

Calendar for November 2015

Date	Time	Event	Location
1	09:30	Prayer Breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Guest Preacher : Chosen People	Church
2	15:00	Mentor Meeting	Manse
3	19:00	Alpha Course - How can we have faith?	Eden Room
4	14:00	Basics Team Meeting	Halls
5	09:15	Leadership Training	N. Berwick
6	19:00	YPHG - Fireworks & Burgers	Hodgson's
7		Alpha Weekend Event	
8	10:00	Prayer Breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	War Memorial Service	Rocks
	11:30	Remembrance Service	Church
10	19:30	Alpha Course - How can I resist evil?	Eden Room
11	19:30	Prayer Meeting	Eden Room
12	09:00	Primary Assembly	John Muir
	13:00	Scripture Union	Grammar
13	11:00	Primary Assembly	Lochend
15	09:30	Prayer Breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Guest Preacher : who is my neighbour	Church
16	15:00	Mentor Meeting	Manse
17	19:30	Alpha Course - Why and how should I tell others	Eden Room
18	18:00	Powerpoint	Destiny
19	09:15	Leadership Training	N. Berwick
22	09:30	Prayer Breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Hebrews 6:1-12 Inheritors of eternity	Church
	12:15	Bring and Share lunch	Church
23	15:00	Pilot Church Preliminary Meeting	Church
	19:30	Kirk Session - Pilot Church Visit	Eden Room
24	19:30	Alpha Course - Does God heal today?	Eden Room
25	19:30	Prayer Meeting with guest Keiran Turner	Eden Room
26	10:30	Presbytery Prayer	Haddington
12 to 2		Ploughman's Lunch	Halls
28	19:30	Live Concert - John Gaughan	Church
29	09:30	Prayer Breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service: Advent 1 Matthew 1:18-25 It's God's Plan	Church
30	9-2:30	Bubblegum and fluff	Halls

Dunbar Parish Church

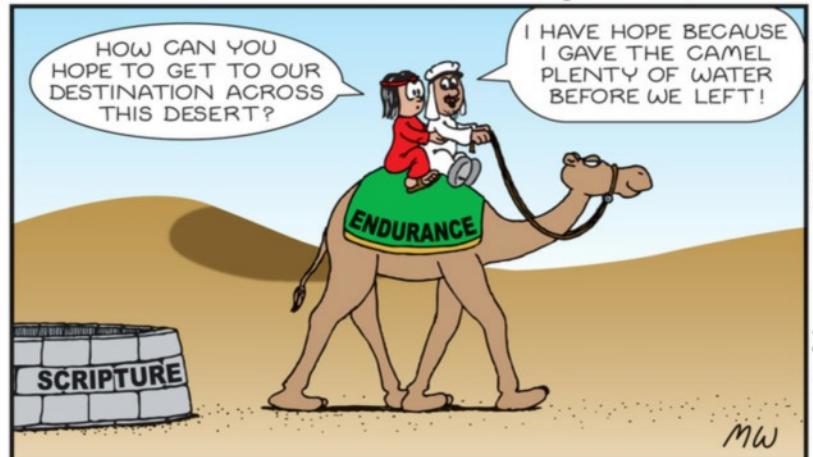
MAGAZINE



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November 2015

CAMEL



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For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

— ROMANS 15:4 NIV

Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst.
Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." John 4:14

		Sunday & Special SERVICES	READERS	PRAYERS
1st	11:00	Service - 1 Peter 2: 4-12 Chosen people	Ian Darling	Rachel Mylne
8th	11:30	REMEMBRANCE Service - Psalm 105:1-15 Worth it	Patrick Gammell	Ian Coltart
15th	11:00	Service - Luke 10:25-37 WHO is my neighbour?	Muriel Cowan	M Bigden
22nd	11:00	Service - Hebrews 6:1-12 Inheritors of eternity	Walter Cowan	Martyn Cox
29th	11:00	Advent Service 1 - Matthew 1:18-25 It's God's Plan	Anne Creedican	Youth

Spiritually DRY -
Water of LIFE required

Ministers Letter October 2015 : REAL FAITH in GOD's WORD

The amazing story of Charles Blondin, a famous French tightrope walker, is a wonderful illustration of what true faith is.

Blondin's greatest fame came on September 14, 1860, when he became the 1st person to cross a tightrope stretched 11,000 feet across the mighty Niagara Falls. People from miles away to see this amazing act.

He walked across, 160 feet above the falls, several times... each time with a different daring feat - in a sack, on stilts, on a bicycle, in the dark, and even blindfolded. One time he even carried a stove and cooked an omelet in the middle of the rope!

A large crowd gathered and the buzz of excitement ran along both sides of the river bank. The crowd "Oohed and Aahed!" as Blondin carefully walked across - one dangerous step after another - pushing a wheelbarrow holding a sack of potatoes.

One day he said he was looking for a volunteer to cross with him. The crowd's applause was louder than the roar of the falls!

Blondin suddenly stopped and addressed his audience: "Do you believe I can carry a person across in this wheelbarrow?"

The crowd enthusiastically yelled, "Yes! You are the greatest tightrope walker in the world. We believe!"

"Okay," said Blondin, "Who wants to get into the wheelbarrow."

As far as the Blondin story goes, no one did at that time!

This unique story illustrates a real life picture of what faith actually is. The crowd watched these daring feats. They said they believed. But... their actions proved they truly did not believe.

Similarly, it is one thing for us to say we believe in God and in His Holy word. However, it's only true faith when we believe God and put our faith and trust in His *word* the Bible and His *Word* Jesus Christ.

Our actions and witness, our desire to worship and serve Him is clearly visible to others. God is asking if we truly believe?

Why not explore further at our special events and services - see Plans : Coming Soon section in this magazine.

Gordon

Plans : Coming Soon

- **Find out about Pilot Church**
22nd Nov. 11:00 am in Church
- **Kirk Session Meeting** 23rd November 7:30 Eden Room.
- **Concert and life story J Gaughan** singer song writer
28th November 7:30 in Church
- **Darwin verses Intelligent Design** Sunday 6th December 6:30 pm in the Church
- **Communion** 13th December 11:00 in Church

Bible Book Club

Meeting next on
**5th November at
7:30 p.m.**

Meetings will be held at various venues.

CONTINUING ON with

Sons of Encouragement by
Francine Rivers

ISBN: 1414348169 also available on Kindle

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.

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.



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 to get us ready for 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.

Learning groups

Relaxed, informal, a great way to get to know the bible a bit better and to build good friendships. You are welcome anytime.

Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Alpha

Martyn Cox
martyncox43@googlemail.com

Wednesday evenings 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

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything, and may provide in abundance for every good work.
2 Corinthians 9:8

The Bible (Scripture), its divine authority and authorship
As in paradise, God walks in the Holy **Scriptures**, seeking
relationship with mankind. Ambrose

In God's work we see His hand; in **His word** we see His face.

On every page the **Bible** never expresses one sentence or
word of doubt about either its divine origin or its absolute
trustworthiness; on the contrary, it constantly asserts both.

Brian H. Edwards

The entire **Bible** carries the certification of the Son of God,
which brings with it infallible authority. Thus the written **word** of
God has the seal of the living Word of God. *John H. Gerstner*

God has favoured us with **His autobiography** so that we
might know and think His thoughts in every department of our
lives. *Robert M. Horn*

The **Bible** speaks to you in the very tones of God's voice.
C. H. Spurgeon

God says what He means, and means what He says. *J Wilmot*

JOB VACANCIES - Are we really praying/hearing?

Pray for the Lord to send out more workers into the harvest (we
still need the following resources):

1. Junior Youth Work Director
2. Little fishes Leaders (2)
3. Media/Sound Team &
Photographer
4. Musicians and Vocalists
5. Church lead Artist
6. Intern - **NEW**
7. Cleaners for the Church (4)
8. Prayer warriors
9. Readers / Prayer leaders
10. Support Leaders
11. Film night team
12. Various groups would
welcome extra helpers.
13. Tea/Coffee rota ·
PRAY that these roles will be
filled to grow Christ's Church

Miss_ion Matters (from Helen, Miss_ionary correspondent)

To help us in our own miss_ion field, God has given each of us different skills, all of equal importance. He his longing to shower more on us, all the time, so that our lives can be 'abundant'. This is so we can serve and bless others with our gifts. All our 'work' should be to the glory of our Lord, who loves and values each of us and asks only that we believe.... Please pray for our overseas workers, who value *our* role in *their* work, whether that is physically, financially or prayerfully. Thank you.

WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD PAINT, DANCE, QUILT, ACT, COMPOSE MUSIC, WRITE STORIES, DECORATE COOKIES, AND PARTICIPATE IN THE ARTS

(from Mark Altrogge, pastor at Saving Grace Church, Indiana)

I've always loved art and music. When I was little my aunt loved how I sang all the time. At school my teachers let me spend extra time in the library drawing. My parents got me my first oil painting lesson when I was 12. When I was 14 the Beatles invaded America and I had to get a guitar and get in a band. In college I majored in art ed and got a Masters in painting.

- But when Jesus saved me in my early 20s, I began to wonder if art was a waste of time. I could be evangelising or praying or doing something spiritual instead of dabbing oil paint on a canvas. And besides that, everything is going to burn up anyway at the end, so what's the use of creating things? Or if I do paint does it have to be a Christian theme? Does it have to have a cross or Gospel scene? Some reasons why Christians should play banjo, decorate cakes, knit sweaters and make movies, do photography and write poems:
 - Because God has commanded us to take dominion over the earth. In other words take the raw materials of the world and make stuff out of them.
 - Because when we create we act as those the Creator made in his own image. God could have made the world in black and white. He could have created one kind of food. Instead he made luna moths, mimosa trees, jungles, deserts, spiders, red-winged blackbirds, ring-necked snakes. God didn't make a strictly utilitarian world. He decorated it with weeping willows and tiger lilies.
 - Because the arts are a way to bless others. A way to serve and bring joy to others. A beautiful wall hanging in someone's living room can bring them joy over and over again and again.
 - Because the arts bring joy to us. When God created the earth at the end of each day he looked on what he had made and saw that it was good. God enjoyed what he created. And he wants us to get joy from what we create.
 - Because beauty reminds us of the Beautiful One. When we see a cool painting or hear a moving symphony it points us to the author of all beauty. When I hear the theme from Jurassic Park I don't simply think of John Williams' talent, I think of God.
 - Because God has commanded us to use our gifts and talents. Not to bury our them in the ground. Whatever our hand finds to do, we're to do it with all our heart as unto the Lord.
 - Because as we use our gifts it reminds us of the Giver of every good and perfect gift.
- Paul reminded the Corinthians that all they had was given to them by a generous God.

If we create something beautiful, it's reason to praise our God gave them to us.

- *Because beautiful art looks forward to the new heaven and new earth to come in which righteousness will dwell. Sin brought death, distortion, disharmony and chaos into this world. Art longs for beauty and harmony that will ultimately be fulfilled in the age to come.*

There are probably many more reasons God wants us to create. Hope these encourage you. And don't feel like you have to decorate your cookies with images of The Last Supper.

There are different kinds of service to God, but it is the same Lord we are serving. There are many ways in which God works in our lives, but it is the same God who does the work in and through all of us who are his. The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church. *1 Corinthians 12 v 5,6 & 7*

Concert at Dunbar Parish Church

28. November at 7:30 pm

Singer/Songwriter John Gaughan



(formerly of beat/rock/pop group Herman's Hermits)

<http://www.johngaughanministries.com>

£5 or £4 concession Please support this event and bring some friends - includes cake/drink

Guild Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday

November 14

10-12 noon

In the Halls

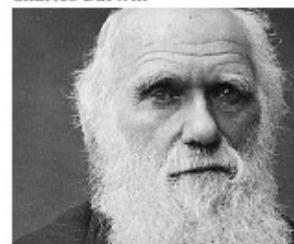


'Darwin or Design'

Sunday 6th December - 18:30 hours

*Guest Speaker - Dr Alastair Noble **

Charles Darwin



Venue:

Dunbar Parish Church

Queen's Rd, EH42 1LB

ALL WELCOME!

No booking required

The human brain has more switches than all computers on Earth



* Alastair Noble, BSc PhD, studied chemistry and did research at the University of Glasgow. He has taught science in secondary schools, advised on curriculum development, was a schools inspector and an assistant Director of Education with an LEA. He also worked for short periods on educational projects with the BBC, the NHS and the CBI. He is currently the Director of the recently-established Centre for Intelligent Design in the UK.

Contact for further details: Rev Gordon Stevenson on 01368 865482

**Got questions
about life?**



THE ALPHA COURSE has started and runs on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9.30 pm until December. There will be a break for half term on 13 October. If you'd like to come or maybe invite a family member or friend to join you, please let us know in advance.

More info at <http://www.dunbarparishchurch.org/alpha-course.html> to register by e-mail.

Alternatively speak to Martyn Cox.

Attending the course may change you.....for ever.....

Alpha is the best known and most effective course to introduce people to Christianity. It is something that folk within and out-with our Church can truly benefit from! Many Atheists, Agnostics and Searchers find answers through attending alpha.

Please start praying for this work and for those you may think it would be good to invite to Alpha.

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Romans 10:14

WARNING Danger from headstones in cemetery's falling on children playing has resulted in deaths and injury's - please make sure our young folk know of this danger and keep away from them.

Church Membership

We are once again running membership classes to help those interested in finding out about the privileges and blessings of committing their lives to Christ and living for His kingdom. We also cover all the basics of membership and give the opportunity of joining Christ's Church after the course to those who believe that it is appropriate for them to do so.

Please think and pray about this for yourselves and for others, and if you know of any interest, please let the minister know ASAP.

DATE	SUNDAY DUTY TEAMS	FLOWERS in CHURCH	CLEANING ROTA (U) = upstairs (D) = downstairs
November 1	November <i>Barbara Leslie Ian Darling Eric Easton Kath Ellis Jason Kay Alan Low Tom Manson</i>	November Convenor: Lena Glass Mrs M Anthony	2 Ian & Morag Hastie (U) Fiona Fleming & Barbara Leslie (D)
8		Royal British Legion Remembrance Sunday	9 Steve & Lorraine Gilchrist (U) Laura Pulner & Laura Girvan (D)
15		Mrs F Fleming	16 Jenny & Ian Manning (U) Moyra Wright & Liz Thomson (D)
22		Mrs A Knox	23 Sandy & Ian Darling (U) Anne Creedican (D)
29		Mrs P Rimmer	30 Jenny & Jason Kay (U) Gordon & Gail Stevenson (D)
December 6	December <i>Rob Barley Moira Anthony Val Collin Will Collin Christine Idle Jonathan Idle Elsie Johnston Moyra Wright</i>	December Convenor: Laura Girvan Mrs E Laing	7 Christine & Jonathan Idle (U) Val & Will Collin (D)
13		Mrs I Ward	14 Margaret & Derek MacDonald (U) Lorna McLeod & Margaret Croft (D)
20		Mrs G Low	21 Margaret & Ian Coltart (U) Ian & Morag Hastie (D)
27		Mrs G Low for the late Mrs J Bain	28 Fiona Fleming & Barbara Leslie (U) Lorraine & Steve Gilchrist (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.

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

Article Series 7 (part 6) - Balance in skewed times

Please read *2 Timothy 3:10-17* Solid foundations and godly witness

Paul's been warning against ungodly people who appear during these "last days v1 but now goes on to call all Christians to a very different model, one grounded in God's Holy word; which equips us; improves our character; strengthens our faith and draws us deeper into the most perfect relationship possible. So Paul begins by distinguishing between the ungodly model by teaching the godly one v10. It calls for enduring faithfulness even through the times of suffering. Though all people in life suffer, Christians, who seek godliness know that they are not facing it alone v11. It might come as a shock, but the godly will be persecuted for their faith in God and in His word v12. However, for everyone else, things will go from bad to worse v13.

What keeps Christians secure and confident is that having heard the full gospel; learned the truth ;become convinced then they put it into practice v14 Being properly taught, seeing godly examples, watching God at work and becoming wise Paul adds in v15. Then he states that the Scriptures have a most crucial role in this process v16, 17.

The ungodly follow self-values, blown about by culturally unbiblical ethics. Paul describes God's model. They only had a form of godliness v5, Paul has true godliness; their falsehood sought money, pleasure, selfish gain; Paul's aim meant he sacrificed all (persecuted v11) in love for others, teaching the truth; they reject God by placing human reason higher than God's wisdom and they will be exposed for their crimes, Paul will be rescued from trials by the LORD v11. False teachers only speak of blessing and God's love, offering false hope to those who do not have strong enough foundations. Their temporary appearance of success will be short lived (chapter 3:9). For judgment WILL come (chapter 4:3, 4) So how can we continue to learn like Timothy? Reading scripture, discussing it, listening to God regularly through godly preachers, and not the worldly propaganda. These are vital or we will be led astray into judgment and wrath.

Paul tells us to stick with the truth which we have to hear, learn and allow it to change us inwardly v14. We can only learn this from those who truly know it, believe it and practice it. How many children miss out because their parents commitment to God is poor? How many people give up opportunities to learn by giving other worldly things a far higher priority? Wisdom, that priceless commodity is only gained through living faith in Jesus, grown through confidence in the scriptures v15. (P.S. Paul is referring to the Old Testament here though the New Testament is included later *2 Peter 3:16*). However we go on to learn that ALL SCRIPTURE is of immense value v16, 17. Scripture has divine authority having been breathed by God Himself. In addition Scripture is sufficient to set us on the right path spiritually. Scripture is far more than "useful". It is God's tool to equips His followers for service and it really works wonderfully well. In order to have a spiritually balanced view we need to know scripture and commit to it fully. We can of course question the parts we do not understand or naturally agree with, but we need to watch out in case we are getting sucked into false idea's which we have inherited from friends or culture. The real danger is that we put ourselves in God's place and decide to pick and mix the things we agree with. It is Scripture that equips, not "clever" human thinking.

Preacher of the full gospel, which is living and active Gordon.

The Real Advent Calendar

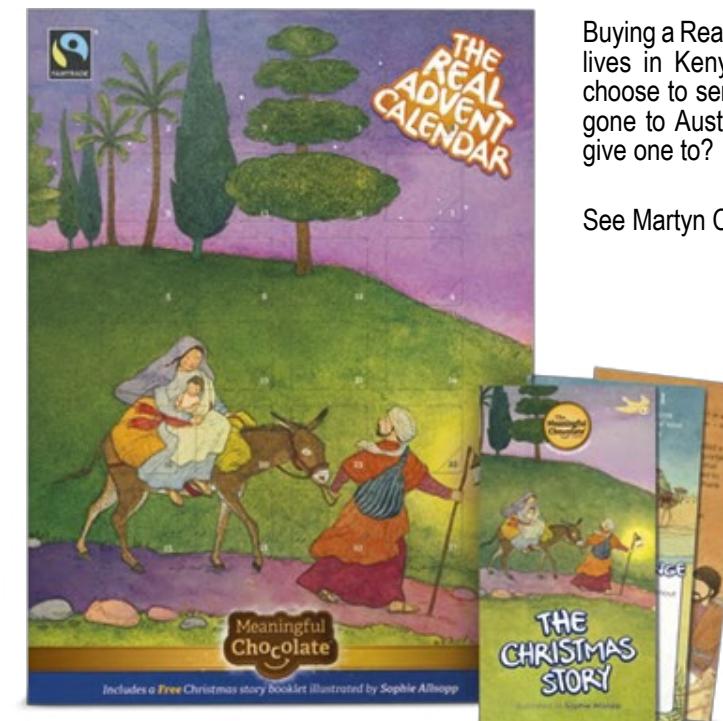
Buy someone you know a 2015 Advent Calendar with *real* meaning.

Not just a calendar with 24 foil windows containing Fairtrade Belgian chocolates, but also with a 32 page Christmas story book. An ideal opportunity to present the Christian message of Christmas to all ages. Cost £3.99

David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, said: 'By buying this advent calendar people can share the Christmas story throughout December. This is really important as we know that detailed knowledge of the Christmas story is very low amongst children and parents.'

- Less than 12% of adults know the full Nativity story
- 51% of adults say Jesus is irrelevant to their Christmas
- 72% of adults were not planning to attend a church carol service in 2012
(survey from Com Res 2102)

The Meaningful Chocolate Company intends to donate £15,000 to support The Funzi and Bodo Trust baby clinic in Kenya. The clinic works with villagers to provide healthcare and to improve educational facilities. Through its activities the charity hopes to break the cycle of poverty which afflicts people's lives here.



Buying a Real Advent Calendar could change lives in Kenya, in Dunbar or wherever you choose to send a calendar. One has already gone to Australia from here. Who could you give one to?

See Martyn Cox as soon as possible.

PRAYER CORNER - by Michael Veitch (Prayer Co-ordinator)

I came across Ezekiel 9:3-6 recently : Now the glory of the God of Israel went up from above the cherubim, where it had been, and moved to the threshold of the temple. Then the LORD called to the man clothed in linen who had the writing kit at his side and said to him, "Go throughout the city of Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of those who grieve and lament over all the detestable things that are done it." As I listened, he said to the others, "Follow him through the city and kill, without showing pity or compassion...but do not touch anyone who has the mark. Begin at my sanctuary." So they began with the elders who were in front of the temple. While it would take many hours of study to fully ascertain what God is saying through a complex and seemingly prophetic passage such as this, a few thought immediately came to my mind:

1. Those who are protected grieved over the sins of their city. Can we count ourselves among those who mourn over the sins of our world, our community, our church – and most of all our own sins?
2. God's judgement is absolute, final and universal, yet those who are identified are kept totally safe. Do who really believe in the universality and absolute certainty of God's perfectly righteous and impending judgement, and are we comforted by the assurance that we too, if we are truly followers of Jesus Christ, cannot be harmed by the final judgement?

These thoughts in turn suggest a couple of responses, which brings us to prayer – my main theme:

1. We must cry to God in repentance for our own sins and ensure that we are among those who have received the absolute spiritual protection which can be ours through the blood of Christ.
2. That we cry out to God for his mercy upon our town, our church, our denomination, our families, our nation and God's world, that many may repent and turn to Christ while there is still time.

Let's remember that the various prayer gatherings held in our church are not merely opportunities for fellowship, friendship and food (though these things are a great). Our prayer gatherings are also essential opportunities to collectively cry out to God to work in our lives, our church, our community and beyond, as we consider the seriousness and urgency of the situation at hand. This vital work of furthering the advance of God's kingdom, needs prayer to be sent up to God. The people of Dunbar **need** to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, and his message of reconciliation to God. Our best efforts without prayer will be useless. Please remember, our community and for the various ministries within the church through which we trust that God may be pleased to reveal himself.

November **prayer meetings** are on 11th and 25th. On the 11th we take the prayer meeting 'on tour' and will gather at the home of Mike & Rachel Mylne (10 The Courtyard, Easter Broomhouse Steading) and will be led that evening by Mike Bigden. On the 25th we are in the Eden Room to hear from Kieran Turner from Evangelical Alliance, an organisation who actively engage within the social and political spheres. We begin at 7:30pm and take around one hour. Please join us if you can.

Remember that the **Prayer Breakfast** continues to meet every Sunday at 09:30 for 10am in the kitchen/Eden Room. This is always a joyous time of sharing together, so please come and join us. Also remember that a very short session of prayer also takes place at the front of the church at 10:45am every week, which is especially tailored for everyone involved in leading part of the service.

Yours in Christ, Michael

My 1st Book of questions and answers!

Section 4 - What happened because of sin?

37. What happened to Adam and Even when they sinned?
Answer: They were separated from God.

After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life. Genesis 3:24

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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

Accord leader rota

Accord catering rota

Film night catering rota

Prayer Breakfast leader rota

Prayer Breakfast catering rota

See other roles that your Church
needs filling on the
Job Vacancies Section

Guild Meetings:

**3rd November 2:30 in the halls.
Jim Herring Dunbar in the 1950s - A Social History**

**17th November 2:30 in the halls.
Kirsten Fell A Trip to the WWI Battlefields. Finance Meeting.**

18Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20**and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." **Matthew 28:18-20**

PRAY constantly 1 Thessalonians 5:17
How many of us do that? How many of us spend more time watching tv or doing other things? Ever wondered why our nation is running from God?

CHURCH PRAYER MEETING

On Wednesday 11th November
At Mike & Rachel Mylne's
& 25th November at 7:30 p.m.
in the Eden Room

Prayer Breakfast Rota

01 November - Michael & Laura Veitch
08 November - Emma Weaver
15 November - Ian Coltart
22 November - Catherine Hodgson
29 November - Rachel Mylne
06 December - Ian Manning

Magazine Input:

Please send your items in by **Tuesday 20th October** (for November Magazine) or if you would like a regular

E_Magazine

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

Weekly Notices :

Contact Denise as above

Hall Bookings

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

Telephone: 07874 816326

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 Eric Easton on:

01368 869659 or email:
charles.p.easton@googlemail.com

BASICS BANK BUDDY SCHEME

If you are not already part of the Buddy Scheme please drop an email to

basicbankbuddy@gmail.com
and you will be kept up to date with a weekly email and shopping list.

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.

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

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 carry an identity badge, signed by the minister and they are genuinely interested in your well-being.

PLEASE PRAY...

For your office bearers and all who lead and teach in Your Church here. Pray for more resources to share the load and for all those we can aid in Christ's work.

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

TEEN PAGE ... Character Building

Proverbs 28:6 – “*Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity than a rich man who is crooked in his ways.*”

A friend of mine recently did an endurance event, where he basically ran 3 marathons, over two days, across mountains, carrying his own food, water, spare clothing and a tent on his back. The weather was horrendous and he strayed from his intended path on at least two occasions, adding miles to his journey. When he recounted the tale, he summed it up by saying it was “character building”. The more hardship he endured, the greater the sense of achievement he experienced.

Character is what defines us. It's what people see in us. Character is one of the most important things we have. How are you investing in yours? Do people see your faith in what you do? Is your character self-obsessed or does it reflect how you serve God?

Is it right to assume that to build character, we have to go through some painful experience or hardship?

I recently heard the Christian life being compared to a walled garden. The garden was set in an area of rough moorland. When it was chosen and walled in, the soil was no better than the ground around it (it wasn't chosen by the gardener because it was already good). In its current condition, it had no hope of growing anything good. Every day the gardener would turn over the soil, pull the weeds and pick out the rocks. In times of draught, the garden would be watered, in times of flooding, drainage would be provided. Fertilizer was dug in and thorns and bushes cut back. After many days, weeks, months, years of hard work, the soil is now rich, deep and fertile, producing all kind of fruits.

As the weeds are pulled from our lives, thorns cut back, fertilizer and water added, so our character builds and we become more Christ-like.

In Romans 5:3-5 we read – “More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

It's hard to over-estimate the value of character. God values it highly. He is interested in who you are, your character and Godliness. So, take a look today in the mirror through the Bible, take a check on your character and allow God to make necessary adjustments within.

Blessings Derek