

CALENDAR

Downpatrick, Ballee & Clough

Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Churches

May and June 2018

From the Minister:

We have a lot of activities planned for the forthcoming period and throughout the year. Many of them are listed below and some advance notice is being given of some other events inside this Calendar. Please take a note of them.

At the time of writing the AGMs of Ballee and Downpatrick have been held and a big thank you to all who take on office or carry out all the necessary tasks in all our churches. Without so much effort by so many people we wouldn't be able to achieve so much. The Clough AGM will be held at the very start of May.

Last year the Presbytery visitation took place at Clough. This year it is the turn of Downpatrick and details of the service and the Work and Witness Commission are found below. The other three Commissions will make their own arrangements to come to Downpatrick. The service for the visitation will take place on Sunday, 27th May, details can be found in this Calendar.

Thank you once again to all our visiting preachers which over the last couple of months included Rev Ernie Boggs and David McCord. Please note also that our Spring Communion services will be celebrated in May on the usual Sundays. All members are encouraged to attend the Communion Services.

David Steers

Forthcoming Dates:

Friday, 27th April Dance at Millennium Hall, Clough at 8.00 pm

Monday, 30th April meeting of the Presbytery of Bangor at Rademon at 7.30 pm.

Tuesday, 1st May Annual General Meeting Clough at 8.15 pm.

Tuesday, 8th May meeting with the Visitation Work and Witness Commission at Downpatrick at 8.00 pm.

Sunday, 20th May Masonic Province of Down 150th Anniversary Service at 3.30 pm at Downpatrick.

Sunday, 27th May Presbytery of Antrim Visitation service at Downpatrick at 3.30 pm.

Tuesday, 29th May meeting of the Presbytery of Bangor at Dromore at 7.30 pm.

Friday, 1st June NSPCI Sunday School Exhibition of Work and Prizegiving Service at Killinchy at 7.30 pm. (15th May deadline for recorded entries).

Saturday, 16th June Work day at Ballee at 9.00 am.

Saturday, 30th June Joint Afternoon Tea Party at the Lakeside Inn at 2.00 pm.

Thursday, 5th July meeting of the Presbytery of Antrim at Ballycarry at 7.30 pm.

Saturday, 4th August Downpatrick Treasure Hunt at the Lakeside Inn at 6.30 pm.

	Downpatrick	Ballee	Clough
6 th May	11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers Communion	9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers Communion	11.15 am Sue Steers
13 th May	11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers	9.45 am Rev Ernie Boggs	9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers
20 th May	11.15 am Rev Ernie Boggs	9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers	11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers Communion
27 th May	3.30 pm Presbytery of Antrim Visitation Service	9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers	9.45 am Rev Ernie Boggs
3 rd June	11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers	9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers	11.15 am Sue Steers
10 th June	11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers	9.45 am Sue Steers	9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers
17 th June	11.15 am Sue Steers	9.45 am Children's Day Rev Dr David Steers	11.15 am Children's Day Rev Dr David Steers
24 th June	11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers	9.45 am Rev Dr William Patterson	9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
 The song of the birds for mirth,
 One is nearer God's Heart in a garden
 Than anywhere else on earth
Dorothy Frances Gurney (1858-1932)

Around the Fellowship

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes for full recovery are with all members who have been unwell or in hospital recently, especially with James Robinson - and his brother John who came over from Scotland and himself ended up in hospital for a while. We are delighted to have Alfie McClelland back with us at the organ after his stay in hospital, we wish him good health in the future and congratulate him on the birth of his granddaughter Chloe. Our thanks goes to Laura Patterson for covering all the services at Downpatrick and to Jack Steers for covering the services at Clough while Alfie was recovering. Our thoughts are with everyone who has been unwell recently and are also with the Rev Tom Banham and the Rev Sam Peden who are both in hospital at the time of writing. Congratulations also to David McCord on being accepted by the Presbytery of Antrim to train for the ministry and congratulations to Dr Heather Walker on receiving a call to the ministry at Rademon.

Dedication of New Lectern at Downpatrick

On Sunday, 25th March there was a good attendance at the morning service for the dedication of the new lectern in memory of Bobby and Eileen Moffett. It was made by David Bradford, one of Bobby and Eileen's grandsons, and presented to the church by the Moffett family. Made of ash wood to a beautiful design it fits in very well with the building and houses the old Bible from 1949 which includes the names of all the members of the church at the time. It is well adapted for use at our services and will be of great use for readers. The service was well reported in the local press. We thank the family for the donation in memory of two highly esteemed members of the church.

Downpatrick Sunday School Beetle Drive

Thank you to everyone who helped with or supported this event which was held at the Lakeside Inn on Wednesday, 4th April and helped raise £362 for the Air Ambulance charity.

Clough Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Clough congregation will take place on Tuesday, 1st May at 8.15 pm. All members are encouraged to attend.

Ballee Church Hall

The new windows are all now in place with the whole building painted inside and the lights repaired outside. Everything looks very good and a big thank you, as always, to Isabel Kelly for securing for us the funding for this work. Thank you also to Doreen and Allan Chambers who have donated the new curtains which set off the new windows so well.

Presbytery of Antrim Visitation Service, Downpatrick

This will take place Sunday, 27th May at 3.30 pm (there will be no morning service that day). There will be a service led by the Presbytery following which we will hear the reports of the four commissions. Everyone is welcome. Following the service there will be refreshments. The Work and Witness Commission will come to the Church on Thursday, 8th May at 8.00 pm to meet with members of the Session and Committee and any other members who wish to be there.

Masonic Province of Down 150th Anniversary Service

This will take place in Downpatrick on Sunday, 20th May at 3.30 pm and everyone is welcome to attend. There has been a request for our choir to be there and we will provide refreshments after the service.

Ballee Working Party

There will be a working party for the upkeep of the property at Ballee on Saturday, 16th June starting at 9.00 am. All members who are able are encouraged to attend.

Joint Afternoon Tea Party

This year this will be held on Saturday, 30th June at the Lakeside Inn at 2.00 pm. This is always such an enjoyable occasion for members of all three churches. Everyone is welcome but we particularly hope that any older members who perhaps don't always get out and about so much will come along. Lifts can be arranged for anyone who needs them. Any help with catering and with serving on the day will be very gratefully received.

Downpatrick Treasure Hunt

This is advance notice that this very popular event will this year take place on Saturday, 4th August at the Lakeside Inn with cars leaving at 6.30 pm. Tickets will be £12.50 (adults) and £4 for children and this includes a hog roast or hot dogs for children. Further details will be given nearer the time but please make a special note since the date has changed slightly from previous years.

Ordination of Elders at Downpatrick

The ordination of Myrtle McBride and Dr Charles Stewart by the Presbytery of Antrim as new elders for Downpatrick will take place at Downpatrick on Sunday, 9th September at 3.30 pm.

Advance Notice

So they can be put in your diary well in advance please note that the Downpatrick Family Service will be held on Sunday, 2nd September at 11.15 am. Also the Ballee Table Quiz will take place on Saturday, 29th September and the Downpatrick Table Quiz will take place on Saturday, 1st December, both at the Lakeside Inn.

Denominational Roll of Honour

One project that I am currently undertaking is an updating of the First World War Roll of Honour for the denomination. As we near the centenary of the end of the First World War I am hoping to compile as full a list as possible of all those from our churches who served in that conflict. A Roll of Honour was begun by the denomination at the time in 1914 but not updated beyond March 1916 (ie. before the battle of the Somme). I hope to produce and publish a booklet containing a Roll of Honour of members of each congregation of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland who served in the First World War. Some churches have War Memorials or other records of people who served, others seem to have no records in this area so it is quite difficult to compile but it is my intention to produce as full a roll of names as possible. To mark this publication we will have a special service of dedication for the denomination at Downpatrick on Sunday, 18th November at 3.00 pm to which everyone will be invited.