



Dalserf Parish Church Newsletter



December 2019



Mission Statement

"Dalserf Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ through the preaching of the word and witness of every member"

All Welcome

Worship at Dalserf Church is at 11.30am Sundays, all year through

Worship at Rorison Church is on 1st Sunday of each month at 2.30pm

Mondays

Bible Study is at 11.00am, Hamilton Hall

Girls Brigade is from 6.15pm, Rorison

House Group is on 1st Monday of each month at 1.30pm

December Church Calendar

Sunday 1st Church Service (Rorison 2.30pm)

Wednesday 4th Guild Christmas Dinner

Thursday 5th Focus Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 11th Guild Christmas Concert

Sunday 15th Gift Service Dalserf

Friday 20th Nursing Home Visits

Tuesday 24th Watch Night Service Dalserf 11:30pm
Christmas Goodies and Christian Fellowship, Hamilton Hall 10:00pm



Nursing Home Visits

On the last Friday of each month. Please come along and support our visits to the homes.

1.45pm Clinton House

2.15pm Ballantine Court (1)

2.45pm Ballantine Court (2)



Prayer for Others

May the light of God surround you,

May the love of God enfold you,

May the power of God protect you,

May God place his healing hands upon you and heal you quickly,

May the presence of God watch over you,

Wherever your God is, Amen



www.facebook.com/dalserfchurch



www.dalserf.org.uk



CHARITY SC016156





Dear Friends

The other day I was visiting the surgery for my Annual Check-up! It was new nurse to the Practice, and she was keen to learn more about my lifestyle and was very interested when I explained that I was a Minister!

She was very pleased to tell me that she had just recently listened to a programme on the radio about the effects of KINDNESS!! What this programme was discussing was recent scientific research into the effects of acts of kindness on the recipients of such acts and the effects these acts had on the person offering kindness. Boy, did Karen, the nurse, have my full attention?

I have since, listened to this programme on catch-up and found it to be extremely interesting. The research not only found that kindness made both the recipient, and the giver, feel better. There was evidence that being kind improves not only our well being but also improves our physical health; and in some cases there was evidence that it could even extend our lifespan!!!

Whatever the final outcome of the research programme, it is evident that being KIND IS GOOD for everyone.

We are now approaching Christmas, a season of goodwill to all people, or you could say, a season of showing KINDNESS to all people. Isn't that what Jesus commands us to do. He tells us that we should be KIND to all around us, those we know and love and those who are strangers to us; even our enemies!!

At the last Kirk Session meeting we considered an appeal to support the work of GI; a voluntary project that helps the homeless in and around the Glasgow area. I am pleased to confirm that the Session approved this project wholeheartedly. A basket, or receptacle will be in the Church every Sunday up to Christmas where everyone is asked to place simple things like toothpaste, stick deodorants and other items that appear on a list available from Anne McHolm. Some may not be able to get to Church but would like to contribute. For this monetary donations will go to this work.

Someone asked me if we are not asking too much of the congregation in giving to so many charities, especially at this time of the year. My response? YES we are being asked for more and more and the reason we have these many appeals is that the need gets greater and greater each year. We are being asked for more but NEVER more that we can manage.

What I would ask each one to consider is what Jesus said in relation to this very subject: *"For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me."* Mark 14:7

May I ask you to consider, not what demand is being placed upon you but what we offer is in comparison to His sacrifice for us.

This Christmas Season show kindness, because in showing kindness we show LOVE to our neighbour, This is what Jesus referred to when he was asked, "What is the greatest commandment?" Do you remember it? We should have this commandment at the forefront of all our living. Jesus said:

"Love the Lord your God with all you heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, you shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

So then, what is Christmas if it is not about doing as much, or more, than we can to relive the sufferings of our neighbours. God's gift to us was his only Son who came among us and lived our life, and died on a cross to pay the only price that He could so that we might have our sins forgiven and to assure for us eternal life. What a sacrifice!

Every blessing this Christmas to you and your families from

John and Isobel





Harvest Lunch

We held a Harvest Lunch on Saturday 19th October in Hamilton Hall, Dalserf.

This was attended by 64 people. The excellent food was supplied, prepared and served by a team of ladies and gentlemen from the Church.

The amount raised was £1000. This will be shared by Kilbride Hospice and Rachel House.

We send this money to them with our thoughts and prayers for all within these hospices and those caring for them.

Many thanks to all who contributed in raising this great amount of money.

Joan Pollok (Session Clerk)

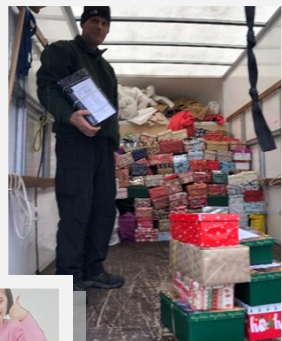


Shoe Box Appeal

On Sunday 27th October 44 shoe boxes for the Blytheswood Christmas Appeal were dedicated during the morning service by Revd. John Stevenson. The boxes were gifted by members of the Guild and Congregation.

These boxes are sent with our love and prayers to less fortunate men women and children in circumstances we can only imagine. Thanks to all who made the appeal such a success.

Lily Budgell



Guild Fayre

The Guild Fayre on Saturday 16th November was an outstanding success with the sum of £1800.86 being raised. This will go a long way to the work of the Guild supporting other agencies in our Community, Dalserf church and the work of the Guild Church of Scotland Projects. Thanks to the efforts of all who prepared and worked on the day.

Also grateful thanks to our many supporters who came along and made the day one of friendship and Christian fellowship. We in Dalserf are blessed by the love and kindness we share with each other and the community.





Goodwill Gesture

The treasurer has noted with some alarm that an odd medical phenomenon has struck the members of Dalserf Church, namely, ten members or adherents have had a leg joint replacement in recent times.

The Rev. John Stevenson holds the view that the cause of such an event must be "something in the water" in Dalserf. Don't be surprised if John, wishing to avoid such surgery, is seen bringing his own "Perrier" or "Highland Spring" water from Uddingston, to sip in the pulpit! It is noted that the affliction appears to occur in members of long standing. Let us hope that John is not put off staying with us for some time!

Whilst we can marvel that such joint replacements have become so routine, we must have concern that finding "human replacements" to replace our declining membership is proving more illusive.

Alongside this concern for the drop in attendance is the simultaneous concern for the drop in the resultant income of the church, at a time, as always, when prices are inevitably rising.

In recent years Dalserf Church has been blessed with receiving bequests from members who have passed away. Many of these have been completely unexpected and "out of the blue". As finances of Dalserf are more and more dependent on investment income, those wonderful bequests are proving to be a life line to Dalserf remaining financially independent.

The Church of Scotland is encouraging members to leave something in their "will" to their own local church. This does not require re-writing a will but merely requires an easily produced "Codicil" (even hand written) requesting a sum of money to be donated to Dalserf Church out of their estate. No lawyer or expense is required. The treasurer can provide a sample of such a document. If the sum was to be large then perhaps professional help would be advised.

So this Christmas, when you are filling in your Christmas cards, or wrapping gifts, why not just write a codicil to your church.

Bruce Archibald

Treasurer

Notice Board



Charity Appeal

LIGHTS on G1 is a charity supporting the homeless in Glasgow

If you wish to help, there will be a basket at the Church each Sunday. They would welcome donations such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, stick deodorant, cup-a-soup, wet wipes, hats, gloves and scarfs. Also acceptable are £5 Gift vouchers from Greggs as this provides two hot meals.

They will also accept used clothes, especially winter jackets. If you want anything picked up, I will be pleased to do so (Iain and I did some of this last year).

Many thanks,

Anne McHolm





Spot The Fifteen Differences



"The angel said to her, Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favour with GOD."

(Luke 1:30)





1st Dalserf Girls Brigade

Our session started off on the 26th of August and we were delighted to welcome old and new faces to the company.

Thank you to you the Dalserf Church family and Kirk session who attended our rededication and presentation of Duke of Edinburgh award evening at the start of September. Thank you especially to The Reverend Stevenson and Hamilton Lanark Division Commissioner Caroline Rice for leading this service.

It filled our hearts with joy to present awards to some girls who had been with us from Primary 1 and were either now heading off to follow careers or continuing on their D of E journey. Best wishes to Chloe, Elizabeth, Ellie and Emma and keep up the hard work Jodie and Morven. It was also fabulous to see the hall so full of girls. I counted 40 girls attending that evening and we have had a few new recruits since then, however we still have room for more in each section so spread the word!

We were all very upset that after the joy of presenting the Duke of Edinburgh awards, to be notified by Girls Brigade Scotland that they would not be renewing their licence to operate the Duke of Edinburgh award. Following discussion at the AGM on 14th September a decision was made to continue the award until October 2020 with new bronze and silver registrations being accepted until the 1st of December 2020. So far we have 5 girls who will be commencing their bronze award, Jodie and Morven completed their silver expedition in Ayrshire and are on track to complete their award by spring 2020, well done to you both.

After a great activity weekend camp at Dalgusie earlier in the year, plans are in place to return in 2020. The cost for the weekend remains similar to previous camps with girls paying £75, however transport costs are approximately £600 for a coach return journey, I am however exploring other means of transport. To subsidise the transport and pay our Capitation fee which is £25 per person, we have two fundraising events planned. The first took place on the 4th of November when we held a fancy dress sponsored "Dance Yourself Dizzy" which the girls all enjoyed, and our pancake night will be held on Monday 24th February so please keep the date free and join us for delicious homemade pancakes.

We participated in the services on Remembrance Sunday and had around 10 girls attend. We plan to have a Christmas fun night on our last evening on 2019; this will be Monday 16th December and will start back the new session on Monday 6th January 2020.

Thank you to our GB elders for their visits to company – we hope you have a good time and look forward to your next visit.

From all in 1st Dalserf Girls Brigade we wish you a blessed Christmas and a happy 2020.

Ann Price

Captain



Brigaders (L-R) Ellie, Elizabeth, Emma, Chloe, Morven and Jodie following their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award presentation

" And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him JESUS." (Luke 1:31)





Guild Report

The Guild has once again enjoyed interesting speakers at its meetings over the last month.

We especially enjoyed the adventures of Aileen Nelson and her Curling Career as a Wheelchair Curler.

We are looking forward to exciting meetings to follow including a craft night which will have taken place in November when we will have learned how to make paper folded angels. Look out for them dotted about the Church during the festive season. We will have our Christmas dinner in the Bowling Club Ashgill on the 4th December and hope members of the Congregation will be joining with us to enjoy a bit of festive food, fun and fellowship.

We remind you of our Annual Christmas Sing-along evening with Kenny Mason and Friends. This will take place on 11th December in Rorison at 7.15pm. The usual tasty supper will be served.

May we take this opportunity to send greetings to all for a blessed Christmas and 2020 inviting you to join us on 22nd January for our Annual Burns Supper. Again an excellent evening with good food and an interesting programme.

Kay Blair



Teen Ranch 2019

Over the weekend of 25th-27th October the MAD Ministry held its "Dads and Lads" camp at Teen Ranch near Perth. Rarely has this type of event enjoyed such wonderful weather. Parents and children were able to fully utilize the Ranch's many and varied outdoor activities in full sunshine. Between the physical exertions, periods were given over to religious matters with much time allocated to biblical talks and discussion. Brian himself was able to take a small part over the three days although obviously far from having made a full recovery.

This year more parents and children from Netherburn and Ashgill went to the Spring (Ladies and Lassies) and to the Autumn (Dads and Lads) camps than any time previously. Of course, with some parents attending, the spiritual message is sown amongst the adult members of the parish as well.

The monthly biblical talks to both schools still go down well. Jenny and Danielle are very popular and receive good attention and consideration. The staff of both schools continue to be very receptive to these visits, a situation not acceptable in some quarters.

The use of the MAD Ministry by the church does not come without a financial cost, normally in the region of £4500 per annum. This finance does not come from church funds but is subscribed by interested church members, parents and grandparents.

Further offerings of perhaps £2/3 per week would be warmly received and would ensure the continuation of this project into the future. Envelopes for 2020 can be obtained from the treasurer.

Bruce Archibald

Treasurer

For unto us
a child is born,
..... HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED
Wonderful Counsellor,
THE MIGHTY GOD
THE EVERLASTING FATHER,
The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6



"He will be great and will be called the son of the most high; and the LORD GOD will give him the throne of his father David." (Luke 1:32)





Contacts



Minister Vacant Locum Rev John Stevenson 01698 817582	Session Clerk Mrs Joan Pollok joan.pollok@btinternet.com 01555 860642	Depute Session Clerk Mrs Kay Blair 01698 882499	Presbytery Elder Mrs Elizabeth Lawson 01555 771096	Treasurer Bruce Archibald BDS henry.archibald2512@btinternet.com 01555 666007
Organist Mrs Fox foxattheden@musician.org	Flowers Mrs Kay Blair 01698 882499 Mrs RM Clarkson 01698 792628	Church Officer (Rorison) Mrs Anne McHolm 01698 886658	Church Officer (Dalserf) Mrs Norah McGuckin 4 Kirk Road, Dalserf 01698 886089	F.W.O. Convenor Mrs A Brown 01698 632010
Newsletter Editor David Gilchrist dalserfnews@gmail.com	House Group Leader Mrs Lorna Brodie 07906416564	Fabric Convener Andrew Gilmour B.Ed., HNC, C&G 01555 662238	Child Protection Co-ordinator Joanna Gilchrist dalserfnews@gmail.com	Bible Study Group Leader Rita Fairley 01698 881160
Roll Keeper Wendy Manson wendymanson@aol.com 07775600931	Hamilton Hall Bookings Booking Secretary: Lorna Brodie lorna@brodie.myzen.co.uk 07906416564		Rorison Hall Bookings Booking Secretary: Anne McHolm mcholmanne3@gmail.com 01698 886658	

Rotas



1st Dec	Mr & Mrs Manson	Mrs L Budgell (Netherburn)
8th Dec	Mrs Budgell & Mrs Blair	Mrs A Price (Larkhall)
15th Dec	Mr & Mrs Archibald	Mrs R Hunter (Dalserf)
22nd Dec	Mr Johnstone & Mrs Kelly	Mrs K Blair (Ashgill)
29th Dec	Mrs Clarkson & Mrs Gilmour	Mrs Kay Blair (Ashgill)
5th Jan	Mrs Hunter & Mrs Lawrie	Anne McHolm (Ashgill)
12th Jan	Mrs Blair	Mrs L Lawson (Lanark)
19th Jan	Mr & Mrs Manson	Mrs S Archibald (Lanark)
26th Jan	Mrs Budgell & Mrs Blair	Mrs A Carson (Law)

Items for next Newsletter

If you have any news or information that you wish to submit for the newsletter for February 2020, the deadline will be Sunday 12th of January 2020. Please contact the editor with your content by this date.



**" And he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will have no end."
 (Luke 1:33)**

