

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are enjoying (if you like the heat that is) a wonderful spell of weather. Warm sun, bright skies which for me personally are restorative. Don't get me wrong, I love seasons but too much rain and cold seeps into the bones so to speak. And so this weather is a great tonic to send me on a three week break to see family and friends in the USA, taking time with my wife in order that we can be restored and renewed by quality time together and with our Lord, outside of the work of daily ministry.

Ministry though is never far from my mind, with planning always a part of the ministers workload. At our recent Kirk Session I read the following words from Acts, chapter 6...

²So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

I shared this as we were to discuss the 'Unitary Teams' that are emerging again at GMC following our annual meeting in May. Over the page I lay out the teams in their emergent state and ask as you read through to consider where might God be calling you to serve, to lend your wisdom, your prayers, your time, or finances. The church is always the corporate body of Christ in a particular place and time.

For those of us at GMC, our place is Dunfermline and our time is the present and into our future.

Church as I said is corporate and though there is leadership, and I as Pastor / Minister of GMC may be seen as the main leader, it is not a role I seek or desire. I love to work collaboratively with others to serve the kingdom of God where we are. So, like the early church my calling is to prayer and the ministry of God's word. My prayer is that these nascent teams, will embed themselves in the life of the church, that they will not be compartmentalised, but there will be working together across teams, and that folk would be excited for what we are attempting to achieve. Namely growth in faith of those already involved in the church, though the knowing and understanding of God's word more deeply, and second that we are attractive, metaphorically sending the sweet aroma of the love of the Lord into our city, that folk would then seek what we already know, namely that Jesus can be their Lord.

So, the teams at the moments look like this:

- **Worship Team:** Mike Weaver, Gordon Eastop, Fiona Shelfer
- **Mission & Outreach Team:** Janice Aitken, Brian Lane, Jenny Landels (others from the OpenHouse Café team?)
- **Pastoral Care Team:** Alan Monk, Isobel Burnett, Mags Fraser, Pauline Hoey, Irene Melville, Marion Murray
- **Youth, Families and Young Adults Team:** Lee Whitecross, Viv Aitken, Fiona Boyle, Lorna Cook, Tom Cramb, Lynn Templeton, Shirley Young
- **Discipleship Team:** Maggie Lane. Richard Harrison, Emma Weaver, Mike Weaver
- **Administration & Communications Support:** Sonya Doig, Barbara-Anne Hoey, Fiona Shelfer, Jack Wiggall
- **Property, Premises and Environmental Support:** *Convenor (Vacant)*, Barbara-Anne Hoey (office link), Pauline Hoey

(Health & Safety) Andrew Kember, Alex, Weaver, David Melville (consultancy)

- **Finance Support: *Treasurer (vacant)***, Ronnie Aitken, Ruaraidh Murray, Rachael Hamilton (bookkeeper)

This is a really good start (though note the vacancies we need filled), and we now expect each team will get together to discuss their remits and move forward under the guidance of our Lord, in order they serve our wider church to achieve our mission. You might wonder what that is, and so I share with you two statements created in my ministry time at GMC. The first is from November 2018, the GMC vision **is that:-**

We will 'preach Christ crucified' as we seek to bring others into His welcoming family;

We will through faith, embody the character of Jesus, the presence of the Holy Spirit and the eternal love of God - in worship, words and action.

We will diligently seek, through prayer and example, to communicate the relevance of Christ, and

We will be a visible beacon of hope and joy reaching out to positively serve the people of Dunfermline in the grace and truth of Christ.

The second comes from 2021 and the Growing Young cohort experience, *'that by 2025 the Gillespie family's ministry to young people will be **Invigorating and encouraging** people to a deeper **faith in Jesus Christ**, in a safe environment, where **everyone is welcome, loved and supported**, through their life **journey, and personal faith in Jesus** is shared in **all** we do.'*

These echo Jesus' call to know him. So, come and learn more and go deeper in faith with your church. They also embody the call to 'be fishers of people', which we do now for the Kingdom of Heaven, TOGETHER, with our teams, our church. Let's get to it.

Your servant in Christ, *Pastor Mike* (Minister, GMC)

**OPEN
HOUSE
CAFE**



Café Inc is back in your area
during the school holidays!



RUNNING AT GMC MONDAY 17TH – FRIDAY 21ST JULY

**PLEASE STEP UP AND VOLUNTEER FOR THIS WEEK OF
SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY**

A ministry of  GMC Chapel Street, Dunfermline, KY12 7AW

Membership Service: Sunday 16th July, 10.30am

Join us for the
***Fellowship
meal after the
service***



Come and celebrate as the  GMC family grows

THANK YOU for supporting the mission of GMC ministry to our church family and for our community. Please continue to journey with us in 2023

- **PRAYER**: will you pray for opportunities to change lives for Jesus?
- **PEOPLE**: will you participate by offering some of your time each week or month?
- **POUNDS**: will you make a regular offering to the work of our church?

Are you in need of pastoral support?

Do you want to volunteer or financially support the work of GMC? Then contact

Rev. Mike Weaver OR the Office

Office: 01383 621 253 | Manse: 01383 724 347 | Mob: 07980 492 299

minister@gillespiechurch.org | office@gillespiechurch.org