Calendar for June 2016				
Date	Time	Event	Location	
1	13:15	Primary in Church	Church	
	19:30	Home Group	ldle's	
5	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room	
	11:00	Communion Service: Hebrews 13:1-6 Moral Exhortations	Church	
	2 - 4:30	Care home services		
6	19:30	Fresh Encounters wk 4	Church	
7	13:30	Fresh Encounters wk 5	Church	
8	19:30	Prayer Meeting	Church	
9	10:00	Business Committee	Musselburgh	
12	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room	
	11:00	Service - Hebrews 13:7-14 Practice Good Christianity	Church	
	18:30	Arise : Habakkuk 2:20; Psalm 33:6-11; 89:5-8 Silence	Church	
13	19:30	Fresh Encounters wk 5	Church	
14	11:00	Big Questions	Primary	
	13:30	Fresh Encounters wk 6	Church	
15	19:30	Home Group	Idle's	
15-16		Retreat	Firbush	
17		Wedding - Rebekah McClintick and Jonathon Astles	Gorebridge	
18	14:00	Wedding - Jared Knox and Demi Johnston	DPC	
19	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room	
	11:00	Service - Guest Preacher Acts 2:36-47 The Church	Church	
20	19:30	Fresh Encounters wk 6	Church	
21	13:30	Fresh Encounters wk 7	Church	
22	19:30	Prayer Meeting	Church	
23	10:30	Presbytery	Musselburgh	
26	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room	
	11:00	Service - Hebrews 13: 15-25 Practice forms spiritual nature	Church	
	12:15	Bring and Share Lunch	Church	
	18:30	Open Door - Genesis 1:24-31 Recycle ALL litter	Church	
27	19:30	Fresh Encounters wk 7	Church	
29		Communication Training	Edinburgh	
30	12 to 2	Ploughman's Lunch	Halls	

# Dunbar Parish Church

Minister

**Rev Gordon Stevenson** 





Dunbar Parish Church is a

charity registered in Scotland

No: SC000455

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June 2016

**CHRISTMAS MORNING** A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters OH, IT'LL TAKE WOW! FATHER, THE FOR YOU TO LIGHT FROM THE TREE REVEALS THE BEAUTIFUL PRESENT DISCOVER ALL YOU'VE GIVEN US! THAT IS IN THIS PRESENT WHAT'S INSIDE?

However, as it is written: "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived" - the things God has prepared for those who love him these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. - 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9-10 NIV What Spiritual revelations have you discovered Are you looking? Are you Spiritually aware? What is the interpretation of your life story?

AND WHEN THEY HAD PRAYED, THE PLACE WHERE THEY HAD GATHERED TOGETHER WAS SHAKEN, AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND BEGAN TO SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD WITH BOLDNESS. Acts 4:31

	Sunday & Special SERVICES	READERS	PRAYERS
5th 11:00	Hebrews 13:1-6 Moral Exhortations	Douglas McClintick	Catherine Hodgson
	Hebrews 13:7-14 Practice Good Christianity Arise: Habakkuk. 2:20; Psalm 33:6-11; 89:5-8 Silence  Mike Mylne		Michael Veitch
19th 11:00	Acts 2:36-47 The Church	Elaine O'Brien	Mike Bigden
	Hebrews 13: 15-25 Practice forms spiritual nature Open Door Genesis 1:24-31 Recycle ALL litter	Moyra Wright	Youth

Please pray for all other Church activities and for our community!

Ministers Letter June 2016: God reveals and Interprets!

Imagine having videos of the multitude of historical events where God was **revealing** something potent to the world about Himself. Though this is undoubtedly attractive, I doubt video could capture the invisible Spirit of God or even that God's radiance would allow any other colour or detail to be seen over the dazzling light which He is.

Nevertheless, God does **reveal** Himself to mere mortals and the many snapshots we have are enormously helpful. God's main methods are through His Word and through His Spirit.

In Scripture words, we 'see' what God is like. Deuteronomy 32:4 says that God "is a rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He.

We can **interpret** from this that the rock image speaks of being solid and secure to build (spiritual) foundations upon. In relation to chaotic life on earth, that kind of stability is most attractive. By trusting in God we can discover a secure assurance of His justice, faithfulness and goodness.

Since God is just, this means He acts fairly and consistently. Since He is faithful, then He is always there for us and does not 'blow hot and cold'. His love towards all His creatures is the same. Of course knowing a bit about God's love, we in turn should desire to live lives which please Him, bless others and do us good. For God is also **perfectly good**. He does no wrong. His morals are faultless. In our world fault lines appear, things wear out and human errors do great damage. God **reveals** a very distinct picture of what He is like, even in just this one verse of our Bibles.

In many instances it is not difficult to **interpret** what the Bible is teaching us about God. However, we can know little of Him without **His revelation** or through the intervention of His Spirit to awaken our minds, hearts and souls to His **perfect** desires for us to be 'all that we can be'.

God always makes the first move towards us, even if we think we have gone looking for Him. In the act of conversion as one becomes a true Christian, the movement of the Spirit, convicting the sinner amply that they humbly implore God to enter in with the cleansing blood of Jesus the Saviour into their souls, and to reign as master and Lord of their life.

At our Pentecost service we spoke about how disciples "receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon" them so that they become His "witnesses" to others. Acts 1:8.

The Holy Spirit is the helper and teacher (of spiritual mysteries) John 14:16, 26; the Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are children of God (assurance and security) Romans 8:16; and **revealer**;"Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. For to us God **revealed** them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, **even the depths of God**." 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 *Minister of God's mysteries Gordon* 

## Rwanda Partnership Team Report

Team Members: - Moyra Wright, Kilvert & Margaret Croft, Anne & Alan Low, Kirsty Harper, Liz Thompson, Kirsty & Simon Bell, Moira Anthony, Lena Glass & Natasha McClintick

Natasha McClintick has joined the team. Natasha will be going to Rwanda this summer and we pray that her trip will fill her with God's goodness and inspire her. The team achieved:

- New partnership agreement Dunbar Parish Church & the Living Church Kibungo (LCK).
- An agreement to work through Comfort Rwanda & Congo (CRC) for all future projects and a Memorandum of Understanding established between DPC & CRC.
- On 10th May a commemorative presentation of the 1994 genocide.
- On 22<sup>nd</sup> May a film night 'Ghosts of Rwanda'.
- Team representation at the annual Civic week celebrations.
- Sarah's house approved with roof guttering and water storage tank. £4,000.00 transferred to LCK and work began in January 2016. The build is near completion.
- Video Christmas messages exchanged between DPC & LCK.
- £250.00 gifted to the children of LCK for Christmas and £50.00 gifted to help purchase 'airtime' for LCK to help with communication.
- Health insurance money for the Mvumba community for the year 2016/17. (£3.00 per head) There are 13 families in this small community of which Sarah is one.
- DPC gifted £500.00 to CRC for their support and on-going work on our behalf.
- Presentation to Dunbar Parish Church Guild 'Rwanda & Our Partnership'.

### Fundraising

Team individual challenges £1,680.00. Quiz & Supper evening £637.00.

Car Boot sale £180.00 for Rwanda and £60.00 for DPC.

### **Future Plans**

- LCK church building assistance to finalise outstanding work required.
- Seek sponsorship for LCK nursery places (60 children in 3 classes).
- Mvumba health insurance for community and potential purchase of agricultural land.
- Partnership Information stall at 'The Gathering'.
- Fundraising stall during Civic Week.
- Children's Disney themed party, Quiz/African Supper evening,& a Charity football match.
   We give thanks for the generosity of our Church family and locals. Every penny has been donated by YOU and raised through the tireless efforts of the entire DPC Rwandan team.

Notes of all our meetings are recorded and distributed to the Rev. Stevenson, LCK and the Church congregation are kept in touch via regular updates and Mission Matters.

Liz, a valued member of the team is sadly moving from these parts and will be much missed. We thank her for her commitment, enthusiasm and quiet counsel to many. We would also like to extend our thanks to Margaret McDonald, Church Treasurer, who patiently answers our queries and keeps track of all donations.

Finally, we would love to welcome you on board the team!

Details of the summer prayer meetings are as follows:

8 June: PRAYER FOR COMMUNITY (Eden Room)
22 June: PRAYER WALK (Meet 7:30pm outside church)

13 July: MIKE BIGDEN (10 The Courtyard, Easter Broomhouse Steading)

27 July: JONATHAN IDLE (Eden Room)

10 August: PRAYER FOR COMMUNITY (Éden Room)

24 August: TBC (Eden Room)

**Exams** Particular thanks are due to Helen Cox for taking the time to compile a detailed prayer list containing the exam schedule for the young people associated with our church. Let's pray for God's continued blessing upon all our young people, at school or university, as they await their results and consider their next steps.

Yours in Christ, Michael

Basics Bank Report 2015 was a busy year for Dunbar Basics Bank, We had 77 referrals and assisted 158 individuals, to whom we gave 3,884 meals. The total weight we dispensed over the year was 11,450 kg, made possible by the 13,455 kg of donations we received from our food drop bins in the Church, at Asda, the large Co-op, Our Lady of the Waves, Pencaitland Church and Wight Chiropractic Clinic in Haddington. Dunbar Primary School, Stenton Primary School, Law Primary School, the Dunglass Churches and Innerwick Primary School gave us donations at Harvest and Christmas, and Stenton primary children decorated 35 boxes so we could give our most recent clients hampers containing Christmas food, gifts, and Peter Whitecross Butchers and Crunchy Carrot vouchers provided by Community Windpower. We were also able to distribute a considerable amount of toys and books courtesy of Lead a Bright Future. The hampers were mostly collected at a Christmas party catered for by Asda worth £300. We also received £200 through Asda's "Chosen by You, Given by Us", £666 from Torness, and a further £420 from anonymous donors. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us in any way, and in particular our loyal "buddies" to whom we e-mail a weekly shopping list with requests for specific supplies, in order to keep adequate stocks.

At the end of 2015 we sadly said goodbye to Steve and Lorraine Gilchrist, who had been the backbone of Dunbar Basics Bank. Before they moved back West they coached (and coaxed) us and the baton was passed onto a team of volunteers. The number of regular helpers on Wednesdays has swelled to 16. The atmosphere continues to be warm and welcoming, and we are privileged to be able to show the love of Christ in the work we do there. One client summed up what it's all about in a thank you card we have permission to quote here:

"I would just like to say a massive thank-you to you all! You have helped not only me but friends and the other visitors you help out. You have helped me out greatly over the last year or so, not just with food or vouchers but with the simple things that probably matter the most, a cup of coffee, a juice, a biscuit etc. but most of all a chat and a smile. I've struggled a lot this year and doubt I would have made it to Christmas without your kindness and generosity". In 2016 the Property Committee are going to address storage in the Church Hall, which continues to be a problem for various groups using the facilities. Lorna McLeod

## Miss\_ion Matters (from Helen Miss\_ionary correspondent)

Continuing to inform your prayers with information from the Open Doors World Watch List and Operation World. (paper copies of the 2016 Watch List from me)

#### **#7 SOMALIA**

Leader: President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud Population: 11.1 million (35,000 Christian) Religion: Islam Government: Federal republic Source of Persecution: Islamic extremism & tribal antagonism



Area: 637,000 sq km; the mostly arid part of the 'Horn of Africa'

Even suspicion someone is Christian can lead to death. A Christian was shot dead in Bosaso in Feb. 2015 because Islamists suspected he 'propagated Christianity'. Christians were forced to flee the country and others went into hiding. The Islamist group al-Shabaab has declared it 'wants Somalia free of all Christians'.

"We experience horrible things here every day. It appears that I live in hell on earth. I wish I could just stand inside a church and cry out in Jesus' name."

It seems a simple wish, to stand in a church. But this is completely impossible for this believer in Somalia, where even being suspected of being a Christian can lead to instant execution; a rushed beheading; a shot in the head would not be unusual. He cannot own a Bible because of the danger it would put him in, and any kind of Christian celebration is impossible - meeting with other believers is difficult. Suspected Christians are watched; their mobile phone communications monitored.

The government in Somalia is barely functional, meaning that the nation is largely governed by a tribal system. The government allows anti-Christian sentiment within the tribal system. Islam in the constitution is the state religion, so apostasy (leaving Islam) is illegal. Somalia harbours Islamic radicalism. It seems impossible for anyone to come to faith in Somalia - but nothing is impossible with God.

A Somali Christian told an overseas worker that he has regular contact with camel herders. He gave them a radio tuned to a Christian station. He heard that they listen to the Christian broadcast every night. "Those camel herders are illiterate... Nevertheless they are drinking from the spring of life" he said.

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Protection for secret believers, and wisdom for them to know who to trust.
- Isolated believers in Somalia who lack resources to build their faith pray that they will receive the support they need to become strong followers of Jesus.
- That a good government will be formed and that it will stand against extremism, promoting religious freedom instead.
- The wide spread of the Scriptures. The Somali Bible was first published in 1977; a recent revision is now on sale. Distribution can occur only *outside* of Somalia. However there are 13 individual languages listed for Somalia. All are living languages. 9 indigenous. Bible translation for the Maay is in progress.
- The work of Somali Voice of New Life (CNC-SIM), the Voice of the Path of Peace and broadcasts of FEBA, TWR, IBRA and Adventist World Radio. It is a constant struggle to maintain, and a challenge to expand, these services. 62% of Somalians are illiterate so Christian radio broadcasting is an essential tool.

 Christian material in all formats: audio resources from GRN /Bible Voice; websites by Somali Christian Ministries & Bible Correspondence courses (CNC).

## Thank you for praying

Don't put your life in the hands of experts who know nothing of life, of salvation life. Mere humans don't have what it takes; when they die, their projects die with them. Instead...put your hope in God and know real blessing! God made sky and soil, sea and all the fish in it. He always does what he says - he defends the wronged, he feeds the hungry. God frees prisoners - he gives sight to the blind, he lifts up the fallen. God loves good people, protects strangers, takes the side of orphans and widows, but makes short work of the wicked. Psalm 146 v 3 - 9 (The Message)

#### RAMADAN 2016 starts on June 6th.

A prayer guide is available to help inform and direct your prayers for the Muslim world during the next 30 days. The aim is to better understand the Muslim world and to see Muslims as God does - unique and loved.

## Young Peoples' Home Group

We have a wonderful bunch of young people in the church and it's a joy to be able to run Home Group. We get together on Friday evenings usually at the Hodgson's or Veitch's from 7pm-9pm on a weekly/fortnightly basis. We learn about God's Word, we pray and chill out with food, games and a lot of chat and laughter.

Over the past year we have thought about the Bible, prayer, music, food, homosexuality, alcohol, sex before marriage, telling our friends about Jesus, mission, trips to the beach, fireworks and Christmas party with the Young Adults. We have also enjoyed others in the church come and share or open their homes to us, for which we are extremely grateful. What the young people say...

"I love the youth group. It's a great social event and it's great for Christian teenagers to come together. I would encourage everyone to come!"

'I think it is great!' I like the food!

'What can I say... Home group is a great way to start the weekend, it is fun and you learn lots of new things.'

Ian Coltart, Catherine Hodgson, Michael and Laura Veitch

## Pilot Church - Pilot Lite

We are prayerfully seeking a team of interested people who passionately care about lost sheep in our community and beyond. If that might be you, we want to hear from you. Please speak to Gordon if you are interested.

(For fuller details see the April Magazine)

Sunday 24th July - Overseas Partner Visit

David and Jenny will be here. 'Bring and Share' lunch, followed
by an opportunity to hear directly about their work

1st Dunbar Boys' Brigade - The Company has grown over the past year and we now have 17 boys in the Junior Section and 13 in the Company Section. Regrettably, following the retiral of Barbara Leslie, we no longer have an Anchor Section.

- Highlights of the Company year include:
- Seven boys doing their DofE Bronze through the Boys' Brigade
- £1,400 raised for homeless charities
- Winning the Junior Class of the Kilbryde Hike, a BB national competitive hike
- Residential camps for both sections
- A sleep-over at the Glasgow Science Centre for the Junior boys.
- Hillwalking, kayaking, go-karting, bubble football and trampolining events.
- Taking part in Remembrance Day Parade

None of this could have been possible without the help of Fiona Fleming, Gordon Forbes and parents, but what of the future. Dunbar BB's desperately needs new leaders if the Company is to continue. I hope and pray that some within the Church will feel called to this work.

Sandy Mitchell, Company Captain, 1st Dunbar Boys' Brigade

## PRAYER CORNER - JUNE 2016 By Michael Veitch (Prayer Co-ordinator)

There can be few more pleasant places at this time of year than Dunbar and its environs, yet I wonder how often we stop and take the time to thank God for his kindness towards us in allowing us to reside in such a special place? Summer is also a time when many of us will holiday, so let's make sure we pray for safe travel and for times of relaxation and refreshment for one another. Likewise, we will no doubt welcome a number of holidaymakers in the coming months, so let's pray for those who join us at DPC. Let's also remember the vast multitudes of Christians in troubled lands across the globe, often meeting together in fear for their lives. How privileged we are that we can gather together in prayer without any such threats. Looking ahead there are other important matters for prayer. The Alpha Course, Basics Bank, the emerging Pilot Church initiative, and the team heading to Rwanda in July. There are many members who continue to battle with health concerns, and the various other anxieties of life. How wonderful that we worship a God who, tells us: "do not be anxious about tomorrow" but rather to "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness" Matthew 6:33, 34. God's infinite grace is undoubtedly sufficient to carry all of our burdens, as he bids us to honour Him above all else. What better way of seeking first His kingdom than bowing down before Him in individual or collective prayer, and offering ourselves wholly up to His service?

## **Prayer Breakfast**

An especially enjoyable prayer breakfast was held on 24 April, when a number of our young people organised the food and led the meeting. Particular thanks are due to Adam Hodgson who shared a few thoughts with us all. It remains a great encouragement to see several of our young people attending the prayer breakfast on a regular basis, and we look forward to them leading for us again soon.

We bid farewell to Liz Thomson, who will soon be moving with her husband to Leith, and will be greatly missed by us all. Please do remember Liz in your prayers, that she would find a new church family with whom to settle in Edinburgh. How thankful we are to God for her love and support to those of us in Dunbar over these past few years.

Little Fishes Report We have enjoyed another year at Little Fishes. Gail Stevenson and Anne Creedican are regularly supported by Tom Manson, Moyra Wright and Liz Thomson. Others donate baking on a rota basis; these include May Low, Lena Glass, Laura Punler, Sarah McKenzie & Eilidh & Anna Stevenson. This team are all committed and there is good cooperation to keep the group running efficiently. Liz Thomson will be leaving us in June, she has been a fantastic help at Little Fishes for many years and will be hugely missed. Laura Veitch has volunteered some help and also with baking. The average attendance prior to Christmas was only 8 children plus their carer/parent per week. But with the help of posters throughout the town and personal invitations, we are now averaging 16 children plus carers each Wednesday morning. We have 50 children registered in total. We have a good mixture of mums, dads, child-minders, and grandparents etc., that attend.

Please pray for - more leaders, especially parents with younger children who are committed Christians; For families to become church attendees and ultimately to find living faith.

These things won't happen without real committed and faithful prayer and more leaders who are driven to reach others. Thanks for your support and encouragement. *Gail Stevenson* 

## **Junior Church Annual Report 2016**

The beginning of this year has seen the sorry loss of Jenny Manning as she stepped down as Junior Church Co-ordinator. We thank her for the extremely hard work and management she put into Junior Church over the last few years. The Junior Church has 26 children attending on a regular basis; 14 in Xtreme, 5 in Splash and 8 in Bubbles. We have enjoyed many activities of the last year. We enjoy a monthly sing-a-long with Laura and thank her for sharing her love of music with us. We enjoy learning and sharing in the word of God through the Scripture Union Light resources. They allow us to learn in an exploration and active way and share our love of the Lord. We have enjoyed the Holiday Club over the summer and thank all the volunteers for giving up their time. We liked preparing and performing our annual Christmas Nativity. We currently have a number of leaders and helpers: Kirsten and Gillian leading Splash with the help of Sarah and Karen leading Xtreme. We are hoping to see the return of Suzanne in a leading role within the Junior Church as she returns from her maternity leave after the Easter break. We thank Barbara for regularly being on call to help us out when short of support and help with the littlest of ones. We have a number of roles needing filled within Junior Church: A new Co-ordinator, an Xtreme Leader, helper for Splash and helpers for the Bubbles. Please keep us in your prayers and encourage people within our Church to fill these vacant positions.

**Search.Word** have continued to use Scripture Union-SUstance. This great resource uses many themes. Having completed book 9 we decided it's time to start over at book 1, as there are many ways to cover the topics. With a combination of 3: beginning/middle/ends to choose for each study, and three leaders on a rota, this will give a different aspect to each study. We are currently about a 3<sup>rd</sup> of the way through our series of topics, and it's good to see an increase in depth of discussion with some of the older ones to the 1<sup>st</sup> time around. We average 15 teenagers per week out of a larger group of 25. Many thanks to fellow leaders Craig Burgess and Laura Veitch for their time and effort and Liz Thomson for her help and obvious love for the teens. Any new 'leaders' would be welcomed. You don't need to know it all to lead as the guides give a great overview of each lesson, you just need to be willing to learn alongside some great teens. There is also room to come along as an extra helper, to just sit and listen and love the young folk, without the responsibility of leading.

DATE	SUNDAY DUTY TEAMS	FLOWERS in CHURCH	CLEANING ROTA (U) = upstairs (D) = downstairs	
June 5		June Convenor: Moyra Wright Mrs D Brunton	6 Sandy & Ian Darling (U) Anne Creedican (D)	
12	June Rob Barley Moira Anthony Lindsay Barley Val Collin Will Collin Christine Idle Jonathan Idle	Mrs L Glass	13 Jenny & Jason Kay (U) Gordon & Gail Stevenson (D)	
19		Mrs J Murphy	20 Jonathan & Christine Idle (U) Val & Will Collin (D)	
26	Moyra Wright	Mrs E Thomson	27 Margaret & Derek MacDonald (U) Lorna McLeod & Margaret Croft (D)	
July 3		July Convenor: Denise Brunton Vacant	4 Margaret & Ian Coltart (U) Anne Creedican (D)	
10	<b>July</b> Derek MacDonald Denise Brunton	Mrs F Fleming	11 Fiona Fleming & Barbara Leslie (U) Gill Philip & Alistair Matthews (D)	
17	Margaret Croft Ian Hastie May Low Lena Glass Margaret MacDonald	Mrs A Creedican	18 Laura Punler & Laura Girvan (U) Ian & Jenny Manning (D)	
24	Ian Manning Lorna McLeod	Vacant	25 Moyra Wright & ? (U) Sandy & Ian Darling (D)	
31		Mrs W Main	1 Aug Gail & Gordon Stevenson (U) Christine & Jonathan Idle (D)	

There are Flower Rota Vacancies if you would like to put flowers in the Church please speak with **May Low**.

You can put flowers into the Church for an **anniversary** or **in memory of a loved one**, you don't necessarily need to be added to the rota in order to do this.

Please speak with May Low or the Flower Convener for that month to help you organise this.

# Article Series 8 (pt 4) "Changing Realities"

Please read *Daniel 2:24-49*: Interpretation!

We all have natural character traits. Some of us are bolder, others much more cautious. Some gentle characters like Gideon learned how to exhibit spiritual boldness. Daniel does too. v24 informs us that "Daniel went to Arioch", the king's chief executioner. Surely he must have had butterflies in his stomach?, but when God says go, go we must!

Daniel says to him, take me to the king and "I will **interpret** the king's dream." This is like 'gold dust' to Arioch. They go immediately to seek an audience with the king v25. Notice how Arioch puts it, "I have found a man...who can tell the king what his dream means." I have had a number of bosses who behaved like this, claiming credit due to others. This was not how Daniel behaved, and Christians should always give credit to God and others where it is due.

So the conversation begins. Daniel makes it clear that "**no-one**" but "**God in heaven**" can "reveal mysteries" like this v26-28. Daniel had it revealed to him in a "prophetic dream" and **interpretation** is necessary. Daniel ensures the credit is the LORD's v29.

The **interpretation** speaks of an awesome statue v31, which represents the rise and fall of four kingdoms. The head v32 is the Neo-Babylonian empire, represented by the metal gold. The chest and arms are made of silver, and they represent the Medo-Persian empire of King Cyrus which will follow. The bronze belly and thighs signify the Greek empire led by Alexander the Great after that. Lastly, the iron and partly clay legs, feet and toes signify the Roman empire. The diminishing quality of the metal from gold down to iron probably represent the decline of power and grandeur by succeeding empires. Not evolution for something better as mankind often likes to believe; although each kingdom does rule for successively longer periods.

So as Nebuchadnezzar had been disturbed in his dream v1, we see what it is that would have disturbed him. His pride would like the gold representation of his empire, but he knows that it will come crashing down and his legacy will be overtaken but others v34, 35. And even worse some "rock" is going to rule the entire world. The God of heaven is going to set up this world empire v44 and it will never be destroyed. The "dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy"- it's from the God of heaven! v45 From pride to humility in v46, 47 and Daniel's God is "God of gods and revealer of mysteries".

Why do people look elsewhere for wise **interpretations** of the things going on in their lives? Daniel is honoured and elevated to a top role in the King's court v48. Daniel in turn employs his three faith friends, since he can truly trust those who also look to the God of heaven for their answers too. The fortune tellers and psychics are *not any good*.

How are you managing interpretation of circumstances in your life? Yours Gordon.

## My 1st Book of questions and answers! Section 5 - Salvation

43. What did God do to save his people from his anger and punishment?

Answer: He sent His Son so that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life".

John 3:16

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## Opt - ins : Serving

There are many rota's you can serve on among us.

Add your name where you are **gifted to serve**.

Coffee/Tea rota
Cleaning rota
Sunday Bible reading rota
Sunday prayer rota
Film night catering rota
Prayer Breakfast leader rota
Prayer Breakfast catering rota

## Your Elder

All members and adherents should contact their elder if they know of any pastoral needs. If you don't know who to contact, ask Alan Low

DPC Verse for 2016

From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised

Psalm 113: 3

Bible Book Club
Meeting next on
2nd June



Meetings will be held at various venues always check with Emma/Lorna

Starting Amos
Sons of Encouragement
by Francine Rivers
ISBN: 1414348169 on Kindle too

We are exploring the lives of 5 Biblical men who stood behind faith heroes and quietly changed eternity: Aaron, Caleb, Jonathan, Amos & Silas. They all answered God's call to serve without recognition or fame and gave everything, knowing their reward might not come until the next life. We are now onto Silas.

This is another amazing book which brings the bible to life. It's not too late to join join...If you are interested please call *Emma Weaver* for details of venue, 01368 459082.

NOTE.. The next MAGAZINE will be the SEPTEMBER issue.

Praying you all have a wonderful summer!

Dates for Fresh Encounters								
7:30pm Evening Group			1:30pm Afternoon Group					
Week No	Day	Date	Day	Date				
3	Monday	30th May	Tuesday	24th May				
4	Monday	6th June	Tuesday	31st May				
5	Monday	13th June	Tuesday	7th June				
6	Monday	20th June	Tuesday	14th June				
7	Monday	27th June	Tuesday	21st June				

## PASTORAL TEAM

Do you know someone who could use some pastoral help?

Perhaps someone infirm, lonely, or bereaved of a loved one? Maybe an illness or operation or other suffering has knocked you a bit? Any member or adherent who is interested contact Moyra Wright (tel. 863316) or Mike Bigden (tel. 865385) directly or via any Church member.

The pastoral team are genuinely interested in your well-being.



## Pastoral Notes

We recently offered God's loving compassion to the families listed below, whom we remember in our prayers

Elizabeth Lough Douglas Laird James Logan

# BASICS BANK BUDDY SCHEME

If you are not already part of the Buddy Scheme please drop an email to <a href="mailto:basicsbankbuddy@gmail.com">basicsbankbuddy@gmail.com</a> and you will be kept up to date with a weekly email and shopping list.

## Prayer Breakfast Rota - Summer 2016

05 June - Mike & Rachel Mylne

12 June - Jim Thompson

19 June - Michael & Laura Veitch

26 June - Ian Manning

03 July - Derek & Margaret MacDonald

10 July - Emma Weaver

17 July - Ian Coltart

24 July - Catherine Hodgson

31 July - Mike & Rachel Mylne

07 Aug - Derek & Margaret MacDonald

14 Aug - Michael & Laura Veitch

21 Aug - Jim Thompson

28 Aug - Ian Manning

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

Martin Luther King JR

## Magazine Input:

Please send your items in by **Monday 22nd August** for

September Magazine - out on 28<sup>th</sup>
August, or if you would like a
regular E\_Magazine

Tel: 862903 Denise or email: dmbrunton@gmail.com

Weekly Notices: Contact Denise

# TEEN PAGE... The Underdog!

It's now June! Spring is almost over, your exams are almost over and another football season is definitely over! It has been the year of the underdog as far as the English Premiership is concerned. Leicester City won! Some of you will be fed up hearing

about their amazing achievement but let's look closely at the circumstances. It's been 21 years since a team out with the big 4 won the league.

In an age where money buys success, Leicester were the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest wage payers in the league. Last season, with virtually the same squad of players, they narrowly avoided relegation and began this season as 5000-1 outsiders (the bookies, are rarely wrong). Their star striker, Jamie Vardy, played non-league football only 4 years ago and they started the season with a new manager, which usually means a bedding-in period and re-building process.

So, in spite of this, they won the league by 10 points. Success came by playing to their strengths, working hard, relying on teamwork and most pleasing of all, they did it with a smile on their faces! No rash boasting, no slating their opponents, no blaming the ref, their injuries, the fixture list, the weather, the media pressure, etc, etc. They enjoyed their football and proved all the pundits wrong! Now, the youngsters in park are all wearing Leicester strips! It is a true modern day underdog story!

Sometimes, we can feel like underdogs in our lives. Are you not expecting to do well in your exams? Do you think the other person will get the job you applied for? Are the others in the team better players than you? Is that person's artwork so much more creative than yours? Do your friends have a deeper faith than you? How can God possibly use someone like you? Throughout the Bible, God surprises us by who his choices. E.g. David, wasn't even included in the line-up when one of Jesse's sons was to be chosen as king, yet God wanted him.(1 Samuel 16, 1–13) and then, of course there's his showdown with Goliath! (1 Samuel 17, 45–64).

Later we have Gideon. When God chose him to defeat the powerful Midianite army with just 300 inexperienced, untrained farmers, Gideon says "How can I save Israel, my clan is the weakest and I am the least in my father's house".(Judges 6:15).

Consider Moses. A angry man who killed and a reluctant leader who couldn't do public speaking. Yet God chose him to confront Pharaoh and demand freedom for his people. (Exodus 3 and 4). Or consider Rahab, a foreign prostitute. Jonah, running away from God; Esther a 14 year old Jewish exile; Zacchaeus, an unpopular tax collector; A thief on a cross, in the final moments of his life; the young boy left his house with loaves and fish, do you think he expected his packed lunch to feed 5,000?

Then, of course, there is Mary, probably about 14 years old, unmarried, not rich or from a privileged family, not highly educated, nothing much going for her in human terms and yet God chose her to be the mother of Jesus!

I could go on and on, all most unlikely people, who would never get the job if it was down to a human interview panel; however, they were chosen by God to do amazing things and recorded in the Bible as an example to us.

Never let self-doubt stop you from serving God or give excuses, saying "I can't" because when we deal with God, we are not dealing with human values, attitudes or attributes, we are dealing with God! When he has a task for us, we're not doing it in our own strength or skill-set, we're doing it through the creator of the universe! It's not as if he hasn't given us enough examples!

Finally, let's get back to Gideon, how does God respond when Gideon airs his self-doubt? "The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valour" (Judges 6:12) Blessings Derek

#### Rwanda

Those travelling out in July are: Kirsty/Eric Harper, Natasha McClintick, Margaret/Kilvert Croft.

We shall be spending time with our partners in Kibungo looking at the proposed nursery provision within the Living Church; Natasha will be meeting up with her sponsored Compassion family and we will be visiting Mama Sarah in her new home. We will also be visiting members of our adopted Mvumba community looking at the purchase of a new field, crops and tools.

Our team has already raised funds to provide this small community with much needed annual health insurance for 2016/17. This work in Rwanda is only possible through committed and generous support of Dunbar Parish Church and local community for which we thank God.

As usual we aim to take out some essential items and this year we're seeking donations of:

- New children's and adult's underwear e.g. pants, bras and vests
- New children's and adult's T-shirts
- Serviceable Wi-Fi compatible laptops

Donations to Church or Kilvert/Margaret Croft 01368863658/ e-mail <a href="mailto:community@kilmarg.co.uk">community@kilmarg.co.uk</a>

## Prayer Report

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2: 42

It was a tremendous privilege to take over as prayer coordinator for our Church from Mike Weaver during 2015, and thanks be to God that He has continued to bless this work.

The Prayer Breakfast, continues to flourish, and remains an integral and treasured part of the Lord's Day for many of us. A number of new faces have joined us over the past few months, including some of our young people, which has been especially encouraging. Thanks to the various folks who provide food, both physical and spiritual, each week.

In the past year we establishment the bi-weekly Church prayer meeting. The impetus behind this is the firm conviction that prayer must be at the heart of all our church life. While the main focus is prayer for our community, our church, our world and for one another, we have also welcomed a number of guest speakers from different Christian charities. These have included: The Scottish Bible Society, Bethany Christian Trust, The Christian Institute, Evangelical Alliance and CARE. Thanks also to others who have led meetings.

Since the end of last summer, our minister has inaugurated a very valuable time of prayer at the front of the church before the Sunday morning service for all who are participating and any others who wish to join them. (Come along and learn our new slogan)

Additional activities include the church's participation in a "Prayer Shield" event organised by Prayer for Scotland, on Easter Monday. Future plans include a "Prayer Walk" this summer. Information on our prayer ministries, including rotas, is available on the prayer section of the church website, which is updated regularly.

Many thanks again to all who regularly participate at prayer gatherings, and we trust many more will feel prompted to join us in the months ahead.

By Michael Veitch (Prayer Coordinator)

## Revelation (and its source)

God has not been discovered by reasoning but... has **disclosed himself**, unexpectedly and dramatically, in the history of a chosen people.

J.C.P. Cockerton

Science must always be prepared to alter course when new facts demand such action. **Revelation**, on the other hand, is final. *Brian H. Edwards* 

THE need of the world is to **listen to God**. *Albert Einstein* 

**Revelation** is from the Father, through the Son, by the Spirit. Redemption is to the Father, by the Son, through the Spirit. *A.A. Hodge* 

Our need of **revelation** is like our need of redemption; it is total. *W.A. Hoffecker* 

Those who come to fully trust in the salvation of their soul will find contentment of mind through the **revelation** of Jesus in their minds.

H. Enoch

Worship is in response to truth about God and the truth about God is **revealed** in His Word. *John MacArthur* 

Our belief in scripture rests on **Jesus' own witness** to Scripture. He believed and taught it was the Word of God and therefore inherently trustworthy. Our belief in Scripture is dependent on our belief in Jesus. *Peter C. Moore* 

God take us into His confidence and shares His secrets with us; God finds us ignorant, and gives us knowledge.
That is what revelation means.

J. I. Packer

# Starters for Sunday!

Start Sunday morning with a nice breakfast, coffee or tea, in good company. 9:30 in the Eden room. We chat over breakfast, then have a short time of reflection and prayer prior to worship at 11:00.

No need to worry, you can just sit back and listen or join in. If you are able to help in leading or catering speak to Michael Veitch or email: michaelgveitch@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

#### Communion

In order to maintain accurate records of our Communicants, the Kirk Session is encouraging the congregation to hand in their Communion cards in the tray provided in the narthex. If you do not have one, can you please take one and place in the tray, or fill in the sign-in sheet at the table.

The next Communion is **Sunday 5 June 2016.**Thank you for your co-operation.

### JARS OF GRACE

The collection for this year was £160 - it has gone to the Syria Appeal.
Please keep filling jars for next year.
Well done and Thanks!