

## Calendar for November 2016

Date	Time	Event	Location
2	19:30	Praise Practice	Church
	19:30	Home Groups	Idles/Mannings
3	19:30	Presbytery P R & M meeting	Ormiston
	19:30	Home Group - Bible book Club - The SHACK	Weavers
4	10:30	Pilot Church chat	Tory Wynd
6	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Luke 1:1-4 Gospel Introduction	Church
7 - 11	08:40	School Assemblies	Grammar
9	19:30	Prayer Meeting	Eden Room
10	10:30	Presbytery Prayer Meeting	Haddington
	12:15	Mentor Support	
13	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	10:50	<b>Remembrance</b>	Memorial
	11:15	Service - Tea/Coffee before service	Church
	11:45	<b>Service - Ephesians 6:10-20 Armour against the enemy</b>	Church
	18:30	Arise Service Habakkuk 3:5-15 Victory	Church
14	19:30	DCT	Methodist
16	19:45	Presbytery review follow up	Pencaitland
	19:30	Home Group	Idle's
17	19:30	Midweek Service of Light	Church
18	18:00	Youth to POWERPOINT	Edinburgh
	19:00	RWANDA TEAM CURRY NIGHT	Church Hall
		BB	Church
20	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Luke 1:5-17 Chosen Messenger : Preparation	Church
	13:30	Motivational Gifts Conference	Church
21	19:30	Staffing Steering Group	Eden Room
23	19:30	Prayer Meeting	Eden Room
24	09:30	School Assembly	John Muir
	12 to 2	Ploughman's Lunch	Halls
	19:00	Presbytery	Musselburgh
25	11:00	School Assembly	Lochend
27	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service Advent 1 : Luke 1:26-38 ANNOUNCEMENT	Church
	18:30	FILM NIGHT - WAR ROOM	Church
28	19:30	Kirk Session	Eden Room
30		Training Day	Edinburgh

## Dunbar Parish Church

Minister

Rev Gordon Stevenson

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# MAGAZINE

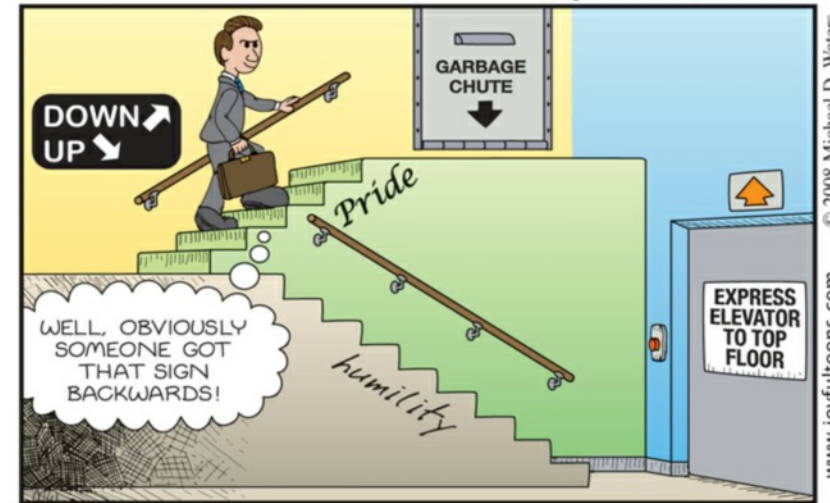


Dunbar Parish Church is a charity registered in Scotland  
No: SC000455

November 2016

### THE WAY UP IS DOWN

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.  
- MATTHEW 23:12 NIV

IF MY PEOPLE, WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME, WILL HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN, AND I WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND WILL HEAL THEIR LAND. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Are YOU managing God or managing to do without Him? What would life be like if God was truly managing YOU?

Sunday & Special SERVICES		READERS	PRAYERS
6 <sup>th</sup> 11:00	Luke 1:1-4 Gospel Introduction	Mike Bigden	Michael Veitch
13 <sup>th</sup> 11:00 18:30	Ephesians 6:10-20 Armour against the enemy Arise - Hab. 3:5-15 Victory	Jim Thompson	Ian Coltart
20 <sup>th</sup> 11:00	Luke 1:5-17 Chosen Messenger : Preparation	Ian Darling	Catherine Hodgson
27 <sup>th</sup> 11:00 18:30	Advent 1 : Luke 1:26-38 ANNOUNCEMENT Film - WAR ROOM	Sandy Darling	Youth

## Ministers Letter November 2016 : Humbly needing God

The festive (Advent) Season is nearly upon us and it has been a particularly mild year so far - still no frost, snow or hail. Recently I have been thinking about *mild* in another sense - mild mannered, meek or **humble**. Moses was known for his meekness and no one has shown greater **humility** than our Saviour Jesus Christ. Yet, He is the King of Kings and the one true LORD of us all. He is the one we MUST worship and acknowledge.

Words and music from the Hymn, "At the name of Jesus" are singing in my ears. They cry out, "At the Name of Jesus, every knee shall bow" ; "Humbled for a season, to receive a name... Faithfully He bore it, spotless to the last"; "He is God the Saviour, He is Christ the Lord, Ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored." These are just some of the lines.

Of course **pride** is the antonym of **humility**. Only the **proud** and **haughty** can be **proud** of their **humility**, especially when they enjoy being **humbly** open about all their achievements, kindness and good deeds, etc. etc.

It is not just the super achievers who can suffer from the affliction known as **pride**. It is not just powerful leaders that like to rule their own lives and the lives of others. The feeling that they are making a positive difference drives them on. But it is always sheer folly if God is not given His rightful place - in all areas of our lives.

Mankind's greatest achievements pale into insignificance when compared to the mighty, creative, redeeming, gracious acts of God... Until you have read the entire Bible you remain uninformed concerning these things.

This in no way belittles or to elevates the works done in Jesus name in our Church here in Dunbar. Yet our motivation, our **humility**, putting Him first, and giving Him LORDSHIP over our lives are all surely key?

Psalm 25:8-9 says, "*Good and upright is the Lord; He instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the **humble** in what is right and teaches them his way*".

John says, "*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world -- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the **pride** of life -- is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but **he who does the will of God abides forever***." 1 John 2:15-17

God is not to be picked up and put to the side when we decide. He either draws us deeper, or we are falling further from Him. There is no standing still when it comes to the things of eternity.

So I return to the Hymn. "In your hearts enthrone Him; there let Him subdue All that is not holy, all that is not true; Crown Him as your Captain. Let His will enfold you in its light and power."

What will this Advent bring for YOU? What areas of YOUR life will God improve, as YOU increasingly **humbly** acknowledge Him? *Yours Gordon*

## HUMILITY

**Humility** is the root, mother, nurse, foundation and bond of all virtue.

*Chrysostom*

Its not until we have learned to be **humble** and teachable, standing in awe of God's holiness and sovereignty...

**acknowledging** our own littleness, distrusting our own thoughts, and willing to have our minds turned upside down, can divine wisdom be ours *J.I. Packer*

I sometimes think that the very essence of the whole Christian position and the secret of a successful spiritual life is just to realize two things.. I must have complete confidence in God and **no confidence** in myself. For the best way to become **poor in spirit** is to look to God, for **humility** is the hallmark of being His child. *D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones*

If pride and madness go together, so to do **humility** and sanity. *John R.W. Stott*

The true way to be **humble** is not to stoop until you are smaller than yourself, but to stand at your real height against some higher nature that will show you what the real smallness of your greatness is. *Phillips Brooks*

**Humility** is the repentance of pride  
*Nehemiah Rogers*

As pride was the beginning of sin, so **humility** must be the beginning of Christian discipline. *Augustine*

**Humility** is the sweet spice that grows from poverty of spirit. *Thomas Watson*

## 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](mailto: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**

**11 December 2016**

Thank you for your co-operation.

**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.

**The Rwanda team are proud to announce our 5<sup>th</sup> and ever popular**



## Quiz and Curry Night

In aid of Kibungo Nursery, Rwanda

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November in Dunbar Parish Church Halls 7:00 for 7.30 pm start.

Cost : £10 per person

OR £50 for table of 6

Tickets include a two course meal

Bar available

Book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets from Rwanda team members

**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.**

## Bible Book Club

Meeting next on

**3<sup>rd</sup> November**

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

November a week's study with *The Shack*

December we will be looking at *The War Room* with a 5 lesson study

Any questions please call *Emma Weaver*, 01368 459082

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

*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*

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

DATE	SUNDAY DUTY TEAMS	FLOWERS in CHURCH	CLEANING ROTA (U) = upstairs (D) = downstairs
November 6	<b>NOVEMBER</b> <b>Alan Low</b> Ian Darling Eric Easton Kath Ellis Jason Kay Barbara Leslie Tom Manson	<b>November Convenor:</b> <b>Lena Glass</b> Mrs F Fleming	7 Gail & Gordon Stevenson (U) Jenny & Jason Kay (D)
13		Royal British Legion	14 Val & Will Collin (U) Jonathan & Christine Idle (D)
20		Mrs A Knox	21 Lorna McLeod & Margaret Croft (U) Margaret & Derek MacDonald (D)
27		Mrs P Rimmer	28 (U) Vacant Margaret & Ian Coltart (D)
December 4	<b>DECEMBER</b> <b>Will Collin</b> Moira Anthony Lindsey Barley Rob Barley Val Collin Christine Idle Jonathan Idle Moyra Wright	<b>December Convenor:</b> <b>Laura Girvan</b> Mrs E Laing	5 Gill Phillip & Alistair Matthews (U) Fiona Fleming & Barbara Leslie (D)
11		Mrs I Ward	12 Ian & Jenny Manning (U) Laura Pulner & Laura Girvan (D)
18		Mrs G Low	19 Sandy & Ian Darling (U) Moyra Wright & Anne Creedican (D)
25		Mrs G Low for the late Mrs J Bain	26 Jenny & Jason Kay (U) Gordon & Gail Stevenson (D)

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.

Would you be able to deliver flowers after the Sunday Service to folks who have been ill, out of hospital or bereaved? We desperately need volunteers. If you can help, please speak to Moyra Wright or Denise Brunton. THANK YOU!



## Article Series 8 (pt 7) "God must be acknowledged"

Please read *Daniel 4:1-27*: It's not enough to believe God exists! Nebuchadnezzar had become so powerful that his renown and words reach "*nations and people of every language*" v1. He believes that he has something so great to tell them, and it is both a pleasure and a blessing to share it for their prosperity v2, 3

So after feeling content with all his wealth, power and renown while in the palace, and presumably while he takes a nap, he has another dream v4, 5. It is a nightmare in truth and he summons all his experts to help him to understand it. But notice that once again he looks to those who cannot and could not previously help v6, 7. He is still playing at being God - as if money and his power can give him everything - but actually it cannot.

So Daniel, God's man, steps in again v8. He calls Daniel by the new Babylonian name which gives honour to his own worldly god, though he acknowledges that "*the spirit of the holy gods (presumably Father, Son and Spirit) is in*" Daniel v8, 9. Then v10-17 is the content of the dream. v18 is the admission that Daniel gets his wisdom from "*the spirit of the holy gods*".

My old senior boss used to love to give me good news, but the bad stuff came from his understudy. Here Daniel is faced with sending bad news upwards to the top man v19. Daniel wishes it would be true for the king's enemies instead. The content is shared v20-23. Then the interpretation follows v24-26. The king will be "driven away from people and live with the beasts of the field for seven times" (years). Worse still he will eat grass and get wet like cattle all during this period. This nightmare, which people might label as insanity, will only end when he "Acknowledges that God the Most High is sovereign" over everything. Only after this can Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom be restored to him v26.

Daniel's deep concern for his king's wellbeing prompts him boldly to urge his king to repent and "renounce his sins, to act justly to those who are oppressed and to appeal to the Most High" in order that his prosperity may continue v27.

Knowing the future, is something many people crave, but I suspect only if it promises them positive rewards and "prosperity" of some kind or another. Nebuchadnezzar, however, faces 7 years of madness, living like a stubborn donkey, chewing grass and facing the heat, cold, wind, wet and dry of outdoor living.

This will be a most **humbling** time for someone who planned and oversaw such an impressive and powerful kingdom, one part of which was one of the seven wonders of the world. (The great hanging garden of Babylon - which no doubt was very fruitful, just like the tree described in Nebuchadnezzar's dream). Apparently, his great city had 100 gates, a 295 foot high temple-tower and a number of colossal gold statues which weighed many tons each.

The reality is that so many people we know are just as stubborn, and convinced that they can managed all their own affairs without needing to acknowledge God's sovereignty. Their image of God is sadly lacking and they will continue on a negative path until they go through their own **humbling** experience with God. Hopefully though, they too will learn the blessings and gain prosperity of acknowledging God in the years that they have left, and for eternity.

*Humbly hoping to help people avoid any wasted years.* Gordon.

## My 1st Book of questions and answers!

### Section 5 - Salvation

45. How did He come to this world?

Answer: He was born in a stable

Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he was of David's line. <sup>5</sup>He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup>and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. *Luke 2:4-7*

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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

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

Psalms 113: 3

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

### Film Event

**War Room** - the Film will be shown on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>

November at 6:30 - 8:00 pm (It is rated PG). This film has been described as TRULY

INSPIRATIONAL - Bring a friend (There will be snack's on sale or feel free to bring your own)

adults £2 under 16's £1.

Proceeds to a Operation Mobilisation (Christian Charity).

## Hall Bookings

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

## Prayer Breakfast Rota

6 Nov - Ian Manning  
13 Nov - Alison Mitchell  
20 Nov - Emma Weaver  
27 Nov - Ian & Margaret Coltart

## HOME GROUPS

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

## BASICS BANK BUDDY SCHEME

If you are not already part of the  
Buddy Scheme please drop an email  
to [basicsbankbuddy@gmail.com](mailto:basicsbankbuddy@gmail.com)  
and you will be kept up to date with  
a weekly email and shopping list.

## CHURCH PRAYER MEETINGS

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday's at  
7:30 pm In the Eden Room

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

Martin Luther King JR

## 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.

## Magazine Input:

Please send your items in by  
**Friday 18 November** for  
December Magazine - out on 27<sup>th</sup>  
November, or if you would like a  
regular E\_Magazine  
Tel: 862903 Denise or email:  
[dmburton@gmail.com](mailto:dmburton@gmail.com)

Weekly Notices: Contact Denise

**TEEN PAGE... MASKS...** Last month we looked at the  
phenomenon of "the selfie", where it was all about revelling in our own  
appearance. This month I want to think about the complete opposite,  
hiding our true identities.



No doubt you'll have seen the latest craze that is  
sweeping the country. The Halloween clown.  
What began in the America has now reached East  
Lothian, with reported sightings of horror clowns  
coming in thick and fast. The idea is to dress up as  
a scary clown and jump out on unsuspecting  
passers-by. Schools have had to deal with  
potential hysteria and the police have had to issue  
statements of reassurance. So, have you ever  
worn a mask before? It can be fun to put on a  
mask and act like someone else. Why do people  
wear masks? To look like someone or something  
else. A mask hides what you really look like. Of  
course, taking it to extremes, masks can be worn

in the commission of a crime to conceal the culprit's identity.

Wrestling fans amongst you will recognise the term luchador! The wearing  
of masks in Mexican wrestling is hugely significant. The real identity of the  
wrestler is hidden allowing him to remain anonymous outside the ring (Ray  
Mysterio is a current example). The mask provides a mystique with the  
wrestler taking on a different persona. If a wrestler's mask was forcibly  
removed by an opponent, the loss of identity could mean the career ending.  
We all wear masks from time to time, if not all of the time! I don't mean a  
real mask over your face though. We constantly wear masks to conceal our  
true selves. Sometimes we act in a certain way so that people will think  
that we are better than we really are. We might come to church and say  
the right things, sing loudly, and act like a follower of Jesus, but it is really  
just a mask that we are wearing? Are we trying to fit in for a couple of hours  
on a Sunday morning?

Alternatively, we can conceal our faith, to fit in with the crowd and avoid  
awkward situations and potential conflict. It can be daunting to challenge  
some remark made or behaviour that's not right, far easier to acquiesce and  
hide behind a mask than speak up and reveal the real you.

In Matthew 23:25-26 we read about Jesus verdict on the religious leaders of the day.

"What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too.

Do you ever try to make yourself look better than you really are? Do you try to impress people? We all do this at times. God wants us to be humble. Instead of saying that we love God and other people, he wants us to actually love them! We show that we love Him by our actions, by how we live. While we can fool others sometimes, God is not fooled by the different masks we can try to hide behind.

In 1 Samuel 16:7, we read:

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Take a few moments to think about the different masks you might hide behind and make a conscious decision to try to get rid of them so that our actions can be pleasing and honourable to God.

*Blessings Derek*

## Guild Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November

In the halls

10 till 12 noon



## Dunbar Old Cemetery

The number of headstones in Dunbar cemetery which have toppled in recent years has caused serious concern. The problem has been made worse by East Lothian's budget restrictions reducing the hours available to maintain the cemetery to former standards.

One of the casualties has been the frequency of trimming the grass. Rather than allowing the grass to grow around the bases of the stones, the decision was taken to control this by using weedkiller. As well as surface vegetation disappearing, roots binding the soil have also gone. Unfortunately this has led to soil erosion which has exposed the foundations of many stones to the elements. A combination of wind, water and frost has resulted in stones leaning and some eventually toppling and sometimes separating into sections.

Representatives of Dunbar Community Council, Dunbar Parish Church (Will Collin) and Dunbar History Society met with ELC's Principal Amenity Officer Stuart Pryde at the end of May, the meeting convened by ELC councillor Michael Veitch. It was agreed that a trial change of procedure would be applied to the two areas to the left and right of the roadway through the main gate and up to the church building. Spraying of those areas would stop with immediate effect.

At the end of this year's growing season, the missing top soil around the bases of the headstones in those areas would be replaced with a layer of poorer quality earth so that returning vegetation would not be too vigorous. This would be topped with better quality soil. In the section to the left (east), vegetation would be allowed to return naturally; to the right (west), wild flowers will be sown around the stones. This work will get underway in the next few weeks.

Hopefully this will go some way to reducing the issues of the stability of the headstones until such time as ELC can find a permanent solution to that problem. If the trial is successful it will likely be extended to other areas of the cemetery. It should be remembered that any resulting 'untidiness' around the stones during the trial period is not due to the Council failing to deliver its grass cutting to the established standard.

Please contact Will Collin with comments, questions etc. (2 Rosebery Place, Dunbar EH42 1AQ, tel: 863162)

Will Collin