

Parish Profile
Parish of Latheron
Caithness
SC034424

Parish of Latheron Manse Lybster



Parish of Latheron

Introduction

The friendly and committed members of the Parish of Latheron are seeking a dedicated minister, who will provide leadership to the congregation; to encourage the membership of the congregation; to be active in pastoral care and visitation to the elderly, along with families who do not see the church as relevant to their spiritual needs; and to enable the congregation to be the people of God. The congregation will support the minister in his/her passion for ministry.

There is a wide diversity of people within the Parish. Clearly there is a real opportunity and challenge for a minister to identify with the people.

Our vision is to have a congregation united in love and prayer, living in charity with our neighbours and encouraging participation in worship by all age groups.

Could this be what you as a minister feels called to?

Our central vision is to have:

- A congregation made up of people of all ages
- Everyone feeling welcome and able to be involved
 - A fellowship characterised by love
- We see prayer as key to what we do together
 - We seek more use of our church buildings
- We need to extend our outreach to non-church attenders

Current Situation

The Church is on the Model Constitution.

The Parish of Latheron stretches from Bruan in the north to Berriedale in the south with places of worship in Lybster and Dunbeath which are about eight miles apart. We are one congregation with two centres of worship. The church buildings are well situated in the villages.

At present we have pulpit supply. There is a Worship Group made up of members of the congregation who are trained to conduct services.

The congregation has eighty communicant members, and 12 elders.

In Dunbeath we enjoy fellowship each Sunday after the church service over a cup of tea or coffee.

There is a Friday club for primary school children in Lybster church. The youth group for teenagers and young adults meets once a month on a Sunday evening.

We are welcomed into both Lybster and Dunbeath schools to conduct assemblies. The end of term services for Lybster school are held in our church.

The guild meets in Lybster church hall each month from October to March.

We have a popular 'Biscuits and Blether' session which takes place on a Tuesday afternoon in Lybster.

The music group JABOS meets on a weekly basis and sings at family services.

A holiday club for Primary School children takes place during the summer holidays in association with Lybster Free Church.

The congregation works closely with Lybster Free Church. A joint Remembrance service with the local Free Church takes place each November in Lybster Church. A service of Remembrance is conducted in Dunbeath church and at the various War Memorials.

Lybster Church



Dunbeath Church



Centres of Worship

Lybster church was built in 1910. A recent renovation of the church has involved the replacement of the church windows, an upgrade of the sound system and the installation of new heating and carpeting. At the side of the church lies the Lybster Stone, a cross marked stone which dates from the sixth century.

Dunbeath Church is an early 20th century building in a good state of repair. A new heating system, altered lighting and new carpeting has recently been fitted. This has made the church a bright and warm place in which to worship.

Service Times:

10am - Dunbeath and 11:30am - Lybster

On the first Sunday of each month there is a family service alternating between Lybster and Dunbeath.

Parish of Latheron Manse Lybster

The manse which is situated next to the church at Lybster is an early 20th century stone villa. It is built on two levels and is in a good state of repair.

The ground level consists of a fitted kitchen and utility room with white goods, shower room with wc, dining room, study, and sitting room. The door of the utility room leads to the back garden.

The entrance incorporates the stairway to the upper level on which there are three double bedrooms and one single bedroom, a walk in cupboard and a bathroom.

The manse is carpeted throughout, the primary heating system is oil.

The front of the house is double glazed.

There is a single garage at the side of the house.

The large garden at the front and back is well maintained with grass, mature trees and shrubs.

South East Caithness

Caithness is an area of great beauty with a breath-taking coastline - predominantly farmed and crofted and full of sites of archaeological and historical interest.

Lybster and Dunbeath are two small attractive villages located in the North of Scotland. Lybster is a former fishing village – once a busy herring port, it is now used by both creel fishermen and pleasure craft. The village has a picturesque harbour, where there is a small and interesting museum known as 'Waterlines' depicting aspects of the rural life of the past. Dunbeath also has an attractive harbour, a heritage centre, and an interesting museum which allow historic interests and aspects of life of the past to be explored.

The two villages have the benefit of a strong social life. Each has a community hall where a variety of organisations meet such as bowling, badminton, SWRI and agricultural clubs. For children there are church groups, Brownies, Rainbows badminton and football clubs. Numerous outdoor activities take place and Lybster has a nine-hole golf course with an active social club.

Each village has a small convenience store, a post office and a Day centre - where a variety of activities and facilities are available including a Community minibus. Lybster has a small garden centre, Waterlines a visitor centre and museum and North Lands Creative Glass. Dunbeath has a flower shop and a Heritage Centre.

LLCCDC, a community company, offers training, arts and crafts, allotments and a diy tool-shed to members of the Lybster, Latheron and Clyth communities.

There are two primary Schools within our parish, Dunbeath with around twenty children and Lybster with around eighty. Secondary education is in a newly built high school in Wick, with transport provided. There is also a high

school in Thurso. Further education is available at the University of the Highlands and Islands College in Thurso, where a variety of courses are delivered with opportunities to study NC, HNC/D, Degree, and Postgraduate courses - to enhance future careers.

The nearest towns are Wick and Thurso with various supermarkets, banking and shopping facilities, libraries, and swimming pools with fitness suites.

Dunbeath and Lybster each have a GP dispensing practice, with close links to Caithness General Hospital. This is the main hospital in the community and is located in Wick. Thurso has a cottage hospital. There are various nursing homes in the area. Raigmore Hospital is two hours away in Inverness.