



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are always happy to have visitors with us in Cregagh; and we welcome any who may be worshipping with us this morning. We would ask our visitors and members to remain seated at the end of the service until directed to leave by an usher.

It would be also appreciated if when entering church for the service that you sit in the pew as directed by the ushers and not request another seat – this arrangement is to ensure safety and social distancing. Please do not stop to chat in the church pews or aisles as you enter or leave church but you may do so in the church grounds, obviously observing social distancing and wearing your mask.

CHURCH OFFERINGS

As the offering cannot be collected in the usual way during current services there are collection plates in the Church Vestibule and McIntyre Suite for your use.

CHURCH FLOWERS

The flowers today provided by Mrs Elaine Peel are 'In Memory of Sam and Florence Dalzell'

COFFEE BAR

The Coffee Bar is open in the Allen Hall after the service and all are invited to stay behind for some refreshments. Please remember to wear your face covering when moving around the hall and please only enjoy your refreshments when seated.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE

Members of Congregational Committee are asked to collect their district supplies of church literature and WFO envelopes this morning outside the Creche and make deliveries as soon as possible so that members are aware of the Christmas services. Any queries about the districts please contact Karen McCurry.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Zoom Bible Study will take place on Monday at 7.00 p.m.

MORNING WATCH

Morning Watch will meet on Tuesday at 10.45 a.m. in the Session Room.

OFFICE HOURS

Rev McKenzie will be in the Minister's Room on Thursday from 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.

OPEN CHURCH

The church will be open for private prayer and meditation on Friday from 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon.

YOUTH 'BIG NIGHT'

The 'Big Christmas Night' for any young people P7 upwards will be held on Saturday from 6.30 – 8.00 p.m. at the church. For further information:

youth@cregaghpresbyterian.org

KIRK SESSION DUTY

Elders on ushering/open & welcoming duties in December are: Anne Graham, Beth McNair, Robert McNair and Joan Taylor.

REV DR HAROLD MacCONNELL FAREWELL SERVICE

Rev Dr Harold MacConnell who is retiring as Cregagh's Pastoral Assistant will conduct his Farewell Service next Sunday at 11.00 a.m. Those members who have not yet contributed towards his presentation and would like to be asked to put their contribution in an envelope marked 'Rev Dr Harold MacConnell'

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW will meet on Monday week, 6th December in the Barbour Hall for an 'Afternoon of Christmas Cheer' with Anne Stevenson. Any ladies in the congregation who would like to come along will be made very welcome.

CHURCH DECORATION

The church will be decorated for the Christmas Season on Friday week, 10th December from 2.00 p.m. Gifts of holly, ivy, greenery etc. would be very much appreciated and may be left at the church Monday-Friday mornings (6th-10th) and Monday and Thursday evenings (6.30 – 8.30 p.m.)

KIDZONE CHRISTMAS TREE SERVICE

The KidZone Christmas Tree Service will be held on this day fortnight, 12th December at 11.00 a.m. All children (and adults if they wish) may bring their gifts (toys, books, sweets etc) unwrapped to the Christmas Tree. The gifts will then be taken to the Belfast City Mission for distribution to needy children in the city which includes families under the care of the Prison Fellowship.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR SERVICES

Sunday 12th December at 7.00p.m.*

Candlelight Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

Sunday 19th December at 11.00 a.m.

Youth Christmas Service

Sunday 19th December at 7.00 p.m.*

Candlelight Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

Saturday 25th December at 9.00 a.m.

Christmas Day Family Service

Sunday 26th December at 11.00 a.m.

Boxing Day Service (Christmas Leftovers!)

Sunday 2nd January at 11.00 a.m.

New Year Communion

PRESBYTERIAN HERALD

The Presbyterian Herald is the official magazine of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. It provides a forum for debate and discussion on a wide range of topics and aims to educate, inform and inspire Presbyterians and the general public. The *Herald* contains news items, reflection pieces and articles from a wide range of sources. Contributors come from many spheres, including academics, ministers and fellow Presbyterians. "As your 'Herald' agent could I ask those that do not already receive a copy to give serious thought to subscribing to this informative magazine? New subscribers or anyone wishing to change their order should contact me as soon as possible" (Joan Taylor – 07791 150354)

WIDER WORLD

Copies of the Wider World magazine for 2022 will be ordered at the start of January. The annual subscription is £6 for 4 magazines which is great value and would make a worthwhile gift! The first edition will be the March 2022/Spring Wider World. I would encourage women in our congregation to subscribe to this excellent resource. New subscribers or anyone wishing to change their order should contact Dorothy Platt (07803 264286)

MALAWI

SPEND LOCAL and help fund Christmas Celebrations for children in Blantyre. Sorry, we cannot take your 'spend local cards' but we sure would be happy to take any small change you might have. There are Christmas gifts and cards for sale on our Malawi table, today and next week. They are perfect for those that you might want to wish Happy Christmas, with a small token. Each pack contains Homemade Chutney and Jam plus long-dated cheese and crackers, and range from just £3.50 and £5.00. There are cards at 50p and pretty gift bags and keyrings too. You might just want to treat yourself, and that's ok, individual pots of jam and chutney are also available. Help yourself and leave your donation in the Pence for Porridge jar, please.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

As usual, there will be two special offerings during the Christmas season.

PCI 'World Development' - Weathering the Storm

Cregagh Christmas - Missions

COVID UPDATE

In Cregagh we wish to create a worship environment that is both safe and welcoming.

While we would actively encourage all members to come to worship, believing it is safe to do so with the measures we have taken, we would also wish to highlight that no one should come to services if they have COVID symptoms. As we move forward towards something more like normal it is imperative that we do so by ensuring that all actions are in line with current guidelines and restrictions. PCI have advised that one meter social distancing during services of worship be observed. Doors will open at 10:30am for 11.00 a.m. services and 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. services so ushers can guide folk to their seats. It is still mandatory that face coverings are continued to be worn while entering, leaving and singing during the service, as well as when moving around the building, however masks may be removed while seated.

Members are asked to register, due to 'contact tracing' and to ensure space and availability of seating by contacting the Clerk of Session, Michael Graham, on email:

michaelgraham112@gmail.com or phone 07548635075. As before those who have registered will be asked to inform Michael if for whatever reason someone cannot attend so that the register can be as accurate as possible. It is strongly requested that members register by Thursday of each week.

KidZone warmly invite the children of the congregation to come along, this is an additional reason why registering by Thursday is helpful, so required preparations can take place. Crèche is available, but we would ask for the time being that a parent/carer accompany their child and wear a face covering while in the crèche room. Children are encouraged to bring their own toys if possible.

Bibles and hymnbooks have now been returned to the pews for your use. Unfortunately, by advice from Presbytery, pastoral visitation from the Minister is still to be limited to emergencies, bereavements or at special request. Indoor activities may take place in church buildings providing the necessary risk assessments are adhered to. Organisations are requested to contact our Congregational Secretary, Jim McCurry so that the risk assessments are adequate and confirmed.



WEEKLY NEWS SHEET **28th November 2021** **The First Sunday in Advent**

The First Candle of Advent

The Purple Candle of Hope



TODAY'S SERVICE at 11.00 a.m.
Advent Service of Music and Readings

Cregagh Presbyterian Church
102-104 Cregagh Road
Belfast BT6 0ER
Tel: 028 9045 5160
Website: cregaghpresbyterian.org

Minister: Rev Edward J B McKenzie
Tel: 07809 674068
Email: emckenzie@presbyterianireland.org

