



Church Family Notices

15 December 2024

Service Time: 10:00am


Reading: Philippians 4: 4-9


Join the Service Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86939887756>

Dunscore Parish Church Worship in Dunscore Church is for everyone, regardless of age, nationality, status, or ability. We'd be delighted to welcome you.

Minister

Rev Mark RS Smith


 01387 820475

 07762 152755

 mark.smith@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk

Colin Mitchell

 01387 820455

Find Us On

 dunscorechurch.org.uk

 Dunscore Church

 Cairn Valley Churches

Message from the Minister:

As a child, Charles Dickens experienced a rare thing ... white Christmases! As an adult, Charles Dickens wrote about the harsh reality of Victorian life yet included his own happy memories ... white Christmases! Today our images of the perfect Christmas take much from his memories! We're dreaming of a white Christmas with everything just so. If not, how can we feel the joy of the season?

The grimy underbelly of life can so easily drag us down!

Today we think about true joy. A deep inner joy not based on things or the weather, but on the Hope, Peace and Love we find in Christmas, in the Christ-child, in Jesus, the Prince of Peace, Light of the world. I hope you find it for yourselves as we hear familiar readings, sing familiar carols together over the next fortnight.

AND I hope you carry it with you into 2025 – Jesus is not just for Christmas ... He's for Life!

God Bless,

Mark

PS Today is the last day for donations of (unwrapped) toys for the Annual Toy Appeal – bring them with you to church and we'll get them into the system for you.

Prayer Theme:

Ask God to fill you with Joy based on Hope, Peace, and Love.

Prayer For This Week

God of all,

We praise You for Your life-giving promises fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ-child;

We praise You for Your life-changing Word declared in Jesus, the Light of the world.

We praise You for the joy of knowing You are in our midst today;

We praise You for the joy of knowing You love us as we are;

We praise You for the joy of knowing You will never, ever, let us go.



Christmas Toy Appeal

Dunscore Church has been a great supporter of this appeal and, once again this year, we ask you to donate new (unwrapped) toys and gifts for children in our region who otherwise are unlikely to receive much. Please bring them to the service this Sunday and we'll deliver them to the appeal. Thank you!

Coming Soon		
From Monday	6:00 pm	Living Advent in Moniaive. At the cross each evening
Thursday 19/12/24	7:00 pm	Christmas Carols in the Flying Pig (outside if it's not wet or windy)
Saturday 21/12/24	4:00 pm	Cairn Chorus in Dunscore Church "And to the Earth be Peace" https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cairn-chorus
Sunday 22/12/24	10:00 am	Dunscore Orchestra Service Favourite carols accompanied by the Dunscore Orchestra
Tuesday 24/12/24	4:00 pm	Christingle Carols and Christingles in Dunscore Church
Wednesday 25/12 24	10:30 am	Christmas Day Service in Dunscore Church
Sunday 29/12/24	10:30 am	Joint Service in St Ninian's in Moniaive

Church and Parish News

Can you help?

Contributions of mince pies and shortbread are required for the Cairn Chorus Concert next Saturday afternoon 21st December.

We also need contributions of food for after the Orchestra Service next Sunday 22nd December. Volunteers also needed. Please get in touch with Mary at marypwaugh@gmail.com if you can help. Thank you.

Hymn/Worship Song Choices

If you have a favourite hymn or worship song please send it to Mark and he will include it in one of our services. This might not be immediately but will be slotted in when the service theme is appropriate.

Cairn Chorus Concert

Tickets are now on sale for this concert 'And to the Earth be Peace' taking place in Dunscore Church on 21 December at 4.00pm. Tickets are priced at £10 full/£5 under 26/free for under 13s and can be purchased on line at: [ticketsource.co.uk/cairn-chorus](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cairn-chorus) For more information visit www.cairnchorus.co.uk

Books

There are two books available in the church. The history of Dunscore Church over the 200 years since it was built. A fascinating read.

Also, "A Nativity Who's Who" written by Christine Sime (our former minister) which is the nativity story focusing on some of the key characters that were there. It's easy to read, fun and ideal for older primary age children (and adults!).

ALL Together NOW!

Please do try and make it along to our new relaxed and fun, family- friendly services and support the younger members of our congregation. These are usually on the second Sunday of the month. The next All Together Now outing will be the All Together Christingle on Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm. They tend to include arts & crafts, dramatic readings, songs with Claudia, worship and, of course, snacks & refreshments for everyone. All Ages – All Stages – Bring a friend – Bring the Family!

An Amazing Opportunity!

We are looking for someone to follow in the footsteps of our lovely JD. We need a willing person to be our Clerk to the Board. We anticipate that this to be a temporary position because, we expect to join with our linked congregation in Moniaive at which time the Session and Board of both congregations will become one single Session. The Clerk to the Board agrees the agenda for the board meetings (held every other month) and sends this round with any board reports. She / he takes the minutes of board meetings, writes them up, circulates them and signs them along with the Board Chair. The Clerk does not need to be a member of the Board.

Please contact Kath or Mark if you can help with this – we are all part of the team!

Eco Snippet

So many people feel lonely, especially at this time of year so why not give someone a call and make their day?