

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
NEWSLETTER**

FEBRUARY - APRIL 2011

Charity No: SC 00 2943

www.dunipacechurch.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,

*“God, who made the earth, the air, the sky, the sea.
Who gave the light its birth, careth for me.” CH3:15*

It's quite incredible to believe that tiny white, soft and fluffy, snowflakes that melt in our hands, can “gang up on us” and become rock solid ice underfoot. It's incredible to believe that unique six pointed snowflakes that captivate us by their beauty when they first fall, can turn into slush that's ugly to walk on and really quite dangerous. It's incredible to believe yet we all saw it happen this past winter - and what a winter it was!

Even now, many weeks after the last snow has fallen, the REMNANTS of the snow can be seen in the shape and form of dirty black piles of snow that have still not melted in car parks where they were hurriedly stacked in a bid to clear the roads.

In so many other parts of the world too REMNANTS remain of climatic catastrophes that hit various regions. Uprooted trees forcibly pulled out of the ground by fast flowing floodwaters. Skeletons of buildings laid bare to the bone by the heat of forest fires. All of which is quite unbelievable, yet, seen by our own eyes, thanks to the media.

When catastrophe strikes, the question, “Where is God” is understandably asked. It’s easily answered, by replying, “God is here” however, it’s not readily accepted by those who have to pick up the pieces and clear the debris, following such catastrophes.

In the exile times, the “nothingness” of the REMNANT became something out of which God could create. The REMNANT (that which is left after a community undergoes a catastrophe) became a BRIDGE concept. The REMNANT (that which remains) was that which could be rebuilt, restored and renewed, linking the past with the present and the old with the new.

This happens not only after climatic catastrophes, it happens in people lives after personal catastrophes too. Those “left behind” after the death of a loved one must rebuild their lives. Those recovering from illness must restore their health. Those coming to terms with changing working practices must renew their thinking

The need to rebuild and be recreated happens after catastrophes in the life of the Church too. As the REMNANTS of God’s people, (that which remains after the world has done its worst) we too, as a faithful, worshipping community, must allow God to renew, rebuild and restore us to that which God created us to be.

Picking up the pieces and moving on following any catastrophe is not easy. It takes time – often a long time – more so when you feel that you’re not making any progress. Perhaps then in the time following a catastrophe we should remember the words of that lovely old hymn: “God who made the earth, the air, the sky, the sea. Who gave the light its birth, CARETH for me”

Yours in Christ,
Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

13 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
20 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
21 st	7.30pm	KIRK SESSION
25 th	7.30pm	BEETLE DRIVE
27 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
	12.30pm	Opening of the Community Garden
	6.30pm	Evening Song's of Praise

MARCH

6 th	11.00am	COMMUNION in the Church
	3.00pm	COMMUNION in the local Complex
9 th	7.30pm	ANNUAL STATED MEETING
11 th	7.30pm	QUIZ NIGHT
13 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
18 th	7.30pm	CONCERT by Mr David Faulds
20 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
21 st	7.30pm	CONGREGATIONAL BOARD
26 th	10-12noon	GUILD COFFEE MORNING
27 th	11.00am	Morning Worship – BAPTISM
	6.30pm	Evening Song's of Praise

APRIL

3 rd	11.00am	Morning Worship
10 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
11 th	7.30pm	KIRK SESSION
17 th	11.00am	PALM SUNDAY FAMILY PRAISE
18 th	7.30pm	HOLY WEEK – Dunipace Parish
19 th	7.30pm	HOLY WEEK – Denny Old Parish
20 th	7.30pm	HOLY WEEK – Denny Baptist Church
21 st	7.30pm	HOLY WEEK – Westpark Church
22 nd	10.30am	WALK OF WITNESS – Denny Old
	7.30pm	HOLY WEEK – Westpark Church
24 th	8.30am	Easter Service – Denny Old Parish
	9.00am	Easter Breakfast – Denny Old
	11.00am	EASTER PRAISE - Dunipace

WHAT'S ON?

BEETLE DRIVE

Friday 25th February

At 7.30pm in the large hall

The cost is £1 per player

This is a fun night suitable for all ages

Come along and have a great time

ANNUAL STATED MEETING

Wednesday 9th March

At 7.30pm in the large hall

Join with us as we acknowledge the work undertaken in 2010 and consider the work ahead of us. The "new CHOIR will make their debut and provide a selection of music. This is the ideal opportunity to come together in praise and in thanksgiving

There are VACANCIES on the Congregational Board – if you would like to serve the church in this way, please, have a word with the Minister. We would love to hear from you and look forward to welcoming you on Board.

COMMUNITY QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 11th March

At 7.30pm in the large hall

The cost is £12 per team of four players

This is definitely a night not to be missed

A NIGHT OF MUSIC & SONG

By Mr David Faulds & Friends

Friday 18th March

At 7.30pm in the church

Further details will follow soon

GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS

A rich variety of groups and organisations are held in Dunipace Church Halls. All extend a welcome to new members.

You don't have to be a formal member of the church to be part of the various groups and organisations just someone who would like to share a keen interest with others.

If you have suggestions for other ways in which we might make use of the halls and so better serve the parish, please, let us know. We would love to see some new groups on the go too.

MONDAY	7.15pm	The Guild
TUESDAY	10am-12noon	Kirk Café
	7.00pm	Men's Club
WEDNESDAY	2.00pm	Reminiscence Group
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	6.00pm	Rainbows
	7.30pm	Choir Practice
THURSDAY	2.00pm	Ladies Friendship Group
	6.00pm	Brownies
	7.30pm	Badminton Group
FRIDAY	6.30pm	Children's Story Club
SUNDAY	10.50am	Sunday Club & Creche
	7.30pm	Youth Fellowship

We are delighted that so many groups and organisations make use of the church halls. We would, however, remind all "Hall Users" that we do NOT have paid cleaners and thereby ask all "Hall Users" to leave the halls and kitchen clean and tidy after use.

We would also encourage all Groups and Organisations to consider making a reasonable financial contribution towards the cost of heating, lighting and maintaining the halls (which in 2010 cost over £8,000) Sadly in today's economic climate "the free use of premises and nominal rates" is very much a thing of the past.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

The Community Garden Project initiated by the Friends of Dunipace - *who responded to a local community need identified in a recent Feasibility Study* - and funded by the People's Postcode Trust is now complete. Three months of hard landscaping undertaken in unbelievable weather by David & Toms Landscaping & Home Services has brought new life to the underused church garden. The finished result of the project is stunning and has provided a garden that can be enjoyed by: the Brownies for their Bumble Bee Project, the Nursery School children for their Teddy Bear picnics, the Story Club for summer activities, and of course the wider community as a place of peace and tranquillity.

In addition to David & Toms Landscaping & Home Services and the People's Postcode Trust, other key suppliers of materials and resources included: Dunipace Parish Church, Action, Lawn & Leisure, Denovan Mains Farm, Martin Plant Hire, Central Scotland Skip Hire, Central Skip Hire, Buildbase, B&Q, Screwfix, Craigmarloch Nurseries Ltd, Dobbies Gardening World, Strikes Garden Centre, Greenyards Garden Centre and Mitchells Hire Drive.

On top of all this some people gave extra trees and plants and a number of "willing" Volunteers added the finishing touches by offering their time to paint the wooden structures and help with the general removal of rubbish and tidying up.

All we can say in return is a big, hearty "THANK YOU"

Grand Opening of the COMMUNITY GARDEN

Sunday 27th February at 1.00pm

Members of the church and wider community are invited to Dunipace Church Halls on Sunday 27th February at 1pm to celebrate the opening of the Community Garden.

Soup and crusty bread will be served in the hall, directly after morning worship at about 12.30pm, to heat us up before we go out into the garden for a short Opening Ceremony.

Bring your family and your friends

ALL ARE WELCOME

Thanks are extended to everyone who has supported and helped with the Community Garden Project in any way whatsoever.

The LORD'S SUPPER

will be celebrated at

11am in the Church

and at 3pm in the local Complex

on

Sunday 6th March 2011

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

MISSION AND OUTREACH

MAJOR PROPERTY RENOVATION

THE HUB CENTRE PROJECT

**To renovate the existing halls and add on a
new extension**

We need to raise over £500,000

To achieve this we need the help and support of church members, friends and indeed everyone in the community, along with outside funding organisations.

How can you help?

At this stage we need FINANCIAL support so that we can prove to outside funding organisations that we are COMMITTED to the Project and prepared to raise a reasonable percentage of the overall costs.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS can be big and small – every pound brings us closer to the target.

Donations can be given on a one off basis or on a regular basis, and don't forget, if you pay tax, your donation can be gift aided, allowing us to claim back the tax.

Donations can come from individuals, companies, groups and other organisations – indeed from anyone who wants to support the project.

Donations for the HUB CENTRE PROJECT

should be made payable to “**Dunipace Parish Church**”
and clearly marked for the HUB CENTRE PROJECT

For more information please contact the Treasurer

LET US WORSHIP THE LORD

PALM SUNDAY FAMILY PRAISE

Sunday 17th April Dunipace Parish Church
Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

United Services will take place during Holy Week All
Evening Services begin at 7.30pm.

Monday	18 th April	Dunipace Parish Church <i>Rev Phyllis Wilson</i>
Tuesday	19 th April	Denny Old Parish Church <i>Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher</i>
Wednesday	20 th April	Denny Baptist Church <i>Rev John Murning</i>
Thursday	21 st April	Westpark Parish Church <i>Rev Phyllis Wilson</i>
Friday	22 nd April	Westpark Parish Church <i>Rev Norman Graham</i>

(On Friday evening an offering will be uplifted for Christian Aid)

FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS

This year the Walk of Witness leaves from Denny Old
Parish Church at 10.30am before going round all the
churches in the local community for a time for prayer

EASTER SUNDAY 24th April

8.30am	Early morning Easter Service DENNY OLD PARISH CHURCH
9.00am	Easter Breakfast DENNY OLD PARISH CHURCH
11.00am	Easter "Bonnets" & Family Praise DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH

The Yeast in our Dough

Written in memory of our dear friend Dora Johnstone

As the yeast in our dough
She was God's raising agent
Working in ways that we have yet to fully know
For much that she did was done discreetly
Often hidden from sight
Yet done in such a way
That it filled the great oven of our work with delight
As the scent of God's goodness which she spread
Gently wafted its way
Into the life of our church, day by day

As the yeast in our dough
She raised our expectations
And was always on the go
Blending her instinct with wisdom
Swelling our understanding
Changing us into life giving bread
As she followed the recipe of God's making
Combining the sweetness of our desires
With the saltiness of our ways
In a manner that's worthy of praise

As the yeast in our dough
She was reliable and true
Working miracles here below
With a cheery word and a smile
Not forgetting her incredible flare
Her unending compassion
And more than a pound or two of care
She transformed social events
That could have been quite bland
Into occasions that were rather grand

As the yeast in our dough
She helped knead us together
Leaving a legacy that will continue to grow
As we further her work
And share all that she has left behind
Especially those Christ like qualities
Which we all long to find
Like faith, hope and love
Special ingredients that reveal how the yeast in our dough
Was blessed by God in more ways than we shall ever know

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PARISH REGISTER

Bereaved

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

Mrs Ella Smith	24 Chestnut Crescent, Dunipace
Mrs Morag Christie	2 Garvald Lane, Denny
Mr Danny Cameron	Croftfoot Farm, Dunipace
Mrs Margaret Beechey	15 Glen Terrace, Denny
Mr Robert Kerr	46 Shanks Avenue, Denny
Mr Robert Menzies	9 Jubilee Road, Dunipace
Mrs Jean Peak	61 Stirling Road, Larbert
Mrs Dora Johnstone	49 Avon Street, Dunipace
Mr Robert McAlpine	23 Bankier Terrace, Banknock

Baptism

We welcome into God's family the church:

12th December 2010 Cody Campbell Kirkwood
Son of Dean & Kirsty
71 Atrium Way, Bonnybridge

Keeping Us Updated

Please help us to keep our records up to date by informing us of changes to your address etc.

The Roll Keeper is Mr David Turnbull

Hospital Visits

Please remember that hospital records are CONFIDENTIAL.

If you go into hospital and would like a visit from the Minister and/or your Elder, please, ask your family to let the Minister/Elder know which hospital (and ward) you are in.

Please also note that every hospital and hospice has Hospital Chaplains who cover designated wards and provide full spiritual care.

OUR WHO'S WHO

Minister	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Session Clerk	Mr Lachlan McGowan
Associate Clerk	Mr Gregor Wilson
Clerk to Board	Mrs Tish Graham
Treasurer	Mrs Fiona Bruce
Freewill Offering	Mrs Jean Gray
Gift Aid	Mrs Sandra Thomson
Mission Bags	Mrs Aileen Sneddon
Roll Keeper	Mr David Turnbull
Presbytery Elder	Mr Jim Winning
Organists	Mr Bill Strang
	Mrs Zoe Cox
	Rev Ronald Maxton
Choir Leader	Mr David Faulds
Children's Ministry	Mrs Barbara Fulford
Youth Fellowship	Miss Laura Peattie
Child Protection	Mrs Tish Graham
Guild	Mrs Betty McDonald
Men's Club	Mr Angus Cameron
Badminton Group	Mr George Mills
Flowers	Mrs Jane Mills
Communion Linen	
Kirk Café	Mrs June Davies
Transport	Mr Jim Winning
Property	Mr Jim Perry
Finance	Mrs Anne Marchant
Social Projects	Mrs Erica McKellar
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