



Dollar
Glendevon
& Muckhart

LINKING LIVES - BUILDING COMMUNITIES



Dollar

linked with



Glendevon

linked with



Muckhart

PARISH PROFILE

Linking Lives – Building Communities

We seek to be a people of faith, building vibrant and relevant community churches and making positive differences to people in worship, service and in spreading the gospel message.

Our scriptural imperative is to love God and love our neighbour

Matthew 22: 37-38 and Luke 10:27

At the eastern end of the Ochils, the linkage of Dollar, Glendevon and Muckhart is looking for a minister to help us continue to Link Lives and Build Communities as we work to demonstrate and spread the Word and Work of our Saviour in diverse and friendly parishes.

Who we are

We are the linked Church of Scotland parishes of Dollar, Glendevon and Muckhart, a genuine, generous and committed group of God's people, well integrated into our communities. We have proved ourselves time and again in maintaining a faithful witness in our communities and in community support and service; we are 'extra mile' people.

All three churches work under a Unitary Constitution and have their own Kirk Sessions. From 2012 we have worked with our 'Process Group' Report, committing ourselves to the whole community. In doing so we have developed more participatory and inclusive styles of worship, supported and built on our nurturing and fellowship activities, and sought to encourage and broaden the range of our witness and service to the wider community. While many of our activities have thrived we have also lost significant areas of work particularly with our youth and including recently Sunday School and Boys Brigade in Dollar.

Our Memberships - at Dollar there are 240 members with a Supplementary roll of 130, at Muckhart membership is 83 with 3 adherents, and at Glendevon there are 35 church members.

We have strong Linkage church family lives, indicated for each of our Linkage and the Parishes below. More about our day-to-day work can be found at www.dollarparishchurch.org.uk and in our Linkage magazine Grapevine.



Linkage activities

Our current format of Linkage Sunday Services is as follows:

Sunday of the month	Dollar	Glendevon	Muckhart
1st	11am	9:30	No service
2nd	11am	No service	9:30
3rd	No service	11am	9:30
4th	11am	No service	9:30

Where there is a 5th Sunday in the month we have a joint service held at 11am and rotates around the three churches. When special days, i.e. Good Friday, Easter, Sunday before Christmas fall on the 3rd Sunday of the month Dollar may have an Elder-led service.

- Shared and regular worship services
- Two House-groups meet fortnightly using a variety of materials to stimulate and challenge our faith. Those who attend come from the Linkage and other Churches in the area
- The Guild meets monthly with their members coming from the Linkage
- The Women's Group meets monthly, numbers continue to increase with members coming from the Linkage
- The FUN (Friendship, Unity and Nurture) Group organises various enjoyable events, including a keenly contested linkage quiz night
- Commitment and service into our local Primary and Secondary Schools including active contribution to SU work
- Monthly donations to The Gate, a local food bank
- [A choir from the three churches](#) as well as members of the larger church community have been asked to record the CD for the World Day of Prayer for the past three years.

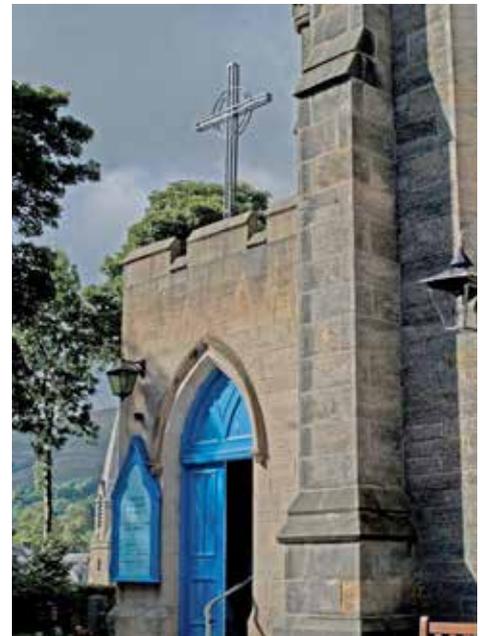
Dollar Parish Church

- Our Church Choir goes from strength to strength contributing to the leading of worship
- Special services at Easter, Christmas and Remembrance Sunday
- About to embark (plans approved) on refurbishing part of the church into an attractive 21st century fellowship space
- Our Pastoral Care Team is currently exploring a new initiative offering to visit people who would appreciate time to talk. There is also exceptional support for the elderly and vulnerable given quietly without fuss from individuals within our congregation
- As well as decorating the Church Sunday by Sunday, the Flower Group is sensitive to situations of illness and bereavement within the town, and at times of joy too – i.e. significant birthdays, family births
- Once a month the various Church organisations take it in turn to provide tea and coffee in our Burnside Hall

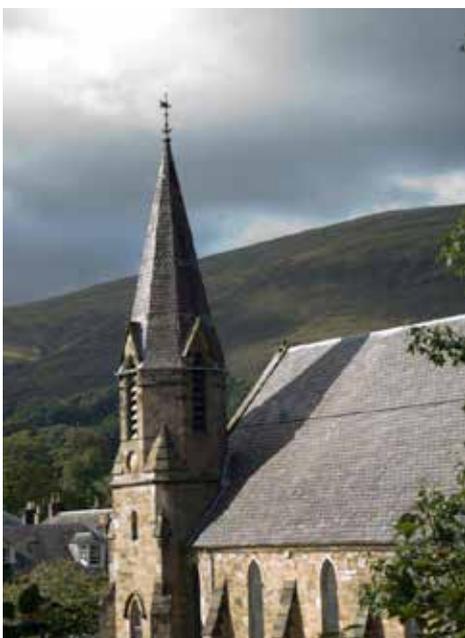
- There is a monthly soup and sandwich lunch, following Sunday worship, the proceeds of which are currently donated to 'Mary's Meals'
- On the first Thursday of the month we provide a soup and sandwich lunch for the community an event that has become very popular with all who attend. Monies raised from this are sent to our contact who runs an orphanage in Nepal
- Our congregation is generous in its giving whether it be financial or practical and regularly donates to local and overseas Christian work. We actively support Christian Aid with door-to-door collections and a Coffee Morning
- Harvest Thanksgiving and Christmas gift services provide supplies and gifts to local charities
- Our Burnside Hall is a focus for both Church and community. It is in constant use by coffee mornings, lunches, badminton, keep fit classes, Guides and Brownies, Mother and Toddler Group, Ballet Classes and Singing groups and special family occasions.



Dollar Parish Church sanctuary



Dollar Parish Church entrance



Burnside Hall, exterior



Burnside Hall, one of our monthly community lunches

Glendevon Parish Church

- Development of joint worship within the Linkage including at Christmas, New Year and St Andrew's Day
- Local musicians have occasionally enriched our worship by providing music for special occasions and services
- Supporting the wider Christian Community through giving to Christian Aid
- Contributing to the work of Strathcarron Hospice.



Glendevon Parish Church



Glendevon Parish Church sanctuary

Muckhart Parish Church

- A worship group, taking 2-3 services a year
- Regular and lively Sunday School meetings every week during term time
- [Special Annual Nativity service](#), special Remembrance Sunday services
- Refurbishment of the Church into an attractive and welcoming 21st century interior with modern sanctuary and fellowship space with a small catering kitchen, and disabled facilities The church is now used by the community for meetings, concerts, coffee mornings, flower festivals. Muckhart Church is now running a baby and toddler group within the church. The Property Plan runs through to 2018
- Coffee served after church every Sunday (money from donations goes to various charities)
- House Groups, in association with others in the linkage meet for discussion and Bible Study
- Flower Committee – operate a monthly rota for floral decoration of the church and for visiting with flowers to those in need within the community. They also organise floral displays in which other organisations in the village participate
- Strong links with the local primary school – Church members go in to help with reading, etc. every week and a team goes in from the church one day a term to help with craft activities and outdoor activities
- Links with Scripture Union at Lendrick Muir and with SU Schools work

- Church provided a defibrillator for the community with a list of people to contact in emergencies, annual training and regular maintenance
- Fundraising includes a Christmas Fayre in the community, supporting Gate Charity in Alloa, Leprosy mission and Christian Aid
- Links in previous years with Rumbling Bridge Nursing Home
- Harvest gifts and Christmas Gift service gifts to the Women's Refuge in Alloa
- Active support overseas mission – Special link through two of our church members to a school and hospital in Bidar, India (The Velemegna Society).
- Muckhart has a web site of its own - www.muckhartparishchurch.co.uk



Muckhart Parish Church sanctuary



Muckhart Parish Church

Our future - what we will do

We have a strong sense that our ministry can be fuller and more relevant with a deeper understanding of God's purpose; we know we are about to embark on a new phase on the life of our churches.

We are sensitive to the social changes in our communities, the need for relevance and the ability to adapt to different needs and challenges we see around us.

In recognising these aspects of our future we see our purpose as Linking Lives – Building Communities.

To do so we will be:

- Encouraging and helping the community to worship
- Developing meaningful work amongst children and families including new approaches to Sunday School
- Developing meaningful youth work with a special focus in digital media
- Growing our links with our community partners including giving support and care to the elderly in our community and in our work with local schools
- Developing our understanding of World Mission, particularly through our commitment to and partnership with Christian Aid
- Continuing our programmes of making our buildings fit for purpose and extending their use and contribution to our communities.

Building on the Progress Report of 2012 and the development work we have done since then, we have now begun the next phase in our strategic development and have crafted our new vision and our outline development plan for delivery of our vision. We will base our planning on research and consultation with our congregations, wider community groups and through visits to other projects and developments. From this we will establish actions and associated timescales for areas of activity, with on-going development and review.

What we seek in our minister

We have been given permission to call a minister on a five year reviewable tenure with future plans to be reviewed (Presbytery of Stirling June 2016).

We are looking for a minister who from a deep personal faith and strong scriptural foundations will provide leadership, vision and compelling communication, bringing new relevance of the gospel to the complex communities we are a part of today and in the future.

With gifts and experience in leading and planning we would like our minister to share our Linking Lives – Building Communities vision bringing new approaches to worship, service and in widening our horizons.

Pastoral skills that have a strong empathy with the congregation.

A strong sense of calling and commitment to the life of our churches and the communities we serve.

Our previous minister (from 2014) was warmly welcomed into our parishes and was contributing to the work of our churches until his departure in 2016. Our interim moderator has also been warmly welcomed, and is an important part of our work and well-being as linked parishes.

Contact details

The Chair (Ian Simpson) and Deputy Chair (Susan Duthie) of the Nominating Committee would be happy to informally discuss the vacancy and can be contacted at i.a.simpson@btinternet.com

Our parish profile is also available online at www.dollarparishchurch.org.uk . Informal enquiries to our Interim Moderator Rev. Iain Goring at imgoring@gmail.com. A letter of application with CV and two referees should be forwarded to the Clerk of the Nominating Committee: Mrs Cathy Gladwin, 105 Hareburn Road, Tillicoultry, FK13 6DA, Tel: 07710753537 or by email at sessionclerk@dollarparishchurch.org.uk.

Appendix: Parish Facts and Figures

The Manse

The Manse is located in Dollar at 2 Princes Crescent East Dollar. It is a modern detached two story villa in good location comprising three public rooms, four bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, kitchen, conservatory, garage, generous enclosed garden with shed.



The Manse

Dollar

Dollar with a population of some 3,000 is in Clackmannanshire, Scotland's smallest county. It is in the central belt, equidistant between Glasgow and Edinburgh. At the beginning of the 19th century Dollar's population was around 500. Self-sufficient in most trades, the village had a bleach works, some small coal mines and a woollen mill. By 1841 the population had increased to 1500 mainly because of the building of Dollar Institution (now Dollar Academy) in 1818. By then the old church built in 1775 to seat 345 persons (and whose ruins can still be seen today) was far too small and in great need of repair, so the present Parish Church was built and was in use by early 1843. A rear gallery, two side galleries and a porch have since been added, but by far the greatest programme of renovation took place in 1926 following which the church was rededicated. Dollar has had many churches through the years and after a union in 1910, a church building was put up for sale and acquired by what is now Dollar Parish Church. To this day the Burnside Hall as it is known, is still owned by Dollar Parish Church and in regular use with church and community. The Ochil Hills provide a beautiful backdrop and 12 miles west along the Hillfoot towns on the A91,

brings you to Stirling. In the month of May when the cherry blossom on the trees is at its best, the Dollar burn can be very picturesque and often captured with paint or on camera. The burn flows into the river Devon, about whose beauty Robert Burns wrote a poem.

- Dollar has a health centre, a library and civic centre
- The Schools in the town are Strathdevon (state primary school), Dollar Academy (private, primary and secondary). Alva Academy (in nearby Alva) is the state secondary school for Dollar with some secondary age pupils also attending Kinross High
- Bridge Street is the town's main street and most of its businesses and shops are located there
- There are many sports clubs, and a huge selection of clubs and groups for general interest
- There is a local museum run by volunteers
- Castle Campbell, maintained by Historic Scotland, is at the head of the Dollar glen
- There are great walks throughout the area
- The Stirling – St Andrews bus service runs regularly through Dollar. The nearest train station is now at Alloa, about 7 miles away, and the line goes straight to Stirling, then beyond.

Glendevon

The parish of Glendevon lies in the midst of the Ochil Hills in the county of Perth and Kinross. It measures approximately six miles in length and four miles in breadth and derives its name from the river Devon. The earliest record of a church in Glendevon is in Bagimonds Taxation Roll of 1274. Therefore the church may be four or five hundred years old.

During the period from 1881-1913 the present pews were installed. Later the Communion Table and chair was donated. Around 1913 the stained glass window was installed in the west wall. In 1929 Mr Boreland of Kincardine Castle donated the Oregon pine ceiling that still adorns the church today.

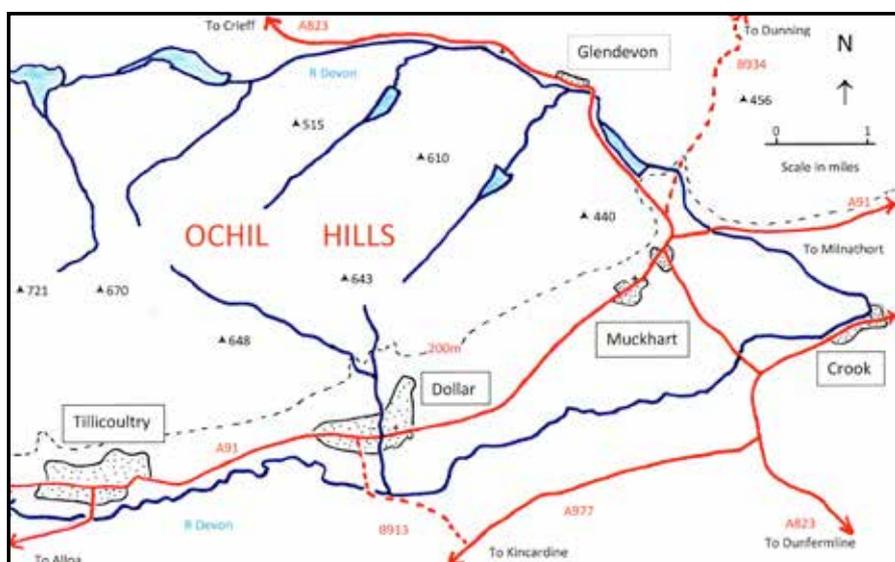
- Population- around 150 people live throughout the Glen. The age of the people are in the region mainly between 25-80 years old
- Housing- most are owner occupied but some are privately rented
- Employment- limited jobs exist in agriculture, forestry, hospitality, water industry and the wind farm. Many residents commute to the large cities for work, as there is good access to the A9 and M90
- Amenities- The Glendevon Holiday Park has rental homes available for use. The Tormaukin Hotel is nearby with several holiday cottages
- Recreation- The local reservoirs offer fishing and there are good walking paths to enjoy the beautiful scenery
- Public Transport- there is no bus or train service through the Glen, but Gleneagles station is six miles to the north and Kinross park and ride ten miles to the east
- Shopping- there are a good range of shops and restaurants in nearby Auchterarder and Dollar. Health- health and dental care available in both Auchterarder and Dollar.

of the River Devon at Crook of Devon, through Rumbling Bridge and Vicar's Bridge. The earliest documented church building was in 1560, the site of the current church and, possibly, of an older one. The present building was constructed in 1838, although it does incorporate stones from an earlier church. The last major development - other than the most recent refurbishment - was in the early 20th century (1929) when a new entrance, session room and cloakroom were added to the western side of the building.

- Muckhart is the central parish (766, 2011 census figure) in the linkage being some 3 miles from Dollar to the west and some 3 miles from Glendevon to the north
- Of the population, 16% are children, 60% of working age and 24% of pensionable age
- 90% of housing is owned (2011 census)
- Stable community
- Close proximity to the motorway network and supermarkets are within a 10 to 20 minute drive
- Public transport is limited but is enhanced by the Direct Responsive Transport (DRT) scheme
- Mobile Post Office visits twice-weekly
- Health centre and dental practice are available in Dollar
- Most services are available either in Dollar (3 miles) or Kinross (7 miles)
- Amenities – There is a shop & café, the inn (dating from 1806), the village hall – the venue for thriving local societies and regular activities, the primary school, a 27-hole golf course, the community woodland, hill-walking.

Muckhart

The parish of Muckhart (comprising the Pool of Muckhart and Yetts o' Muckhart) is one of the Hillfoots villages situated on the A91 – main trunk road from Stirling to St. Andrews. Standing as a backdrop to the village to its north side is 'Seamab', one of the hills in the Ochils range. The parish boundary extends to the outer edge of Dollar, some three miles west and follows the course





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LINKING LIVES - BUILDING COMMUNITIES

DOLLAR PARISH CHURCH CHARITY NO: SC009713
MUCKHART PARISH CHURCH CHARITY NO: SC009418
GLENDEVON PARISH CHURCH CHARITY NO: SC003028