



Dunscore Church Family Notices

Registered Scottish Charity SC016060, Congregation Number 080454

Minister REV MARK SMITH

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Sunday 17th September 2023

Bible Readings – Romans 14:1-2; Matthew 18:21-35

A Message from our Minister:

By now we have all got back into the 'regular' rhythm of life – school drop-offs and pick-ups, community groups & activities, shopping, etc. It is as if summer hardly happened!

How is it then that we always remember a wrong or slight from years ago? We find it hard to forgive and forget, often carrying grudges and bitterness for decades!

As Christians we know that through Jesus' Death God has forgiven us the things which cut Him out of our lives and given us a fresh start. We also know that He expects us to do the same, yet still find it so hard. Perhaps we're wary of being hurt again, frightened of trusting, choosing to hold our love back for fear of betrayal or being exploited. It is not irrational to feel that way. It is part of being human – a defence mechanism in the difficult realm of relationships.

God puts Himself out there time and time again, despite the ways we ignore Him or choose to go our own way. His Infinite Love and Mercy and Grace and Forgiveness can never be worn out!

Shouldn't we do the same?

God Bless,

Mark

PS I'm 'off' this week so please contact Colin Mitchell (Dunscore 820455), Nan Tait (Moniaive 200403), or Rev Tim Harmer (Dunscore 820861) if you need any help or information.

PRAYER for this month: *Almighty God our Heavenly Father,
You have shown us Your Great Faithfulness
over many years and in many ways.
We thank You for the way You have inspired people
to serve You in this community
over many years and in many ways.
We commit ourselves to seek Your Way
as we look to serve this community
and the world beyond these hills
over many years and in many ways.
Inspire, guide, and strengthen us
by the Holy Spirit as we work
to share the Good News of Jesus' Love
over many years and in many ways.*

PRAYER THEME – God for His patience and forgiveness, ask help to show it to others!

Today Sunday 17th September:

10am – **Morning Worship** in St Ninian's, Moniaive
11.30am – **Morning Worship** in Dunscore Church

Thursday 21st September:

7.30pm – **Connect Bible Study Group** in Dunscore Church - *Saints in the Bible ... and beyond.*

Next Sunday 24th September:

10am – **Café Church Bluegrass Special** in St Ninian's, Moniaive
11.30am – **HARVEST Together with KiKs** in Dunscore Church - donations for the Food Bank

Eco-snippet

Is your tea and coffee Fairtrade? Maybe you don't like Fairtrade tea or coffee... If so, ask yourself how many you have tried. There are so many to choose from and try (have a look in any supermarket) and they are often as cheap as the big brands. What's more, you know that the person doing the picking has not been exploited (certainly not something that you can be confident about with the big brands).

The First Base Food Bank

IF YOU CAN: Please Donate through 'Just Giving' online - www.justgiving.com/firstbase
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. Many thanks for your help. Tel. 01387 820236 or e-mail sheila69@btinternet.com

Please send any items for the September CFNs by Friday afternoon to Linda Mushet
linm122@outlook.com