

GOODBYE
2023
WELCOME
2024

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 New Year's Eve. We would invite our visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Vestibule, giving name and full postal address. This morning any parents with babies are invited to make use of Pebbles Creche or KidZone for 3 year olds upwards (in the Stewart Hall) who leave church after the children's address and hymn.

** The following may help our visitors to share in the service:-

**The Processional and Recessional hymns are not announced – the numbers are on the hymn boards – hymnbooks and Bibles are in the pews for your use.

** Please stand (if able) as the service begins when the Bible is carried into church and the Minister and Choir enter, and remain standing until the Minister says "Let us pray"

**The Offering is after the Sermon and is unannounced.

** Please stand as the collectors bring the Offering to the Sanctuary for dedication, and remain standing until after the Recessional hymn and the Minister and Choir leave and the Bible is carried from church.

COFFEE BAR

Refreshments are being served in the Allen Hall after this morning's service and everyone is invited to remain behind for a short time of fellowship.

CAN YOU HELP?

Volunteers are needed to help clear the church of the Christmas decorations and trees on Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. This task should only take a couple of hours if some helpers come forward. Thank you.

JANUARY SERVICES

Epiphany Sunday 7th at 11.00 a.m.

New Year Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Rev McKenzie and Church Choir.

Retiring Offering for the Benevolent Fund.

Sunday 7th at 6.30 p.m.

Evening Prayer and Bible Study (Acts)

Sunday 14th at 11.00 a.m.

Morning Worship

Rev McKenzie and Praise Group.

Sunday 14th at 6.30 p.m.

Café Connect in the Allen Hall

Sunday 21st at 11.00 a.m.

Morning Worship

Rev Ken Connor and Church Choir

Sunday 28th at 11.00 a.m.

Morning Worship

Mr Thomas Clarke and Church Choir

OPEN CHURCH

The church will be open for private prayer and meditation on Friday 10 am-12 noon

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW will meet on Monday week, 8th January, when Rev McKenzie will bring a New Year Message. Members are reminded of the Bring and Buy Sale at this meeting. We are always glad to have new members joining us.

BLOBS

Blobs will meet on Tuesday week, 9th January at 9.45 a.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

MORNING WATCH

Morning Watch will meet on Tuesday week, 9th January at 10.45 a.m in the Session Room.

BREWS BROTHERS

Brews Brothers Men's Group will meet on Tuesday week, 9th January at 12.30 p.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

TEA AND TALK

Tea and Talk will meet on Wednesday week, 10th January at 2.00 p.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

YOUTH 'BIG NIGHT'

The next young people's 'Big Night' will be held on Saturday week, 13th January.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

Members are reminded that this is the last Sunday on which to bring your 2023 WFO, Property Fund and United Appeal contributions up to date.

The Congregational finance books will close promptly this evening.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

'World Development' (PCI World Development Appeal) and 'Cregagh Christmas' (for Congregational Mission Projects) envelopes are still in the pews for your use.

MALAWI CALENDAR 2024

There are still a few fundraising calendars, in aid of projects in Malawi supported by Cregagh, available. Please speak to any member of the Malawi Team. Suggested minimum donation £5.00.

CALLING ALL ORGANISATIONS

Organisation leaders/secretaries are asked to submit their 2023 activity reports, numbers on roll, and contact details to David Gillespie (07964 150960) and financial reports to Joanne Hewitt (07912 878937) not later than Sunday 14th January.

CHURCH DOORS

In an effort to conserve heat in the church over the winter months the main front church door will remain closed on Sundays during January, February and early March. Entrance to Sunday services may be made through the McIntyre Suite Doors. We would also request that when using the Mother's Circle Doors (beside the pulpit) you remember to close the doors behind you and not leave them lying open. Your cooperation will be very much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS AT CREGAGH

At the end of another Advent and Christmas Season we would thank everyone who again this year made Christmas at Cregagh so very special: those who made the worship so inspiring including the Church Choir and John Dallas, the Junior Choir and Maureen Mulligan, the Praise Group and Kathryn Glover, the Handbell Choir and Dorothy Platt, the Young People's Bible Class, the PW Readers, KidZone and Karen McCurry. Those who decorated the church and Christmas trees, supplied greenery etc. And those who helped to clear the decorations away. Those who catered for the various events and the organisations who arranged special parties for their members. Those who looked after the sound and visual items and Robert McNair for printing the special Orders of Service. To the children and adults who placed gifts under the Christmas tree for distribution by Belfast City Mission. We would also thank our Minister, Rev McKenzie for arranging the special services and our appreciation is due to our caretaker, Don Jackson, for all the extra cleaning and hall arranging duties. To all we say a very big 'THANK YOU'.

THANK YOU FROM THE MINISTERS

Our Minister, Rev Edward McKenzie and the Minister Emeritus, Rev Hastings McIntyre and their families thank the members of the congregation for all the good wishes, cards and gifts they received at Christmas and wish you all God's Blessing for 2024.

WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

"The Weekly News Sheet was first published on Sunday 25th January 1967 (almost 57 years ago). Several people have been responsible for it over the years including Rev Arthur Barbour, Will and Ruth McConnell, Pauline Gibson, Margaret McCrea and Rev David Gray. I personally have produced it for a total of 38 years, over two periods, but now reluctantly due to deteriorating eye sight have had to make the decision to relinquish the task. This is something I deeply regret as I have really enjoyed carrying out this duty so very much. I would like to thank all those ministers, elders, organisation leaders and members for their support and providing me with the necessary announcements and items. I apologise for the many, many grammatical and spelling mistakes I was responsible for (I was really only testing you to confirm you were reading it!!!). I am happy to advise and help my successor when someone is appointed but in the meantime any items for inclusion should be forwarded not later than the preceding Wednesday on which the announcement is to be included to Rev McKenzie (emckenzie@presbyterianireland.org) or Michael Graham (michaelgraham112@gmail.com)"

(Dennison Mahood)

JANUARY DUTY ROTAS

KIRK SESSION – Maureen Mulligan, Robert Oliver, David Gillespie, Gordon Dunlop and Barbara Dunlop.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE –Karen McCurry, Pauline Gibson, Angela Watson, Wilma McCluskey, Laura Watson, Jim McCurry and Karen Collins.

COFFEE BAR – (7th) Presbyterian Women/Carol Ferguson. (other dates tbc)

FLOWER DELIVERY (7th) Helen and Eady Molloy. (14th) Ivan and Lily Taylor.

(21st) Jim and Irene Acheson. (28th) Lynn Jennings.

A VERY HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL



WEEKLY NEWS SHEET **Sunday 31st December 2023** **New Year's Eve**



'And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year. "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown" And he replied: "Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way"

(Spoken by King George VI on Christmas Day 1939)

MORNING SERVICE at 11.00 a.m in the Church
Rev McKenzie and the Church Choir
Theme: 'Preparation for a New Season'
Scripture Readings: 2 Chronicles 2 and 1 John 5: 1-12

AFTERNOON SERVICE at 4.00 p.m. in Cregagh Methodist
'Lights' Out' Community Service of Remembrance and Reflection
with Cregagh Methodist, Salvation Army and Cregagh Presbyterian

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