



Dalsersf Parish Church



April 2026

Upcoming Events

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.

Dalsersf Dove Cafe



A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN DALSERF PARISH CHURCH AND SOUTH LANARKSHIRE'S HOSPICE

Care for each individual – Compassion for all

Visit Dalsersf Dove Café, a safe, welcoming space to enjoy Tea or coffee with a friendly volunteer.

The Café fosters kindness & connection, especially for those dealing with loss, bereavement, frailty, or a life-limiting illnesses.

Dalsersf Parish Church – Hamilton Hall

8th April

1pm to 2.30pm



Dalsersf Parish Church Guild
Rorison Church
Ashgill
ML9 9AY

What is on this April at Dalsersf Guild Starting at 7.15pm

Wednesday 15th April
Closing Social
Featuring “Summer Brass” and including a light supper.
All welcome.
£6

Easter at Dalsersf Parish Church

Day	Date	Event	Time
Sunday	29 March	Palm Sunday	11.30am
Thursday	2 April	Maundy Thursday Communion	6.30pm
Friday	3 April	Good Friday Service	3.00pm
Sunday	5 April	“He has Risen!” Service	9.30am
Sunday	5 April	Easter Morning Service	11.30am

to you
A lot can happen in a week!

www.Dalsersf.org

Dalsersf Parish Church



Dalsersf Sunday School

Easter Sunday
Sunday 5th April
11.30am – 12.30pm
This Sunday we will have an all-age service in the church.
Come and celebrate!



Coffee & Cake Afternoon
Dalsersf Parish Church
Hamilton Hall

Saturday 18th April
11.30am to 3.00pm

Come and join us and support the work of our Boys' Brigade.

1st Larkhall Boys' Brigade



Prayer for Others

We ask the congregation of Dalsersf to keep the following in their thoughts and prayers,

Georgie Wells
David Wells

Both are suffering from poor hearing and eyesight

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,





Pastoral Letter from Fiona

Dear Friends,

"Now may the God of perseverance and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

-Romans 15:5-6



Over the past couple months there has been much discussion about the future of Dalserf Parish Church and the possibility of a union with Larkhall New Parish Church. For some this may feel like a new and uncertain step, and it is natural that people will have questions about what lies ahead.

As part of this process, five of our elders from Dalserf have agreed to serve on a small working group which will meet with five elders from Larkhall New. Together they will begin exploring what a future union might look like and how, together, we might build a strong and faithful church serving the people of our communities.

We are deeply grateful to those who have agreed to take on this responsibility. Their task is an important one, and they will need our prayers, our encouragement, and our trust as they begin these conversations.

Dalserf is a church with a long and faithful story. For generations people have gathered here to worship God, to hear the Scriptures, to pray for the needs of the world, and to celebrate the important moments of life. Many of us carry precious memories of this place and of the people who have helped shape our faith here. We give thanks to God for all those who have gone before us and for the witness they have left in our care.





At the same time, the life of the church is always moving forward. The church does not exist simply to look back with gratitude, but to look ahead with hope. Christ calls us to be a living community of faith, serving our neighbours, sharing kindness and compassion, and bearing witness to the love of God in our daily lives.

In the months ahead we hope to explore how working together with Larkhall New might help strengthen that mission. There is real potential for partnership that allows both congregations to flourish and to serve the wider community well.

For Dalserf, one thing remains especially important. Our hope and prayer is that there will continue to be a worshipping Christian community here in Dalserf. This place of prayer and praise has been a spiritual home for many people over many years, and we look forward with the hope that worship, fellowship, and service will continue here for generations to come.

As these conversations begin, I would encourage us all to approach this time prayerfully and graciously. Change can sometimes feel unsettling, but we can trust that God goes before us and walks with us. The same Lord who has guided this church through the years will continue to lead us into the future.

Please keep the members of the working group in your prayers. Pray for wisdom, patience, and a spirit of unity as they begin their discussions. And pray that, whatever lies ahead, we may continue to be a church that honours Christ and serves others with generosity and love.

May God guide the people of Dalserf Parish Church and Larkhall New Parish Church as we take these next steps together.

Love, **Fiona**





Easter Bible & Hymn Study:
A Reflection on John 12:24
and CH4 417
"Now the Green Blade Riseth"



The Easter hymn *Now the Green Blade Riseth* is one many of us enjoy singing during the Easter season. Its tune is gentle and its words are full of hope. The hymn uses a simple picture from nature to help us understand something wonderful about the resurrection of Jesus.

As winter fades and spring begins, we start to notice small signs of life returning. Green shoots appear in gardens and fields. Bulbs that have been hidden in the ground through the cold months suddenly begin to grow. What once looked lifeless begins to flourish again.

The hymn takes this familiar sight and connects it with the story of Easter.

The hymn draws on the image described in John 12:24, where Jesus says:

"Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit."

Jesus spoke these words shortly before his crucifixion. He was helping his followers understand what was about to happen. Like a seed planted in the ground, his life would be given. At first it would seem as if everything had come to an end. Yet, just as a buried seed brings new growth, something far greater would come through what looked like defeat.

The hymn picks up this same picture in its opening verse:

**Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain.**

For those who loved Jesus, the days between the cross and the resurrection must have felt very dark indeed. Their teacher and friend had died. Their hopes seemed buried in the tomb with him. But Easter morning changed everything. The stone was rolled away, and Jesus was alive. Life had risen out of death.





The hymn continues by reminding us that the risen Christ is not just part of a story from long ago. His new life continues to bring hope today.

Springtime is often a quiet teacher of faith. We see again and again that life can emerge where we thought nothing would grow. Gardens begin to bloom. Trees that looked bare through the winter suddenly fill with leaves. These small signs remind us that God is always able to bring new beginnings.

The resurrection of Jesus tells us that God's power is greater than darkness, sorrow or even death itself.

A personal reflection

As you read these words, you might like to pause and think about your own life for a moment.

Most of us go through seasons that feel a little like winter. We may face worries about our health, concerns for family members, times of grief, or moments when our faith feels uncertain. At times it may seem as if hope has been buried, much like the seed in the ground.

The message of Easter gently reminds us that God is still at work, even when we cannot see it. Just as the seed quietly grows beneath the soil, God's grace can be working in our lives in ways we do not yet understand.

Perhaps this Easter is an invitation to look again for the small green shoots of hope that God is growing around us. A kind word from a friend, a moment of peace in prayer, the beauty of creation in springtime, or the encouragement of worship together can all be signs of God's life breaking through.

Christ is risen, and because he lives, new life is always possible.

A short prayer

Risen Lord Jesus,
thank you that from the darkness of the tomb you brought new life.
When our hearts feel weary or our hope feels small,
help us to trust that you are still at work.
Open our eyes to the signs of new life around us,
and help your hope to grow within us each day. Amen.





Deliciously Different at Dalserf!

Dalserf Parish Church recently enjoyed a delightful, delicious, and distinctly different Dalserf afternoon as we welcomed new members and recent attendees to a special event called "Dessert at Dalserf."

The aim of the day was simple but important: to help people discover one another, develop friendships, and deepen their connection with the church family. And what better way to do that than with a table full of delectable desserts?



From the moment people arrived, Hamilton Hall was filled with a friendly buzz of discussion and laughter. Guests were deliberately distributed randomly around different tables, ensuring that everyone had the chance to meet someone new. On each table were a set of discussion prompts, light-hearted questions designed to draw out stories, discoveries, and shared experiences.

Of course, the real stars of the afternoon were the delicious desserts. Plates were piled high with decadent delights, a dazzling display of cheesecakes, puddings, and sweet treats that were eagerly enjoyed by everyone present.





To keep the afternoon dynamic and diverse, the seating changed twice during the event. This meant that everyone moved to a different table and joined a new group, leading to fresh dialogue, discoveries, and plenty of delighted conversation. By the end of the afternoon, many people had met several new friends and shared a surprising number of delightful details about their lives and faith journeys.

Events like this remind us that church is not just about Sundays, it is about developing relationships, demonstrating hospitality, and delighting in fellowship together.

It was a deeply enjoyable and distinctly Dalserf day, and our thanks go to everyone who donated desserts, designed the discussion questions, and delivered such warm hospitality.

We look forward to many more opportunities to draw together as a church family in the months ahead.

Dessert at Dalserf was truly a delicious success.



Guild

We have had some interesting topics covered this year. On the 25th of February - Mike Taylor took us on a tour of some wonderful art, showing pictures of Easter and pointing out things that we would have easily overlooked. Thank you Mike

11th March We had our AGM. There were no changes to the office bearers below.

President Anne McHolm

Vice President Margaret Watt

Joint Secretary Anne McHolm / Lily Budget

Treasurer Lily Budget

On 25 March - Eileen Logan , Older peoples champion

On 15th April will be our closing Social with Summer Brass

Anne

**" For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves,
it is the gift of GOD - " (Ephesians 2:8)**





Junior "What is your favourite biscuit?"

It is time that members of our Sunday School got the opportunity to join the fun so here are our newest and youngest recruits to the "Biscuit Club". And actually this is the first time that someone has appeared twice, Maisie appeared two years ago in April 2024.

You will have seen the kids at the front of the church helping Fiona many times and you will see some of their adventures in the Newsletter too, but this is your chance to learn a little about them. The Keeper of the Biscuit Tin



- 1 **What is your favourite biscuit?**
 Maisie Ginger nuts
 David Biscoff
 Sophie Twix
- 2 **What is your favourite movie?**
 Maisie Did not have a favourite
 David Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
 Sophie Harry Potter & K Pop Demon Hunters
- 3 **What is your favourite dinner?**
 Maisie Mince & tatties
 David Domino Pizza and Mince & Tatties
 Sophie Domino Pizza & Garlic Bread
- 4 **What is your favourite sport?**
 Maisie Dancing
 David Football
 Sophie Gymnastics
- 5 **What do you like about Sunday School at Dalserf**
 Maisie Juice, biscuits and stories
 David Crafts
 Sophie Playing the piano.





Congregation Update on Proposed Union with Larkhall New Parish Church.

What We Know So Far....

This is the wording received from the Planning and Implementation Team after our meeting with them.

"The Kirk Session of Dalserf Parish Church has agreed to enter into discussions with Larkhall New Parish Church regarding a prospective union.

The process

The Kirk Session of Dalserf and Larkhall New will appoint five representatives each. The representatives will meet and negotiate a basis of adjustment (probably a deferred union and a Basis of Reviewable Charge since all charges are now based on reviewable tenure) under the guidance of the Planning and Implementation Committee of the Presbytery. The five representatives will provide feedback to the Kirk Session, and any decisions will be made by the Kirk Session of each charge after discussion.

The Minister of Larkhall New has declined to become the Minister of the proposed new charge as is his right in Church law and that decision is not in any way a judgement upon Dalserf Parish Church. As a result, it is likely that a Basis of Deferred Union (along with a Basis of Reviewable Charge) will be negotiated between the churches.

Once agreed, both Bases will be put to a joint conference meeting of both Kirk Sessions. Both Kirk Sessions will be allowed to discuss together before voting in separate spaces. Both Kirk Sessions will vote for the Basis of Deferred Union and the Basis of Reviewable Charge. If the Kirk Session vote is "for", then the congregations get similar votes at a later date.

Result and process after the votes.

If the congregational votes are "for" the presbytery is free to affect the adjustment. If either vote is negative the Planning and Implementation Committee will give further consideration to the matter almost certainly leading to a union being effected on the demission of the Minister of Larkhall New."

We will continue to keep you up to date with the progress made in this process. Our five representatives have been selected. They are Janet Callandar, Session Clerc, Margaret Baillie, Assistant Treasurer, Robert Wilson, Property Convenor, Tom Anderson, Presbytery Elder, and Hugh McGregor, Safeguarding Officer.

At the point of submitting this article the Planning and Implementation Team is awaiting a suitable date from Larkhall New for our first meeting.

Janet Callander

Session Clerk





Dalserf Kids' Zone

My Week with Jesus

Based on John 13-21



My name is Peter, and I want to tell you about the hardest and most amazing week of my life.

It began with cheering. We walked into Jerusalem, and people shouted and waved palm branches. They called Jesus a king. I felt proud to be His friend. I was sure nothing bad could ever happen to Him. I told Jesus I would follow Him anywhere, even if it meant danger.

I meant it too.

On Thursday night, we shared a special meal together. Jesus washed my feet, even though I thought I should be washing His. He talked about love and serving others. Then He said something that made my stomach twist. He said I would say I did not know Him.

I said, "Never." I was sure of it.

Later that night, soldiers came. Jesus was arrested. I was scared, but I followed from far away. In the courtyard, people asked if I knew Him. Three times I said no. Three times. As soon as I did, a rooster crowed.

I remembered Jesus' words, and my heart broke.

The next day was awful. Jesus died on a cross. I felt ashamed and empty. I thought I had failed Him forever.

But that was not the end.





On Sunday morning, the women came running, saying the tomb was empty. John and I ran as fast as we could. It was true. Jesus was alive!

Later, Jesus met us again. He looked at me with kindness, not anger. He asked me three times if I loved Him. Each time, I said yes. Each time, He gave me a job to do. He still trusted me.

That is what Easter taught me.

Even when we mess up.

Even when we are afraid.

Jesus still loves us and never gives up on us.

I was not perfect. But Jesus was.

And because He rose again, hope rose too.

Peter's story shows us that even when we get things wrong, Jesus still loves us and forgives us. At Easter we remember that Jesus is alive, and He never gives up on us. He helps us start again.

Next month we will hear from a man called Nicodemus, who went to see Jesus at night and discovered just how much God loves the world.

Rev Fiona



Notice Board



Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes, gifts and cards.

Love,

Mr & Mrs Montgomery

New member

A warm welcome is extended to Lesley Morton who by Certificate of Transfer became a member of our Congregation in March.

Janet

Contacts

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Mrs Janet Callander

Deputy Session Clerk

Tom Anderson

Presbytery Elder

Tom Anderson

Treasurer

Bruce Archibald

Deputy Treasurer

Mrs Margaret Baillie

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Kieran J Hunter

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5th Apr

Mrs P Gilmour

12th Apr

Mrs H Scotland

19th Apr

Mrs L Marshall

26th Apr

Mrs I Baillie

3rd May

Mrs D Noble

Items for May Newsletter

*If you have any news or
information that you wish to
submit for the newsletter for
May 2026,
please contact the editor by
Sun 12th April 2026*

Rorison Hall Bookings

Booking Secretary: Anne McHolm
mcholmanne3@gmail.com

Hamilton Hall Bookings

Booking Secretary: Norah McGuckin
0795 5856326

" Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever."

(Psalms 136:1)

