

26th November 2021

Welcome!

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Christmas Hamper Outreach

This Christmas we will again provide hampers for families in need in Carrickfergus. From now until **Sunday 5th December** any of the following items can be left in the containers in the vestibule or outside the church office:

BAG OF PASTA (no bigger than 1kg)

BAG OF LONG GRAIN RICE

JAR OF BOLOGNESE SAUCE

BATCHELORS PASTA & SAUCE

JAR OF CHICKEN TONIGHT

BOX OF 80 TEABAGS

COFFEE (jars no bigger than 100g)

BAG OF SUGAR

ORANGE SQUASH

BOTTLE OF SHLOER

TOMATO KETCHUP

BROWN SAUCE

POT OF JAM

TIN OF BEANS

CARTON OF CUSTARD

PACKET OF BIRDS TRIFLE

TIN OF FRUIT e.g. PEACHES/PEARS

TIN OF SWEETS e.g. QUALITY ST

PRINGLES

*Thank you for your generosity in supporting
our Christmas Outreach*

PCI Calendar 2022

It's good news that the PCI Calendar is being produced once again.

If you would like one or more calendars for 2022 at a cost of £4 each, please contact the church office by Monday 6th December.

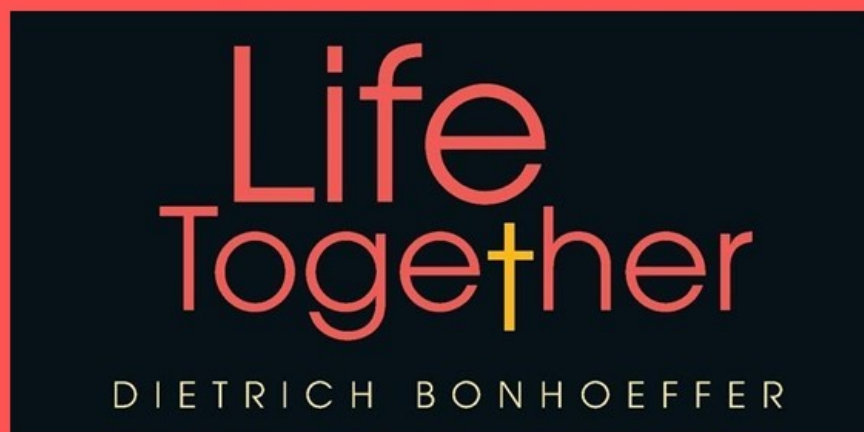
Telephone mornings 028 9336 1480. Thank you.



Subscriptions are now being collected for 2022. If you would like to subscribe for the first time, please contact the church office. Cost is £15 for 10 issues.

Wednesday Worship will not be meeting in the month of December, however here's a book we will be using in January...

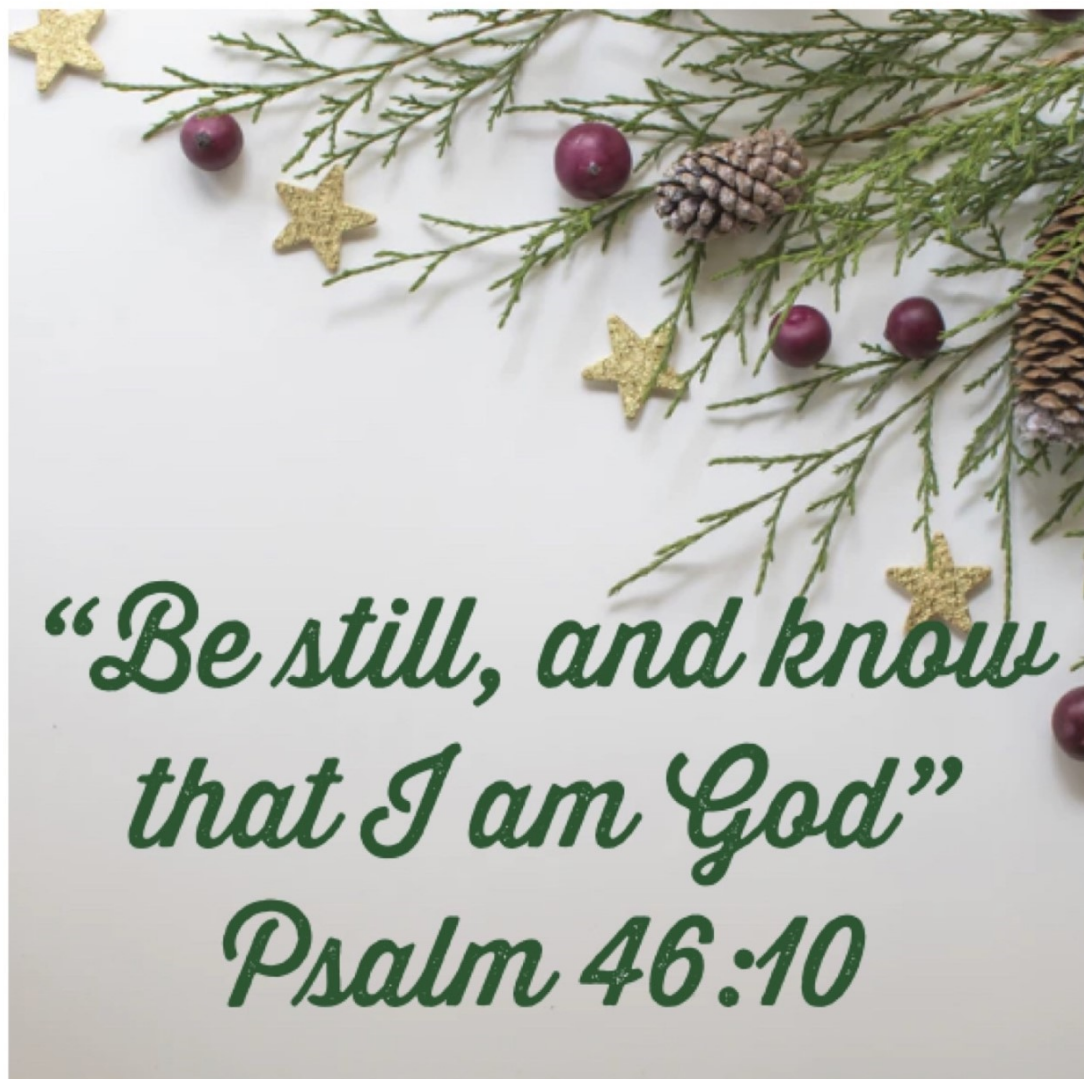
New Year Challenge



Start the New Year off in a way that will challenge your thinking and your lifestyle!

Spiritual dynamite in less than 100 pages!!

We are going to use this book in Wednesday Worship starting in January. You can buy it easily on Amazon for about £10, but there will also be a sign-up sheet in the Vestibule for those who don't use Amazon!



‘Be Still’

Ladies... This is a busy time of the year!

Why not take the opportunity to ‘BE STILL’ and reflect on the reason for the season.

Join us on Monday 13th December 7.30pm in the Upper Room. There will be the opportunity to reflect, worship and enjoy fellowship together.

Please sign up: sonya_firstcarrick@hotmail.com
or text 07796 148090 (limited spaces)

Presbyterian Women

At a meeting of the PW Committee on 17th November, the sad decision was taken to bring our branch of PW to a close. This was a very difficult step for the ladies to take, but it was done recognising that it had become impossible to fill the committee posts which are required for PW to function.

On behalf of the entire congregation, Session wishes to acknowledge with deep gratitude the longstanding faithfulness of so many members of PW, and formerly PWA and Young Women's Group. Over many years they maintained a vital interest in missionary activity both overseas and at home, whilst also providing a warm and valued place of fellowship for women in the congregation.

It is our prayerful hope that women in the congregation will continue to find ways of maintaining that level of friendship and missionary interest through existing groups and in new ways.

PW Mission Box Opening

Thank you for your contributions to the recent PW Mission Box Opening. The amount raised for the PW Mission Fund was £880. Your support is much appreciated.



Thursday 2nd December
2.00-3.00pm

for tea and biscuits,
friendship and fellowship.
We'd love to see you.

Saturday 27th November
at 8.45am

Men's
Breakfast
@
The
Glasshouse
Bistro
£5 per person

Tomorrow morning!



What's On

19th December Ilam Christmas Nativity
7pm Carols by Candlelight
25th December 10:30am Christmas Day
@ North St.
26th December Ilam All-age Worship
2nd January Ilam All-age Communion
Service



Welcome Team in December

Barney Evans (L)
Pat Evans
Andy Robinson
Jean Robinson
Pamela Forsythe

WELCOME

- Sunday 21 Moderator** *Pray for 1st Portadown as they recently opened the refurbished meeting house. Pray that it will be a source of blessing to the congregation and the local community.*
- Worship that empowers** *'You are my strength, I sing praise to you; you, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely.' Psalm 59:17. Ask that as we worship today, God would empower us with his strength for current challenges we face.*
- Monday 22 Derek & Jane French (global mission workers, Spain)** *Pray for Bilbao International Church, their weekly meetings and special events for non-believers. Pray for their new weekly men's group which started in October. Pray for Godwin and others as they help to lead it, alongside Derek.*
- Pakistan** *Pray for work and witness of the Presbyterian Church of Pakistan. Pray for Christians there who are suffering persecution to remain steadfast in their faith. Pray too for the Covid-19 situation.*
- Tuesday 23 Louise Davidson (deaconess in West Church, Bangor)** *Give thanks that Louise facilitated bringing women of West and Kilcooley together to meet and interact with one another over the past few months through various events. Pray that Louise would continue to show the love of Jesus in a real and loving way to all she meets.*
- Strand (East Belfast)** *Pray for the ongoing work and witness of this urban mission congregation. Pray for guidance for Rev Danny Rankin (minister), the kirk session and all involved in leadership in Strand.*
- Wednesday 24 Naomi Keefe (global mission worker, Brazil)** *Pray for preparations for an evangelistic street event at Christmas by the Good News Club children. Pray too for Beberibe congregation's preparations to hold an evangelistic event for the first time in a nearby condominium block. Pray that God will prepare the hearts of people.*
- Scripture Union Malawi (SUM)** *Pray for ongoing work of SU in Malawi reaching out to children and teenagers with the message of God's love. Give thanks for the SUM leadership as they serve.*
- Thursday 25 Rev Dave Gray (chaplain, QUB)** *Pray for Dave as he continues to provide pastoral care and support to students at QUB and Stranmillis, and those living in Derryvolgie Halls.*
- St Columba's (Lisburn)** *Give thanks for the ongoing youth and children's work in St Columba's. The first meeting they held for a group of 12 unchurched teenagers in mid-November revealed more challenges than had been assumed. Pray for guidance in the way ahead in working with them.*
- Friday 26 Social Witness** *Give thanks for all those who have been helped through the staff team at Carlisle House. As people share their stories with genuine hope, pray that staff will continue to be the encouragement and help they need. Pray that people's lives will be transformed through not only the recovery programmes but the love of Christ.*
- Education** *Dr Andy Brown, convener of the State Education Committee and vice-chair of the Transferor Representatives' Council. Pray for wisdom and guidance for Andy, members of the Committee and PCI transferor representatives, as they seek to make a positive contribution to state education at all levels.*
- Saturday 27 General Council** *Pray for the Linkage Commission meeting next week. Give thanks for retired ministers who serve as Stated Supplies in various congregations and for their work in supporting them. Pray for vacant congregations as they seek direction in appointing a minister.*
- Training in Ministry** *Applications for the 2022 Accredited Preacher Scheme are due early next month. Over 200 people have been trained already, and are playing a vital role preaching in vacancies and when ministers are on leave. Pray that the Lord will prompt suitably gifted people to apply so that they too can be used by him in the upbuilding of his Church.*

Sunday 28 Moderator *Pray for the Moderator as he opens and rededicates the refurbished sanctuary at Newmills Presbyterian Church on next Saturday. Pray that the event will go well and that the congregation will have new opportunities to serve the wider community in that area.*

Worship that encourages *'But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high.' Psalm 3:3. Ask that God would encourage and lift our heads as we experience his presence and renew our confidence in his power as we worship today.*

Monday 29 Chris & Rachel Humphries (global mission workers, Portugal) *Pray for the leaders and members of Comunidade Pedras Vivas (church plant) in Senhora da Hora, Porto. Pray that they will be bold and courageous in reaching people for Christ.*

Nepal *Give thanks for the decisions taken at the recent United Mission to Nepal's Board and General Assembly meeting. Pray for Dhana Lama, the new executive director of UMN.*

Tuesday 30 Tom Dowling (Irish mission worker in Kilkenny) *Pray for Tom and for door-to-door visits and contacts made, and for in-person and online Bible studies, that God will be in all the interactions; pray that people will come to faith in Jesus, and believers will be built up in their faith.*

Taughmonagh (South Belfast) *Give thanks for fresh enthusiasm, some new members, and an awakened interest in the OT after engaging with the 'Bible Course'. Pray for members as they continue to be salt and light.*

Wednesday 1 Peter & Jayne Fleming (global mission workers, Nepal) *Pray for Peter and Jayne as they continue to work remotely from NI and as they prepare to return to Nepal very soon.*

Faculté Jean Calvin, France *Pray for students at College in Aix-en-Provence as they study for future ministry and mission. Pray too for the staff at the College as they teach and mentor the students.*

Thursday 2 Kenny Hanna (rural chaplain) *Pray for Kenny who has begun serving as PCI's first rural chaplain. Give thanks for a warm welcome at local churches, livestock markets, agri-businesses, farm support organisations, and amongst farmers and farming families. Pray for pastoral and gospel opportunities. Pray for God to open hearts.*

Westbourne (East Belfast) *Pray for Rev Mervyn Gibson, the kirk session, leaders and members of Westbourne urban mission congregation as they continue to seek opportunities to share the gospel with their local community.*

Friday 3 Social Witness *As Lindsay Conway commences retirement after 19 years with the Council for Social Witness, give thanks to God for his guidance and protection over those years, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. Please continue to pray for the work of the Council and for his successor Dermot Parsons.*

Council for Public Affairs *Rev Daniel Kane is the convener of the Council for Public Affairs which is due to meet on Thursday 2 December. Pray for Daniel and the work of the Council as it seeks to support PCI to engage with gracious gospel confidence in the public square.*

Saturday 4 General Council *Pray for the ministers and kirk sessions of congregations throughout the island as they seek, over the next few weeks, to maintain measures and mitigations that will keep people safe during Advent and Christmas services and events.*

Training in Ministry *This week Dr Stephen Moore is due to begin work as Lecturer in Old Testament at Union College. Stephen grew up in Hazelbank, Coleraine - pray for him and his family as they settle back into life in Northern Ireland, and pray that the Lord will use the gifts he has entrusted to Stephen as he teaches in the College.*

Friday 26 th	10am	Needle & Natter
	10am	Bowls Practice
	6-7pm	GB Explorers
	7.15-9.15pm	GB Company Section
Saturday 27 th	8-9am	Saturday Prayer Meeting
	8.45am	Men's Breakfast at Glasshouse
	7.15-9.15pm	Youth Club
Sunday 28 th	11am	Morning Service & Kids Crew
	7pm	YF
Monday 29 th	8pm	Badminton Club
Tuesday 30 th	10am	Tots & Co
	6.30pm	CE
	7-9pm	Indoor Bowls
Thursday 2 nd	2-3pm	Thursday Fellowship
	6-7pm	Anchor Boys
	7-8.30pm	BB Junior Section
	7.15-9.15pm	BB Company Section



Our recent
retiring
offering for
The Poppy
Appeal
raised
£318.
Thank you.

COOKIES AND CHAT

18-25 years old?

Come along for some cookies and chat
on Wednesday 8th December!

To sign up, email

sonya_firstcarrickpres@hotmail.com

or text 07796 148090



Who has a passion for our young adults and would like to
help with this? Contact Sonya if you're interested.

'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the
Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.' Colossians 3:17