

Dunbar Parish Church

MAGAZINE

Minister

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November 2018

THE SAME BOAT

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.

— ROMANS 2:1 NIV

Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious to you, And
therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you
For the LORD is a God of justice; How blessed are all
those who long for Him. Isaiah 30:18

Have you ever found God?
What keeps you from this?
Do you long for something more, something better?
Will you seek the LORD, while He may be found?

Sunday & Special SERVICES in October		READERS	PRAYERS
4 th 11:00	Luke 15:25-32 - The elder Brother	Jonathan Idle	Martyn Cox
11 th 11:45	Luke 24:1-12 - The Resurrection	TBC	Fraser Stewart
18 th 11:00	Luke 24:13-35 - The Journey to Emmaus	Barbara Leslie	Ian Coltart
25 th 11:00	Luke 24:36-53 - Jesus Appears and Ascends	May Low	Tim Greene

Minister's Letter November 2018: Is it not fair?

The summer seems to have loitered through into autumn but it is finally fading into winter. There is a purpose in the seasons, they are never the same and each year brings differences. We don't get to make the rules and while we have had a very dry and pleasant year, many people have experienced lower crop yields, difficulties and even disasters.

Humanity often complains that it does not have control over things, though often seems to believe that it has the solutions. Often with each new proposal there are additional issues, more damage and injustice occur.

Mankind's inhumanity to his "neighbour" is seen in many and varied ways. Cries of "**It is not fair**" are often true reflections of experience and reality. Relying upon people often exposes corruption or dishonest agendas. **Relying upon God however is rock solid and wise.**

God is fair. He is just. He is just truly amazing, perfectly loving, patient, merciful, worth knowing and is the only viable solution to our predicament. Yet we often put our trust in other things: wealth, pleasure, vague or unsubstantiated hope that we will be all right when our time on earth is over, some good works, doing our religious duty now and again etc.

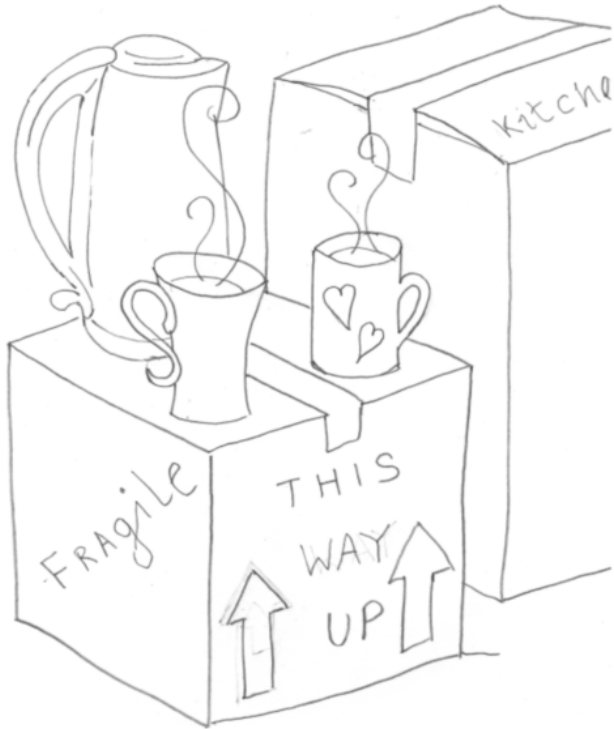
In Deuteronomy 32:4 Moses describes God thus, "**The Rock! His work is perfect, for ALL His ways are just; a God of faithfulness and without injustice, righteous and upright is He.** Isn't that fabulous?

Given that every single one of us sins, who can stand before this **fair, just** and holy God? The Prophet Nahum (1:6) puts it like this, "**Who can endure His fierce anger? His wrath is poured out like fire; the rocks are shattered before Him**".

I personally love the irony of an atheist who tries to blame God to challenge a Christian's beliefs. Once that is pointed out, their next attempt often is to talk about Him being vengeful or uncaring in the face of suffering. However, once you get to know Him personally, once you discover all that He reveals in His Word of truth, then there is nothing to appropriately criticise any of God's abundant and phenomenal characteristics.

The character Job was dealt an awful hand, after many years of incredible blessing. When he thought he would take it up in court with God, he soon realised that his own thinking was inadequate in the face of His creator:- In Job 42:3, Job says, "**Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.**" God wants us to know lots of good things about Him. Will we make time for Him? Agape Gordon

New neighbour?



If someone near you has moved into a new home, anywhere in our parish, please deliver a 'Welcome' leaflet through their door. This leaflet invites people to our church, tells them about it, why we are here and what we do. Ask Helen for leaflets and more details.

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

**THE GUILD meets on
6th November with Will Collin
on World War 1: Women (part
2) and on the 20th November
Shiona Liddle,
Pioneer Minister
2:30 pm in the Halls**

Transport to the Church: We can arrange for someone to bring you to church and take you home each week. Please phone **Jenny Manning** by the Thursday evening, on **01368 840334**. If you could offer someone a lift, even occasionally, you could be a reserve driver, please let Jenny know, it would be greatly appreciated.

Prayer Breakfast Rota

November

4 Catherine

11 Alison

18 Mike & Rachel (Catherine Breakfast)

25 Fraser

December

2 Tim

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:19



**Meeting Friday 9th
November at 7:30 at
Catherine's house**

Book: *What's so
Amazing About
Grace?*

Any questions please
speak to Lorna



The Guild



Coffee Morning

10 November
10-12 in the Halls

Cake/Candy
Cards/ Work Stall
Rwanda Stall

Pastoral Notes



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

Alastair MacGregor
Marjorie MacDonald

PASTORAL TEAM

Do you know anyone who could use some pastoral help? Perhaps someone infirm, lonely, or grieving for a loved one? Maybe an illness, operation or another blow has knocked you a bit? Members/adherents who is interested contact Moyra Wright (tel. 863316) directly or via Church members.

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

CHURCH PRAYER MEETINGS

2nd & 4th

Wednesday's
at 7:30 pm
In the Eden Room

Hall Bookings

Please Contact: Sonia Young she keeps the master diary and updates the hall one.
email bhraggie@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone: 07874 816326

Sermon's are available on the Church website. Use the link on the Home page
(www.dunbarparishchurch.org)
to access them

BASICS BANK BUDDY SCHEME

If you are not already part of the Buddy Scheme please drop an email to basicsbankbuddy@gmail.com and you will be kept up to date with a weekly email and shopping list. Due to increasing demand the Basics Bank would appreciate more folks to 'put a tin in the bin'
Thank you!

HOME GROUPS

Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.

Contact *Ian /Jenny Manning*
2 Temple Mains Cottages,
Innerwick 01368 840334

Jonathan and Christine Idle
4 Salisbury Walk, Dunbar
01368 860922

[See Calendar for dates](#)

Opt - ins : Serving

There are many ways that you can serve with us.

Your service is wanted. Just let us know where you would like to serve? Here are just some of the possibilities:

Coffee/Tea rota

Cleaning rota

Sunday Bible reading rota

Sunday **prayer** rota

Prayer Breakfast leader rota

Prayer Breakfast catering rota

2018 Dunbar Parish Church Magazines

Magazine Month	Articles by Friday	Magazine out Sunday
DECEMBER	16-Nov	25-Nov

Magazine Input:

Please send your items in by **Friday 16th November** for December Magazine - out on 25th November or if you would like a regular E_Magazine

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

Weekly Notices: Contact Denise

Coffee Plus



Coffee Plus meets every Friday in the church from 10.30 until mid-day with a short 'pause for thought'. On **Friday 30 November** we will have the opportunity to make Advent rings. If you don't feel that you want to be creative, then simply come along for coffee and a chat. We are also planning an informal carol sing-a-long on **Friday 21 December**. There will be an opportunity to 'play' percussion instruments if you don't want to sing or you can simply come along and enjoy the fun over a cup of coffee and cake. Hope to see you this week.

Scripture Union Scotland

You are warmly invited to join us in giving thanks to God for his work in the lives of children and young people in East & Midlothian over the past decade (...and a bit!),
as Hazel Gray, SU Scotland Regional Worker,
moves on

4th November 2018 - 19:00 - 20:30

At the Salvation Army Church,
3 Kirk Street, Prestonpans EH32 9DU

We're also delighted to introduce ML Stone as she picks up the baton from Hazel as the new SU Scotland Regional Worker for the area.

Our speaker for the evening is Dave Rickards, SU Scotland Director of National Ministries. Come and celebrate with us and enjoy testimonies, updates and cakes!

Coming along? Please let us know by telephoning:
0131 445 9910 or emailing:

edinburgh@suscotland.org.uk for more info:
<https://www.suscotland.org.uk/events/passing-the-baton-give-thanks-for-an-su-scotland-journeyand-the-start-of-something-new/>

Dunbar Parish Church Rwanda Group

are holding their ever popular Curry and Quiz Night in the Church Hall on Friday 2 November 2018 at 7.00 p.m. Great food and company will be available for this enjoyable evening along with a Bar to quench your thirst

Tickets are £10.00

Further details from a member of the Rwanda Group

On 30th November 10.30 - 12.00

Come for chat and Coffee

Plus and make an advent ring



Creative skills not essential.
Come to have fun and perhaps try something new, or just come for a chat and a cuppa

Let Alison or Helen know you are coming so sufficient materials can be provided

Dunbar Parish Church Rwanda Group...

will be holding a

Coffee and Craft Sale

in the Be Green shop in the High Street on **Sunday 25th November 2018**, same day as Christmas Lights switch on, from 3.00 to 7.00 pm. Please come along and support the group and see if you can pick yourself a Christmas gift.

DATE	SUNDAY DUTY TEAMS	FLOWERS in CHURCH	CLEANING ROTA (U) = upstairs (D) = downstairs
Nov 4	NOVEMBER Alan Low Ian Darling Eric Easton Kath Ellis Jason Kay Barbara Leslie Ian Manning Tom Manson	Convenor: Lena Glass Mrs F Fleming	5 Fiona Fleming & Barbara Leslie (U) Vacant (D)
11		ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	12 Laura Pulner & Laura Girvan (U) Vacant (D)
18		Mrs A Knox	19 Moyra Wright & Anne Creedican (U) Sandy & Ian Darling (D)
25		Mrs P Rimmer	26 Gordon & Gail Stevenson (U) Jenny & Jason Kay (D)
Dec 2	DECEMBER Christine Idle Moira Anthony Val Collin Will Collin Jonathan Idle Moyra Wright	Convenor: Laura Girvan Mrs E Dudgeon	3 Val & Will Collin (U) Jonathan & Christine Idle (D)
9		Mrs M Crow	10 Vacant (U) Margaret & Derek MacDonald (D)
16		Mrs G Low	17 Ian Gillian & Alison Mitchell (U) Ian Coltart & Tim Greene (D)
23		Mr J Thompson	24 Margaret Croft & Lorna McLeod (U) Ann & Norman Barr (D)
30		Mrs G Low for the late Mrs J Bain	31 Vacant (U) Fiona Fleming & Barbara Leslie (D)

*The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. **Zephaniah 3:17***

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

Martin Luther King JR

Article Series 9 (pt 6) Stubborn and Unrepentant Exposed

Please pray before you read Romans 2:1-16 *Storing up God's wrath*

Last time we began to look at the **consequences of depraved, sinful behaviour**. This time we consider the principles that govern God's judgment. These are (i) Truth v2; (ii) Deeds v6-11 ; and (iii) The LIGHT a person has v12-15. The truth can set you free, but it can also condemn. Often people who condemn others are hypocrites themselves v1-3. Paul says they therefore condemn themselves by their hypocritical judgments and have no excuse. This is the *ivory tower mentality*, we are okay, but they are bad. Yet all sin is abhorrent to God. However, when God judges, He does so **truthfully** and He is never hypocritical. God judges all hypocrisy, and the "when you" in v3 means that we inevitably will be guilty of this.

Next, v4 we hear of God's mercy and plan of leading us to repentance. God's punishments are designed in order for good to prevail. God's discipline is kind, loving etc. To rely purely on God's love or kindness, with no heart to honour Him however is foolish. The "tolerance" of God means He holds back His final judgment to permit us a limited "patience" time to respond appropriately. God's "kindness" here means that He helps us to see that going against His ways is greatly unattractive. He kindly helps us to shun sins; temptation has less power. Opposing God brings punishment, obeying His word offers unimaginable rewards. Failing to repent makes a sinner's heart hard and cold, and it will be a dreadful waste, "**storing up wrath**" as all will be "revealed" v5, 8. Our account needs to be settled with God v6. What have we done with our life? How have we lived? Salvation is by the grace of God alone. Yet, our deeds are important and show who we are serving and what are our motivations.

A spiritual life that is persistent and consistent is vital v7. Trusting not in good works, but in God. Our goal is to walk closely with Him. v9, 10 contrasts those who will face great distress for their failure to repent with the glory, honour and peace that those who repent truly will enjoy for all eternity. God does not show any favouritism. He is impartial and fair v11.

God revealed Himself first to the Jews. They have been enlightened to His attributes, power and love, long before other nations v12, 14, 15. Although Jews are supposed to have God's Law written on their hearts, the rest of us can show by our conduct, that God's Law is written on our hearts too. Jews won't surely have kept the Law perfectly, and the rest of us cannot claim salvation because we were not given it as the Jews were. Both can suffer the consequences of sin which is not dealt with through genuine repentance. Obedience to God's ways is essential v13, otherwise we cannot be right with God. Knowing right and doing right is right.

Nothing is hidden from God v16. All will be revealed on the Day of Judgment. It is His truth that counts and our behaviour, actions or inactions which matter. Knowing that God is fair and more than willing to help offers us real and practical solutions. **Store up treasures which last!** Yours in Christ Gordon

JUDGEMENT

No one is redeemed spiritually except through unmerited mercy, and no one is condemned spiritually except through merited **judgement**. *Augustine*

God will give the rebel what he chooses and what he deserves. *Simon Austen*

Spiritual **condemnation** will always be in exact proportion to guilt : and guilt is in proportion to abused light and privileges. *Albert Barnes*

As death leaves us, so **judgement** will find us. For all men's secret sins are printed in heaven, and **God will read them aloud** in the ears of all the world. *Thomas Brooks*

He whose throne is built on justice and righteousness will see that righteousness prevails. That is why **sin must, and will, be punished**. *John C. Chapman*

When every human being comes **face to face with their Creator**, no one will be able to complain that they got a raw deal. *Stephen Gaukroger*

True disciples of Jesus Christ have already come through the storm of **judgment**. At the cross, their fee has been paid in full. *Billy Graham*

Those who will not observe the **judgements** of God's mouth shall not escape the judgements of His hand. *Matthew Henry*

Human tribunals deal with crime; they have punishments but no rewards. **The divine tribunal** has both. *A. Plummer*

God does not pay weekly. God does not pay weakly. But in the end **God pays us** for worth we attain through repentance, underpinned by grace. *Gordon Stevenson*

My 1st Book of questions and answers!

Section 7

The Ten Commandments

64. What do the commandments 5-10 tell us?

Answer: How to love other people.

12 'Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

13 'You shall not murder.

14 'You shall not commit adultery.

15 'You shall not steal.

16 'You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.

17 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.'

Exodus 20:12-17

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Communion

The next Communion is
11:00 am

Sunday 2nd December 2018

DPC Verse for 2018

He says,

'Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.'

Psalm 46:10

TEEN PAGE...

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

In **Matthew 28:19**, we are instructed to “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations” so whether we like it or not, we must be involved in some form of personal evangelism. So why do most of us find it so difficult?

One family thought they had better do something to witness for Jesus. So they invited their neighbours to dinner. When it came to the meal, the family were keen to show their neighbours that they were Christians. So the 5-year-old son was asked to say grace. “I don’t know what to say” There was an awkward pause, then the mother said, “Just say what Daddy said at breakfast this morning.” Obediently, the boy repeated, “Oh God, we’ve got those bad people coming to dinner tonight.”

Sometimes, when we try to plan opportunities or attempt things in our own strength, we flop miserably. So, without trying to engineer direct, deep, life-changing conversation, how can we evangelise?

In Colossians 4:5-6 we read:

“Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone”.

Those who don’t believe in Jesus note what believers do. They make decisions about Christ by watching us. When we are kind, they assume Christ is kind. When we are gracious, they assume Christ is gracious. But if we are short tempered or dishonest, what will people think about our king? Courteous conduct honours Christ.

When you surrender a parking place, a space on the train, a place in the queue or a seat in the lecture theatre to someone, you honour him. When you return a borrowed book, you honour the lender. When you make an effort to include everyone in the room, especially the ones others may have been overlooked, you honour God’s children.

One writer described life as “a series of never to be repeated opportunities”

What a thrilling mind-set to be in. Try looking at everything you do in life like this.

Don’t just live your lives waiting for the “perfect” set of circumstances to come along, live every moment for Christ. By doing this, you are an evangelist!

Blessings Derek

Dunbar's Armistice Centenary Events



Friday 9 November: 'Homecoming', the story of Rev James Kirk and Sister Violet Fraser during the Great War, by Dunbar's Battery Theatre Company. 7.30 pm, Dunbar Parish Church, tickets £5 from Crunchy Carrot

Friday 9 and Saturday 10 November: Visit the Great War Memorial Chapel, St Anne's Church, 10 am to 4 pm. Also Sunday 1 to 4 pm

Sunday 11 November: Remembrance Service, 10.45 am, Dunbar War Memorial, Marine Road. (Parade leaves High Street c. 10.30 am.)

Sunday 11 November: 'The Battle's Over', remembering the Great War in music, song, prose and poetry. 3 pm, Dunbar Parish Church, tickets £5 from Crunchy Carrot and Will Collin.

Sunday 11 November: Dunbar Battery and Victoria Harbour

6.30 pm music and readings from WWI

6.55 pm lone piper followed by 'Last Post'

7.00 pm Beacon lit on ruin of Dunbar Castle

7.05 pm own and church bells ring out

I do not know your name
Nor for which battle you died.

I do not know your home,
Nor the tears that were cried.

I do not know where you rest
Nor the promises broken.

I do not know your uniform
and your fears lay unspoken.

But, I know your spirit exists
That your courage is admired,
And your sacrifice is honoured
By each soul that's inspired.

And I offer you from my heart
Thank you, to guardians unknown
For offering yourselves for us all
That we may keep freedom...

BLESS YOU!

In Flanders Fields by John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

— Changing the World One Meal at a Time! —

The other day someone teased me that much of my ministry seems to involve eating. I am happy that this is true – I like my chuck! In a previous article I mentioned how sharing food around a table brings us together in a natural, friendly way and opens us up to new possibilities. So here are a few opportunities to do just that.

‘The Big Q does Alpha’

There’s a real buzz around the church hall these days. On Mondays our Big Q folks have decided to do the Alpha Course together – well, we were asking questions so it seemed a natural progression. Alpha is a 10-week course looking at the big questions around life, faith and meaning. At the time of writing we have just completed week 2: *‘Who is Jesus?’* We eat together then watch a 20-minute video then chat over the themes raised. Discussion is lively, thought-provoking and fun. This is the first Alpha Course I have led where the guests already know each other and I’m loving it! We have around 12 participants at the moment and the friendliness as people help set the table, serve each other and clear up is all part of a healthy community walking towards discipleship together. Please pray for us.

Sunny’s Kitchen

Then there is our community meal in the hall - we call it Sunny’s Kitchen. This is something we do alongside The Ridge. It’s open doors for lunch once a month to supplement The Hungry Hatch community meal which happens every Monday at The Bleachingfield Centre at 5 pm. On Fridays, Sunny Soups are made at the hall to be frozen and put into the community freezer for those who fancy some home-made soup or pureed fruit fresh from the garden. And of course the Ploughmans’ Lunch is another great place to eat...I’m paying you a visit this month sorry it took me so long.

‘Tattie Table’ Oikos

Every Wednesday fortnight our home group at Tim and Diana Greene’s eat baked spuds with fillings and invite others to join in our rhythm of life. We say grace, we share the good and not so good stories of the past week then we look at a gospel story together asking: what does this story tell us about God, about people, would this story make you change anything in your life and who do you know who needs to hear this story? The group has a mix of people on the faith journey and aims to be inclusive and ever expanding. It only works because of the connections we are already making in the community and because we are always thinking of how we can accommodate the not-yet Jesus follower. Speaking of which... Sustaining Dunbar is having a bring and share meal this evening to talk about community resilience. I will be there. I love the fact that our town is developing this kind of culture both inside and outside of the church. It fascinates me to consider how we might join in and bring Jesus to the feast.

Shiona Liddle – Pioneer Minister

November 2018 Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Location
2	10:30-12:00	Coffee Plus...	Church
4	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Rm
	11:00	Service - Luke 15:25-32 - The elder Brother	Church
6	10:30	Leaders Team Communications Meeting	Eden Rm
7	19:30	Home Group	Idle's
8	12:30	Cairn Huddle	Edinburgh
	19:30	DCT	Methodist Ch
9	10:30-12:00	Coffee Plus...	Church
10	10:00-12:00	Guild Coffee Morning	Church Halls
11	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Rm
	11:15	COFFEE before the service	Narthex
	11:45	REMEMBRANCE Service - Luke 24:1-12 - The Resurrection	Church
	15:00	Centenary Event	Church
13	14:30	Mentor Meeting	Manse
14	19:30	Prayer Meeting	Eden Rm
16	10:30-12:00	Coffee Plus...	Church
18	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Rm
	11:00	Service - Luke 24:13-35 - The Journey to Emmaus	Church
	18:30	Membership Class 2 (exploring church membership)	Eden Rm
19	18:30	Pioneer Dinner	Greene's
21	19:30	Home Group	Idles
23	10:30-12:00	Coffee Plus...	Church
25	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Rm
	11:00	Service - Luke 24:36-53 - Jesus Appears and Ascends	Church
	18:30	Membership Class 3 (exploring church membership)	Eden Rm
26	19:30	Congregational Board Meeting	Eden Rm
27	9 to 2	Learning Community	Edinburgh
28	19:30	Prayer Meeting	Eden Rm
29	12 to 2	Ploughman's Lunch	Halls
	19:00	Presbytery	Musselburgh
	19:30	Property Committee	Eden Rm
30	10:30-12:00	Coffee Plus... making Advent wreaths	Church