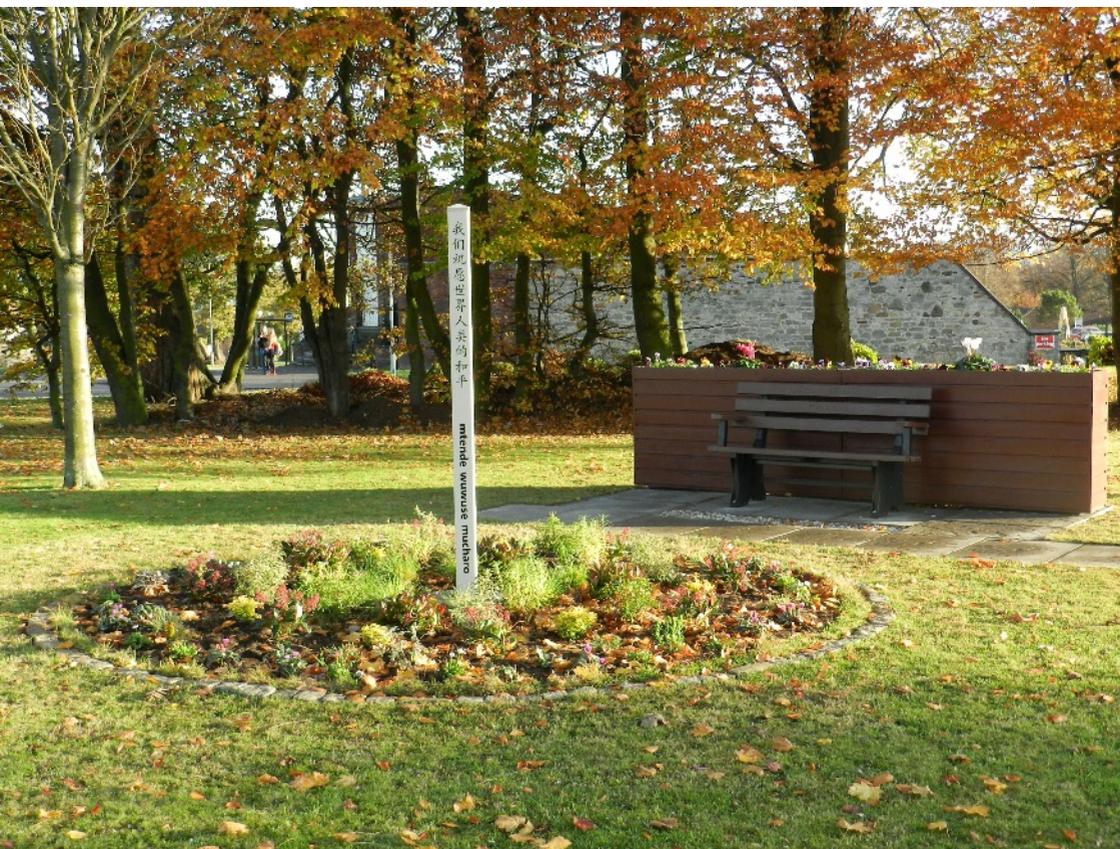


*Dalgety Parish Church Magazine*  
*Winter 2015*



*May peace prevail on earth*

# *Church Family*

## *Who to Contact*

### **Minister**

Rev Christine Sime, 01383 822316, revcsime@gmail.com

### **Session Clerk**

Isobel Macfarlane, 01383 822990, isobel@dalgety-church.co.uk

**Church Office**, 01383 824092, office@dalgety-church.co.uk

Church web site: [www.dalgety-church.org.uk](http://www.dalgety-church.org.uk)

Find us on facebook - search for Dalgety Parish Church of Scotland

Dalgety Parish Church, Regents Way, Dalgety Bay, KY11 9UY

## *Minister's Musings*

Our next Communion Service (29<sup>th</sup> November) is also the first Sunday in Advent; a particularly relevant day to celebrate Jesus' presence with us in a tangible way, with bread and wine, as we look throughout Advent to two events.

One of these has already happened – the Incarnation, Jesus born into the world, God with us. The second is yet to be – his coming again, a day we cannot mark in our diaries, no matter what doomsday groups tell us. In Advent we celebrate what happened more than two thousand years ago and we prepare ourselves and his world, for his coming again.

Advent spotlights the whole year for the church. A time to remember God's deep love for us . He sent his son and came himself to be with us. A time to remember our calling to make the gospel known in word and action.

We worship God, we learn of Jesus, we listen to his teaching and open ourselves to the Holy Spirit – all to strengthen our relationship with God.

We 'serve' that gospel through seeking justice, equality, peace in all aspects of life, for all people. So in Dalgety Parish Church you will find that our worship underpins so much else: seeking to help heal the hurting, to relieve suffering, to increase self-respect and confidence, to care for creation – in all its parts.

Throughout the year you will find places, times, special services when you can be still and think.

You will find people who will listen and care.

You will find opportunities for all ages to learn more about the Christian Faith through teaching, song, fun and crafts.

You will be able to come and hear about projects, both near and faraway, in which we can help either in person, or through providing other resources.

Throughout the Advent season, there will be opportunities to study and discuss what Advent does mean to us today; to worship and celebrate his love, mercy and grace; to socialise and simply have fun; to be still – a quiet corner to stop and breathe.

In this edition of WOW perhaps you will discover something you can come along to. Whether you do, or don't, I and all at Dalgety Parish Church pray for you God's blessings of Advent: His promise to be with you, and hold you close – gently and firmly in his hand, that you will know the true blessing of Christmas - his peace in your heart.

Christine

## Peace Garden

By the time you read this the Kirk's new Sensory Garden in Regents Way will have been dedicated by the Moderator of The Church of Scotland, Rt. Rev. Dr. Angus Morrison, who visited the Parish on Friday 30 October.

As an **Eco congregation** we encourage the congregation to care not only for the environment in which we live and work, but to become involved in discussions about global changes affecting the lives of people around the world. This year we have installed a Peace Pole within a beautiful circular eco/sensory garden to remind everyone in the Bay of the need to support peace and justice throughout the world. The Peace Pole has a powerful message, "May peace prevail on earth", printed in eight languages including Tumbuka, the local language of our friends in Engcongolweni, Malawi. The other languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, Hindi, Hungarian, Polish and Scottish Gaelic.



Beside the Garden is an eco-bench made from recycled plastic window frames. We see this as a place for people to sit and reflect on the meaning of peace both in the world and in our local community.

Thank you to the many volunteers both from within the Church and

the Dalgety community who have spent time working on the garden, path and planter boxes. A big thank you to Mike Gurlay who designed and worked tirelessly on the concept and its development from an initial pencil drawing to a beautiful sensory/peace garden for all to enjoy.



Please visit the garden, sit on the bench, reflect and be peaceful.

Norman Kurzman



Ever wondered what Messy Church is? Ever thought you might like to go? Ever felt it might be a great way to meet people?

Well Messy Church is for everyone! It's not just a craft club. It's not just for children. It's not just another group. In our all too busy lives it's a time for families to be together, having fun together and growing together. Messy Church is church for all ages.

You don't book, just come along and join in the fun! We play games, learn about how God wants us to live our lives, worship, share food together, do lots of crafts and where possible make a mess! It's informal, it's fun, it's free.

We meet every couple of months on a Sunday afternoon from 3.00 pm – 5.00 pm. Our future dates for Messy Church are:

29<sup>th</sup> November 2015

31<sup>st</sup> January 2016

20<sup>th</sup> March 2016

29<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Why not get some friends and family together and come along and see what it's like for yourself, you'll be very welcome!

Here are some photos to let you see some of the activities we get up to:



Painting with spaghetti ... nice and messy!



Lots of crafts to choose from – different every time.



Watch out for the banner going up outside the church the week before Messy Church is on.



## Dalgety Parish Church Guild

The Guild raises funds throughout the year for various projects and this year we are focusing on the following.

### **ALL FRIENDS TOGETHER:**

This project is about helping churches to welcome people with learning disabilities: to include them in all aspects of the church life and to build friendships with Jesus and with other church members.

### **CARE FOR THE FAMILY:**

This is a national charity which aims to help those who face family difficulties and aims to promote strong family relationships. 'Lets stick together ' sessions, which are already running in parts of Britain, are specifically aimed at new Mums and Dads. The support of local Church of Scotland Guilds will give Care for the Family volunteers an unprecedented opportunity to help thousands of families in communities across Scotland to stay together for good.

You can hear more about these projects at our Guild on 2nd December 2015 and 2nd March 2016.

Our other dates for interesting evenings and speaker are:

**16th December:** Come and sing carols and hear our speaker on **"A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE CATHEDRAL"**

**6th January 2016:** Come and see what the **YOUTH of DALGETY** think of the GUILD.

**3rd February 2016:** We will show our DVD of the exciting day enjoyed at the Annual Guild Meeting in Dundee 2015.

**17th February 2016:** An evening with Rev Christine Sime.

You may be interested in joining us on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at our Beetle Drive and our coffee morning on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016.

Dalgety Parish Church Guild meets on the first & third Wednesday of each month at 7.00 pm. Tea/coffee, biscuits and a blether are an essential part of the evening.



# Engcongolweni

The Church of Scotland has a long and honourable track record in World Mission – bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to people in far-flung corners of the world. Mind you, the mission approach in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which is what most people recall when missionaries are discussed and names such as Dr David Livingstone come to people's lips, is a world away from the mission approach of today.

The days of trying to 'convert the heathen' are long gone – and thank goodness too! Today's missionaries are as likely to be farmers, teachers, health-workers or people specialising in finance or economic development. In its own way, Dalgety Parish Church has, for the past 8 years, been involved in rural community development in northern Malawi. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in Africa with little in the way of natural resources. In the north, the majority of the population are subsistence farmers, dependent on good rains for a good harvest. There are major health issues, HIV/AIDS and malaria being only two which can have a critical impact on a community.

The Church in Malawi is largely Presbyterian and since 2007, Dalgety Parish Church has been twinned with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in the village area of Engcongolweni. The local Church has eight Prayer Houses attached to it and the minister may have to travel up to 50 kms to reach the outermost parts of his parish. He has access to two feet, probably a bicycle and may, on a good day, get a lift on a motor bike.



Modern day mission is not about 'diving in and doing work' but rather about providing resources and training to enable the villagers to do things for themselves. In applying the message of the gospel to 'love your neighbour', Dalgety Parish Church has provided resources to enable their Church building to be completed and have electricity installed; to build a manse, not just for the minister and his family but a place where the community can meet, discuss and plan for the future.

Last year saw the culmination of a 6-year project to bring clean water to the area. 7,000 people in the immediate catchment area were dependent on brackish water from boreholes. This caused gastro-intestinal problems leading to infant deaths, school absenteeism and days off work. The boreholes were also prone to breaking down or running dry and the poor quality of the water inhibited economic development.



The solution to these problems was to install a gravity-fed water system over a distance of 5-6 kms and install 5 standpipes at strategic points in the area. Lengthy and protracted negotiations with Malawi's Northern Region Water Board were handled by one of the Church elders in Engcongolweni and raising the £40,000 required was managed in

Dalgety, in partnership with the Dalgety Bay Friends of Engcongolweni and a church in Montrose. The Water Board agreed to dig the trenches, lay the pipes, connect the standpipes, make the system sustainable, and to maintain and repair the pipeline.

In July 2014, a big ceremony, with local dignitaries and the Member of Parliament, saw the tap being turned on and clean, fresh water flow from the standpipes. From the original 5 standpipes, the number grew to 10 by the end of our week's visit and today there are more than 70 standpipes throughout the area. Our friends in Engcongolweni are telling us that the clean water is already making a difference to people's health and school attendance is improving.

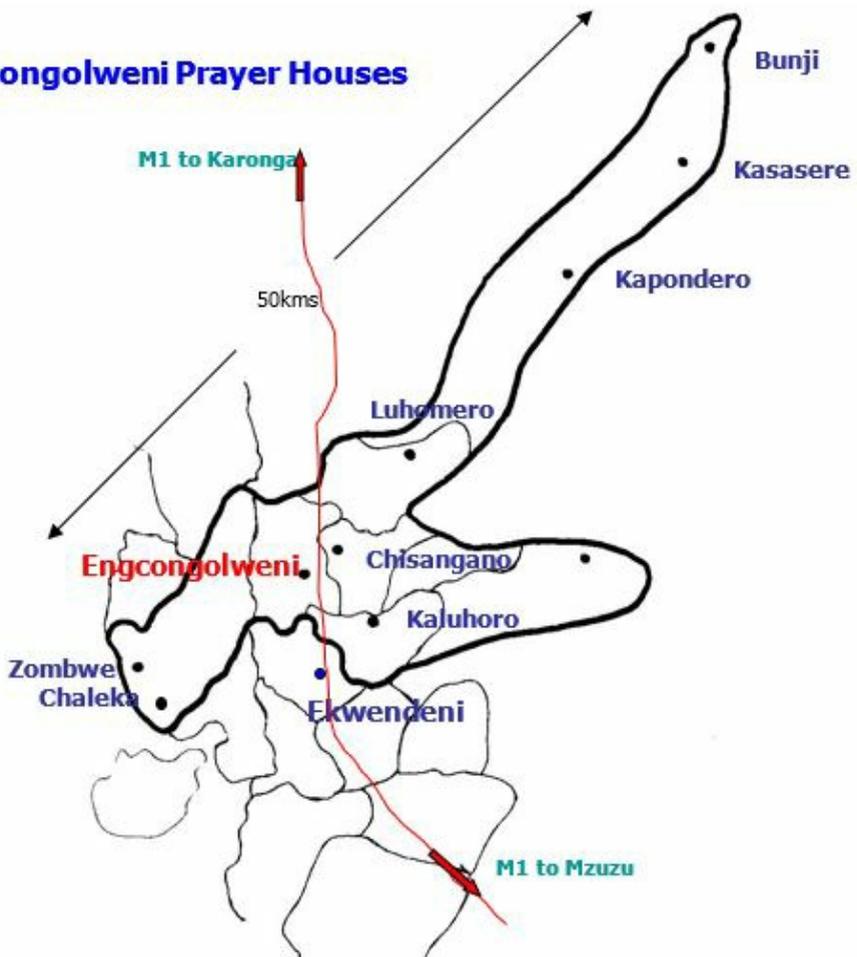


This is what mission is about – not just installing a pipeline but giving people the opportunity to have a better, healthier life with a future through education; enabling them, and us, to grow in the process and develop a relationship which demonstrates the love of Christ in action.

Next September, our relationship will grow and develop further as we host a small group from Engcongolweni. We look forward to sharing time together when we can learn from our friends and they from us; a time to explore what 21<sup>st</sup> century mission is all about and developing a blueprint to take our twinning to its next level.

**Robin Arnott**

## Engcongolweni Prayer Houses



### Winter Watch

#### *Helping Housebound People in Dalgety Bay*

Winter weather can be a minor inconvenience to many of us or, for some, it can cause a major crisis, especially older people who run out of foodstuffs and who, because of snow, ice or illness, are unable to get to the shops and have no one to go for them.

We can help. If you find yourself in this position, phone **Dalgety Parish Church Office** (824092) between 9.30am and 12 noon Monday to Friday and we will arrange to deliver what you need. (Outwith these hours try 821587 or 823978)

**N.B. You must talk to someone, NOT to an answer-machine.**

Please note this is NOT a "home-shopping" service, it is provided free of charge and is for basic foodstuffs in the event of emergencies only.

# Junior Church

Junior Church, on receiving a welcome to the 'Join the Celebration' event, excitedly had an open 'Take 5 Time' where we discussed our hopes and dreams for the future.

Planning and preparation for the event was soon underway with all who wanted to get involved.



You might recognise the letter you created in 'JUNIOR CHURCH' or the many circles you cut out for the 'Bible Passage Quotes'.



Angus created the letter 'I' in 'JUNIOR' and as his design of squiggly lines overlapping unfolded and the fluorescent bright 'I' being drawn down the centre, unexpectedly, the shape of a bird perhaps a dove became evident, striking and clear.

The Peace of Christ and the joy of celebration were experienced during this year's 50th Anniversary Celebration and may they be experienced throughout your lives.

Alison Hay

**Waves of Worship** what a fantastic night with a heartfelt service and powerful singing!

I have been asked to write about Waves of Worship but to be honest I don't know if I can do it justice by putting it into words. It was very moving to be standing surrounded by Gods beautiful creation sharing my love and faith for God with others under the stars.

Christine (our minister) started the service off by telling us she would stand with her back to the water, so if the tide came in unexpectedly.....she would get wet first!

There were three stations marked out on the beach around which the service would be based:

**"JOY" "PEACE" and "HOPE"**



They were marked out with stones and tea-lights but unfortunately there was a slight wind and the candles did not all stay lit. Christine led us round each station giving us time to pray/meditate, at them all, or at one or two: the choice was yours. It was a time for "you" as we thought about our nearest and dearest or those far away. The singing was not only beautiful but very powerful and uplifting. The service ended with Christine encouraging us to take candles home to light, offering prayers or reminiscing of the great **JOY, PEACE** and **HOPE** we felt that night in the stillness of our own homes.



I will ask you one question, who do think ended up with their backs to the water at the end of the service? You've guessed it, not our clever leader!! (No wet feet).

After the service we all gathered round the bonfire with an impromptu sing whilst toasting marshmallows. There was a great sense of community, togetherness, giving us a chance to chat to friends old and new.

May your heart find peace and comfort knowing you are never alone, no matter where you are!

May you go with **JOY** in your heart, **PEACE** in your soul and find **HOPE** in the Holy Spirit.

Hope to see you all at the next one.

Fiona Kerr

## **Christmas Services at Dalgety Parish Church**

### **29th November**

First in Advent: 'Hope' - 7.00 pm evening service in North Queensferry Church

### **6th December**

Second in Advent: 'Peace' - 7.00 pm evening service in St Fillan's Church, Aberdour

### **13th December**

Third in Advent: 'Joy' - 7.00 pm evening service in Dalgety Parish Church

### **20th December**

Fourth in Advent: 'Love' - All age Nativity Service at 10.30 am  
Christmas Music Event - 7.30 pm

### **24th December**

Christingle - 6.30 pm  
Watchnight Service - 11.30 pm

### **Christmas Morning**

Family Service - 10.30 am

### **27th December**

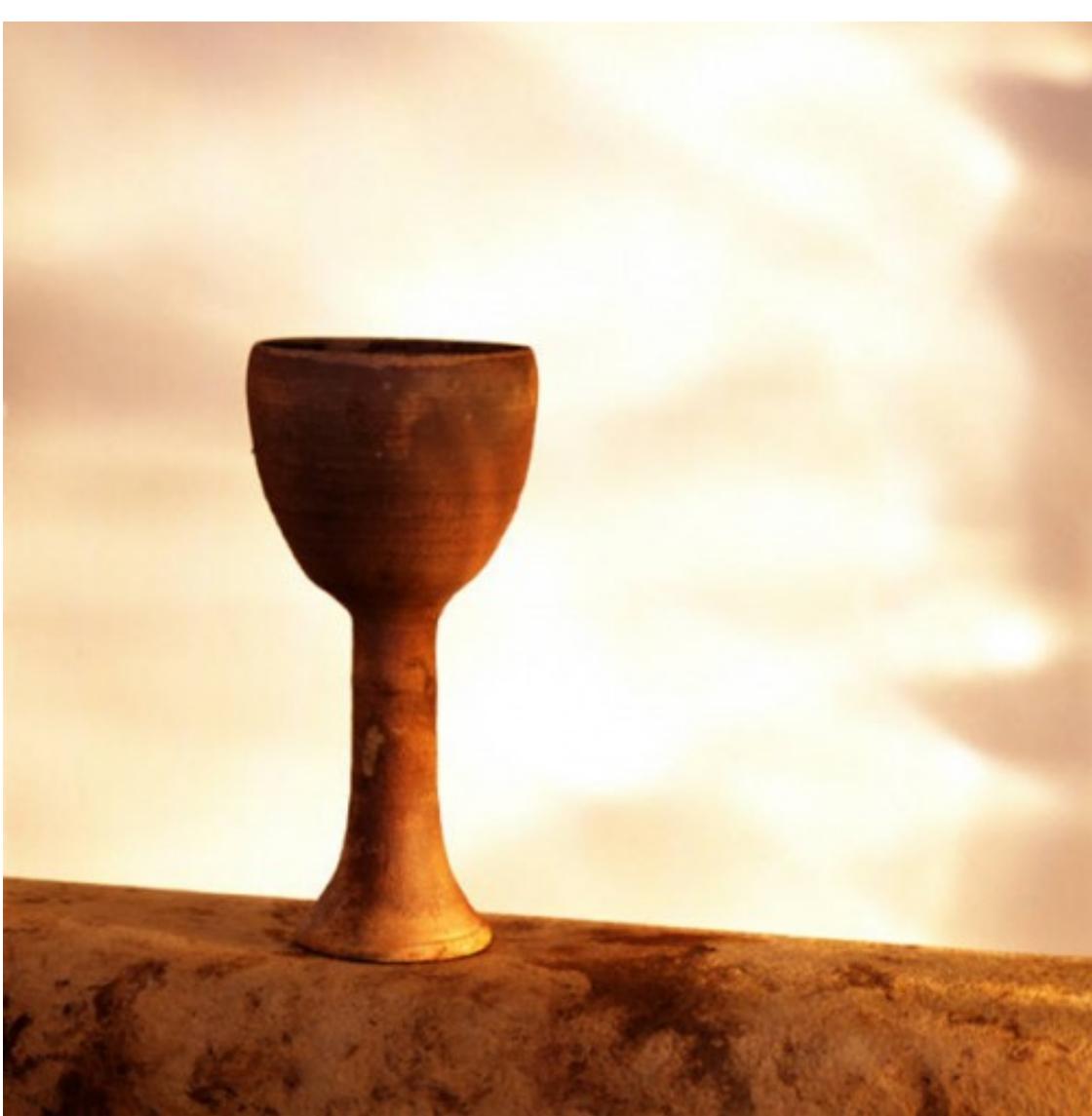
Lessons and Carols - readings, reflections and carols to celebrate Christmas at 10.30 am

**Monday 21st - Thursday 24 December midday - time to reflect. Drop in to catch your breath, and re-catch what the season offers.**



*Some photos from the visit to DPC of Rt Rev Angus Morrison  
Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland*





You are invited to join with us to celebrate the  
Sacrament of  
Holy Communion  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015  
10.30 am  
All are welcome at the Lord's Table