

Calendar for March 2016

Date	Time	Event	Location
2	19:30	Presbytery Review Team	Pencaitland
3	13:00	SU	Grammar
4	19:00	Service - World Day of Prayer	Church
6	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Hebrews 10:19-25 Three important things	Church
	2 to 4:30	Care home services	3 homes
	18:30	Service - Arise: Habakkuk 2:14 The purposes of God	Church
8	10:30	Presbytery Prayer	Haddington
	12:00	Mentor Meeting	Haddington
10	15:00	Presbytery Forward Planning Group	Tranent
13	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Hebrews 10:26-39 Judgment and Endurance	Church
	12:20	Congregational Board Meets to approve Accounts	Eden Room
	12:15	Trade craft Big Brew after the service	Church
15	All day	Mission Leadership training	Edinburgh
16	All day	Mission Leadership training	Edinburgh
17	15:30	Gideon meeting	Manse
19	19:30	Earth Hour Eco fellowship	Church
20	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Service - Luke 19:28b-40 Making an Entrance	Church
	12:15	Annual Stated Meeting	Church
	14:00	Palm Sunday Parade and services	Church
22	18:30	Open Door Gathering : Matthew 7:24-27 Life Building	Church
23	All day	Easter Decoded	Church
	09:00	Primary Easter Service part 1	Church
24	09:00	Primary Easter Service part 2	Church
	19:30	Maundy Thursday service	Church
25	19:30	Good Friday Service	Church
27	09:30	Prayer breakfast	Eden Room
	11:00	Easter Day Service - Matthew 28:1-20 Surprise Comebacks	Church
28	17:00	Prayer Shield Event	Eden Room
31	12 to 2	Ploughman's Lunch	Halls

Dunbar Parish Church

Minister

Rev Gordon Stevenson

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www.dunbarparishchurch.org

MAGAZINE



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MADE TO FLY

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

- EPHESIANS 2:10 NIV

God's family - you are welcome, come and play a part in things!

Sunday & Special SERVICES		READERS	PRAYERS
6 th	11:00 Hebrews 10:19-25 Three important things 18:30 Arise - Habakkuk 2:14 The purposes of God	Kirsty Harper	Ian Coltart
13 th	11:00 Hebrews 10:26-39 Judgment and Endurance	Mike Bigden	Catherine H.
20 th	11:00 Luke 19:28b-40 Making an Entrance 18:30 Open Door Matthew 7:24-27 Life Building	Jim Thompson	Martyn Cox
24 th	19:30 Maundy Thursday		
25 th	19:30 Good Friday Communion		
27 th	11:00 Matthew 28:1-20 Surprise Comebacks	Anne Creedican	Youth

Ministers Letter March 2016 : A wind of change

One of Dunbar's most frequent visitors is the wind. Although many enjoy the sun, I suspect fewer enjoy the wind. At its fiercest, it threatens our stability and a number of us won't venture out in case we have a fall. But when the wind is harnessed it can **generate new energy**. I am not overtly supporting those large windmills we see around us, but they do supply "**renewable**" electricity.

Our church has enlisted to be a Pilot Church Lite congregation. It will encourage us to think differently in many ways. It will inevitably bring **change**. Some of us will be a bit cautious or even afraid to venture where it leads, but the purpose is to **generate new energy** for Christ's kingdom - the **renewable** kind.

Change happens all the time. My old boss used to say, "**change** is here to stay". People generally have a reluctance to **change**, but although we might resist it, things have to **change** or things deteriorate. That is one of the reasons we decorate our homes or buy a new kitchen etc.

Our denomination has spoken of **renewal** often, however, we are currently living in a rapidly changing culture. We are at a crossroads—either we pine for the good old days, and struggle to survive, or we can re-imagine Church where our identity is deeply grounded in Jesus and mission is the purpose for which we live and breathe.

History highlights the fact that every 500 years the church faces a paradigm shift. 500 years ago, it was the *Reformation*. 500 years before that, the *Great Schism* took place that divided the Roman Catholic Church from the Orthodox Church, the split between Rome and Constantinople (1054). 500 years before that was the time of *Gregory the Great*, and the fall of the Roman Empire, and the beginning of the Dark Ages, where Christianity threw out much of its imperial trappings and re-focused upon a monasticism that would protect, preserve, and reshape Christianity during the next 500 years.

The question we face is whether we will play a part in grounding the Church for the next 500 years or not?

With this in mind we will be looking for a Pilot team to form locally. We don't know yet where it will lead, but we will aim to discern what God wants us to do. Interested - let's talk? *Gordon*

Earth Hour

CANDLELIT SING-ALONG
WITH DRAMA AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL INTERLUDES
SATURDAY 19TH MARCH AT 7:30 PM



We are holding a sing-along for Earth Hour to encourage folk to do their bit for the planet communally. Switch off your lights at home and come to sing hymns by candlelight.



World Day of Prayer

Friday 4th March at 7:00 pm
in Dunbar Parish Church

Help!!!

Will Collin is looking for photo's of

- The interior of our church before the 1987 fire
- Guild events and folk (next year is our Guild's centenary)
- Minister - Rev William Chalmers (1966-1992) and earlier
- And any others that record bits of our Church's history

Please get in touch if you have any that you are willing to let Will copy. He can collect them and will return the originals to you promptly.

We are looking to set up an archive which can be used for exhibitions, etc.

Contact Will on 863162 or at 2 Rosebery Place, EH42 1AQ or by email:
willnval@btinternet.com

Thanks!

Bible Book Club

Meeting next on

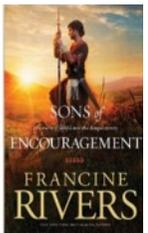
3rd March

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

Amos in

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.

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.

Please support
our **Big Brew Bake Sale**
in aid of Traidcraft

on **Sunday March 13th**
after the morning service

Plan to stay for coffee/tea and bring some extra cash.
(You might also meet someone you don't yet know!)

Traidcraft Big Brew is a nationwide initiative helping individuals, churches, schools and workplaces to host a fairtrade event during Fairtrade Fortnight.

Hunger destroys lives. In countries like Bangladesh families spend as much as 70% of their income on food, leaving only 30% to spend on healthcare, education, shelter and the other necessities for life. A Traidcraft Big Brew event raises funds to help farmers thrive.

Please speak to Helen if you can offer
help and/or home baking



Pastoral Notes

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

Jeanette Johnstone

Robert Gullan

Miss_ion Matters (from Helen, Miss_ionary correspondent)

Open Doors produce the 'World Watch List', which highlights the top 50 countries where it is most difficult to live as a Christian. The list is compiled using data from independent experts and from Open Doors workers on the ground. It tracks the degree of freedom Christians have to follow their faith and is a unique, in-depth record of the places where faith costs the most. Ask me if you would like a copy.

Globally persecution of Christians is increasing however there is faith to be found in every place.

I intend to include material from the World Watch List Top 10 over the next few months to inform your prayers. These brothers and sisters need our help; your prayers make a difference.

10 LIBYA

Leader: Disputed
Population: 6.3 million (20,000 Christians)
Main Religion: Islam
Government: Provisional
Source of Persecution: Islamic extremism
Area: 1,775,500 sq km (mostly Saharan desert)



Libya has descended into lawlessness since the fall of Gaddafi in 2011, giving groups such as the Islamic State (IS) free reign to attack Christians. Libya is a deeply Islamic culture, so Libyan Christians must keep their faith completely secret. Churches for Libyans and Christian literature in Arabic are forbidden. Large numbers of migrants pass into Libya, mostly from sub-Saharan Africa, looking for economic opportunities. Some find work in Libya, most are trying to get to Europe. Many become disillusioned after braving the deserts and seas to find a new life. Libya's resources are severely stretched. While migrant Christians are allowed to practise their faith in Libya, many have paid the ultimate price; dozens of Christians from Eritrea, Ethiopia and Egypt were kidnapped or killed by extremists in Libya in 2015.

PLEASE PRAY:

- for protection for Christians in Libya.
- that migrant Christians might have a powerful spiritual impact on resident Libyans as well as fellow migrants.
- for Christians to find ways to meet together - non-Islamic religious gatherings are illegal for Libyans
- for peace talks between different ruling factions to be fruitful, and for a stable and safe Libya to be formed.

Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvellous deeds among all peoples. Psalm 96:3

PERSECUTION: THE KEY FACTS (From Open Doors - OD)

The persecution of Christians has increased across every region where OD works.

The number of persecution points needed to enter the World Watch List 2016 List has increased by 50% since 2013. This year the level of persecution increased even in countries that dropped out of the top 50. Religious extremism – Islamic, Hindu and Buddhist – is the greatest source of persecution of Christians.

North Korea is still the most difficult place in the world to be a Christian.

As well as in the Middle East, Islamic extremism has a second and powerfully destructive hub in sub-Saharan Africa. Islamic State (IS) violence is radicalising Muslims and therefore increasing pressure on Christians in many countries.

The state is still a major source of persecution; but increasingly extremism is a cross-border phenomenon. Conflict and failed nation states result in increased levels of persecution. Never before have so many Christians been on the move. According to the UN, a record 60 million people have been displaced. A great number of these are Christians, especially in places like Syria, Iraq and Nigeria, where anti-Christian violence has driven hundreds of thousands of Christians from their homes.

Gender violence is a weapon of persecution: women and girls are on the frontline.

Open Doors records show that worldwide there were well over 7,000 Christians killed for faith-related reasons in the reporting period. That is a rise of almost 3,000 in comparison to conservative figures from the WWL 2015 period. This is excluding North Korea, Syria and Iraq, where accurate records do not exist. Around 2,400 churches were attacked or damaged, which is over double the number for the previous year.

The World Watch List uses data from Open Doors field workers and independent experts to track the deep structures of persecution. It measures the degree of freedom a Christian has to live out their faith in five spheres of life – private, family, community, national and church life – plus a sixth sphere measuring the degree of violence. The data is translated into points and countries ranked accordingly. The list is independently audited by the International Institute of Religious Freedom.

For further information visit www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution

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
March 6	March Moyra Wright Moira Anthony Lindsey Barley Rob Barley Val Collin Will Collin Christine Idle Jonathan Idle Elise Johnston	March Convenor: Anne Creedican Mrs Fiona Martin	7 Jenny & Jason Kay (U) Gordon & Gail Stevenson (D)
		Mrs Maureen Affleck	14 Jonathan & Christine Idle (U) Val & Will Collin (D)
		Mrs May Low	21 Margaret & Derek MacDonald (U) Lorna McLeod & Margaret Croft (D)
		Mrs Sarah McKenzie	28 Margaret & Ian Coltart (U) (D) vacant
April 3	April Margaret Croft Denise Brunton Ian Hastie May Low Lena Glass Lorna McLeod Derek MacDonald Margaret MacDonald Ian Manning	April Convenor: Kath Ellis Mrs Kath Ellis	4 Fiona Fleming & Barbara Leslie (U) Gill Phillip & Alistair Matthews (D)
		Mrs Mary Ramage	11 Laura Pulner & Laura Girvan (U) Ian & Jenny Manning (D)
		Mrs Elsie Johnston	18 Moyra Wright & Liz Thompson (U) Sandy & Ian Darling (D)
		Mrs Moyra Wright	25 Gordon & Gail Stevenson (U) Jonathan & Christine 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 Convenor for that month to help you organise this.

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

Article Series8 (pt 1) "ALL Change "

Please read *Daniel 1:1-2*: An introduction to a new series

New governments are elected every 4 or 5 years. In one sense not much **changes**, but on the other hand much does. New laws restrict and decide all kinds of things. Sometimes the law defies common sense or infringes on personal freedoms.

Yet no matter how we are affected - we have not faced anything quite like that of Daniel and his friends. Yet, we are living in times of **unprecedented change**; technological, secularisation, legislative etc. How will we cope?

In Jerusalem in 605 B.C. The first of three significant defeats by the Babylonians led to Judah's loss of self rule. A new government was in town, and it shipped young folk off 800 miles to be indoctrinated into *the cleverness of this world*. The intention was to break their old convictions and values and to serve a new master, Nebuchadnezzar.

Those who follow Jesus face the same kind of challenges, at least to some extent in our day. Our culture, education etc. are no longer shaped by Christendom values.

Like these boys, Daniel and his friends faced a new language, and the call to keep faith with God was regularly challenged.

Some may argue that the Bible is dated or irrelevant to modern times, but that is utter nonsense. On the contrary, "**there is nothing new under the sun**" Ecclesiastes 1:9. Yes, the Bible has answers and teaching which enables Christians not only to cope, but to thrive, as their need to trust God is tested. Of course life always includes personal struggles, but integrity is a powerful witness and a very real spiritual jewel to display in worldly cultures.

Historically, Solomon's sons provoked division of Israel's twelve tribes. Now more vulnerable, and less faithful to God's will, they are ravaged by the Assyrians, then the Babylonians.

At first Babylon seemed reasonable, but over time they became utter tyrants. They destroyed Solomon's temple and looted it of all the precious articles. Seventy years of persecution followed, simply because God's people trusted in their own wisdom, rather than trust God. Yet among God's people, some less tarnished souls still sought to honour God. By doing so, they influenced their oppressors for good, and prepared others for better times.

No matter the crisis, God could be trusted, **He works for ultimate good**. He remains the high sovereign over the mighty of this world. So instead of asking "**where is God**" when we are facing unbiblical views, we need to stand faithful and be bold, knowing God will not be mocked, and share the gospel. Living faith finds its true reward once the dust settles.

I have to admit that one of my teenagers is contemplating moving away to university, and I am already feeling bereft at the thought of it. What situations have shocked you? What adjustments have you had to make growing up etc.? I hope you are anticipating some scriptural healthy seeds from this series to help produce good fruit for the future.

Journey with us, and listen to God Gordon.

My 1st Book of questions and answers!

Section 4 - What happened because of sin?

40. What other sin are we guilty of as well as original sin?
Answer: Actual sin in what we do, say and think.

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. Matthew 15:19

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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

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

¹⁸Then Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore **go and make disciples** of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and 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

Wednesday's at 7:30 pm

9th March Eden Room

23rd March Eden Room

Special Prayer meeting Mon 28th
17:00-17:45

Prayer Breakfast Rota

06 March - Liz Thomson

13 March - Emma Weaver

20 March - Ian Coltart

27 March - Catherine Hodgson

Magazine Input :

Please send your items in by **Monday 21st March** for April Magazine - out on 27th March, or if you would like a regular E_Magazine Tel: 862903 Denise or email: dmburton@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 Alan Low

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.

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 . . . SHINE LIKE STARS!



In the world of TV and entertainment in recent times the rise of the talent show is phenomenal. Usually, the contestants entertain us by showcasing their particular talent. Celebrity judges give verdicts and then there is some kind of vote, usually involving the public.

We've been glued to our screens, or subjected to shows such as Pop Idol, Fame Academy, The Voice etc. and of course, all of the spin off shows, from around the world. I saw a trailer for the last ever American Idol which claimed, this time they were looking for a genuine star! (what were they were looking for in the previously?). It then cut to a 16 year old, who stated "I've been waiting my whole life for this opportunity". Being a grumpy old so and so, I immediately scoffed at this "ludicrous" statement. However, I once heard someone being called a "dream crusher" and thought it was a terrible thing to be known as, so I re-adjusted. We can be sure the people on these shows dream of being stars and are happy to tell you how badly they want it and usually are prepared to work hard to achieve their dreams.

As youngsters, setting out on your adult lives, you too should have aspirations, hopes and dreams. But what kind of star do you aspire to be? A pop star, a sports star, a star in the medical field, a star in engineering or how about a star in the field of astronomy!

The bible tells us that we **should** be like stars, not necessarily like pop stars, but like stars set in the night sky. Philippians 2:15 tells us we should be "shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people." But what does that mean? Text that was penned thousands of years ago, how can that possibly be relevant to you today?

Like New Testament times, I think it would be fair to say we live in a world full of problems, a world full of greed, bullying, selfishness and intolerance, a world that says you're successful when you're rich, you're famous, you wear the right labels, you listen to the right music.

The Bible tells us something different. It says in Phillipians 2:12 you're a star when you: "Obey God" and "do everything without complaining or arguing". "Work hard to show the results of your salvation!" "Hold firmly to the word of life" and "your faithful service is an offering to God". Mother Teresa once said "People are often unreasonable and self-centred. Forgive them anyway. If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. The good you do today, may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway. Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway. For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway".

What a challenge for us, but what a difference you could make in this world! Set in total darkness, stars are bright and absolutely visible, they can provide guidance and be admired for their beauty and best of all, they declare the glory of God's creation!

So, when considering your hopes and dreams and your future, don't forget your faith and make sure one of your goals is to shine brightly like stars!!!

Blessings Derek

Pilot Church – Pilot Lite

The Church of Scotland is investing £1,000,000 in the Pathways of renewal project known as Pilot Church. There will be 3 distinct groups of Churches within this project. 23 Churches are in the Main Pilot group, 8, **including us** are in the Pilot Lite group. And 7 Churches are part of the Pilot Team group. Much of the same resources are available to each group, but the level of training and methodology will be different. Longer term the outcomes of these projects will be assessed for future Pilot investments.

The point is simple. Our denomination has been in decline for over 7 decades. Old methods and cultural changes have contrived against us. So what will we do about it? The best thing would be to get a group of Christians together who can discuss ideas, pray for discernment and encourage us to try new things. The old things are important too, we just want to be better at serving God's kingdom now and for the foreseeable future. So 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.**

Here is a metaphor which will hopefully help :- *Strictly Come Dancing*

The contestants spent the 1st 3 weeks dancing the waltz. They know how to waltz, and they waltz well. But this week the music changes. Suddenly, it is a tango rhythm. None of the contestants has ever danced or even seen or heard a tango before. To make matters worse, none of the instructors has ever heard, seen or danced a tango before either. What to do?

Some of the dancers decide that since they know how to waltz, they will carry on waltzing - regardless of the music. (They will, of course, be voted out at the end of the round.)

Most of the dancers, sensing that the rhythm is different, intuitively begin to move as best they can to the new beat. Eventually they will figure out how to dance to this new music even if, for a while, they look a little bit silly and awkward.

The really smart dancers decide to take a step back, to listen carefully to the music and to work out a new set of steps for this dance.

In the Church we have been dancing the same waltz for 300, 500 or 1500 years (depending on whether you take the Enlightenment, Reformation or Constantine as a starting point). In any event, we know the waltz pretty well by now and we do it well. But the music has changed, and if we are to survive we will have to learn how to dance to this new beat. Two things :-

1) The change of music was not made by the minister. Neither was it a decision of the Kirk Session, or a new policy instituted by 121. It is the world in which we live that has brought about the changes that all churches, everywhere are now facing.

2) Some churches will carry on waltzing (doing things the way they've always been done), and that may appeal (for a while) to ageing members until they are no longer with us.

Most churches are sensing that things have changed and are intuitively beginning to move to the new rhythms, although for a while they may seem clumsy and awkward. In the Paths of Renewal process, the Church of Scotland has given us the opportunity to sit down - along with others - and listen carefully to the new music and work out a new dance.

History

History is the long story of humans trying to be God. If you know how to read between the lines of secular history, you will see God is writing another **history** and some people who appeared very important are only incidental. If they have any importance at all, it depends on how they relate to Jesus Christ.

Vance Hanver

The entire course of **history** represented in scripture as a development of the plan and purpose of God; and yet human **history** is little else than the **history** of sin. *Charles Hodge*

History is 'His story' (God's): a combination of divine sovereignty and human will. God is the master chess player and those who oppose Him will be checkmated when the time comes.

Peter Moore

The alphabet of **history** points to Jesus Christ. *Leslie Newbiggin*

Learning from **history** and basking in nostalgia are two different things. *Roger C Palms*

Richly blessed are those who see God in **history** and in nature, as well as in revelation.

William S Plummer

The hinge of **history** is on a door of a Bethlehem stable.

Ralph W Stockman

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 7:30 p.m.

Continuing Alpha : A Life Worth Living

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

Flower Rota Vacancies

17th & 28th March 3rd & 24th July
& 21st August

If you would like to put flowers into Church for any of the above dates, please speak to May Low

Put the power of prayer into your hands

With daily inspiration only *The Good Book* can provide

Prayer Corner

By Michael Veitch (Prayer Co-ordinator)

David exhorts us: *“Commit thy way unto the LORD...and he shall bring it to pass”* Psalm 37:5, while in Philippians 4:6, Paul says: *“in everything by prayer and supplication...let your requests be made known unto God.”* In other words, we claim to worship a God who bids us to commit all we do to him, and He promises to hear us.

These scriptures must be applied to our collective life as a church, as well as to our own private devotions. If we claim to be a true body of God's people here in Dunbar, then surely we are obliged to collectively commit our various ministries to him on regular basis, and to proactively seek his will for all our plans and initiatives going forward. Anything less surely risks any number of our ministries simply becoming well-intentioned but ultimately man-made schemes. For our church to be blessed, and a blessing, we must remain resolutely focused upon the Bible as our code of conduct in all matters, and ensure that everything we do be regularly soaked in prayer.

But the prayer ministries are not simply for our collective good. They are also an opportunity for each one of us, if we wish, to share our burdens or concerns with one another, and to bring each other's need before God.

Our dedicated prayer gatherings are also an opportunity to bring the ongoing world crisis to God. How can we, in the relative comfort of the west, not to be moved to pray together for those in the Syria, Iraq, North Korea and beyond who endure extreme suffering on a daily basis? We must also not fail to neglect to pray collectively for our various overseas ministry associates and for our ongoing link with the church in Rwanda. We owe it to these brethren to pray for them often, and we trust they will benefit greatly as a result.

The great needs of our own local community, and of our nation, also demand much prayer. As God said to Solomon in 2 Chronicles 7:14: *“If my people, which are called by name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”*

The **Prayer Meeting** continues to meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:30pm in the Eden Room. We have had a variety of guest speakers over recent months, representing Mission Aviation Fellowship, Bethany Christian Trust, The Christian Institute, Evangelical

Alliance and most recently, Dr Gordon Macdonald from CARE for Scotland.

On 23rd March we welcome Dr Calum MacKellar, an expert on medical ethics, from the Scottish Council on Human Bioethics, for what promises to be a fascinating evening. Thanks are also due to the many folk from our own number who have led, and especially to Mike & Rachel Mylne who occasionally host the meeting at their home. **If you have never attended the prayer meeting before, please consider doing so. We would really love to see you.**

The **Prayer Breakfast** continues to meet every Sunday, 9:30 for 10am, in the upstairs kitchen/Eden Room. I would especially commend the meeting on 24th April, when some of our youth will be supplying the food and saying a few words. **Please come along and encourage them if you possibly can.** The Prayer Breakfast is a lovely time of warm fellowship, and it has been very heartening to see it continue to flourish by the grace of God.

If you would like to be added to the rota for leading either the Prayer Meeting or the Prayer Breakfast, please do speak to me.

Finally, a date for your diaries. On Easter Monday (27th March), we will be playing our part in a national prayer event called Prayer Shield, organised by the group Pray for Scotland. Their request is that prayer meetings be organised at various towns in East Lothian at different times through the day and have asked us to host the Dunbar event between 5 and 5:45pm. Please come along as you can, and do invite believers from other congregations in the town whom may be interested.

RESURRECTION 2016

Music, worship, praise, seeking God.

Origin Scotland will again be hosting RESURRECTION
in the Usher Hall on Easter Sunday.

The Origin choir, band and orchestra will lead an evening of praise and worship celebrating the greatest event in history - the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Where? Usher Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh, EH1 2EA

When? Sun 27 March, 19:30 **Tickets?** FREE but you need to book in advance (Call Origin Scotland box office on 0131 208 0095 or <http://www.originscotland.org/boxoffice/index.php?eventID=2861>) Wheelchair seating available in grand circle and stalls. Lift access to all levels. There will be an offering at the event towards expenses. Please come prepared to donate as you are able.

Origin Scotland is a Christian ministry based in Edinburgh, Scotland. Founded in 1997, Origin exists to promote unity in the Church and outreach to the world, and is overseen by recognised Christian leaders in the City.