

From the Minister's Study

What a scene – Dalmeny Church Centre invaded by 2 very unusual strangers, one called Romeo, the other Dali, one an alpaca, the other a llama!

The occasion was the wedding of my daughter Lyndsay to fiancé, Andy. My two grandsons decided that since the creatures were 'house-trained' they should see inside our newly refurbished Church Centre. They were very good, well-trained house guests and their gentle disposition brought a smile to many that day.

The call for us to welcome the stranger into our lives and community is at the heart of Jesus teaching in Matthew 25, verses 31-46. There, he sets before us a glorious mandate for world transformation: to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, to welcome in the stranger, to clothe those in need, look after the sick and visit those in prison.

These are the things we are called to be engaged in as we live out our faith in the 21st century. To welcome the stranger is something that happens every time a liner berths offshore in South Queensferry. From early in the morning (6am!) and throughout the day a purple-clad team of Welcomers provides a cheery smile, warm welcome and information maps to ensure that these strangers to our town and country feel welcomed.

Across our world today there is a mass movement of refugees, many fleeing from atrocious situations where their very lives are in danger. Earlier this month I had the privilege of hearing NAYROUZ QARMOUT speak about her new book "The Sea Cloak and other Stories". Nayrouz was born of Palestinian descent in a refugee camp in Damascus and now lives in Gaza. Key to her life journey has been the inner pull to discover her true identity and the challenges she has faced living 'on the move'. In her many moves over the years, finding a place to make such a discovery has been dependent upon the 'welcome of the stranger' and where this has been lacking, life begins to shut down. Let us, in our circles of influence, always be - in our attitudes and actions - ready to welcome the stranger. We may even in the process "entertain angels" or alpacas!

Blessings,
David

Come and find your Sanctuary

Since May 2018 a small team of elders from Queensferry Parish Church met to explore how we might shape a fresh expression of 'Church' in Queensferry and Dalmeny. After much conversation, prayer and thought we launch Sanctuary on Sunday 8th September at 3.30pm in Dalmeny Church Centre.

Sanctuary aims to bring the Good News of Jesus into the heart of our community giving local people an opportunity to explore faith and find friendship. Sanctuary is the overarching name given to the venture, but will be divided into three main areas; the gathering, life groups and service squad.

- The gathering will be a weekly contemporary and informal service, at Dalmeny Church Centre at 3.30pm but sometimes meeting on the beach or the park.
- Life groups will be a midweek opportunity for people to gather in homes across the town offering social and spiritual support and sharing life together.
- Service Squad is the community outreach aspect of Sanctuary offering practical help and support for those in our community who need it most; offering to do small jobs like litter picking, gardening etc..

Sanctuary will sit alongside existing church services and Messy Church. We launch on Sunday 8th September; coffee, doughnuts and a warm welcome await. For more information see our Facebook page 'Sanctuary in SQ', visit our website sanctuariesq.org or email us at sanctuariesq@gmail.com



Alpha breakfast is served

Our annual Alpha course begins on Saturday 14th September, 10:30am in Kirkliston Arms.

We're doing things a little differently this year and trying out a Saturday morning group instead of a weekday evening. Although not giving an evening meal we will be offering breakfast rolls and a hot drink catered by Shonagh at Kirkliston Arms.

As always our course is a joint venue with a team from Kirkliston Parish Church. We will be exploring various topics like "Who is Jesus?" "Why read the Bible?" "What's Prayer all about? Discussions will be informal and relaxed.

If you would like to book a place on the course please contact Queensferry Parish Church office on **0131 331 1100** or email on office@qpcweb.org



Christian Aid

Christian Aid is delighted to report that during Christian Aid Week in May supporters in Scotland raised a sensational £1.5 million. Our Coffee Morning and Plant sale in Queensferry Parish Church at this time contributed £1345.39. Walkers from the congregation raised £1480 in this year's Bridge Cross. Well done, particularly to the Boys' Brigade, who raised £398.

This enables Christian Aid to support poor communities in over 40 countries around the world and "Mothers to be in Sierra Leone", the world's most dangerous place to give birth, will benefit from greatly improved medical facilities.

This Year's Harvest Appeal for Christian Aid is to help more excluded women build sustainable futures for themselves and their children. A gift of £30 would train 10 women to start their farming business, £120 would enable an organic expert to train 50 farmers and provide a month's marketing support, £300 would provide an EcoVeg hub, so farmers from miles around can get their crops weighed, packed and sold for a fair price.



An Important Note from the Comms Team.

Our website is marvellous - we want it even better!!

We want the website to be the 'go-to' place for all things QPC and beyond, as it links our worship, our Church activities, those who use our premises and how we, as a Church family embrace the wider community in Queensferry, across Scotland, and the world beyond.

In our survey in Spring 2018 we discovered that 65% of those who responded do not use the website. We asked why? A frequent response was "the website does not have what people are looking for," "it is not easy to navigate to find information," the website is very static, and falls out of date."

Those who use the web are looking for events, in particular special events, missed services, contact details and Church reference information.

Taking all this on board we have been working on a major website update. Our website was first launched in 2013 by several skilled, visionary folk within the Congregation, and is hosted and maintained for us by Sanctus Media Ltd.

Much has changed since then, in terms of any website's facilities, how we use websites, what we use websites for and much has changed around QPC. This seems a timely point to upgrade our website, update the content and extend its reach and use. We are looking to launch this upgrade in the autumn.

The address is the same, and we hope you have www.qpcweb.org in your favourites.

The first major change is that, although we have not lost the people who represent life across the Congregation, they have been moved lower on the home page therefore you can immediately access the most current information, place notices, download sermons and pray daily with us without scrolling.

The presence of new information deeper into the website will be highlighted when posted by a home page alert.

We have an optional strapline that can be used for urgent requests, for prayer or practical help, or other significant news.

Other changes are:

- The home page no longer has drop downs from it, but will be a stand alone page, to act as our 'front cover'
- There are new tabs across the top of the home page, and under these you will find the relevant information for each header. Although there is some inevitable overlap this updated web structure allows us to be more streamlined with our content.
- There will be opportunity to create a page for special events running over several sessions for which you may wish to display content beyond what appears in the weekly notices, e.g., Holiday club, Alpha.
- Articles will be posted regularly on the Church blog and we hope will invite comment and encourage digital discussion.
- Organisations will now fall under 3 sections: Church organisations, organisations we support, and organisations that use the Church centre. We are excited that organisations which are Church based and some of those we support, e.g. Christian Aid, will now have the opportunity to edit their own page. We hope this will keep the website information up to date, and people can go straight to their own organisation's page for pertinent news, events etc. This will be in addition to the established method of uploading and publishing weekly notices. A unique password and appropriate training, with guidelines, will be provided for any involved.
- Our history is still available deep in the website but for first time visitors to the site this has been streamlined with an initial synopsis. Our vision statement has been condensed and since it was created in 2011 as the vision for 2020 - which is fast approaching - this will now be taken forward into a new decade, and updated accordingly.
- Details of 'who is who' and 'how to give' are more prominent and easier to access. You can book any of the QPC and Dalmeny Church premises through the updated website and there are links to other sites we recommend or have a local interest in.



Keep a look out for this upgrade, coming soon!!!

Prayer

October Prayer Festival

We are planning to hold a month of prayer and bible study during October.

There will be a digital App for those who like them, a 6-week bible study course, and a visit to Forth Valley Keswick. Watch out for the launch in September.

Our prayer group have been saddened recently to find out that members of the congregation have been ill, or going through difficult times and we haven't been there to support them in prayer.

We would like to remind members that prayer cards are available in the pews for members to request prayer for themselves, their family and friends. Alternatively email your request to prayer@auld.me.uk all prayer requests are kept confidential.

Forth Valley Keswick.

This year sees the launch of Forth Valley Keswick, an event at the Inchyra Hotel on 11-13 October at 7.30 - 9.15pm. Doors open at 6.30pm. Jonathan Lamb, minister-at-large of Keswick Ministries, will be bringing the Bible teaching each night. It is free and open to all. Further details of praise bands are on the website: www.forthvalleykeswick.co.uk. Following this there will be praise, bible teaching, global missions, exhibitions and a bookstall.

DALMENY & SOUTH QUEENSFERRY HAVE JOINED UP TO THIS NATIONAL QUIZ NIGHT

Hundreds of churches. Thousands of people. One Big Quiz Night. All funds raised are for Tearfund who help communities overcome the worst effects of poverty and disasters. Tearfund works alongside local churches and other locally-based organisations in over 50 countries to help people realise their plans for a better future.

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER
DALMENY CHURCH CENTRE
ALL WELCOME
GET THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY!

Boys' Brigade

We welcome back all our boys and any new boys wishing to join The Boys' Brigade. Due to refurbishment/extension works at the primary schools in South Queensferry, we continue to meet in the Church halls this year (until work is finished). Enjoy an action packed programme of games, crafts, sports and learning new skills whilst having fun and making new friends.

Anchor Boys (Primary 1-3) - Queensferry Parish Church on Fridays from 7.00 - 8.00pm

Junior Section (Primary 4-6) - Queensferry Parish Church on Fridays from 7.00 - 9.00pm

Company Section (Primary 7 - Secondary 6) - Queensferry Parish Church on Fridays from 8.00 - 9.45pm

For more information email bbsouthqueensferry@hotmail.co.uk or come along on one of our Friday nights.

Holiday Club Recap

This summer at Backpackers Holiday Club we connected with 43 children, many of whom have an ongoing connection with our Church and/or Messy Church, and some who do not. Most Backpackers attend Queensferry Primary School and more than 30% will attend elsewhere. I loved discovering the web of connections between all the children and adults at Holiday Club, and ways we can see and support each other through our family, church, school, and community networks this school year.

During Holiday Club week, our travels took us to a Paris train station, a Swedish Palace, a Roman Restaurant, and a Swiss mountaintop, then to London's Hyde Park. One thing was the same everywhere we went: God's great love for us. Every child came away from the week knowing "God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will have eternal life." – John 3:16. New songs learnt reminded us what Jesus has done for us and that God goes with us every step of our journey as we choose to follow Jesus.

Thanks to everyone who gave personal items, time, prayers, gifts, and more to support this effort to share God's love with our church and community children.

Kidz Corner

Backpack Blessing 2019

For this this new term we said a prayer of blessing for children, teachers and anyone beginning school. Children received bag tags saying, "You go before me and behind me. You place your hand of blessing on my head." – Psalm 139:5

Want a tag for your bag or a friend? Email jill@qpcweb.org

Activity - Colour in and fill the school bag pictured here:



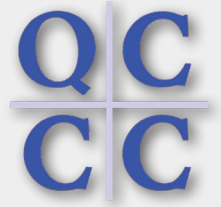
Good news from Queensferry Care

Queensferry Care is delighted to be chosen by Queensferry and District Community Council and given land and a grant of £400,000, donated to QDCC by Forth Bridges Business Park Developments Ltd. (Evans Property Group), to build a residential and day care facility at Ferrymuir.

The building will be on two levels. The ground floor will have ten residential rooms with en suite facilities for residential respite care, and the upper floor will have a day care room and a commercial kitchen. There will be 24 hour staffing. This will provide invaluable new services for older people and their families, and also offer employment and voluntary opportunities.

An additional £1.1 million will be required to complete the project – a huge, challenge for QCCC. Over the last 25 years, through the hard work and vision of staff, Board, and the good will and support of the local community, QCCC has met its financial challenges. It has grown and expanded out of all recognition from its original inception in Queensferry Parish Church, and now offers a wide range of vital services for older people and their carers. It has been described as a “lifeline” for many families. No mean achievement! Continued financial support from the local community will be crucial to the success of this new and imaginative venture. Further details of the planned centre, and how you can support it will be available in due course. You can also check out the QCCC website www.qccc.org.uk for details of fundraising and fun-raising activities.

Our prayers and good wishes are with QCCC as it seeks to establish this much needed new resource.



Guild

Come and be our “Companion on the Road” this year at The Guild. Our strategy is One Journey Many Roads and we invite you to come along and join us for fun, fellowship and friendship. Our meetings start during Guild Week on Tuesday 10th September at 2.00pm when our National Convener will introduce us to this year’s theme “Companions on the Road.” Membership is free for new members. For further information, contact Catherine or Lynn at queensferryguild@gmail.com. Looking forward to seeing you.

Syllabus 2019

Sept 8th-15th Guild Week
Tues 10th Sept Marian McIntyre National Convener
“Companions on the Road”
Sun 15th Sept Guild Dedication Service
Rev David Cameron QPC
Mon 23rd Sep Dr. Heather McHaffie
“Changes at the Botanics”
Mon 3rd Oct Sanctuary First – 7pm
Edinburgh Guilds Together,
Rev Albert Bogle,
St Michael’s Parish Church
Tues 8th Oct Rev Alex Shuttleworth
“Half Forgotten Memories”

Mon 28th Oct Irene McLellan
Guild Project - Journeying Together,
Empowering Teenage mothers in Zambia
Tues 12th Nov Leona Thomas
Through Fire and Ice
Mon 25th Nov Maureen Kerr
“A Wander through my Life”
Sat 30th Nov Christmas Fair
Wed 4th Dec The Work of the Vine Trust – 2pm
Edinburgh Guilds Together
Craigmillar Park Church
Tues 10th Dec Dawn Robertson
“Blossom Flowers”
Mon 16th Dec Christmas Party

Church and Parish Register

Marriages

7th Jun Rebecca Mills and Campbell Ross, Edinburgh
27th Jul Laura Moffat and Euan Paterson, SQ
9th Aug Sarah Icke and Liam Smith, SQ

Baptisms

16th June Jude Douglas McLauchlan, Rosyth

Thanksgiving and Blessing

26th May Jack Archie Grainger, SQ

Communion

Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday of December.

Deaths

17th May Mary (Ena) Fraser, Dalmeny
29th May Margaret Brenda Cormack
10th Jun David (Lindsay) Urquhart, SQ
29th Jun Madge Robertson, SQ
19th Jul James Pearson, Edinburgh
25th Jul George Campbell, SQ
6th Aug Pam Budd, Edinburgh
9th Aug Phyllis Taylor, SQ

Website and Facebook

If you have something that you would wish to share on the church Facebook page or Website, please send an email to communications@qpcweb.org



Next issue

The next issue of the magazine will be available from 24th NOVEMBER 2019. Any items for inclusion should be given to the editor at magazine@qpcweb.org by 3RD NOVEMBER 2019. Please send any pictures as separate attachments. The editorial team reserve the right to amend items submitted for publication. Items submitted may not necessarily be included in the next edition.