



Dalserf Parish Church



September 2025

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.

Announcements

Deaths

Sadie Newlands
on Sunday 25th May 2025

Baptisms

Harry McHolm
on Sunday 22nd June 2025

Peter Andrew Hughes
on Sunday 24th August 2025

Weddings

Kim Fraser and Scott Aitken
on Friday 29th August 2025

Congratulations

Love and Congratulations to
Thomson and Helen Forrest
on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding
on Tuesday 5th August 2025

Love and Congratulations to
David and Joanna Gilchrist
on the occasion of their Silver Wedding
on Tuesday 26th August 2025

Love and Best Wishes to
all those young people in our parish
heading to University in September 2025

Bible Verse of the Month

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

Exodus 3 : 1-6



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,***



What a journey it has been—and what a journey still lies ahead!

This year, we celebrate the 370th Anniversary of our church building. It's a moment to reflect with gratitude on the role this kirk has played in the life of the community over the centuries. In those 370 years, only 19 full-time ministers have served here—a remarkable testament to the loyalty, leadership, and faithful teaching offered across generations. But we know that 'a church' is neither its buildings nor its ministers alone...it's the people—the congregation—those whose faith, witness, and dedication have allowed God's love to flourish in this place generation after generation.

However, let's be clear: Dalserf is not a museum. We are not here simply to preserve a relic of the past, because Dalserf Parish Church is a living, breathing, and worshipping community—a small but vibrant family of believers, called to share the Good News and serve the world around us.

In this month's Hymn & Bible Study article, we encounter Moses meeting God in the wilderness while tending sheep. It's a powerful reminder that we don't need to be inside a church building to find ourselves in God's presence. God meets us wherever we are. Yet, to grow in faith and to be nurtured and supported, we need one another. There is something irreplaceable about being part of a loving, gathered congregation.

Over in the Dalserf Kids' Zone, we read the story of young David—overlooked by many but chosen by God. It's not about being the oldest, the strongest, or the most impressive... it's about the heart. That's what matters to God. Whoever you are, God has a purpose for you, and you have an important part to play here at Dalserf...we are all part of the jigsaw, and we are all needed to make the bigger picture.

We are so thankful for everyone joining us in worship for our Anniversary Service. It is a joy to welcome the Right Reverend Rosie Frew, Moderator of the General Assembly, and to hear her message. We are also delighted to have civic leaders, members of parliament, and representatives from sister churches with us, reminding us of our place in society and our calling to be an example—to lead, but always as servants.

Our ministry is no longer confined to the four walls of the kirk. Through live-streamed services, our Facebook presence, as well as the church website, Dalserf is reaching people near and far—offering encouragement, worship, and Christian witness, well beyond our village. And we're not stopping there...so, watch this space, as new ways of engaging through social media are on the horizon, helping us to reach a new generation in fresh and creative ways.

"In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation." (Psalm 5:3)





As we look back with gratitude, let us also look forward with faith...because the journey continues, and each one of us is part of it.

I hope you've all had a lovely summer, especially if you've been away with family or friends. As this is issued the children will all have been back to school now for a couple of weeks – some to school for the first time, and others to a new school for the first time, especially those transitioning from P7 to S1.

Our organisations will all be starting soon too – Girls Brigade, Boys Brigade, The Guild, Bible Study. If you've never been to any of these before, why not come along and join in – you'll be made very welcome.

I missed three Sundays during the summer when I was away myself, and I would like to thank Rev Jeannette Peel and Rev Eleanor McMahon for stepping in and taking the services. Just before I went on holiday it was my privileged duty to welcome to communicant membership, Harry McHolm, both through Baptism and in receiving his Profession of Faith. Please keep Harry in your prayers as he continues to work away from home at present.

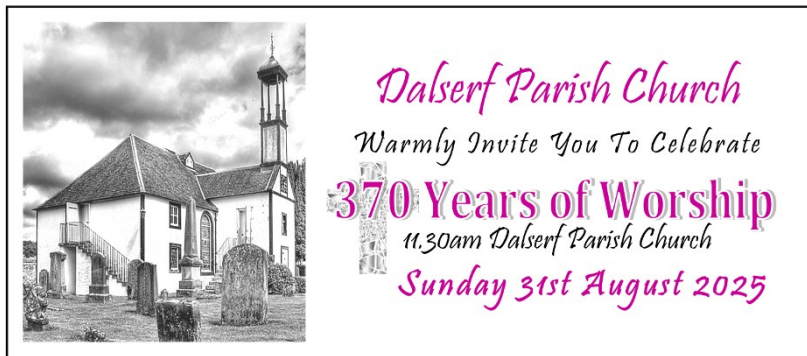
It was also a privilege to conduct the funeral of Anne McCulloch, Graeme's mum and Louise's gran, and I would ask that you pray for them at this difficult time.

In September we will be starting back our monthly 'Pie, Pint and Parable' in the Bowling Club and our evening monthly services will also resume. We are also starting a Dove Cafe in association with Kilbryde Hospice. Watch our social media pages for details of dates.

With every blessing

Fiona

Locum Minister, Dalserf Parish Church



Dalserf Parish Church

Warmly Invite You To Celebrate

370 Years of Worship

11.30am Dalserf Parish Church

Sunday 31st August 2025





This month we have two men who have spent their youth at Dalserf. One of them moved away many years ago but is now part of our 'digital community' and the other is a young man who has a long family involvement with Dalserf and is now taking on roles himself.

David Mathieson was brought up in Netherburn and attended Dalserf Church as a young man before joining the RAF and moving away. David now lives in Manchester but watches our services online every week and still feels a part of the Dalserf community. He also visits the church when he is up visiting his brother. So when he was here at the start of April I thought it would be good to ask him a few questions including what was his favourite biscuit. Despite him smiling away while I was talking to him, I just could not get him to smile for the camera!

I also thought it would be good to find out a bit more about Harry McHolm, who is Dalserf's most recent member and has even joined the choir! Harry gets involved in lots of things in the church and is a great help in many ways.

It is great to have them both worshipping even though we only get to see David occasionally.

The Keeper of the Biscuit Tin



What is your favourite biscuit?

David My favourite is a Tunnock's Caramel Wafer

Harry My Gran's shortbread

What is your favourite place to visit for a day out?

David My favourite place is Southport, it is a lovely place to visit.

Harry I like the beach, watching the sea puts the world into a different perspective.

What is your "signature dish" if you are cooking for someone?

David A cheese toastie would be about it, as I never really needed to learn to cook. When you join the RAF you get your meals made for you and then my wife took on the role of keeping me fed.

Harry A nice basic carbonara.

What is your favourite hymn?

David CH4 555 Amazing Grace, is the one that comes to mind

Harry MP 1072 In Christ alone.

What is one thing you think is special about Dalserf to you?

David It is where I was brought up and its friendliness!

Harry I feel at home, everyone is so friendly. I ring the bell that my great-grandfather rang and my Aunt Hellen's tree that is planted there.



We're delighted to share some exciting news — the Boys' Brigade is returning to Dalserf Parish Church!

The 1st Larkhall Company will now be meeting at Rorison Hall, Ashgill, on Thursday evenings, bringing new opportunities for fun, friendship, and faith for the boys in our community.

The first evening will be Thursday 4th September, and we can't wait to see the hall filled with energy and enthusiasm once again.

Please spread the word among families and encourage boys to come along and be part of something special. All are welcome!

Anchor Boys	Primary 1,2,3.	6.30pm to 7.30pm
Junior Section	Primary 4,5,6.	6.30pm to 8.00pm
Company Section	Primary 7+	7.30pm to 9.00pm



What a summer it has been! Our Saturday Afternoon Teas have once again been a great success—thanks to the wonderful team of people who make them possible.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our amazing bakers, who have worked tirelessly to produce such delicious treats week after week. Thanks also to the dedicated team who organise, serve, and wash up—you've all done a fantastic job.

We're equally grateful to those who donated home produce or raw ingredients for our bakers. Your generosity plays a vital part in making this all happen.

As we write this, it looks as though the total raised will be close to a record—well done, everyone!

To our regular customers: thank you for your loyalty and support. Many of you have become dear friends, and some have even found a spiritual home here at Dalserf.

Dalserf Afternoon Teas are about more than just cake—they're about community, conversation, and connection. A place where friendship and fellowship flourish.

Once again, thank you to everyone who has played a part. The Clyde Valley would be a quieter, less joyful place in the summer without Dalserf's Saturday Afternoon Teas



A Summer to remember at Dalserf Afternoon Teas

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10)





1st Dalserf Girls' Brigade
Company will start back on
Monday 1st September

P1-3 6.30pm - 7.30pm
P4-S6 7.00pm - 8.30pm.

at Rorison Hall, Ashgill

**We are back and
can't wait to see you!**




Dalserf Parish Church
Annual Gift Day
Saturday 13th September
12noon to 2pm



If you can make an additional financial donation to support the ongoing work of the Church, your contribution would be deeply appreciated.
As a small thank you, we warmly invite you to stay for a light lunch and a friendly chat when you come along to give.
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Dove Cafe

kilbryde hospice
Glasgow & South Lanarkshire

A PARTNERSHIP WITH DALSERF CHURCH AND SOUTH LANARKSHIRE'S HOSPICE

Care for each individual - Compassion for all

Visit one of our Dove Cafes, a safe, welcoming space to enjoy tea or coffee with a friendly volunteer. The Cafe fosters kindness and connection, especially for those dealing with loss, bereavement, frailty, or a life-limiting illness.

DALSERF PARISH CHURCH
SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
1 PM UNTIL 2.30 PM
KIRK ROAD, DALSERF, ML9 3BL



For more information, email FAnderson@churchofscotland.org.uk or call Kilbryde Hospice on 01335 202020



Songs of Praise in
the Valley
Dalserf Parish
Church
Sunday
21st September
at 7.00pm.

Worship & fellowship to follow.

Dalserf Church
Hamilton Hall "House Group"

Bible Study

Friday 5th September
2pm

A warm welcome awaits you!



A PIE, A PINT AND A PARABLE
With Rev Fiona Anderson
(The Pie and the Parable are on her!)
"The Talents"

Dalserf Bowling Club
Ashgill
Wednesday September 18
7.30 -9.00pm



Hymn & Bible Study:

Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord & Exodus 3:1-6

"Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."
— Exodus 3:5 (NIV)

Moses didn't wake up expecting a life-changing encounter with God. He was doing what he had done for years — looking after sheep in the quiet hills of Midian. There were no temples or priests around, no dramatic rituals or sacred songs. Just Moses, the wilderness, and a flock of sheep.

But then came the fire.

Not a roaring, destructive blaze — but a bush that burned and was not consumed. Strange, yes. But even stranger was what came next: God spoke.

God called Moses by name. And before giving him a great task — to lead the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt — He called him to stop, to pay attention, and to take off his sandals. Why? Because Moses was now standing on holy ground.

It wasn't the soil itself that was special — it was God's presence that made it holy. When God draws near, ordinary places become sacred.

Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord

The hymn "Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord" captures this moment beautifully. It invites us into the same stillness and reverence that Moses was called into. Not to be busy or distracted. Not to rush through prayers or hymns. But to be still — to pause, to listen, and to recognise that we are in the presence of the Holy One.

"Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here;

Come bow before Him now with reverence and fear."

This line echoes God's command to Moses. Our approach to God should be marked not by nervousness, but by awe — the deep awareness that we are in the presence of someone greater, purer, more powerful and loving than we can imagine.





Too often we think we need to do something to "make" a space holy — candles, silence, beautiful music. But Moses reminds us: it is God's presence, not our effort, that makes any ground holy.

What Does This Mean for Us?

We live in a world that is often fast and noisy. There's always another message to reply to, another job to tick off the list. But if we don't slow down, we risk walking right past the burning bushes in our own lives — those quiet, unexpected moments where God is speaking.

Perhaps we feel God's presence most clearly in church. But the same God who met Moses in the wilderness meets us in quiet corners, in kitchen chairs, in hospital waiting rooms, in the middle of a sleepless night. God's presence isn't limited by place.

The hymn reminds us that:

"No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him;

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place."

God is always at work — but He also calls us to be still enough to notice.

Reflect & Respond

When was the last time you paused and truly felt God's presence?

Is there a time or place in your week where you could intentionally be still before God?

Prayer

Lord, help me to be still.

In the noise and rush of daily life,

teach me to pause,

to listen for Your voice,

and to remember that wherever You are is holy ground.

May I bow before You not just in church,

but in the quiet, everyday moments of life.

Amen.





"I Was Just a Shepherd Boy!"

By David (as told to you!)

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 16

Hi there! My name's David — yes, that David. The one who played the harp, wrote songs, and (with God's help) knocked down a giant with a stone.

But before I became king, I was just a shepherd boy.

I was the youngest of eight brothers. Can you imagine that? Seven older brothers always telling me what to do! They were stronger, taller, louder — and they got to do all the exciting things. I was left with the sheep.

Every day, I led them through the hills to find grass and water. I watched out for wolves and bears. It sounds boring, but I had a lot of time to think and sing. I used to make up songs to God and play them on my harp. I loved talking to God. I believed He was always with me — even in the dark, even when I was alone with the sheep.

One day, everything changed.

Someone shouted from the hill, "David! Come home right now!" I thought something was wrong. I ran back as fast as I could, my heart thumping. When I got there, I saw a man standing with my dad and brothers. He had a long beard and kind eyes. His name was Samuel. He was God's prophet.

He had come to choose the next king of Israel. God had sent him!

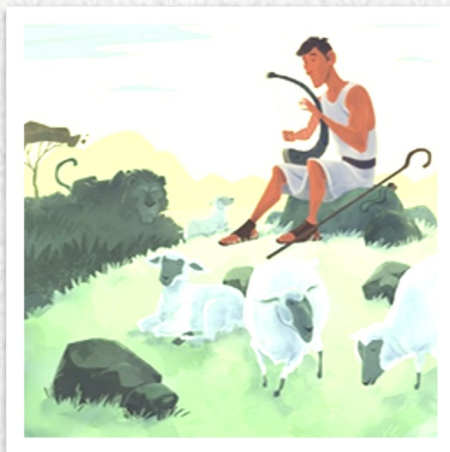
Samuel had already looked at all my brothers. He thought they were strong and kingly, but God said no. One by one, they were all turned away.

Then Samuel looked at my dad and asked, "Do you have any other sons?"

That's when they remembered me — the shepherd boy.

When I walked in, Samuel looked straight at me. God spoke to his heart: "This is the one. Anoint him."

Samuel took a horn of oil and poured it gently over my head. It was warm and ran down into my hair. Then he said, "God has chosen you, David. One day, you will be king."





Me? A king? I could hardly believe it!

But I'll tell you something I've never forgotten. God didn't choose me because I was the biggest, or the smartest, or the bravest.

God chose me because He saw my heart. And God sees your heart too.

"People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

— 1 Samuel 16:7b (NIV)

You might feel small sometimes, or left out, or not good enough. But that doesn't matter to God. He sees who you really are — and He loves you. Next month David will let us know what happened next to him.



One of my sheep has wandered off through the newsletter. Can you find it for me?

Rev Fiona



Guild

The guild's new session starts on Wednesday 10th September at 7:15pm. We hope to welcome our faithful members and any new members, who will be made most welcome. First meeting we will have our minister, Fiona, who will be joined by Ellie Rodger, who will be talking about her Queens Award.

Hope you all have had a lovely summer break.

Blessings,

Anne

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ..." (Romans 5:1)





Many Thanks

We would like to thank Fiona for conducting a great celebration of my mums life service and to our Dalserf Church family for all the cards, flowers & kind wishes when my mum passed away.

We also raised £400 for Alzheimer Scotland.

Thank you,

Love,

Lee, Alan, Lana & Ross xx



Interested in becoming a Dalserf Member?

Please let me know.

It would be great to have you with us!

Fiona

Exam Success

Love and congratulations to Abby Gilchrist for her wonderful success, passing all her higher exams this year. Good luck for 6th Year.

The Editor

Session Clerk

As from Tuesday 19th August I shall be retiring as Session Clerk of Dalserf Church.

I have loved my years serving in this role and could not have achieved what I did without the Grace of God and the love and support of the Kirk Session and Congregation and I express my grateful thanks to everyone. Your new Session Clerk will be Janet Callander, and I am sure that you will show her the same level of love and support you have shown me.

We are unaware at the moment where the future of Dalserf lies, but we go forward with God's Grace and the love that we hold for one another.

God Bless,

Joan

Rotas



7th Sep

Prim Gilmour

14th Sep

Elizabeth King

21st Sep

Margaret Fleming

28th Sep

Hazel Blair

Items for October Newsletter

If you have any news or information that you wish to submit for the newsletter for October 2025,

please contact the editor by Sun 14th September 2025



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Tom Anderson

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" And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. "
(Romans 5:5)

