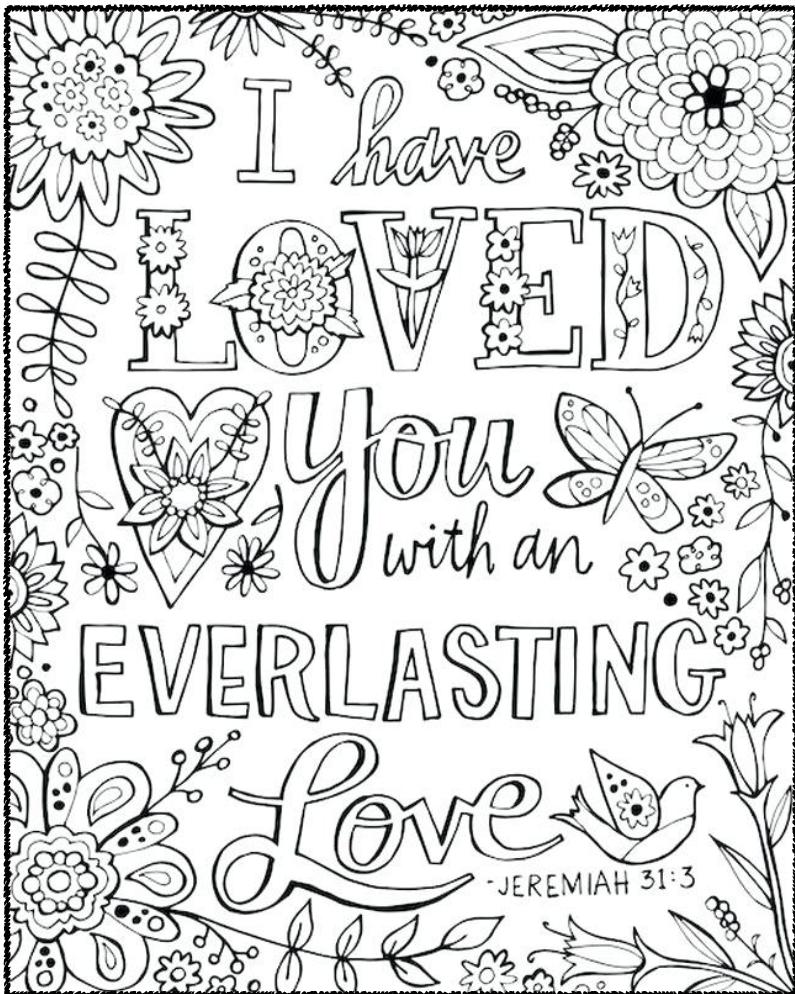


CONTACT

March 2020



Dundonald-parish-Church.com,
[facebook.com/DundonaldParishChurch](https://www.facebook.com/DundonaldParishChurch)

Dear Friends,

Manse: 01563 850243

I've now reached my one-year anniversary as your new minister; my induction and ordination was on the 26th February last year and a question I get asked a lot is whether I enjoy living in the village? The answer is: I absolutely **love** living in Dundonald village and in fact I would choose to live here even if I was not your minister. And one of the reasons for this is the community spirit in Dundonald and how many genuinely want this village to thrive and be a safe and nurturing place for all to live.

An example of this is the community venture to bring a foodbank to Dundonald and how this has brought together the Primary School, Castle and Visitor's Centre, Medical Centre and the Church in close partnership. The goal is to make services more accessible and to reach out to those in the village that are facing hard times and are in need of support and encouragement. A fact of life is that we will all experience difficult times at some point and when you read the personal stories of the people that have used a foodbank (southayrshire.foodbank.org.uk) in the past you will hear that these are people just like you and me. People that due to a change in their personal circumstances are in need of some breathing space. We are hoping that the Dundonald branch of South Ayrshire foodbank will be such a space. A place where people can drop-in for tea and toast, be welcomed, accepted and offered a listening ear without judgement and with unconditional love. We are calling our drop-in café 'Floyd's', named after my black and white kitten that just needed someone to love him after he was left to fend for himself at the side of a busy road. South Ayrshire food-bank will operate from 'Floyd's' but it will also be a space open to anyone that needs it.

The foodbank has only been made possible by the large number of volunteers that have come forward to serve; volunteers from within our own community of Dundonald. I would like to thank

everyone who has signed up to volunteer and we hope as a team this will provide valuable service to the community and out-with.

As a Church, this venture is important because we know this is exactly where we would see and can see Jesus ministering. Jesus is especially concerned for the needs and concerns of those that are often on the margins of society. Despite his busyness when Jesus walked the Earth he gave his time to those that reached out to be with him. The gospel story, which really captures my heart, is when the woman who had been suffering from a bleeding problem (that meant she was treated as 'unclean' by her society and excluded from social gatherings) reached out in a busy crowd just to try and touch the hem of Jesus' coat (Matthew 9: 20-22). She understood that Jesus is the Son of God and had the power to change her situation; she had the faith and courage to reach out to Jesus. *'And Jesus turned and seeing her he said: "take heart daughter your faith has made you well". And instantly the woman was made well.'* (Matthew 9:22). Jesus today still welcomes people that come to him and has the power to change personal situations beyond our understanding.

This is why, as a Church, we have started a new event for men in the village and out-with called "A Pie, a Pint and a Parable" in the Auchans' Bar. This is a space for men to come and enjoy company over food and drink but also to listen to a personal story from different men whose life has been shaped by having faith in Jesus.

I believe it is God's vision that the Church in Dundonald will be a Church for the whole community of Dundonald. A Church where there is a mixture of people of differing ages and stages and outlooks but one where we can 'see and hear' Jesus by the witness and love of God's people. If you haven't been to your Church recently please come to one of our many Holy Week and Easter services. Reach-out to Jesus and hear him tell you 'your faith has made you well'.

Peace and love

Lynsey x

PARISH REGISTER

A warm welcome to our new members

*Ron Jeffries, 9 Beaton Lane, Dundonald
Alastair and Sally McDonald, Knockentiber*

Do you want to fast this Lent?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

From the words of Pope Francis

Thank you

I would like to thank members of Dundonald Church and all clubs that I belong to. I have appreciated prayers, visits at hospital, flowers, cards and phone calls. I have been really overwhelmed by all the Get Well messages. A truly caring community. Lilian

Axford

THANKS

Many thanks for all the support Cissy and I have received regarding her health problems. As you know, she is in Dundonald Nursing Home as I have been told that I am no longer capable of looking after her. Cissy seems to have settled in well , thanks to all the staff.
With best wishes - Sandy

CHURCH DIARY - MARCH

CRECHE	Every Sunday from 10:45 am (Hall)
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Every Sunday at 11:00 am (Church)
BIBLE CLASS	Every Sunday at 11:00 am (Church)
TEA & COFFEE	Available after every Worship Service in the Church Hall. Please come and join us!
Sunday 1 st	WORSHIP (First Sunday in Lent) (11am) Conversations along the way (Luke 10-Luke 12) 40 Acts "Humility"
Monday 2 nd	Food Bank Training for all wishing to volunteer, Church Hall (9:30am) Inter-church Prayer For Schools, Troon (10am)
Thursday 5 th	Dundonald Nursing Home, Old (2:30)
Friday 6 th	World Day of Prayer by the Women of Zimbabwe, St Ninian's Church, Bentinck Drive, Troon at 7pm
Sunday 8 th	WORSHIP (Second Sunday in Lent) (11am) Meeting the confused (Luke 12- Luke 15) 40 Acts: "Friendship"
Monday 9 th	Pint, Pie And A Parable - William Boyle 'Tesco Manager to Minister', The Auchans (7:30pm)
Sunday 15 th	WORSHIP (Third Sunday in Lent) (11am) The Path of Discipleship (Luke 17- Luke 18) 40 Acts: "Charity"
Monday 16 th	Inter-church Prayer For Schools, Troon (10am)
Tuesday 17 th	Session Meeting , Session Room (7:30pm)
Thursday 19 th	Dundonald Nursing Home, New (2:30pm)
Sunday 22 nd	ALL AGE SERVICE (Fourth Sunday in Lent) (Luke 19-Luke 22). Brownie/Rainbow Dedication Service, Mothering Sunday and 'Afternoon tea' with the Guild.

Sunday 29 th	WORSHIP (Fifth Sunday in Lent) (11am) Towards the Cross (Luke 22 - Luke 23)
	40 Acts "Money"
	Sheltered Unit Service (2pm)
Monday 30 th	Interchurch Prayer For Schools , Troon, (10am)
	Stated Annual Meeting , Church Hall (7pm)
	APRIL
Thursday 2 nd	Dundonald Nursing Home, Old (2:30pm)
Sunday 5 th	WORSHIP (Holy Week) (11am) Rev Glenda Keating The Final Destination (Luke 23 - Luke 24)
	40 Acts "Reconciliation"
Thursday 9 th	MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE with Communion (7pm).
Friday 10 th	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE followed by Hot Cross Buns in the Hall (7pm)
Sunday 12 th	EASTER DAYBREAK SERVICE (7am) with Hot Cross Buns in Castle Visitors Centre. Breakfast in Church Hall at 10.00am followed by EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE
13 th - 20 th	Lynsey on A/L

A PIE, A PINT AND A PARABLE

I went along to The Auchans Bar in Dundonald with my friend Ron, for the first meeting of Pie, Pint and a Parable presented by Ricky Bain from Christian Vision for Men on Monday 10th February.

I didn't know what to expect; however, I went with an open mind and a listening ear. I found the evening very rewarding. Ricky's presentation was very interesting and I could identify with many of his experiences and the effects that they had on him. He explained that he looked to his faith for answers to some of the

problems that he experienced through death of loved ones, redundancy and generally living life.

There was between twenty five and thirty other men and I felt a strong bond of fellowship there. It was interesting to hear that the ratio of men to women attending Church is one man to three women. The vision is to encourage more boys and men into the Church, and the Church of Scotland are looking at different ways of achieving this - I think this is a good starting point. We as members attending the Church, should use these meetings to encourage other men, (friends and family) who would otherwise not attend, to come along. I aim to do this if I can.

The theme of a Pie, A Pint and A Parable went down well and we also had a musical interlude from Gordon. I am looking forward to more of the Pie, Pint and Parable get togethers!

Humphrey Robertson

The next Pie, Pint and a Parable will be on **Monday 9th March** with **William Boyle** - From Tesco manager to minister. A journey of faith, courage and acceptance. Focus on men's mental well-being. **7.30pm** at The Auchans Bar/Restaurant - Fellowship over a pie/pizza (generously provided by The Auchans!) and a drink/pint - what's not to love!

DUNDONALD CHURCH GUILD
MONDAYS 7.30pm IN HALL
2nd March

Captain Kevin McAulay
Faith in the Young (Guild Project)
16th March

AGM with Praise Band

Wednesday 25th

Guild Spring Rally

Troon Old Parish Church

FLOWER FUND

Ellen Gray

(01563 830249)

Please contact Ellen if you hear of anyone who would appreciate flowers from the Sunday Service. The following provided flowers for February Flower Fund, Dorothy Richmond, Ena Ritchie and Flower Fund. Thank you to everyone.



LIFE|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST GIFT
GOD COULD GIVE YOU?

Life Explored is running from the manse on a Wednesday morning (10:30am-12noon).

This is for all people; those of faith and those of no faith. A chance to explore many of life's big questions in a comfortable environment over coffee & cake: Why is there so much suffering in the World? Why do bad things happen to good people? If there is a God why is there so much evil in the World? I'm a good person, why do I need Jesus?...

- 1: The Good God - Wednesday 26th February
- 2: The Trustworthy God - Wednesday 4th March
- 3: The Generous God - Wednesday 11th March
- 4: The Liberating God - Wednesday 18th March
- 5: The Fulfilling God - Wednesday 25th March
6. The Life-Giving God - Wednesday 1st April
- 7: The Joyful God - Wednesday 8th April

Life Explored will help people uncover what they're really living for and shows how, in Christ, God meets our deepest desire for happiness. Each session explores an aspect of God's character.

We see that the God of the Bible is good, trustworthy, generous, liberating, fulfilling, life-giving and joyful.
And ultimately we see that the greatest pleasure in life is enjoying God himself.

Christian Aid Week 10th - 16th May 2020
*Last year the village raised £3000 for Christian Aid
and the most of that is raised from the door to door collections.*

christian
aid

*This year I require some more volunteers to carry out these collections if we are going match last year's total.
If you can help please contact Elizabeth Munro on 850125*

WOMAN.. from an unknown author



When God created woman he was working late on the 6th day.. An angel came by and asked." Why spend so much time on her ?"

The Lord answered. " Have you seen all the specifications I have to meet to shape her?"...

She must function on all kinds of situations. She must be able to embrace several kids at the same time, give a hug that can heal anything from bruised knee to broken heart. She must do all this with only two hands. She cures herself when sick and can work 18 hours a day"

The angel was impressed. .." Just two hands... impossible !" And this is the standard model? The Angel came closer and touched the woman"... " But you have made her so soft, Lord"...

" She is soft", said the Lord, " But I have made her strong. You have no idea what she can endure and overcome."

"Can she think?" The Angel asked.

The Lord answered. " Not only can she think, she can reason and negotiate"

The Angel touched her cheeks ... " Lord, it seems this creation is leaking! You have put too many burdens on her."

"She is not leaking...it is a tear" The Lord corrected the Angel.

" What's it for?" asked the Angel.

The Lord said. " Tears are her way of expressing her grief, her doubts, her love, her loneliness, her suffering and her pride."

This made a big impression on the Angel, " Lord, you are genius. You have thought of everything. A woman is indeed marvellous !"

The Lord said." Indeed she is. She has strength that amazes a man. She can handle trouble and carry heavy burdens. She holds happiness, love and opinions. She smiles when she feels like screaming. She sings when she feels like crying, cries when happy and laughs when afraid. She fights for what she believes in. Her love is unconditional. Her heart is broken when a next-of-kin or a friend dies but she finds strength to get on with life." .

The Angel asked "So is she perfect ?

The Lord replied "No. She has just one drawback. She often forgets what she is worth"

Monday 3rd February must have been one of the wildest of the winter so far with gale force winds and heavy showers! Nevertheless, a good number of Guild ladies and friends came along to Church for a fashion show by "**Belle**" of Prestwick. Six of the members were models for the evening and after the show everyone went to the Church Hall for supper. Despite the weather, everyone had a very enjoyable evening. Adaline thanked Fiona from "Belle" and the models Elaine, Catherine Janette, Julie, Margaret and Violet, on behalf of the Guild. The proceeds from the evening will go to the Guild Projects - Faith In Young People and Whiteleys Retreat, Alloway.

The Guild met again on **17th February**, another very windy and wet evening. Mrs Finlayson welcomed the brave ladies who had turned out and Margaret Miller did the reading and prayer. Adaline then introduced **Alastair Duff, Optometrist** and Director of Urquhart's opticians who have branches throughout Ayrshire. He spoke about eye health and eye care and what should be done to ensure good eyesight. Lifelong regular eye tests which are free in Scotland are important and they could pick up things like glaucoma and cataracts. Alastair answered questions from the ladies and Adaline thanked him for a a very interesting talk.

The outing this year will be to **Summerston Museum, Coatbridge** on **Monday 27th April** leaving at 12 noon and will cost £27. Tea will be at Dalmeny Park Hotel on the way home. Names should be given to either Anne Young or Elizabeth Munro. Cost will be approximately £27.

The next meeting will be on **Monday 2nd March** when Kevin McAulay, Officer in Charge, Dundonald BB will talk about the organisation "Faith in the Young". The BB are one of the Guild Project Partners for the next 3 years. The last meeting of the year will be at the AGM on Monday **16th March** when the Praise Band will entertain us after the business part of the meeting.

The World Day of Prayer is in St Ninian's Church, Troon on 6th March at 7pm and all are welcome.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT - WHY YOU NEED THE CHURCH

'The many parts form one body' (*1 Corinthians 12:12*)

There is a wonderful story about Jimmy Durante, one of the truly great entertainers. He was asked to do a show for World War II veterans. He told them he was very busy, but if they wouldn't mind him doing one short monologue and leaving immediately for his next appointment he'd go. They agreed. But when Jimmy got on stage he went through the short monologue, then stayed and stayed. Soon he'd been on stage 15, 20 then 30 minutes. Finally he took a last bow and left. Backstage someone stopped him and said "I thought you had to go after a few minutes. What happened?" Jimmy answered, "You can see for yourself if you look on the front row." In the front row were two veterans, each of whom had lost an arm in the war. One had lost his right arm and the other had lost his left. Together, they were able to clap, and that's exactly what they were doing, loudly and cheerfully." That's a picture of what happens in Church, but the many parts make up only one body when they are all put together. So it is with the body of Christ. But to enjoy its benefits you have to go, and when you get there you must reach out to others so that you can know and be known, strengthening and being strengthened. Pew sitting, back of the head fellowship won't do. Someone sitting next to you has 20/20 vision where you have blind spots. You need their counsel, correction and comfort, and they need yours. When that happens, the Church is working like it's supposed to.

A Prayer for Mums on Mothers Day

Thank you Lord for our Mothers. We remember today their loving care and their ceaseless love for us. May we show them by our gifts, our words and our actions that we love them and care about them too. Father thank you for the family of the Church. Thank you for those who are true Mothers within our Christian family. May they know your blessing and strength as they care for others. Amen. ***From the Lion Prayer Collection***

Mothering Sunday/Mother's Day: Sunday 22nd March



We've made a good start to 2020 in all of our sections. Beginning with the **Anchor Section**: Over the last couple of weeks they've been having some fun in the kitchen by getting really messy making some Valentine cupcakes for parents/guardians. Shame the boys weren't willing to share their own creations and were in no mood to share. Looks like they love themselves more than their parents. They've also been trying rainbow skewers as a way to introduce new items of fruit to their appetite. Rev Brennan has been up visiting a few times teaching us all about God's word and encounters with Jesus.

Junior Section are up next and they recently participated in our Battalion Supergroup competition which consists of a variety of physical and mental skill challenges over the course of the afternoon. Delighted to say that our boys came 2nd out of 7 companies. Well done to all those who took part. Badge work continues to be a big focus during our session meetings and the boys are fairly enjoying taking part every week

We were most delighted to conduct the **All Age Service** on Sunday 16th March. All sections of the company took part in some shape or form and I'd like to extend my thanks to everyone who contributed to the service (both officers and boys). Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the preparation involved and the taking part of the service.

March is a busy month for us as we have our Battalion Parade in Galston, **Company Section** events (Quiz, Cross Country, Drill competition) for which we are hosting 2 of these events. We are also brainstorming for our Display and trying to come up with ways to beat last years 'Greatest Show'

Regards
Kevin McAulay

In Love and Duty, Ann Purcell writes about seeing Major Jim Statler standing with her pastor outside his study after a Sunday service. She knew instantly that he was there with news about her husband, Ben, on active duty in Vietnam. As she had feared, Jim gave her a chilling message “He was on a helicopter that was shot down ... he's missing in action.” Anne recalls, “Somewhere in the back of my mind, a little candle flickered. This tiny flame was the vestige of my faith.” Days passed without word. To her, being an MIA wife was like being in limbo. She found herself only able to pray one thing “Help me, dear Father.” She says, “I hung onto this important truth that He would help me and the flickering flame of my candle of faith began to grow.”

Then, one day, she noticed a white dove sitting in her yard. It was particularly beautiful, very still and quiet, and a highly uncommon sight in her neighbourhood. She took it as a sign from God that He was indeed always near. For five years, Anne Purcell clung to the fact that God was near. Little did she know that during those years before she was reunited with her husband, he was whispering to her from a POW cell, “Anne, find solace and strength in the Lord.”

Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfector of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2 From God's Little Devotional Book for Everyone

Approaching spring cleaning ...

O God you know how many things I have put off doing. The days have been so full, and I have been a bit lazy about tackling this job. Save me from making excuses for myself, that I am not as ready to make for others, and give me courage to rid my house of all shabby, useless things. Let my duster reveal hidden beauties and bring you praise as it gives me joy. Let me live and serve you in sweet orderliness, and let me as thoroughly rid my mind and heart of all prejudices, unkind judgements and tangle of self-pity, of all untrue ideas. So straighten out my sense of values that my cupboards and drawers and shining surfaces may praise you, and my body, mind and spirit bring you joy! **From Contact Magazine 2008**

PRAYER - A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR HISTORY

Our Father in heaven hallowed be Your Name

We believe in God the Father almighty creator of heaven and earth

We honour Your Holy name over the UK Nations

We honour Your Holy name over every European Nation

We pray for Your Kingdom to come

In and through the transition period discussions between UK and EU

In and through all trade talks with other nations

For Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Through our leaders: Boris Johnson and the UK government

Through Michel Barnier and the EU team

In our relationships with all the Leaders of the European nations

Give us today our daily bread

We pray for reconciliation at every level in our society

We ask for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on His church

We ask for continued and growing freedom for the Gospel across all of Europe and for continued and growing freedom for the Bible to be read across all the nations

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us

Lord, have mercy on us as a UK nation

Lord, have mercy on us as Your church

Lord, have mercy on the EU

Lord, have mercy on every nation in Europe

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

Bring into the light those with evil intent of division and destruction

We pray for peace on our streets

Bring into the light those whose intent is greed and manipulation

Bless all the work of the peacemakers

For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours now

and for ever - We pray that Your name will be glorified

We pray that millions will come to know Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life

We bless every nation with the blessing of Your Shalom peace

You are our rock, we look to You, we trust You. Amen.

With acknowledgement to the World Prayer Centre, Birmingham, who produced the prayer - Prayer for Scotland

When Jesus Comes!

In the fourth watch He came to them (*Matthew 14:25*)

The fourth watch lasts from 3.00 am until 6.00 am. Night time is when God does some of His best work! When the Israelites faced the Red Sea, we read, all that night the Lord drove the sea back (*Exodus 14:21*)

During the middle watch of the night, Gideon defeated the Midianites (*Judges 7 19:24*)

Jesus rose from the dead before daybreak (*Matthew 28:1-6*). Matthew says '*in the fourth watch of the night He came to them walking on the sea. When the disciples saw Him they were terrified, immediately Jesus spoke "Take courage it is I do not be afraid"*' (*Matthew 14 25-27*). Notice two important things:

1. Jesus waited until the storm was at its worst and they'd lost all hope. That's because God dictates the timetable for our deliverance and He's never late.
2. The disciples didn't recognise Him until He revealed Himself to them. Often the answer you need is right beside you, but you don't recognise it until God reveals it to you.

On another occasion when the crowd was pushing in, Jesus climbed into the boat that was Simon's put out from the shore and using the boat for a pulpit taught the crowd (*Luke 5 1-3*). In that moment it would have been tempting for Peter to feel important, thinking the Master needed his boat.

No, God doesn't need anything we have to accomplish His purposes, not our credentials, talent, or resources. So be humble, and don't panic! When Jesus came to the disciples that night He was 'walking on the sea.' God is on top of the situation. Be at peace. He will do whatever it takes to reach and rescue you. Your problem is just a platform to display His power to act on your behalf!

The Blazer, Coalburn & Lesmahagow Magazine

SORROW LOOKS BACK.

WORRY LOOKS AROUND.

FAITH LOOKS UP.



CHURCH OF SCOTLAND NEWS

Prince William has been appointed as the Lord High Commissioner to the 2020 General Assembly (16-22 May).

The Lord High Commissioner is the Sovereign's personal representative to the General Assembly. Prince William will make the opening and closing addresses to the Assembly, as well as carrying out official visits across Scotland. Rev Dr George Whyte, the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly said: "We look forward to welcoming His Royal Highness to the General Assembly."

The Moderator of the General Assembly, Rt Rev Colin Sinclair has spent time visiting the British Army in Stirling, Glasgow, Leuchars, Fife and Kinloss, Moray to learn more about their work; he and his wife Ruth now have a fresh appreciation for the role the army plays for Queen and country. Church of Scotland ministers serve as military chaplains in the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force and provide spiritual support, pastoral care and moral guidance to personnel and their

families, irrespective of religion or belief. Rev Duncan MacPherson, said that it is a privilege to be a military chaplain and described it as the "best job in the world."

"The folk that make up the British Armed Forces are very special - remarkable, genuine, committed, curious & forthright. They are bound together by a common experience and purpose to serve our communities and nation in defence."

The Moderator has invited congregations to take part in "Thy Kingdom Come".

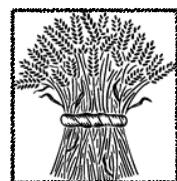
Rt Rev Colin Sinclair has sent out a letter to all Kirk congregations inviting them to take part in this, beginning in General Assembly week. This is a global ecumenical prayer movement which runs from 21 May, Ascension Day to 31 May, Pentecost Sunday. Christians are encouraged to pray for people to come to faith during these 11 days. More than two million Christians, across 65 different denominations and traditions, in 90% countries worldwide took part last year when 3 Archbishops (Anglican, Catholic and Orthodox) stood side by side to pray for our country. Senior leaders from the emergency services also shared items for prayer.

"Agriculture" - from Contact 2006

Now that the growing season is underway, despite the cold start to Spring, it would be good to look at some of the ways Dundonald Church has been involved with agriculture. We have our Harvest Thanksgiving in Autumn, but there are some other ways in which the Church and agriculture have overlapped.

Dundonald has long been a farming community. The Dundonald Farmer's Society whose annual show is in the Spring (**this year 25th April**) was founded in 1865 but farming activity in the Parish goes back much further than that. The names of most of the farms in the Parish have been in existence for hundreds of years. On the earliest map of the area, dating from a survey by Timothy Pont in the 1580's, you will find Cruks, Dalkith, Ronhils, Guliland, Pliland, Kilfurd and many more. All of them quite recognisable. Farmers and farm workers would have made up the bulk of the congregation for many years.

There is a story in the archives of when the harvest season was wet for weeks and crops were in danger of rotting in the fields. But it was Sunday! When the Minister rose to address the congregation he announced that there would be no service. "Go off and work in the fields, that is more important than your presence here."

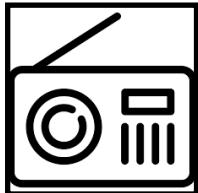


In the middle of the 19th century when Mr Willison was the Minister it is said that he could farm the Glebe and the adjoining Craig Meadow so successfully that he could live without his stipend, which was diverted to help the poor. His generosity made him very popular and he did much to restore people's faith in the Church after the turmoil of the Disruption. The Glebe was also put under cultivation during Mr Gillespie's Ministry when he developed it as a market garden to give work to the unemployed. He even arranged for a house to be built for the gardener in charge of the operation, the house we know as Merkland on Old Loans Road. A garden continued to operate at the foot of Old

Loans Road until well into the 20th century and some of our older members recall being taken from the school to work in it.

Finally, there is a nice story about a Minister who was visiting a keen gardener and while complimenting him on the quality of his crops said: "Yes, it's wonderful what the Lord can do." "Is that right?." The gardener replied "Well, you should have seen it when He had it tae Hiself!"

The "Wireless"



Bob McMillan

Hands up if you remember the term "Wireless"? Yup, I thought so; there is a whole generation, perhaps two, who still think of the "Radio" as the "Wireless".

Back in the 50's there was still the frugality of war years, money was tight and industry still had not caught up with the non-military production of goods, but most homes had a wireless set of some sort. Ours was battery operated as we had no mains electricity, just gas. The glass accumulator, a type of battery, had to be charged up every couple of weeks at the local repair shop and it had the annoying habit of dying right in the middle of something interesting.

The BBC Light Programme or BBC Home Service was the day time choice but later in the evening Mum would tune to Wireless Luxembourg for 'Hospital Sister', forerunner of TV's 'Emergency Ward 10'. BBC programmes such as 'Music While You work', 'Worker's Playtime', 'Woman's Hour', 'Down your Way', 'Desert Island Discs', 'Billy Cotton's Band Show' and 'Mrs. Dale's Diary' provided easy listening while 'Dick Barton, Special Agent' or 'Valentine Dial, The Man in Black' were detective type programs. At tea time, around 5 pm, there would be 'Children's Hour' and in the evening a comedy programme such as 'The Clitheroe Kid', 'Round the Horn', 'Educating Archie', 'The Navy Lark' or 'Hancock's Half-hour'. Derek McCulloch was a Saturday favourite with 'Children's Favourites'. His signature of 'Puffing Billy' and signing off line 'Goodbye children, everywhere' became

synonymous with children's entertainment. Aunty Kathleen, (Kathleen Garscadden) was one of the long-standing presenters of children's programmes on the BBC network. Wireless programmes were easy listening, inoffensive and very descriptive. I can still recall being scared by Charles Chilton's 'Journey into space', where Jet Morgan, Doc, Mitch and Lemmy battled over adversity in this thrilling galactic serial. Many years later I read Charles Chilton's book, from which the wireless program was adapted and good though the book was, it was not a patch on that wireless serial!

While I seldom actually sat down to do nothing but listen to the wireless, it was on while I played around the house and so you listened and learned without thinking about it. Wireless, as entertainment for a family seems very low tech and mundane compared with today's child play but was the breeding ground for a fertile imagination, creativity and ability to 'Think outside the circle' as they say in modern parlance. We had little, expected little and learned much. Wireless programs finished at about 10 pm with the playing of the National Anthem and began, if memory serves at 6 am with the National Anthem.

We also had the "wireless" in our Primary School. This was an ex-navy set in the Headmaster's office and a large speaker, on an ornate wooden board, that was plugged in within the relevant classroom. The BBC used the airwaves very successfully via their "BBC Schools" service whereby broadcasts, which were aimed specifically at school pupils, were accompanied by teaching aids and pamphlets to support material within the broadcast or subject matter. Pamphlets, booklets and posters were, I assume, purchased by the school and used by various classes to support the topic which was usually blended in to other lessons and not used just as a stand-alone item. It was a different way of teaching and that in itself made it all the more interesting to the pupils, well to me at least. Subjects covered nature, science (simple though it was), literature and music. As I've said, it was simple but effective, a very true description of many things then, and I wonder if all the fancy, modern modes of entertainment and teaching are any better!

COOKERY CORNER

RED LENTIL, CHICKPEA AND CHILLI SOUP

Jim & Isobel Nelson

2 teaspoon cumin seeds	200g/7oz can chickpeas (or 400g/14oz if you like your soup thick) drained and rinsed
large pinch chilli flakes	
1 tablespoon olive oil	
1 red onion, chopped	
140g/5oz red split lentils	
850ml veg stock/ water	small bunch coriander, roughly chopped (save a few leaves to serve)
400g/14oz can tomatoes whole or chopped	4 tablespoon 0% Greek yogurt

Heat a large saucepan and dry-fry cumin seeds and chilli flakes for 1 min, or until they start to jump around the pan and release their aromas. Add olive oil and red onion, cook for 5 mins. Stir in lentils, vegetable stock/water and can of tomatoes, then bring to boil. Simmer for 15 mins until lentils have softened. Whizz soup with a stick blender or in food processor until a rough purée, pour back into pan and add chickpeas. Heat gently, season well and stir in a small bunch of chopped coriander, reserving a few leaves to serve. Finish with Greek yogurt and coriander leaves.

BAKED CARAMEL NUT SLICE - *Moira Kerr*

200g/7oz digestive biscuits	50g/2oz flaked almonds
100g/4oz unsalted butter, melted	50g/2oz pecans chopped
100g/4oz dark choc chips	50g/2oz dried cranberries
50g/2oz desiccated coconut	30g/1.5oz ground almonds
	400g/14oz condensed milk

Preheat oven 180 degrees(160 for fan assisted). Grease and line a brownie tin (25x20cm). Blitz biscuits and mix in melted butter Spread over prepared tin Put all of the other ingredients into a bowl -apart from the milk .Mix together and then sprinkle over the biscuit base ,pressing down to create an even layer Pour the milk slowly over the top and leave to soak in for 5 minutes Bake for about 25 mins until golden brown Leave to cool in the tin then remove and peel off the paper Cut into fingers or squares **Very moreish !**

ROTA'S

A car service may be offered on Sundays, subject to availability

DATES	Car 1	Car 2	Car 3
08/03/20	Angus Stirrat	Moreen Linton	Frances Mavor
15/03/20	David Harrow	Maureen Brown	Yvonne Cain
22/03/20	Graeme Dunn	Kate Tweedie	Elaine Grant
29/03/20	Sheila Payne	Janette Caldwell	Margaret Miller
05/04/20	Jeanette Stewart	Johnann Stewart	Jane Ritchie

DATES	CRECHE	BIBLE READING
08/03/20	Elaine McClure & Johnann Stewart	P. Kavanagh
15/03/20	Catherine Robertson & Margaret Rae	B. Rae
22/03/20	Linda Hall & Shona Jack	All Age Service
29/03/20	Lynne Fagan & Joan Edgar	S. Mavor
05/04/20	Katie Purdie & Heather Stewart	J. Kerr

COFFEE/TEA AFTER Church				
1/3/20	Linda Z, Debi, Yvonne	22/3/20	Guild 'Afternoon Tea' (Mothering Sunday)	
8/3/20	Kathleen, Helen H, Sheila P	29/3/20	Moreen, Marguerita, Nicky	
15/3/20	Elaine G, Anne F, Irene McM	5/4/20	Adaline, Helen C, Karen	

DOOR DUTY				
08/03/20	G. Jack	H. Harrow	D. Richmond	Y. Cain
15/03/20	S. Mavor	D. Gray	P. Kavanagh	N. Penman
22/03/20	R. McMillan	F. Mavor	A. FitzGerald	J. Wilson
29/03/20	J. Kerr	S. Payne	A. Picken	A. Brown
05/04/20	W. Rae	I. Mactier	Mrs J. Ritchie	G. Baird

DUNDONALD SWI

Thursday 2nd April

Guest Night

Ayrshire Ukes

Lemon Curd

Musical Box/Ornament

LOANS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Friday March 27th

Guest Night - 7.30pm

Bon Marche Fashion Show

Drybridge Hall

Management

Association

Easter Fayre

Saturday 4th April

11am to 4pm Admission Free,
Home baking, jewellery, wood
crafts, handbags and more!



SHELTERED HOUSING UNIT

Saturday 25th April

A Coffee Morning and Raffle
in Sheltered Housing Unit in
aid of

Ayrshire Cancer Support

10.00am-12.00am, £3.00
per person, £1.00 a Strip
for Raffles. If anybody has

Raffle Prizes to donate
please hand them into the
SHU, on or before that date.

SHELTERED HOUSING

UNIT

Friday 3rd April

Anybody who wishes to go
to Cumnock Factory Shop.
please let Jennifer know.

The bus is leaving Sheltered
Housing Unit at 10.30am and
returning at 2pm. £5.00 per
person. Names to be given to

TROON FLOWER CLUB

Wednesday 25th March

Louise Jones

"Making a House A Home"

*Please contact Eileen, Elaine,
Daisy or Lilian if you would
like to go along with them.*

DUNDONALD HISTORICAL

& ARCHIVE SOCIETY

Castle Visitors Centre,

Irene McMillan 850702

Wednesday 11th March

7.30pm

Jill Scott & Bill Hicks

'Glasgow's Central Hotel'



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

A Big Brew Coffee Morning

Troon Old Parish Church on
Saturday March 7th, from
10.00 till 12.00.

Fairtrade Church Conference

Saturday morning **14th March**
Prestwick South Church Hall

**Keswick Ayrshire 2020 -
6:30pm - 9:30pm
Friday 22nd May -
Sunday 24th May**

with Alastair Begg, Cleveland Parkside Church @ The Park Hotel, Kilmarnock KA1 1UR with exhibitors and bookshop. Aims to draw Christians from Ayrshire and the surrounding area together for praise, fellowship and gathering around God's Word.

Seminars on the Sat morning
a) Working with people who have physical disabilities.
b) Youth For Christ, focusing on issues affecting young people.
c) Peter Maiden will be interviewed about his faith and personal challenges.
keswickayrshire.com

DUNDONALD CASTLE

VISITORS CENTRE

TAPAS AT THE CASTLE

Friday 27th March 7pm

EARTH HOUR GAMES NIGHT BY CANDLENIGHT Saturday

Friday 27th March - 7.45-9.30pm

EXHIBITION from 1st April - Declaration of Arbroath

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

7am on Castle Hill then Visitor Centre with Dundonald Church

LITTER PICK - Mon 13th April

10.30am - equipment provided

KIDS GO FREE EASTER HOLIDAYS

CASTLE VISIT with paying adult 6th -17th April

GUIDED BLUEBELL WALK

3rd May 1-3pm £5pp

LUNCH CLUB starting 7th May,
Thursdays 12.30pm £5

soup & sandwich/hot drink,
followed by activity/talk

FAMILY FRIENDLY ARTS AND CRAFTS 2-3pm every Sunday (winter). Tickets (free) must be obtained prior to attending. An Adult should remain with child

HARRY POTTER MOVIES IN

CASTLE April 11th - May 9th - June 13th - July 11th - Aug 8th - Sept 12th - Oct 10th - £9 per person, per event. Bring own chairs, warm clothing, blankets, Under 16s must be accompanied by a adult.

Dundonald Highland Games

31st Highland Games

Saturday 1 August 2020.

Administration & Logistic Coordinator - We are seeking

a dynamic, personable and well organised self-starter who will provide administration support to ensure a successful Highland Games each year.

The position demands a strong commitment to carrying forward the work which relies heavily on the support of volunteers. The person appointed will have excellent communication skills, be familiar with use of information technology and ideally have an interest or some knowledge of Highland Games and preferably have workings of charitable organisations. Please look out for advert on our social media.

Volunteers - Our Dundonald Highland Games event is growing from strength to strength. We are reaching out for additional volunteers who can offer support during our Games week and hoping to create a list of Friends of Dundonald Games Society that we can call upon for events (but no need to attend Committee meetings). Please send a personal message on facebook or contact Elaine on 07909 220359.

THE MEN'S CLUB

Thursday at 7.30pm

Church Hall

If you enjoy a game of bowls, and a cup of tea and fellowship, please come and join us. Dougal Gray 830452

BADMINTON

**Tuesday and Thursday
10am -12noon**

All are welcome to join us for good fun & great exercise the in Church Hall
Anne Picken 850619

**GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS
Wednesdays, 9.30-10.30
Church Hall**

Strengthen your body, improve balance, posture and increase your flexibility
Carolyn 07961323078
seasonalwellbeing@gmail.com

**DUNDONALD CRAFT &
SOCIAL CLUB THURSDAYS**

Montgomerie Hall 2-4 pm

Carpet bowls, pool and craft section. Open to anyone over the age of 50, so come and join us.

Douglas Munro 850125

A poster advertised a forthcoming discussion at a Ladies' Meeting on the subject 'What Makes A Happy Marriage?' One line read 'what do you and your husband have in common?' Someone had written below - 'we were both married on the same day.'

Each year we have a missionary weekend. Last year, on the preceding Sunday the Vicar asked if anyone would like to have the visiting missionary for lunch.

Hymns For Special People



Dentists
Contractors
Obstetricians
Golfers
Politicians
Librarians
Dry cleaners
Census officers
Tax officers
Crossing wardens
Window cleaners
Car valeters
Man from the Pru
Agony Aunt
Weatherman
Electoral Roll keeper
Guide dog trainer
Boxer
Bride

Crown Him with many crowns
The Church's one foundation
Go labour on
There is a green hill far away
O Jesus I have promised
Let all mortal flesh keep silent
O for a faith that will not shrink
All people that on earth do dwell
We give thee but thine own
There's a friend for little children
One more step along the way
Shine Jesus shine
Blessed assurance
Tell out my soul
Lo He comes with clouds ascending
When the roll is called up yonder
Lead us heavenly father, lead us
Fight the good fight
O happy day that fixed my choice

In our small village the Vicar asked us to raise funds for repairs to the Church, a new Church Hall, new hymn books, a new Church minibus and much else. We are now known not as 'the flock' but 'the fleeced'.

When parishioners of Burton Latimer used to complain about the cold Church, the Rector used to remind them sternly, "Many are cold but few are frozen."

The organist at a crematorium told me that he had to play for the service of a deceased man who weighed 28 stone (nearly 400 pounds). The opening hymn was 'How Great Thou Art'.

Minister: Rev. Lynsey Brennan	01563 850243
LBrennan@Churchofscotland.org.uk	
Session Clerk: Bob Stewart	01563 850781
bobstewart@rsmarine.co.uk	
Clerk to the Board: Bob McMillan	01563 850702
gm8juy@btinternet.com	
Treasurer: Sheila Tannock	01563 830427
sheila.tannock@btinternet.com	
Church Officer: Hugh Appleby	01563 851105
hughappleby127@btinternet.com	
Musical Director: Colleen Anderson	07967 114624
colleenanderson318@gmail.com	
Safeguarding	01292 316476
Coordinator: Janice Hardie	
janhardie@hotmail.co.uk	
Fabric Convenor: Doug Grant	01563 851985
douglas968@btinternet.com	

Please give articles to Editor for April Magazine by
Sunday 29th March sandyfrancesm@hotmail.com 850510

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Friday, 6th March, 2020 - 7pm,
 St Ninian's Church, Bentinck Drive, Troon**

The service comes from Zimbabwe, located in Southern Africa. It is a landlocked country lying between the Limpopo River in the south and the mighty Zambezi River in the north with a population of about 16 million people and 16 official languages.

Major tourist attractions include the Victoria Falls, which is considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World.