

# Magheramason Presbyterian Church Newsletter September 2015



## Keeping in Step with Jesus!

Summer Holidays are over for another year and its hard to believe the children are all back at school again at the beginning of another new school year. P1 pupils will be entering Primary School for the first time, others are making the move from Primary to Secondary education and some heading off to university. Perhaps some reading this newsletter are beginning a new job, others may have plans to retire to begin new ventures?

Regarding church life in Magheramason, it is all go, as all of our organisations begin again for another season. The past year has been a time of transition for the manse family as we have settled into life in this beautiful part of the country. It has taken time, but we are thankful for all who have helped and supported us prayerfully and practically in early stages of ministry here. We know it is the LORD himself who has led us to this place, as we have sought to follow his clear direction for our lives as a family.

At this busy time it is good to stop and ask are we keeping in step with Jesus? On the first Sunday of September to coincide with Sunday School recommencing we had a special ***Back to School with God*** service. Many boys and girls led us in prayer and bible readings joining with adults who are involved in different aspects of work in our local schools.

## Harvest Thanksgiving Services Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2015

11.30 a.m. - Rev. Graeme Orr & Harvest Praise – the Choir  
6.30 p.m. - Rev. David Hillen & Harvest Praise – the Choir

**Supper will be served in the Church Hall after the Evening Service**

**Harvest Offering for the Building Repair Fund**

We focused on the life of the disciple Peter. In Luke Chapter 5 Peter has been out fishing all night and has caught nothing. Then Jesus comes along and tells Peter to throw his net into the water for a final time. Peter obeys the Master and a huge haul of fish is the result! Peter realised Jesus is different, he is Holy, he is the LORD over all. SO he says honestly “I am a sinful man!”

This admission does not stop Jesus calling Peter to leave the fishing industry to follow him saying “Do not be afraid, from now on you will catch men.” Peter then took his **First Steps in following Jesus!**

The Bible reminds us that life without Jesus is hard. Maybe in your life it feels that you work, work, work 24 / 7, with little return and you wonder what is it all about? Like Peter, you ponder ‘where is my life going?’ We are all sinful before a Holy God and tend to try to go on in life selfishly with little thought for Jesus. But Jesus is interested in YOU! Is he calling you now to turn from your sin and the emptiness of your life and take **First Steps in following Him?** He desires that YOU follow Him and come to know deeper meaning and purpose in your life.

Later in Luke 22 we learn that Peter falls **Out of Step with Jesus**. He boldly promised he would follow Jesus and never deny Him as his Saviour and LORD. Yet when Jesus was arrested and would soon be put to death on the cross Peter denied Jesus three times! We too may have good intentions of following Jesus closely, but it may be all too easy to deny Him, especially at school or at work where there are few Christians. Jesus wants us to stand up and stand out for Him, not just on a Sunday, but each and every day.

Finally in John 21 we learn that Jesus brought Peter **Back into Step with him** as he went back to fishing again. Interestingly Peter had been fishing for a long time and again caught nothing. At Jesus command to throw out the net, this time it almost broke with another huge haul of 153 fish! Here again we see Jesus authority as the Son of God. Jesus asked Peter 3 times “Do you love me.” Peter replied “Yes Lord, you know all things, you know that I love you.” Jesus as a gracious and loving Saviour restored **Peter back into step with Himself**.

God knows everything about us. He knows if you have drifted away from his Son Jesus. That question that Jesus asked Peter could be directed to us, “Do YOU love Jesus more than these (other things).” Perhaps other things have come between you and your once close relationship with Jesus? Maybe you have drifted away from attending church? Other things have become more important? Perhaps the Lord himself is calling YOU to come **back into step with Jesus** that He might use YOU in his service once more.

A warm welcome awaits you in Church each and every Sunday as together we seek to continue to look to and **Keep in step with Jesus** every day!

*Graeme Orr*

# KIRK SESSION

The Sunday School and Bible Class re-commenced on Sunday 6 September after the summer break, and the various Church organisations will soon be starting their Winter programmes. The Kirk Session would again express their thanks and gratitude to the Sunday School teachers and the leaders and helpers in the various organisations for giving their time and dedicating themselves to these various tasks. The Kirk Session would encourage all parents not only to send their children to Sunday School but to bring them to Church as well. We extend an invitation to all young people to come along and join our Youth Organisations on a regular basis and assure them, that the leaders will be delighted to see them and will make them very welcome.

Prayer meetings continued throughout the summer on a Wednesday evening and we had a week of prayer meetings at the beginning of September. The Sunday evening Services re-commenced on Sunday 13 September at 6.30 p.m. The Kirk Session would commend these Services/Meetings to the Congregation and encourage members to come and join in the Praise, Prayer, Bible Study, and Fellowship on these occasions week by week.

The Kirk Session would take this opportunity to express their sincere thanks to members of the congregation who served on the Congregational Committee during the past 5 years; their commitment and dedication to the work of the Committee (responsible for property and finance) has been very much appreciated. A new committee is in the process of being elected and should be in place by mid-October.

Magheramason Presbyterian Church now has its own website (the address is [www.magheramasonpci.org.uk](http://www.magheramasonpci.org.uk)) which gives details of the Church and information about the various activities and events which are happening as well as recordings of the Church services. We express our sincere thanks to Leslie Hamilton for the all the hard work, time and effort which he put into the development of the website, and for managing and keeping the information up to date. Thanks also to Mr David Burke whose assistance and advice were invaluable in the development of the website.

It was with regret but with understanding that we received requests from Mr Roger McCorkell and Mr Joseph Rutherford to retire as Elders in the congregation. Joseph was ordained to the Eldership in 1990 and Roger was ordained in 1998. We express our sincere thanks and gratitude to them both, for their service to the congregation and the work of the Kirk Session and assure them that their contribution in this regard has been very much appreciated by the Kirk Session, the congregation and all concerned. We express our good wishes to them and their families and trust that they will continue to know God blessing in their lives.

Due to not being as mobile as he would like, and on-going health problems, Joseph Rutherford has also requested to be relieved of the responsibility of Building Repair

Fund treasurer and 'In lieu of Flowers' secretary when the new committee is in place, and this is understandable. At the same time we are grateful that Roger McCorkell is happy to continue his invaluable work as 'Gift Aid' secretary and his work with the Weekly Freewill offering.

Congratulations and best wishes to Keith McCrossan and Fiona Burtney who got married during the summer and are now living in Antrim. We trust that they will know God's blessing in their marriage. We are going to miss Keith as he was a faithful and valued member of the Sunday School staff and quietly and conscientiously carried out his duties as Superintendent of the Sunday School for the past 17 years. Keith was ordained as an Elder in the congregation in 2003 and we express our sincere thanks to him for his faithful and dedicated service to the congregation and the Kirk Session both as an Elder and Sunday School Superintendent.

We also express our good wishes to Mrs Elizabeth Davis who has been appointed to succeed Keith McCrossan as Superintendent of the Sunday School and trust that she may know God's blessing in this responsible position of organising and overseeing the work of the Sunday School.

We are pleased and delighted that the current Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, the Right Rev. Dr Ian McNie has accepted an invitation to visit Magheramason and will be present at the evening service on Sunday 29 November at 6.30 pm. It will be a privilege to have the Moderator with us and we would ask and encourage members of the congregation to remember this date and plan to come along to meet Dr McNie on this occasion.

The Kirk Session is currently planning a two week Mission starting on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Mr Trevor Matthews from the Faith Mission has agreed to conduct the Mission. We would ask members to the congregation to remember this event in prayer and to pray for Trevor Matthews, and others who will be taking part, for those who attend, that those who receive invitations will come, and that there will be a mighty work of God's Spirit in Magheramason in the lead up to the Mission, during the two weeks of the Mission itself, and then in the time following the Mission.

Walter Hoy (Clerk of Session)

## DATES:

|                      |   |                         |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Saturday 19 Sept.    | PW Coffee Morning   | 10.00 am.               |
| Tuesday 29 Sept.     | Stated Meeting of Kirk Session  | 7.30 p.m.               |
| Sunday 27 Sept.      | Mr Gordon Stewart (Asia Link)<br>David & Sally Thompson   | 11.30 a.m.<br>7.30 p.m. |
| Sunday 11 October    | Harvest Thanksgiving Services<br>11.30 a.m. – Rev. Graeme Orr<br>6.30 p.m. – Rev. David Hillen  |                         |
| Wednesday 21 October | Pre - Communion Service   | 8.00 p.m.               |
| Friday 23 October    | Prayer Meeting for Communion  | 8.00 p.m.               |
| Sunday 25 October    | Communion Services<br>11.30 a.m. & 6.30p.m.<br>Mr Stephen Pearson will speak at evening Service |                         |
| Wednesday 28 October | Mr Stephen Cowan (Kenya)  | 8.00 p.m.               |
| Sunday 8 November    | Remembrance Day Service<br>BB & GB Enrolment Service  | 11.30 a.m.<br>6.30 p.m. |
| Friday 29 November   | Moderator's Visit   | 6.30 p.m.               |
| Wednesday 2 December | Mr Philip Dunn<br>(European Missionary Fellowship)  | 8.00 p.m.               |
| Sunday 6 December    | Tear Fund Sunday/Lunch  | 11.30 a.m.              |
| Sunday 13 December   | Mr Robert Jones<br>(Christians Against Poverty)   | 6.30 p.m.<br>.          |

### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOEBOX APPEAL)**

Magheramason P.W. has been supporting this for many years.

We hope to continue with this gift and so make Christmas special for boys and girls who are less well off than we are.

Members of the congregation can also contribute to this appeal.

All boxes to be in before 10 November 2015.

Helen Walker

# CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE

The new Committee elected by the Congregation should be in place by early October 2015. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all Committee members who have helped progress the work of the Congregational Committee over last five years on behalf of the Chairman.

Members will have noted the vast improvements carried out to the kitchen, with new water boilers, a fridge, dishwasher and two cookers having been installed recently. A mechanical ventilation system has also been installed in the Church to help alleviate the on-going problems of condensation.

The car parks at the front and rear of the Church will also be looked at by the Congregational Committee. When the new disabled toilet and ramp at the front door of the Church are completed, consideration will be given to improving access to the rear car park with the possibility of re-surfacing the same. The front car park will be marked out to help improve the parking problems which occur from time to time. Certain exclusion areas within the front car park will be designated to ensure access for emergency vehicles should they be required to attend at the Church whilst a service of worship or other function is in progress.

Members will be informed of the progress of these projects when further information is to hand.

Sam McPherson (Congregational Secretary)

## HARVEST OFFERING

The Special Harvest Offering this year is, again, in aid of the Building Repair Fund.

We ask members of the congregation to respond generously to the Harvest Appeal to help with the cost of the on-going maintenance work of our extensive property. This year a mechanical ventilation system has been installed in the Church and a dishwasher, new water boiler, cookers and a fridge installed in the kitchen.

The Harvest Offering last year realised £5596.00, which was a very commendable amount.

## **BAPTISMS**

*Suffer the little children to come unto me.*

- 28 June 2015          Hanna Beth, infant daughter of Mr & Mrs Peter Crumley.  
12 July 2015          Holly, infant daughter of Mr & Mrs Richard Thompson.

## **MARRIAGES**

*To have and to hold from this day forth.*

- 7 April 2015          Paula McNeely to Jason Clyde  
8 Aug. 2015          Keith McCrossan to Fiona Burtney  
21 Aug. 2015          Nora Black to Jim Olphert  
5 Sept. 2015          Nicola Killen to Robert Thompson

## **DEATHS**

*Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.*

- 14 April 2015          Mrs Jean Patterson, Victoria Road, Newbuildings.  
17 May 2015          Mr Keith Kennedy, Lower Tully, Newbuildings.  
28 May 2015          Mr Norman Crumley, Victoria Road, Bready.  
28 May 2015          Mr Robert Sweeten, Dunalong Road, Magheramason.  
9 Sept. 2015          Mrs Ruby Lowry, Dunalong Road, Bready

## **HARVEST GIFTS**

As in past years, gifts of flowers, fruit, vegetables etc. are required for the Harvest Thanksgiving Services and will be very much appreciated. These can be left at the Church on Saturday morning 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Also help is required to decorate the Church on the Saturday afternoon, in preparation for the Harvest Services.

## **Holiday Bible Club**

Up to 70 children from the congregation and local community attended the Five Day Bible Club each evening from Monday 15 – Friday 19 June. The children enjoyed coming along to the Church Hall each evening, listening to the Bible stories, learning choruses and participating in the question time, completing worksheets, and playing games. The team of leaders from the congregation was led by Paul and Elizabeth Davis.

## **Children's Day Service**

Following on from the Five Day Bible Club, our Children's Day service was held on Sunday 21 June when there was a good attendance of children, members, parents and friends. The service was conducted by the Rev Graeme Orr with participation from the children in the primary and junior Sunday School. Elaine Davis led the congregation in prayer and Rueben Orr, Ben Crumley, Samuel Orr and Ben Ferguson read the passage of scripture from 1 Samuel Chapter 17 on David and Goliath. The Rev Orr gave an illustrative presentation and exposition of the story of the battle of David and Goliath to the boys and girls and the congregation. Attendance prizes were presented to the boys and girls in the Sunday School and Cradle Roll certificates were presented to Olivia Killen, Matthew Shortt, Henry Lowry, Charlotte Lowry, Jake Killen, Eva Thompson, Kolton Crumley, Hanna Crumley and Holly Thompson.

## **'Fitness For Life' Meetings**

A series of meetings for Ladies were held on Tuesday evenings during the month of May. Approximately 50 ladies attended each night enjoying the programme of activities and having fellowship. With favourable weather conditions, groups of ladies were able to go walking, whilst the more energetic enjoyed more vigorous circuit training in the Church Hall. An integral part of the meetings was the epilogue by a guest speaker and evenings concluded with a healthy supper. The meeting on Tuesday 19 May was held in Bready Reformed Church hall.

## **Sponsored Run Magheramason – Cookstown.**

Members of the congregation of Magheramason teamed up with members of the congregation of Molesworth congregation for a sponsored run from Magheramason to Cookstown on Saturday 6 June to raise money for missionaries working in Kenya. Sponsorship for the Cookstown runners went to support the Reid family and their ministry, with sponsorship of the Magheramason runners (amounting to £600) going to support the Cowan family and their ministries in Tuum in northern Kenya. Thanks to all who took part in the run and everyone who sponsored this worthy event. A praise service was held in Molesworth Church on the Saturday evening.

## **Maud Kells OBE**

The congregation was pleased and delighted to welcome Maud Kells to Magheramason as our guest speaker on Sunday 7 June. Maud shared with the boys and girls of how she became a Christian and was called to work as a missionary in the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa. When she first went there, life in the region of Mulita where she worked, was very primitive with very poor living conditions and with many of the women giving birth in the forest, and access roads were virtually non-existent. Maud told of how they found a brick machine, which had been left behind by the Belgians, and they started making bricks two at a time. Eventually they had enough bricks to build a small medical centre/maternity unit providing for the needs of the local women.

Later in the service Maud shared with the congregation of the incident back in January when she was shot late at night by a bandit. A bogus caller told her that she was urgently required at the maternity unit and although Maud was fairly certain this was not the case she nevertheless got up and went to the maternity unit only to discover that no one there knew of any emergency. On returning to her house she was confronted by two bandits one of whom was armed with a gun and demanding money. As Maud went to grab the gun it went off shooting her through the shoulder. The bandits made their escape but Maud knowing that she was bleeding badly from the exit wound of the bullet, and being a trained nurse, stood pressing her back against the wall of the house to help stem the flow of blood, as she repeatedly called for help. Eventually her cries were heard and help arrived. She received urgent medical attention on location before being airlifted to a hospital in Nyunkunde for further essential treatment and nursing care. It turned out that the bullet had just missed a major blood vessel and passed just a 'hairs-breadth' from the spinal cord. Maud thanked everyone for their prayers during this time and praised God for His presence and goodness.

After the service Maud was interviewed by Colm Arbuckle from Radio Foyle (who was present for the service), and this interview was subsequently broadcast on the Radio Ulster programme 'Time of our Lives' on a Sunday afternoon.

In recognition of her work and service Maud was awarded the OBE by the Queen and was presented with this award by Prince William at Buckingham Palace on 21 May this year.

## **Fun Week**

A Fun Week for young people of primary school age was held from 6.30 – 8.00 pm each evening during the week 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> August. Approximately 30 children attended each evening and enjoyed playing games, doing craft work, and hearing the Bible stories and the story of the missionary Jim Elliot and how he gave his life in his commitment to bring the gospel to the Indian tribe known as the Acuas, in

the country of Ecuador. A highlight of the craft work was the kite making - each young person made a kite from a piece of plastic (silage cover), willow rods, and baler twine – and had a good time getting the kites to fly. Young people who attended the Fun Week also took part in the service on Sunday 23 August.

## **Easter Services**

An enjoyable and meaningful family service was held on Palm Sunday with the boys and girls from the Sunday School taking part in singing special praise and reading the scriptures. On the Thursday night before Easter a special service was held in the Minor Hall when the congregation watched the Billy Graham video “The Cross”. This was a very inspirational and challenging video and most appropriate for the occasion. The Youth Fellowship led the praise with the Rev. Graeme Orr and Dylan Hughes providing the music on guitars.

There was a good attendance at the Good Friday service with the church choir leading the special praise.

On Easter Sunday morning around 100 early morning worshippers met at 6.30 a.m. in the Church car park, and proceeded to the shore of the River Foyle for the outdoor service. Fortunately there was a marked improvement in the weather so everyone was able to enjoy worshipping in the open air on a lovely mild spring April morning. The service was conducted by the Rev Graeme Orr, who gave a very appropriate and challenging address, reminding everyone of the great hope we have in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. After the service everyone returned to the comfort of the Church Hall for breakfast of tea and toast. The retiring offering in aid of Knockavoe Special Care School amounted to £267.

The Rev Graeme Orr also conducted Easter Day services at 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., with the Magheramason Church choir again leading the special praise.

## **AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the congregation was held on Wed. 25 March with the meeting commencing in worship and praise led by the church choir. The usual reports were presented by the Clerk of Session, Congregational Secretary and Congregational Treasurer, and adopted by the congregation. The Rev. Graeme Orr shared a passage of scripture with the congregation from Psalm 145 which was a great song of praise.

After the business was completed, special guest Roseleen Patterson shared with the congregation her work with CEF and the challenges she would face as she undertook CEF work in Dublin. The evening closed with an enjoyable supper provided and served by the ladies.

## **Boys' Brigade**

The Magheramason Boys Brigade Company held their annual display on Friday 20 March when the chief guests were Mr Colin Colhoun, captain of the Ebrington Boys' Brigade Company, and his wife Judith. Following the programme of activities Mrs Colhoun presented the many prizes and special prizes to the boys in the Anchor Section, Junior Section and Company Section of the Brigade. Mr Colhoun, who had inspected the Company at the opening, congratulated the Boys and the Officers on their fine turn out and the thoroughly entertaining programme which was much enjoyed by the parents and friends who were in attendance.

Special congratulations to Dane Allen who was awarded the President's Badge, and Jordan Campbell who qualified for and was awarded the Queen's Badge and Certificate (the highest award in the Boy's Brigade).

Congratulations also to Company Section who won the Londonderry Battalion 'Bible Scene Competition'; this was fine achievement by the winning team of Reuben Orr, Dane Allen, John Fulton and Connor Ferguson, and a great encouragement to all the boys in the Magheramason Company, the Captain and all the Officers, and all concerned.

## **Girls' Brigade**

The Magheramason Girl's Brigade Company held their annual display on Friday 27 March when there was also a good attendance of girls, parents and friends. The special guest was Mrs Mandy Orr who presented the many prizes and praised the girls and the Officers for their turn out and for the entertaining programme of activities, and congratulated all the girls who gained awards and those who gained special awards, and gave an encouraging message to the girls.

## **Presbytery Football Competition**

Congratulations to the Magheramason team of Ben Crumley, Ruben Darragh, Benjamin Orr, Samuel Orr, and Sam Stott who won junior section of the Presbytery five-a side football competition held at the Melvin Sports Complex in Strabane on Saturday 14 March. Congratulations to Benjamin Orr who received the award for best player in the junior section of the competition and also to the Magheramason team who came third in the senior section of the competition.

## **Bowling Club**

The Magheramason Bowling Club celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Friday 10 April with a night of fun bowls for present members, past members and guests, followed by a meal in the Church Hall. Mrs May Doherty shared memories of the past 50 years in poetic form, and Mr Raymond Hutcheson and Mr John Kincaid

thanked and paid tribute to all who had supported and contributed to the success of the bowling club, and also Mrs June McClure convenor of the Waterside Churches' league.

## **Men's Breakfast /Community Clean-up**

Members of Magheramason Church teamed up with members of the Magheramason Community Association for breakfast in the Church Hall on Saturday 18 April when guest speaker Mr George Barkley, a farmer from Randalstown, gave a very entertaining and inspiring talk on the Gospel illustrating the message with model cars and a model threshing machine. Following the hearty and enjoyable breakfast the men then spent most of the day cleaning up and tidying up around the village of Magheramason. This was a great team effort, hard work but very rewarding and very enjoyable in the pleasant April sunshine.

## **Kindfund (Kenya)**

A special praise service led by the Derry & Donegal Presbytery choir was held in Magheramason Church on Sunday 10 May at 7.00 p.m. in aid of Kindfund (Children's homes in Kenya). The congregation which included many visitors really enjoyed the Choir singing some well known hymns as well as some of the less familiar hymns. David and Sally Thompson shared with the congregation how they felt a burden for this work in Kenya and their plans to visit the Kindfund homes in Kenya in the summer and help with the work there and to encourage those who are organising and caring for the children. Kindfund established in 2004 is a Christian Charity running a number of Children's Homes in Kenya and seeking to relieve poverty amongst some of the poorest tribes in Northern Kenya, working with the pastoralist Turkana, Samburu and Rendille people. We really appreciate the Presbytery Choir for supporting this event and for their inspirational praise and trust that they will continue to know God's blessing in their ministry of music and praise. The offering at this service in aid of Kindfund amounted to £1000 and thank most sincerely all who attended and supported this event.

## **WANTED**

If anyone has a G.B. uniform(s) that they no longer require, could you please return the same to the Girl's Brigade on a Tuesday evening between 6.30 and 9.30 p.m. or contact Jean Walker (Tel: 71349253)

Thank You.

## Presbyterian Women's Group

Magheramason Presbyterian Women's Group (P.W.) welcomes all ladies of the congregation (and friends) and invites them to come along to the meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 8.00 p.m.

Our group is warm and friendly. P.W. is such a blessing, meeting with other women sharing God's word, having fun and fellowship.

The programme for the incoming session is interesting, entertaining and challenging.

Helen Walker (P.W. Sec.)

**Magheramason P.W. (Programme 2015/16)**  
***Here is Love. "We love because He first loved us."***  
***1 John 4:19***

### 2015

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> September | Mrs Karen Craig<br>(Overview of her year as Moderator's wife 2013-2014) |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> October   | Mrs Olive Borland<br>(Author of poems "Whispers of Love")               |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> November   | Mrs Glenda McKean (Craft night)   |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December  | P.W. Members Night.   |

### 2016

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 11 <sup>th</sup> January | Mrs Mary Good (International Injustice Mission)   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> February | David & Sally Thompson – Trip to Kenya (Kindfund) |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> March   | Dr Elma Ashenhurst (Health Matters)               |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> April   | Mrs Ethel McClintock (First Aid) and AGM          |

## P.W. Service on Sunday 21<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Guest Speaker....Mrs Catherine Campbell  
(Author of several Christian books)

## Weekly Freewill Offering Contributions

*The Church Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for their weekly contributions and for their support over the past year, to ensure that the congregation was able to meet its financial commitments. This was indeed very much appreciated.*

However the Church's financial needs will just be as great this year, and so we would again appeal to each and every member **to endeavour and maintain their Weekly Freewill Offering contributions, and to remember that your contributions are important and vital to the work of the Church.** It is only through the weekly offerings that the work of the Church can continue unhindered by lack of finance.

*We also appeal to all non-contributing members that the Church, needs your support and to seriously consider making a weekly contribution to your Church.*

## Bible vs Mobile Phone !

*What if we were to treat our bible like our mobile phone?*

*What if we carried it around in our bags or pockets?*

*We turned back to get it if we forgot it?*

*We flipped through it several times each day?*

*We used it to receive messages from the text?*

*We answered each call immediately?*

*We treated it like we couldn't do without it?*

*We gave it to children as gifts?*

*We used it as we travelled? We used it in case of emergency?*

*And, one more thing, unlike our mobile we don't ever have to worry about our bible being disconnected because the Lord has already paid the bill in full!*

(Source unknown)

## KINDFUND OUTREACH (KENYA)

David and I have arrived home safe and well from our outreach trip, working and witnessing among the children in the Kindfund homes and among the Turkana, Samburu and Rendille tribes in Kenya.

We were both truly blessed through this outreach as we saw God at work in the lives of these amazing people. We would like to thank you all, for your prayers that undoubtedly helped us do God's work and kept us safe and well.

Also thank you to all who contributed to Kindfund; we were able to hand over £2,500 to Pam and Ken Dobbins for the work of Kindfund, and having seen at first hand the work they are doing out there in God's name, I assure you that all the money is put to very good use.

*Be blessed  
Sally & David Thompson.*

## UNITED APPEAL

*The wider work of the Presbyterian Church is financed through the United Appeal Fund and each congregation is asked to contribute a particular amount to this fund each year; the target for our congregation this year is £7768.*

The United Appeal Fund is used to support many activities of our Church with approximately half of the fund (50%) being allocated to the Mission work of our Church i.e. the Overseas Mission, and Mission in Ireland.

Almost one third of the total amount (30%) is used to fund Studies and Christian Training and Youth & Children's work.

The remaining 20% is used to fund Social Witness, Education and Communications.

***The United Appeal needs your support in order to meet our Congregational target; please continue (or renew) your regular monthly contributions to this important work of the Presbyterian Church using the envelopes provided.***

## *50 Years of Bowling*

*A meeting was held – A decision was made,  
In the autumn of sixty four.  
M'mason was forming a bowling club.  
Half a century ago, - plus a little bit more.*

*Then in January nineteen sixty five  
M'mason Bowling Club first began  
It's still going strong, after fifty years.  
All part of God's Infinite Plan.*

*With help from Dr F.W.C Wallace  
A second hand mat and bowls were acquired, with  
Another set purchase from M&M Scott, (Diamond L,derry)  
Now the bowling club had all it required.*

*The mats with separate underfelt  
Measured nine feet wide  
Even though, the bowls were a much smaller size  
"The Stick" in the middle still got knocked to one side.*

*Wednesday night was "bowling night", and  
Was held in the big main hall  
With membership reaching to fifty three  
It meant, one game each – that was all.*

*The first secretary was Mrs Lorna McNeely; who arranged  
Many "friendlies" with clubs round about.  
With his tournament-running abilities and bowling skills  
Noel McCrea is a winner. Of that there's no doubt.*

*M'mason held an annual "Bowlers" service  
Supported by neighbouring clubs round about  
Then sadly, for whatever reason,  
This church event just 'FIZZLED OUT'.*

*Lasting Friendships were formed, through playing bowls.  
Leaving memories so precious indeed.  
Like the 'Peggy McKeegan special'  
When the bowl hit the jack at some speed.*

*Thank you Lord, for this bowling club  
For your blessings o'er the past fifty years  
For the many bowlers, you have now called to rest  
With whom we've shared fellowship, laughter and tears.*

*May this bowling club go from strength to strength  
With each member doing their bit.  
May God richly bless you in the years ahead.  
As the saying goes – just keep 'er lit.*

*May Doherty (10 April 2015)*

## **KITCHEN**

New equipment has been purchased for the kitchen – Dishwasher, Fridge, 2 Cookers and 2 Water Boilers. This equipment will make catering for the various events so much easier.

With so many activities in the Church Hall each week we realise that many people use the kitchen facilities.

We appeal to everyone to observe the following:

1. Leave kitchen clean and tidy.
2. Put all items away and in their proper place.
3. Clean sinks and cookers after use.

It is up to everyone to leave the kitchen as they found it (hopefully clean and tidy).

Thank You.

## **MISSION BOXES**

P.W. members will be calling for mission boxes in October.  
We really appreciate your continued support for the missionary work  
of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Thank You

Helen Walker

## **IN LIEU OF FLOWERS.**

### **MRS ISOBEL YOUNG**

Ivan & Frances Henderson. ....6 Whin Road Bready Strabane Co.Tyrone

### **MRS MARGARET (Peggy) McKEEGAN**

Mr Maurice McKeegan. ....38 Killymallaght Road Co. Londonderry  
Officers and Members of Curryfree L.O.L.1060  
Ivan & Frances Henderson. ....6 Whin Road Bready Strabane Co.Tyrone

## **IN MEMORY**

### **In Loving Memory of our Parents, Mr John Ogilby,**

Died 1st December 1984 and Mrs Sarah Ogilby, Died 18th May 1994.

Remembered always by:

Mr & Mrs Sydney Nixon & Family. 34 Northland Drive, Londonderry  
Joan, Noel & Jill Lynch. 8 Blackstone Park, Magheramason Londonderry

### **Miss Dawn Mitchell.**

Treasured Memories of our Darling Daughter and Sister, Dawn Mitchell,  
Died on 22nd September 1995.

Remembered Always by Daddy, Mummy, Elaine & John.

### **Mrs Mary Cole.**

In Loving Memory of our Dear Mother Mary Cole,  
Died 5th September 1989.

Remembered Always by her Daughters,  
Hilary & Andrina, Gary, & Carl & Families.

In Loving Memory of Mary Cole, Died 5th September 1989.

Always Remembered by Andy & Joan

### **Mr Robert S Gamble. 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**

In Loving Memory of our Dear Uncle Robert. Passed Away 24<sup>th</sup> May 2014

*Missed in the Light of every new day*  
*Missed in the Night as the light fades away*

Always Remembered by Peela, David, Rita, Aaron & Ryan. Desmond,  
Stuart, Paul and Families.  
Bready, Lisbellaw & Broughshane

**Mr John Caldwell.**

In Loving Memory of a dear husband Mr John Caldwell.

Died 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Remembered and Sadly Missed by his wife Olive,  
3 Springburn Road, Londonderry .

**Mr Robert Patterson**

In Loving Memory of Robert Patterson, died 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

Sadly missed and always remembered by:

His sister Margaret, nieces Heather, Jennifer, Joanne,  
Lynda and their families

Brother William, sister-in-law Maureen, and nephews Mark, Kenneth,  
Andrew, David and families.

**Mrs Donna Lewers.**

In Loving Memory of Donna Lewers. Died 31st July 1997.

Lovingly Remembered and Sadly missed by Joseph, Pamela,  
Lyndsey & Lauren Rutherford.

**CHURCH ORGANISATIONS**

|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| Mon  | 7.15 p.m.- 10.00 p.m.                           | Indoor Bowling Club   |
| Tue  | 6.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.<br>7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.  | Girls Brigade (Explorers)<br>Girls Brigade<br>(Juniors/Seniors/Brigaders) |
| Wed  | 09.45 a.m.- 11.45 a.m.<br>6.30 p.m. - 7.45 p.m. | Parents & Toddlers<br>Anchor Boys   |
| Wed  | 8.00 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.                           | Mid-week Fellowship   |
| Thur | 6.30 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.<br>8.00 p.m. - 10.15 p.m. | Boys Brigade (Junior Section)<br>Boys Brigade (Company Section)           |
| Fri  | 8.00 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.                           | Youth Club to be arranged/confirmed                                       |

The PW (Presbyterian Women) meet on the second Monday of each month  
(Sept. – April) at 8.00 p.m.

# Magheramason Church Website

[www.magheramasonpci.org.uk](http://www.magheramasonpci.org.uk)



We invite you to explore the website of Magheramason Presbyterian Church. See our weekly announcements and newsletter under news, stay up to date with future events also under news, listen to our sermons under ministry and read about our church history by clicking on history.

Visit our different church organisations and whether you are a member of the congregation or a neighbour living close by and wish to send your child to any of the organisations they will be made most welcome. We teach Christ crucified and that He died for you and for me so that we may have Eternal Life.

You can send a personal prayer request under the heading of ministry and click on prayer. The request will be received by the minister only and will be treated in confidence if so requested.

You can also follow us on [facebook.com/magheramasonpresbyterianchurch](https://www.facebook.com/magheramasonpresbyterianchurch).

*Leslie Hamilton*