

Magheramason Presbyterian Church Newsletter September 2018



'Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105376)'

Only One Life will soon be Past, Only what's done for Christ will Last.....

This quote is taken from a poem written by the famous Pioneer Missionary C.T. Studd. As another year flies by so quickly and the darker evenings draw in again, these words remind us how quickly our lives pass by and bring challenge in how we are spending the time God has given us? Do we merely seek to serve ourselves and our own passing desires throughout life or do we seek to serve Christ and God's eternal purposes?

How can we serve Christ I hear you ask? Firstly we must be sure we know Jesus as our own and personal Lord and Saviour. The Apostle Paul writing in 2 Corinthians Ch 13 exhorts all in the Church to "Examine yourselves to see whether or not you are in the faith; test yourselves to know for sure that Christ Jesus is in you?" We all must receive the Lord Jesus Christ in a humble turning away from our sin and a simple trusting in Him as the Son of God who died on a cross to save sinners.

A good sign that God has saved us is in the fact we no longer want to live for ourselves. In gratitude for all that He has done, we seek to live for Christ! At a basic

Harvest Thanksgiving Services Sunday 14th October 2018

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

Supper will be served in the Church Hall after the Evening Service
Harvest Offering for the Building Repair Fund

level this will mean a daily desire to read and meditate on the Bible, regular attendance at Church to hear the preaching of God's Word and Prayer becomes a priority both personally and corporately with others. There is also a desire to share the good news of the gospel with other people as Paul states "the love of Christ compels us to go!" It is good to remind ourselves as we enter into this busy time of year in the Church calendar that the Lord does not choose the strongest or wisest people to fulfil His Kingdom purposes on earth. In fact Paul again in 1 Corinthians CH 1 says "God chooses the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, God chooses the weak things of the world to shame the strong....so that if anyone boasts, they might boast only in the LORD!" This should encourage all who know and love the Lord Jesus Christ and desire to invest their lives in continuing to serve Him.

C.T. Studd gave his best years to serve the Lord in the foreign lands of China, India and Africa. As a result many precious souls came to know Jesus Christ as their own Lord and Saviour. God may not call you to serve him in a foreign land, but he desires that you continually seek Him and dedicate the remaining days of your life into the sincere service of His Kingdom here at Magheramason or wherever He may lead, remembering...Only One Life will soon be Past, only what's done for Christ will last!

Your servant in the gospel
Graeme Orr

KIRK SESSION

HARVEST

We will be holding special services on Sunday 14th October. The Rev. Graeme Orr will lead the morning service at 11.30 am and the evening service at 6.30 pm will be led by the Rev. Caldwell Darragh. The ladies and organisations of the congregation will be decorating the Church on Saturday 13th so if anyone can assist or bring flowers, fruit, vegetables or other produce etc., it will be very much appreciated. These special services will enable us to give thanks to God for His great goodness throughout the year and help us to concentrate our minds on how He provides for us through the farmers who work the land and harvest the crops, and other such blessings. Please plan to attend these special services and bring along your friends.

ORGANISATIONS

The youth organisations and other Church organisations have now started up again after the summer break and the Kirk Session would express our sincere thanks to the Captains , Officers and leaders of all these organisations. We welcome Steven Elder and Adam Dalzell as helpers in the Boys' Brigade and Mrs Julie Vance as a helper in the Girls' Brigade and Boys' Brigade.

PRESBYTERY CONSULTATION

Representatives of our congregation met with the Presbytery Consultation Panel on Thursday 12th April for a follow-up discussion after we had already completed and submitted a number of questionnaires relating to our Church worship, activities and property. The Presbytery panel was impressed with how we were carrying out God's work in Magheramason and subsequently gave us a very satisfying and encouraging report. We will endeavour to continue in this great work of Worship, Mission, Discipleship and Fellowship in the future.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

After a trial period of running our Sunday School in conjunction with our morning service of worship, we have now decided to revert back to the Sunday School meeting at the original time of 10.15 am prior to the morning service. The Kirk Session would encourage parents to bring their children to Sunday School and to the Church Service.

SALLY THOMPSON

Mrs Sally Thompson is planning to return to visit Kenya again with a team from Kind Fund in October this year. We trust and pray that preparations and the journey

will go well and we pray that the team will know God's blessing as they carry out their continuing Mission work in this area and we look forward to getting an update and hearing of the on-going work there, on her return.

HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

Approximately 70 children attended the Five Day Bible Club in June. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to the Bible stories about Daniel, taking part in the quizzes, learning and singing choruses, completing worksheets, craft work and playing games. The willing band of workers were led by Paul & Elizabeth Davis and we offer our grateful thanks to all who worked and helped make this week the success that it was. The Sunday evening service at the end of the week reflected on the Bible Club with many of the boys and girls taking part in the service.

CHILDREN'S DAY

Our Children's Day service on the 24th June was well attended by children, parents and friends. The Rev Graeme Orr led the service and children from the primary and junior Sunday School took part in prayers, readings and praise. Leanne Dunlop from Scripture Union gave a very interesting and interactive address on 'Sowing Seeds', and assisted in the distribution of Sunday School prizes.

CONDOLENCES

The Minister, Kirk Session and Congregation regret the passing of a numbers of our members recently and express their sincere condolences to their families: to the family of the late Mrs Hessie Doherty (whose late husband Tommy served the congregation as a faithful and committed Eder and Member of Kirk Session for many years; to the family of the late Mr Chambers Kelly; to Mr Billy Crumley and daughters Karen and Louise, on the death of Mrs Lily Crumley.

We trust and pray that these families and other families in the congregation who have been bereaved recently, will know God's comfort and blessing in the loss of their loved ones.

Colin Kennedy (Clerk of Session)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sunday 30th September Ripple Effect in the Presbytery Youth Centre, Exodus Base, Strand Road, at 7.30pm All young people of Secondary School age are invited.
- Sunday 14 October Harvest Thanksgiving Services :
11.30am – Rev. Graeme Orr
6.30 pm – Rev. Caldwell Darragh
- Sunday 7 October 6.30pm Cafe Church. Stephan Cackowski - Missionary / Church Planter in Poland will be along with his wife Kamilla and two young sons to update us about their work!
- Sunday 21 October 6.30pm Cafe Church. Wilson and Irene McMahon (OMF Philippines) will be along to share about their ministry.
- Wednesday 24 October Pre - Communion Service at 8.00pm
- Sunday 28 October Communion Services 11.30am & 6.30pm
- Sunday 11 November Remembrance Day Service - 11.30am
BB & GB Enrolment Service - 6.30pm
- Sunday 18 November 6.30pm Cafe Church. Callum Webster from the Christian Institute will be along to share about they are seeking to defend Christian values within the public square in an increasingly secular society.

Sacrament Of The Lord's Supper

The Sacrament will be celebrated at the Communion Service on Sunday 28 October at 11.30 a.m. and following the evening service at 6.30 p.m.
Pre-Communion Service on Wed 24 October at 8.00 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE

Since the last report from the Committee, the Church has purchased a new organ which has been installed and has proved to be a great boom to our weekly worship in Magheramason Presbyterian Church. On behalf of the Congregation I would like to thank Mrs Elizabeth Davis and her small sub-committee for the work carried out by them in regard to this project.

The Committee have now elected a new Treasurer, Mr Leslie Hamilton, to carry out this most important work within the Church. Our previous Treasurer, Mr Colin Kennedy has now taken up the post of Clerk of Session, on the retirement of Mr Walter Hoy, and we thank Colin for the many years of dedicated work carried out by him in leading the Finance Committee in Magheramason. The Committee pray God's blessing on Leslie in his new role as Treasurer and wish him well in settling down into his new job.

Sam McPherson (Congregational Secretary)

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Recent special offerings in the congregation of Magheramason realised the following amounts:

Easter Offering	£2,050.00
Mission Kenya	£ 400.00
Methodist City Mission (Easter Dawn Service)	£ 320.00
Orison Fellowship	£ 169.00
Logos Ministries	£ 246.00
ASIA Link	£ 263.00

We express our sincere thanks to everyone for their support and generous contributions.

HARVEST OFFERINGS

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. In the past year the electrical installation and fire alarm system and emergency lighting system have been checked and up-graded where necessary to comply with regulations and repainting work carried out in the Church and the Main Hall, and minor repairs are on-going.

The Harvest Offering last year realised £3073.00, which was a very commendable amount.

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 13th October.

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

MISSIONARY COMMITTEE

The missionary Committee are delighted to learn that Mrs Sally Thompson is travelling to Kenya in October/November to help in Kind Fund orphanages for three weeks. Sally has been at the orphanages before and has a real love for these boys and girls; we wish her safe travelling and pray God's blessing on this work.

Mrs Sharon Crumley continues to collect and sort and box ex NHS pharmacy supplies to be shipped to hospitals in Malawai ; this work is funded from Missionary fund which is supported by gifts and midweek fellowship offerings, we thank Sharon so much for this and at present she is preparing boxes for shipping shortly.

Elma Mitchell

BAPTISMS - DEATHS - MARRIAGES

BAPTISMS

Suffer the little children to come unto me

16 Sept. 2018 Ava Lynne, infant daughter of Robert and Karen Killen

DEATHS

Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

10 April 2018 Mr Chambers Kelly, formerly of Blubell Avenue, Cullion

15 July 2018 Mrs Hester Doherty, formerly of Brookfield,
Magheramason

23 July 2018 Mrs Lily Crumley, Victoria Road, Bready.

MARRIAGES

To have and to hold from this day forth.

14 July 2018 Avril McClelland to Eddie Bell

18 Aug. 2018 Amy Rosborough to Johnny Campbell

'Fit For Life' Meetings

A series of meetings for Ladies were held on Tuesday evenings during the month of May. There was a good attendance of ladies each night and all enjoyed the fellowship and the programme of activities. With favourable weather conditions, groups of ladies were able to go out walking in the lovely pleasant summer evenings. An integral part of the meetings was the epilogue by a guest speaker and evenings concluded with a healthy supper. The final meeting was held in Bready Reformed Church Hall.

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.

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 approx. £8800.

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.

In Lieu of Flowers

in Memory of Mrs Hester (Hessie) Doherty, Died 15th July 2018

Brian & Pauline Doherty & Family
William & Elaine Doherty & Family
David & Ann-Marie Doherty & Family
Joe & Sandy Doherty & Family
Colin & Diane Doherty & Family
Douglas & Caroline Caldwell,5 Carrowreagh Park, Newbuildings
The Directors & Staff, Norman Emerson Group Lurgan, Co Armagh
The Directors & Staff F.P. McCann Magherafelt
Pam & Selwyn RobinsonSt Andrews, Scotland
Tom & Maud Gault 20 Rosstown Ave., Waterside, Londonderry.
Trevor & Sylvia Cadden 10 Breda Park, Drumahoe
Billy & May Doherty 165 Victoria Road, Magheramason
Betty & Ruby Hamilton 10 Wallace Heights, Magheramason
Annette Colhoun
Mrs Violet McConnell 4 Brookfield, Magheramason
Geoff & Wendy McConnell 4 Ramin Park, Drumahoe
Mr Billy Taylor 14 Blackstone Park, Magheramason
Kathleen Doherty 10 Brookfield, Magheramason
Mrs Jean HaylettNewtownards, Co Down
Lily Doherty Primity Park, Newbuildings
Peter & Doreen Sidebottom Clearwater, Londonderry
Mrs Marie Finlay 14 Greenedge Court, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim
Gary & Gillian Finlay & Family..... 38 Meadowbrook, Jordanstown, BT37 0JR
T McArthur 52 Canterbury Park Kilfennan, BT47 6DU
Garry & Valerie Lynn,
Mrs Christine Molloy..... Canterbury Park, Kilfennan, BT47 6DU
Mrs Anna Molloy6 Myrtlefield Road, Kilfennan, BT47 5PG
David W Paul A&AT Ltd., PO Box 15, Maydown. BT47 6TH
Colin & Anne Mitchell..... 174 Castle Park, Limavady. BT49 0SR
Andy & Joan Cole..... Wallace Heights, Magheramason.
Martina & Barbara

In Memory

In Loving Memory of Mr Sam McConnell,
From Geoff & Wendy

In Loving Memory of our late father, Mr Samuel (Sam) Connor
From the Connor family

In Loving Memory of our Parents
John Ogilly died 1st Dec 1984 & Cissie Ogilly died 18th May 1994
From Noel, Joan & Jill Lynch
Lily & Sidney Nixon, 34 Northland Drive, Londonderry.

In Loving Memory of Mrs Mary Cole
From Andy & Joan

In Loving Memory of Robert Patterson, died 11th September 2012.
Sadly missed and always remembered by:
His sister Margaret & family, and brother William & family.

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 for Sunday 4th November 2018.

Thank you
Helen Walker

Magheramason P.W. (Programme 2018/19)

The theme for the PW this year is... Beautiful

‘One thing I ask of the Lord, this only do I seek : that I may dwell in the House of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His Temple ’ (Psalm 27:4)

2018

10th September Mrs Alison Mc Caughan.....1718 Migration to America.

8th October Mrs Lorraine McMorrisCraft Night.

12th November Mrs Deirdre Chestnut.....Unique Personal Stylist.

10th December The B.E.A.U.T.Y.....of Christmas.

2019

14th January Mr Ian Crowe.....Air Ambulance

11th February Mrs Louise Kelly.....Life Story

11th March Janet Sinton.....Beautiful Eyes.

8th April P.W. Members Night

**P.W. SERVICE ON SUNDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2019.
GUEST SPEAKER....TO BE CONFIRMED**

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 2nd 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.)

MISSION BOXES

P.W. members will be calling for mission boxes in the coming weeks as we are endeavouring to have all the Mission boxes in for 25 October 2018.

We really appreciate your continued support for the missionary work of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Thank You
Helen Walker

Magheramason Walking Club.

Members of the Walking Club had a special outing to Rathlin Island on Tuesday 19 June, travelling to Ballycastle by mini bus to get the ferry across to the island. Despite the grey sky, the gloomy overcast conditions and the ever-present threat of rain the day remained dry and fine until the return journey home. The walkers enjoyed a trip to the RSPB centre at Bull Point some going by mini bus and others trudging along the six mile, narrow winding, up-hill down-hill roadway. It was a very pleasant experience to see the vast colonies of breeding sea birds on the cliff ledges, the cliff tops and on the ground underneath; the Kittiwakes, Fulmars, Razor Bills, Guillemots, and the small comical Puffins.

On the way home the walkers stopped for a very enjoyable meal in the Royal Court Hotel outside Portrush.

Church Organisations & Groups Meeting In The Church Halls

MONDAY WEEKLY

BOWLING CLUB - Sept to April Open to all ages
7.15pm – 10.00pm

2ND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Sept to April Meet at 8 pm - Various Speakers each month

TUESDAY WEEKLY

GIRLS' BRIGADE - Sept to April

EXPLORERS 6.30 - 7.30pm

JUNIORS SENIORS Brigadiers 7.30 - 9.30pm

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

MUMS & TOTS COMMUNITY GROUP

Sept to May - 10.00am - 12.00 noon

COMMUNITY AFTERNOON CLUB

Mid Sept - Easter- .00 - 3.00pm

ANCHOR BOYS P1 - P4

Sept - Easter - 6.30 - 7.45pm

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER

8.00 - 9.30pm

LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

COMMUNITY PRAYER 10.00 - 11.00am

THURSDAY WEEKLY BOYS BRIGADE

Junior Section 6.30 to 8.00pm

Company Section 8 to 9.45pm

FRIDAY WEEKLY

EARLY MORNING PRAYER MEETING - 7.00am - 8.30am

YOUTH CLUB - P7 + above - 7.30 - 9pm

SUNDAY

SUNDAY EXPLORERS (Sunday School) P1 - Year 2 - 10.15am - 11.15am

SUNDAY FORTNIGHTLY

SUNDAY NIGHT IN FELLOWSHIP

Secondary School Age - 7.30 - 9.00pm (Upper Room Church Hall)

For further information follow us on www.magheramasonpci.org.uk

Or on www.facebook.com/Magheramason-Presbyterian-Church

A HARVEST HYMN

*Fountain of mercy, God of love,
How rich thy bounties are!
The rolling seasons, as they move,
Proclaim thy constant care.*

*When in the bosom of the earth
The sower hid the grain,
Thy goodness marked its secret birth,
And sent the early rain.*

*The spring's sweet influence was thine;
The plants in beauty grew;
Thou gavest summer suns to shine,
And mild refreshing dew.*

*These various mercies from above
Matured the swelling grain;
A yellow harvest crowns thy love,
And plenty fills the plain.*

*Seed-time and harvest, Lord, alone
Thou dost on man bestow;
Let him not then forget to own
From whom his blessings flow.*

*Fountain of love, our praise is thine;
To thee our songs we'll raise,
And all created nature join
In glad exultant praise.*

Alice Flowerdew 1759-1830

POEM by C.T. STUDD

Two little lines I heard one day,
Travelling along life's busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will tlast.

Only one life, yes only one,
Soon will its fleeting hours be done;
Then, in 'that day' my Lord to meet,
And stand before His Judgement seat;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, the still small voice,
Gently pleads for a better choice
Bidding me selfish aims to leave,
And to God's holy will to cleave;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, a few brief years,
Each with its burdens, hopes, and fears;
Each with its days I must fulfil,
living for self or in His will;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

When this bright world would tempt me sore,
When Satan would a victory score;
When self would seek to have its way,
Then help me Lord with joy to say;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Give me Father, a purpose deep,
In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;
Faithful and true what e'er the strife,
Pleasing Thee in my daily life;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Oh let my love with fervour burn,
And from the world now let me turn;
Living for Thee, and Thee alone,
Bringing Thee pleasure on Thy throne;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one,
Now let me say, "Thy will be done";
And when at last I'll hear the call,
I know I'll say "twas worth it all";
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last. "