

Magheramason Presbyterian Church Newsletter September 2019

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105376)



SHARE MISSION 19

As a congregation and local community we are looking forward to our upcoming Harvest Mission running from Sunday 13th - Sunday 27th October! We are excited about what the Lord will do during these weeks of opportunity for YOU and YOUR family! Please plan NOW to come along as many nights as you are able and receive God's blessing from the clear and simple life transforming message of the Bible!

The speaker for the event is a good friend Rev Eddie Kirk. Eddie has much experience as a minister in the Presbyterian Church in various places over many years. He is now retired and lives in Portstewart. He loves football and follows Ballymena United both home and away! We are very much looking forward to his time of SHARING God's Good News with us.

As a congregation the Lord had greatly blessed and encouraged us during the "Community Bible Project" that ran on Sunday evenings from January - May. Many people who attended were very appreciative of deepening fellowship with others

Harvest Thanksgiving Services Sunday 13th October 2019

11.30 a.m. Mr George Barclay & Harvest Praise by the Church Choir
7.00 p.m. The Rev Eddie Kirk & Harvest Praise by the Church Choir
This will also be the opening night of Mission '19

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

Harvest Offering for the Building Repair Fund

and were greatly helped and blessed in the simple reading and study of the New Testament. We plan to run this again in 2020 as we delve into the Old Testament.

In preparation for the Harvest Mission we are beginning a new initiative called SHARE! This is to encourage all church members in how to better share the good news about Jesus with their friends, neighbours and work colleagues in a world where sadly less and less people are coming to church. This will run on Sunday Evenings and everyone is welcome to come and SHARE together. We seek to SHARE not only the Faith we have in Christ but to SHARE our very lives together as we continue to develop our relationships as a loving community of Christ's followers who become strengthened in our individual and collective walk with the LORD.

The three main strands of SHARE are Building Relationships, Cultivating Community and Inviting Encounter. In building relationships and cultivating community the one with the other around God's Word we dynamically encounter the Living God and the loving fellowship of His Son through the power of the Holy Spirit.

ALL are invited to Encounter the living Christ through the weekly preaching of God's Word any Sunday and especially during our upcoming Mission. As your minister I appreciate your prayers during this busy season and in return pray for you and your family that you may indeed encounter the living Christ and come to SHARE in the Blessing he seeks to pour out on all who will earnestly seek Him. I conclude with the prayer of the apostle Paul for the Church at Ephesus and trust you will make it your own? May the Lord alone be glorified as we SHARE together with Him through Mission 19!

"I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Yours in Christ
The Rev Graeme Orr

KIRK SESSION

Harvest

The Kirk Session would encourage all members of the Congregation to join with us as we celebrate our special Morning Harvest Worship with George Barclay on Sunday 13th October at 11.30 am. As usual the ladies will have our Church beautifully decorated with seasonal produce and it would be a great encouragement to them and our Minister to see the Church filled to capacity as we give thanks to God for His great goodness to us.

Mission

As everyone should know by now we plan to hold a Gospel Mission from Sunday 13th to Sunday 27th October. The speaker each evening will be the Rev. Eddie Kirk and we pray God's blessing on the Rev. Kirk as he preaches from God's Holy Word, and there will be special gospel praise each evening as well. Please plan to attend as often as possible.

Also in the run up to this Mission we are having three evenings of special prayer at 8.00 pm on Mon 7th , Wed 9th , and Fri 11th October.

Condolences

The Minister, Kirk Session and the Congregation wish to express their sincere sympathy to the families of the members of the Congregation who have recently passed away:

Mr Samuel Campbell on 4th April 2019

Mrs Eileen Gabbie on 20th May 2019

Mr Robert Borland on 3 June 2019

Mrs Sylvia Kilgore on 12th July 2019

Mr Leslie Campbell on 2nd September. 2019

Mrs Mary Doherty on 5th September 2019

Mr James Hamilton on 9th September 2019

Mr Robert Lowry on 12th September 2019

To any other members of the Congregation who have suffered the loss of loved ones we also offer sincere condolences and pray that they may know God's presence and comfort as they deal with their bereavement and loss.

Organisations

Our organisations are currently recommencing for another season and we would like to record our thanks to the leaders and helpers who give their time so willingly

to ensure the smooth running of these organisations particularly the Sunday School, Girls' Brigade, Boys' Brigade, Youth Club, and Youth Fellowship, which ensure our children and young people receive a good Christian foundation as they grow up in an ever increasingly secular and dangerous society.

Colin Kennedy (Clerk of Session)

MISSION '19 MAGHERAMASON

This two-week mission, with the Rev Eddie Kirk, which we have been planning for and looking forward to for the past 18 months will commence on Sunday 13th October at 7.00 pm. and continue until Sunday 27th October, meeting at 8.00 pm on week nights (except Saturdays) and 7.00 pm on Sunday evenings. Special times of prayer have been planned for Mon 7th Oct., Wed 9th Oct. and Fri 11th Oct. commencing at 8.00 p.m. to pray specifically for the Mission, for the Rev. Eddie Kirk, for the singers, for those who will share about what God has done in their lives, and especially that there will be a mighty work of God's Spirit in Magheramason at this time, prior to the Mission, during the two weeks of the Mission itself and in the weeks and months (and years) following the Mission. We would encourage members of the congregation to come along to as many of the meetings as possible and to invite and bring friends and neighbours as well.

The Rev Kirk is a very gifted speaker and can communicate the love of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a simple and relevant way. We trust and pray that everyone who comes to the meetings will know God's blessing and find peace in this turbulent world in which we live and that many will come to personal faith in Christ for the first time, and that each and every person will be challenged afresh in our personal relationship with the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for the Glory of His name.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE

As winter approaches the Committee are mindful of the fact that work is necessary to our Church buildings in order to ensure that they remain wind and water tight. Our property Convenor is investigating the repair of two windows which are causing concern on the south side of the Church, and consideration is being given to insulating the roof of the Main Hall in order to reduce our heating bill and improve the comfort of the users of this hall.

Grants may be available in order to carry out some of this work and this is being actively explored by the Committee.

A review of all expenditure including our Insurance is ongoing and quotations from other Insurance Companies will be sought. The Committee will also consider updating our Insurance to ensure that we are adequately covered in the event that we may have to make a claim in the future.

The Committee would like to thank the members of the Congregation for their continued support during 2019 and would ask that where possible, members might consider reviewing their donations in order to ensure that the work of the Church continues unhindered by the lack of finance.

Sam McPherson (Congregational Secretary)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sunday 6th Oct. Retired Mission Worker Mr Billy Patterson will be along to share God's Word.
11.30 am. and 6.30 pm.
- Mon 7th Oct. Special prayer times for Mission '19
Wed 9th Oct. commencing at 8.00 p.m..
Fri 11th Oct.
- Sunday 13th Oct. Harvest Thanksgiving Services : 11.30 a.m.
Randalstown farmer Mr George Barclay

7.00 pm – Rev. Eddie Kirk
(Opening night of Mission)
- Sunday 13th Oct. Sunday 27th Oct. Mission '19 Magheramason.
Week night meetings (exc. Sat) 8.00p.m.
Sundays 7.00 pm. Prayer time 7.15 p.m.
Details included elsewhere in this Newsletter.
- Wednesday 30 Oct. Pre – Communion and Thanksgiving Service with
Rev Caldwell Darragh - 8.00 p.m.
- Sunday 3rd Nov. Morning Communion & Thanksgiving Service
11.30 a.m.
- Sunday 3rd Nov. 7.00pm Mr Andy Cardy.
On 12th August 1981, Andy's nine year old daughter Jennifer left her home in the quiet countryside to cycle to a friend's house nearby. Sadly she never made it. Her bicycle was later found behind a hedge and a week later her little body was found in a dam 13 miles away. Please plan to attend and hear God's grace working in the life of a devastated father and Mother and how they have proved the Lord's ongoing help and strength in the years since. This is a testimony not to be missed!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sunday 10th Nov. Remembrance Day Service - 11.30 a.m.
BB & GB Enrolment Service - 6.30 p.m.
- Sun 17th Nov. Cafe Church – School for Kids Tanzania - 6.30 p.m.
- Monday 2nd Dec. Christmas Tree Switch On - 7.00 p.m.

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 repainting work was carried out in the Manse and the interior of the Church Meeting House. In addition to this, electrical maintenance work was carried out in the Church and Church Halls.

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 12th October.

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

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 to maintain, and if possible to increase, 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 £8989.***

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.

MARRIAGES

To have and to hold from this day forth

14th June 2019 Lynne Campbell to Rodney Kennedy

DEATHS

Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

5th April 2019 Mr Sam Campbell, Blackstone Park, Magheramason.

20th May 2019 Mrs Eileen Gabbie, Newbuildings.

3rd June 2019 Mr Robert Borland, Silverbrook Park, Newbuildings.

12th July 2019 Mrs Sylvia Kilgore, Seven Oaks, Crescent Link,
Londonderry.

2nd Sept. 2019 Mr Leslie Campbell, Blackstone Park, Magheramason.

5th Sept. 2019 Mrs Mary Doherty, Victoria Road, Magheramason.

8th Sept. 2019 Mr James Hamilton Dunalong Road. Bready.

12th Sept. 2019 Mr Robert Lowry, formerly of Dullerton, Cullion.

MISSION '19 MAGHERAMASON

With the Rev Eddie Kirk

**Planned programme for Mission '19 :
Sunday 13th Oct - Sunday 27th Oct.**

Sunday 13th	Magheramason Church Choir
Monday 14th	Group – Heavenly Sunshine
Tuesday 15th	Donegal Presbytery Choir
Wednesday 16th	Life Story/Testimony – Mr David Baxter)
Thursday 17th	Singer – Mr John Porter
Friday 18th	Derramore Quartet
Sunday 20th	The Montgomery Family
Monday 21st	Singer to be confirmed
Tuesday 22nd	Magheramason Church Choir
Wednesday 23rd	Soloist – Mr Gordon Quinn
Thursday 24th	Life Story/Testimony
Friday 25th	Tullyallen and Mountnorris Men's Choir
Sunday 27th	Final night Soloist - Miss Amy Gardiner

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.)

Presbyterian
Women
Living for Jesus



**MAGHERAMASON P.W.
(PROGRAMME 2019/20)**

*The theme for PW this year is..... 'RESTORE'
'He restores my Soul' Psalm 23:3*



2019

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|---------------------------|---|
| 9 th September | Mr James McVicker
(Serving Blind/Deaf Association) |
| 14 th October | Mission Magheramason '19 |
| 11 th November | Ruth Cooke (International Justice Mission)) |
| 9 th December | The Season of Restoration. |

2020

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 13 th January | Mrs Claire Laird |
| 10 th February | Audrey Neill...Life Story |
| 9 th March | Alison Wade |
| 20 th April | Rona Taylor....Hand Crafts |

P.W. Service on Sunday 16th February 2020.
Guest Speaker....Mrs Karen Craig ... PW President 2019-2020

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

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	Walking Club Girls' Brigade Sept to April	9.30 am Church Car Park Explorers 6.30 - 7.30pm Juniors Seniors Brigadiers 7.30 - 9.30pm
Wednesday Weekly	Parents & Tots Community Group Sept to May	10.00am - 12.00 noon
Wednesday Weekly	Community Afternoon Club Mid Sept - Easter	1.00 - 3.00pm
Wednesday Weekly	Anchor Boys P1 - P4 Sept - Easter	6.30 - 7.45pm
Wednesday Weekly	Mid-Week Bible Study & Prayer	8.00 - 9.30pm
Last Thurs. each month	Community Prayer	10.00 - 11.00am

CHURCH ORGANISATIONS

Last Thurs. 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
Friday Weekly	Youth Club P7 + above	7.30 - 9pm
Sunday	Sunday Explorers (Sunday School) P1 – Year 12	10.15am - 11.15am
Sunday Fortnightly	Sunday Night in Fellowship Secondary School Age	7.30 - 9.00pm (Upper Room Church Hall)

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

Donation in Lieu of Flowers in memory of late Mr William Noel McCrea.

Mr & Mrs Raymond Doherty
Walter & Joyce Hoy
David & Linda Rowe
Mr & Mrs Alan Hamilton

Donation in Lieu of Flowers in Loving Memory of Mrs Eileen Jane Gabbie.

Jean & Lexie Walker,
Waterside Voluntary Welfare Committee,
Ian & Valerie & nephew Trevor Mc Gregor
The Spence Family,
Pamela & Glynda Boyd,

Donation in Lieu of Flowers in memory of Mary Doherty, 161 Victoria Road.

Billy & May Doherty & Annette Colhoun
Mrs Kathleen Doherty
Jean Malcolm.

MISSION BOXES

P.W. members will be calling for Mission Boxes (4th Nov. – 9th Nov.) as we are endeavouring to have all the Mission Boxes in for 11th November.

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

Thank You

IN MEMORY

In Loving Memory of our father Mr Samuel Connor
From The Connor Family

In Loving Memory of my father Mr Sam McConnell
From Geoff McConnell

**In Memory of our Parents John Ogilby 1st December 1984 and Ciss Ogilby
18th May 1994**
From Mr & Mrs S Nixon & Family,
Noel, Joan & Jill Lynch,

Precious Memories of our dear Parents, Brothers & Sisters
Billy & May Doherty & Annette Colhoun,

In Loving Memory of Mrs Mary Cole
Andy & Joan

Mr Joe Doherty
With Love we remember the Late Mr Joe Doherty, Died 5th January 2018.
Sadly missed by his wife Lily and 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 in by 14 November 2019.

Helen Walker

MISSION '19

MAGHERAMASON

*Two-week Congregational / Community
Mission*

With
The Rev. Eddie Kirk

In
Magheramason Church Hall

On
Sunday 13th October- Sunday 27th October
Week nights 8.00 pm; Sundays 7.00 pm

**Special praise / personal testaments each
evening**

Everyone Welcome