



Dunscore Church Family Notices

Registered Scottish Charity SC016060, Congregation Number 080454

SUNDAY 28th November 2021

Minister REV MARK SMITH

Manse: 01387 820475 Mobile: 0776 215 2755

Email: Mark.Smith@churchofscotland.org.uk

YouTube: Cairn Valley Churches & Facebook: Rev Mark Smith

11.45 am – Morning Worship - “Hope”.

Later today:

3pm – **A Quiet Time of Hope** in St Ninian's, Moniaive

7pm – **A Quiet Time of Hope** in Dunscore Church

Message from our Minister:

ADVENT is no longer coming! It's not cancelled or postponed ... it is here!

Traditionally a time of preparation for Christmas (which, by the way doesn't start until 25th December and goes until 6th January (or 2nd February, depending who you ask)) the four Sundays before the big day are used to focus on the three dimensions of Jesus' ministry and mission. Past, present, and future. Today we look forward to His promised return and get ready for that day with the theme of Hope. In subsequent weeks we will celebrate Peace, Joy, and Love.

As well as our morning worship, there will be an opportunity to escape the madness and busyness in **A Quiet Time** ... using music, readings and silence to help us re-focus and re-charge.

Each week a Collect (a special, themed prayer) is used in many churches around the world.

If you want a bit more Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love in your celebrations, join us ... take the opportunities on offer to enrich your own celebration by delving into the real meaning of the upcoming season.

God Bless,

Mark

PRAYER for this week: (The Collect for Advent Sunday)

*Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life
in which Your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility,
that on the last day,
when He shall come again in His Glorious Majesty
to judge both the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life eternal;
through Him who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

PRAYER THEME – Ask God to help you be ready for Jesus' return and live in hope.

Next Sunday:

- 10am – Morning Worship in St Ninian's, Moniaive
- 11.45am – Morning Worship in Dunscore Church (also on Zoom)
- 3pm – **A Quiet Time of Hope** in St Ninian's, Moniaive
- 7pm – **A Quiet Time of Hope** in Dunscore Church

Connect

The Connect group will continue this **Thursday 2nd December** at **7.30pm** when we are continuing our Advent Course entitled 'Wake up to Advent' by John Sentamu, former Archbishop of York. All are welcome to join us. Contact Tim Harmer (timharmer95@gmail.com).

Dumfries and Galloway Toy Appeal – This year we will collect toys for the appeal as part of **Messy Church** on **Sunday 12th December**. Please bring gifts for children unwrapped. We will give all gifts to the Dumfries and Galloway Toy Appeal.

Christmas Shoe Boxes

It's Shoe Box season. - 5 minutes of your time can give hope and joy to a child for a lifetime. If you want to fill a Shoe Box online this year please go to:

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Christian Aid Christmas Appeal.

Please take a look at this excellent video –

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christmas-appeal>

Eco Snippet

When shopping in a supermarket for vegetables, think seasonal and look at the country of origin as there can be the same product from different countries and the eco one is the closest.

Saturday 18th Dec at 3pm. **The Dalgarno Singers** are back together and will be giving a short and jolly one-hour Christmas Concert in Church. There are no tickets, but a donation would be appreciated. *Alternative date* and venue - 7.30pm Mon 20th Dec in Dalswinton Church.

First Base Food Bank

Mark Frankland of First Base has told us that pre-Covid they were distributing **600 food parcels** a week throughout Dumfries & Galloway. At its peak during lockdown this had risen to **2,400!!!** It has now levelled off to around **1,400. BUT** he dreads the result of the £20 a week reduction in universal credit received during the pandemic and knows that the numbers will soar again. Winter is just starting so please do help ... there are a number of ways of doing this.

YOU CAN: Donate through 'Just Giving' on line - www.justgiving.com/first-base

OR Mark Frankland would be delighted to receive cheques made out to 'The First Base Food Agency' at First Base Food Bank 6 Buccleuch Street, Dumfries DG1 2NH

OR I will be happy to take a donation in church and send it via 'Just Giving'.

Many thanks for your help. **Sheila**

Please send items for the CFNs for December to Sheila Anderson sheila69@btinternet.com