



Dalsersf Parish Church



April 2024

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 is at 11.30am Sundays, all year through

Worship at Rorison Church Has been suspended until further notice.

Announcements

Deaths

Leslie and Margaret Weir
On Tuesday 13th February 2024
and Friday 23rd February, respectively.

Iain Henderson
on Tuesday 20th February 2024

Mary Grove
on Saturday 23rd March 2024

Congratulations

Our Congratulations to Fiona Anderson who celebrated a Big O birthday on 6th March 2024

Our Congratulations to Joanna Gilchrist who celebrates a Big O birthday on 2nd April 2024

Births

Our Congratulations to Rita Fairley on the arrival of her Great Grandson, Oliver James Fairley

Bible Verse of the Month

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."



Matthew 28:1-10

At this time of change and uncertainty within our Church, we would ask that we bring our Locum Minister, Kirk Session, Congregation and all members before God asking him to Bless us in his infinite mercy.

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**





The song, 'Unchained Melody' by the Righteous Brothers, contains the following two lines 'And time goes by so slowly,' followed by, 'And time can do so much.' The first line I struggle with, but I agree whole-heartedly with the second.

The reason I struggle with the first is due to the fact that by the time this magazine goes out, I'll have been with you at Dalserf for one year, and it's certainly been anything but slow! On the other hand, the second line is absolutely true...because in that year we have 'done so much'...and the reason we have achieved 'so much' is because we have all pulled together and worked as a team. I've often quoted to folks when conducting training and encouraging teamwork...there is no 'I' in team, meaning, it's not about an individual, but a team of individuals, and a team of individuals all pulling together in the same direction can achieve so much more.

I've been reflecting over some of the highlights of this past year, and they include the following:

- It's been great to see some former members returning to church.
- It's been a Godsend to welcome 15 new members both by transfer and by profession of faith.
- Another Godsend has been the rebirth of a Sunday School with regular attendees, and I am so grateful to the volunteers that have come forward to join the Sunday School teaching rota, as well as to Tom who helps to prepare the weekly crafts and lessons. There is plenty of room for more volunteers, so please don't be shy.
- Each week we also welcome worshippers who are continuing to explore their faith... and this is just fabulous; there's a revival going on at Dalserf, and hopefully this is being noted by Presbytery decision-makers.
- We've also been blessed to have weddings and Baptisms over the past year and it was an honour to Baptise Stewart just after he celebrated his 80th birthday.
- Links have been re-established with Dalserf Primary and we had a wonderful time at Christmas welcoming them to Dalserf to host their Christmas Service, and by the time this magazine goes out, they will have been back in church for Easter.
- Hopefully, Netherburn Primary will be next.
- We now livestream our weekly services which are reaching people far and wide.





- Our website is also updated daily with new postings, and we are grateful to George Price for all his help with the technical side of things.
- Our Facebook page also has wide following and our weekly jigsaws are also a hit far and wide.
- We've created a space for reflection in the garden behind Hamilton Hall and we are grateful to the Woodland Trust for their tree/bush donation, as well as to the Eco team who have been hard at work creating the space and renovating the garden and flower pots.
- We were fortunate to secure and welcome a Moderatorial Visitation from our current Moderator of the General Assembly, Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton and her husband Rev Stewart Fulton who both thoroughly enjoyed their visit.
- We hosted a 'fun' worship service from our Eco Chaplain, David Coleman, with his collection of soft toys.
- We had an amazing summer with our Saturday Teas, which allowed us to raise enough funds to disburse over £6k to local charities AND from those Saturdays, we have been able to welcome new worshippers with us each week.
- We've also welcomed Kieran our new organist and re-established a church choir...
- And, I cannot fail to mention the Adult Nativity at Christmas.

I am sure there are more things to mention, but these are just some of the highlights.

I am so grateful for all the work that everyone puts in, whether it's in a specific role or not, or it's providing hospitality each week after the church service, whether it's baking or creating things to sell for church funds...the list goes on and on...but it's teamwork that achieves, because we are all cogs in the big Dalserf wheel and we all have a part to play.

One of the other highlights for me personally, has been the welcome I've received at our Girls Brigade. Our officers work so hard with the girls and give so much of their free time preparing lessons, games, crafts, as well as teaching new songs each week. I love it – it's great fun to be with them. I was never in Girls Brigade, having gone through the Brownie-Guide-Guider route, so I was honoured to be made Chaplain. So, I'd like to thank the officers for all they do...it's amazing.

I am also grateful for all the work and decision-making that the Session do on behalf of the congregation. Dalserf is so blessed to have such a beautiful setting in which to worship each week. However, many quote and rightly so, that a church is not the building...it's the people...and we are blessed to have such a band of hard-working people, but we are also so blessed to have a beautiful building in such a gorgeous setting too.

Wishing you and yours every good wish for Easter.

Fiona





Eco Congregation

On Saturday 16th of March, we had the pleasure of welcoming our two assessors from Eco-Congregation Scotland, Mary Sweetland and Fiona Catterson. It was great to be able to show them all that we are doing, and they have given us some things to work on.

They did seem quite impressed and said that they would advise us of our "Level of our Award" by Easter. This sounds very positive and quite exciting. Hopefully by the time of the next Newsletter we will be able to let you know the outcome.

One of the highlights of March was the Countryside Ranger's visit to the Sunday School. Thanks to Karen Smith for taking the time to come along. The kids loved it and hopefully you will see more of this in the Newsletter. Karen seems happy to come back at different time of the year to investigate what is happening in the woods during the different seasons.

We planted two new flowering cherry trees in the Reflection Garden and have another one to plant. The area in front of the Hamilton Hall has been planted up and really brightens up that part of the grounds. More bird boxes have been put up too.

We look forward to being able to use the garden more in the spring and the summer.

Tom Anderson

Eco-congregation Group

Happy Birthday



Fiona Anderson, our minister, celebrating a special Birthday with husband Tom. Congratulations from Dalsersf congregation and our very best wishes for the future!



ARIETTA

LADIES CHOIR

We will be privileged to welcome **The Arietta Ladies Choir** from Hamilton here to Dalsersf Church on : **Saturday 6th April 2024 at 2pm**, when they will entertain us with a varied repertoire, including songs from the musicals, together with some community singing.

Dalsersf hospitality and refreshments will be provided afterwards in the church hall. There is no charge for the concert...we just want you to come along and enjoy the afternoon's entertainment and fellowship with your friends.

" May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit ." (Romans 15:13)





On Sunday 10th March the Sunday school were lucky to have a visit from Karen a local ranger. After breakfast and a safety talk the children were keen to get started and have fun in the woodland across from Hamilton hall.

Karen's first lesson for the children was to show respect to nature and not to pick plants and flowers from their natural habitat.

They learned about the purpose of lime trees providing food for ladybirds and caterpillars and bees to name a few. Why Ivy leaves are at the bottom of the plant, to prevent deer from eating the plant.

The children were enthusiastic asking questions, answering questions discussing leaves, flowers etc. as they found them.

Karen set them tasks, they had time to explore and play imaginatively.

Our day ended in play in a nature made den where the children climbed trees and were jumping over logs.

Honestly everyone, the children were safe !!!

Great fun for all, huge thanks to Karen for visiting.

Claire, Liz and Karyn Scotland



" So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand ." (Isaiah 41:10)





"What is your favourite biscuit?"

It is time that members of our Sunday School and Girls Brigade got the opportunity to join the fun so here are our newest and youngest recruits to the "Biscuit Club".

If you don't know them this is your chance to learn a little about them. You will see some of their adventures elsewhere in the Newsletter too.

Firstly we have Lola and Sunny whose Mum is Samantha.

Our other sisters are Callie, Aria and Bailey whose mum is Alexandria. Callie delighted us with her recent drawing of the church. It has had many admirers.

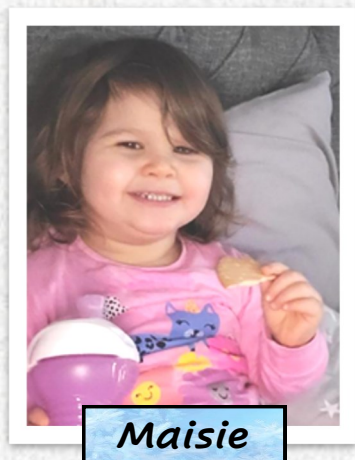
We also have Maisie whose Mum is Claire. Maisie is regularly seen in the pulpit on a Sunday morning.

And what is the most shocking part of this months article. one child has broccoli in one of their answers!

In the first photograph the five girls are Aria top, Callie left, Lola right and Sunny bottom who is holding Bailey, who has grown a bit since the photo was taken!

Maisie, in the picture below, is demonstrating her love for a tea biscuit!

The Keeper of the Biscuit Tin



Maisie



Aria

Callie

Lola

Sunny

Bailey





1 What is your favourite biscuit?

- ◇ Lola Tunnock's Teacake
- ◇ Sunny Oreo's
- ◇ Callie Oreo's
- ◇ Aria Digestive
- ◇ Bailey Party Rings
- ◇ Maisie Tea biscuit

2 What is your favourite movie?

- ◇ Lola The Simpsons Movie
- ◇ Sunny Mario -The Movie
- ◇ Callie Minions
- ◇ Aria Stitch
- ◇ Bailey The Paw Patrol Movie
- ◇ Maisie Baby shark

3 What is your favourite dinner?

- ◇ Lola Steak, baby potatoes and broccoli
- ◇ Sunny Spaghetti Bolognaise
- ◇ Callie Homemade burgers
- ◇ Aria Pasta and cheese
- ◇ Bailey A piece and butter!
- ◇ Maisie Tomato Pasta

5 What do you like about Sunday School at Dalsarf

- ◇ Lola Arts and crafts and outdoor activities.
- ◇ Sunny Arts and crafts and making the stories fun to learn.
- ◇ Callie Love to learn about Jesus and all my friends are there.
- ◇ Aria Drawing and playing with my friends.
- ◇ Bailey The Church and the big bell
- ◇ Maisie Painting





1st Dalsarf Girls Brigade

We have been very busy in the company since the last newsletter entry and although a few girls have left we have welcomed a few new faces.



Thank you to all who supported us and came along to our Pancake night in February. As always Anne and Lily's pancakes were delicious and helped us raise £169. This will help go towards our Capitation fees paid to GB HQ which this year were set at £35 per member meaning we had to pay £1120.00 in February.

Ellie Watt and Ellie Rodger have both now completed their first initiative task for their Queens Award. Ellie W. led a games session with Juniors and introduced some new games as well as an assault course. Ellie R. led a craft session with the Explorers who made lovely 3D cards for mothers day. Both did very well and along with Karyn have passed this part of their award. All 3 are now carrying out 48 hours of volunteering – Ellie R. and Karyn with the Machan Trust and Ellie W with Reachout in Motherwell.

In all sections of the company, the girls have been working hard organising our 40th birthday party held on Monday 18th March.

As Fiona also had a special birthday this year we gave her a special tiara and helped her enjoyed some cake last Monday night.



Seventeen girls are going to camp at PGL Dalguise from 17th – 19th May. Other than the young leaders, none of the girls have been to GB camp before so excitement is high. This is an activity centre and some of the activities chosen are canoeing, archery, giant swing, climbing wall and camp fire. The hope, from the four leaders attending, is that this will tire the girls out and they will sleep soundly at night!

Our final evening of the session is our Presentation of Awards on Monday 25th March and all are invited to join us from 7-8pm in Rorison.

Ann Price

“ Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see .” (Hebrews 11:1)





Affiliated in September 1983, We celebrate 40 years of Girls Brigade in Dalserf. Our badgework this year was based around celebration, and part of this was planning a party. The Girls from all sections helped to plan the big event. They choose the food, the picked the music, and choose the games we played, they designed invites, and made bunting to decorate the hall. Everything about it was chosen by them for them.

The girl choose traditional party games like musical statues and musical bumps, They learned the Macarena and the Slosh (The officers loved this one!) and danced their socks off. We even had a birthday cake!



Captain Ann & Chaplain Fiona, cutting the birthday cake.



Thank you for your support over the years, here's to the next 40!

The Guild



We have had some really lovely speakers at our AGM and business meeting, all went well with no changes.

Louise Lawrie gave a very informative talk and showed us pictures of some of her trips with Penguins and other birds but the most stunning were out of her own kitchen window, amazing. We had Jan Laird who told us how she became an artist and gave a demonstration that had us all drawing a Robin. A very enjoyable evening was had by all.

On Wednesday 3rd of April we have our closing social when we will be entertained by Luckenbooth. A light supper will be served (cost £6.00)

Our outing is on Wednesday 29th May to Dumfries House and there are still 4 seats available for anyone wishing to join us.

Blessings,

Anne



Dalserf Parish Church Guild
Rorison Church
Ashgill
ML9 9AY

**What is on this April
at Dalserf Guild
Starting at 7.15pm
Wednesday 3rd April
Closing Social
Luckenbooth**

" We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure . "
(Hebrews 6:19)





Dalsarf Kids' Zone

After Jesus rose from the dead, he appeared to many of his disciples. He encountered two of these disciples shortly after his death and resurrection just outside of Jerusalem. They were travelling on the road to a village called Emmaus.

As you read this story, pay attention to the way the disciples finally realise that it was Jesus who was with them.



"It was a difficult few days for the disciples of Jesus. They had seen and heard about the death of their Lord. They were all alone now with no one to lead them. Two of these disciples left the city of Jerusalem, where Jesus was crucified, and began to walk the seven miles to a village called Emmaus.

They were walking along the road, talking about all that had happened, when Jesus came near and began to walk with them. In their sadness, the disciples did not recognize that it was Jesus who came near to them.

"What are you talking about as you walk along the road?" Jesus asked.

They stopped and looked at one another in sadness. "Are you the only one in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place these last few days?"

"What things?" Jesus asked.

"The things about Jesus of Nazareth, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be crucified," said one of the disciples.

"We had hoped that He was the one who would set us free. Today is the third day since He died," said the other disciple.

The first disciple jumped in and said, "And some women of our group have shocked us. They were at His tomb this morning, and they did not find His body there. They told us they had seen angels who said He was alive!"

"Others went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Him," said the other disciple.

"Oh, how foolish you are, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets declared!" Jesus said. "It was necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into His glory."





Then, as they continued to walk, Jesus explained many things that the prophets, beginning with Moses, had said about Him in the scriptures.

Finally, they arrived in the village of Emmaus, and Jesus walked ahead of them.

"Stay with us! It is almost evening, and it is getting dark," the disciples shouted.

So Jesus came back to stay with them. They sat down for a meal, and Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples.

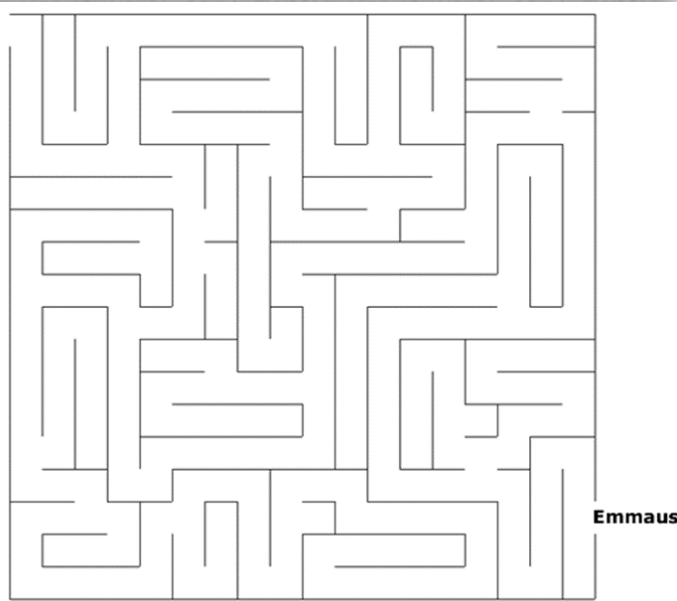
At that moment, their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus for the first time. Then He vanished from their sight.

They turned to each other. "Our hearts were burning within us while he was explaining the scriptures to us?"

They got up immediately and returned to Jerusalem to tell the apostles about their encounter with Christ."

Did you notice that the disciples finally realised it was Jesus when He broke bread, just like He had done before He was arrested.

Rev Fiona



W X Q T T I Z H E G H W Z O R
 V O D H L I F G J S E C R O E
 Q P E A Y N I Q I H Y Q T G U
 C E P N A B J L X D E I A T X
 T N Y K D R O I E E S L Y U H
 J E I S E O Z K F I L C K G R
 I D S V F A L L V I G R R J X
 B P K T T A H T V K U U S K E
 D E R W W B R E A D N C U F I
 U S L O C L E O P A S I F V E
 O T D I P H F V S C M F F I A
 W T I M E H I C J I O I E C D
 J M S M C V E Y K J S E R Z G
 E M M A U S E T Y L E D P C O
 J V K V I D K H J E S U S R Z

WALKED	JESUS	SUFFER	CRUCIFIED
MOSES	BREAD	BELIEVE	VISITOR
THANKS	FOOLISH	PROPHET	EYES
CLEOPAS	OPENED	VILLAGE	EMMAUS

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)





Our Grateful Thanks

We would like to thank Revd Fiona and the congregation of Dalsersf Church for the assistance given to us recently when Hilton took ill in church. Thankfully, he soon recovered and we would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the phone calls, cards, flowers and all expressions of support shown at that time.

Hilton and Linda

House Group

The House group meets at 2pm on the first Friday of each month, in Netherburn. We would love you to join us for fellowship, discussion of a bible passage, prayers and a chat over a cup of tea.
Drop in for any or all meetings, all welcome.

Contact Lorna Brodie for further details

Our Grateful Thanks

Our grateful thanks goes to Liz Reynalds for her horticultural work around the church premises. The entrance to Hamilton Hall is greatly improved. Her selection of plants is quite delightful and puts my own garden to shame.

Perhaps she should take on gardening contracts for us more elderly members!

Our thanks also goes to Betty Collins and Isobel McLean for the delightful knitted Easter Egg chickens and bunnies.

These proved very popular and disappeared in the blink of an eye. The church funds benefitted as well.

Best Wishes, Bruce

Congratulations

A big well done to Abby Gilchrist who achieved 6 A's and a B result in her National 5 prelim examinations. Keep pushing!

The Editor



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Rotas



7th Apr

Prim Gilmour

14th Apr

Heather Scotland

21st Apr

Linda Marshall

28th Apr

Isobel Baillie

**Items for April
Newsletter**

If you have any news or information that you wish to submit for the newsletter for May 2024,

please contact the editor by Sunday 14th April 2024

Rorison Hall Bookings
Booking Secretary: Anne McHolm
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Hamilton Hall Bookings
Booking Secretary: Lorna Brodie
lorna@brodie.myzen.co.uk

“ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain .” (1 Corinthians 15:58)

