

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
NEWSLETTER**

SPRING 2014

Charity No: SC 002943

www.dunipacechurch.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,

It is well recognised, in relation to the weather, that Scotland can experience the four seasons in one day. Oh how often we have seen a ray of sunshine, temporarily filling us with optimism, suddenly dashed with a splash of rain that on closer inspection is falling as hailstones, or sleety snowflakes, before being blown away with a sweeping wind that moves the clouds on and once again reveals a glimmer of sunshine. You think we would be well used to our weather extremes, but the truth is we are not.

What a terrible tragedy for those in the South West of England whose homes have been flooded and who fear that the saturated land will not dry in a hurry. At one time the concern was drought and now it's flooding.

What a terrible tragedy for those in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland who went without heating and electricity, for days on end, over the Christmas and New Year period. While the rest of us tucked into turkey (or veggie option!) and Christmas pudding, they were left wondering when the power would be turned back on.

We hold, very much, in prayer, people in our own country, in other parts of Britain, and in various places throughout the

world, where weather extremes and natural disasters are causing great damage to people's lives and to their homes.

What a terrible tragedy these situations are, and oh how we wish and pray they did not happen, but they do and will probably continue to do so. Such is the nature of our weather.

What a relief it is to know, what a glimmer of hope it is to see, that in the face of such horrendous events, the goodwill of people surfaces.

I heard a man on a television interview say, "We are all pulling together. The worst of the weather has brought out the best in us. It's tough and we don't know how long it will go on. In many ways we feel that we have been left to our own devices, but we are in it together..."

How marvellous to hear, in the midst of understandable complaints about inadequate tidal defences and poor responses from government agencies, the voice of optimism.

Our prayer, now, must surely be that such glimmers of hope do not blow over as quickly as a passing thunderstorm. We pray that the caring, supportive actions of such communities, continues when the worst of the weather is over and ultimately provides a moral framework that shapes and guides their relationships and working practices, long after the extreme weather conditions have passed.

In the Old Testament, when the Israelite community wandered in the wilderness, they too complained about the terrible situation they were facing. Thankfully their cries of despair and despondency did not fall on deaf ears.

In Exodus 16: 9 we read: "Then Moses told Aaron, 'Say to the entire Israelite community, "Come before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.' God then provided the weary community with manna and quail.

We also remember God's covenant which we read of in Genesis 9:13. "I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

The nature of our environment and world is such that weather extremes and natural disasters will prevail. The nature of God is such that goodness and grace will prevail.

It is surely what we do, as individuals and as communities, as people of faith and non-faith, working together for the good of all that makes the difference when such tragedies disrupt our lives.

We pray that the communities most affected by heavy rains will soon, very soon, receive the resources they need and ultimately see God's rainbow in the sky.

We pray too, that people in our own parish, not affected by heavy rains but by heavy burdens and other storm clouds that are perhaps threatening their financial stability, job security, family relationships, or health and well being, will also receive the kindness and compassion they need from people who care. We pray that they too, will soon, and very soon, see God's rainbow in the sky.

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. By this, others will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another, as I have loved you."

With kindest regards and blessings to you, and yours
Your Minister and Friend,

Jean W Gallacher

Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Parish Minister
Dunipace Parish Church of Scotland

SC002943

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February 2014

18 th	10 -12	Café resumes on a Tuesday morning
25 th	7.30pm	Joint Kirk Session in Denny Old

March 2014

2 nd	11.00am	Communion in the church
	3.00pm	Communion in Tygetshaugh Court
7 th	7.15pm	World Day of Prayer in Dunipace Church
8 th	10 - 3pm	Stewardship Training Day in halls
9 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
10 th	10.30am	Local Area Fraternal in Denny Old
16 th	11.00am	Feast Celebration in the halls
		Records for attestation required
17 th	7.30pm	Annual Stated Meeting in the halls
18 th	9.30am	Attestation Day in Camelon
21 st	7.30pm	Community Quiz Night in the halls
23 rd	11.00am	Morning Worship
24 th	2.00pm	Afternoon Friendship Circle in halls
29 th	9-2pm	Grand Auction in the halls
30 th	11.00am	Morning Worship – Baptismal Service
	6.30pm	Evening Songs of Praise

April 2014

6 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
7 th	7.30pm	Congregational Board
13 th	11.00am	Palm Sunday
14 th	7.30pm	Holy Week Service – Westpark Church
15 th	7.30pm	Holy Week Service – Denny Baptist Church
16 th	7.30pm	Holy Week Service – Dunipace Church
17 th	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday – Dunipace Church
18 th	10.00am	Walk of Witness – Denny Baptist Church
	7.30pm	Good Friday – Denny Old Church
20 th	8.30am	Outdoor Service – Denny Baptist Church
	9.15pm	Easter Breakfast – Denny Baptist Church
	11.00am	Easter Family Praise – Dunipace Church
22 nd	7.30pm	Presbytery Committee Meeting in R/Room
27 th	11.00am	Morning Worship – Baptismal Service

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Will be celebrated on

Sunday 2nd March 2014

In Dunipace Church at 11am

And in Tygetshaugh Court at 3pm

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 7th March

In Dunipace Church at 7.15pm

From Egypt

“Streams in the Desert”

All are Welcome

Dunipace Parish Church ANNUAL STATED MEETING

Takes place in the halls on

Monday 17th March at 7.30pm

Come along and join with us, for a relaxed and informal meeting, as we give thanks for our work and witness in this parish.

There are VACANCIES on the BOARD

If you are interested in finding out more, please, have a word with the minister.

Entertainment and a light supper will be provided

A special welcome is extended to YOU

**Dunipace Parish Church & Friends of Dunipace
Hall Renovation & Community Outreach Event**

Registered Scottish Charities Number: SC002943 & SC001936

Community QUIZ NIGHT

**Friday 21st March 2014 at 7.30pm
In Dunipace Church & Community Halls**

Over the past years this community event has grown from strength to strength. So much so, we now host two quiz nights in the year. In September 2013 we had 13 teams taking part. In March 2014 we would like to have more.

- TEAMS of between FOUR & SIX from the local community, groups, organisations, schools and churches are invited to enter.
- The cost is £3 per team member
- A sandwich supper will be provided
- Shield awarded on the night.

Enquiries to:

Mr Jim Perry
Quiz Master

We look forward to hosting the COMMUNITY QUIZ NIGHT and invite your team(s) to take part.

EITHER contact Mr Jim Perry in advance
OR simply come along on the night.

All are Welcome

GRAND AUCTION

SATURDAY 29th MARCH

From 9am – 2pm

In

Dunipace Parish Church Halls

We need:

Lots and lots of quality items for the sale

Help with setting up on the Friday night

Help on the actual Auction day

People willing to run a Café on the day

People willing to collect items for the sale

Posters made and distributed

Catalogue of sale items etc...

**If you can help in anyway whatsoever, please,
contact:**

Mrs Anne Marchant

We are hoping that this will be one of our main
Fund raising ventures this year.

Please rake through your cupboards and see if
you have anything that you could give us for the
Auction. All donations of goods & help appreciated

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES 2014

Palm Sunday

11am

Sunday 13th April

Dunipace Parish Church

Holy Week Evening Services begin at 7.30pm

Monday 14th April

Denny Westpark Church

Tuesday 15th

Denny Baptist Church

Wednesday 16th

Dunipace Church

Thursday 17th

Dunipace Church

Friday 18th

Denny Old Church

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Friday 18th April at 10am

This year the walk begins and ends at Denny Baptist Church

Easter Day Services

Sunday 20th April

8.30am Outdoor Service - Baptist Church

9.15am Easter Breakfast - Baptist Church

11.00am Easter Family Praise - Dunipace Church

ALL ARE WELCOME

These services are open to everyone in the community. We hope you will be able to join with us as we celebrate the events of Holy Week & Easter together in an ecumenical manner.

125 CAMPAIGN

Looking Forward in Faith To our 125th Anniversary Celebration

Although a church presence has been in the Parish of Dunipace since the late 1200's, the building we worship in today was opened in June 1890. This means we celebrate our 125th Anniversary in June 2015.

As a congregation we would like to mark this special anniversary in a number of ways, all of which are currently being planned and all of which, as the months roll on, you will be fully informed of.

To begin with, we would like to progress a much-needed programme of redecoration and renovation in the existing church halls. They are well-used and understandably showing signs of wear and tear.

We are, therefore, promoting a Fund Raising Campaign to raise the much-needed money and resources required to undertake the necessary renovation work. With your help we can achieve our goal.

Promoting the 125 Campaign

The hope is that in the year 2014 and in the year 2015, we can get 125 people, from the church and wider community, to donate £125 each.

Others might be able to offer other resources, like their time and talents, which are equally needed for the programme of renovation. Maybe you could help with carpentry work, tiling, papering, etc?

HOW CAN I RESPOND TO THE 125 CAMPAIGN ?

People have been asking, "How do I make a response to the Campaign?"

Well, you can donate the sum of £125, either as an individual OR on a collective basis as part of an organisations response to the campaign.

The sum of £125 can be donated in total OR it can be paid up, or saved up, over a number of months. It all depends on what works best for those who are engaging in the Campaign.

If you would like to support the 125 Campaign, through a financial donation, please, make your donation payable to Dunipace Parish Church or have a word with Mrs Fiona Bruce the church treasurer. If you would like to make a response through the gift of time and talents, please, have a word with the minister.

We want to keep the Church Alive and Active in 2015. With your help we can do this in new and creative ways. If you have ideas that can help us make our 125 Celebration even more meaningful, please, let us know. Come on folks, let's be creative, let's have fun in the process, and let us help others see that the local church serves the community.

We commend this project to God in prayer and seek to make our response in faith. For we believe that He who can do more than we can ever imagine possible, will accept all that we offer and all that we are.

GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS

Monday	2pm	Friendship Circle Mrs Betty McDonald (March 24, April 28 th , May 26 th , Sept 22 nd , Oct 27 th , Nov 24 th)
	7.30pm	Kirk Session Congregational Board
Tuesday	10-12	Community Café Mrs June Davies
	7.15pm	Men's Club Mr Angus Cameron
Wednesday	2pm	Reminiscence Group Mr Jim Perry
	7pm	Rainbows Mrs Barbara Fulford
Thursday	7.30pm	Choir Practice Mr David Faulds
		Brownies Mrs Barbara Fulford
Friday		Badminton Club Mr George Mills
		Story Club Mrs Barbara Fulford
Sunday	10.50am	Children's Church
	11.00am	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Evening Songs of Praise

The groups & organisations that meet in the church halls are open to everyone and extend a warm welcome to new members.

MISSION & OUTREACH

"Love is something if you give it away, give it away..."

Dunipace Parish Church, whilst serving the needs of the local parish, always endeavours to support the work of other charitable organisations that promote good works in a way that brings benefit to others. Below you will find listed the organisations we supported in 2013. A sincere word of thanks is extended to the congregation for their willingness to meet our own needs and the needs of so many others.

WHAT WE GAVE THROUGH RETIRING OFFERINGS & SPECIAL APPEALS IN 2013

Property Appeal	£ 2,769
Hub/Boiler & 125 Appeal	£ 11,937
Feb - Prison Through Care Trust	£ 81.41
March - Foodbank	£ 125.00
April - 20p Spread the Good News Campaign (This provides Bible for every P7 Pupil)	£ 77.89
May - Christian Aid	£ 401.40
June/Jul/Aug - Property	£ 396.60
Sept - Foodbank	£ 59.84
Oct - Mission Aviation Fellowship	£ 83.37
Nov - Poppy Appeal	£ 135.09
Dec - Aftab Gohar Appeal	£ 119.40
Dec - Philippines Typhoon Appeal	£ 332.06

THANK YOU

FALKIRK FOODBANK

Please note, in addition to the money raised for the Foodbank, we also regularly deliver many bags of food to the depot, all of which is appreciated. You are encouraged to put Foodbank items in the container that can be found in the church vestibule, where a list of required foods can also be found.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Hall Re-decoration & Renovation Project

We are looking for gifts of Time & Talents

The Congregational Board is delighted to intimate that some of the much needed re-decoration work in the halls is now underway, beginning with the Reading Room. The walls have been scraped and are in the process of being prepared for papering & painting. The next room to be tackled is likely to be the ladies toilets, which is of course a much bigger task.

In connection with this, the Board puts out an appeal for help with the practical side of the various projects. We are looking, not only for financial support (which is slowly coming in and for which we say a great big thank you) we are also looking for offers of time and talents (in a bid to save us some money, so that the little we have can go a long, long way)

If you have some time to spare and could assist with joinery work, tiling work, scraping and painting etc, please have a word with the minister, as soon as possible. The more hands on deck, the better.

The Board extends its thanks to those who have already expressed a willingness to help. The Board further extends its thanks to the groups and organisations that meet in the halls, we apologise for the inconvenience caused and hope that you will continue to display patience.

LOOKING AFTER OUR HALLS YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY REQUIRED

The Church Halls are used by a number of groups and organisations on a regular basis. We rejoice in this and hope that their use goes from strength to strength. We would, however, as a matter of good housekeeping, and as a mark of respect for the halls, remind ALL users of the halls that we do NOT have a cleaner.

It is, therefore, the duty of all users to ensure that they leave the premises clean and tidy at all times.

Chairs should be stacked appropriately.

Bins should be emptied and not left overflowing.

Floors should be swept and/or washed as appropriate.

No items should be left on the top of cupboards.

Kitchen work surfaces should be left clean and tidy with no cups and boxes lying around.

The heating should not be tampered with but kept at a regular temperature using the thermostat control in the large hall

We all use the halls and are responsible for the halls.

The Board thank you in anticipation of your ongoing help with this matter.

*If these halls you should wish to use
Please show respect and not abuse
Take time to show you really care
By not leaving things everywhere
Remember that it is our place
To always demonstrate good grace*

PARISH REGISTER

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

Mrs Mary Connolly	Wheatlands Nursing Home
Mr Hugh Fraser	71 Milton Row, Dunipace
Mrs Mary McCormack	258 Stirling Street, Dunipace
Mrs May McDonald	48 Beech Crescent, Dunipace
Mrs Annie Blair	22 Thistle Court, Dunipace
Mrs Anne MacKenzie	76 Chestnut Crescent, Dunipace

Weddings We rejoice with those whose love has been celebrated in marriage:

Tracy Laird and Neil Thomson
22 Chestnut Crescent, Dunipace
Married on Saturday 18th January 2014, in Dunipace Church.

ATTESTATION OF ROLLS AND RECORDS

All rolls and records for attestation should be brought to the church on Sunday 16th March, in time for presenting at the Annual Stated Meeting (on Monday 17th March) and Presbytery Attestation Day (Tuesday 18th March).

The records required include:

Property Registers
Child Protection Register
Financial Accounts
Kirk Session Minute Book & Sederunt Book.
Congregational Board Minute Book & Sederunt Book
Communion Roll.
Baptismal Register.
Minister's Mileage Record.

DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH WHO'S WHO

Minister	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Session Clerk	Mr Alex Cook
Associate Clerk	Mr Gregor Wilson
Clerk to Board	Mrs Tish Graham
Treasurer	Mrs Fiona Bruce
Freewill Offering	Mrs Jean Gray
Gift Aid	Mrs Sandra Cook
Mission Bags	Mrs Aileen Sneddon
Roll Keeper	Mr David Turnbull
Presbytery Elder	Mr Jim Winning
Organist & Choir	Mr David Faulds
Children's Ministry	Mrs Barbara Fulford
Child Protection	Mrs Helen Lax
Afternoon Friendship	Mrs Betty McDonald
Prayer & Bible Study	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Men's Club	Mr Angus Cameron
Reminiscence Group	Mr Jim Perry
Badminton Group	Mr George Mills
Flowers	Mrs Jane Mills
Communion Linen	Mrs Chrissie Busby
Kirk Café	Mrs June Davies
Property	Mr Jim Perry
Finance	Mrs Anne Marchant
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

Dunipace Parish Church of Scotland, 175 Stirling Street,
Dunipace. DENNY FK6 6JR. Scottish Charity Number: SC002943