

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**JANUARY - MARCH 2009**  
**"YEAR OF HOME COMING"**  
Charity No: SC 00 2943  
[www.dunipacechurch.org.uk](http://www.dunipacechurch.org.uk)

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

***"HAPPY ANNIVERSARY"***

Dear Friends,

This year marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the Reformer John Calvin, the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Robert Burns, our great Scottish Bard, the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Scottish Bible Society, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lodging House Mission, and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my Ordination and Induction to Dunipace Parish Church.

When put into context, my 20 years of ministry - and your 20 years of graciousness - seems so insignificant, in the grand scheme of things, and yet, hopefully, not irrelevant.

It's so easy to think that the "little things we do" don't really matter, but they DO because all those little things ADD up and help to make us what God wants us to be.

Gideon was the youngest member of the smallest tribe... and yet he defeated the Midianites. David was just a shepherd boy with a sling but he beat Goliath and became King of Israel. Jesus was born in a manger but cradled the world with his saving grace.

Surely, then, it's not the number of years that matter, as much as what we do with the years we are given.

Yes, there are great names from the past, whose work we will indeed celebrate, but in so doing, let us not forget the “unsung heroes” who quietly and discreetly go about God’s work in ways that are often unnoticed but not unappreciated by those who benefit from it.

At the start of this YEAR of HOME COMING, I pay personal tribute to the members of Dunipace Parish Church who, day-by-day and week-by-week, travel from near and far to be part of God’s family in this place, and in their coming, bring with them a warmth of fellowship that is uplifting.

I acknowledge the many “little jobs they do” to keep the buildings in order so that we might worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

I recognise the trials and tribulations they face, in their endeavour to balance the books, promote prayer and praise, work with young and old, and create a social life, that, despite our faults and failings, limitations and longings, draws us closer to God in faith and to each other in love, through our work and witness.

In 1990 we celebrated the Centenary of Dunipace Parish Church, in 2010, God willing, we will celebrate its 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary, another significant milestone anniversary. But surely every year gives us cause for celebration as we acknowledge the wonderful way in which God continues to call us to his service and equip us for the tasks ahead.

Whatever 2009, brings with regard to family life and work, I pray that, with regard to faith, it will bring us even closer to God, and unite us in purpose, as together, young and old, we extend the hand of friendship, and share the cup of kindness, in this the YEAR of HOME COMING

Yours in Christ,  
**Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher.**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **January 2009**

4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	New Year Family Praise
11 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Congregational Board Meeting
20 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Kirk Café resumes
25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship - Burns 250 <sup>th</sup> Celebration
	6.30pm	Evening Praise – Burns Praise
26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Kilsyth Close Harmony Group
27 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Kirk Café
30 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Children's Story Club in the hall

### **February**

1 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Worship
2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.15pm	Guild – Mrs Murning
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	Kirk Cafe
8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Makers & Shakers Planning Group
10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Cafe
15 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Kirk Session Meeting
17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Cafe
22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Praise
23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.15pm	Guild – Project Night
28 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Table Top Sale in the hall

### **March**

1 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Communion
	3.00pm	Communion
2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.15pm	Guild – Old Denny
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café

6 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	World Day of Prayer (Dunipace)
8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Café
11 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Annual Stated Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Guild – Annual Get Together
13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Quiz Night in the Hall
15 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Attestation of Records (Larbert)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Worship
23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.15pm	Guild – Biodiversity
28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Guild – Coffee Morning
29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Praise
30 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Guild – Annual General Meeting
31 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Kirk Cafe

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## **YEAR OF HOME COMING**

Celebrations, marking the Year of Home Coming, begin on the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Robert Burns on 25<sup>th</sup> January and draw to a conclusion on St. Andrew's Day, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Here in Dunipace Parish Church, we too, along with all the other churches in the nation, hope to extend a welcome and warm home coming to those who worship with us week by week and engage in many of our planned activities during the Year of Home Coming.

We set the scene with our BURNS CELEBRATIONS on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 11am and 6.30pm. You are encouraged to wear a bit of tartan and/or bring along a tartan blanket to cover the pews, as we drape the Kirk in tartan and celebrate our Scottish roots with songs of praise

## **PLANNED SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2009**

As we rise to the challenges of another year, we encourage you to put these dates in your diary and give them a high priority. Your ongoing support and help is deeply appreciated. If you have other ideas for social events, please, let us know and we will do our best to take your ideas on board.

<b>January</b>	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Kilsyth Singers
<b>February</b>	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Table Top Sale
<b>March</b>	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night
<b>April</b>	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Breakfast
<b>May</b>	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mayfair
<b>July</b>	Sunday	Walk & BBQ
<b>August</b>	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Garden Party
<b>September</b>	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz Night
<b>October</b>	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Church Dance
<b>November</b>	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas Fete
<b>December</b>	Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch

## **BOARD & SESSION MEETINGS IN 2009**

<b>January</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Congregational Board</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Kirk Session</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Annual Stated Meeting</b>
	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Attestation of Records</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Congregational Board</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Kirk Session</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Congregational Board</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Congregational Board</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Kirk Session</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Congregational Board</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Kirk Session</b>

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### **The Makers & Shakers**

#### **PLANNING GROUP**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at 7.30pm**

The next meeting takes place in the Annexe and is open to those who desire to shape the work and witness of the church in our community and beyond. Come along and help us build God's vision in this parish.

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### **TABLE TOP SALE**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

**In the church hall**

Further details will follow shortly, in the meantime, why not start to clear out your cupboards and see if you can turn your trash into cash for a worthy cause! To book a table, which costs £10, please contact Mrs Dora Johnstone

## **The LORD'S SUPPER**

will be celebrated at

***11am in the Church***

***and at 3pm in the Complex***

on

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2009**

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

A Service Marking the

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Takes place in Dunipace Parish Church

on

**FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH at 7pm**

All are welcome

Due to popular DEMAND a

## **QUIZ NIGHT**

Is being held in the Church Hall on

**FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

at 7.30pm

Teams of Four are invited to take part

Entry is £10 per team

To book a place for your team

Contact Mrs Erica McKellar or Mrs Dora Johnstone

Dunipace Parish Church - Guild

## **COFFEE MORNING**

In the church hall

On

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

10am – 12noon

Tea/coffee ticket £1.50

Home Baking Stall

## **LAUGHTER LINES....**

In an elementary school test kids were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. The following statements about the Bible were written. They have not been retouched or corrected:

In the first book of the Bible, Guinnessis, God got tired of creating the world so he took the Sabbath off.

Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.

The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.

The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.



## **GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS**

You do not have to be a member of the church to be part of the groups and organisations. New members will be made most welcome.

### **Monday**

Sequence Dance Class	1.30pm – 3.30pm
Guild Night	7.15pm
Congregational Board	7.30pm
Kirk Session	7.30pm

### **Tuesday**

Kirk Café	10am – 12noon
Men's Club	7.15pm

### **Wednesday**

Brownies	6.30pm – 7.30pm
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### **Thursday**

Ladies Friendship Group	2pm – 3.30pm
Rainbows	6pm – 7.15pm
Mixed Badminton	7.30pm
Choir Practice	7.30pm in the church

### **Friday**

Children's Story Club	6.30pm – 8pm
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### **Sunday**

Worship	11.00am
Creche	10.50am
Children's Sunday Club	10.50am
Evening Praise	6.30pm
Youth Fellowship	7.30pm

## PROPERTY MATTERS

The Property Committee has just received a Full Property Inspection Report from K2 Specialist Services (UK) Ltd, outlining in detail the work that needs to be done on the tower, spire, external church building and church hall.

The costs are as follows:

Tower	£ 6,000 (ex. VAT)
Spire	£ 1,875
Church Building	£ 2,350
Church Hall	£ 4,210

**Total (ex VAT) = £14,435 (ex VAT)**

These matters will be discussed fully at the Board meeting on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm.

Given that little work has been undertaken, recently, on the tower and spire, due to its inaccessible nature, **the recommendation is that the work be undertaken in a timely manner and the congregation urged to raise the money required through an immediate Property Appeal.**

In addition to the necessary external work highlighted in the K2 Report, the congregation should be aware that, urgent internal work was undertaken on a church roof panel at the start of the New Year.

The plastering work is now completed, the scaffolding is down, and the invoice due.

Sincere thanks are extended to Mrs June Davies, our Property Convenor, and the band of workers who at very short notice cleared the church for the scaffolding and subsequently put all the furnishings back in place.

## PARISH REGISTER

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

Mr Andrew Nelson	45 Hawthorn Drive, Banknock
Mrs Bunty Ralston	4 Bellfield Road, Stirling
Mr John (Jock) Adam	338 Stirling Street, Dunipace
Mrs Sheena Floyd	9 Hawthorn Drive, Dunipace
Mrs Violet Mellis	36 Allan Crescent, Dunipace

**New Members** We extend a warm word of welcome to those who have become very much a part of God's family here in Dunipace Parish Church:

Mrs Helen Lax	23 Beech Crescent, Dunipace
Mrs Una Anderson	8 Mercat Place, Clackmannan
Mr Ian Allan	5 Marchside Court, Sauchie

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God of gold, we seek your glory  
the richness that transforms our drabness into colour  
and brightens our dullness with vibrant light  
your wonder and joy at the heart of all life

God of incense, we offer you our prayer  
our spoken and unspeakable longings, our  
questioning of truth, our search for your mystery  
deep within

God of myrrh, we cry out to you in our suffering  
the pain of all our rejections and bereavements  
our baffled despair at undeserved suffering  
our rage at continuing injustice  
and we embrace you, God with us  
in our wealth, in our yearning, in our anger and loss

<b>OUR WHO'S WHO      2009</b>
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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	Miss Betty Nelson
	Mr Bill Strang
	Mrs Zoe Cox
	Mr David Faulds
	Mrs Barbara Fulford
Story Club & Youth Fellowship	
Sunday School	Mr Lachlan McGowan
Child Protection	Mrs Tish Graham
Guild	Mrs Betty McDonald
Flowers	Mrs Jane Mills
Communion Linen	Mrs Dora Johnstone
Kirk Café	Mrs June Davies
Transport	Mr Jim Winning
Property	Mrs June Davies
Finance	Mrs Anne Marchant
Social Projects	Mrs Dora Johnstone
Hospitality	Mrs Maureen Pleace
Magazine Distribution	Mr Bill Paterson
Posters	Mr David Reynolds
Website	Mr Jim 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**