

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH  
NEWS LETTER**

**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2004**

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER  
“The Celebration of Christmas”**

Dear Friends,

The *Sunday Telegraph* once gave the results of a specially commissioned Gallup Poll about Christmas. Thirty-five per cent of the people consulted thought of Christmas as a religious festival. Twenty-six per cent of them thought of it as a holiday. Twenty-three per cent thought of it as an opportunity to meet family and friends. Five per cent thought of it as an opportunity for eating and drinking. Eleven per cent thought of it as none of these things. What answer would you have given?

Before I read the details of the poll, I naturally read the headline. The headline was, “**65 per cent leave Christ out of Christmas**”, clearly, this was something to make a Christian think. Then I read the poll, and I am not at all sure that the headline is the only way that the results can be summarized. The headline could equally well have read: “**More people think of Christmas as a religious Festival than in any other way.**”

Oh how quickly and easily some people are prepared to distort the Good News of the Christmas message!

It could have been pointed out that 10 per cent more people think of Christmas as a religious festival than think of it as a holiday or an opportunity to meet family and friends.

The fact still remains, however, that only a third of the people think of Christmas as a religious festival, and 65 per cent of the people consulted think that Christmas is less religious than it used to be.

Whatever else you do this Christmas come along and worship with us.

Join with us for the Family Nativity Service, the Christingle Service, the Mid-Night Watch Service or indeed our Christmas Day Praise. Together we can turn those figures around and make sure that Christ forever remains at the heart of Christmas.

Yours in Christ,

**Rev. Jean W Gallacher**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### November 2004

7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
8 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>KIRK SESSION</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café
14 <sup>th</sup>	10.40am	<b>Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	<b>Remembrance Service in the Church</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	12.15pm	<b>Remembrance Service at the Memorial Cross</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café
20 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-3pm	<b>CHRISTMAS FAYRE in the Hall</b>
21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship - Start of Guild Week and celebrating "Church Without Walls"
22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15am	Fraternal Meeting
22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.15pm	<b>The Guild: Concert - St. Mary's Folk Group</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café
24 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Business Committee for Presbytery
28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship - <b>GIFT SERVICE &amp; BAPTISM</b>
28 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	<b>Soup Lunch</b> in the Hall
28 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	<b>Evening Praise</b>
30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café

### December 2004

2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00pm	<b>Y.M.C.A. Christmas Service</b> in the Church
5 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>COMMUNION in the Church</b>
	3.00pm	<b>COMMUNION in the Complex</b>
6 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	The Guild: Finance
7 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café
11 <sup>th</sup>	2pm-4pm	<b>CHRISTMAS LUNCH in the Hall</b>
12 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship - <b>Children's Christmas Party</b>
13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEETING</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café
19 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship: <b>FAMILY NATIVITY</b>
	6.30pm	<b>CHRISTINGLE SERVICE in the Church</b>
21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30pm	<b>Mid-Night Watch Service*</b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>Christmas Day Praise</b>
26 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship - <b>Christmas "Toy" Service</b>

•Please note: Service time may be affected by organists availability

# CHRISTMAS FAIR 2004

**SATURDAY**  
**20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2004**  
**1pm - 3pm**

*Bric-A-Brac      Toiletries      Toys      White Stall*

*Books              Home Baking      Bottles              Plants*

*Soft Goods      Cakes & Candy      Sweets*

*Tombola              Craft Gifts              Groceries*

With your help we've got it IN THE BAG!

You are encouraged to fill up the carrier bag you received with this edition of the magazine and hand it to your Elder or bring it along to the Hall which will be open on the Friday night to receive your donations for the various stalls.

Admission 10p

Teas/Coffee 1.50

# WHAT'S ON?

## **Dunipace Parish Church Guild**

is hosting a

### **CONCERT**

**by St. Mary's Folk Group**

In the Church on

**MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER**

**at 7.30pm**

Tickets priced TWO pounds are available from Guild members.

Tea and biscuits will be served at the end of the concert.

This should be a great night and will definitely beat  
being stuck at home.

## **GIFT GIVING SERVICE**

**SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**at 11am**

You are invited to bring along gifts (valued at about two-three pounds each), which should be wrapped and marked for a Lady or Gent.

The gifts will then be distributed by Santa at the Christmas Lunch. The more gifts we receive the more people we can delight.

Once again you are thanked in anticipation of your help with this matter.

# **WHAT'S ON?**

**Dunipace Parish Church**

**COMMUNION  
SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**

**5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**11am in the Church**

**3pm in the Complex**

**You are cordially invited to share in the feast**

**Dunipace Parish Church**

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

**In the Hall on**

**SATURDAY**

**11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

**2pm-4pm**

**You will find your invitation inside this Magazine  
Complete it and return it by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

# **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2004**

## **Communion Services**

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 11am & 3pm**

The table of the Lord is open to all who love the Lord a little and would like to serve him more. Elders are asked to collect their communion cards from the vestibule. If you do not receive your card please still come along. The table is bare without you.

## **Christmas Lunch**

### **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2pm-4pm**

This is always a great afternoon. Invitations are included with this magazine. Don't delay, fill it in, pass it back to your Elder or hand it into the church.

A list for donations will be placed in the vestibule soon.

With your help we can make it as big a success as ever.

## **Children's Christmas Party**

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December after worship**

The children of the church are holding their party that little bit earlier this year. A warm invitation is extended to them all.

## **Family Nativity Service**

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11am**

As a family we celebrate together. The children (with some help from the adults) will present their nativity play which we are looking forward too.

## **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2004 (continued)**

### **Evening Christingle Service**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm**

You are invited to bring along a Christingle (we will have some available on the table) as together we celebrate Christ's Light.

Who will receive the Christingle Candle this year?

Come along and find out.

### **Watch-Night Service**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December (time to be confirmed)**

We hope to have tea and mince pies in the hall before we gather together for some community singing. We will then join together in the Church as we prepare to welcome the Christ child. Further details will be provided soon.

### **Christmas Day Family Praise**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am**

Get Christmas off to the best possible start with a short time of worship. The whole family is invited to join with us on Christmas Day.

### **Family Worship & "TOY" Service**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am**

Children (and the young at heart) are encouraged to bring along something they received at Christmas as together we give thanks for the greatest gift of all - the gift of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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*We extend a very special word of welcome to you and your family  
and hope that you will join with us for some or indeed all of our  
services over Advent & Christmas.*

*We remember in our prayers those who are house-bound or sick  
and pray that they may know God's blessings at this time.*

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## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

### How to make your own Christingle

You need:

1 orange

1 candle

4 cocktail sticks

Dried Fruit (cut into pieces)

Red Ribbon and some pins

*Tie the red ribbon round the middle of the orange and fasten with a few pins. Push the candle slightly into the orange. Put some pieces of dried fruit on each cocktail stick and push into the orange.*

*Then bring it along to the church on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm and join in our Christingle Service.*

## THE GIFT OF LIFE

Most of us will get many gifts at Christmas. Some gifts will be very practical (another pair of socks lads) some gifts will be funny (maybe a fish that sings) some gifts might be “sweet” and some gifts might even make us cringe!

It's good to get but it's also good to give.

You are urged to put the local church on your list.

Please give us the best gift of all - the GIFT OF LIFE.

As a registered charity the church relies on the support not only of its members but also of the community it serves.

Please think of us and give generously so that we can keep the Church Alive as we journey into 2005.

Donations should be made payable to “Dunipace Parish Church” and forwarded to the Treasurer or Minister.

THANK YOU

## **KEEPING YOU INFORMED**

### **“FAREWELL” TO CHURCH ORGANIST**

We bid ‘farewell’ to Mr David Faulds our organist at the end of November. David has been with us for fifteen years and has contributed greatly through his gift of music and song.

A presentation will be made to David during worship on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Contributions should be put in an envelope marked “organist” and passed to the treasurer as soon as possible. We extend our warmest thanks to David and our best wishes as his career moves him in a new direction.

### **CHURCH ORGANIST/ CHOIR LEADER VACANCY**

The result of David’s move means that we are of course desperately looking for an new organist and choir leader If you know of anyone who might be interested in a permanent position or in being part of a rota please pass their name to the Minister.

We pray that someone will feel called to a ministry of music.

## **ALL UNDER WAY AGAIN**

<b>SEQUENCE DANCE</b>	<b>Monday from 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>THE GUILD</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month 7.15pm-9.15pm</b>
<b>THE KIRK CAFÉ</b>	<b>Tuesday from 10am - 12noon</b>
<b>THE MEN’S GUILD</b>	<b>Tuesday from 7pm-9pm</b>
<b>LADIES BADMINTON</b>	<b>Wednesday from 1.30pm-3pm</b>
<b>THURSDAY LADIES</b>	<b>Thursday from 2pm-4pm</b>
<b>MIXED BADMINTON</b>	<b>Thursday from 7.15pm-9.30pm</b>

All of our Groups and Organisations provide an opportunity to meet new friends. You’re very welcome to give them a try.

## **KEEPING YOU INFORMED**

### **RETIREMENT OF CHURCH TREASURER**

Mr Duncan McKellar our treasurer retires from this position at the end of December, having undertaken the often 'thankless' task of keeping the accounts in order for the past ten years. Duncan has in his own quiet and effective way diligently fulfilled the duties of treasurer. It has not been easy I'm sure, what with increasing costs, decreasing membership and rapidly dwindling funds. Duncan should be commended and congratulated. This we hope to do more appropriately later in the year. Donations for a gift should be passed to the Minister.

### **CHURCH TREASURER VACANCY**

Once again the result of our treasurer's retirement is that we are desperately looking for someone to fill this vital position in the work and witness of the church. If you are interested in being our new Treasurer and would like to find out what the position actually entails please speak to the Minister as soon as possible or indeed to any member of the Finance Committee. Here too, we pray that someone will feel called to this ministry.

#### **KIRK CAFÉ**

In the Hall on a

**TUESDAY**

**From 10am - 12noon**

Teas, Coffee and Home Baking

If you can provide transport, help in the kitchen

Or donate home baking

Please contact Mrs Sheila Smith

## PARISH REGISTER

**BEREAVED** May God's comfort and peace be with those who mourn the death of a loved one:

Mr James Hewitson 281 Stirling Street, Dunipace.  
Mrs Helen Scott 30 Northfield Road, Dunipace.

**WEDDING** We rejoice with those recently married:

Sept 18<sup>th</sup> Mandy Tulloch & Iain Craig  
6 Meadow Court, Dunipace.

Sept 24<sup>th</sup> Karen Dunlop & Roy Freck  
53 Barnego Road, Dunipace.

## Help Us To Help You

If you would like to speak with the Minister about any matter: Baptism, marriage, church membership, please contact Miss Gallacher on 824540 to talk on the phone or arrange a visit.

**Please let the Minister (and/or the Church Elder) know if relatives or friends would like a visit while in hospital or at home. (Remember that hospital records are confidential)**

If you, or someone you know, would like a regular visit from a church member please contact the Minister or District Elder.

### CHILDREN'S STORY CLUB

In Dunipace Primary School Library

on a **WEDNESDAY**

from **3.15pm-4.15pm**

Children of Primary School Age Welcome

Further details from Mrs Barbara Fulford

(All stories are from the Bible)

## OUR WHO'S WHO 2004

<b>Minister</b>	Rev Jean W Gallacher	824540
<b>Student in Training</b>	Mrs Louise McClements	
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Mr Nigel Turnbull	
<b>Clerk to Board</b>	Mrs Tish Graham	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr Duncan McKellar	
<b>Freewill Offering</b>	Mrs Jean Gray	
<b>Gift Aid</b>	Mrs Sandra Thomson	
<b>Mission Aid</b>	Mrs Aileen Sneddon	
<b>Roll Keeper</b>	Mr David Turnbull	
<b>Presbytery Elder</b>	Mr Jim Winning	
<b>Organist</b>	Mr David Faulds	
<b>Children's Club &amp; Youth Fellowship</b>	Mrs Barbara Fulford	
<b>Sunday School</b>	Mr Lachlan McGown	
<b>Flowers</b>	Mrs Jane Mills	
<b>Communion Linen</b>	Mrs Dora Johnstone	
<b>Kirk Café &amp; Hall lets</b>	Mrs Sheila Smith	
<b>Transport</b>	Mr Jim Winning	
<b>Property</b>	Mrs June Davies	
<b>Finance</b>	Mrs Ann Marchant	
<b>Social Projects</b>	Mrs Erica McKellar	
<b>Hospitality &amp; Guild</b>	Mrs Maureen Pleace	
<b>Magazine Distribution</b>	Mr Bill Paterson	
<b>Communications</b>	Mr David Reynolds	

### VESTRY NIGHT

At the Manse on a **Wednesday** from 6.30pm.  
For other appointments please call the Minister  
**Rev Jean W Gallacher – 824540**