

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH  
NEWS LETTER**

**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2005**

**Charity No: SC 00 2943**

[www.dunipacechurch.org.uk](http://www.dunipacechurch.org.uk)

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

**Church Alive in 2005**

**God so loved the world**

Dear Friends,

One December afternoon many years ago a group of parents stood in the lobby of a nursery school waiting to pick up their children. As the youngsters ran from their lockers, each one carried in his or her hands the “surprise,” the brightly wrapped package on which the class had been working for weeks.

One small boy, trying to run, put on his coat, and wave to his parents all at the same time, slipped and fell. The “surprise” flew from his grasp and landed on the tile floor with an obvious ceramic crash.

The child’s first reaction was one of stunned silence. Then he set up an intolerable wail. The teacher, thinking to minimize the incident and comfort the boy, patted his head and murmured, “Now that’s all right. It really doesn’t matter at all. You can always make another “surprise.”

The child’s parents, somewhat wiser in such situations, dropped to their knees on the floor, took the boy into their arms, and said, “Oh, but it does matter. It matters a great deal.” And they wept with their son.

The redeeming God in whom we hope does not dismiss our lives with a pat on the head and murmured assurances that they do not really matter. The redeeming God in whom we hope, rather, falls to the earth beside us, picks up our torn and bleeding spirits, and says clearly, through the birth, life and death of Jesus Christ, “ Oh, but it does matter. It matters eternally.”

“God so loved the world, that he sent his only Son, that all who believe in him, might have life eternal.” John 3:16.

May the incredible love of God touch and transform your life and the lives of those we serve, this Christmas and always.

Yours in Christ,

***Rev. Dr. Jean W Gallacher***

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2005

### November

6 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship – <b>Baptismal Service</b>
7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Milton Fiddlers Concert</b> in the Church
13 <sup>th</sup>	10.45am	<b>Cenotaph Service in the town</b>
13 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	<b>Remembrance Service in the Church</b>
13 <sup>th</sup>	12.15pm	<b>Remembrance Service at Memorial Cross</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Congregational Board Meeting</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Commemorative Service</b> in Denny Old Parish
19 <sup>th</sup>	1pm-3pm	<b>CHRISTMAS FAIR</b> in the halls
20 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
25 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Family Ceilidh</b> in Denny Masonic Halls
27 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship – <b>GIFT GIVING Service</b>
	12.15pm	<b>Soup Lunch</b> in the hall
	6.30pm	Evening Service

### December

4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>Communion Service in the Church</b>
	3.00pm	<b>Communion in the Complex</b>
10 <sup>th</sup>	2pm-4pm	<b>CHRISTMAS LUNCH</b> in the halls
12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Kirk Session Meeting</b>
18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship – <b>Family Nativity</b>
18 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	<b>Christingle Service</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Dunipace Primary School Service in Church
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30pm	Tea & Mince Pies in the halls
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00pm	Christmas Carols in the Church
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30pm	<b>Midnight Watch Service</b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>Christmas Day Family Praise Service</b>

### January

1 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	<b>New Year's Family Praise Service</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
15 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship

A **Commemorative Service** recognizing the significance of the Paper Mill, over the years, in the local community will be held in **Denny Old Parish Church** on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.**

All are welcome

## WHAT'S ON?

### **THE MILTON FIDDLERS**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm**

The Guild invites you to join with them in the Church for a memorable night of music. Tickets priced £4 (*includes tea & biscuits*) are available from members of the Guild.

### **REMEMBRANCE SERVICES**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

**Cenotaph**

**10.45am**

The parade will leave St Alexander's in time to be at the cenotaph for the first of our Remembrance services. The service, this year, is to be conducted by the Rev. Dr. Jean W Gallacher

**Church Remembrance Services 11.30am & 12.15pm**

Please note the times for the services. After our morning service in the Church we gather outside at the Memorial Cross for a brief service.

### **CONGREGATIONAL BOARD & OFFICE BEARERS £20 CAMPAIGN**

The Board next meets on **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November** at 7.30pm in the church hall. There's much for us to arrange and do, so please give this date a high priority. Office Bearer's are reminded that last year we initiated an end of the year **£20 Campaign**. This provides the Office Bearers (*and anyone else*) with an opportunity to be creative and give that little bit extra as the financial year draws to its close. Donations toward the £20 Campaign can be brought along on the night of the Board (*Nov 14<sup>th</sup>*) or Kirk Session (*Dec 12<sup>th</sup>*); handed to the Treasurer; or put in an envelope marked "£20 Campaign" and placed in the offering bowl. You are thanked in anticipation of your on going support.

### **COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE Denny Old Parish Church Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

A service of thanksgiving, commemorating the contribution of the Paper Mill to the local community over the years, takes place in Denny Old Parish Church on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm. Come along and help us, both, celebrate their work and show our concern as we recognize how the lives of many will be affected by the closure of the paper mill. This service is open to everyone in the community.

**Dunipace Parish Church**

# **CHRISTMAS FAIR**

in the church halls

on

**SATURDAY 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**From 1pm-3pm**

*Home Baking*

*Soft Goods*

*Christmas Crafts*

*Books & Toys*

*Toiletries*

*Groceries*

*Bric-a-Brac*

*Green Stall*

*Plants*

*Teas/Coffee*

*Santa's "Lucky Dip" for the children and so much more...*

**Dunipace Parish Church**

# **FAMILY CEILIDH**

in

Denny Masonic Halls

on

**FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**From 7.30pm**

**Buffet tickets priced £5**

Are available from members of the Social Projects Committee

This should be a great night. You won't want to miss it!

*P.S. In connection with the above event a meeting, to arrange catering etc, is being held in the Reading Room on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.30pm. All interested parties are invited along. For more information please contact Mrs Dora Johnstone.*

**Dunipace Parish Church**

**GIFT GIVING  
SERVICE &  
SOUP LUNCH**

in the church  
on

**SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER  
at 11am**

You are invited to bring along wrapped gifts (*each gift should be to the value of about £3-4 pounds*) that should be clearly marked for a “lady”, “gentleman” or “either”. These gifts will be distributed at the Christmas Lunch in the hall on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**Soup Lunch**

Join with us, in the hall after morning worship on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November, for a simple homely meal. Proceeds support our Mission Allocation.

**And then at night for our  
EVENING PRAISE SERVICE**  
in the Church at 6.30pm.

**YOU ARE INVITED...**

The Sacrament of  
**THE LORD'S SUPPER**

will be celebrated on

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2005**

at 11am in Dunipace Church and at 3pm in the Complex

There's a place reserved at the Lord's Table for YOU.

There's also a place reserved for you at our

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

which is being held in the church hall on

**SATURDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

From 2pm-4pm

A letter of invitation to all members aged 60+ (*with a reply slip at the bottom*) is enclosed with this month's edition of the Church Magazine. Please get your reply back to us by Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**LIFE & WORK**

**Subscriptions for 2006**

**£19.20**

If you would like to receive the Life & Work magazine in 2006 please pass your name and subscription to our Session Clerk: Mr Nigel Turnbull – 823982 as soon as possible so that the necessary returns can be made. The Life & Work magazine is a great way to keep up to date with all that's going on in the Church of Scotland here at home and indeed throughout the world.

**Please Note...**

The **KIRK SESSION** next meets on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm** in the Reading Room....

## **Christmas & New Year Services**

### **Family Nativity Service**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 11am**

Come and join the celebration. We look forward to getting closer to the heart of Christmas as we share in our Family Nativity. The service is suitable for all ages.

### **Christingle Service**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm**

Once again the whole family is invited to share in a wonderful night of music and light in the church. Hear the Christingle story and share in the delight of singing your favourite carols by candlelight. I wonder who will get the Christmas candle this year? The service is followed by tea & mince pies in the hall. All ages are welcome.

### **Christmas Eve Services**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

<b>Tea &amp; mince pies in the hall</b>	<b>10.30pm</b>
<b>Carols in the Church</b>	<b>11.00pm</b>
<b>MIDNIGHT WATCH</b>	<b>11.30pm</b>

We hope that as many people as possible will join with us on Christmas Eve. During the Midnight Watch Service an offering will be uplifted for the Christmas Appeal. This year we would like to help **CRISIS** an organization fighting for hope for homeless people.

Please give generously and help us provide a guiding light.

### **Christmas Day Family Praise 11am**

Join with us for a short family service of praise on this very special day. Children (and the young at heart) are encouraged to bring along, and show to us all, a gift they received for Christmas as together we give thanks for the greatest gift of all – Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord.

### **New Year's Family Praise 11am**

Out with the old and in with the New! The whole family is encouraged to worship with us as we reflect on the year that has passed and contemplate the New Year.

## **A NOTE OF THANKS** **From Sandra Boyd**

### **Not Goodbye Just Au** **Revoir**

Sunday 21st August'05 was a real mixture of emotions for me. It was very encouraging to see so many members of me congregation in church and I thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the service where the atmosphere of worship was certainly one of celebrating me Hope and Glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the other hand my heart was heavy as I knew that it was the last day of my placement and my regular contact with you would be coming to an end. I feel honoured and privileged that we have traveled together on life's journey and I know I have grown in confidence and faith because of the faith, hope and love I have received from you all.

The Community of Dunipace has allowed me to experience a wealth of opportunities. I have had me privilege of assisting in leading worshipping with you for 10 weeks. I have also been involved in 5 wedding ceremonies over me summer, been part of Communion at the Complex, accompanied members on a lovely sail with me Seagull Trust, had lots of cups of coffee and done lots of socialising at the Kirk Cafe and at the Garden Party. I also spent an exhausting week with Westpark Parish Church in their children's summer mission in which some of our Sunday School Children attended. I especially feel privileged to have met individually with so many members of me congregation in their homes or in hospital and I thank-you for allowing me to share in your lives, sometimes at very difficult times. I have been very privileged to accompany some members through bereavement and beyond and with your minister's support and guidance conducted my first full funeral service. This was not an easy experience but I feel that I gained confidence and will continue to build upon this.

Entering and establishing new relationships with a new congregation is daunting for a student but from me moment I arrived in Dunipace I felt welcomed, accepted and encouraged by everyone.

Miss Gallacher has been a fantastic supervisor, allowing me to participate fully in me life of Church whilst challenging me and encouraging me to grow in so many different ways. The experiences I have gained both from her and from you have allowed me to develop in my ministry to Jesus Christ and I thank-you for that opportunity.

Thank-you all very much for all you have given to me, both through experience, the very very generous book vouchers, me flowers, cards and gifts I received.

God's people here in Dunipace will always have a special place in my heart and I know that you are Christians by your love.

Every blessing to you all.

Sandra Boyd.

## **A NOTE OF THANKS To You**

*"Well done good and faithful servants" <sup>w</sup>*

As this year draws quickly to its end, (a sign that I'm getting older) I would like to extend the thanks of myself, the Kirk Session, and Congregational Board to those who serve us faithfully in so many ways. Whether it's giving of your time, talents or money, in obvious or discreet ways your support is greatly appreciated.

The work is never ending and at times seems to fall increasingly on the same folks. Some are ready to "retire gracefully" and we respect that. We pray that other people will come forward and carry me torch forward. That way we will continue to Keep The Church Alive not just in 2005 but also beyond. If you would like to serve in a particular way have a word with the minister. Thank you.

## **HELP...HELP...HELP...**

### **Dunipace Parish Church Children's Story Club**

Helpers are URGENTLY required for the Children's Story Club because our numbers are rapidly increasing.

The Story Club takes place in Dunipace Primary School on a Wednesday afternoon. Children in P1&2 meet in the P1 class at 2.45pm and are then joined by children from P3-7 in the Library from 3.15pm- 4.15pm. The children hear a Bible story and undertake a craft activity. They enjoy learning new songs and finish the afternoon with juice and biscuits.

It is a joy and a privilege working with the children. A great rapport is being established and our numbers are increasing, so much so that, having 36 regularly attending, we have had to put twelve children on a waiting list because we don't have enough helpers.

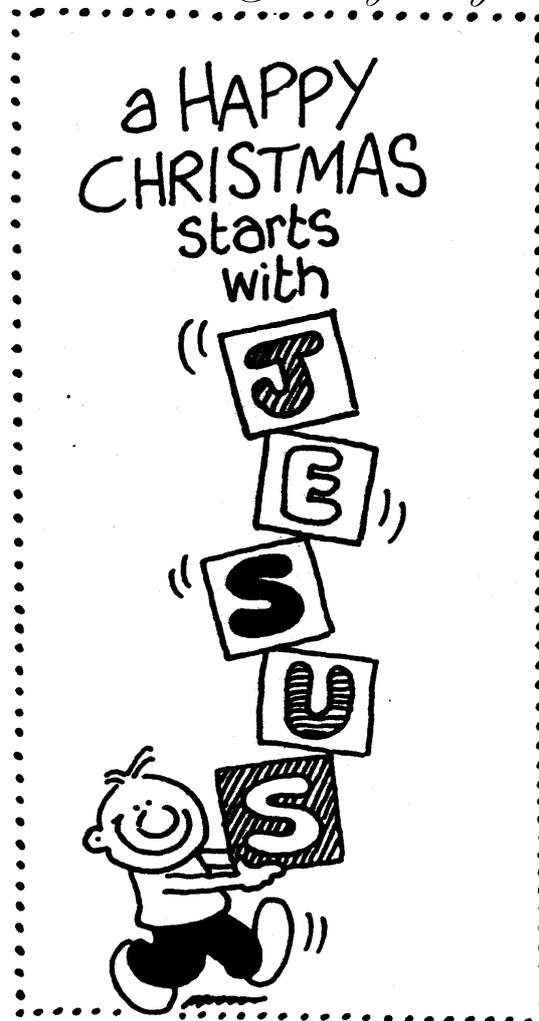
If you would be interested in helping on a rota basis please contact :Mrs Barbara Fulford or the Minister or the school as soon as possible. Thank you.

**WELCOME TO**  
Mr Murray Mathers

A warm word of welcome is extended to Mr Murray Mathers, who is testing his call to the Ministry of Word & Sacrament. Mr Mathers will be with us on field placement for a period of six months. During this time he will be encouraged to explore various aspects of parish ministry in a bid to increase his awareness of it.

As we welcome Mr Mathers and support him in every way we can may our time together be blessed.

*Christmas Greetings to you*



*From Dunipace Parish Church*

## PARISH REGISTER

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

Mr    Thomas      Ballantyne    26 Hawthorn Drive, Dunipace

**BAPTISM**      We rejoice with those who have become part of God's family the Church through Baptism.

October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2005

Nathan David Faulds

son of

David & Claire Faulds:              63 Belmont Ave. Shieldhill. Falkirk

October 30<sup>th</sup> 2005

Karin Dick

Kevin Andrew Campbell              7 Dunavon Gardens, Dunipace

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**      Please note the following:

Mrs    Debbie Bruce      Formerly of 134 Norwood Avenue, is now at 114 Norwood Avenue. Bonnybridge.

**NEW MEMBERS**      We welcome those who have joined with us at Dunipace Parish Church.

Ms Sandra Wilson              208 Glasgow Road    Camelon.

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSFERENCE**      God bless you and keep you.

Our thanks and prayers go with Miss Jill Pleace of 20 Oliphant Court, Riverside, Stirling who is now a member at Stirling: St. Columba Parish Church. We will long remember Jill's commitment to Dunipace over the years. We know she will enrich the life of the Church she is now a member of. Every blessing & joy Jill.

### **And Finally**

Help us to help you by keeping us informed of changes.

If you require the services of the Minister or your Elder please let them know.

Remember that hospital records are confidential. Family members should let the Minister know if a relative is in hospital.

## OUR WHO'S WHO 2005

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Dr. Jean W Gallacher	824540
<b>Student "Enquirer"</b>	Mr Murray Mathers	
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Mr Nigel Turnbull	
<b>Clerk to Board</b>	Mrs Tish Graham	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mrs Fiona Bruce	
<b>Freewill Offering</b>	Mrs Jean Gray	
<b>Gift Aid</b>	Mrs Sandra Thomson	
<b>Mission Bags</b>	Mrs Aileen Sneddon	
<b>Roll Keeper</b>	Mr David Turnbull	
<b>Presbytery Elder</b>	Mr Jim Winning	
<b>Organist</b>	<b>ROTA BASIS</b>	
<b>Children's Club &amp; Youth Fellowship</b>	Mrs Barbara Fulford	
<b>Sunday School</b>	Mr Lachlan McGown	
<b>Guild</b>	Mrs Betty McDonald	
<b>Flowers</b>	Mrs Jane Mills	
<b>Communion Linen</b>	Mrs Dora Johnstone	
<b>Kirk Café</b>	Mrs June Davies	
<b>Transport</b>	Mr Jim Winning	
<b>Property</b>	Mrs June Davies	
<b>Finance</b>	Mrs Ann Marchant	
<b>Social Projects</b>	Mrs Dora Johnstone	
<b>Hospitality</b>	Mrs Maureen Pleace	
<b>Magazine Distribution</b>	Mr Bill Paterson	
<b>Posters</b>	Mr David Reynolds	
<b>Webmaster</b>	Mr James Smith	

### VESTRY NIGHT

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