation that the WfM Annual Get Together is on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May in Grace Church Leith, Edinburgh. It's a short meeting with a few speakers who are or have been funded by WfM. The 2025/26 project launch and followed by afternoon tea. Please get the date in your diaries now!

### **Youth Worker, High Free Stornoway**

High Free Church are seeking to appoint an energetic and enthusiastic individual with a passion for working with young people and encouraging them in the Christian faith.

To request a full job description and application details, email [chrismart3@gmail.com](mailto:chrismart3@gmail.com).

### **No 2025 Enspire event**

The Enspire event for ministers' wives will not take place in 2025 as the committee seek to further pause and review. Please pass this information on to your spouses to let them know. A further update will follow at a later date about plans for 2026.

### **New Trustees' Awareness Training**

Following on from the note in February's monthly memo which outlined changes to charity law, it seems appropriate to share some training material for new trustees. A slide presentation is attached which covers off the main responsibilities of a trustee with links to further reading if required.

### Accessing Payslips on Cintra

The way you access your payslips and P60s from the Free Church of Scotland has recently changed. You should have received an invitation link to create an account on Cintra Cloud's Employee Hub. These were sent to the email address you have provided to payroll. Please click on this, complete your personal details, and set a password. Once you have set up your account, you can log in at any time by navigating to <https://cintra.cloud>. If you have any issues, contact Fiona Russell ([fiona.russell@freechurch.org](mailto:fiona.russell@freechurch.org)).

### Create a Welcoming Church for Everyone, Prospects Scotland – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March

Prospects Scotland is hosting an inspiring and resource-filled webinar on Tuesday (11am -12.30pm) that will guide you in embracing individuals with learning disabilities. To book, go to: <https://forms.office.com/e/ARng0sn9p5>.

### Mental Health & The Church Conference, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May



This conference is being organised by NewGrowth Counselling but it is for anybody who wants to grow in thinking biblically about mental health and how the church plays a pivotal role in providing care. The conference will be held at St Columba's Free Church in Edinburgh. Steve Midgely (Executive Director of Biblical Counselling UK) and Rev Cory Brock (minister at St Columba's & lecturer at Edinburgh Theology Seminary) will be speaking. To book, go to: [Mental Health and the Church Tickets, Sat, May 3, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

### Faith in the Public Square – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

An event is taking place at Stirling Court Hotel to exploring the vital intersection of Christian faith and public life. There will be a Politicians Panel and keynote speaker David Holburn will speak on the topic 'Is it Bed Time for Woke - A theological discussion'. Tickets cost £40. Student tickets are available at a reduced rate, contact Shona for further info on [shona@logosscotland.org](mailto:shona@logosscotland.org)

To book, go to: [Faith in the Public Square Tickets, Fri, May 23, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

### Free webinars – International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA)

Every Thursday ICMDA doctors, dentists and experts run an hour-long webinar on issues relating to healthcare, leadership and Christian missions. Recent topics have included transgenderism through the lens of neuroscience, healthcare response to human trafficking and morality and ethics in today's world. For more information, go to: [Webinars - ICMDA](#)

### Mission Aviation Fellowship

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is the world's largest humanitarian air operator. It enables more than 1,400 aid, development and mission organisations to bring medical care, emergency relief and long-term development. Its pilots and personnel deliver relief workers, doctors, pastors, schoolbooks, food and medicines. The organisation is keen to partner with churches. If your congregation would like to find out more about MAF and how to support it, contact Andy Martin: [andy.martin@maf-uk.org](mailto:andy.martin@maf-uk.org)

### OM Report

Take a look at this video featuring Trizenia September, Associate Area Leader for OM in Africa. The video is of God's story in and from Africa told by Africans. Do share this video with your congregations.

[Watch the report.](#)

## Dates for your diary

### March

- 4 – Commission of Assembly
- 8 – FCYC Team Leaders Training Day
- 11 – Board of Trustees Meeting
- 14-16 – Free Church Youth Conference
- 17-19 – Board of Ministry Assessment & Interviews
- 19-20 – Mission Board Meeting

### April

- 18-21 – Central Office Closed
- 24 – Board of Trustees Meeting
- 26 – FCYC Cooks Training Day

## DIRECTORY PERSONNEL CHANGES

### Christ Church, Edinburgh

Linda MacFarlane (Treasurer) has a new email address. Her email is [christchurchedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:christchurchedinburgh@outlook.com).

### London

Kevin Arevalo has been appointed as Assisted Minister. His email is [k.arevalo90@gmail.com](mailto:k.arevalo90@gmail.com).

### Arran

Willie McAllister (Session Clerk & Treasurer) has a new email address. His email is [slidderysupplies@yahoo.com](mailto:slidderysupplies@yahoo.com).

### Knockbain

Rev. Murdo Campbell has been appointed as Minister. His email is [minister@knockbainfreechurch.org](mailto:minister@knockbainfreechurch.org).

### Tornagrain

Douglas Hutchens has been appointed as Interim Treasurer. His email is [douglas@dcal.co.uk](mailto:douglas@dcal.co.uk).

### Gairloch

Rev. John S. Ross has been appointed as Interim Moderator. His email is [johnstuartross@gmail.com](mailto:johnstuartross@gmail.com).

### Barvas

Rev. Ewen Matheson has been appointed as Interim Moderator. His email is [ematheson@emmail.uk](mailto:ematheson@emmail.uk).

### Shawbost

Rev. Calum M. Smith (680) has been appointed as Interim Moderator. His email is [calummurdo76@gmail.com](mailto:calummurdo76@gmail.com).

## Online Resources

A reminder that the directory and other resources can be accessed on the Secure Resource section of the Free Church website. Contact details can be uploaded via the online forms. Payslips and P60s can be accessed online. Clicking the icons below will take you directly to these online resources.

March 2025

Free Church of Scotland, 15 North Bank Street, The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 2LS  
T: 0131 2265286 E: [offices@freechurch.org](mailto:offices@freechurch.org)



SECURE  
RESOURCES



ADD NEW  
CONTACT  
DETAILS



UPDATE  
CONTACT  
DETAILS



ACCESS  
PAYSLIPS  
& P60s

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