Aberdour and Valgety Parish Church.

No. 19 **JANUARY** 1951

MINISTER:—The Revd. D. W. RUTHERFORD, M.C., B.D., The Manse, Aberdour. Assistant Minister:—Mr Henry C. Martin, B.A., The University, Edinburgh.

Session Clerk-Mr A. R. Milne, Station House.

Clerk to the Congregational Board-Mr J. Dawson Macfarlane, C.A., Braefoot, Easter Aberdour.

Treasurer-Mr C. J. Kerr, J.P., National Bank House.

Proclamations Officer-Mr H. Cecil Lyon, Park View, Park Lane.

Organists: Aberdour-Mr J. Gillespie, Ardene.

Dalgety-Mrs Machin, Wayside, Aberdour.

Beadles: Aberdour-Mr Lawrence Moir, Sands Houses.

Dalgety-Mr Harry Moyes, Ardmohr.

TIMES OF SERVICE.

Aberdour—In St. Fillan's Church and St. Colme's Church alternately, at 11 and 6.30. (A notice is put up each week outside the Parish Hall saying in which Church the Services are the following Sunday).

Dalgety-Every Sunday at 12.30.

Primary Sunday School-St. Colme's Church, 12.20 p.m.

Senior Sunday School—Alternating according to the Church in which the service is being held, at 12.20 p.m.

Dalgety Sunday School-Dalgety Church, 11.30 a.m.

Junior Bible Class-St. Fillan's Hall, 12.20 p.m.

The Young People's Fellowship-St. Fillan's Hall, 7.45 p.m.

Woman's Guild—St. Fillan's Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 2.45 p.m., and on the fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m.

THE MANSE,
ABERDOUR.

My DEAR FRIENDS,

By the time this letter is in your hands the year will be well advanced, but it will not be too late to wish you all a year filled with the richest blessings, that, come what may, 1951 may be a year upon which you will be able to look back and say that "not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof." As I said on the first Sunday of the year, how wonderfully a faith like that banishes our fears, forgives our faults, and strengthens the feeble knees.

Once again the year which has passed has been one of great activity in our congregational life. We have gained new members; we have increased our finances; we have more than doubled our givings to others; we have better attendances; but have we at the same time grown as a congregation in Fellowship, and as individuals in the knowledge and love of God? That, after all, is the true criterion of success. Organisation and planning and method may achieve the others, but only renewed dedication of ourselves to the cause of Christ in prayer and the reading of God's word can lead to the fuller life in Christ.

The year has not been without sadness. Many homes have been bereft of a loved one; and at this season of the year when memories are so vividly painful, we extend to each our sympathy. What a great thing it is to have the Christian hope in the life which is to come, and to know, as one writer has so aptly said, that this is but the end of the First Lesson and that there is still another to be read where God's promises are fulfilled.

May God's blessing be with you all and His Presence felt in every home.

Yours sincerely.

DAVID W. RUTHERFORD.

THE MEMORIAL TO THE REV. ROBERT JOHNSTONE, D.D.

At morning service in St. Fillan's Church on Sunday, 29th October, the memorial to Dr Johnstone was unveiled and dedicated. There was a full church and many friends joined with us in worship. Mrs Johnstone and members of her family were present. The service was conducted by the minister and the lessons read by Dr Webster, a life-long friend of Dr Johnstone. Mr Stalker, in an eloquent address, paid tribute in a deeply moving way to the lasting and enduring effects of Dr Johnstone's ministry in the parish, and to the numbers who still treasured in their hearts memories of his kindness and friendship. Standing in the chancel along with his family, Lawrence, Dr Johnstone's son, the minister of Clyne, unveiled the memorial, and Dr Stalker dedicated it to the glory of God and in memory of all the clergy who have served this parish, and especially of the Reverend Robert Johnstone, D.D., by whose efforts the Church was restored. The choir sang the anthem "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings." So there ended what was for many one of the most memorable services in which they had ever taken part.

In the evening many returned to worship, which was conducted by the Rev. Lawrence Johnstone. By both word and action in the pulpit he brought back to the worshippers many memories of his father and gave his message with a simplicity which reached the heart.

1627 BIBLE.

Through the kindness of Lord Moray, the congregation in Aberdour has been presented with a Bible which belonged to his ancestor, James, the 4th Earl of Moray, who died in 1653. It is well bound in leather with the embossed crest of the family and is in a good state of preservation. It is hoped that in the near future the Bible will be displayed in St. Fillan's Church.

WOMAN'S GUILD.

The Woman's Guild is now well into its winter activities. The membership has kept up its largely increased numbers, but there is room for many more women, and the Committee extend a cordial invitation to all those who would like to join our number. The Sale of Work on December 16th brought in a gratifying sum of £67 10s. This was more than sufficient to meet the annual commitments of the Guild, and we have a balance for future use. Our annual party was held on 9th January, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all who were able to be present.

E.W.K.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP.

Our study this winter has been the "Nature of the Church: its Teaching, its Worship, its Sacraments, its Ministry"; and now we go on to discuss the Church's relationship with the outside world.

In October we held a Birthday Party for Morag. Girls of her own age were invited and a very enjoyable evening was spent by everyone.

In December we accepted the invitation of the Y.P.F. of St. Peter's Church, Inverkeithing, to debate with them on the "Equality of the Sexes." Sheila McLaren and John Sinclair were our main speakers.

Our Christmas Party was a great success. Members of the Fellowships in Burntisland and Inverkeithing were invited, and the company, numbering about seventy, found the allotted time all too short.

Carol singing in the village on Christmas Eve gave great pleasure to those who took part in it. We have to thank all those who gave so liberally to the Children's Homes of the Church of Scotland. It enables us to send twelve guineas to this well deserving cause.

MR GEORGE HERD.

Although Mr Herd has been a member of our Kirk Session for a few months only, it was with regret that the Session learned of his departure from the parish. As a member and elder he was always ready to undertake any Christian service, and we shall all miss his cheery greeting at the church door. We pray that God's blessing may go with him and Mrs Herd in their new sphere of witness.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday School Christmas parties were held on Saturday, 23rd December, the Primary in the afternoon and the Senior in the evening. At both parties "Father Christmas" made a welcome appearance and delivered presents to the children. Tea was provided, and a programme of games was carried through. As usual, thanks are due to the Moray Estates

for a very handsome Christmas Tree, and to Mr Inglis, Dalachy, and Mr Rennie, Humbie, for the provision of milk, and to all other friends who contributed. We welcome the addition of Miss Moir, Mr D. Gunn, and Miss H. M. Clarke to the staff of the Senior Sunday School, and of Miss S. McLaren to that of the Primary Department.

The children of the Sunday School again gave a very successful rendering of the Christmas Story, under the direction of Miss N. Fairley, Miss Simmers, and Mr Gillespie, in St. Colme's

Church on the evening of Sunday, 17th December.

DALGETY SUNDAY SCHOOL.

On Thursday, 21st December, over forty of the scholars of Dalgety Sunday School enjoyed themselves at a Christmas party in Hillend School. Games were followed by tea, and as the hour of closing approached, the children sang carols till Santa Claus arrived. The ladies of the Guild helped with the tea. The Sunday School teachers desire to thank all who contributed to the success of the party. Mrs Machin, the Superintendent, now has the assistance of Miss M. Feaks, Miss A. Binning and Miss Steel on her staff, the number of scholars having risen to 45.

BAPTISMS.

"Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

5th Nov.—Janet Isabella Drew. 26th Nov.—Elaine Scott Semple. 17th Dec.—Donald Veacock McAndie.

MARRIAGE.

"What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." 2nd Dec.—Jean Stuart to James Crombie Wotherspoon.

DEATHS.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

16th Oct.—Mr G. Binning. 22nd Dec.—Mrs Paterson. 25th Dec.—Miss Alice McLauchlan. 1st Jan.—Mr Griffiths.

ACCESSIONS.

Mr and Mrs Charles Bolam, Craiglea. Mr and Mrs J. Conley, Hillend. Mr and Mrs Alexander Elder, Armadale. Mrs McAndie, Rose Cottage. Mr Ian Welsby, Humbie Terrace.

DISJUNCTIONS.

Mr and Mrs Hall, to Langholm.
Mrs Harvey, to Burntisland.
Mr and Mrs Nicol, to Burntisland.
Mrs Osborne, to Carnock.
Mr and Mrs Dunlop, to Kilmarnock.
Mr and Mrs Baxter, to Auchtertool.
Mrs Thomson, to Gateside.
Mr and Mrs Crean, to South Africa.

ABERDOUR AND DALGETY CONGREGATION.

Abstract of Income and Expenditure for the Year ended 31st Dec. 1950.

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	£80 1 662 19	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	104 7	£50 19 2 10 11 5	15 11		£8 18 2 0 11 0 3 0	£181 14 47 10 50 0 87 12	
Expenditure.	By Assembly Funds:— Maintenance of Ministry Fund Other Schemes	" Minister's Stipend (part of) " Salaries of Organists and Church Officers " Upkeep of Churches, etc.:—	Heating, Lighting and Cleaning Repairs and Renewals	" Miscellaneous:— Printing and Stationery Telephone Communion Expenses	Assembly and Presbytery Dues "Memorial to Dr Johnstone	" Benevolent Fund	Earl Haig Fund Mission to Lepers	" Balances on Hand:— Congregational Fund Woman's Guild Eabric Fund Other Funds	
INCOMB.	ns £251 19		., Garden Fete 402 5 7 402 5 7 93 11 2	£1537 10 £1537 10 £97 9 7	"Benevolent Fund 8 10 8 "Other Church Purposes 32 11 2 "Alex. Wallace Memorial Fund 315 0	, Assembly Funds 30 2 11 , Repairs 6 3 3 , Rents 28 0 0	ial se brought forward :— gregational Fund		£2026 0 7

C. J. KERR, Treasurer.

£2026 0 7

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Audited and found correct.

A. R. MILNE, J. DAWSON MACFARLANE, C.A., Auditors.