

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
NEWSLETTER**

**AUTUMN 2014**

Charity No: SC 002943

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

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

Dear Friends,

**The Rough and the Smooth**

It's Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August (the so called "glorious 12<sup>th</sup>") and it is one o'clock in the morning. I have just arrived back at the manse having had a day of field research on the lovely, albeit rather wet and extremely windy, Isle of Islay.

I was on Islay for the day exploring Celtic artefacts for a publication I am writing for use in church and schools. It is a long way to go for a day but that is all the time my study leave project schedule could allow.

With a spring in my step the epic journey began on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August at 4.45am when I left the manse to drive all the way up to Kennacraig (130 miles away) in time for the ferry that was departing at 9.45am. Drivers, of course, have to be there much earlier to get booked in.

The weather was rough, (but supposed to be improving) the roads were quiet, (although road works meant delays) and the mood was optimistic - mixed with an increasing level of natural anxiety as progress stopped and started.

At Kennacraig I got booked onto the ferry and expected to land at Port Ellen - which is very close to the research site - at about 12noon. Never having been on Islay and having heard no announcement from the crew, I was completely unaware of the fact that due to bad weather (which had in my mind improved)

the ferry had landed at Port Askaig and not Port Ellen. This meant a drive of over twenty-five miles to reach the research site. To make matters worse, the ferry operators were not bothered at all by the inconvenience and disappointment I was experiencing. Worst of all, no-one could tell me whether the six o'clock ferry, going back to Kennacraig, was leaving from Port Ellen (as the printed timetable indicated) or from Port Askaig (which the bad weather might suggest) So a great part of my short time on the Island was spent running back and forward between Port Askaig, Port Ellen, and back to Port Askaig, (where the ferry did eventually depart from) with increasingly little time for the actual research I had planned.

To cut a very long story short - a story that did result in me having tea with Captain Robertson in the Bridge on the homeward journey - suffice it for me to say, on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August into Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, I definitely experienced the rough and the smooth life has to offer. I'm sure we have all had, "one of those days" I definitely had and from my conversation with the Captain he had a worse day than me!

Oh, by the way, if you are wondering where the "smooth" came, it was sitting in the car, at Claiggan Bay, with the rain pouring down as I enjoyed a cup of tea and sandwich, in the midst of all the chaos, thinking to myself, this place must be the closest place to heaven on earth!

On my arrival at the manse, in the early hours of the Tuesday morning, shattered and ready for my bed, there was a call waiting for me on the answer machine, wondering why the church magazine wasn't available for distribution with the communion cards!

So instead of tumbling into bed, I sat up all night, working away at the computer to produce a magazine (albeit a smaller version than normal - because no-one had sent me anything for inclusion in the magazine) that would be ready in time for distribution with the communion cards. This I did, even though

my study leave agreement indicated I should not be doing any kind of parish related church work!

It's now 10am on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August, I have not been to bed, but thankfully the magazine is almost ready for me to spend a good few hours printing off, then it will be left in the vestry for Bill Paterson to fold and put into envelopes, in time for elders to collect their copies for distribution on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August. The time this has all taken from my study leave will of course have to be made up. When? No doubt during the night.

The lesson I have learned from all of this is quite simple. What happens in one person's life can have a huge impact on the life of others. There is a domino effect.

The Captain was having a dreadful day. Things were not going as he had planned or hoped. I was having a dreadful day. Things were definitely not going as I had planned or hoped either. But quite ironically we were, inadvertently, as a result of our own disappointments and upheaval, if not making it worse for each other, certainly adding to the stress of it all.

The resolution for the Captain and me was a shake of the hand along with a cheery word of parting. This we did knowing we understood each other better and had at least brought a little ray of sunshine into what had indeed been a rough day for both of us.

Life has its rough and smooth. At such times we need to fix our eyes upon Jesus and think about how he faced the chaos and the calm. Through our actions, which can be triggered by disappointment, compassion, understanding or lack of it, we can add to people's troubles or we can help them to get through whatever they are facing. Here's hoping more and more of us increasingly endeavour to opt for the latter. In so doing, we might well be left tired but hopefully all caught up in the situation will be changed for the better too.

With kindest regards and blessings,

Your Minister and Friend,

*Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### September 2014

2 <sup>nd</sup>	6.45pm	Presbytery Meeting in Falkirk
7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Communion in the church
	3.00pm	Communion in Tgyetshaugh
8 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Congregational Board Meeting
13 <sup>th</sup>	10am-3pm	Presbytery Event in Falkirk Trinity Church
14 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
18 <sup>th</sup>	6am-10pm	Hall being used for Election
21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Induction Night for new Elders
28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship

### October 2014

5 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
6 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Kirk Session Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
19 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
26 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Service

During the month of October we celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving. The date for this service has to be confirmed. Details will be given via pulpit intimation.

The Annual Memorial Service for the Bereaved will take place in November.

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## THANK YOU

Following a period of Study Leave our Minister returns to full parish duties on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September. During some of July and all of August, the Rev Raymond Thomson provided locum cover. We extend our sincere thanks to Ray for all that he brought to us. We look forward to maintaining the link we have with Ray and hope to have him back in the pulpit at some point. In the meantime, we say a great big "Thank you" to Ray. We wish him every joy and blessing as he takes his leave of us.

## WHAT'S ON?

### Here's to a colourful new session

As a new session of work and witness - with its inevitable demands and expected delights - gets underway, I wonder what glorious colours autumn will bring our way.

#### **Will we see RED?**

No doubt there will be challenges to be met and important decisions to be made

#### **Will we see ORANGE?**

Not in faces that are over tanned but in the faces of young children who are full of excitement as they look forward to the Kid's Club on a Sunday at 11am, the Story Club on the first Friday of the month, and the Rainbows and Brownies that meet during the week?

#### **Will we see YELLOW?**

What a delight it would be to see faces all aglow, with the brightness of God's love shining from the eyes of a worshipping congregation that is open to God's presence during worship on Sunday at 11am.

#### **Will we see GREEN?**

Take time to sit in the garden, which has been maintained by Jane and her green-fingered team, before the summer sun fades. It's the ideal place for a moment of quiet contemplation.

#### **Will we see BLUE?**

"Blue skies, nothing but blue skies, from now on." There are signs of blue skies overhead. This is seen in the redecoration and upgrading of the church and halls, all designed to make them more user friendly for all ages. Don't be left "feeling blue" there's a place and a welcome for you in Dunipace Parish Church.

#### **Will we see INDIGO and VIOLET too?**

These are exciting colours. Colours we don't instantly think off, yet they are glorious. What new things will come our way? What new aspects of our work and witness will emerge and how will we embrace them?

**God's Love and Grace is for everyone**  
**Join with us and be part of a caring and sharing family**

Monday	<b>Afternoon Friendship Group</b> Contact Betty McDonald <b>Kirk Session, Congregational Board</b> Contact Alex Cook (Session Clerk)
Tuesday	<b>Kirk/Community Café</b> Contact June Davies <b>The Men's Club</b> Contact Angus Cameron
Wednesday	<b>Reminiscence Group</b> Contact Jim Perry <b>Rainbows</b> Contact Barbara Fulford (Children's Ministry) <b>Choir Practice</b> Contact David Faulds (Organist/Choir Leader) <b>Vestry</b> For appointment contact the Minister
Thursday	<b>Brownies</b> Contact Barbara Fulford <b>Badminton Club</b> Contact George Mills
Friday	<b>Children's Story Club</b> Contact Barbara Fulford
Sunday	<b>Morning/ Evening Worship</b> <b>Prayer/ Bible Study</b> Contact the Minister <b>Kid's Club</b> Contact Barbara Fulford

For property issues: Contact Jim Perry

For finance matters: Contact Fiona Bruce (Treasurer)

For other information: Check out the "Who's Who?" page

To be part of all that's going on in Dunipace Parish Church

Just "Come along." We look forward to welcoming YOU

## KEEPING YOU INFORMED

### **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Will be celebrated on  
**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

*In Dunipace Church at 11am  
And in Tygetshaugh Court at 3pm*

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

### **COMMUNION ROTA for September 7th**

Details of those being asked to serve the elements for Communion on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September are available from Mr Alex Cook, the Session Clerk. I'm sure Alex will make the rota available as soon as he can. Copies of the rota are normally found on the vestibule table as you enter the church. You can of course listen out for the details via pulpit intimation or give Alex a call.

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### Falkirk Presbytery Event **"Falkirk Presbytery's Got Talent"**

This all singing, all dancing, all praising, event takes place on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September**, from **10am - 3pm**, in **Falkirk Trinity Church**.

There is a £5 fee per participant that should be sent with the booking form (available from Falkirk Presbytery website) to:  
**Mrs Pauline McAuslan, 22 Acorn Cresc, Larbert. FK5 3LT**

### **"Falkirk Presbytery's Got Talent"**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September  
10am - 3pm  
Falkirk Trinity Church

10.00	Registration
10.10	Opening Worship and Spill the Beans
12.00	Lunch and The Market Place
1.00	Workshops/ Seminars (A)
1.30	Workshops/ Seminars (B)
2.00	Workshops/ Seminars (C)
2.30	Closing Worship

Participants are able to attend 1 Workshop/activity during each time slot. You should indicate your preference on the booking form.

Seminar (A)      Sing a New Song  
                         Prospects  
                         Puppet Ministry  
                         Guild - A World to Serve  
                         Easter Code

Seminar (B)      Toddlers Praise  
                         Puppet Ministry  
                         Storytelling  
                         Messy Church  
                         Scientists & Christianity  
                         The Market Place

Seminar (C)      Sing a New Song (2)  
                         Prayer  
                         Rainbow Service  
                         AlterNativity  
                         Messy Church

**THE ANNUAL OUTING  
to the  
SAFARI PARK**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

This is an event greatly enjoyed by all ages.  
The 20<sup>th</sup> September is getting closer and we don't want  
you to miss out on this event.  
The outing is open to members and friends of the church  
and local community.

Prices for the bus and admission to the park will be  
intimated soon.

**For more details contact Mrs Barbara Fulford -  
824249**

**HELP REQUIRED FOR THE**

**Kirk/Community Café**

**Dunipace Church Halls**

**Tuesday - 10am - 12noon**

**Tea/ Coffee & Home-Baking**

**Friendly chatter & banter**

**All Welcome**

The Café is an important part of our work and witness. It is run and organised by volunteers who offer their time and talents. This they do by baking cakes, serving in the hall, working in the kitchen, providing transport etc. We say "Thank you" to all of them. To keep the Café going we make an appeal for help. If you would like to help at the Café and have your name added to the rota, please, contact June Davies

# 125 CAMPAIGN UPDATE

## Looking Forward in Faith To our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

The much-needed redecoration and upgrade work, required in the church halls, is well underway. A great big word of thanks is extended to everyone who is helping in anyway whatsoever.

- + The Annexe is in the process of being decked out with new cupboards and will be re-decorated in a way that makes it more use friendly for children.
- + A new boiler is being installed in the church halls

There is, however, so much more to do. With the ongoing support of those already involved and with the willing involvement of others, I'm sure we will meet our target of having the premises "ship shape" in time for our 125 celebrations.

### **Promoting the 125 Campaign**

The aim of the Campaign is to get 125 people, from the church and wider community, to donate £125 each.

Others might be able to offer other resources, like their time and talents, which are equally needed.

### **HOW TO RESPOND TO THE 125 CAMPAIGN**

Donations for the 125 Campaign can be made on an individual OR collective basis as part of an organisations response to the campaign. The sum of £125 can be donated in total OR it can be paid up, or saved up, over a number of months. It all depends on what works best for those who are engaging in the Campaign.

Donations have come in already from over 40 people, so we still have a long way to go. Here's hoping the momentum increases and the work gets completed.

If you would like to support the 125 Campaign, through a financial donation, please, make your donation payable to Dunipace Parish Church or have a word with Mrs Fiona Bruce the church treasurer. If you would like to make a response through the gift of time and talents, please, have a word with the minister.

We want to keep the Church Alive and Active in 2015.

With your help we can do this in new and innovative ways. If you have ideas that can help us make our 125 Celebration even more meaningful, please, let us know. Come on folks - let's be creative and maybe even surprise ourselves in positive ways.

We continue to commend this project to God in prayer and seek to make our response in faith. For we believe that He who can do more than we can ever imagine possible, will accept all that we offer and all that we are, as we build God's kingdom in this lovely wee place

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### Heaven Help 'Em

*Good Lord! Clergymen or women  
Can't sue for unfair dismissal because  
They're servants of God and don't  
Have an employer on earth, the  
English Appeal Court rules  
When they ask our boss for a pay rise  
Presumably they get the same old answer  
You'll get your reward in heaven*

*Submitted by Pat McLaughlin*

## NEWS in BRIEF

### Mission Aviation Fellowship

Dunipace Parish Church of Scotland supports a number of charities throughout the year. Some are well known, such as the Scottish Bible Society, others are less well known (such as BUSKET) yet all do fantastic work, through the help and support of churches like Dunipace Parish.

Many of the charities we support, send us regular updates of their work. We appreciate receiving their newsletters and bulletins. We tend to put them on the vestibule table (the table you see when you enter the church) and we encourage members to browse through the leaflets and take them away to read.

One of the charities we support is MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) our contact person is Gregor Wilson. Gregor is more than happy to attend our groups and organisations and provide regular updates on the work of MAF. In the June newsletter of MAF, under a section entitled, "One Step" we read:

*"Often when God is involved, everything comes together perfectly for one more life to be changed - a miracle we've witnessed many times working for MAF in Mongolia. Sogarbaatar, another two-year-old boy, hadn't taken his first step and it was doubtful he ever would. Sogarbattar has muscular dystrophy, and had never received specialist help. But he wasn't alone. Thousands of Mongolian children live so far from medical care that they may never have the chance of a normal life. But at MAF, it's part of our mission to bring change - and we are privileged to serve others who feel the same.*

*Ryan flew a team from Reaching the Light (RTL) to a remote region in the west of Mongolia, where Sogarbaatar lives in a traditional ger, a Mongolian felt tent. RTL's vision is to offer specialist attention to physically disabled children - a service that simply doesn't exist in this vast, empty land.*

*The little boy was seen by Margie, an occupational therapist who is as passionate as we are about serving Mongolia's poor, isolated children. Sogarbaatar needed specialist exercises and equipment if he was ever going to walk - and it was fortunate that we met him early enough for therapy to change his life.*

*From June edition of MAF Newsletter*

The moral from much of what is written in the MAF Newsletter is simple: Let's never underestimate the power of one.

### **THANK YOU from the Charities we Support**

Dunipace Parish Church is only one church and a small church at that. But it can make a difference and is making a difference in the lives of others. Thank you for all the financial support you give to the various appeals we make. What we offer can only ever be a drop in the ocean, but it all helps. If you have suggestions to make, with regard to charities we can support in 2015, please, let us know.

### **A Special Appeal from the FALKIRK FOODBANK**

There is a green basket that sits in the vestibule, into which donations of tinned food and dry foodstuff can be placed. All donations will help people - on our own doorstep- get through a difficult time in their life. One tin from every member soon fills the basket and helps to feed many hungry mouths.

What was that moral again?

"Let's never underestimate the power of one."

I would add, "and the impact it can have on many!"

## A Word in Season

2014 is the year in which the Nation commemorates the start of the Great War in 1914. In honour of those who sacrificed their life, 100 years ago, I enclose the words of the famous war poem: Anthem for Doomed Youth, by Wilfred Owen (1893-1918)

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle?  
    Only the monstrous anger of the guns.  
    Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle  
Can patter out their hasty orisons.  
No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells,  
    Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs, -  
The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells  
    And bugles calling for them from sad shires

What candles may be held to speed them all?  
    Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes  
Shall shine the holy glimmers of good-byes  
    The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall;  
Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds  
And each slow dusk a drawing down of blinds

Anthem for Doomed Youth  
Wilfred Owen (1893-1918)

## PARISH REGISTER

**Bereaved** We hold in prayer those who mourn the death of their loved one:

Mr George Mackenzie 14 Timmon's Place, Denny  
Mrs Agnes (Nan) Feeney 14 Tygetshaugh Court

**Baptism** We welcome those received into the fellowship of God's family through Baptism:

July 6<sup>th</sup> Dexter George Allan Russell  
Son of George & Lara Russell  
Brother of Darcy

**Weddings** We rejoice with those joined in marriage:

6<sup>th</sup> June Robert Burn & Elaine Dunnington  
11<sup>th</sup> July David Murphy & Lauren McNab  
16<sup>th</sup> August David Mason & Mary Forsyth

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## The Scottish Bible Society A Commemorative New Testament

It's not too late to buy copies of a commemorative edition of the New Testament produced for the Commonwealth Games.

Described as, "the standout Games in the history of the movement" by Commonwealth Games Federation chief executive Mike Hooper, the book features contributors from across the globe sharing their thoughts on the Bible's influence and impact in their part of the Commonwealth.

Her Majesty the Queen has written an introduction to the book where she says, "The New Testament is an important holy text for all people."

Available from the Scottish Bible Society, the cost of "A Commemorative New Testament" is just £1 per copy plus postage & packaging

# **DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH WHO'S WHO**

Minister	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Session Clerk	Mr Alex Cook
Associate Clerk	Mr Gregor Wilson
Clerk to Board	Mrs Tish Graham
Treasurer	Mrs Fiona Bruce
Freewill Offering	Mrs Jean Gray
Gift Aid	Mrs Sandra Cook
Mission Bags	Mrs Aileen Sneddon
Roll Keeper	Mr David Turnbull
Presbytery Elder	Mr Jim Winning
Additional Elder	Mrs Helen Lax
Organist & Choir	Mr David Faulds
Children's Ministry	Mrs Barbara Fulford
Child Protection	Mrs Helen Lax
Afternoon Friendship	Mrs Betty McDonald
Prayer & Bible Study	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Men's Club	Mr Angus Cameron
Reminiscence Group	Mr Jim Perry
Badminton Group	Mr George Mills
Flowers	Mrs Jane Mills
Communion Linen	Mrs Chrissie Busby
Kirk Café	Mrs June Davies
Property	Mr Jim Perry
Finance	Mrs Anne Marchant
Hospitality	Mrs Maureen Pleace
Communications	Mrs Helen Lax
Magazine Distribution	Mr Bill Paterson
Posters	Mr David Reynolds
Website Editor	Mr James Smith
Health & Safety	Mr Bill Ferguson
Life & Work	Mrs Maureen Pleace

## **VESTRY NIGHT**

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

Dunipace Parish Church of Scotland, 175 Stirling Street,  
Dunipace. DENNY FK6 6JR. Scottish Charity Number: SC002943