

# Dumfries Baptist Church



Worship | Grow | Reach | Serve

June 2025

## Outlook

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**tearfund**

### CYCLE RIDES & WALK

#### SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST

There will be cycle routes of varying distance to suit all ages and abilities, together with interesting walks. All starting from the Church centre and all returning for sandwiches and cakes. The longer routes will include a refreshment stop at Tynron village hall.

Please join in to raise vital funds for Tearfund.

Helpers will be needed on the day - look out for the sign-up sheets appearing in a week or two.

Mark Twain once said that “few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example”. Mark touches on something important here with his characteristic humour! It is far easier in my experience to resist words of advice than it is to resist a good and godly example!

As part of our Sunday mornings at present we are working our way through 2 John under the overall theme of ‘Following the Right Examples’. We are considering the different characters that John mentions and learning what examples we ought to follow and what examples we ought not to follow!

In 1 Corinthians 11:1 the Apostle Paul said; *“Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ”*. In the previous chapter Paul has been challenging the self-serving attitudes and behaviours of some Corinthian believers.

In 1 Corinthians 10:23-24, 33 Paul says; *“I have the right to do anything; you say—but not everything is beneficial. I have the right to do anything—but not everything is constructive. 24 No one should seek their own good, but the good of others. 33 For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved”*.

The Corinthians weren’t very good at this and as a result there was division and hurts of all kinds within the church. Paul therefore exhorts them to look at him as he seeks to follow the example of Christ. Also in 1 Cor 4:16 Paul says; *“I urge you to imitate me”*. It might seem a bold thing to say but Paul, like all spiritual leaders (and indeed all Christians), was to set an example of Christlikeness for others to follow (cf. 1 Timothy 4:12; Hebrews 13:7).

In Phil 3:17 Paul encouraged the Philippian believers to grow and mature in their Christian life and become more like Christ, again he asks them to follow his example. He does the same again in Phil 4:9 when he said *“whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me, put it into practise”*.

Can you think of people in your life who have been a good and godly example to you? What kind of example are you to others? Do you, like Paul, set an example that points others to Jesus?

The Lord Jesus Christ whose life was not a self-serving one but rather a self-giving one once said; *“I have come not to be served*

*but to serve and give my life as a ransom for many”*. In Philippians 2:1-5 Paul says; *“Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit*

*and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. 5 In your relationships with one another, your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...”*

We are to follow Christ first in all things, then we will set an example for others to follow Him in all things.

God bless.

AI

Alistair Purss, Lead Pastor



# Family News

## Congratulations...

... to Rosemary and Rolf Buwert - Jonah Reuben Buwert, our first grandSON, was born 21st April and we are delighted, as are his mum, dad and three big sisters. A healthy, hungry and perfect wee boy to make the family complete.



## Congratulations...

... to Emma Bunting and Ian on the birth of Cooper James Faulkner, born 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025, 7lb 3oz. First grandchild for Andrew & Alison.



## Congratulations...

... to Nick and Lorna Kneeshaw who welcomed baby Elias Andrew on 22nd May. First grandchild for Heather Kneeshaw.



## Congratulations...

... to Fi and Stephen Robertson on the arrival of two new granddaughters.



Katy and Josh had a little girl named Raphaella Scarlett born on Tuesday 22nd April 2025.

Hannah and Michael had a little girl named Daisy Louisa born on Thursday 24th April 2025. Both babies and their respective families are doing well.

## Congratulations...

... to Lorna Platt who is looking forward to celebrating a big birthday on 14th June. Happy Birthday Lorna!



## Congratulations...

... to Emily Faulds and Rhys Williams who were married at Crichton Memorial Church on Saturday 17th May.



## Congratulations...

... to Ian and Shona Richmond who are looking forward to celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 19th June.



## Congratulations...

... to Maureen Hunter and Andy West who got engaged recently.



## Thanks

### Thanks...

... We are so, so grateful for all the help, support, prayers and gifts from the church family. Also Holly and Ren sang beautifully for us during the service. God has been so good to us.

Emily & Rhys Williams

### Thanks...

... A big thank you for all the prayers and practical support and

encouragement I received from the church family following my recent knee surgery - for those who provided meals, those who shopped for me and those who took me to various medical appointments.

It was really appreciated.

Thank you, too, to Alistair and Eoghan for all their visits and encouragement.

Fiona Mackenzie

### Thanks...

... Joy, Graham and Dawn would like to say a big thank you for your care, love and support for our Mum, Audrey Ransom, and us as a family, over the last few weeks.

The many messages, cards and hugs have been a great encouragement.

Many thanks.

## Easter Saturday Car Wash



The car wash morning was a great success

at DBC, Easter Saturday in raising funds for a new charity 'Educate and Empower Uganda' to help raise funds for Ugandan children to have an education.



We raised over £800 so a big thanks to all who helped and supported us in prayer and financially, as well as all who



volunteered on the day. It was a great community event and we managed to wash 40 cars.... all satisfied customers! Hence we hope to do it again so look out for the adverts.



## Discoverers Family Meet Up

Saturday 5th July Sandyhills Beach from 10am

For all Discoverers families, come when you like...stay as long as you like.



Meet on the grassy area to the left side of the car park

Bring any of the following: Picnic rugs or folding chairs | Games | Buckets and spades | Picnic lunch

Please send a message to Steph 07934 612162 or Jane 07787 545460 if you are able to join us.

We will postpone if it's wet, and let you know by text. Hope to see you there.


# Praise Gathering 2025

PRAISE GATHERING CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

THE 400 VOICE PRAISE GATHERING CHOIR, YOUTH CHOIR AND BAND PRESENT:

## PRAISE GATHERING 2025


GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL  
SATURDAY 14 JUNE, SUNDAY 15 JUNE  
EDINBURGH USHER HALL  
SATURDAY 21 JUNE



praise gathering 40 years 1985-2025

TICKETS NOW ON SALE  
from venue box offices or  
[WWW.PRAISEGATHERING.ORG.UK](http://WWW.PRAISEGATHERING.ORG.UK)

pglyc  
praise gathering youth choir



This year the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Praise Gathering will be taking place in **Glasgow Royal Concert Hall** on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm** and **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm**; and in **Edinburgh Usher Hall** on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 7pm**.

This year's Praise Gathering choir is made up of over 400 voices, but this is not the choir that I will have the privilege of worshipping with. The **Praise Gathering Youth Choir** has been running alongside the Praise Gathering Choir since 2018 under the leadership of Jenny Cheung. I joined the Team at the beginning, but due to moving to Northern Ireland for a short time this will be my third year serving with the Youth Choir Team.

This year, the choir is made up of about 70 young people from P5 to S6 and it truly is a joy to be part of. Rather than having weekly rehearsals like the adult choir, the youth choir meets together for a day of rehearsals on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June to prepare for the 3 concerts where they will be singing some of the favourite songs from the last few years for this special anniversary. This group is definitely a joy to watch and listen to and if you are planning to attend one of the concerts, we look forward to seeing you there!

Lesley Caldwell



Join us for

# Cream Tea @ DBCC

for Seniors

on Wednesday 30th July 2025

live entertainment, good food, singing,  
quiz and testimony!

Please come along and bring friends!

Free event - No charge!



from  
2.00-4.00pm



## Fear not little flock

Since the dawn of the age, man has been haunted by deep feelings of insecurity. Today we live longer, have better physical health, more wealth and more leisure time to enjoy it than any previous generation. Yet deep down, many still have a nagging feeling of insecurity and fear. Millions suffer from mental health issues of anxiety, stress and depression.

Man's fears started just after his creation. Adam and Eve had everything they needed - the tree of life, and a beautiful garden of plenty. But the serpent sowed seeds of doubt and fear in them - uncertainties and worries that God could not be trusted. **Genesis 3:1-19** Satan said they could rely on themselves, but the fruit of disobedience was greater fear. Falling for Satan's propaganda brought dreadful consequences. Now they really would have things to fear and worry about! Banished from the Garden of Eden, the earth would be cursed and they would DIE! Man must labour just to stay alive. "You wanted self-reliance? You got it!".

Ownership became a priority. Seeking and protecting personal security became man's obsession. Gripped by fears, they armed themselves and built walled cities to protect themselves and their possessions. Yet throughout the Bible there is a consistent message from God: "Fear not!". In over 100 verses God tells us not to be afraid or anxious. He is our shield and fortress, our source of security and protection. Fear is a self-centred motivation and, self-preservation the deepest human instinct. But fear actually works against love. **1 John 4:18** Overcoming fear and the instinct of self-preservation was central to Jesus' sacrifice of love for us.

There are many things we may fear, but the most common fear is death. Yet God says "Fear not". Despite man's breach of faith with God, he will never break faith with us. Even through the valley of the shadow of death, he is with us. "Trust me" says God. It was faith that was shattered in the Garden of Eden and that faith needs to be restored. But faith in Christ is not something we can "work up" in ourselves. It is a gift of God that we need to pray for. **Ephesians 2:8**

We are given the knowledge of faith; the assurance of faith; the lessons and experience to build and enhance faith. But we also need to respond and exercise free will to overcome the fears that got mankind into so much trouble in the first place, and which even now work against outgoing unselfish love towards others. Fear prevents many from realising their full potential, from serving and growing spiritually as they should and could **Matthew 25:25**.

God's abiding message is "Fear not" **1 Peter 5:6-7** Jesus is the Saviour. It's what his name means. It's what He is. It's what he does. He SAVES.

We don't do it.  
We can't do it.  
Self-reliance/self-preservation is the oldest confidence trick in the world. Don't fall for it - we cannot save ourselves.

**Proverbs 3:5-6, 14:12, 16:25**

God's promise is that Jesus will save us.  
For sure.  
No doubt.  
Just believe it. **Luke 12:32**

Richard Whiting

## Keeping in Touch



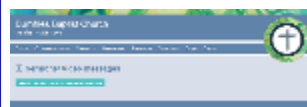
**Email** If you have given the DBC office consent to use your email address, we will keep you updated by email. If you are reading this and not getting emails from the DBC office, then please email:

[office@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk) and we will make sure you get a Data Consent Form to complete and return.



**Telephone** Please phone the DBC office if you have any requests for help, prayer or just for a chat!

The church office is staffed 9am – 1pm Mon – Friday.  
Tel: 01387 268926



**DBC website**

The past sermons

and video messages recorded for Sundays and Wednesdays are available from the Dumfries Baptist Church website  
<https://www.dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk/resources.html#sermons>

**Morning Worship on Sundays** is at 10.30 in the Auditorium and also available on the church YouTube channel at [DBCC Gillbrae](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBCCGillbrae).

**Discoverers** meet each Sunday (in term time) during the morning service.

**Evening Worship** is at 6.30pm in the Auditorium.

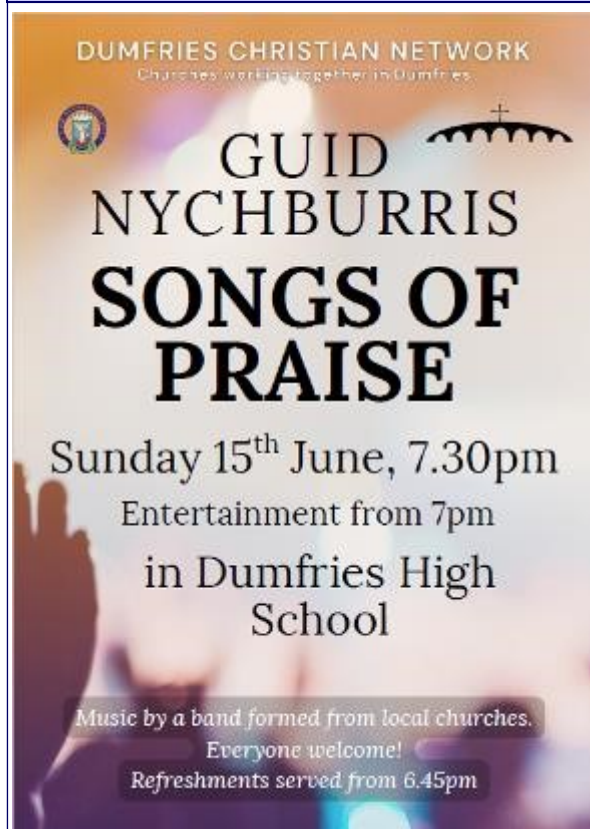
**Wednesday 9pm** Short **evening reflections** are available at [DBCC Gillbrae](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBCCGillbrae).

The DBC Facebook page is at <https://www.facebook.com/Dumfriesbaptistchurch/> You don't need to be a Facebook user to access this page online.

Links to the evening reflection and other messages are regularly posted on the DBC Facebook page.

# Contacts

Lead Pastor	Alistair Purss	01387 263032 <a href="mailto:alistair.purss@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk">alistair.purss@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk</a>
Pastor	Eoghan Paterson	07926 731592 <a href="mailto:eoghan@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk">eoghan@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk</a>
CAP Debt Centre	Paula White	07886878113
Church Magazine	Karen Miller	01387 710155
Church Office	Mon-Fri 9am-1pm	01387 268926 <a href="mailto:office@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk">office@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk</a>
Discoverers	Jane Rafferty	01387 268066
Elevate	Janet Derby	01387 268934
Encore	David White	07476379865
Friendship Hour	Chris Dewhurst	07473545994
Global Partnership Group	Joy Ransom	07513644387
Girlzone	Sharon Rossi	07739130934
Impact	Alison McKendrick	07752553703
Prayer Ministry	Eleanor Moss	01387 263994
Secretary	Lesley Mackay	01387 247456 <a href="mailto:secretary@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk">secretary@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk</a>
Toddler Groups	Heather McCombe (Mrs)	01387 253416
Treasurer	Ian Penn	01387 263242 <a href="mailto:pennnithsdale@supanet.com">pennnithsdale@supanet.com</a>
DBC Youth Team	Alistair Wallace	07851145918 <a href="mailto:youth@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk">youth@dumfriesbaptistchurch.org.uk</a>



## Treasurer's Report

### Total Monthly Income

March 2025	£23,592.73
April 2025	£49,761.41

The following figures represent the first ten months of financial year 2024/25 with income 100% budget and expenditure 81% of budget. The total Income was £316,108 (£6904/week against a budget figure of £6076/week). The income was boosted by receipt of a bequest from Wallace Loan. Expenditure during this same period amounted to £256,148 (£5854/week against a budget figure of £6076/week).

If you would like to give regularly by way of Sunday offerings we can provide weekly or monthly envelopes or you can give directly through your bank.

If you wish to give financial support specifically for the CAP project please contact me.

If you already give regularly, or are considering doing so, and you pay income tax (as the vast majority of us do), you can "gift-aid" your offering which effectively means the church can claim an additional 25p for every £1 you give, at no additional cost to you. In the last financial year over £48,900 of our offerings were **not** subject to Gift Aid. Please prayerfully consider whether you can Gift-Aid your giving. Please contact me if you want further information regarding Gift-Aid.

Ian Penn - Treasurer (01387 263242)