



## **PRESBYTERY OF NORTH EAST & NORTHERN ISLES**

### **PRAYER POINTS – April 2025**

*Please use these 'Points' in personal prayer,  
but also encourage their use in church services/ meetings, studies & prayer groups*

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#### *Calendar Prayers:*

*Gracious God, we first give thanks and ask your blessing on the induction of Rev. Elspeth McKay on the **Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April** for Strathbogie Drumblade Church of Scotland in Huntly. May your blessings fall generously upon that congregation as they move into a new period of ministry. There are a number of vacant congregations in the presbytery, and we ask for honesty and grace as vacancy committees work to align with ministerial call. May each search be grounded in prayer and Your will. Amen.*

**Sat 12-20 April** – *Our prayer is for Jewish/Christian relations as we enter this holy time, please make this a time of celebration in worship, with respect for each tradition, raise awareness of appropriation, and reduce anti-Semitic rhetoric from our pulpits and congregations. Help us grow in understanding of your purposes in the world.*

*We offer prayers, Lord, for the visit of Moderator, Rt Rev Dr Shaw Paterson, in Orkney and Shetland NENI, **25-29<sup>th</sup> of April**, asking that they might be blessed by your Spirit and plenty of good weather. Grant him wisdom and a listening ear as he constantly gives a message of HOPE and encouragement to have faith and build together. We give thanks for those being awarded long-service certificates and ask your blessing on the ministry in these places.*

Please join together to pray for the presbytery. **Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 8 PM** Send your prayer requests to [ABender@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:ABender@churchofscotland.org.uk). All are welcome to join on the evening, and know your presence is enough, you will not be expected to speak. The link to the Zoom Meeting is here:

<https://zoom.us/j/99227330376?pwd=c1O5NyQFy3rZlFhwLjZSbOybhRTFRY.1>

Meeting ID: 992 2733 0376

Passcode: 960840

Prayers for Mission Work in Scotland and across the world:



#### **Assisted Dying Legislation.**

The Scottish Parliament Committee has been taking oral evidence from various experts for some weeks. They will now produce a written report which will be the basis for the Stage 1 debate. On 5 February 2025, Parliament agreed motion S6M-16341, that consideration of the **Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill** at Stage 1 be completed by 23 May 2025. We offer prayers for guidance and listening, respect and consideration from all sides as this important matter is weighed and discussed.



Please pray for **CrossReach** as care facilities face difficulties given the change in government legislation. We offer prayers for our elderly and those requiring special care and for all of those working in uncertainty. We pray for the projects sponsored by the Guild, Playful Beginnings, supporting families at Sunflower Garden in Edinburgh and Daisy Chain in Glasgow.



*In their Lifetime*

*Please help Christian Aid's partner **Rehabilitation Association & Agricultural Development for Afghanistan, 'Silk & Saffron' project**, to support and equip women in Afghanistan to come together to process, market and sell their product and benefit socially and psychologically as well as economically. May congregations in Scotland grow in their knowledge of this programme as well as enjoy fellowship and community while fundraising.*



From Fiona Kendall's recent visit to Ethiopia:

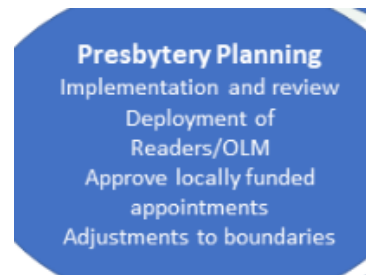
Loving God, we give thanks for willingness to tackling themes such as climate change, externalization, and bilateral agreements between European and African countries, and meeting formally with those developing labour migration policy for the African Union. We pray for continued work in this area and for churches to contribute positively to this work, giving thanks for the presence and expertise of Fiona Kendall.



From Keith and Ida Wadell's recent quarterly report: "The Hospital and community are fixing their attention now on all the behind-the-scenes work, organisation and preparation for our sponsored walk. On Saturday, 5th April 2025 the staff of the Mission Hospital will join many other people, friends of Mwandishi Mission, here in Zambia and overseas for our 10-kilometre run or walk, an event to raise money to build and equip a physiotherapy gym for our hospital. The objective is to raise funds for a dedicated modern building with all the necessary equipment for our physiotherapy department that treats so many patients at Mwandishi annually. The gym will also be used recreationally by staff outside working hours for a small subscription, towards sustainability." We pray for the success and generosity of this effort for all who take part.

**Particular prayers for this month for the  
Planning and Deployment Committee  
as they continue to promote a positive policy  
for the mission of Presbytery.**

Lord God, We ask your blessing on the oversight of the presbytery plan, the adjustments to parish boundaries and the placement of people to do your work throughout the North East and Northern Isles. Grant these committee members resilience, creativity and vision as they continue to influence the shape of our presbytery.



Convener: Tony Stephen  
Ministers: Andrew Kimmitt, Amy Pierce, Keith Blackwood, David Locke, Jonny Clipston, Donald Wood.  
Elders: Mr Stephen Hay, Mr Ewan Hay, Mr George Sinclair, Mr Steven Wilson, Mr John Anderson Mrs Elsie Dennison

An Easter Hymn

CH 416– Brian Wren

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift and war,  
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,  
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life, the truth,  
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love and praise.