

**DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
NEWSLETTER**

SUMMER 2014

Charity No: SC 002943

www.dunipacechurch.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,

Who is my neighbour?

We are all, I imagine, familiar with the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) A parable in the New Testament which addresses the question, "Who is my neighbour?" This lovely passage of scripture encourages us to look beyond ourselves and see everyone as our neighbour.

Who could really walk on by when someone is hurting?

Who could really cross over the road and pretend they don't notice the bleeding wounds of the injured person?

Who would stop and offer the assistance required?

Who would be willing to give their time and talents to help?

When we read the story, we inwardly, and dare I say perhaps rather self righteously, "Tut, Tut" at those who ignored the injured traveller. We convince ourselves that we would never do such a thing and yet, if truth is told, we know that increasingly in today's society, we are more likely to be the one who does indeed walk on by or cross over to avoid involvement. Why? I think we know the answer. It's a dangerous thing to get involved in the affairs of others these days because in doing so we are more likely to land ourselves in trouble!

And yet, the gospel truths of care and compassion, kindness and consideration, ring in our ears and tug at our hearts.

The added difficulty with this passage of scripture is that when we read it and endeavour to act upon it, we do so in terms of reading our neighbour as one who is sick or ill. But the neighbour who needs our kindness and compassion might not be an individual but rather a collective group, such as a neighbouring congregation!

This aspect of being a neighbour has been brought home to those of us involved in the Presbytery Plan process. During which we have been exploring how to reduce full time ministry from five to four and yet still maintain five centres of worship.

The discussions have been long and taxing because some have felt wounded more than others and perhaps left stranded by the wayside, with everyone else walking on by, thinking "I'm ok, too bad about you!" Yet, nothing could be further from the truth, for in these discussions too, the gospel truths of care and consideration have been pulling at our hearts and forcing us to think out of the box and beyond our own horizons, to see how collectively, as neighbours, we can begin to shape a new model of ministry, that will enrich our service to the wider community. It will take time, for we all get stuck in our ways but the desire to help one another is there. We are all signed up to going the extra mile and doing what we can to help one another.

Thankfully, in the local churches, as in society, there are people who are prepared to put their lives on the line, go the extra mile, stand by their Christian principles, and do what many of us would be reluctant to do, for the sake of those in need. May God bless our efforts, direct our path and draw us closer together, in faith, in hope, in love, and in service

With kindest regards and blessings,

Your Minister and Friend,

Jean W Gallacher

Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher

Parish Minister

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May 2014

18th 11.00 Worship led by the Worship Team

The Minister and Presbytery Elder are conducting worship at Camelon Parish Church as part of their Presbytery duties.

20th 7.30pm Planning Group – Hall re-decoration

22nd 6.30am-10pm Hall being used as Polling Station

24th 12pm-3pm Mayfair & Gala Day Events in Halls

25th 11.00am Morning Worship

26th 7.30pm Visit by Presbytery Team

Office bearers are asked to give this Visit by Presbytery a high priority in their diary.

Please Note:

The café is closed on Tuesday 20th & Tuesday 27th May.

And there is a Hall Let on Saturday 31st May.

(Barbara & Eric's Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebrations)

June 2014

1st 11.00am Communion in the church

3.00pm Communion in Tygetshaugh Court

4th 6-7pm Rainbows Coffee Evening & Sale of Works

6th 12.30pm WEDDING in the church

(Robert Burn & Elaine Dunnington)

6th 6.30pm Story Club

8th 11.00am Worship led by Presbytery Visiting Team

We hope that as many of our members as possible will be able to attend worship on this particular Sunday as we welcome our visitors from Falkirk presbytery. A Pot Luck Lunch will be served downstairs in the hall, directly after the service.

8th 12.15pm The Big Lunch in the halls

For more information on the Big Lunch event, please, have a word with Mrs. Barbara Fulford.

15th 11.00am Pulpit Supply – Mr Arthur Stewart

22nd 11.00am Prize Giving & Family Service

23rd 7.30pm Meeting of the Kirk Session & Board

26th 1.45pm School Service & Leavers' Ceremony

29th 11.00am Baptismal Service *(Laila Marshall)*

July 2014

6 th	11.00am	Baptismal Service (<i>Dexter Russell</i>)
11 th	1.00pm	WEDDING in the church (<i>Lauren McNab & David Murphy</i>)
13 th	11.00am	Pulpit Supply
20 th	11.00am	Pulpit Supply
27 th	11.00am	Pulpit Supply

August 2014

3 rd	11.00am	Pulpit Supply
10 th	11.00am	Pulpit Supply
16 th		WEDDING in the church (<i>Mary Forsyth & David Mason</i>)
17 th	11.00am	Pulpit Supply
24 th	11.00am	Pulpit Supply
31 st	11.00am	Pulpit Supply

September 2014

7 th	11.00am	Communion in the church
	3.00pm	Communion in Tgyetshaugh

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

STUDY LEAVE

**Please note, the Minister will be on Study Leave from
Monday 7th July – Sunday 31st August (inclusive)**

PASTORAL COVER & PULPIT SUPPLY

During this period the Rev Ray Thomson should be contacted in the first instance for pastoral care. The Rev George McDonald and the Rev Helen Christie are also available to provide cover for funerals, if required. For general matters, please, contact:
Mr Alex Cook, Session Clerk.

CONTACT DETAILS

Rev Ray Thomson	01259-769083
Rev George McDonald	874807
Rev Helen Christie	813786
Mr Alex Cook	822903

ORGAN SUPPLY

Mrs Zoe Cox is providing organ supply on Sunday's 6th & 13th July

HALL PLANNING GROUP

Tuesday 20th May at 7.30pm

If you would like to help shape up and plan the renovation work that is required in the halls as we approach our 125th Anniversary, please, come along to the Planning Group Meeting taking place in the Reading Room on Tuesday 20th May at 7.30pm.

CHURCH MAYFAIR & COMMUNITY GALA DAY

Saturday 24th May 10am - 3pm

It is hoped that both of these events will run alongside each other. Donations for the teas, home baking, and other stalls, should be brought down to the halls on Friday 23rd May (6.30pm) or early on the Saturday morning. All help greatly appreciated. If you can offer some time, help in anyway, or take responsibility for a particular stall, please have a word with the Minister. Please note, if the weather is inclement, the crowning of the Gala Queen will take place in Dunipace Church.

CONGREGATIONAL VISIT FROM PRESBYTERY

Monday 26th May at 7.30pm

It is our turn, as part of a five yearly cycle, to receive a visit from Presbytery. These visits are important and all office bearers, indeed all members, are asked to give the various dates in the process a high priority in their diary. The Team, led by Mrs. Janice Guthrie and Mr. Keith MacDonald are visiting us on **Monday 26th May at 7.30pm** and conducting worship on **Sunday 8th June at 11am**.

In light of all that is going on in relation to the Presbytery Plan, it is important that the congregation demonstrate their commitment.

PREPARING FOR THE VISIT

Preparations for the Presbytery Visit began with the Kirk Session discussing the questions the Visiting Team would raise with us in relation to our work and witness in the parish. We reflected upon our worship - its richness and diversity; our financial state of affairs, our property matters; our relationship with local congregations and involvement with the wider work of the Church; our safeguarding procedures, mission and outreach etc. Most of all we thought about our vision - our goals. These being:

- (1) Fulfilling our ministry of **encountering**, (meeting people where they are) **engagement**, (opening up dialogue and a relationship with them) and **enlightenment** (being encouraged and inspired by each other as we share our faith with them)

- (2) Continuing to improve the fabric of the buildings in a way that makes them better suited to "being the church today" thus encouraging more people to enter in and be part of all that we are and seeking to be.

- (3) Building on the partnership working we have with other churches, groups and organizations in the local community.

FAREWELL SERVICE for Rev John Murning

Wednesday May 28th at 7.30pm

A Song's of Praise & Service of Thanksgiving marking John's ministry is being held in Denny Old at 7.30pm on Wednesday 28th May.

Induction to Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw

The Rev John Murning's Induction is on Thursday 5th June at 7pm. If you would like to contribute to John's leaving gift, please, put your donation in an envelope and mark it clearly for "Rev John Murning" Thank you.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Will be celebrated on

Sunday 1st June 2014

In Dunipace Church at 11am

And in Tygetshaugh Court at 3pm

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

COMMUNION ROTA for JUNE 1st at 11am

Bill Paterson, Jim Winning, Maureen Pleace, Anne Marchant, George Mills, Ian Stokes, Fiona Bruce, Anne Blair, Bill Ferguson, Angus Cameron.

Reserves: June Davies, June Ross, David Reynolds, Helen Lax

RAINBOWS COFFEE EVENING

Wednesday 4th June 6pm-7pm

The Rainbows extend a warm invitation to you, hoping very much that you will be able to support their Coffee Evening & Sale of Works being held in the halls on

Wednesday 4th June. The Rainbows always work hard at making little gifts and craft items to sell but look forward to a helping hand from those who have donations to offer for the various stalls. Every form of support you can give will be gratefully received.

We take this opportunity to extend our thanks to those who lead our uniformed organizations.

**Worship led by the
Presbytery Visiting Team**

Sunday 8th June
In Dunipace Church at 11am

Followed by
THE BIG LUNCH
in the Halls

Come along and join the celebration. It will indeed be a very special day as we welcome the Visiting Team from Presbytery for worship and then join together downstairs in the hall for a simple "Pot Luck" lunch.

We hope that as many people as possible will be able to join with us on Sunday 8th June. So, please, give this date a high priority in your diary.

A list of food donations required for the lunch is on the vestibule table. If you can help, please, add your name to the list.

All are Welcome

Dunipace Parish Church
ANNUAL PRIZE GIVING
&
FAMILY SERVICE

Sunday 22nd June at 11am

This is always a wonderful service with tremendous input from the children of the church and indeed often the choir too. We look forward to presenting the children who come along to the church on a Sunday and those who come along to the Story Club on a Friday, with a book in appreciation of their contribution to the life of the church.

A special welcome is extended to YOU

ADVANCE NOTICE OF AN EVENT
NOT TO BE MISSED

THE ANNUAL OUTING
To the
SAFARI PARK

Saturday 20th September

This is an event greatly enjoyed by all ages. The 20th September seems a long way away, so there's not excuse for not getting the date into your diary.

The Outing is open to everyone.

Prices for the bus and admission to the park will be intimated soon.

For more details contact Mrs Barbara Fulford

MAYFAIR & GALA DAY

SATURDAY 24th MAY
From 12noon – 3pm

In
Dunipace Halls & Garden
& Herbertshire Castle Gala Park

We need:

Lots of quality items for the various stalls
Lots of stallholders
Lots of home baking for the teas & for sale
Lots of help in the kitchen with the teas etc
Help with setting up on the Friday night
Help on the actual day of the Fair & Gala
People willing to act as ushers, directing people
From the Park to the Church and vice versa
Lots of people willing to come along and support
The event

If you can help, in anyway whatsoever, please, contact
the minister or indeed any member of the Board.

The more people helping, the merrier.

If the weather is inclement, the Gala Queen will be
crowned in the Church.

**Teas – Home Baking – Crafts – Groceries – Bottles –
Toys – Books – Bric-a-Brac - Toiletries – Plants –
Face Painting – Soft Goods – Ice Cream – Burgers –
Games in the Garden – Bouncy Castle – and more**

Admission FREE

Teas/Coffee with cakes £2.00

125 CAMPAIGN

Looking Forward in Faith To our 125th Anniversary Celebration

The much-needed redecoration and upgrade work, required in the church halls, is well underway.

- + The Reading Room has been re-decorated
- + The Ladies Toilets have been completely upgraded
- + The Kitchen has had a "face lift" and looks a good few years younger!

This work has been undertaken by Sam & George, David & David, who have given of their time and talents at no cost to the congregation, beyond the cost of materials. We extend a great BIG word of THANKS to each of them.

There is, however, so much more to do. With the ongoing support of those already involved and with the willing involvement of others, I'm sure we will meet our target of having the premises "ship shape" in time for our 125 celebrations.

If you can help in anyway whatsoever, or would like to be part of the planning group (which meets next on Tuesday 20th May at 7.30pm) please, have a word with the minister.

Promoting the 125 Campaign

The aim of the Campaign is to 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.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THE 125 CAMPAIGN ?

Donations for the 125 Campaign can be made on an individual OR 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.

Donations have come in already from over 25 people, so we still have a long way to go. Here's hoping the momentum increases and the work gets completed.

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 innovative 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 and maybe even surprise ourselves in positive ways.

We continue to 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, as we build God's kingdom in this lovely wee place

PRAYER TIME

Into your steady hands, O God, we place our trembling hands, knowing that you will guide us, and bring us, to where we should be, as a worshipping community.

You are the God of surprises

We are the people who are contented with the familiar

You are the God who brings good things out of chaos

We prefer tranquillity

You are the God who makes the old ways new

We are in danger of panicking when those new ways stare us in the face, fearing they will turn our life of service upside down.

Yet, Lord God, the twist in the tale, the unexpected word of encouragement, or the opposite direction, might be the very things that change our perspective, renew our hope, or open the door to life in all its fullness.

Forgive us, O God, for our foolishness and stubborn ways. Forgive us for thinking that we know best and forget that you are Creator, Redeemer and sustainer of the world. Forgive us for holding on when we really ought to let go. Forgive us for having eyes that will not see the breadth of your love for us and for having ears that constantly refuse to hear your still small voice.

Into your steady hands, O God, we place our trembling hands, knowing that you will guide us, and bring us, to where we should be, as a worshipping community

This we do in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher

Questions are always in order

I remember being on holiday with other members of the family, one of whom was a nephew aged three years old. He was always asking questions. "Why this?" or "Why that?"

I think of him every time I am at a Presbytery meeting and someone cry's out, "Can I ask a question?" to which the response is automatically, "Questions are always in order."

Recently people have been asking, "Why is the minister having more study leave?" and "How is this going to work out?"

In response, let me explain. Every minister who has completed five years of service, is entitled to two weeks of study leave each year, this allowance can be used annually or saved up over seven years, to a maximum allowance of 14 weeks study leave. Some ministers undertake reflective reading at home; some go on courses to develop new skills, others undertake trips overseas to help with charity aspects of the churches work etc Last year I undertook a big Research Project exploring the nature of Spirituality, from this I produced not only a substantial Report, I kept a Journal and produced a DVD Bible Study Resource called, "Walking the Pilgrim Way, with eight themes that draws upon poems and hymns I wrote in light of my experiences, this resource is currently being used widely by other congregations.

This year, I am writing a book of reflective poems, hymns and prayers, along with resources that will be made available to schools and also form part of a community outreach project. This I do as a means of sharing with the wider church not only the benefits of the experience I have gained but also the fruits of the skills I have developed throughout my ministry. I do this with the blessing of the Kirk Session, Presbytery and national Church, for which I extend my thanks. I do so also knowing that you will be left in the capable hands of the Rev Ray Thomson, who will look after you during my study leave. I know you will welcome him and support him in every good way.

PARISH REGISTER

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

Mrs Annie Manson	28 Thistle Avenue, Dunipace
Mr Alexander Anderson	15 Lochhead Avenue, Denny
Miss Sadie Forsyth	22 Old Bellsdyke Rd, Larbert
Mrs Elizabeth Allan	40 Allan Crescent, Dunipace
Mr Tom Kay	14 Souillac Drive, Denny
Mr Gary Garner	23 Reedlands Drive, Denny
Mrs Jean Buchanan	23 Northfield Road, Dunipace

Baptism We welcome those received into the fellowship of God's family through Baptism:

March 30th Oliver James Platt
Second son of Michael & Fiona Platt

April 27th Callan Scott Marshall
Son of Scott & Louise Marshall

Change Of Address

Allison Waledzik formerly 56 Beech Crescent (D.18) has now moved to 29 Lind Place, Dennyloanhead (D.23)

SPECIAL INTIMATION

NEW ELDERS

The Kirk Session would like to increase the number of active Elders. If you feel a sense of call to the Office of Eldership or would like to explore the matter more fully, please, have a word with the Minister or Session Clerk. The basic requirements for Eldership are as follows:

- (1) All communicant members of the congregation aged 21 or over are eligible
- (2) Men and women are eligible for eldership on the same basis
- (3) Of good standing and committed to the office
- (4) Prepared to attend Induction Course and training

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