



## UPDATE: JUNE – JULY 2024

*What a wonderful God we have—he is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of every mercy, and the one who so wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. And why does he do this? So that when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them this same help and comfort God has given us.*

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (Living Bible)

### On the winning side

This month our patrol rota is a little different from usual. We have been asked to patrol during the UEFA Europa Football League as it is anticipated that the town will be busier than usual. Sporting competitions such as these are great fun but when we support different teams, it is easy to become tribal and forget that there is more that joins us together than separates us.

Wanting to belong is part of the essence of how we are made. However, this can translate into being distrustful of those who are different for whatever reason. Even between Christians of different churches, which is why Street Pastors must have several churches coming together when setting up an initiative. We learn from each other in a myriad of ways.

When we come across someone on the street who is in distress from discrimination, we can explain that on a human level if someone dislikes you without having met you it is their own issue. Not easy to accept, if you are wanting to belong. On a higher-level we know that God loves humans – not always their acts, but he loves His creation. We know that through the cross the war against evil is won, so regardless of the scores in the coming week, we are on the winning side.



*Flags of the four nations taking part in Scotland's June EURO matches. There is more that binds us than sets us apart.*

## Patrol Dates for Prayer

June	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	22:00-03:00	City Centre
	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	09:30-11:30	City Centre
	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	17:00-19:00	Hilton
	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	17:00-19:00	Hilton
	Euros – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	20:00-23:30	City Centre
	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	09:30-11:30	City Centre
	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	13:30-15:30	City Centre
	Euros – Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	20:00-23:00	City Centre
	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	22:00-01:00	City Centre
	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	22:00-03:00	City Centre
July	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	09:30-11:30	City Centre
	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	17:00-19:00	Hilton
	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	17:00-19:00	Hilton
	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	22:00-01:00	City Centre
	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	22:00-03:00	City Centre
	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	09:30-11:30	City Centre

## Ness Pastor News

We are pleased to welcome a refreshed Mark back after his leave. He is thankful for the support and prayers and is much refreshed. This means Ross is able to implement his plans to retire in full at the end of July. We are immensely grateful for his work during a dynamic period of Ness Pastors and wish him a well-deserved rest. This does mean, though, that the management team will need to decide how best to take forward this vital coordination role.



Ross - older than he looks!

The new prayer pastors have started training and have one more session on the 15 June before they go out with one of the patrols as an observer during July.



## Prayer Points

Give prayerful thanks for the power of prayer and the privilege we have in being permitted to take part in God's plan for us.

Please pray for Ross and the management team as both navigate a time of change. Pray for wisdom as we discern the best path forward.

Summer holidays approach - pray for the young people with exams and in transitional phases of life as they grow and move into new life stages.

The summer months bring people to the town and, as well as tourists, we are seeing new faces begging and in need of support. Be bold and pray for an end to want and for positive solutions for those in need. Give thanks for the support offered through meals and companionship throughout Inverness.

Pray for the football matches to pass without discord.

Please pray for those struggling with discrimination in all its forms – pray that we see others as God does and enable us to pass on the love that we have undeservedly received.

*Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.*

Colossians 3:11 (NIV)