



Worship | Reach | Serve

Outlook

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Prophets of a Future not our Own

The prayer below was sent to me by a couple in the fellowship together with an encouraging letter. We are in a time of change and flux – and it would be easy to be overwhelmed. This prayer, I believe, helps us to maintain a Godly perspective on all that is happening. Individually, we cannot fully grasp all that God is doing and will do as we transition to the new building in 23 weeks' time. This prayer encourages us to do what we can as part of the body of Christ praying that all the glory will go to him.

Blessings, David

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No programme accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We **plant** the seeds that one day will grow.

We **water** seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do **everything**, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do **something**, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, **a step along the way**,
an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between
the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

Amen

From Xavarian Missionaries: Oscar A. Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, in El Salvador, was assassinated on March 24, 1980, while celebrating Mass in a small chapel in a cancer hospital where he lived. He had always been close to his people, preached a prophetic gospel, denouncing the injustice in his country and supporting the development of popular and mass organizations. He became the voice of the Salvadoran people when all other channels of expression had been crushed by the repression.

This prayer was composed by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw, who included it in a reflection at a memorial for Archbishop Romero.



SU Scotland

You are invited...



to a service
of celebration

suscotland.org.uk/150years

on Saturday 28th October
at Charlotte Chapel

58 Shandwick Place, Edinburgh, EH2 4RT

2:30pm-4:00pm

tea and coffee will be served
following the service

Family News

Congratulations to...

... Kristoff & Katrina Henderson on the birth of 'Cameron', who was born at 7.25am on 9th September, weighing 6lb 13ozs.

Thanks to everyone for the continued prayer, visits and kind gifts.



Cameron Henderson

... Matt & Holly Titcombe on the birth of 'Charlie Christopher Titcombe', who was born at 4.45am on Saturday 16th September, weighing 8lb 7ozs and 54 cm long, baby brother to Elissa-Beth.



Charlie Christopher Titcombe

... Colin & Anna McEwan on the birth of 'Martha McEwan' in August, baby sister to Reuben, Ben & Eleanor.

... Bethany Ransom on being awarded a BA degree in Journalism from Robert Gordon's University, Aberdeen.

... Craig & Janet Weir on their upcoming Silver Wedding Anniversary on 10th October.

... Richard Gamlin & Jean Grieve were married on 20th September in Canada.



They are having a Marriage Blessing on Sunday 1st October at Dumfries Baptist Church at 2.30pm.

We extend our sympathy to...

... John, Liz, Finlay and Struan Dougan on the death of John's father in August. Thank you to all for messages of support, prayers and support shown during this difficult time for the family.

... Judy Williamson and Sally Triggs on the death of Judy's husband Rob Williamson (Sally's brother) in September. Thank you to everyone for your overwhelming support with so many cards, kind messages, flowers and all who helped with the funeral arrangements.

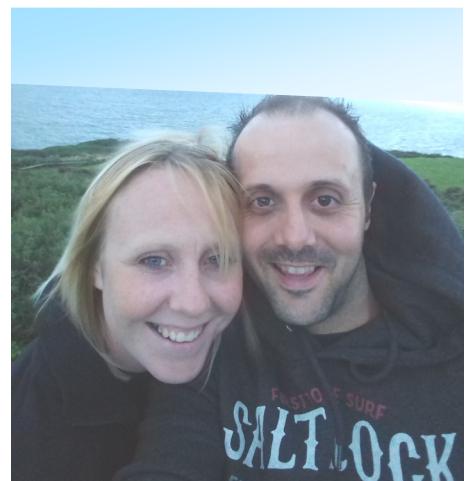
Thank you...

... Sheila Smart writes: "Just a note to thank all my church friends for their kindness to me while I have been housebound. They have visited me and taken me out when I had to keep appointments. Their help is very much appreciated."

Welcome to our new members...

... Linda Walker was baptised and welcomed into fellowship on Sunday 17th September.

... Andy & Claire Feather with their 5 children have moved up from Norfolk and Andy has begun his new job of Youth & Community Worker. He will quickly be recognised working with us!



Claire & Andy

Their children are:
Jonas, age 10
Sofia, age 8
Judah, age 4
Levi, age 2
Lucas, age 9 months

Pastures new...

... Mary Pate has gone to live with her son Graeme in Canada but promises that she will be back to visit once we are in the new building.

Wonderfully Made BMS Appeal

The 2017 autumn appeal from BMS featured three special wonderfully made children in Thailand: Adventure Man, Mr Determined and Captain Kindness.

The response to this appeal has been amazing—£3,300 **Thank You!**

Ceilidh for Nepal

In aid of the United Mission Hospital in Tansen

Venue: St George's Church Hall, 50 George Street, Dumfries, DG1 1EJ

Date: Saturday 18 November 2017

Time: 7.30 - 10.45 pm

Cost: £6 (minimum donation)

Please bring a contribution to a finger buffet
Soft drinks will be provided (No alcohol permitted)

Dancing to Whigmaleerie

Kilts encouraged

For tickets contact the church office or Joy Ransom
email joyran41@gmail.com or text 07496019339



D & G Regional Worker for Scripture Union



Owain Evans, the new Scripture Union Regional Worker for Dumfries and Galloway, was welcomed to the area at a special event in Dumfries Baptist Church on Saturday 16th of September.

Kenny McKie paid tribute to the work of the local volunteers and encouraged us to get behind **Owain and Vicky** as they settle into the area and Owain gets started in his new work. Those gathered enjoyed a lovely buffet at the end of the service.

Owain loves getting outdoors, having hands-on challenges and activities, meeting up with people and playing board games. He has already been involved in the successful D&G Primary Weekend Away at High Barbuchany, Newton Stewart.

Flourish: for women at DBC

Flourish



Created for growth

Flourish aims to provide opportunities for women to meet together to encourage one another. Everyone is welcome to join us and bring friends along.

We had a great meal together at Casa Mia at the beginning of September, which was well attended and it was good to see new faces too.

Upcoming events:

Breakfast Workshop from 9 - 10.30am on **Saturday 28th October**

This will include sharing breakfast together, then spending time in a "24/7 prayer room" with creative ideas to prompt individual prayer. Take time out of your busy week to relax and spend personal time listening and talking to God. You won't be expected to pray out loud in front of others - just use the space and opportunity as you wish.

Film Night: **Wednesday 15th November** 7.30pm at the church. "**Hidden Figures**" is a 'feel good' movie about a team of African-American women mathematicians serving a vital role in NASA during the early years.

Coffee afternoon: **Wednesday 6th December** 2pm onwards. Meet at Gardenwise in the coffee shop to enjoy time together.

Craft Night Christmas Special: **Wednesday 13th December** 7.30pm at the church.

This should be a fun evening together leading up to Christmas to enjoy mince pies, mulled wine, coffee, quizzes, games and crafts. Look out for more details nearer the time.

Flourish



Created for growth

If you would like more information about any of these events or you have suggestions then please contact Jane Rafferty, Libby Hammond or Tina McKenzie.

Big thinking for little minds

Thanks to BMS and the teacher training programme Annie Brown has developed, every child in Nepal will have the chance of a better education and a brighter future.

In Nepal, teachers don't necessarily have much formal training. To counter this and make sure it doesn't harm children's chances, teacher trainer Annie Brown has developed a programme that she's been delivering in Nepal for four years. The aim is to help teachers steer away from traditional rote learning methods, to get both students and teachers more engaged in critical and creative thinking. Her programme has been adopted by the Nepali government as part of their exciting initiative to promote child-centred learning.

When learning becomes interesting, the results are astounding. Students in schools that have received Annie's training are now more engaged in what they're being taught, and their hopes and dreams for their futures are reaching new heights. "These

kids could be anything," says Annie Brown. After observing Annie's team in action in January 2017, the Nepal Government's Ministry of Education was convinced.

Annie was approached to roll out her training across the country's entire education system, as part of the Nepali Government plans to improve it.

schools throughout Nepal to undergo training pioneered by Annie.

Nepal is made up of 75 regions. In these regions, there are 29,207 government schools. In those schools, there are 252,421 teachers who will have the chance to receive Annie's training. That amounts to almost three and a half million children getting the opportunity for a better education. That's impressive, however you look at it.

One teacher who has already received the training is Hari, who Annie has been working with for the past two years. Hari has been teaching for 21 years in Lamjung District in central Nepal. Annie's teaching has changed the way he teaches. "After training I have more knowledge about how to motivate the students, how to actively participate them," says Hari.

To find out more about Annie's work and BMS-supported teacher training in Nepal, read the latest issue of *Engage*. The link: <https://www.bmsworldmission.org/engage>



Starting in January 2018, the plan is for *all* teachers of students aged between five and 13 years old of *all* subjects in *all* government

Fairer World Fair



Fair



The date this year is **Saturday 4th November at St George's Church Hall from 10am–2pm**.

There will be stalls selling fairly traded goods; decorative, useful and edible! There'll be a café with cake, drinks, soup & rolls! Look out for the posters nearer the date - and come along to buy to make a difference in the world!

* We also need **volunteers** to help in the café and/or on a stall on the day... and bakers to bake with a Fairtrade ingredient... or soup!

Speak to Rosemary Buwert—soon!

Traidcraft

The catalogues are available in the church. Orders can be sent direct to Judith Mylne - her details are on the front, or via Rosemary Buwert.

Judith has a stall at St John's Church on the first Sunday of the month, at 12.15pm, after church services.

All welcome to go along, the stall is in the hall.



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Samaritan's Purse



A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes will be available to buy at church (**50p**) from mid October, or you can wrap your own shoe boxes.

Drop Off boxes at Shoe Zone in the High Street or at the church in Newall Terrace. Dates in early November to be confirmed.

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



For all young people at secondary school

Meet during morning worship on Sunday mornings at **10.30am at Dumfries High School.**

Meet again at 6-8 pm in the Youth basement in Newall Terrace on Sunday evenings.

Other exciting activities arranged... but you'll need to come to find out about them!



Treasurer's Report

Total Monthly Income

July 2017	£21,291.32 (+ £123,851.39 for appeal)
August 2017	£13,157.05 (+ £358,711.15 for appeal)

As a result in the change of Financial Year for the church this report represents the figures for the first two months of the year ending June 30th 2018. The total Income to date was £34,448 (£3827 / week) plus £482,562 for the Appeal Fund. Expenditure during this same period amounts to £28,418 (£3157 / week) plus £742,347 for the Appeal Fund. These figures give a slightly false impression due to the fact the July and August tend to be the time of lowest expenditure for the church.

The response to the appeal has been remarkable in that we have now actually received more than £3,173,504 towards the purchase of land and building of a new church (this includes loans of £138,421). We have spent about £2,763,961 for the purchase of the new site and fees which gives us about £409,543 in the building fund plus a number of promised gifts and pledges. We are so grateful to God for His generosity and we must 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)