

Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it
was very good!

Genesis 1:31



“What is needed in the current environmental crisis is not so much an agreed cap on carbon emissions (important though that may be for the future of our planet), but a radical reorientation of the way we understand ourselves in relation to the natural world around us, something akin to a spiritual revolution” - Sir Jonathan Porritt, co-Founder of Friends of the Earth.

How we understand our relationship with God’s creation is a fundamental part of our calling in bearing God’s name in the world. Last Sunday we reflected on this as we considered the theme of “Creation Stewardship” and the valuable work of the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS). We might be reminded of this responsibility as we consider the global impact of coronavirus, how it is changing the world, and how we might respond (<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/appeal/covid-19-coronavirus-appeal/>). Perhaps you are wondering, does this really matter within our mission? Well, I believe it does, here’s why:¹

The world is God’s creation (Genesis 1:1). We are reminded of the importance of the creation story as we gather on the Sabbath, a physical embodiment of our conviction that God is the creator and His creation depends on him. On Pentecost we were reminded of God’s active presence in sustaining and holding together creation (Colossians 1:15-20). As we consider God’s Spirit (*Ruach*) hovering over creation, where we may see chaos the Spirit sees opportunity.

All that God created is good (Genesis 1:31). Anything that proceeds from God’s creative activity, from his hands, is to be affirmed and celebrated. In God’s creation there is an inherent invitation for us to enjoy the world:

Since everything God created is good, we should not reject any of it but receive it with thanks. (1 Timothy 4:4)

We are called to help creation flourish, not to hold it back (Genesis 1:28). In being created in God’s image, God invites us into a relationship of accountability and responsibility to bear God’s name. Our relationships, with each other and with creation, are to reflect His glory and love to the world. As we are invited to name the creatures of the world, many that we are still discovering, we are also entrusted with understanding and caring for them. This is a wonderful and terrible freedom. Rather than adding to the groaning of God’s creation under the weight of sin, let us play our part in what God is doing in the world!

¹ For more information on the themes briefly covered see: *Part II: The Beginning of God’s story: The Doctrine of Creation* in Michael Lodahl’s *The Story of God* p53-64.



What's On

You can view our monthly calendar at <https://dwb.church/events>. Please read our COVID guidance on meeting with us: <https://dwb.church/covid>

June

Worship Gatherings (Church/Online)

Join us on at Chalmers St. or on YouTube/Facebook as we worship together every Sunday at 11am (Weekly).

06: Our Series on Luke with Communion

13: Even Better Than Eden

20: Communion Service

27: Even Better Than Eden

Life Groups

Explore the bible, pray and share life together in our Life Groups. The latest study questions can be viewed at:

<https://dwb.church/links/biblestudy>

Day time Prayer & Bible Study (Hall) – Wednesdays at 10.30am in the back hall

Evening Prayer & Bible Study – Tues 8pm (Weekly Zoom) – Join our blended Zoom and House life groups as we share and grow together.

Natter & cuppa - Weds 7.30pm to 8 (Weekly Zoom)

Join with us for a natter on Zoom, bring a cuppa with you if you want.

Women's Bible Study – Mon 7th 8pm (Monthly Zoom)

Gather together as we continue the <https://prayercourse.org/>. For further information contact Rachel.

Psalms with Prayer - Wed 2nd (Monthly Online)

Joins us as we reflect on Psalms 84-87 followed by prayer. Released on the first Wednesday of the month watch the reflection and pray at your convenience.

Prayer walk – Thu 17th 11am (Monthly Church)

Round the local area. Meet at the Church. Please speak to Anne Berry if you are interested.

Sharing In and Out Together

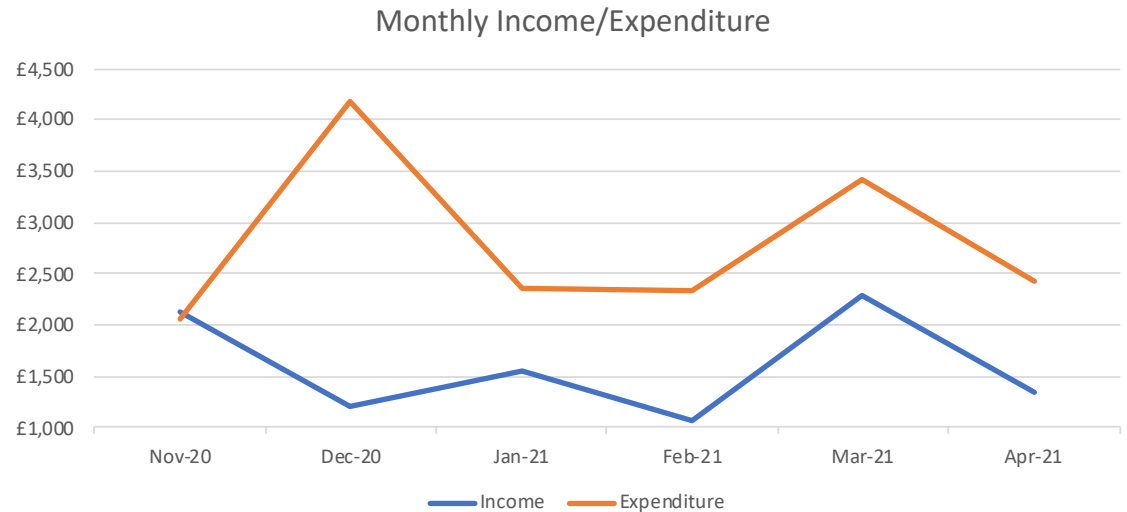
Generosity

We would like to thank all of you for your generosity in continuing to support the work of the church during this time. We appreciate that these are uncertain times and are grateful that many of us are still able to contribute to the mission of the Church. Please note: tax payers are eligible to sign up to **gift aid**, through this we receive a sizeable top-up from the government – to find out more speak to Alan Berry our treasurer.

You can find further information on how to give to the church via bacs (preferred), cheque or cash at: <https://dwb.church/giving/>

April Report*

Description	Income	Expenditure	Balance
Bank	£1,344	£2,438	£1,957
Investments	£0	£1,000	£91,336
Total	£1,344	£3,438	£93,293



* **DWB** is Income and expenditure directly related to Dunfermline West Baptist Church, it has been split between those who have signed up to **gift aid**. **Charitable** income and expenditure is ear marked for specific charities that we support



Leadership Team

We currently have 5 elected deacons who meet monthly to discuss matters of the church. Should you want to raise anything with us please contact the appropriate person below.

Pastor: Rev. Anthony Luxton

Treasurer and Fabric: Rev. Alan Berry

Secretary and Events: Irene Gratton

Fellowship: Pete Haddow

Pastoral Care and Mission: Anne Berry

Children & Safeguarding

If you would like to find out about our provisions for the younger generations or have any safeguarding concerns please contact:
Rachel Luxton

Mission Report

We are dedicated to reaching out into the community and worldwide as a voice of hope, love and justice. You can find out more about our missional activities at:

<https://dwb.church/global-mission>

Sunday's Message

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://dwb.church/youtube>

Buddy Groups

Keep up to date with prayers for our community at
<https://dwb.church/prayers>

Connecting with us

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

Subscribe, Like and Invite.

Please do regularly keep up to date with the churches news on Facebook and YouTube and interact with its content:

- YouTube: <https://dwb.church/youtube>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dunfermlinewest>

Worship Group

As we are creating new songs we are adding them to a YouTube playlist which you can listen to whenever you like at:
<https://dwb.church/worship/playlist>

Please speak to Beth Rickman, Amy Wardle & Rachel Luxton if you have any song suggestions.