

# Parish Voice

Spring / Early Summer 2024



*Mission Statement: To be a place of Christian worship and outreach and a hub for the community enabling people to connect with Jesus and one another.*

## FROM THE MANSE

Some three months have passed since Aberdalgie and Forteviot linked with Dunbarney and Forgandenny and I became minister of a bigger parish. Very soon, the next stage of the Presbytery Plan will be implemented and Abernethy Church will also be linked to this growing network. To be honest, I am not quite sure how we are going to manage all of this, but one thing *is* for sure - we will all need to learn the word compromise and to “bear one another in love” (Ephesians 4: 2).

As I think about such things, I am reminded of the psalmist who said, ‘I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord.”’ (Psalm 122: 1). Whilst there are many changes going on, we must not lose sight that churches *should* be places that we’re happy to go to, where we feel at home and where we’re welcomed by others who are followers of Jesus. But there is more to it than that. In Eugene Peterson’s version, *The Message*, we read Paul’s words. **‘God is building a home. He’s using us all – irrespective of how we got here – in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he’s using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day – a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home’** (Ephesians 2:19-22).

How does this make you feel? God is using us all and God is using you! Every time we gather with other members of Christ's body – the Church - it's an opportunity to share how God is working in our lives and to play our valuable part, which is to help strengthen, build up and encourage one another.

In this copy of *Parish Voice*, you will read of so much that is going on within Dunbarney and Forgandenny Church. We are about to enter a very busy time in the life of the congregation with the impending refurbishment project at Dunbarney. This is both exciting and daunting. By the time this newsletter has gone to print it is likely that the Daffodil Tea has taken place. In April a further event is being planned when everyone who has a heart for our congregation, will be invited to give a gift towards the refurbishment project. Very shortly you will receive more information about this, but even at this early stage, I am asking you to prayerfully give some thought to this. Just as the congregation and the community have benefited greatly from the decision to build the church hall 24 years ago, it is firmly believed that a refurbished church building will be such a blessing to everyone in the coming years, providing a well-equipped space in the right place.

So, let us pray for one another and all the churches within our new network. Let us commit to being there for one another. Let us be willing to bend and yield a little as we bear one another in love. But most importantly, let us keep our eyes on Jesus and allow His hope, which we see so lovingly displayed for us on the Cross and in the Empty Tomb, fill every nook and cranny of our lives.

Every blessing to you and yours, now and always.  
Your minister and friend,  
Allan

## PASTORAL REGISTER



### DEATHS: *Left this world, but not forgotten*

28/12/23 - Hugh Ruttledge MacKinnon, aged 86 years

19/01/24 - Cosmo Gordon Fairbairn, aged 93 years

20/01/24 - Jane Watt Crighton, aged 93 years

22/01/24 - Jeanie (Jean) Hunter Morrison, aged 90 years

28/01/24 - Melville (Stump) Rainey Ross, aged 93 years

07/02/24 - Sandra Anderson, aged 74 years

## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus said: *"I am the bread of life: he who comes to me shall not hunger and he who believes in me shall never thirst; he who comes to me I will not cast out. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness: for they shall be satisfied."*

*The Minister and Kirk Session invites you  
to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on*

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024**

**Dunbarney Church\* at 11.00am.**

*(\* Forgandenny Church if Dunbarney is closed for refurbishment)*



*Note: Communion elements of grape-juice and gluten-free bread will be provided at this Communion Service*

Please contact your elder or Allan Wilson (01738 812463 or [AWilson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:AWilson@churchofscotland.org.uk)) if you would like to receive home communion.

## FROM THE SESSION CLERK

As everything comes together for this latest edition of Parish Voice I would like to say a big thankyou to Jack who edits it and to the ladies, you know who you are, who collate and staple it together.

There is then an army of volunteers who deliver it to you with a smile and a blether if you are at home.



Some of them are also involved welcoming you on a Sunday morning, currently 11am at Forgandenny and Dunbarney. If the church name begins with an F, worship is at that church on the same week as the Forgandenny service....Forteviot and Aberdalgie also offer you a warm welcome at 9.30am.

Many of these same people are involved in activities on offer in Dunbarney Hall, come along and enjoy some food and company on a Friday at Warm Spaces and find out what else you could come along to.

Every second Wednesday of the month there is a delicious lunch for £5.

There are also those who donate money for flowers and/ or arrange and deliver them to folk in and around our villages. Please let us know if someone would welcome flowers, a prayer shawl or just a visit or phone call.

Let's all support one another and work together to keep your church a welcoming part of your local community.

Anne Larg.  
e.anne.larg@gmail.com. 01738 812805

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **Pews and cushions.**

Once the refurbishment gets under way we plan, if we can, to sell parts of the 7m long pews and the padded cushions (most are just over 1.3 m long). The logistics would need to be agreed with the appointed contractor and the refurbishment committee have not yet set a price for these items.

If you are interested, please get in touch with Anne Larg who currently has a list of people. Contact will then be made with you (no obligation) once we have more detail to share.

### **Financial Outlook**

Full details of our annual accounts will be provided at the Stated Annual Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March, although

I can report that we ended 2023 with a small surplus of just £1,204, excluding restricted Warm Space and Youth Drop-in funding, and refurbishment project donations. The 2024 budget proposed by the



Finance Committee shows a projected deficit of -£11,675, so now is the time when I need to ask for everyone's help! 2024 is set to be an exceptional but challenging year, with the focus firmly on seeing the refurbishment project through to completion. Whilst the funding group are working hard to identify grants and other funding options, we expect that our general reserves will be completely depleted in supporting the refurbishment costs. I would therefore urge everyone to spend some time in prayerful consideration of your offerings at this time:

- Are you in a position to increase your offerings (either regularly, or every now and then)?
- Are you one of our regular donors who has not yet signed up to the Gift Aid Scheme? If you pay enough tax to cover your Church offerings (divide what you give by 4 and check that you have paid that amount in tax), then your donations could be worth an extra 25% to the Church at no further cost to you! Please let me know if you would like a Gift Aid declaration, or wish to discuss this further.
- Do you have any fundraising ideas, or time to spare to support some of this year's fundraising events?

As always, thank you all for your continued support of all that we do as a church family.

Alison Jolliffe Treasurer  
TEL: 07809 293045

## HOME VISITS

It's always lovely to spend time with people in their own homes but with all the demands of an ever-reducing ministry, it is not possible just to call in as in days gone past. If, however, you would like a home visit please do not hesitate to call me and we can arrange for that very soon. It would be lovely to see you. Likewise, if you are also unable to attend church and would like to have Home Communion, please do get in touch. It is very special to celebrate Communion in this way.

My telephone number is 01738 812463 and email:

AWilson@churchofscotland.org.uk.



Rev. Allan Wilson

## **HOLY WEEK 2024**

Once again, we will be sharing in Holy Week services along with friends from neighbouring churches.



## **Holy Week**

**Holy Week Wednesday** (27 March) – 7.00pm in Kirk of St Brides, Abernethy

**Maundy Thursday** (28 March) – 7.00pm in Dunbarney Church (inc. Sacrament of Holy Communion)

**Good Friday** (29 March) – 7.00pm in Dunning Church

**Easter Sunday** – 8.00am garden service in Dunbarney followed by breakfast in the Church Hall

9.30am – Easter Day Service in Forteviot Church

11.00am – All-age easter service in Forgandenny Church

## **PASTORAL CARE**

We had a very useful Pastoral meeting last Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February with representatives from the parishes of Dunbarney and Forgandenny, Aberdalgie and Forteviot and from Abernethy.

We split into two groups to discuss pastoral care in general looking backwards to what we have done in the past and forwards to what we would like pastoral care to be in the future.

This is a time of change for all congregations in our area and we need to decide how to make the best use of the talents we have pastorally among our members. Personal visits to members are important to some, but not everyone is happy to do that. Maybe some would be more comfortable making phone calls to members. It is important that contact is maintained so that no member feels isolated and information about illness or other matters can be passed on to Allan, the pastoral coordinator or elder.

There is a lot of good work already going on through flower ministry, prayer shawls, elder/visitor visits, phone calls, lifts to services and other church events and generally looking out for each other.

In the future we hope that we can work well together to offer pastoral care in our expanding network. There are training courses available

through Church of Scotland and there is also a C of S publication about pastoral care.

It would be good to promote what we are doing as a church in our area through more local events, eg Gala days, pre- school groups and other events held in the church buildings.

Where we go from here is difficult as we don't want to overstretch the resources (i.e. people) we have but we don't want any member to feel forgotten about.

We shall continue the discussion at the next meeting on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

Christian 07739 311630  
(Pastoral coordinator Dunbarney and Forgandenny)

## **PRAYER SUPPORT FOR THOSE IN NEED**

Do you know someone who is going through a challenging time? If so, there is a group of people in our linked Church family of Forteviot and Aberdalgie who are in what's known as a prayer chain. This means they are committed to praying every day for a list of people all of whom have requested prayer for one reason or another. The way it works is that the person requesting prayer (for themselves or for another) contacts the prayer chain co-ordinator who then passes on the request to two others, who then do the same, and so on till all the members of the chain are informed. (At present there are sixteen people prepared to pray in the chain.) When circumstances change and the person being prayed for can come off the list, then the co-ordinator just needs to be informed and the message is passed on as before. No great detail is expected, nor full names required. The aim is to simply bring folk before the Lord in their time of need. If you would like to know more, please get in touch with Catriona Harrison 01764 684104 ([ronandcatriona@btinternet.com](mailto:ronandcatriona@btinternet.com)). Alternatively, you can contact Alfred and Celia Marshall 01764 684058 ([alfredhmarshall@live.co.uk](mailto:alfredhmarshall@live.co.uk)). The chain includes some people from Dunning and Aberuthven parish. Anyone from Dunbarney and Forgandenny who feels they might like to be a part of this ministry is warmly invited to get in touch to find out more.

## BEWILDERING CHANGE

*The Rev Dr Richard Frazer reflects on the resurrection message for those in the Church of Scotland today – taken from 'Life and Work', March 2024, p.42*

"IT feels like we are being formed to administer palliative care." That was the stark comment made to me not long ago by a group of candidates for the Church of Scotland ministry

Over the years, I have known a few ministers who have worked as chaplains in hospices. Those who have engaged in ministry to people approaching the end of their lives will testify that it is hugely rewarding work

These students were not, however, talking about offering end of life care to their parishioners. They were talking about ministering at a time of the demise of many

*"I have even heard fellow church members suggesting that, at current rates of decline, there will be no Church of Scotland left in a generation or two."*

congregations. All across Scotland, churches are closing and the sense of loss is running deep. It is not just individual congregations; there is a sense amongst some that the entire institution of the church is facing oblivion. I have even heard fellow church members suggesting that, at current rates of decline, there will be no Church of Scotland left in a generation or two.

Ministering to a congregation through the ending of generations of continuous worship and service can be painful. It also requires a profound sensitivity when one reflects on the story of a particular congregation and the people it has formed in faith and the ways in which it has promoted justice and caring in the community it serves. We must honour that narrative, especially when the people with responsibility during a time of ending can feel so raw and even guilty that they are the ones to oversee the closure of their church. Ministry in such circumstances is important and valid.

At the heart of our faith is our trust in resurrection. I was out walking with a good friend the other day and we were talking about the church, an institution we have both loved and served for many years. We were feeling the pain. My friend quoted the Swiss psychoanalyst Carl Jung, who said that often people confuse resurrection with recovery. He suggested that many of us in the church hope for a day when the church will re-find its lost glory and he wondered if that was a false hope.

As I thought about my friend's comments in the days after our walk, I began to reflect on the resurrection experiences related in the Gospel. So frequently, the disciples who encounter the risen Christ do not at first recognise him. What they encounter is not what they had known or what they had expected. Resurrection brings about dramatic and often bewildering change. The disciples lament for something they have lost and that leads to hesitation and doubt about what risen life with Jesus promises. The other characteristic that shines through the post resurrection life of the fledgling church, however, is the immense courage, passion and vigour of the disciples as eventually they begin to embrace this new, post-resurrection world.

As they journeyed with Jesus before his arrest and crucifixion, they were often squabbling, confused and frequently misunderstanding of his message. Beyond the resurrection, they become people of purpose, passion and courage. Of course they do not always get things right, but there is a new story to tell.

For us in the church today, the loss is real, and it is a painful and hard road to walk for many, but people of resurrection hope know that death never has the last word. We may not rebuild the church as it was and neither will we sometimes recognise signs of the emerging church when they come. Ministry may involve palliative care but it is also about anticipating the new, even if that can at first seem unfamiliar.

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

This was held in Dunbarney Church Hall on 1<sup>st</sup> March and was led by the Very Rev Dr Andrew McLellan, who is convener of The Friends of St Andrew's Jerusalem and Tiberius. Over 50 people were there, from Auchterarder and all the way along the valley to Abernethy, some came early for a light lunch and others joined us afterwards for this event which is held on the first Friday in March every year all around the world.

This year it was written by Christian Palestinian women. Andrew spoke from experience about these women and the three 'Ws'. They Weep, they Work and they Worship.

There was a moving part when we shared with one another a bookmark, with an olive leaf attached, saying 'The peace of Christ be with you'. The message from the Palestinian ladies is 'I beg you...bear with one another in love'. The whole service was all written before the 7<sup>th</sup> October which makes it all the more heart wrenching.

Anyone who would like a copy of the service or the booklet about Palestine please contact Anne Larg by email and it will be sent to you. [e.anne.larg@gmail.com](mailto:e.anne.larg@gmail.com)

A collection was taken for the Al Ahli Hospital appeal, this raised £332.60. In addition, £56.50 was raised towards the work of the Scottish World Day of Prayer committee.

An opportunity to donate online is available on the church website.

### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 12-18 MAY 2024**

Christian Aid Week is a fundraising week which has taken place each year since 1957. During Christian Aid Week Christians and supporters of



Christian Aid, work with their local community to raise awareness about the effects of extreme poverty and injustice, wherever it is found in the world, and to enjoy taking part in fundraising activities together. The money raised helps support community projects all over the world. Please give as you are able to, this Christian Aid Week. Thank You.

### **CHRISTIAN AID IN UKRAINE**

In June 2023, the huge Nova Kakhovka dam collapsed. Torrents of water swept downriver at huge speed, drowning people and animals along their path, while submerging homes, towns, roads and farmland in areas that had already endured months of conflict and occupation.

Christian Aid's partner Blythswood Care had a local Heritage Ukraine team in the area delivering humanitarian supplies when the waters rose. They responded straight away, rescuing survivors in their van and sheltering evacuees at their hub in Odesa. They didn't stop over the next few days – rescuing people from the disaster zone and returning with supplies such as safe drinking water, hygiene kits, bedding and generators so that people could access electricity.

In response to the new disaster, Christian Aid immediately channelled funding to support local relief efforts and renewed its emergency appeal for Ukraine. Christian Aid is focusing its ongoing humanitarian response on villages in Mykolaiv and Kherson regions that are hard to reach and where people may not have received support from other agencies.

These southern regions were heavily shelled in the early months of the war, and some areas spent months under Russian occupation.

Now the dam disaster and related flood damage have made it even harder for people to access water, power and healthcare. The upcoming challenges of winter will bring yet more hardship.

Alongside efforts to ensure emergency water and electricity supplies, partners are also focusing on health services in flood-affected areas and further afield. Alliance For Public Health has provided four ambulances which, staffed by teams of local doctors, will provide mobile medical services in hard-to-reach villages throughout the winter and beyond.

[Taken from *Christian Aid Magazine*, Autum/Winter 2023 – p.6]

### **CHRISTIAN AID IN GAZA**

Christian Aid has been working with local partners in the Middle East since the early 1950s. Christian Aid currently works with six local partners in Gaza, providing help and support for those most in need.

As with other humanitarian workers, staff have lost family members, been displaced and their offices and equipment have been damaged in the blasts. The conditions are limiting their ability to move around and provide aid.

William Bell, Christian Aid's Head of Middle East Policy and Advocacy, said: "The violence is affecting everyone, civilians and humanitarians alike. Nobody is safe but still our partners in Gaza are doing extraordinary work in the most extreme conditions.

"With the local banking system still working, cash transfers via our partners are helping people displaced in Khan Younis and providing mobile medical and psychological care, including supporting a small group of Christians sheltering in Saint Porphyrius church.

"Soon the cash transfers will no longer be effective because, as one of our partners said, there's nothing left to buy locally." He went on to say, "Only a full ceasefire, not a temporary pause, can ensure the safe and effective supply of humanitarian support, including fuel, at the scale required to help two million Palestinians."

Dr Hassan runs the chronic disease centre for Christian Aid's local partner Palestinian Medical Relief Society. Speaking from Gaza, Dr Hassan explains: "I have lived through many wars in Gaza. But this war is not the same. We have lost a lot of doctors, nurses and hospital staff. Many healthcare workers have been killed by bombs and rockets hitting their homes. ...They are bombing everywhere.

## Prayer

*“Almighty God, we pray without ceasing for justice, reconciliation, peace and an end to hatred and war. We also pray that you may change the hearts of all leaders and decision-makers in our countries and around the world. For we are in dire need of hearts that love, show mercy, and are willing to live in unity with others—hearts that respect human dignity and choose life rather than death.”*

*(Hosam E. Naoum, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem)*

## SANCTUARY REFURBISHMENT

Here's a quick update on the Dunbarney Church sanctuary refurbishment project here in Bridge of Earn. As the church is a listed building, we have carefully avoided making any changes to the external walls. However we will soon be able to offer a welcoming, well-lit, flexible and comfortable space for use by the church and community.

If you haven't heard about this project yet, where have you been hiding? In summary, we are now at the tender stage to select a suitable contractor and hope to start site work before summer. The main changes will include:- removal of the old wooden pews, replacement and levelling of the floor, installation of 2 new balcony support columns to replace the single central support, installation of a folding glass partition to form a flexible welcome/meeting area, fitting of ceiling and floor insulation, installation of a new efficient ASHP heating system, upgrading the Audio/Visual system to support live streaming.

The kitchen will also be extended and refitted to access both the hall and sanctuary, accessibility will be improved with wider aisles and a ramp, flexible modular chancel (platform) extensions will be available to accommodate, say, choir concerts. New lighting and electrical wiring will be installed, and finally floor coverings, new individual seats and fresh decoration applied. For those of a musical persuasion, our Miller 1929 pipe organ will be wrapped and sealed during the construction period to ensure that the pipes are kept free of “stoor”, “oose” and even “glaur”. If all goes smoothly, we expect the site work to be complete before Christmas 2024.

There should be details elsewhere in this bulletin of a special event planned for April to support the refurbishment. Hope to see you there!

George Bell (Refurbishment Project Group Chair)

## **REFURBISHMENT FUNDRAISING**

The Fundraising Committee is holding a **Daffodil Coffee Morning** at Dunbarney Hall on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 from 10 to 11.30am. Adults £3, under 12's £1, under 5's free (pay at door). This includes tea/coffee and choice of scones/pancakes/shortbread.

There will be a Display of children's Miniature Easter Gardens, Cake 'n' Candy stall, Seasonal Crafts, daffodils and plants, Chocolate Tombola and a Raffle. If you would like to help on the day, please let me know. Donations of chocolate items and raffle prizes may be handed in at the church door any Sunday, home-baking may be left in the hall during Warm Space on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> or brought along on Saturday morning.

All proceeds raised will be used towards the purchase of new chairs for the sanctuary and hall.

Elizabeth Dalgetty

## **COMMUNITY COSY SPACE**

This will continue with keep fit with Chrystal beforehand at 10.30 and soup, bread, a cuppa, treat and blethers from 12 noon on a Friday.

From mid April it is hoped to continue with a cuppa, chat and biscuit from 10.30 -11.30am on a Friday. If we can secure some funding we will return with our soup lunches in the colder weather.

It is of course all still free and everyone is made very welcome.

**If you would like to volunteer to help serve and would enjoy the company then please contact Margaret Bell.**

**SCOTTISH CYCLING YOUTH TOUR OF SCOTLAND** is in and around Forgandenny (4<sup>th</sup> April) and Forteviot (2<sup>nd</sup> April)

## **WHAT'S ON IN BRIDGE OF EARN AND FORGANDENNY.**

Apart from everything that is currently available in Dunbarney Hall feel free to join the Brig Walkers on weekday mornings at 8.30am in Heughfield Road or Thursday at 12.30pm at the car park opposite the Institute. Sandra, 07723 757565

Pop along on the first Friday of the month to Tea @ Two at 2pm in the Caledonia Sheltered House common room. Sheila, 07518 888009

Warm Welcome entertainment, the next event is in the church on 14<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm with Perth Ukeleles and Strathallan School young musicians. Light refreshments afterwards.

Every week on a Thursday afternoon in Forgandenny Hall,  
Forgandenny Friends. Tea and a chat at 2pm.

The Wednesday Club, in the Bowling green clubhouse at 2pm,  
activities and a cuppa

All the above are **free** and open to anyone to come along.

## **ECO CHURCH**

### ***Snowdrop planting in Dunbarney Cemetery***

Once again we have been offered more snowdrops to plant ' in the green ' beside the ones we planted 2 years ago with the help of the Beavers and Rainbows as part of Friends of Cemeteries initiative. Snowdrop planting will take place on Sunday 10 March with help from The Wildlife Watch Group and Eco Group volunteers.

### ***Church Garden***

Ali Hunter has been hard at work pruning, cutting back and generally tidying the garden areas in our church grounds and has done a fantastic job! Thank you Ali!

### ***Recycling***

Grey lidded bin - we hope all is going well with using your new grey lidded bin. If you're still unsure what can go in it, please have a look at the Eco Church Noticeboard in the hall where there is a list for the grey and blue bins.

## **WOMEN'S GROUP**

This year so far we have enjoyed a Film Night in January - we watched Sing Street, a musical comedy set in the 1980s in Dublin when a young lad forms a band to impress a girl. Those of us who watched it would highly recommend it.

Last month we had a very relaxing and enjoyable evening listening to Elaine of Elaine's Beautique in Main Street, tell us all about her journey as a beauty therapist, what treatments she offers in the salon and the range of Aromatherapy oils that we had the delight of smelling.

Annual Quiz night at Scone & St Martin's Guild 27 Feb - representing our group was a team of four ladies - Anne Larg, Elizabeth Dalgetty, Anne Rodgie & Sheena Halcrow who came a very respectable 3rd! Well done ladies!!

On the 21st March after a very short AGM we will welcome Kim, from Perthshire Women's Aid to speak about the work and services offered

by PWA. A cheque for £800 will be presented to PWA - money raised from last October's very successful Ladies Night

AGM - papers will be sent out in advance which gives everyone a chance to read them prior to the meeting.

Our final meeting for this session will be on Wed 17 April when Glen Ewen, chef at Earn Coffee Shop will give a cookery demo re 4- ways with mince.

Each meeting is only £2 and everyone is welcome to come along.

The committee members have been hard at work already planning next session's syllabus which we hope you will be excited by.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the committee very much for all their hard work over the past year. Huge thank you to Jean, Charlene, Caroline, Morag, Susan, Linda, Lillian, Lynn and Trudi and the good news is that they're all happy to be re-elected as am I.

Happy Easter,

Avril Fulton (chair)

### **PAUSE FOR THOUGHT.**

When was the last time you treated yourself to a bit of time out in our beautiful church garden? As the days lengthen and warm up, why not grab the opportunity and make a point of dropping by to enjoy a bit of quiet? (Especially before the builders move in!) Remember both the labyrinth and the prayer walk stations are there to help you focus your prayers if that's what you'd like to do. Or you could simply sit on one of the benches and rest in God's presence. You never know - it might be just what you need!

### **BANNER GROUP**

The members of the Banner Group have been working on their current project for quite a time now but we are pleased to say that we are finished and our work is now away being mounted.

We have no pending project at the moment as with the renovations at Dunbarney we are unsure of what will be needed or desired.

We continue to meet as a group on a Tuesday afternoon at Forgandenny in anticipation of further work in the future. We look forward to sharing our current project with you very soon.

Trudi Nicol

## **ALZHEIMER SCOTLAND**

They are based at 7 George Street in Perth and offer activities to join in and/or time to chat.

## **UNICEF, JARS OF GRACE.**

Have you ever stood in a queue waiting for your turn at the checkout and noticed how seldom people pay cash. Nowadays nearly every transaction over a fiver is paid with a credit card or an app on the mobile phone.

As a result we end up with less loose change in our purse or pocket.

Every year around Harvest Thanksgiving, we promote the charity UNICEF and their “JARS of GRACE” campaign, with the aim to protect children in danger throughout the world.

For those of you who don't know about this initiative it involves using an empty jar and, when you find some coppers or the odd bit of silver in your pocket, donating it to UNICEF by dropping it into the jar.

This year we would encourage you to begin the this process earlier, now even, and we will collect the filled jars as usual in January 2025.

There will be some jars with labels on in the vestibule of the church and also labels to put on your own jars when you get home.

Thank you.

## **2024 PRAISE GATHERING**

Choir members are needed for concerts planned for the Royal Concert Hall on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 2pm and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at 7pm. Nine weekly rehearsals begin mid-April in Glasgow, Edinburgh and the Steeple Church in the Nethergate in Dundee (7.15-9.45pm). For more information on rehearsal dates or to register, [register.praisegathering.org.uk](http://register.praisegathering.org.uk)

Words, music, rehearsal tracks are all provided and it's free!

## **CHURCH HALL 2024**

We are delighted that our church hall is busy with a variety of clubs, classes and organisations for different age groups and interests.

**These are open to anyone** so if you are interested in something, please get in touch and I can give you the details of who to contact.

## **MONDAY**

Morning - Ladies Keep Fit Class 1 (Aerobics & Circuits) - 9.45 - 10.45  
- Ladies Keep Fit Class 2 (Chair based/ less mobile) - 10.45 - 11.30  
Afternoon - Men's Keep Fit Class (Aerobics & Circuits) - 3.30 - 4.30  
Evening - Yoga - 7.15 - 8.45

## **TUESDAY**

Morning - RVS Lunch Club 11-1pm  
Afternoon - Carpet Bowls 2-4pm  
Evening - Charlie's Keep Fit 6.15 - 7.10pm

## **WEDNESDAY**

Monthly Soup Lunches 12-1.30 on 2nd Wed of each month (Nov to May inclusive)  
Evening - Women's Group - 3rd Wed of the month 7.30 - 9.30 (Sept to April)  
Evening - Youth Drop In - 6-8pm (for P.7 - S3)

## **THURSDAY**

Morning - Chatterbox for 0-3 yrs 9-11am  
Afternoon - Bridge Club (beginners are welcome) 1.30 - 4pm  
Evening - Anna's Yoga (all levels) 6 - 7pm  
Evening - Earn Singers 7.30 - 9.30pm (new members welcome)

## **FRIDAY**

Keep Fit Friday 10.30 - 11.15 - chair based and more mobile catered for  
Cosy Space from 11.30 - 1.30pm (till end of March)  
Come along for a heat or a blether, read the paper or sit and relax and enjoy tea, coffee and home baking and soup at lunchtime - all free including Keep Fit!  
Everyone welcome!

## **SATURDAY**

Dandelion Group 10-12 1st Sat of the month

## **SUNDAY**

Fortnightly teas and coffees before the church service from 10.15am ...-  
an opportunity to socialise, catch up with friends and make new friends.

**NOTE** Once the church refurbishment contractors are on site we need to work with them to keep everyone safe so the hall use will be affected. It will need to be closed when water and electricity are disrupted when the kitchen extension is being done.

We will try to ensure that disruption to all hall users is kept to a minimum.

Please contact Hall Convenor, if you'd like to find out more information or to book an event.

Avril Fulton, Hall Convenor  
[a.f.fulton@icloud.com](mailto:a.f.fulton@icloud.com) or 7977290268

## **DANDELION GROUP**

We are a group of ladies (though men are very welcome, too) who meet on the first Saturday of each month at 10.00am in the Church Hall to knit and/or crochet items to be given to anyone we hear of who we think would benefit from a shawl/scarf/knee rug/baby blanket. We open the meeting with a short prayer, asking God to bless the work we are doing, and enjoy a time of friendship (and a cuppa) while we work. If you think this might be for you or you're just curious to see what we get up to, please be assured of a warm welcome.

We can supply wool, needles, patterns and even tuition if needed. And on that subject, if anyone has wool taking up space in the cupboard, we would be happy to make use of it. Just speak to Anne in the office.

Finally, if you know of anyone you think might benefit from one of the items – perhaps they are going through a hard time, or feel the cold, or are celebrating or just need to know that someone is thinking about them - speak to any of the members.

## **THE EARN SINGERS**

Our concert will take place in Dunbarney Church on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm. Tickets priced £10 (children free) available from the singers, the Church office or at the door on the evening. Following the concert there will be a buffet supper in the church hall – all included in your ticket price! The repertoire for the concert under the headings of a bright opening number, 'The Moon', a Religious group, Rogers and Hammerstein medley and 'Folk songs of the British Isles' provides variety for the audience and both variety and challenge for the singers! Our guests this year are some fiddlers from Strathallan, who in addition to playing their own selections of music, will also join in our Scottish piece, namely playing the Neil Gow Lament to the Laird of Abercairney.



## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

The Social Committee invite everyone who volunteers in any way in Dunbarney and Forgandenny Parish Church to our Volunteer Thank You Coffee Morning in Dunbarney Church Hall on Saturday 13th April from 10am to 11.30 am. Come along , relax and enjoy refreshments and a good blether with other volunteers. Please also put Saturday May 11th in your diary as we would like you to join us on a Gentle Spring Walk followed by refreshments. We will meet at Dunbarney Church gate at 2pm. Look out for more details nearer the time.

Wilma McCullough

## **GIRLGUIDING**

Girlguiding in Bridge of Earn would like to thank everyone for their support both at the Christmas card posting and the Pancake Coffee Morning. We really appreciate the support from the Church and their members. Helen Jackson has retired as the Guide leader and welcomes Catherine Stewart who is now running the Guides. Helen continues to be Chair of Friends of Guiding so will be involved with all the fundraising to help support the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides alongside all the past and present mums who continue to help at these events. Without these parents we would struggle to raise funds. If any parent of girls in Girlguiding would like to help please get in touch with Helen on 07751577772. Thank You.

Helen Jackson.

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Sunday worship takes place every week but in alternate buildings. These services start at 11.00am with occasional services if required at 2.00pm. Live Streaming of services will continue and a recording is available on the telephone broadcast service (01738 239392). This is also a great way



to hear the Church News! The *proposed* dates of the services are as follows:

<b>April 2024</b> – <i>subject to change</i> 07 – Dunbarney at 11.00am 14 – Forgandenny at 11.00am 21 - Dunbarney at 11.00am 28 - Forgandenny at 11.00am	<b>May 2024</b> – <i>subject to change</i> 5 - Dunbarney at 11.00am 12 - Forgandenny at 11.00am 19 - Dunbarney at 11.00am 26 - Forgandenny at 11.00am
<b>June 2024</b> – <i>subject to change</i> 2 - Dunbarney at 11.00am (Communion Sunday) 9 - Forgandenny at 11.00am 16 - Dunbarney at 11.00am 23 - Forgandenny at 11.00am 30 – Dunbarney at 11.00am	<b>July 2024</b> – <i>subject to change</i> 7 – Forgandenny at 11.00am 14 - Dunbarney at 11.00am 21- Forgandenny at 11.00am 28 - Dunbarney at 11.00am

**FROM THE EDITOR**

Many thanks to those who have contributed to this edition of *Parish Voice*.

The deadline for articles for the next issue is **Sunday, 7 July 2024**. Please send your contributions to Anne Rodgie in the Church Office with a copy to Anne Larg.

**MOVING HOUSE**

If you are moving house please would you give your new address to Anne Larg 01738 812805

**USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS**

<b>Parish Minister</b>	Rev. Allan J. Wilson	812211
<b>Probationer Minister</b>	Dr Ian Morrison	07812 015235
<b>Session Clerk</b>	Anne Larg	812805
<b>Dep Session Clerk</b>	Margaret Bell	07732 375038
<b>Secretary</b>	Anne Rodgie	812463 (Wed & Fri - mornings only)
<b>Pastoral Group</b>	Christian Macdonald	07739 311630
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Steve Fulton	813516
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alison Jolliffe	07809 293045
<b>Church Hall</b>	Avril Fulton	07977 290268
<b>Sunday Service Phone Line</b>		01738-239392 (local rates apply)

Dunbarney and Forgandenny Parish Church (Church of Scotland) is a charity registered in Scotland, No SC0009638.