

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
NEWSLETTER**

**NOVEMBER – DECEMBER**

**A Faith Driven Vision For 2007**

**Charity No: SC 00 2943**

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

**MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER**

*“I will bring to you the best gift I can offer”*

Dear Friends,

“Yippee” or perhaps it’s “Oh no,” you cry at this time of year as we prepare to celebrate Christmas.

Some people love shopping for Christmas gifts and manage to find exactly what they are looking for without too much hassle for the rest of us it’s a mad dash as December 25<sup>th</sup> draws near.

There are so many gifts we can buy for our family and friends - silly gifts, practical gifts - from as little as a few pounds to vast sums.

It’s nice to know, however, that the best gifts are those that come from the heart and not the long queues!

This past year, we as a congregation have worked hard to bless the lives of people, near and far, with gifts that have come from our heart.

We have given the gift of fresh water and improved sanitation to a village in Tanzania. We have given the gift of love and a sense of being remembered to those who mourn the loss of a loved one. We

have given the gift of joy and hope to those joined in marriage. We have given the gift of belonging to those who brought their little ones for baptism. We have given the gift of money to Christian Aid and the Earl Haig Fund. We have given blankets to Buskit and shoeboxes filled with much needed goods to families in Romania. We have given so much more.

Why have we given these gifts? We have given them because we treasure the greatest gift given to us by God, the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ.

May the gifts of God’s light and love be with you and yours as we truly celebrate that which is at the heart of Christmas

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Yours in Christ,

Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### NOVEMBER

7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Water Aid Meeting</b>
11 <sup>th</sup>	10.40am	<b>Cenotaph</b> Service of Remembrance
11 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	<b>Remembrance Services</b>
14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Presbytery Study Day Focused on Team Ministries
16 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	<b>BAND NITE</b> in the Crypt for Water Aid
18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>Guild Dedication Service</b>
19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Congregational Board Meeting</b>
21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Denny Churches Together</b> Meeting
22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00pm	Sandra's Ordination – Kings Park
24 <sup>th</sup>	1-3pm	<b>CHRISTMAS FAYRE</b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>GIFT SERVICE</b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	<b>Water Aid</b> <b>United Service of Thanksgiving</b>
26 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>St. Andrew's Night Concert</b>
30 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	<b>Children's Story Club</b> in the hall

### DECEMBER

2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	<b>COMMUNION</b>
	3.00pm	<b>COMMUNION</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>	2pm-4pm	<b>CHRISTMAS LUNCH</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship
10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	<b>Kirk Session Meeting</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	<b>BAPTISM</b> – Abbi Skelton
16 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	<b>CHRISTINGLE SERVICE</b>
21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	School Christmas Service
23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	<b>FAMILY NATIVITY</b>
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30pm	Tea & Mince Pies in the Halls
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00pm	Carol Singing in the Church
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30pm	<b>MIDNIGHT WATCH SERVICE</b>
25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY PRAISE</b>
30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Worship

## WATER AID EVENTS

### **BAND NITE**

Featuring the **LEADS  
& Supporting Groups**

For those aged 16+

**FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

In the Crypt, Denny  
At 8pm

Admission by Ticket priced £4

Please contact

Jean on 824540 - David on 821201

Or get your ticket early at the door on the night

### **UNITED SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November**

**6.30pm**

**in Denny Westpark Church**

Join with us for a night of celebration and thanksgiving as we rejoice in all that we have achieved through our WATER AID PROJECT

We hoped to raise £5,000 to sink a well in Tanzania

It looks as if this has been WELL and truly surpassed thanks to your support

# **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November**  
**1pm-3pm**

Admission is free  
Teas £1.50

## **Stalls Galore....**

Home Baking

Groceries

Tombola

Soft Goods

Books & Toys

Bric-A-Brac

Toiletries

Red & Green Stall

Bottle

## **And so much more**

If you would like to help in any way whatsoever please come along and make yourself known. Your help and support will be appreciated.

In this magazine you should have received a CARRIER BAG for donations

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

## **GUILD EVENTS**

### **GUILD DEDICATION SERVICE**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 11am**

We look forward to having the members of the Guild take part in worship as we pray for God's blessing on the work they do.

**The Guild** meets in the Reading Room on a Monday night (*usually the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month*) at 7.15pm. New members are always welcome.

### **St. ANDREW'S NIGHT CONCERT**

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**

This is a very special fund raising event for the Guild and they look for your support.

The music and entertainment is to be provided by the **Kilsyth Close Harmony Group**.

Tickets will soon be on sale from members of the Guild.

Their fund raising events are always extremely popular so get your ticket early and encourage your friends to come along too.

## **COMMUNION SUNDAY**

The Sacrament of the  
**LORD'S SUPPER**

will be celebrated at

***11am in the Church***

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

***on***

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2007**

**Come and share in the joyful feast**

**A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU**

**GIFT GIVING SERVICE**  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November**  
**11am**

During morning worship on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November you are invited to bring along wrapped Christmas gifts marked clearly for a Lady or Gentleman.

Each gift should be to the value of about £3

The gifts will then be distributed to the senior members at the Christmas Lunch early in December.

You always respond so well to the Gift Giving Service and we thank you once more in anticipation of your support.

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH**  
**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December**  
**2pm-4pm**  
**in the Church Hall**

This is always a great afternoon enjoyed not only by our senior members but also by the “Christmas Elves” who help out on the day.

Invitations to the Christmas Lunch have been included in this edition of the magazine and should be returned by Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

If you can help by offering donations for the lunch, serving in the kitchen or providing transport etc., please let Mrs Maureen Pleace or Mrs Sandra Thomson know.

A list for donations will be placed in the vestibule late in November.

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## Presbytery Wide Campaign

Dunipace Parish Church is part of a presbytery-wide initiative that will encourage each of us to reflect upon what we give to resource the work we do as a congregation of the Church of Scotland.

Our presbytery has been chosen to pilot the programme which, it is hoped, will then be rolled out nationally. We will be the model for the rest of the Church to follow. If our programme is successful, we will benefit ourselves and encourage other congregations.

Gillian Paterson, one of the Church's Stewardship Consultants, is helping us to deliver this programme, there is, however, still a lot of work to be done by us. For this reason, a small Planning Group has been established for what promises to be an exciting event in the life of our congregation

**"Together We Make A Difference"** This is the name of the Presbytery wide programme, which will culminate in a series of social Gatherings next February.

At the **Congregational Gatherings** there will be plenty of time to ask questions and make comments. There will also be time to chat with others over a cup of tea or coffee.

Early in the New Year, every member will receive a personal invitation to the social Gatherings. In the meantime, pray with us, as we ask God to bless us in our work and witness.

The **Aims** of the **SOCIAL GATHERINGS** are as follows:

1. To **SHARE** who we are and what we do as a worshipping community, through a visual presentation
2. To **SHAPE** our contact with the community we serve as we reach out to the missing groups and members
3. To **SHOW** where our resources come from, where they go and what we could do if our resources were increased

**This will be achieved through carefully planned social gatherings, which set out to:**

**Inform** members about the way in which the resources they give enables the sharing of the Gospel,

**Deepen our Faith** as we affirm the good things we are doing

**Encourage** members to increase our resources so that we can do much more

**Open Doors** to others

The **Congregational Gatherings** at the heart of the campaign take place in February. Look out for your Invitation - it will be delivered early in the New Year

# **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

## **FAMILY CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm**

The whole family is invited to join in a wonderful night of music and light as we hear the Christingle story and share in the delight of singing our favourite carols by candlelight. I wonder who will get the Christingle Candle this year? At the end of the service, tea and mince pies are served in the hall.

## **FAMILY NATIVITY SERVICE**

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

We look forward to getting closer to the heart of Christmas as we see and hear the well-loved story of the Nativity as presented by the children and young people of the church.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

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

**10.30pm            Tea & mince pies in the hall**

**11.00pm            Carol singing in the church**

**11.30pm            Midnight Watch Service**

We hope that as many people as possible will join with us on Christmas Eve. During the Midnight Watch Service an offering is uplifted for the Christmas Appeal

## **CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY PRAISE**

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

Join with us for a short family service of praise on this very special day. Children (and the young at heart) are encouraged to bring along, and show to us, a gift they received for Christmas as together we give thanks for the greatest gift of all, the gift of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

## The Gift of God's Love

All over the world at this season,  
Expectant hands reach out to receive  
Gifts that are lavishly fashioned  
The finest that man can conceive...  
For, purchased and given at Christmas  
Are luxuries we long to possess,  
Given as favours and tokens  
To try in some way to express  
That strange, indefinable feeling  
Which is part of this glad time of year  
When streets are crowded with shoppers  
And the air resounds with good cheer!  
But back of each tinsel-tied package  
Exchanged at this gift-giving season  
Unrecognised often by many  
Lies a deeper, more meaningful reason...  
For, born in a manger at Christmas  
As a gift from the Father above,  
An infant whose name was called Jesus  
Brought mankind the GIFT OF GOD'S LOVE...  
And the gifts that we give have no purpose  
Unless God is part of the giving,  
And unless we make Christmas a pattern  
To be followed in everyday living.

**Helen Steiner Rice**

LOVINGLY

Poems for all Seasons     Hutchison of London 1971

# PARISH REGISTER

**BEREAVED**      May God's strength be with the families who are bereaved:

Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Davies      326 Stirling Street, Dunipace  
Mr Thomas (Tom) McGuire      45 Milton Row, Dunipace  
Mr Joseph (Joe) McGrandles      42 Little Denny Road, Denny

**BAPTISM** We welcome into God's family the Church:

Jack David Golden      California, USA  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August

**WEDDING**      Congratulations and blessings to those joined in marriage

Alison Fleming Forsyth      46 Godfrey Avenue, Denny  
Ross Alexander Anderson      1 Ochil Gardens, Bonnybridge  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September

Kirsty Dickson      21 Hookney Terrace, Stoneywood  
Brian Easton  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October

**RENEWAL OF VOWS**      Congratulations also to those who have recently renewed their wedding vows on special anniversary dates:

Mr Colin & Mrs Eleanor Kemp      7 Connolly Drive, Dunipace  
7<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

Mr William & Mrs Agnes Feeney      292 Stirling Street, Dunipace  
Diamond Wedding Anniversary

## OUR WHO'S WHO 2007

Minister	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Session Clerk	Mr Lachlan McGowan
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
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 Ann Marchant
Social Projects	Mrs Dora Johnstone
Hospitality	Mrs Maureen Pleace
Magazine Distribution	Mr Bill Paterson
Posters	Mr David Reynolds
Webmaster	Mr Jim 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**