



### The Purple Candle of Peace

*Sometimes known as the Bethlehem Candle or the Candle of Preparation. God kept his promise of a Saviour who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means 'to get ready'. Help us to be ready to welcome YOU O GOD! As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, prepare the way of the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low, the crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God's salvation"*

### **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

We are always happy to have visitors with us in Cregagh; and we welcome any who may be worshipping with us on this the Fourth Sunday in Advent. We would invite our visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Church Vestibule, giving name and full postal address. This morning any parents with young babies are invited to make use of the Creche or KidZone (in the Stewart Hall) for 3 year olds upwards who leave church after the children's address and hymn.

### **REFRESHMENTS**

Tea and toast are served in the McIntyre Suite each Sunday before Morning Worship. The Coffee Bar is open in the Allen Hall after Morning Worship.

### **CHRISTMAS SUPPER**

All our members, their friends and visitors are invited to join us for some Christmas refreshments in the Allen Hall following this evening's Candlelight Service.

### **CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS**

'World Development' (for the PCI Appeal 'Farming God's Way' focusing on Mozambique) and 'Cregagh Christmas' (for the Church Building Fund) envelopes are in the pews for your use at any of the Christmas services.

### **MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

The Morning Bible Study Group will meet on Monday at 10.30 a.m. at 27 Ballygowan Road for a short time of Christmas reflection.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

There will be no 'Office Hours' for the next two weeks. Rev McKenzie will be in the Minister's Room on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from 7.30 – 8.30 p.m. Any urgent matters requiring attention may be referred to Rev McKenzie (07809674068) or Clerk of Session, Michael Graham (07548635075)

### **OPEN CHURCH**

The church will be open as usual on Friday from 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon for private prayer and meditation.



## **CHRISTMAS AT CREGAGH**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE IN CREGAGH**

**TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER at 11.30 p.m.**

Join us and the many visitors who faithfully attend this beautiful service each year as we greet Christmas Morn in God's House in a very atmospheric act of worship which is by candlelight. The service lasts about 45 minutes.

### **CHRISTMAS DAY IN CREGAGH**

**WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER at 9.00 a.m.**

The Cregagh Family, young and old, meet to celebrate the Birth of Christ. Children are encouraged to bring their toys from Santa. Christmas refreshments will be served in the Allen Hall after the service.



### **OLD YEAR SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER at 11.00 a.m.**

Next Sunday we meet to give thanks for the year that is closing; and to seek God's guidance for the new year which lies ahead.

### **NEW YEAR COMMUNION**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020 at 11.00 a.m.**

The New Year Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed. The Retiring Offering after Communion will be in aid of the Benevolent Fund.



### **JANUARY SERVICES**

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 a.m.  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 p.m.  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 a.m.  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 p.m.  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 a.m.  
  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 p.m.  
  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 a.m.

Communion – Rev McKenzie and Church Choir  
Prayer and Bible Study  
Rev McKenzie and Praise Group  
Café Connect – Migrant Help  
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service  
Preacher: Rev Ken Connor (Cregagh Methodist)  
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Joint Service in Cregagh with Cregagh Methodist and Salvation Army. Preacher: Rev Edward McKenzie  
Rev McKenzie and Church Choir

## HELP TO CLEAR UP!

A few volunteers would be appreciated to help clear the church of the Christmas decorations etc. on Monday week, 30<sup>th</sup> December from 9.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon  
If you can help please give your name to Dennison Mahood.

## MALAWI UPDATE

“Thanks to your generosity the children at Chifundo3 had a Christmas party. Many ate their rice and chicken in their bare feet but it was still enjoyed and each had a small gift to take home. Everything much appreciated. The committee at Chifundo also received a Christmas gift from us and each of our sponsored students got £12 to spend on essentials. School fees for next term are due in January. So please lend a hand to keep them in school a while longer. Your coppers can continue to feed these youngsters at Chifundo in the new year.....so keep saving!” (Sheena Stewart)

## CHURCH PUBLICATIONS

Annual subscriptions and new orders for 2020 should now be arranged for ‘Presbyterian Herald’ to Joan Taylor, ‘Wider World’ to Dorothy Platt, ‘International Bible Reading’ and ‘Day by Day’ to Barbara Dunlop.

## FLOWER CALENDAR FOR 2020

The Flower Calendar for 2020 is in the Church Vestibule today for inspection by those who normally provide the church flowers. Any changes, queries or new providers for the few vacant dates may be referred to Dorothy Law (07789 503606)  
Also, any donations towards the Flower Fund are always appreciated and are used for oasis/sundries and extra flowers for special occasions.

## CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

Members are asked to note that there is only one more Sunday on which to bring their 2019 WFO, Building Fund and United Appeal contributions up to date.

The congregational financial books will close promptly next Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December.

## CALLING ALL ORGANISATIONS

Organisational leaders/secretaries/treasurers are asked to submit their activity reports for 2019, numbers on rolls, contact details (names of leaders, office bearers, telephone numbers and email addresses) to David Gillespie, and financial reports for 2019 to Dawn Johnston not later than Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January.

## EPILEPSY AWARENESS CALENDAR

A few of the 2020 Calendars produced by John McKenzie (Rev McKenzie’s father) in aid of the Epilepsy Society are still available at only £3.50 from Rev McKenzie.



**A VERY HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS  
TO YOU ALL**



## **Weekly News Sheet** **The Fourth Sunday in Advent** **22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**



*“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined”*

Isaiah 9:2

*“Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill toward men”*

Luke 2:14

MORNING SERVICE at 11.00 a.m.

Handbell Choir Christmas Service

Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 27:1-8 and Colossians 1:15-23

EVENING SERVICE at 6.30 p.m.

Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

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