



DUNFERMLINE
WEST BAPTIST

JESUS SAID

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD -
LIKE A CITY ON A HILLTOP THAT CANNOT BE HIDDEN

Dear friends,

Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. (Hebrews 10:23-25)

On one hand, these words are a source of great encouragement; on the other, they are a challenge to each, and every one, of us. As Christ's body it is vital that we support, encourage and motivate each other. It is important that we each play our part. Stephen Covey insightfully wrote 'We judge ourselves by our intentions and others by their behaviour.' Covey's statement has an uncomfortable truth that requires serious reflection on.

For many of us being physically distant has been a challenge that we have risen to remarkably well. Almost all of our community are gathering together weekly using technologies that we didn't even know existed a couple of months ago. In addition, those that aren't able to connect online are being kept in regular contact with and we are thinking of innovative ways to interact with them. We have built up the necessary infrastructure to continue to be church together. Of course, there are elements which may be temporary but there is also a lot that we can learn from and continue to support after this season. We have so much to be encouraged by, however, in many ways, we have only just laid the foundation now the real work begins.

'Let us not get tired from doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.' (Gal. 6:9)

What's Next?

Christ commanded everyone to go and make disciples (Matt. 28:19). He constituted the church, through the Holy Spirit, to be an embodiment of Him. As we draw closer to Pentecost we will do well to remember that the church is Christ's mission in the world, 'proclaiming the goodness of God.' (1 Peter 2:5) The church is not ours it is Christ's to be shared to the world. Although, participating with the church is an important act of your worship **sharing the good news is an integral part of your mission**. Being online is a remarkable opportunity to share the good news that we have found in Christ. Over the last few years we have been gradually building up our online presence which has been integral during this time. Now we have an opportunity to fully take advantage of this form of communication. I understand that this is new to a lot of us and so below I have detailed ways you can interact and share the information. I would recommend putting aside a little



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time each week to interact with our churches content. (Don't spend too long as social media addiction is a very real thing and a real concern at the moment)

Subscribe, Like and Invite.

Please do regularly keep up to date with the churches news on Facebook and YouTube and interact with its content. Subscribe to both YouTube and Facebook. Like the posts and comment on them. Invite your friends to be a part of our community.

Our YouTube Channel (To subscribe click on the red subscribe button)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7BuBS_TUKDMvu5Wcpg9PAg/

Our Facebook Page (To Like click the like button below the Page's cover photo)

<https://www.facebook.com/dunfermlinewest>



Sharing

Who gets to see our content relies heavily on who shares it. For example, on Monday we shared the beautiful and challenging new song "New stanzas for amazing grace" by Amy. Have you seen it? Did you like it? Did you share it? Those that have seen it have commented how much they appreciate it. But there are many who won't have a chance to see it if it is not shared. The post can be found at:

<https://facebook.com/dunfermlinewest/posts/851215708711530>

Share your pictures

Please do **share any pictures with us** (if you are able) of what you are getting up to. You could share them to our Facebook Page, over What's App, or email them to me. It would be great to share some ideas for stay at home activities.

What's on

At the start of the **weekly prayer session** (Wednesdays 11:00) I will be reflecting from the Psalms and how they might be speaking into our lives today. Tomorrow I will be considering Psalm 5 and starting our day with God. I hope that you might be able to join me.

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them sing joyful praises forever.
Spread your protection over them,
that all who love your name may be filled with joy.
For you bless the godly, O Lord;
you surround them with your shield of love.
(Psalm 5:11-12)



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On Sunday we will be having a communion service. You might like to prepare some bread and wine/juice in advance.

Luke is exploring getting the **weekly evening prayer and bible study** running again which will likely include a time to discuss the weekly study questions (as below). This would be over zoom.

Study Questions from 1 Samuel 8 - 9

If you haven't had a chance to watch the message from Sunday or would like to watch it again you can watch it at: <https://youtu.be/7Wm2ZMI-VLI>

1. Israel's desire for a King was influenced by all the other nations (8:5). What might we desire today that other nations have? What drives this want to have what another has?
2. How is Israel rejecting God (v.7)? *Consider Ex. 23:6-8.*
3. Samuel warns against the risk of choosing a King that ultimately any human King will take, take, take... (v11, v13, v14, v15, v16, v17) Today, it could be argued that we have taken this to such an extreme that we have made ourselves, as individuals, Kings. What examples can you think of where we have become Kings over our lives?
4. v15 'He will take the tenth of your grain.' What does this say about the King when considering giving to God? *See Deu. 14:22-24.*
5. Consider Saul's search for his donkeys and Samuel's statement in v20. What might this mean to us today?
6. In 9:21 Saul is surprised at how Samuel speaks to him. What does it mean to Saul that he is from the tribe of Benjamin? Why is this detail important today?

Connecting with us

You can connect into each of these services via <https://dunfermlinewest.org/online> and also via telephone using our latest stay connected details.

Worship music

I am sure we have all really appreciated the worship music that Amy, Beth and Rachel have been creating, please do offer them your encouragement. As we are creating new songs we are adding them to a YouTube playlist which you can listen to whenever you like. Simply click on the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWewcFMHTJ0FjGKggn1g7DvINNI68px3C>



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Buddy groups and prayer items

Andrew has been contacting the buddy group leaders weekly to update our online prayer area at: <https://dunfermlinewest.org/prayers>. Please do view the document regularly to keep up to date with how we can pray for each other. You can also add your prayers to the document or update us on the progress of other prayers.

Let us continue to stay in touch, to pray for one another and to not lose hope.

Your brother in Christ, Anthony