

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2008**  
**“Together We Make A Difference”**  
**Charity No: SC 00 2943**  
[www.dunipacechurch.org.uk](http://www.dunipacechurch.org.uk)

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

*“Trust in the Lord, always”*

Dear Friends,

What a busy month October was here in the local church. We began with our Harvest Service, at which we brought along our filled shoeboxes for **Blythswood Care**. 110 boxes, along with a cheque for £174, were taken to Evanton depot, all in time for an international Christmas delivery. The following Sunday we focused on **Mission Aviation Fellowship** and in a “flight of fancy” prayed for the work they do. In the afternoon we held our **Memorial Service for the Bereaved**. Our month of mission and outreach came to a fitting end with an uplifting visit from Mr David Nicholson DSC, **Moderator of Falkirk Presbytery** and in the evening, a lovely Service of Praise that supported the work of **Gideon’s International**. All in all, October was a busy month. As we gave thanks for the incredible work undertaken by the Church locally and internationally, it drew us closer as a worshipping family.

November and December, as you will read in the “Dates for your diary pages” will be just as busy as we endeavour to reach out, in meaningful ways, to serve the parish.

Don’t despair at the prospect of all that lies before us. Instead rejoice and give thanks for the wonderful ways in

which God has called us, and continues to call us, to serve Him.

Just now, society desperately needs to hear the word of HOPE and see REASSURING signs. Words we bring, Sunday by Sunday and the signs of God's grace we display, day by day, in all we do, think and say, as we offer God our life's in service.

With the money markets crashing, the credit crunch biting, unemployment rising, construction declining, and most of us understandably whining at the horrors of it all, the word of HOPE needs to be heard in the midst of such gloom.

Rejoice and be glad. Even though church membership is declining, attendance is failing, and financial giving might be quite worrying, our productivity is UP and the level of commitment from those who do attend is INCREASING.

WHY? Because we "Trust in the Lord always"

"Do not be worried or upset" Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled." "Lo, I am with you always."

We cannot see an easy way out of the mess society seems to be in but God does. Through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ his son, God has been with us, and remains with us, always.

We cannot ever be complacent. There will always be work for us to do. By God's grace we will do it, and we will do it to the best of our abilities, trusting in Him who called us and goes with us – whatever life on earth throws at us.

As we journey closer to Advent and Christmas may the Light of Christ shine in your heart, in your home and in all the dark corners of the world.

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

## GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

### The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm for Computer Users

*The Lord is my programmer, I shall not crash  
He installed His software on the hard disk of my  
heart*

*All of His commands are user-friendly  
His directory moves me to the right choices for His  
name's sake*

*Even though I scroll through the problems of life  
I will fear no bugs, for you are my backup  
Your password protects me  
You prepare a menu before me in the presence of  
my enemies  
Your help is only a key away*

*Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the  
days of my life  
And my file will be merged with His and saved  
forever.*

*William R Cox*

*(Special thanks to Mrs Betty Russell  
for providing this poem)*

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **November**

1 <sup>st</sup>	1.30pm	<b>Wedding</b> in the Church
2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Andrew Nairn Concert Party</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>Cenotaph Service</b>
	11.30am	<b>Remembrance Service in Church</b>
	12.15pm	<b>Remembrance Service in Garden</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>		PUBLIC INQUIRY using church halls
10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Congregational Board meeting</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Mr Arthur Stewart
17 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup>		Rev Helen Christie providing cover
22 <sup>nd</sup>	1pm-3pm	<b>Christmas Fete in the halls</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	<b>Guild Dedication Service</b>
24 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Makers & Shakers – <b>Planning Group</b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Denny 4 Youth meeting in Denny Old
30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>Gift Giving Service</b>
	6.30pm	Evening Praise

### **December**

7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>Communion in the Church</b>
	3.00pm	<b>Communion in the Complex</b>
13 <sup>th</sup>	2pm-4pm	<b>Christmas Lunch in the halls</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Morning Worship
15 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Kirk Session Meeting</b>
19 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	School Service in the Church
21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	<b>Family Nativity Service</b>
	6.30pm	<b>Christingle Service</b>
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30pm	Teas, Coffee in the halls
	11.00pm	Carol Singing in the Church
	11.30pm	<b>Watch Night Service</b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>Christmas Day Family Praise</b>
28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>End of Year Family Praise</b>

### **January 2009**

4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>New Year Family Praise</b>
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## **REMEMBRANCE SERVICES**

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

#### **10.30am Service at the CENOTAPH**

The Parade will leave St. Patrick's School about 10.20am in time for the Service in Denny town centre to begin at 10.30am. This year, Mr Norman Graham, of Denny Baptist Church, will lead worship at the Cenotaph

#### **11.30am Remembrance Service in Dunipace**

Please note that our Church service begins at 11.30am. Children coming to the Sunday Club still gather in the hall at 11.00am. A Retiring Offering will be received for POPPY APPEAL SCOTLAND

#### **12.15pm Remembrance Service in Garden**

A short service of Remembrance, during which wreaths will be laid, takes place at the memorial cross in the church garden, directly after morning worship. We hope that you will be able to join with us for these services.

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## **PUBLIC INQUIRY**

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

Would users of the church halls please note that the halls have been let to the Council for a Public Inquiry taking place here in Dunipace.

This means that groups and organisations, in the main, are being asked NOT to meet in the halls, during the week of the Inquiry. We thank you for your help with this matter and look forward to having you back with us the following week.

## **FLOWER FUND APPEAL**

Mrs Jane Mills, convenor of the Flower Fund, extends a sincere word of thanks to those who support the work of the flower fund in any way whatsoever.

The church flowers are distributed Sunday by Sunday to parishioners in their time of joy or sorrow, bringing to them, the love and blessings of the Church.

The Fund, is however, quite depleted, and in urgent need of financial support. If you would like to make a donation to the Flower Fund and have your name allocated to a particular Sunday, please speak to Mrs Mills as soon as possible.

Equally, if you would like to assist with the distribution of the flowers after morning worship or with the arranging of them, please have a word with Mrs Mills. All forms of help will be gratefully received.

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### **Makers & Shakers**

### **PLANNING GROUP**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**

The next meeting takes place in the Annexe and is open to anyone who feels the urge to help make and shape the Church of today and of tomorrow. Come along and help us build God's vision in this parish.

# **CHRISTMAS FETE**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

**1pm-3pm**

**Admission is FREE**

**Teas £1.50**

## **Stalls Galore**

Bottles

Home Baking

Groceries

Toiletries

Red & Green Stall

Soft Goods

Christmas Goods

Santa's Dip

Teas...Coffee...

If you would like to help in any way whatsoever please come along and make yourself known. Your help will not be turned away

Donations for the various stalls can be brought down to the hall on Friday night or early on the Saturday morning.

## **GUILD NEWS**

### **Andrew Nairn Concert Party**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Church.**

Tickets, priced £3, are available in advance from Guild members or at the door on the night.

A warm welcome awaits YOU

### **SERVICE OF DEDICATION**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 11am**

We look forward, very much, to having the GUILD members share in morning worship. During the service of Dedication, the Guild ladies will sing a lovely hymn for us and read scripture. All are welcome.

The Guild meet in the Reading Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month (September – March)

The Guild has a varied programme of speakers focusing on this year's theme "He Restores My Soul". If you would like to find out more about the work of the Guild, please speak to Mrs Betty McDonald. New members are always welcome.

### **The LORD'S SUPPER**

will be celebrated at

***11am in the Church***

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

*on*

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2008**

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

# **GIFT GIVING SERVICE**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

**11am**

Those attending worship are invited to bring along a WRAPPED Christmas GIFT (to the value of about £3.00) marked clearly for either a LADY or GENT

Gifts can of course be handed in at any time. The gifts received are all greatly appreciated.

The Christmas GIFTS will be distributed at the Christmas Lunch.

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# **CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**2pm-4pm**

**in the church halls**

With this edition of the church magazine, you should receive an INVITATION to the Christmas Lunch. Although an invitation is distributed with EVERY magazine, the invitation is for those aged 60+ Who knows, maybe next year, we will be in a position to cater for all of our members – irrespective of age!!! Now there's a challenge

# **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

## **Family Nativity**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11am**

As we draw closer to Christmas Day, we set the scene for the whole family with our Nativity Service

## **Family Christingle Service**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 6.30pm**

Bring along your homemade Christingle (we have extra ones available on the night) and share in the joy of this lovely family service as we find out who will get the Christmas Candle this year.

## **Coffee & Carols**

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

Tea, Coffee in the hall at 10.30pm

Carols in the church at 11.00pm

Come along to the hall early and enjoy a good “get together” before we worship together.

## **Midnight Watch Service**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30pm**

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

## **Christmas Day Family Praise**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am**

Join with us for a relaxed worship service on this special day.

## **End of Year Family Praise**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am** Bring along a gift you received as we give thanks for the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ our Saviour.



## OUR WHO'S WHO

2008

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
Story Club & Youth Fellowship	Mrs Barbara Fulford
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 James Smith
Health & Safety	Mr Bill Ferguson

### VESTRY NIGHT

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