

someone is coming

are you ready?





I don't know about you, but it seems hard to believe that we are approaching the advent season. It seemed only last month that we were hunkering down in our houses, preparing ourselves for a lockdown. If you could describe the last year in one word what would it be? Perhaps it is the word 'unexpected.'

I am not sure anybody could have predicted that this year would have gone how it did. It has been a year of mixed emotions. At times, it has been a time: to rethink what our priorities are, reflect on what is really important in our lives, celebrate the heroes among us, and to focus on our families and friends. Other times, it has been a time: of deep distress, uncertainty, anxiety, lament and of fear. The Bible tells us that for everything there is a season (Ecclesiastes 3), that there is a time for every activity under heaven:

I have seen the burden God has placed on us all. Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end. (Ecclesiastes 3:10-12)

Even when darkness consumes us there is beauty to be found. We are reminded that, no matter how turbulent the times may be, God is creating new life. Isn't that why we celebrate Christmas, because of the hope that Jesus brings into people's lives? Christmas is a time when the days are short and the nights are long (especially in Scotland). It is a time when we need light. I believe that this Christmas many people will feel a deep yearning for Christ in a way that they have never experienced before. As Christ's church, we are called to stay alert, to live in the light so that others might witness the hope that we have found.

For you are all children of light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night. So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. Night is the time when people sleep and drinkers get drunk. But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the armour of faith and love, and wearing as our helmet the confidence of our salvation. For God chose to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ, not to pour out his anger on us. Christ died for us so that, whether we are dead or alive when he returns, we can live with him forever. So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. (1 Thessalonians 5:5-11)

Let us encourage each other during this season. If you see somebody struggling come alongside them and encourage them. If you are feeling weary and burdened seek Jesus for rest. Most of all, let us not forget the Good News for the world - 'that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.' (Acts 10:36)



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>

December

Weekly Sunday Worship – 11am (Church/Online)

Join us at the church or on YouTube/Facebook as we worship together. Doors open at 10.45am and close at 12:00pm.

29 Nov 1st Advent: Someone is coming in an unexpected way
6 - 2nd Advent: Someone is coming to Rescue, plus Communion
13 - 3rd Advent: Someone is coming, Some say it's Impossible
20 - 4th Advent: Someone is coming, Are you Ready? Baptismal
27 - Morning Worship

Weekly Prayer & Bible Study – Tues 2.30pm (Church Hall)

Except 22/29 Dec. Discuss the most recent Sunday message, pray and worship together. The latest study questions can be viewed at: <https://dwb.church/links/biblestudy>

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

Except 23/30 Dec. Join with us for a natter on Zoom, bring a cuppa with you if you want.

Monthly Women's Bible Study – Mon 7th, 8.00pm (Zoom)

Gather together as we continue the: <https://prayercourse.org/>. For further information contact: rachel_luxton@yahoo.co.uk.

Monthly Psalms with Prayer - Wed 2nd, 11am (Online)

Joins us as a guest speaker reflects on Psalms 59 to 63 followed by prayer.

Monthly Prayer walk – Thu 17th, 11am. Round the local area. Meet at the Church. Please speak to Anne Berry if you are interested.

Outside Nativity – Sat 19th, 10am - 4pm Set up on the car park area or outside front doors. Speak to Irene or Anthony if attending so we can work out time slots for manning this.

Carols on Christmas Eve - Thu 24th, 6.30pm. Join us for our Carol Service. Please note the 50 maximum restriction so come early to ensure admittance.

Christmas Day 25th, 10-10.15am (Online) Wish everyone a Happy Christmas. Perhaps the children can show us something they have received.

We also hope to start:

- Blended homes/Zoom evening **weekly small group**.

Sharing In and Out Together

Mission Spot – ‘Winter is Coming’

As we head into an unfamiliar Christmas Season, both here and across the Middle East, our Christian partners in BMS and Embrace the Middle East are responding to the needs of refugees and families in dire situations as the winter draws in, made even harder because of the challenges presented by COVID-19.

This winter will bring new hardships to the 1.5 million Syrian refugees living across Lebanon and many of the 700,000 people whose homes were damaged in the devastating Port of Beirut explosion. Tents, tarpaulins, any materials available are used to keep the family warm and dry as many live in makeshift camps around the Bekka valley and the foothills of Mount Lebanon and the temperature can drop as low as -5 celsius.

Please pray for all who are seeking to bring immediate relief and igniting the spark of hope and working towards sustainable help across the Middle East for those who desperately need it.

Generosity

We would like to thank all of you for your generosity in continuing to give to 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. You can find further information on how to give to the church via bacs (preferred), cheque or cash at: <https://dunfermlinewest.org/giving/>

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>