



Haggs

Linked with

Denny Old

Autum 2024

Thanks for the Harvest

Dear friends,

As I was thinking about what I might say in this article near the Harvest, I came across the following two quotes:

“I am wary of festivals. The reason: the horrors of harvest festivals. The idea behind the harvest I assume was to celebrate our bountiful harvest and help out people less fortunate than ourselves. Unfortunately, for those living in London suburb or any big cities means that there isn’t all that much in the bountiful harvesting going on.

“At harvest we thank and praise God for all his gifts of food and weather, especially his plants which mature in autumn and nourish us all through out the year. And for all creatures which move in the waters, fly in the sky and live on the land. Harvest reminds us that all earth creatures are a community created to praise and glorify God. Nature matures in autumn even without human help. Wild creatures enjoy the fruits of the season. With human cooperation, however, nature glorifies God through cultivated fields, including grain and grapes which make bread and wine.”

Two very different opinions, but what do you think?

The celebration of Harvest in Britain dates back to pre-Christian times when the success of the crop governed the lives of the people. Saxon farmers offered the first cut bundle of corn to one of their gods of fertility, in order to safeguard a good harvest the following year.

The last bundle was thought to contain the Spirit of the Corn, and its cutting was accompanied by the ritual sacrifice of an animal – often a hare caught hidden in the corn.

Later, a model hare, made from straw, was used to represent the continuity of the Spirit, which led to the making of plaited ‘corn dollies’, symbolising the goddess of the grain. These were hung from the rafter in farmhouses until the next year.

After Christianity arrived in Britain, some of the traditions continued in a different form. Ceremonies and rituals were held at the beginning and end of the harvest and church bells were rung on every day. The horse bringing the last cartload was decorated with garlands of flowers and colourful ribbons. When the harvest was in a magnificent, celebratory supper was held at the farmer's house, to which the whole community was invited and games were played to celebrate the end of the harvest.

I wasn't until 1843 that the now widespread practice of Harvest Festivals began, when Rev. Robert Hawker invited his parishioners to a special thanksgiving service at his church in Cornwall. Victorian hymns such as 'We plough the fields and scatter' and 'Come ye thankful people, come' helped popularise the festival and spread the custom of decorating churches with home-grown produce.

Because of the climate in which Jesus lived, he would have celebrated two harvest festivals. The first, the Wheat Harvest, would have occurred in early summer at the time we now call Pentecost, the second, the feast of Tabernacles, as summer ended and autumn drew near. Just as we do now, it was a time to say 'Thank You' to God for a successful harvest. We don't need to live in an agricultural community to join in with this time of gratitude. However, we should remember to 'Thank' God for his wonderful blessings He has bestowed on us in creating us and all the beautiful creatures.

At this time we should also remember our brothers and sisters in our community who are less fortunate.

May you have a blessed time at harvest and share what God has given you with those less fortunate than ourselves. Amen

Rev. Raheel Arif

Minister: Denny Old & Haggs



Messages from The Session Clerks.

‘We are pilgrims on a journey’
‘We are pilgrims on a journey,
And companions on the road;
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.’
(Richard Gillard – Common Ground no. 16)

I have been fortunate enough to travel to various special places this year and to experience worship in a variety of Holy places: the quiet twice a day simple services at Iona Abbey, the splendor of the mighty Vatican City in Rome, the more subdued atmosphere in the Church of St Francis in Assisi and an uplifting Communion Service in St Magnus Cathedral, Orkney.

What struck me was how the faith of pilgrims had established these places of Christian worship often in remote and challenging environments. The enthusiasm and devotion of the pilgrims who followed in the footsteps of the founding Saints established Christianity as a faith that could be followed by so many people all over the world. To demonstrate the power of Christianity, immense and amazing Church buildings were then established by the followers of Christ.

Unfortunately, most of these places of worship are now visited more by tourists than by pilgrims and many of these Christian buildings rely on donations from visitors who come to look in awe at the art work and beauty of the buildings rather than for a religious experience. The maintenance and security of these Church buildings now rely on the income generated by visitors, as regular worshipping numbers are declining in Britain and Europe.

We as ‘Pilgrims on a journey’ here at Haggs and Denny Old Churches are working as ‘companions on the road’ with our shared Minister, shared services and activities.

We recognize the reduced numbers in both our ageing congregations and the need for reform and reorganization so we can 'help each other to walk the mile and share the load' to enable meaningful Christian worship to continue in our communities.

The journey is not going to be easy – with the planned Union between the two churches in 2025 meaning the closure of Haggs Parish Church, However, we have worked hard to establish the right to keep a Church of Scotland presence at Haggs by retaining our Church Hall for local worship and for community activities.

We will need to act the the pilgrims of old with enthusiasm and dedication to ensure these changes happen and to make our church building welcoming centres of Christianity in our communities so we can also leave a legacy for future generations of pilgrims who will follow our journey.

Sue Storrar – Session Clerk at Haggs Parish Church

Thank you,

A simple phrase spoken throughout the world in many languages but so important. We notice it when it is missed out and feel hurt or taken for granted. I want to say thank you to you all today. The people who are members, those that give time and / or money, the people that attend Church on Sundays or events and those that show Christian values in the way they live their lives. You are amazing people who are at the heart of Denny and surrounding areas and please believe that I value you all. God loves you all. Continue to be brilliant and if you can, shine your light a little brighter – we will thank you for it.

Psalm 107:1

"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!"

Blessings,

Marion Reid— Session Clerk at Denny Old Parish Church

Harvest in a Can

A whole harvest in a can of soup.

How can we celebrate Harvest without being surrounded by a variety of produce?

This single can of soup contains everything we need to celebrate and thank God.



This single can of soup contains a hearty meal, something in itself that we should give thanks for... it's full of vegetables like carrots, potatoes, onions and peas. There can also be pasta and tomatoes, herbs and flour.

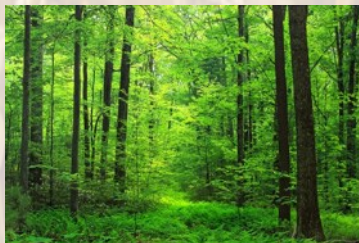
Farmers have planted the seeds and harvested the crops. Chefs have mixed the flour and made the pasta. Using God's gift of water, everything has been cooked to perfection.



But that's not the only harvest contained in this single can!

The can itself is a celebration of the earth and the minerals and ores that it gives us. So, we can give thanks for the gift of industry, and all those people who work hard to make our country so prosperous.

Even the label is a cause for celebration. The bright colours can remind us of how beautiful our world is. Truly a gift from God! The paper label, let us thank God for the beauty and usefulness of trees.



Even the list of ingredients and cooking instructions on the back.... Let us thank God for the gift of language and the wonder of modern communications.

The bar code is a cause for recognising the gift of technology and the science in our world and the power and ingenuity of the human brain.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

And finally, we sit down to enjoy the soup itself. We give thanks to God not only for all our senses, sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell, we can thank God for the gift of life itself.

Life is so precious and wonderful that we should celebrate it every day.

So just one can of soup that contains everything it says on the label, and a whole lot more!

It is truly a wonderful celebration of our Harvest.



The Guild (Denny Old)



The Guild will begin its new session on Tuesday 10th September at 2pm in the hall. This will be the first year of a new 3 year programme, 'Let us Build a House', with this year's theme being 'Sure Foundations.'

Our first meeting will be informal - a chance to meet up again and 'catch up' with everyone. Our new syllabus once again promises a wide variety of topics with something of interest for everyone. We will be hearing about Glasgow Cathedral, Jacob's Vision, Cycling without Age and Social Bite to name but a few and there will also be some music and song from the Rev. Philip Hacking.

Whilst we look forward to welcoming everyone back again, there is always room for more. If you would like to come along and join with us or come along and see what the Guild is all about you are very welcome to do so. There is no restriction on age or gender.

We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month until the beginning of April and our meetings are held in the afternoon at 2.00pm. We extend a warm invitation to you to come along and join with us for a time of fellowship and friendship.

CHRISTIAN AID (Haggs)



On September 14th there will be a sponsored walk around the Kelpies - Kelpies Canter - in aid of Christian Aid. If you would like to walk and be sponsored you are very welcome. The walk and registration starts at 10 a.m. and you should be round the walk by 12 o'clock. Details from the CA unit on the grass behind the wall at the Kelpies near the pond. Parking available in the small car park.

Haggs Church Christian Aid Group

CHRISTIAN AID (Denny Old)



Christian Aid Week took place in May this year. The wonderful sum of £1300 was raised in the Denny and Dunipace areas. Thank you to everyone for your contributions.

By the time you read this the 'Kelpies Canter' Sponsored Walk will have taken place on Saturday, 14th September at the Helix Park, Falkirk. This event involves a number of local churches and is a great, fun way to raise much needed funds for Christian Aid. I will let you know in the next magazine how things went.

The Annual CA Quiz this year proved to be a bit difficult, so much so that no entries were received at Denny Old. However, I understand there were a few correct entries at Denny: Westpark and the winner received a small gift. If you would like to know the answers get in touch. Thank you to all who took a Quiz, your donations were gratefully received.

I know it is only September but already the "Christmas" word is on the horizon. This Christmas CA will be highlighting the growing humanitarian crisis in South Sudan. As we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace churches and communities are invited to join in raising vital funds for families who are forging new lives while waiting for the end of war. There will be more information on how everyone can help in the Christmas magazine.

Janet Rhodes, CA Contact (Denny Old)

Tel: 01324 824721

The Snowdrop Café (Haggs)

The Snowdrop Cafes are run under the auspices of Strathcarron Hospice.

The Snowdrop Café meet in the Haggs Church Hall on Monday afternoons between 1 and 3 p.m. Everyone who is in need of a little company is most welcome to come along and enjoy tea/coffee and cake as well as entertainments like carpet bowls, singing, Irish Dancers and topical speakers. There is no set agenda unless someone has been asked to entertain us. Please come and give it a try - there is no need to be there every Monday if you have other commitments. Look forward to seeing you.

On Monday 30th September there will be a lunch for MacMillan Cancer Support from 1—3 pm with sandwiches, home baking and a raffle to which all are invited.

Astri's Apple Cake

These cakes can also be used as a dessert, if you serve them with cream or custard.

2 medium sized apples (cooking apples are best but you can use eating apples).

150g or 3/5 x 250g block of butter

3/4 mug sugar

3 eggs

2 drops of vanilla essence (optional)

1 1/2 mugs self-raising flour.

3 tablespoons cold water.

Topping

1/4 mug sugar

1 teaspoon cinnamon



1. Preheat the oven to 180 C fan oven/200 C/ Gas 6. Grease a baking tray and put a piece of greaseproof paper in the bottom of the tray.
2. Put the sugar and cinnamon in a mug and mix.
3. Peel the apples, cut into 1/4s, take out the core and slice each 1/4 lengthways again 3 or 4 times, making thin slivers of apple. Set aside.
4. Cream the butter and sugar together with a wooden spoon until the mixture becomes soft and lightens in colour. Add the eggs and beat well. Add the vanilla essence.
5. Fold in the flour with a metal spoon. Do not beat. Add the water and stir gently. The mixture should still be quite stiff.
6. Turn into the baking tray and spread out evenly. Push the apple slices into the mix, distributing them as evenly as possible. Sprinkle the sugar and cinnamon evenly over the top.
7. Bake in the oven for 25 minutes. The top should be nicely brown.
8. Leave to cool and cut into slices

SERVICE TIMES – AUTUMN 2024

Service times change in October. Denny Old's services are at 9.45am and at 11:15 am for Haggs except for the undernoted services:-

6 th October	Joint Congregations Service at Bonnybridge: St Helen's Celebrating Harvest	10.30am
1 st December	Joint Congregations Service at Haggs First Sunday in Advent	10.30am
8 th December	Joint Communion Service at Haggs	10.30am

Other Services:

29 th Sept	Denny Old Harvest Thanksgiving Service Donations for Falkirk Foodbank	11.15am
29 th Sept	Haggs Harvest Thanksgiving Service.	9.45am
27 th October	Fire Safety Protocol video in Denny Old following service	9.45am
10 th Nov	Remembrance Service in Denny Old	9.45am
10 th Nov	Remembrance Service in Haggs following A short outdoor service at Longcroft Memorial at 11.00 am	11.15am
Wednesday 27 th Nov	Blue Christmas Service in Denny Old	7.00pm

Lunchbox (Denny Old)

What comes into your head when you hear the Denny Old Lunchbox mentioned in the intimations on a Sunday morning?

The majority of our customers aren't members of the congregation. They come from local sheltered housing, care homes etc. We do have a few that are members of the congregation but there are also many that attend other churches in the area, so our Lunchbox is a hub where all denominations get together and there are no barriers to keep them apart.

We have all age groups from the youngest to the oldest through our door on a Monday. It can be a noisy place at times, but it is full of laughter most of the time.

Everyone will get a good meal, at a very good price, our prices are:

Soup: £1.20 per portion

Sandwich: £1.20 per round

Cakes: 60p each

Tea: 50p per pot

Coffee: 60p per mug

Squash: 20p per glass

Elinor



Name: _____ Date: _____

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

Harvest Festival

Word Search



ANNUAL
APPLES
AUTUMN
CELEBRATION
CONTESTS
CORN
CORNUCOPIA
CROPS
FARMER
FEASTING
FESTIVAL
FIELDS
GAMES
HARVEST



HAYRIDE
LEAVES
MERRIMENT
MUSIC
OCTOBER
PUMPKINS
REGIONAL
SCARECROW
SEPTEMBER
SQUASH

Haggs Parish Church

A note from your Treasurer

In the 38 years I have been treasurer at Haggs Parish Church, finances have never been more challenging. You are all aware of the increasing cost of gas, electricity and heating oil. Insurances also have taken a huge hike in cost. These affect our church as well as our homes. In my time as treasurer, Haggs Church has NEVER had an unpaid bill (maybe a little longer in being paid occasionally but never unpaid). I know we are in a period of change and adjustment currently but it would be really good if we could continue this achievement for as long as our church is here in Haggs. For those of you who give your offerings by weekly FWO envelopes, can I please encourage you to make up your offerings for the weeks you are unable to attend church, or even better, to give your offering by monthly standing order (standing order form enclosed with this magazine). This can also be set up via a banking app or online banking. Please help your church to keep paying the bills.

Thank you,

Marion Campbell
Treasurer Haggs Parish Church

Pastoral Care Group (Denny Old)

Please contact us if you know of anyone who would welcome a visit from our family friendly team either at home, care home or hospital or even just a phone call to keep in touch. Just give any names to an elder on door duty or leave a name in the marked box on table at back of church. You can also contact Raheel on 01324 819149 and he will pass on details to the team.



Diana Martin
Team Leader

Yoga 4 All



Yoga sessions are held on Thursday evenings from 7.00 – 8.15p.m. in Haggs Church Hall.

These are inclusive sessions, open to all.

Yoga is a combination of body, mind and spirit. Gentle physical movements, using the breath to calm the mind in a spiritual safe environment are offered to all students.

To book a place or for more information contact Sue Storrar (Qualified Yoga Scotland Teacher) at sue.storrar@hotmail.com

FALKIRK FOOD BANK



Please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below and giving them to Falkirk Foodbank

- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Sugar (500 g)
- Fruit Juice (carton)
- Soup
- Pasta Sauces
- Sponge Pudding (tinned)
- Tomatoes (tinned)
- Cereal incl. variety pack
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Custard (tinned)
- Tea Bags 40 & 80
- Instant Mash Potato
- Rice/Pasta
- Meat (tinned)
- Fish (tinned)
- Tinned Fruit
- Jam
- Biscuits
- Snacks



Centre:

Unit 1

Tamfourhill Industrial Estate,
Tamfourhill, Falkirk FK1 4RT

E-mail info@falkirk.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity No. SCO43763

A huge thank you to everyone who continues to support Falkirk Foodbank. Your kindness is greatly appreciated by all those at the Foodbank.

The boxes for donations are now in church. These can be found at the front door and next to the kitchen hatch in the hall. If preferred donations can be dropped off at Janet's home on a Monday for taking to the Foodbank on Tuesday. Please phone the number below for the address.

Sadly, there is still an enormous need for donations. Perhaps, due to the continuing financial crisis, donations have dropped off a little. There are shortages in everything and it is very much appreciated that if a person is struggling themselves they can find it difficult to donate to others. If you could donate even one tin of beans or soup that would be so good.

There is a continuing need for the items listed. Also, "Wellbeing" packs are delivered and there is an ongoing need for toiletries, i.e. toothbrushes, razors, soap powder, baby supplies and cleaning materials.

The distribution centre delivers to all parts of the Falkirk Local Authority area, including Grangemouth, and deliveries are made in Denny and Dunipace.

Please contact Janet Rhodes on 824721 for more information.



1st Haggs Boys Brigade



1st Haggs Boys Brigade meet in Haggs Church Hall.

Anchor Boys (Primary 1 - Primary 3) on a Tuesday night 6 - 7 p.m. Starting on Tuesday 3rd September.

Junior Section (Primary 4 - Primary 6) and Company Section (Primary 7 - 18 year olds) on a Friday night 6.30 - 8.30 p.m.. Starting on Friday 30th August.

Boys and girls welcome to the Boys Brigade.

We are also looking for adult helpers.

For more information phone John Fenney, Captain, 01786470817 or 07799145121 or email john.fenney72@outlook.com

We realize these start dates are past since the publishing of the magazine but all are welcome to start any time with the BB.

Deaths

'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord'

August 24th: Colin Meek - Cumbernauld - Colin was a BB Officer for many years and member of the House Group.

Denny Old Girls' Brigade



Hello Everyone,

Girls' Brigade restarted on Monday 19th August with 12 girls returning keen to be active. They are excited to be back to do all their favourite things - games, singing, running round, shouting, drawing cooking, stories and adventures.

The Explorers will be learning about water in lots of different ways and all the interesting water stories there are in the Bible.

The Juniors have begun by thinking about where they live with quiz about Denny and ice cream collected during their walk round the town.

The Brigaders have begun with their crafting of toys for children that they know. Creativity is definitely in the air with them. This year, the GB fees are £35 so we are having a sponsored walk from Bonnybridge to the Falkirk Wheel playpark and back on Saturday 21st September 2pm. If you know any of the members then they would appreciate your support.

There won't be any GB on 14th October or 21st October due to school holidays but the other Mondays we will be open from 6:15pm to 7:30pm for all girls at school. New members are always welcome.

Beth Young has the leaflets ready for the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal 2024.

Let the fun for session 2024 to 2025 begin.

Marion Reid, Captain



Explorers

P1 - P3



Juniors

P4 - P7



Brigaders

S1 - S6

Gift Aid It



What is Gift Aid?

This is a government scheme which allows the congregation (as a registered charity) to reclaim the tax **you** have already paid on the money you give in your offering.

How does the church benefit?

While the basic rate of Income Tax is 20%, the congregation can recover the tax at the rate of 25%- e.g. £4 becomes £5

£20 becomes £25

£40 becomes £50

Who can give through Gift Aid?

Anyone who pays **Income Tax** or Capital Gains Tax which is annually at least equal to the tax which the congregation and other charities to which you make Gift Aid donations will reclaim on your gifts for that year.

What is Required?

Sign a Gift Aid Declaration- this is printed in the church magazine- ready for you to complete. Hand this to your elder or anyone on door duty on a Sunday or you can call Jean Duff, Gift Aid Convenor, on 01324 824768 and she will come and collect the completed form.

Give your offering using Offering Envelopes or by Bank Standing Order or by Cheque - to provide the Church with the necessary records of your giving.

You Do Not Need:

- To Promise to give a particular amount
- To promise to give for a specific period

Gift Aid Declaration

The Church of Scotland

Please complete this declaration in CAPITALS

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed from the government by charities from the tax you pay for the relevant tax year. Your congregation can reclaim Gift Aid on your offerings if you pay sufficient income tax and you provide a signed Gift Aid Declaration (below). In order to Gift Aid your donations, please complete the form and hand it to your treasurer.

I want to Gift Aid all monetary donations I have made in the past four years and those I make from today onwards to:

Name of congregation: _____
Congregation's charity no: _____

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please tick:

My details:

First name: _____
Surname: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Please notify the Church Treasurer/Gift Aid Convener if you:

- wish to cancel this declaration
- change your name or address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HMRC to adjust your tax code.

PRIVACY NOTICE

You are giving your personal data to *(insert name of congregation)* as the Data Controller.

Your Personal Data: You are being asked to supply your name, address, postcode and signature.

Purpose: The purpose of processing the personal data we ask for is to complete a Gift Aid declaration. The legal basis for this processing is the Legitimate Activities of the Church as a not-for-profit organisation. Your personal data will not be used for another purpose without your consent.

If you do not provide the personal data requested, we cannot complete the declaration.

Data Subjects: Individuals making a monetary offering or donation to this congregation.

Sharing Your Personal Data: Your personal data will only be shared with HMRC as an independent data controller. This sharing is solely for the purpose of administering Gift Aid declarations.

Your Rights:

You have rights under the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information visit the website at www.churchofscotland.org.uk/using-our-site/privacy-centre

Following on from the last magazine looking at the hymns that we sing in church.

“Will your anchor hold”, the Boys Brigade hymn was written by Priscilla Jane Owens (1829-1907) who also wrote **“We have heard a joyful sound, Jesus saves”** and many others.

She was born in America to Welsh and Scottish parents, a Sunday school teacher who wrote many of her hymns for children.

Nearer home the Rev Andrew J Scobie (1935 -2010) wrote **“Look forward in faith”**

He was minister of Cardross Church near Helensburgh.

“The day thou gavest Lord has ended”

was written by John Ellerton (1820-1893) and is one of my favourite hymns

hymn writer and preacher.

“The King of Love, my shepherd is” Is based on the 23rd psalm.

Written by Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)

Son of a vice admiral, a writer of many hymns and a clergyman.

“The day you gave us, Lord has ended, the darkness falls at your behest”,

Written by John Ellerton (1826-1893)

A parish priest and prolific hymn writer

“Eternal Father, strong to save”

The sailors hymn was written by William Whiting(1825-1878)

The Driving Force



The Driving Force is a charity which takes anyone who has cancer and is registered with a GP in Bonnybridge, Banknock or Denny to hospital appointments for free.

Local volunteers work together to fundraise, co-ordinate and drive cancer patients to and from hospital appointments and treatment sessions. Kidney dialysis patients also benefit from this service.

There are 3 types of volunteers: drivers, co-ordinators and fundraisers. Drivers can volunteer to give as much time as they wish. While some drivers offer their services 5 days a week, Monday to Friday, many offer to drive 2 days or some 1 day.

Co-ordinators volunteer on a rota system and arrange a driver for each patient's journey and contact the patient with their driver's details. They contact the GP surgery daily to pick up the messages left by the patients. Fundraisers are very important to help with the prize bingo and coffee morning etc.

Hags Church supports the Driving Force regularly with proceeds of Soup and Sandwich lunches etc being donated to the charity. Three members of our congregation volunteer as driver's and 1 volunteer as a co-ordinator. If you, or someone you know require the services of the Driving Force, please contact your GP surgery and leave your name and phone number and the on-call co-ordinator will contact you for your requirements. The Facebook page, The Driving Force, is a good way to find out more about the charity.

Volunteers would be delighted to come and speak to groups of people about the service and to raise awareness of this worthwhile charity. There will be a "Grand Raffle" prior to Christmas with fantastic prizes to be won. Please support this if you can.

Song of Solomon 2:12 (NIV)

*Flowers appear on the earth; the
season of singing has come, the*

FLOWER GUILD (Denny Old)



The Flower Calendar for 2024 is on display in the big hall. You will see that there are a few Sundays where there is no service in Denny Old, meaning there will be no flowers in our Church.

This is unfortunate, but if you wish you

can choose an alternative Sunday. Contributions to the Flower Guild can be made by putting your name against the date you would like, perhaps a date of special meaning to you, or there are boxes in church for monetary donations.

Flowers are delivered to people who have been bereaved or are unwell. Also, if someone is celebrating a special anniversary, or just needs cheering up, flowers are sent to them. It means such a lot to folk to receive flowers from church letting them know that they are kept in our thoughts.

If you are already on the Calendar, you will receive a reminder the week before, and arrangements can be made to get them to the person arranging them.

Do you think you would like to have a go at arranging flowers in church? If so, please speak to Janet who would love to hear from you. You do not have to do this for a month at a time, weekly or one-off would be great.

Janet Rhodes, Flower Convener

Tel: 01324 824721

Not long now until I fly out to China and begin to trek part of the Great Wall of China for Strathcarron Hospice. I leave on 12th October and return on 21st October.



I have completed some training and have all my jobs, Visa ready and clothes purchased.

I am so thankful for all the kind words and donations that I have received. I am almost at my target of £2000. To finish off, I will be holding a quiz night in Denny Old Church Halls 7pm on Friday 27th September. All are welcome to come along. Entry is by donation and snacks will be provided but please bring whatever you would like to drink.

Marion Reid.

Old Customs

There was a Baptism at Church last week and it brought to mind an old tradition of the past.

“A Christening piece” made up by the mother of the baby being christened to be handed to the first child that was met outside the church. If the baby being christened was a boy, then the christening piece was given to a girl. A biscuit or piece of cake and a coin was wrapped in paper or cloth.



Another old custom was the wedding scramble. Children waited to see the bride leave the house, usually with her father. The anticipation as the children gathered watching people leave the house heightened. At last, the bride came out with her father and got into the car. Children stood and just as the car pulled away, the windows were rolled down and handfuls of coins were thrown onto the pavement. All of the children scrambled to get at least one coin.

Sunday Club (Denny Old)



“Way, way back many centuries ago, not long after the Bible began..”

Yup, still a great book that has many stories that are relevant today, so we aim to share some of these stories through our use of Spill The beans. We use games and crafts to remember the points of the stories, making them more memorable.

Knowing Jesus and God is more important than ever as our young people encounter daily challenges, and they need to know that Jesus has the answers to lead them from problems and give them comfort. Please bring them along to our Church family so we can face issues together.

Thank you to all that took part in the Prizegiving service. The next Denny Old congregation service will be Sunday 15th December so please speak to us if you are willing to take part. We will organise the service in November since December is already very busy.



We also hope to organise a Christmas event.... More details to follow.

God Bless you all,

Roz Bird and Marion Reid



A Week in the life of Jemma

I' my own boss, I get things my way,
I make every Monday a stress-free day.
I bus it to Denny, without a qualm.
Word puzzles and colouring make me calm.

When Tuesday comes, I do the shopping
I get support, to stop me dropping
At night, ERLigin Park is exciting
with disco dancing, so delighting

On Wednesday, the Hoover's loud
As I clean and dust-so house-proud
At night, again, it's Eligin Park
Games and contents-what a lark!

Thursday, out, collecting meds
back home, and maybe change the bed
Toc H, at night, meeting friends
The list of activities never ends

Friday morning is literacy
Never far from a dictionary
Writing a poem about my week
words to spell anss rhymes to seek

At the weekend, I'm relaxing
otherwise, I'll be collapsing
Being busy can be a handful
But, for this life, I'm truly thankful

HOLIDAY CLUB (Denny Old)

Our holiday club this year saw 66 people come through the door over the course of the week. Of all ages from the littlest ones to their families, and each one took part in some way with great gusto..

Our subject this year was Joseph, and we went through his life story, telling the children all about him being born into a large family of many brothers, being the golden child, who was gifted the coat of many colours that we all know about.

However this caused great jealousy in his brothers and they vowed to kill him. It was only the kindness of his elder brother that avoided this outcome, and he ended being sold into slavery to Egypt.

As part of our week Marion and I did an off the cuff playlet portraying a mother and daughter in which the young daughter (Marion) asked her mum what a slave was. so I as the mum said "why don't we ask the boys and girls if they know what a slave is" one little girl about six years of age in the front row put her hand up high stating that she knew what it was, so I asked her to tell us all to explain.

she stood up and pointed to her arm, where her sweatshirt was and said " that is a sleeve"

so we explained to everyone what a slave was, and that it wasn't just in Egypt, that Scotland had slaves too.

Our Family night on Tuesday was a big success this year, there were about 40 people attending, and all had a great time, getting to know the team and eating the burgers and rolls on sausage prepared by our hard working kitchen team, a big thank you to them all, we couldn't do it without you. We also have a fabulous team of helpers who come each year and give their time to help us. We couldn't run the holiday club without them, and we appreciate them so much that mere words cannot express how much we value their support.

This year we had a smashing band of 5 teenagers who were our young leaders, they bonded very quickly, and they all worked really hard across the week, thank you gang you all were fantastic. thank you Amelia, Edward, Jamie, Sophie and Zoe, hope we'll see you all next year.

Elinor and Marion

Harvest Picture to Colour



Denny Contact Information

Minister:
Rev Raheel Arif 013224 819149

Newsletter Editor:
Iain Gillies

iain.gillies@tiscali.co.uk

Session Clerk:
Marion Reid 07787 501077

Organist:
Paul McIntyre 07519 573189

Treasurer:
Eleanore Waddell 01324 823467

Pastoral Care Team:
Diana Martin 01324 610770

Church Officer:
Robert Kennedy 01324 822338

Presbytery Elder:
Janet Rhodes 01324 824721

Christian Aid Contact: (Denny Old)
Janet Rhodes 01324 824721

Property Convener:
Jim Thomson 01324 825392

Flower Guild:
Janet Rhodes 01324 824721

Safeguarding:
Vivien Gillies 07840 754228

Foodbank:
Janet Rhodes 01324 824721

Sunday Club:
Marion Reid 07787 501077
Roz Bird 07395 807110

Gift Aid/WFO:
Jean Duff 01324 824768

Summer Holiday Club:
Elinor Clunie 07533 961371

Girls' Brigade:
Marion Reid, Captain 07787 501077

Stewardship: (Garden Fete)
David Thomson 01324 824620

Guild:
Janet Rhodes 01324 824721

Hall Convener:
Billy Clunie 07828 521924

Lunch Box
Evelyn Hillson 07789 424218

Denny Old Parish Church
Charity No SCO16255

Haggs Contact Information

Minister: Rev. Raheel Arif
Tel: 01324 819149

Session Clerk: Mrs. Sue Storrar
2 Cumbernauld Road
Longcroft
FK4 1QJ
Tel: 01324 840757

Presbytery Elder : Mr. B. Richmond
1 Hazel Rd
Banknock
Tel. 01324 840761

Beadle: Mrs Sharon Fenney
01786 470817

Web site: www.haggschurch.org.uk

email: haggschurch1@yahoo.co.uk

Scottish Charity Number: SCO14536



Scottish Charity Number: SCO14536 (Hags)

Scottish Charity Number: SCO16255 (Denny)