



Message from The Manse



Have you heard about the church musician who thought the piano would work better on the other side of the sanctuary, but he knew the congregation would never agree to move it? So, he moved it over one inch each week, and after just a couple years, the piano was on the other side! Now let me be very clear. I have no intention of moving the organs in our buildings, but this story is a good reminder that we often don't like change. The problem, of course, is that our world is constantly changing and the church finds itself having to adapt too.

Take for example the Presbytery of Perth. It now stretches from Drymen to Brechin and Kinloch-Rannoch to Kinross. Aberdalgie and Forteviot is also now linked with Dunbarney and Forgandenny Church and very soon, Abernethy will join the network too. We all know that church buildings require to be reviewed and, in some cases, the painful decision will need be made to close some buildings. But while all of this is true, we must never forget that God remains the same yesterday, today and forever and it is the people, and the relationships that we enjoy with one another, that should matter the most.

In recent months I have known much change. Not only have I become a grandfather, but I am now minister of a much larger parish. I want to express how much I have thoroughly enjoyed being with you each Sunday over these last eight months and for all the care and support that you have given to me. All of this is appreciated. I am also very grateful to the many people who contribute so much of their time, talents and finance to the life and ministry of Aberdalgie and Forteviot Church. I know that change is never easy but let us celebrate there is such a wonderful positive atmosphere amongst us that is so encouraging.

In recent weeks at Sunday Worship, we have heard examples of how God's people have lived through periods of change. Essentially, the question that is asked is: "Will God's people cooperate with God and allow him to birth the new thing he wants to do, or will they resist it and try and find their security in the familiar things of the past?" As we move into the coming weeks with yet more change, I encourage us all

What's happening around the network

to first, co-operate with God and allow him to birth the new thing he wants to do and secondly, to encourage and build one another up.

Hymn 237 puts it like this: "Look forward in faith, all time is in God's hand. Walk humbly with him and trust his future plan. God has wisely led his people by his power. Look forward in hope, he gives us each new hour."

May we all commit to doing that, together.

With all good wishes and every blessing,
Your minister and friend,
Allan.



Future Services throughout the linkage

As Allan mentions, Aberdalgie and Forteviot parish has linked with Dunbarney and Forgandenny. Perth Presbytery Plan proposes that Abernethy and Dron and Arngask will link with us in October. A meeting of the worshipping congregations will be scheduled to agree the Basis of Linking.

In due time, Dunning will become a Local Mission Church under the supervision of Dunbarney and Forgandenny.

Clearly, with three parishes sharing the same minister, the way we do things on a Sunday may need to change. It is likely that, from time to time, there will be more united services and services led by worship leaders or pulpit supply.

The schedule for worship across the linkage has been agreed until Christmas and, for Aberdalgie and Forteviot, it follows the same pattern, excluding the following – when we will enjoy **United Services** across the linkage.

September 1st	Forgandenny	Holy Communion	11.00am
November 3rd	watch out for further details		
December 22nd	Dunbarney – details will be shared nearer the time		

What's happening around the network

Talk about missionary work



At Morning Service on **Sunday 4th August**, a former Elder of Aberdalgie and Forteviot, Col. David Hughes, will be talking about the missionary work he has been doing with [Military Ministries International](https://www.militaryministries.org/). MMI, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year, works with Christian officers and men serving in the armed forces in a variety of countries. The goal is to support the Faith journeys of those who work in the often-challenging circumstances of military organizations. The Kirk Session has determined to hold a special collection for the benefit of MMI at this service.

Please give your encouragement by supporting this event.

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Invitation To Holy Communion

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life: he who comes to me shall not hunger and he who believes in me shall never thirst; he who comes to me I will not cast out. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness: for they shall be satisfied."



The Minister and Kirk Session invite you to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion on **Sunday 1st September 2024**

This will be the first United Service with Dunbarney and Forgandenny and also Abernethy, Dron and Arngask Church. Please look out for details on our Orders of Service, church noticeboards, and website.

Please contact your elder or Allan Wilson (01738 812463 or AWilson@churchofscotland.org.uk) if you would like to receive home communion.

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Harvest Thanksgiving

Sunday 29th September 2024

As usual we will be collecting for Perth and Kinross Foodbank.



*For food in a world where many walk in hunger,
For faith in a world where many walk in fear,
For friends in a world where many walk alone,
We give you humble Thanks, O Lord.*

What's happening around the network



Monthly Lunch in Aberdalgie Church – Tuesday 6th August

In response to suggestions about ways for the local community to have time to get together, we are introducing a **Monthly Lunch in Aberdalgie Church** and garden on the **first Tuesday of each month, starting on 6 August, 12.30 –**

2.00. Soup, cheese and home-made baking along with tea and coffee will all be available. This is open to everyone who would like to come, meet others and see our beautiful church and gardens. It is a great opportunity to catch up, including with those in the linkage from Dunbarney, Forgandenny, Dunning and Abernethy.

Everyone is very welcome! Do come, and bring a friend.

If you have some time to spare once a month and would like to help make this a great community event, please contact Karen Alton on 07495 675577.

Prayer Chain – prayer support for those in need.

Do you know someone who is going through a challenging time? If so there is a group known as the Prayer Chain who are committed to pray every day for people who have requested prayer for one reason or another. Someone requesting prayer (for themselves or for another) contacts the Prayer Chain coordinator; the request is then passed on until all members of the Prayer Chain are informed. Currently there are 16 members of the Prayer Chain. As circumstances change members of the Chain are updated until the person being prayed for can come off the list. No great detail is expected, nor full names required. The aim is to simply bring folk before the Lord in their time of need. If you would like to know more please get in touch with Catriona Harrison ronandcatriona@btinternet.com (01764 684104) or Alfred and Celia Marshall alfredmarshall@live.co.uk (01764 684058). Anyone who feels they might like to be a part of this ministry is warmly invited to get in touch to find out more.



Catriona Harrison 01764 684104



Our Shawl Ministry We support Blythswood Shoebox Appeal, Perth Prison Visitors Centre and Ninewells neo-natal unit, amongst other causes, through a huge variety of items. If you know of anyone who would like a Shawl, knee blanket or other knitted treasure, do please let me or one of our members know. This is an activity that all of us are more than happy to engage in as a gesture of care towards those in need. Even if you aren't a knitter, could you help them? **Wool is ALWAYS needed.**

Catriona Harrison 01764 684104

What's happening around the network

Women's Group

The Women's Group generally meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm in Dunbarney Hall. During the renovation of the church, The Moncrieffe Room at the Institute has been booked in case the hall cannot be used. Updates will be on the Order of Service.

There is an exciting and wide-ranging selection of meetings to come: Although the programme is set until April 2025, here are those until the year end:

18 September House of Colour / Colour Analysis by Louise Valsinger

30 October Sleep, a talk by Consultant Neurologist Ian Morrison

20 November Palestinian Women, a talk by Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist Gerry O'Hare who has spent time working with Palestinians

4 December Christmas Meal at the Village Inn

Each year the Women's Group supports a charity. **This year the chosen charity is Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), specifically raising funds for Breast Cancer for Palestinian Women.** All the proceeds from the fundraiser next March will go to our nominated charity. More details can be found here - [map-breast-cancer-fact-sheet.pdf](#)



All are welcome at any of the meetings. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided. A £3 donation on the night keeps the treasurer happy!

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Pastoral Group

Recent meetings include Pastoral Care Groups throughout our network with members from Aberdalgie and Forteviot, Dunning, Abernethy and Dunbarney and Forgandenny.

We have shared how we approach Pastoral Care in our areas and discussed types of Pastoral Care in more detail and identified that different types of care suit different carers. Areas identified were Home Visits, Telephone Outreach, Church based Pastoral Care and Hospital / Care Home Visits. Training can be arranged to help carers deliver a particular type of Pastoral Care. The size of the area covered by our network is a great problem and this is the main reason for increasing emphasis on Pastoral Care Groups. We cannot expect our Minister to do everything, but of course he will be kept up to date and will get involved where necessary. For Pastoral Care to be effective we need to know who will benefit from help so we need to find out who these people are through cards on pews, word of mouth and informal chats. As congregations we need to be aware if someone has been missing from church for a while or hasn't attended a church event they would normally attend. **If any member of the congregation would like to get involved with the Pastoral Care Group, just let us know.** At this time of change throughout our network we need to take this chance to work together to offer the best Pastoral Care across our area.

Christian Macdonald Pastoral Care Coordinator Dunbarney and Forgandenny

What's happening around the network

Doors Open Day

**DOORS
OPEN
DAYS** 2024

September is Scottish archaeology month. Come and discover the rich heritage of our parish.

Saturday 14th September 12.00 – 4.00pm – Forteviot Church

In addition to the story of the church, you will be able to learn about the Pictish story of the area as you enjoy refreshments in Forteviot Village Hall.

Sunday 15th September 12.00 – 4.00pm – Aberdalgie Church.

As well as discovering the history of Aberdalgie and its surrounding area, there will be a chance to celebrate the opening of the Green Shoots Community Garden beside the church.

Green Shoots News



As well as the fruits of last year's labour coming into bloom, the Community Hub at Aberdalgie was bristling with Youth Group activity in June. A fresh intake of



Rural Skills pupils from Bertha Park High arrived and they were followed by a Heritage Hero study group from Duke of Edinburgh Awards Perth. To round off the month, 74th Perthshire Scouts held a summer barbecue in the Walled Garden.

The final phase of landscaping work is ongoing.



Opening of Green Shoots

Friday 13th September at 2pm

All are invited to Afternoon Tea and a presentation to formally open the Green Shoots Centre and Church Walled Garden to the local community.

What's happening around the network

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal - Thinking ahead

Whilst it is still five months until Blythswood will be collecting shoeboxes, there are a few points supporters of the appeal may appreciate knowing.



- The filled shoeboxes from the central belt of Scotland are being sent to Ukraine.
- Blythswood are concentrating the shipment of shoeboxes to where the need is greatest.
- Shipping to Ukraine is more costly and a lot stricter than other shoebox destinations. As a result they are not able to send cartons filled with various goods, clothes, blankets, hats etc. **Only filled shoeboxes can be sent to Ukraine.**

Blythswood have met with the folks in Ukraine and they advised they do not need baby shoe boxes. Last year 5% of all Tayside shoeboxes were baby boxes and this year, any baby boxes collected would need to go elsewhere and not to Ukraine. For the last few years there has been a shortage of boxes for teens, boys and men.

Services in our parish

August	Sunday 4th	09.30	Forteviot	11.00	Forgandenny
	Sunday 11th	09.30	Aberdalgie	11.00	Forgandenny
	Sunday 18th	09.30	Forteviot	11.00	Forgandenny
	Sunday 25th	09.30	Aberdalgie	11.00	Forgandenny

September

Sunday 1st	11.00	FORGANDENNY – United Communion Service			
Sunday 8th	09.30	Forteviot			
Sunday 15th	09.30	Aberdalgie			
Sunday 22nd	09.30	Forteviot			

If you look at the world you'll be distressed
If you look within you you'll be depressed
If you look at God you'll be at rest.

Corrie ten Boom

What's happening around the network

Calendar of dates

Date and Time	What	Where
August		
Sunday 4th 09.30 11.00	Talk : Ministries Missionary International	Forteviot Forgandenny
Tuesday 6th 12.30 – 2.00pm	Monthly Lunch	Aberdalgie Church
September		
Sunday 1st 11.00am	Holy Communion	Forgandenny
Tuesday 3rd 12.30 – 2.00pm	Monthly Lunch	Aberdalgie Church
Friday 13th 2.00 – 5.00pm	Formal Opening of Green Shoots Garden	Aberdalgie
Saturday 14th 12.00 – 4.00pm	Doors Open Day	Forteviot
Sunday 15th 12.00 – 4.00pm	Doors Open Day	Aberdalgie
Wednesday 18th – 7.30 pm	Women's Group	Dunbarney Church Hall
Sunday 29th 09.30 11.00	Harvest Thanksgiving	Aberdalgie Forgandenny

Please keep looking at our website

www.aberdalgieandforteviot – where there is lots of interest – dates to come, stories we want to share with you.

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www.aberdalgieforteviot.com