

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
NEWSLETTER**

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

Charity No: SC 002943

www.dunipacechurch.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends

Don't Get Caught Off Guard!

Following on from the recent death of our dear mum, the untimely death of our eldest brother Edward certainly caught the "Gallacher Clan" off guard. The unexpected diagnosis of his body-ridden illness (made known only five weeks ago) gave his children in particular and the wider family in general, little time to come to terms with what we had been told. The news certainly drew us all up short and brought home to each of us the reality that few folks are ever prepared for such a devastating situation. Thankfully, in that five-week period the whole family had opportunities to be with Eddie and all were able to express their thanks and say their own goodbyes, even though we had in fact been well and truly caught off guard.

The danger of being caught off guard was reinforced in another way, when, again in an unexpected fashion, a large brown envelope dropped through the manse letterbox. Inside there were several Safer Scotland campaign posters with the following words boldly printed on the front page: "Make sure your home is prepared for the winter" Each poster asked a simple question, namely, "Ready for winter?" and reminded the reader that "Doing a few small things now, could save a lot of trouble later"

How true those words are. Doing a few small things now can indeed save a lot of trouble later.

I know that for us, being able to say “thank you” and “goodbye” to Eddie saved a little bit of heartache in the sense that none of the family is beating themselves up claiming, “They never got to say what needed saying”

There is a wonderful story in the New Testament (Matthew 25: 1-13) about being prepared and not being caught off guard. Ten maidens were waiting for the arrival of the bridegroom. Five of the maidens were wise and had extra oil for their lamp. The other five maidens were foolish because they had no extra oil. They were not prepared for any delay in the bridegroom’s arrival. Ultimately their lamps went out.

Whether we are preparing for the untimely death of a loved one. Preparing for the anticipated snow in winter or preparing for the coming of Christ, let us make sure that during this period of Advent – which is a God given time of preparation - we do a few small things now to save a lot of trouble later.

What can we do now?

We can tell family and friends that they are precious to us.

We can tell neighbours that they are precious to us

We can tell God that He is precious to us

We can tell ourselves that we are precious to God

We can tell ourselves that we are precious to others too

We can carry a few essential truths with us

Best of all, we can make sure that our HEART is prepared

After all, if we come to Jesus, He will make us glad.

Doing a few small things now could save a lot of trouble later.

With love to you and yours,

From your minister and friend in Christ Jesus

Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

20 th	11.00am	Guild Dedication Service
20 th	6.30pm	Evening Song's of Praise
21 st	7.30pm	CONGREGATIONAL BOARD
25 th	6.30pm	Hall open to receive donations
26 th	1pm-3pm	CHRISTMAS FAYRE
27 th	11.00am	GIFT GIVING SERVICE
27 th	3.00pm	Guild Area Wide Carol Service

December

4 th	11.00am	COMMUNION in the Church
	3.00pm	COMMUNION in the Complex
10 th	2pm-4pm	CHRISTMAS LUNCH in the halls
11 th	11.00am	Home Alone Sunday Service
12 th	7.30pm	KIRK SESSION
18 th	11.00am	Family NATIVITY Service
18 th	6.30pm	Family CHRISTINGLE Service
20 th	1.45pm	Primary School Christmas Service
21 st	7.30pm	Family Carol Singing in the Garden (Followed by tea & mince pies etc in the halls)
24 th	10.30pm	Tea & Mince Pies in the halls
24 th	11.00pm	Carol singing in the church
24 th	11.30pm	MIDNIGHT WATCH Service
25 th	10.30am	CHRISTMAS DAY Family Praise

January 2012

1 st	11.00am	New Year Family Praise
8 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
11 th	7.30pm	Friends of Dunipace Meeting
15 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
16 th	10.30am	Local Clergy Meeting in the Hospice

N.B. The next Area Wide Consultation Meeting with regard to the proposed reduction in Ministry numbers is on Monday 6th February at 7.30pm in Haggs Parish Church. When we receive the information we require, a meeting will be arranged in January to prepare our response.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

In Dunipace Church Halls

Saturday 26th November
1pm - 3pm

Admission FREE
Stalls Galore

Teas £2.00
Fun Galore

Home Baking Stall Christmas Gifts
Bottle Stall Soft Goods Groceries
Toiletries Soaps & Salts Jewellery
Feed the Birds Find the Manger
Santa's Sack Red & Green Stall...

And so Much More All are Welcome

Donations for the various stalls should be brought down to the halls on Friday 25th at 6.30pm or early on the Saturday morning. If you have an idea for a new stall or can assist in any way whatsoever, please, let us know. Your support is very much appreciated.

GUILD DEDICATION SERVICE

In Dunipace Church

Sunday 20^h November at 11am

During morning worship our own Guild will lead us in praise and scripture. We look forward to their contribution to worship and hope that you can join with them.

GIFT GIVING SERVICE

In Dunipace Church

Sunday 27^h November at 11am

Please wrap a Christmas gift(s) and mark clearly for: a Lady, Gent or Either. The gifts should be brought along to our morning service on Sunday 27th November, after which they will be distributed to our senior members at the Christmas Lunch or in their homes. Generally we distribute over 150 gifts and therefore thank you in anticipation of your unending generosity.

GUILD CAROL SERVICE

In Dunipace Church

Sunday 27^h November at 3pm

Dunipace Guild invites you to join with them for this special service. It had to be cancelled last year due to the snow. Here's hoping that, this year, as many people as possible will be able to travel far and near to share in a time of carol singing.

WHAT'S ON in DECEMBER?

The LORD'S SUPPER

will be celebrated at
11am in the Church

and at 3pm in the local Complex on

Sunday 4th December 2011

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

For those aged 60+

Takes place in the church halls on

SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER

2pm – 4pm

A list for food donations is on the vestibule table

An INVITATION is enclosed with this magazine.

If you can assist in any way whatsoever, please, contact

Mrs Gwen McGowan : 813605

Replies should be returned by 4th Dec

THE HOME ALONE SERVICE

will be held in the church on

Sunday 11th December at 11am

During this service we think about, and pray especially
for, those who live alone or feel lonely.

“Thinking of You” cards are available for distribution

Please take as many as you need

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Family NATIVITY Service

Sunday 18th December at 11am

During this service the children present the Christmas story in song and drama.

Family CHRISTINGLE Service

Sunday 18th December at 6.30pm

Bring along your Christingle and share in the joy of this special night. I wonder who will receive the Christ Light Candle this year?

COMMUNITY CAROL SINGING

in the CHURCH GARDEN beside the Christmas Tree

Followed by tea & mince pies etc. in the halls

WEDNESDAY 21st December at 7.30pm

Suitable for the whole family

Please come well wrapped up

And if you have a lantern, please, bring it with you

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Saturday 24th December

10.30pm Tea & mince pies in the halls

11.00pm Carol singing in the church

11.30pm **Midnight Watch Service**

With our Christmas Appeal

CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY PRAISE

Sunday 25th December at 10.30am

ALL ARE WELCOME

Looking ahead to 2012

CLOTHING UPLIFT

For Charity

Following on from the success of our two previous clothing uplifts in 2011, we plan to have our next Clothing Uplift towards the end of January 2012 (date to be confirmed subject to the weather)

We, therefore, encourage folks, once more, to save up all their old clothes, blankets, jackets, shoes, soft toys and bric-a-brac etc. All items must be clean and should be bagged in black bin bags.

If you have bags for uplift in advance of January, please, let us know and we will arrange to have your donation collected and stored safely.

This is an easy, environmentally friendly, means of raising funds for charitable causes. Your support is deeply appreciated – as is that of your family, neighbours and friends – so come on, get them all on board and let's fill a great big van with unwanted clothing.

Remember our rags could be someone else's riches!

REQUEST FROM THE REMINISCENCE GROUP

Following on from the success of the WAR YEARS exhibition held in the church halls, we plan to have another display in the Spring, focusing on the 1950's and 1960's. If you have memorabilia we could borrow, please, let us know and we will be happy to receive it.

Maintaining the Spirit of Adventure

Paul Tournier writes, "I remember the time our younger son broke his leg while skiing, at the age of fourteen. My wife and I were naturally very upset. But he said to us, "You know, I'm quite glad, because I've had a personal experience at last. My life was so normal and sheltered! Something happened to me at last!" Alas! Since then he has had plenty of adventures of a more serious kind and on one occasion escaped death by a miracle. But, thank God, he has kept his spirit of adventure. Like our elder son also, he has preserved an inexhaustible capacity for enthusiasm. Woe betide those who no longer feel thrilled at anything, who have stopped looking for adventure!

As we prepare to leave 2011 and journey into the delights and demands of 2012, I pray that as a servant church, we maintain the spirit of adventure that will give us the courage and stamina we need, to face whatever lies ahead of us. There is still work for us to do, there is still an incredible message of love, grace and forgiveness, for us to share and there are still people for us to reach and embrace in the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord

The HUB Project is very much at the heart of our Vision and although to many it seems to be progressing slowly, we are almost at the Planning application stage, so let us not loose heart, instead let us go forward in faith, enthusiastic and confident that we are part of a great adventure, believing that God will guide us in all we do.

"He put on righteousness as his breastplate, the helmet of salvation on his head... and wrapped himself in *"the spirit of adventure"* as in a cloak." Isaiah 59

Woe betide us if we no longer feel thrilled at anything and have stopped looking for adventure.

Highlighting the work of the Scottish Bible Society

2011 marked the 400th Anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible

Scotland has been shaped by the Bible that we have had in our language for well over 400 years and the work of the Scottish Bible Society has helped shape other lands too

In Ethiopia, the scarcity of Bibles creates a very real difficulty for Christians. This year the Bible Society of Ethiopia completed the production of the Bible in the Gurage language and all three major denominations – Roman Catholics, Orthodox and Protestants – were involved in, and agreed, the final translation.

The Gurage Bible was presented to the people on the 12th March 2011. It was the first time that the Gurage people had a complete Bible in their own language – a translation for a group of 5 million people, roughly the same as the population of Scotland!

However, there weren't enough Bibles to go round as the Bible Society of Ethiopia can't afford to buy enough copies to meet the demand.

You can help change this by becoming a Bible-a-month Partner.

To find out more check out the Scottish Bible Society's website at:

www.scottishbiblesociety.org/donate

PARISH REGISTER

Bereaved

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

Mrs Jane McIntosh 1 Hazel Crescent, Dunipace
Mrs Elizabeth Stevenson Wallside Nursing Home

Baptism

We welcome into God's family the Church:

Sunday 2nd October
Ruaridh Alexander Kennedy
Son of Gregor & Amy
Ballindalloch (formerly Dunipace)

Sunday 9th October
Matthew Collier
Son of Craig & Michelle
1 Avon Street, Dunipace

Keeping Us Updated

Please help us keep our records up to date by informing the Roll Keeper (Mr David Turnbull) of changes

Hospital Visits

Please also remember that hospital records are CONFIDENTIAL.

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

FOR YOU TO REMEMBER...

Jesus said, "Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name; you are mine.
When you walk through the waters I'll be with you,
You will never sink beneath the waves..."

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	Mrs Chrissie Busby
Kirk Café	Mrs June Davies
Transport	Mr Jim Winning
Property	Mr Jim Perry
Finance	Mrs Anne Marchant
Social Projects	Mrs Gwen McGowan
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