



Worship | Reach | Serve

Outlook

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Special Diary Dates

Saturday 12th May 2pm:
DBC Centre Dedication Service with Peter Maiden and Rev Alan Donaldson

Sunday 13th May 10.30am:
Dedication Service for church family

'ALL of us and EACH of us'

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people" - Ephesians 4:1-8 (NIV)

These Scripture verses from Ephesians remind us about the significance and importance of living a life that is worthy of the Lord Jesus Christ. In chapters 1-3 Paul outlines the importance of sound theology and doctrine by teaching about the work of the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In the first three chapters we read about God the Father who sought us (1:3-6), God the Son who saved us (1:7-12) and God the Holy Spirit who sealed us, marked us out as belonging to God and guaranteeing our eternal life (1:13-14). Hallelujah!

The opening verse of chapter four is similar to the opening verse of Roman chapter 12, Paul is saying to us; "as you consider all that God has done for you I want you to respond by living a life that is worthy of your calling". All Christians are called by God therefore all Christians are to live a life that is worthy of the name of Christ, both as a follower of Christ and as a member of His community the church. Therefore how we behave as part of the church matters!

We are to live in complete humility, gentleness, patience and love, this is the fruit of a Spirit filled life (Galatians 5:22-26). We are to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace, which in the original language of the Bible means to make unity our number one priority by 'sparing no effort in continuous and diligent activity', this

effort and activity will be marked by the fruit of the Spirit mentioned in verse two! Since God is three in one, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we are to live as one.

Verse six makes it clear that not all human beings are God's children. All human beings are made in God's image but his image is broken because of our disobedience and sin against God. Christ took our sin and bore it on the cross the righteous one for the unrighteous ones to bring us to God (Peter 3:18). So it is through repentance and faith that we come to God the Father through Christ the Son by the Holy Spirit; "For through Christ we both have access to the Father by one Spirit" (Ephesians 2:18).

Notice how the 'ALL of us' in verse seven changes to the 'EACH of us' in verse eight.

The body of Christ which is the church is made up of many different parts but each part belongs to all the others (Romans 12:4-5). EACH of us has a part to play as part of the church! Verse eight is a direct quote from Psalm 68 and pictures a victorious military leader returning from battle and giving gifts to those identified with him. This is also true for the EACH person who identifies themselves with Christ. In his

ALL OF YOU
 TOGETHER ARE
 CHRIST'S BODY, AND
 EACH OF YOU IS A
 PART OF IT.

1 Corinthians 12:27

death Christ won the victory over sin and death (v9) and through his resurrection and now from his ascended position gives gifts to EACH of his followers (v10). Christ gives gifts to EACH and every Christian through which to serve HIM. There is both equality and enabling taught in verse seven. Each believer is to function in the body of Christ by Christ's enabling according to the gifts he has given to them.

So this is what Paul means by 'ALL of us and EACH of us'! I would suggest to you that this teaching is absolutely critical for DBC at this time of transition and change. Let's live it out, let's live a life worthy of our calling, ALL of us and EACH of us.

With love.

Alistair, Senior Pastor

Family News

We extend our sympathy to...

... The family of Agnes Best who went to be with her Lord on 19th December.

... The Turner family on the death of Tom's father, Robert (Bob).

... The family of Audrey Wilson who died on 27th January. There will be a Thanksgiving Service for her life at Roucan Loch on Thursday 8th February at 11 am.

Thank you...

... Kirsty Holt would like to thank the Church for their regular financial and prayer support for her work with Africa Inland Mission.

... Audrey Ransom would like to thank everyone who has bought cards over the last few months. A grand total of £107 has been raised and given to the building fund.

... All the family of Agnes Best have very much appreciated the kind prayers, words, cards and flowers sent over the past several weeks.

... A great big **THANK YOU** to all the choir members for their Christmas performance and all the carol singing events. I appreciate all the time and dedication needed week after week, but it was worth all the hard work. I wish to thank those behind the scenes who have helped so willingly; John Thomson for the repeated requests for practice CD's, Chris Rossi for his invaluable help 'in the corner' and with microphones, etc., Ian and Val for warming the place before we got there (even when I forgot to ask). Thank you office staff for all the photocopying you are asked to do and for allowing me to invade your space (and for cups of tea). Thank you to Libby for doing the readings and to David and Marian Copp for bringing their keyboard to our carol singing events out of church and to Neil, Iain and Sharon for

fiddling with the sound system (while Matthew danced to the music) and finally to our Pastors for allowing me to choose what we sing. God bless you all. God sees your love for Him in all you do.

Jean Lamb

Photos Please... As part of our Thanksgiving Service at Newall Terrace on Sunday 18 March at 10.30 we hope to display a video montage of photos capturing DBC memories across the years; services, weddings, meals, church anniversary events, Discoverers, YF, Intense, Impact, Girlzone, church picnics, etc. If you have any that you would like to submit then please give them to David Currie **by 28 February**. Digital pictures can be sent to davidcurrie1874@gmail.com Prints (which will be returned) can be given to David or handed in to the church office. Please write your name and contact number on the reverse of **each** photo.

1 Corinthians 3:5-7... The Lord has planted us in a new community and equipped us with a wonderful new building from which to make Him known. He has also blessed us with extensive grounds through which we can glorify His name in its planting, use and maintenance. For some months our landscaping group has been actively involved in a design scheme which will hopefully further enhance our surroundings, however, as the building nears completion and even as we begin worshipping, only the bare earth will be visible, partly because of the weather. Planting in itself will be a huge challenge and once we are a bit settled in our new home the landscape group will be suggesting ways in which each of us might become involved in bringing our vision to fruition. Some may wish to get hands and feet dirty, others in less physical ways but, whatever each chooses, help is needed to allow us to do God's work. Our faithfulness to Him has brought us here and if we provide He will help us grow.

Gibbie McGill – landscape group

Thank Offering for New Church Centre

Anyone who has been past the New Church Centre recently will have noticed the remarkable progress that has been made. The building project is on schedule and we anticipate receiving the keys to the new Church Centre on or about February 22nd.

This is exciting news and means that we are planning to have our first Sunday services in the new centre on March 25th. It also means that we have nearly reached the point of having paid the builders for the work that has been done. Our total expenditure to date is over £4.2m and our total income to date, including loans, is over £4.3m with some £400,000 still to pay.

This is truly amazing and the Building Project Team felt that the handing over of the keys of the building was a good opportunity to have a "Thank Offering" to go towards the costs still to be met and to help towards the repayment of the loans that the church has received. It's an opportunity for those who have already given to the project to give a little more, and also for those who have not yet had the opportunity to give, to do so.

We are suggesting that between now and Sunday February 18th there will be an opportunity to give a "Thank Offering" for all the blessings that we have received associated with our new build project. There will be a receptacle at each of the services over the next 3 weeks to receive our gifts. If you wish to Gift Aid any donations then please use one of the envelopes available on the welcome desk, or simply place your gifts in the box.

The fellowship has been exceptionally generous during these past few years and we believe the Lord will mightily bless the work that will be done in and through the new Church Centre.

Ian Penn - Treasurer

Open Bible Celebrations

Saturday December 9th was a very special day for Open Bible (SU), Ukraine, when approx 200 friends from Armenia, Belarus, Moscow, Scotland and Ukraine, gathered together at their campsite in the village of Vorzel to give thanks to God and to celebrate the rich blessings many young and older people from around the world have enjoyed there over the past 20 years. The programme for the day was put together and delivered expertly and entertainingly by the talented young staff and volunteers. Friendships were renewed and deepened and many stories of blessings were shared. One particular blessing remembered was the articulated lorry of humanitarian aid put together by friends in Dumfries and driven from

as a gift from SU Scotland in acknowledgement of the developing partnership between the two Movements. Robin MacLellan, Michael Rowe and Phyllis Caldwell were the team representing SU Scotland. It was a fantastic few days of welcomes, renewing wonderful friendships with staff and volunteers,



generous hospitality and rich blessings of fellowship celebrating with the Lord's SU Family in Ukraine. Give thanks and pray for Nikolai Nikolaiavich, Chairman of Open Bible, and Pastor of Baptist churches in the war zone in Donetsk region (eastern Ukraine). Nikolai shared with us about his ministry among soldiers, as well as caring for the elderly folk who have been severely affected by the war. He also shared how thankful he is to God that three tented camps, hidden in a disused quarry in the region, were held in the summer for young people, with many young lives being touched by God's Spirit.

This devastating war that continues in eastern Ukraine is opening up many positive opportunities for sharing the Gospel with soldiers and civilians alike. Churches are working together more closely and there's a strong presence of Military chaplains at work ministering to the soldiers. Please continue to pray for Ukraine. The final night was a particularly special time of blessing when Grigori Michalavich invited us to the Central Evangelical Baptist Church (House of the Gospel) in Kiev to attend the Christmas Prayer Concert performed by the Kiev Symphony Orchestra and Chorus. It was very beautiful. The building of Kiev Central Evangelical Baptist church began in 1991, very soon after the demise of communism. Tima Stupak was



Dumfries to Vorzel in 1997. The gift of a beautiful wooden communion goblet, specially hand carved by Rolf Buwert in Dumfries, was presented by Robin MacLellan,



delighted to share that, as a 12 year old boy, he and his friends, and his Granny, were enthusiastically active in helping with the building process.

Phyllis Caldwell

Flourish: Women's Ministry at DBC

Flourish



Jeremiah

17 v 8

Would you like to get to know other women in the church, encourage each other to grow in faith, and reach out to the community around us? If so, please come along to

What sort of events might you invite others along to?

We appreciate any comments, ideas or feedback as we look to the future. The new flyer for Flourish is available now, up to June 2018. We are all different, so pick and choose whatever interests you.

The craft group meets monthly. This year we will be sending squares to AIDS orphans in South Africa through Knit-a-square, so there is always something you can do. Donations of wool gratefully received.

Date for your diary:

Flourish as One - Women's Day: 9 June 2018

An opportunity for all women of faith to gather together, to explore and grow in their relationship to God. The day will involve optional workshops, worship and fellowship all designed to help us connect with God and each other, knowing we are safe, beloved, strengthened and free.

For more information contact: Libby Hammond, Tina McKenzie or Jane Rafferty

'Pancakes and Plans' on Tuesday 13 February at 7pm in the church. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas as we look ahead to opportunities in our new church building.

What interests you and **your** friends?

Fairtrade Fortnight 2018

26th Feb to 11th March

This year we'd like you to join us in supporting the farmers and workers who grow our food. With Fairtrade we have the power to change the world every day.

Fairtrade opens doors COME ON IN

Fairtrade Fortnight is putting a spotlight on trade. When trade is fair it has the potential to improve the lives of farmers and workers who grow our food. When trade is fair it can make the world a better place. Together we have that power, to get involved and be part of the difference.

It's a shocking fact that millions of poor farmers, who produce the food we love, still don't earn enough to feed their own families. It's time for this injustice to end.

Through Fairtrade, millions of poor

farmers and workers are already coming together to demand a change. They are working hard to close the door on exploitation and transform their communities supported by Fairtrade.

For more information about the Fairtrade Foundation go to fairtrade.org.uk

Look out for the Fairtrade mark on food in your shop or supermarkets and buy!



Local Events:

COME ON IN...

to an evening at The Stove, High Street, Dumfries on Thursday 1st March, 7pm-9pm, for information, short films and tastings of local foods, Fairtrade foods and drinks.

COME ON IN...

travel north to Dunscore on Saturday 3rd March to share refreshments and shop at the annual **BIG BREW** event.

COME ON IN...

to the Fairtrade Coffee Morning at the Oxfam Books and Music Shop, Dumfries on Saturday 10th March, 10am-12noon. Look out for posters and media coverage! Find out more from Dumfries Fairtrade Group website <http://www.dumfriesfairtrade.org.uk> Also on Facebook and Twitter @FairDumfries

BMS Stamp Bureau

Thank you all for your donations to the work of the Stamp Bureau. We always need more stamps, albums, post-cards and coins for sale. Last year we passed £15,000 to BMS for their work. We are on course for at least the same amount in the new financial year.

Please keep donations from your churches, family and friends coming in and the amount raised will continue to rise.

Remember to cut the stamps off your Christmas envelopes and parcels with a maximum of 5mm (¼ inch) of the envelope showing all round, being careful not to damage any part of the stamp including the perforations.



Child Protection Training

It is some time since we last carried out Child Protection Training at DBC. There are also new people who have joined the church and who are helping in our various Children's and Youth ministries who have not yet had the opportunity to access training.

As we move to the new church building, I'm sure we will see our ministries continue to grow. It is important that we do all we can to protect our children, youth and our

ministry teams. With that in mind, Andy Feather, Dawn Rideout and myself will be attending the CCPAS (Churches Child Protection Advisory Service) child protection training in Prestwick on 24th Feb to update ourselves, and will then be organising free training for all our Children & Youth Ministry Volunteers. This may be 'on-line' training, which the Council has informed us they provide free for charities, including ourselves. If you currently volunteer,

(or wish to in the future) with DBC Children & Youth Ministries, but feel you could not manage 'on-line' training, don't worry, we will help and support you to do this, or find some alternative training.

There will be further updates regarding access to this training over the coming weeks, and we will be contacting everyone who currently helps in these ministries.

Jean Muir – Child Protection Co-ordinator

Moving on... an update from the Transition Team

The whole team has been busy with their different responsibilities for the new Dumfries Baptist Church Centre: here are just a few examples of recent progress.



At Gillbrae

Outside, Nate Robinson's stunning cross was fixed to the wall on 15 January. (See his other work at [Etsy www.etsy.com/uk/shop/NatesForge](http://Etsy.com/uk/shop/NatesForge)).



Inside, progress continues with painting, wiring, lighting and kitting out the kitchen. Janet Weir has been sourcing the best suppliers of suitable crockery, coffee machines etc. Audio-visual equipment is being purchased.

New staff

Our Centre Manager is Jason Stoker, who already worships with us. His wide-ranging experience includes 8 years at Barcaple; with 5 years as Centre Manager.



Jason, Wilma & Ada Stoker

His Depute Manager is Naomi Platt (daughter of Stuart and Lorna) who will move from Edinburgh, where she is an events organiser at the university.



Naomi Platt

Naomi will start work on 5th February and Jason on 15th, putting procedures in place, planning training for volunteers and acquiring equipment.

Publicity & Communications

Matt Titcombe is developing the new website. Phones and email addresses are being set up. Our

media plan got off to a good start when Alistair McKay was interviewed by Alive Radio on 7 January and *The Standard* gave us a full page on the 11th. We've made A4 posters to advertise the new facilities, which

can be displayed in shops, clinics, cafes, etc: please ask the office for one if you know a good site.

Health and safety

This is an essential part of the planning, with Phil advising us (from Bangladesh!) on our policy, Gibbie is meeting with fire extinguisher suppliers and researching waste disposal; Janet is checking out the best ways to train the food handlers.

Legal / financial issues

Alan Sloan has been busy (as always) getting our Church Centre trading company registered and a new bank account for it, and researching insurance in addition to all he does as part of the Building Project Team.

Church services: moving out and moving in

Plans are well underway for these special occasions.

Flitting

We need to get rid of unwanted stuff! All ministry leaders are being asked to do their bit.

Can you help in any way?

What talents do you have? Brain, brawn and prayers all needed. Volunteering details will be provided during the next few weeks.

Contact us by email:

office@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk
or phone: 01387 268926

Christian Aid Scotland: The Gathering



Christian Aid Scotland is delighted to invite YOU, your family, friends, and members of your church to:

The Gathering

Join us to find out how you can give, act and pray with us in 2018.

Come and celebrate the work of our partners and learn how they are transforming lives by standing up to climate change, overcoming inequality and tackling injustice.

Hear from Sally Foster-Fulton, Head of Christian Aid Scotland, and discover new ways to support Christian Aid's work.

Be inspired to raise awareness, to raise money and to raise your voice.



Dumfries event at **St John the Evangelist**

Friday 23rd February 2018 - From 2pm

Lunch available from 12 noon-1.30 pm at the Friday Lent lunch



Special Code:

For free travel to and from Dumfries to KX5 at Kingscross, Arran 28th July-3rd August use this code on your application form:

“DumfriesTrav 18”

Application forms at:

suholidays.org.uk



facebook.com/SUHolidays
twitter.com/SU_Holidays
instagram.com/SU_Holidays

Contacts



Senior Pastor	Alistair Purss	01387 263032 Alistair.purss@btinternet.com
Associate Pastor	David White	07476379865 david.white111@btinternet.com
Youth & Community Worker	Andy Feather	07889900850 andyfeather0311@gmail.com
Secretary	Lesley Mackay	01387 247456 dumfriesbaptistsecretary@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ian Penn	01387 263242 pennnithsdale@supanet.com
Church Office	Mon-Fri 9am-1pm	01387 268926 dumfriesbaptistchurch@gmail.com
Prayer Diary	Eleanor Moss	01387 263994 davewmoss@btinternet.com
Prayer Ministry	Eleanor Moss	01387 263994
Girlzone	Karen Miller	01387 710155
Impact	Alistair Purss	01387 263032 Alistair.purss@btinternet.com
Toddlers Group	Heather McCombe Rachel Lyogaba	01387 253416
Friendship Hour	Val Penn	01387 263242
Discoverers	Jane Rafferty	01387 268066

Spring Programme

4th Feb	am	Resurrection Man
	pm	Glad To Be of Service
11th Feb	am	For He's a Jolly Good Fellow
	pm	Shout It From The Rooftops
18th Feb	am	Divine Intervention
	pm	Freely Give
Sat 24th	pm	PowerPoint, Glasgow
4th Mar	am	Facing The Future
	pm	Under the Influence
11th Mar	pm	Keep It In The Family
18th Mar	am	Have You Got What It Takes?
	pm	Thank You For The Music
25th Mar	am	It's Not My Fault
	pm	Happiest Days Of Your Life



Treasurer's Report

Total Monthly Income

November 2017 £13,446.97 (+ £426,223.24 for appeal)

December 2017 £13,119.28 (+ £11,605.85 for appeal)

We are now half way through the current financial year and both income and expenditure are close to budget. The total Income to date was £98,272 (£3780 / week) plus £1,382,698 for the Appeal Fund. Expenditure during this same period amounts to £102,651 (£3948 / week) plus £1,995,755 for the Appeal Fund. These figures are encouraging but we expect expenditure to increase considerably over the coming months as we enter the transition period to the new centre.

The response to the appeal has been remarkable in that we have now actually received more than £4,073,640 towards the purchase of land and building of a new church (this includes loans of £943,821). We have spent about £4,018,329 for the purchase of the new site and building which gives us about £55,411 in the building fund plus a number of pledges but still three months to go. We are so grateful to God for His generosity and we must continue to maximise our giving to ensure that we use effectively the gifts God has provided.

If you already give regularly, or are considering doing so, and you pay income tax (as the vast majority of us do) you can "gift-aid" your offering which effectively means the church can claim an additional 25p for every £1 you give at no additional cost to you. Please prayerfully consider whether you can Gift-Aid your giving. You can continue to give weekly, monthly or directly through your bank. Please see me if you want further information regarding Gift-Aid. I also have information regarding Interest Free Loans if anyone is interested in investigating this further.

Ian Penn - Treasurer (01387 263242)