

A time to grow...

This is one of my favourite photos of my grandchildren: Alexander...Thea...Charlie...Ruby.

Each of them is unique and precious and each has their own personality, characteristics and tastes.

In each of them you begin to see the family likenesses grow and develop and at the same time they remain unique and precious.

In our community we too are beginning to see the need to develop and grow the next generation of church and over the coming months we, in the Kirk Sessions of Dalmeny and Queensferry Churches, will be inviting folks from within the church locally and nationally to come and help us look at what and where and when we might plant the next generation of church.

Just as my grandchildren have evidence of my genes or DNA about them they will grow in their own special way, do their own special things and have their own special characteristics. This fusion of the inherited and the new results in the unique and distinctive individual that is my grandchild.

Such a fusion between the inherited and the new we hope to develop in the new churches we will see birthed in the days to come across our Parishes.

But just what might the inherited genes or DNA be for a new church?

Some time ago whilst on a long car journey up the west coast a few friends and I began to play around with some ideas of what constitutes the DNA of a church.

Bridge of Kindness



The Queensferry Crossing is nearing completion. To coincide with that event, here in Queensferry Parish Church, we hope to build our own bridge - not across the Firth of Forth but from the Church into our local community; a bridge not built of concrete and steel, but with acts of kindness to those around us. Sadly, few folk have an inclination to come to church these days so we need to go out into the community, where people are, to demonstrate God's love in practical ways.

The programme will be launched in August and run through to the completion of the Queensferry Crossing and beyond. We are looking to individuals of all ages to take the initiative in showing acts of kindness among their neighbours and others in the community. Youth organisations may also wish to incorporate "Bridge of Kindness" activities into their programmes. Look out for more details.



Anything missing? Anything extra?

Given my weakness for things beginning with the same letter it will not surprise you that we came up with an E-church!

An E - church is a place where people:

Experience the presence of God

Encounter the revelation of God

Engage with the people of God

Explore the creations of God

Express their worship of God

Employ themselves in the purposes of God

Embed themselves in the locale of God

Do join us on the adventure into pastures new...

Blessings David

Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Queensferry Parish Church held its annual Coffee morning on behalf of Christian Aid on Saturday 21st May. The plant stall did a roaring trade as did the Cake and Candy, Books, Tombola and 99 Pence Bazaar. Youngsters enjoyed an assortment of games which included Hoopla, Marbles and Skittles and also a Lucky Dip and Face Painting.

£1,367 was raised to support people in Bangladesh affected by flooding.

A huge 'Thank You' is due to all who made it possible to raise this wonderful amount by manning the stalls, contributing or attending the event.



Getting to know you: David Rutherford

In June 2015 David Rutherford was appointed as the new Session Clerk of Queensferry Parish Church. A native of Winchburgh, he moved to Rosneath on the Clyde coast at a young age, and was educated there and at Hermitage Academy in Helensburgh. He is a Strathclyde University graduate in Electrical Engineering.

David maintains he has been very fortunate in his career. After graduation, his first job was with Scottish Power, initially working in the field, "building, fixing, repairing". Thereafter, he was selected for management training, which included an MBA at Heriot Watt University. Swift progression up the management ladder ensued until eventually he was responsible for Scottish Power operations in the UK. This also gave him a taste of international business and he greatly enjoyed seeing how companies operated in different countries. From there, he moved on to international consultancy work, advising on bringing power supplies to many parts of the developing world. In this he gained a great deal of job satisfaction as he felt he was "adding to the quality of life" of the people in whose countries he worked. For the last two years, David has been working much closer to home as CEO of the University of Strathclyde Power Networks Demonstration Centre in Cumbernauld.

David moved to Queensferry in 1999 and since then has been an active member of QPC, as Chair of the Board, an Elder and now Session Clerk, a position he shares with Carole McDivitt, Pamela McLauchlan and Sandra Buttrick as deputies. He sees his role as empowering (well he IS an electrical engineer!), coordinating, and enabling others to play their part in the work of the church. QPC, he claims, is "blessed with the strength and depth of folk who commit". However, he recognises that the way ahead will not be straightforward. There is a "generational gap" in our congregation which needs to be addressed, perhaps through creative and experimental outreach, or through collaborative work with sister churches, but all the while being mindful of the needs and nurture of our own congregation.

David is married to Sharon, and has two daughters Laura, currently studying International Relations at William and Mary University in Virginia, and Chloe who is at Aberdeen studying Geography. He is very much a family man and describes them as his "strong anchor". He enjoys a game of golf, and has recently completed cycling the John Muir Way. A quietly spoken, gentle and thoughtful man, David was brought up in the church. It was at University, however, that life with Christ became more meaningful to him. In his working life, he has tried, through demonstrating Christian values, to lead by example. His faith has supported him significantly through difficult times, and guided him through the many challenges he has had to face. In an age when many are "closet" Christians, David speaks openly and positively about his faith. He is a real ambassador for Christ and we wish him well in his new role as Session Clerk.

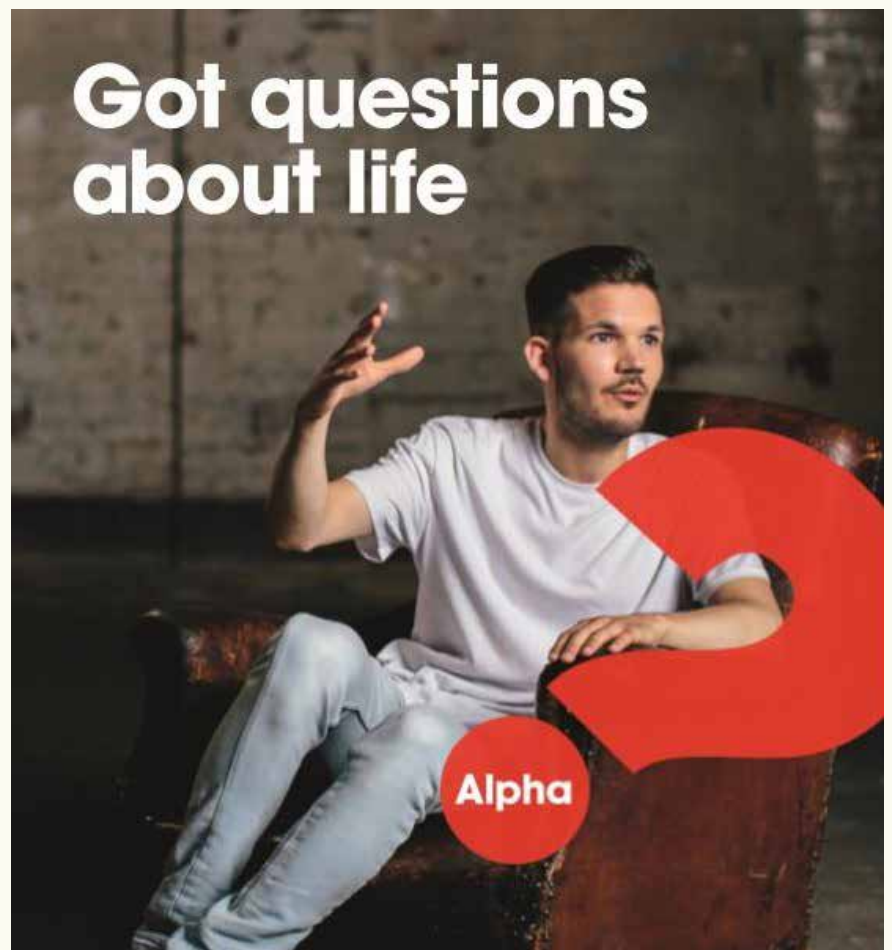


Alpha Course 2016

We believe that everyone should have the chance to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and share their point of view; wherever they are in the world.

So say the producers of the Alpha Course materials. Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith and it runs all around the globe. The course is typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Everyone's welcome. It has been run in cafés, churches, universities, homes, bars—you name it. No two Alphas look exactly the same, but generally they have three key things in common: food, a talk and good conversation. If you are interested in finding out more then come to Queensferry Alpha, which will be starting on Wednesday 7th September in "Down the Hatch" café at Port Edgar. If you would like to book your place or know someone who would like to join this new exciting group please contact the church office on 0131 331 1100.

Space is limited so book early. Don't miss out!



News from the Finance Team

Gift Aid reaches 200!

The number of givers who give to the church under Gift Aid has now reached 200 for the first time in our history. This is a marvellous result and we are grateful to all taxpayers who have signed a declaration which allows the church to increase your offering by 25% AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU. If you want to know more about Gift Aid, please ask Jim Gaw or Eric Proven.

Budget 2016

The Session and Board have agreed our budget for this year. We have agreed to spend £11,000 (8.5%) more than we did in 2015. £2000 extra is required from us to support the wider church's Ministry and Mission; £5,000 extra will go on our Fabric to strengthen our buildings for our long-term future; £4,000 is being set aside for ministerial assistance to bring our team, shared with Dalmeny, back up to full strength.

Our Givings in 2016

The Session and Board have agreed to the expenditure level increasing by £11,000 although this would result in a shortfall of £7,000 by the end of the year. For the first four months of the year, to the end of April, our givings show an encouraging 6% increase on 2015. We are most grateful to those who have already increased their givings to the church. However, we ask everyone in the congregation to consider your level of giving. If everyone gives a little more, then we could balance the books in 2016. Please do think about whether you can increase your offering this year. If you give by standing order, please tell your bank or use online banking to change the amount. If you give using FWO envelopes, just put a little more in each week. It's easy.

Thought for the day: Many a mickle maks a muckle!

The visit of Richard and Jen Margetts, Sunday, 14 August 2016

Many friends will remember in August 2014, the visit to QPC of Jen Wright from Wycliffe Bible Translators, who spoke about her previous work in Cameroon and her new assignment in Congo.

For the past two years Jen has been encouraging churches in how to use the newly reprinted New Testament in their own Kituba language in preference to the French New Testament. Also a member of Wycliffe Bible Translators, Richard has been working in Mali in West Africa. Richard and Jen are getting married in Edinburgh on 11 June. We look forward to welcoming Richard and Jen to QPC on Sunday, 14 August 2016 when



they will speak at both services. You will also have an opportunity to get to know them better over lunch in the St Andrew Hall.

Queensferry Guild

The Session for 2015-2016 Guild finished for the summer with a great outing to Newliston House and Afternoon Tea at the Cookery School. Some of us took part in The Big Sing at the General Assembly during which we raised the roof (although caused no damage). We are now looking forward to a new session starting in the autumn with a new Committee and a new theme of 'Go in Joy'. And remember We are Bold. We are strong. We are The Guild. I have really enjoyed my three years as president and wish the new Committee well. Please come and join us – you will be made very welcome.

Catherine Lambe

Kidz Corner

Summer holidays are just around the corner and filled with the promise of sunshine and fun! Just in case there's the odd spot of rain check out <http://guardiansofancora.com> the app based game available to download to phone or tablet. Guardians of Ancora invites you to live in an exciting world exploring stories from the bible, with new material added each month. Be sure to collect firebugs on your quests and keep an eye out for the evil Mendex. Summer holiday club will be looking at some of the themes from the game.

Space is limited, so make sure your responsible grown up has filled out a registration form. Register here: qpcweb.org/pages/guardians-of-ancora-holiday-club

While you're at it why not get a form for a friend and think about whom to invite along with you...

Tea-time chatter: what's your favourite bible story and why?

Give thanks: take time at the end of the day to thank God for the sun, and all the great things you've been getting up to over the holidays!



Pastoral Care Team

Pastoral Assistants Betsy Clarke, Anne Forsyth, and Christine Kirkcaldy form a part of our Church's Pastoral Care Team and, in support of David, they can provide you with confidential, pastoral support both at home and in hospital. Anne, Betsy and Christine are experienced in listening to and caring sensitively for others. They are committed to visiting all who need support whether young or old and are available for home or hospital visits, bringing the care of the Church to you, when you can't quite make it yourself. If you would like a visit, do give Esther a call on 0131 331 1100 to arrange for one of the team to contact you.



Betsy



Anne



Christine

Forth Bridges Tourist Group

The Forth Bridges Tourist Group, after its success at the recent Fife Business Awards (Excellence in Tourism category) is looking to recruit new members to meet the passengers from the liners which dock in South Queensferry. As our fame spreads this increases awareness of the helpful welcome we give and so more companies may wish to bring their passengers. Although this season is well under way we are looking for volunteers for next season.

If you have a few hours to spare over the summer and would like to help the team down on the pier giving out information and directions then please contact Wendy on 0131 331 2446, E-mail: echline@outlook.com or come to the pier when you see there is a liner docked in the Forth. We all wear purple jackets so are very visible. Ask to speak to Peter or Wendy.



South Queensferry Baby and Toddlers Group

Hello – we are the South Queensferry Baby and Toddlers Group at Queensferry Parish Church on The Loan. You can find us on Facebook.

We are open from 9.30 am to 11.30 am on both Wednesdays and Thursdays with an Entry Fee of just £2 which includes a healthy snack for the child and tea or coffee for the parent/carer. We have lots of toys for all age groups – soft floor mats with baby toys, toy garage with cars, train sets, toy kitchen with accessories, books, puzzles and crafts tables for painting and gluing. The Groups are organised by our lovely volunteers who help make sure everything is open and organised for babies and toddlers of Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles and Carers. The Committee members are Sarah Masters – Chairperson, Shona Hossack – Treasurer, Julia Hope – Secretary and Jemma Fraser (Brian Fraser) – Almond Valley Pass and Craft Box Co-ordinators. We will be looking for a new Chairperson from the end of June so please contact us on Facebook or 07414512770 if you wish to help and get involved in this fun Group.

Bereavement Support Group

The Pastoral Team is going to run another Bereavement Support Group over six Tuesday evenings in the Haven, starting on 30th August 2016. The meetings are very informal and include subjects such as health and wellbeing, the grieving process, legal matters and socialising. All are welcome. More details in the next edition of the Church magazine but if you have any queries in the meantime you can contact Nara on 0784 964 8688.

Church and Parish Register

Deaths

14th Apr	Elizabeth Christie, Dundas Avenue
23rd Apr	Barbara Francis, Shore Road
17th May	Jeanette Proven, High Street

Thanksgiving and Blessing

3rd Apr	Holly Joyce Bell Robb, Dunfermline
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Baptisms

20th Mar	Isla Margaret Joan Hamilton, Inchgarvie Park
20th Mar	Gracie Simpson Taylor, Echline Grove

Weekly Worship Services

Sunday 10:00am – 11:00am Family Service
11:30am – 12:30pm A more traditional worship service
Thursday 9:30am – 10:00am A reflective service with a Celtic tradition of responses.
The Youth Fellowship meets every Sunday evening from 7:30pm – 9pm

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 4 September 2016. Any items for inclusion should be given to the editor at magazine@qpcweb.org by 13 August 2016. Please send any pictures as separate attachments.