



## Message from The Manse

Some three months have passed since Aberdalgie and Forteviot linked with Dunbarney and Forgandenny and I became your minister. I am thoroughly enjoying getting to know you and I'm so grateful for the lovely warm welcome that Karen and I have received. I know that Ian Morrison feels the same way too. Thank you.



As I think about such things, I am reminded of the psalmist who said, 'I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord."' (Psalm 122: 1). Churches should be places that we're happy to go to, where we feel at home and where we're welcomed by others who are followers of Jesus. But there is more to it than that. In Eugene Peterson's version, *The Message*, we read Paul's words. 'God is building a home. He's using us all – irrespective of how we got here – in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day – a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home' (Ephesians 2:19-22).

How does this make you feel? Every time we gather with other members of Christ's body – the Church - it's an opportunity to share how God is working in our lives and to remember our valuable part which is to help strengthen, build up and encourage one another. So, at the start of this new ministry let us pray for one another and all the churches within our new network. Let us commit to being there for one another. Let us set our eyes on Jesus and allow His hope, which we see so lovingly displayed for us on the Cross and in the Empty Tomb, fill every nook and cranny of our lives.

As we move towards Easter, may you know the risen Christ in your home and heart

With all good wishes and every blessing,

*Allan*

*Lord, teach me to offer you a heart of thanksgiving and praise in all my daily experiences of life. Teach me to be joyful always, to pray continually and to give thanks in all my circumstances. I accept them as Your will for my life ([1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#)).*

# What's been happening



As we welcome our new minister, we offer up **thanks to Rev Sandy Gunn** for the major contributions he made to the parish over the past six years, as locum minister. A constant source of wisdom, guidance and support to so many; a friend to all. We wish him, and Ruth, well in his 'retirement'.

## Report from our Treasurer

Our Annual Report will be available during March but meantime, here is what we've been up to. As well as donating to Perth Foodbank, we were happy to support other charitable causes during 2023 and we held three special collections. One for The Friends of St Andrew's Jerusalem & Tiberias and one for **EAPPI** (Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel). These came to **£621.00** approx. in



total. The third, on Christmas Eve, was for **Crossreach**, when **£182.00** was collected.

## Shoebox Appeal

Your continuing support for the annual Blythswood Appeal should also be recognised. In December 2023 the total from across the UK, in excess of 84,000, was distributed to eight countries in Eastern Europe, contributing to a total of 2.6 million since it began in 1993.



**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.** Maybe you have some at the bottom of a drawer? **Please let us know.**

*Catriona Harrison - 01764 684104*

## 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](mailto:ronandcatriona@btinternet.com) (01764 684104) or Alfred and Celia Marshall [alfredmarshall@live.co.uk](mailto: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*

# What's been happening

## Delinking and New Linking

On 16<sup>th</sup> January a large number, from all parishes, gathered together in Dunning Church to



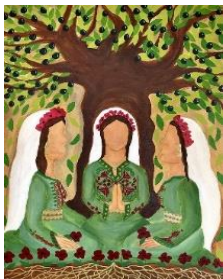
witness the **delinking** of Aberuthven and Dunning with Aberdalgie and Forteviot ; and the **linking** of Aberdalgie and Forteviot with Dunbarney and Forgandenny. Rev Kenneth Stott led the service and Rev Sandy Gunn preached. Allan Kellman, organist, led the singing of familiar hymns. The Rev Allan Wilson was sworn in as the Minister of Aberdalgie and Forteviot with those members and adherents from Aberdalgie and Forteviot pledging to support him. After the service, there was a joyous atmosphere over tea and coffee.



**Congratulations** to Lady Jean Wemyss who celebrated her 101st birthday in January

**Forteviot Village Hall** has space to rent  
For bookings please contact Michaela Thomson on [michaelathomson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:michaelathomson@tiscali.co.uk) or 01738 730247.

## World Day of Prayer – Friday 1st March



Dunbarney Church Hall was packed. Upwards of 50 joined to share in the special service, written by the Christian women of Palestine and shared world-wide. The Very Rev Dr Andrew McLellan led the service and friends from the LECT played their part – a veritable ecumenical occasion. Over £340 was collected for the Al Ahli hospital in Gaza. If you're interested, you can donate online. [JMECA.ORG.UK](http://JMECA.ORG.UK)



## Life and Work

Have you considered subscribing to Life and Work, the magazine of the Church of Scotland? If you would like to subscribe, you can purchase hard copies delivered to your door or digital copies through the Life and Work website [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org).

**The CATH Outreach Team** will provide benefits advice, form filling support, etc at a monthly drop-in at Bridge of Earn Nurses Hub, Station Road beginning on the first Monday of every month 10.00am to 12.00noon. This is open to anyone who needs their support.

**Walled Garden, Aberdalgie** Restoration works continue in the Georgian Walled Garden with the development of the Childrens' Play Area by trainers and volunteers. **Free traditional skills courses** in stone wall repair, woodworking and gardening are starting in the Spring. Anyone interested should email [aberdalgieforteviot@gmail.com](mailto:aberdalgieforteviot@gmail.com) or call 07739714288.



# Dates for your diary



## Thursday Club - The Oliphants and the Bruces - 14th March at 18:30

An insight into our local heritage from Medieval times and the link with the church at Aberdalgie given by Roddy Oliphant.

## Daffodil Coffee Morning – Dunbarney Church Hall

**Saturday 23rd March 10.00 - 11.30am.** Refreshments, a Cake and Candy stall, seasonal crafts, a display of Children's Miniature Easter Gardens and other activities. Volunteers to help run the stalls, donations of chocolate goodies for the chocolate tombola items as prizes for the main raffle are welcome. All funds raised will assist with the purchase of chairs for the sanctuary and hall.



## Invite A Friend To Church

Churches across the Presbytery of Perth are encouraging their members to invite a friend to church on **Palm Sunday, 24th March and Easter Sunday, 31st March.** You too can be involved. Friends, colleagues, neighbours or family members – all are warmly welcome to join us in Aberdalgie – the more the merrier!

## Dunblane Cathedral Lecture Series on Conflict and Reconciliation

**24 March 3pm** Talk by the Very Rev Dr John Chalmers The Journey from Schism to Unity in our church

**21 April 3pm** Talk by Rt Hon. Lord Robertson of Port Ellen Conflict and Reconciliation.

All events are in the Cathedral Halls. Everyone is welcome; refreshments on offer after the talks; entry is free.

## Services

March	Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	09.30	Forteviot	11.00	Forgandenny
	Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Aberdalgie	11.00	Dunbarney
	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Forteviot	11.00	Forgandenny
	Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Aberdalgie	11.00	Dunbarney
EASTER	Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	09.30	Forteviot	11.00	Forgandenny
April	Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Aberdalgie	11.00	Dunbarney
	Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	Forteviot	11.00	Forgandenny

## Please keep looking at our website

[www.aberdalgieandforteviot](http://www.aberdalgieandforteviot) – where there is lots of interest – dates to come, stories we want to share with you.



Contact us

Minister – Rev Allan Wilson [AWilson@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:AWilson@churchofscotland.org.uk) 01738 812463

Session Clerk – Gordon Mackay [aberdalgieforteviot@gmail.com](mailto:aberdalgieforteviot@gmail.com) 07739 714288

[www.aberdalgieforteviot.com](http://www.aberdalgieforteviot.com)

