



Dalsersf Parish Church Newsletter



October 2020



Church Calendar

***In light of the current Government Guidance,
all Church gatherings have been suspended
until further notice.***

Mission Statement

***“Dalsersf Church exists to make disciples of
Jesus Christ through the preaching of the
word and witness of every member”***

All Welcome

Worship at Dalsersf Church
Has been suspended until further notice.

Worship at Rorison Church
Has been suspended until further notice.

Announcements

Deaths

Janet Nimmo
on Wednesday 3rd June 2020

David McIntosh
on Friday 12th June 2020

John Wilson's Son (John)
on Monday 14th September 2020

Moira Scotland
on Saturday 10th October 2020

George Stewart
October 2020

Weddings

Jennifer Baillie to Kyle Campbell
On Wednesday 7th October 2020

Emma Gwynne to Alan Blair
On Saturday 10th October 2020

Bible Verse of the Month



“You shall sow your land for six years and gather in its yield, but on the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow, so that the needy of your people may eat; and whatever they leave the beast of the field may eat. You are to do the same with your vineyard and your olive grove”

Exodus 23 : 10 – 11

Nursing Home Visits

***Have been suspended
until further notice***



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/dalsersfchurch

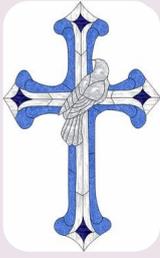


www.dalsersf.org.uk



CHARITY SC016156





Dear Friends

It was on the 15th of March this year that we were able to hold our last act of Public Worship in the church building at Dalserf. Since then, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have experienced many changes in our living practices. Changes which affect us in how we act and interact with others.

Family life has changed in that we cannot just pop round to visit sons and daughters or grandchildren. Isobel and I miss the interaction we have had with our Grandsons. Oh yes, we still have contact with them, but we do miss those physical hugs, virtual hugs don't seem the same!! Our big annual family holiday to Beadnell, in Northumberland, has had to be cancelled this year because our group is more than six people! It is a holiday that we valued more than any other holiday.

I miss the simple pleasures of popping into my local coffee house for a cup of coffee. It just doesn't seem the same when you have to queue and then give your name and telephone number. I have to avoid contact with others in the coffee shop.

We also miss the physical contact with our Church family. Whilst the main purpose of worshipping on a Sunday is to worship God, it is also good to share fellowship and to learn and share life experiences with one another.

Perhaps we who are more able to enjoy the 'normal' things in life are now experiencing what many of our friends who are not able to get out and about every day of every week in every year. Isolation is something I have never had to experience until this year, but many have known this for a large part of their lives. So in this perhaps I am now able to better understand what it means not to be able to get up and go to visit friends and family.

Over the past seven months we have had to come to terms with changes that may last for some time to come, and in coming to terms with the changes we have to learn to adapt and learn to cope. However, we have to learn to appreciate even more the plight of those for whom life is not as pleasant.

Out of these, seemingly, negative thoughts comes a light!! We as a Church are not SHUT! We still act out the Gospel in the many acts of kindness we share with others. Joan and Kay reported that everyone in the congregation and community were more than generous this year with the Harvest Thanksgiving goods that was delivered to the Food Bank so that those who rely on the scheme can find essential food for survival. Sheena and Bruce report on the on-going work with the children in Netherburn and Ashgill Primary Schools as Mad Ministry are able, through our funding, to continue with regular assemblies when the Gospel and stories of Jesus continue to be told via the internet and in ways that are relevant to the children of this age.

As adults we are able to maintain worship as a congregation through the weekly services online. The service can be accessed via the Church Web Site, the community pages of Netherburn and Ashgill, and via YouTube. If anyone has not yet managed to tune into the services or do not know how, then please get in touch with me or any Elder. At the moment we are reaching far more people that was ever possible before Covid 19. On average we have around 200 views every week with people in other parts of Scotland, England, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This is very positive and perhaps God is speaking and showing us ways of reaching far more people with the Good News of Jesus.

In all of this I have learned that throughout all the changes my God has remained the same. Ever constant and ever caring. The Psalmist writes that God's love endures forever. That love, despite all that happens in the world; despite all that we do, or don't do, is always there for us. We all need to remember his promises and especially that wonderful promise: 'I will never leave you, nor will I forsake you.'

One of the sayings of Jesus that I give thanks for everyday is, '**I have come that you might have life, life in all its fullness**'. In this age of worry and concern we should hold on that promise. Jesus can give us life in ALL its fullness; real life; life that transcends the cares of this world.

May God bless us all and keep us safe as we continue to live by faith and not by fear.

John





HARVEST

On Friday 2nd October Kay and myself parked our cars in the Church car park from 12 noon - 2pm.

During that time a good number of people came along with Harvest Gifts. These were placed in our cars and we then delivered them to the Food bank in Larkhall where Kitty (the person on duty), was delighted to receive them. Saying thank you for Harvest and giving of Harvest gifts is important every year, but somehow I think even more so this year. Lots of people are even more in need, and those of you who gave gifts whether in goods or money showed your compassion and love. Kay and myself went for a well earned cup of tea afterwards and we were both saying how uplifted we felt and what a wonderful afternoon it had been. Thanks to all of you for making it so.

We are hoping to do the same with Shoe Box Appeal and Christmas Gifts for the Children.

Joan Pollok



Liz and Joan with some of the donations



Harvest table at Rorison

Joan And Kitty at the Foodbank



The MAD Ministry

I am pleased to report that the MAD Ministry has started their regular assembly Bible lessons for Netherburn and Dalsersf primary Schools.

Like our locum, Brian Lowrie and his two assistants, Jenny and Danielle, have embraced the digital world and are now in the position to stream their programmes direct to the schools.

This has the benefit of the schools being able to see the programmes in small individual classes, without a general assembly for all the pupils. This greatly helps the staff maintain social distancing, and the programmes can be watched at times most suitable for the schools.

It also has the added advantage that ALL the children see the programmes, not just those who used to stay behind for the Kids Club. The Christian message is thus reaching a far wider audience than formerly.

The first broadcast took place at the beginning of September and the general feedback is very positive.

Please continue to support the MAD Ministry financially. If any one wishes donation envelopes please contact myself. A couple of pounds a week would make a big difference.

Bruce Archibald

"And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort." (2 Corinthians 1:7)





Many of the Newsletter readers are old enough to have some experience of the second world war and more probably its aftermath.

However I doubt if many can recall such times as this nation has experienced since mid March, when the Coronavirus struck with such intensity that church services up and down the country were cancelled and churches closed.

Each of you will have fought this new war in your own personal way. I hope you will be able to look back and be satisfied, when others were giving of their best, indeed their very lives, that you played a full part in waging war against the unseen enemy, and were able to go that extra mile, and extend a helping hand to others less fortunate than yourselves.

History has demonstrated, time and time again, that at times of crisis, whether, international, national, or merely in your own back yard, someone steps forward to lead and inspire others.

There is a well known cliché that says "Cometh the hour, cometh the man". A phrase largely attributed to John's Gospel Chapt 4. verse 23.

This congregation has witnessed such a man. A man who stood in the Dalsarf pulpit and declared that come what may the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ would be proclaimed within the wall of that historic building.

Despite experiencing the ravages of the infection himself, and surviving, John, our locum, on his recovery, has fulfilled that pledge to the full. This congregation owes a sincere debt of gratitude to John for preparing a service each week of such quality and depth of inspiration. I am sure we all have been deeply blessed by those broadcasts, and at times of depression and self pity, were lifted up to face the lockdown, and do what we could to relieve the pain of others.

To John, on behalf of the congregation may I humbly express our thanks and appreciation for what you have done.

We are also greatly appreciative of all those who helped so unstintingly in the production of the broadcasts, and those who weekly have contributed to its content.

Bruce Archibald

When I remember the positives of Covid-19, the negatives melt into insignificance.

Never will I forget the magnificent spring which made all the restrictions easier to bear. The beautiful weather encouraged an outdoor life and travelling restrictions allowed us to further explore walks in neighbourhood.

We talked more to neighbours and strangers from a distance and it was exciting to follow routes some would recommend such as visiting the alpacas which turned out to be close neighbours. What superior looking "smug" creatures they are!!

We noticed leaves open out fresh and green after their winter sleep and flowers bud. We were thrilled to see new born lambs wobbling as they took their first steps and watched intrigued as farmers tilled the soil and sowed crops.

The scent of banks of bluebells could be detected from a distance and later in the year those same banks were a mass of majestic foxgloves. Myriads of multi-coloured wild flowers carpeted our local countryside whose seeds we have now collected for our own wild flower patch. The summer rains arrived and we watched the crops growing and their seed heads swelling. Burns and rivers filled again as the now succulent grass satisfied livestock. Too soon we realised that lambs were now as big as 'mum' and the cereal crops stood tall and golden swaying in the breeze.

God's creation is full of wonder, organised and all under His control. Every season is different so that our eyes never become bored He's thought of everything, it's for everyone to enjoy, it comes free and with His love.

" THEN SINGS MY SOUL TO THEE HOW GREAT THOU ART"

Sheena Archibald





Wedding Bells

On Saturday 10th October 2020 it was a delight to witness the marriage of my grandson Alan to his lovely bride Emma.

Third time lucky (no not the bride). The actual marriage was arranged 3 times, thanks to Covid-19. In fact, it was actually not confirmed till late afternoon on the Friday.

It's a difficult time for young couples just now and we must ask God's blessing on them all, no matter what faith or creed.

Kay Blair



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Congratulations to Jodie Brisbane and Katie Watt (both from Girls Brigade) who have achieved their silver Duke of Edinburgh award.



Jodie Brisbane



Queens Badge

Congratulations to Lewis Scotland who has been awarded the Queens Badge (the highest award in the BB), presented in recognition of his commitment and achievements within the Boys Brigade. **Well Done!**

Degree Success

For the past 3 years Lana Nimmo (Sadie's Granddaughter) has been studying part time as well as working. Lana achieved a degree in Childhood Studies and is now a full time student at Strathclyde University doing a Post Graduate in Primary Teaching – good luck with your new course Lana, all your hard work has been worth it.

Ann Price, GB Captain

Career Success

Congratulations to Katie Watt on her first job in Immunology. Katie recently graduated with honours.

Well done Katie.

Good luck in the working world.





Charities Need Our Help

In conversations with friends and acquaintances I have become very conscience of their acknowledgement that over the Coronavirus period, their respective financial outlay has been greatly reduced. Less money has been spent on petrol, eating out, coffees, holidays and general shopping. I have also been moved and humbled by those who, instead of using this money for a personal extravagance ,have elected as their contribution in the battle against the disease, to use this unexpected abundance by increasing their donations to charities and other worthy causes, particularly related to health and wellbeing.

Despite this apparent bonanza, many charities are suffering very badly financially, due to a reduction in general giving, street collections, sponsored events, coffee days, fund raising and the closure of charity shops. It is a sad but realistic thought that one day, we, personally, may require the services of these charities. Hospices, Dementia care, Macmillan Nurses , to name but a few, may be needed by each one of us going towards our ultimate destination. Please do not rely on the generosity of others to maintain these specialities of care, compassion and understanding, particularly for those who are terminally ill.

May I remind members that Dalsersf Church traditionally has a retiral collection over two Sundays in November, for the benefit of Poppyscotland, and the RAF Benevolent Fund, to mark the national "Remembrance Day" anniversary. Those wishing to donate to these causes can send a cheque (payable to Dalsersf Parish Church), or drop a donation in the black "Letterbox" attached to the railings near the entrance of Dalsersf Church, during the period 1st to 14th Nov. Please indicate on your envelope that the donation is for "Remembrance Sunday".

Bruce Archibald





Church Diaries

Due to the corona virus and distribution problems, there will unfortunately be no 2021 diaries available.

Joan

Happy Birthday to you both!

Love and congratulations to Lewis Scotland who celebrated his 17th Birthday on 23rd September 2020.

Love and congratulations to Abby Gilchrist who celebrated her 12th Birthday on 4th October 2020.

Advent Jars

These are being made by some of the Guild ladies to use on each Sunday in advent. As John lights the candle we will be able to tie the appropriate ribbon round our jar and light our candle. Proceeds from the jars will go to the work of the Guild in Dalsersf Church. Jars cost £5.00 each and orders can be placed with Kay or Ann Carson. On completion we will arrange pick up or delivery of your jar/jars.

Kay Blair

Contacts



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<p>Organist Mrs Fox foxatthedden@musician.org</p>	<p>Flowers Mrs Kay Blair 01698 882499 Mrs RM Clarkson 01698 792628</p>	<p>Church Officer (Rorison) Mrs Anne McHolm 01698 886658</p>	<p>Church Officer (Dalsersf) Mrs Norah McGuckin 4 Kirk Road, Dalsersf 01698 886089</p>	<p>F.W.O. Convenor Mrs A Brown 01698 632010</p>
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Rotas



1st Nov

Mrs Rosemay Clarkson

8th Nov

Mrs Senga Donegan

15th Nov

Mrs Ann Price

22nd Nov

Mrs Joan Pollok

29th Nov

Mrs Carol Prentice

Items for next Newsletter

If you have any news or information that you wish to submit for the newsletter for November 2020,

Please contact the editor.

" I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

