

CALENDAR

Downpatrick, Ballee & Clough

Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Churches

September and October 2018

From the Minister:

Thank you to everyone who supported our joint services over the summer. We had an especially enjoyable Praise Service containing our favourite hymns at Ballee on 21st August when along with the special hymns chosen by the congregation a good number of people also enjoyed special music, with Sarah Rooney singing a solo (accompanied by Alfie McClelland), Laura Neill playing the bagpipes and Jack Steers playing the trumpet. John Strain of course played the organ. It was a lovely service.

We have got a lot of important events coming up so please take a note of them. Among other things we have our Services of Harvest Thanksgiving at all three churches in October when we will welcome our visiting preachers and special music provided by visiting choirs. The details of all the services are listed inside this Calendar. All other services and special events are also listed inside including some events a little further ahead which need to be noted.

David Steers

NSPCI Roll of Honour

This year is the centenary of the end of the First World War. One of the projects I am currently working on involves producing a full Roll of Honour of all the men and women of the denomination in Ireland who served in the First World War. A Roll

of Honour was begun during the First World War but never continued past February 1916 so my task is to extend this Roll to cover the whole of the Great War. This is a considerable undertaking because so many more people joined up later in the war and a lot more lives were lost from the battle of the Somme onwards. The project has been given funding by the John Alexander Bright Memorial Fund and to mark publication we will have a special service of dedication at Downpatrick on Sunday, 18th November at 3.00 pm, that is the Sunday after Remembrance Sunday. This will be a unique occasion to remember the contribution of members of our churches to which everyone will be invited. If anyone has any information about anyone in the denomination who served in the Great War please do still let me know.

Forthcoming Dates:

Tuesday, 28th August Presbytery of Bangor meeting, Killinchy at 7.30 pm.

Sunday, 2nd September Downpatrick Family Service at 11.15 am.

Sunday, 9th September Service for the Ordination as Elders of Myrtle McBride and Dr Charles Stewart at Downpatrick at 3.30 pm.

Saturday, 22nd September Ballee Table Quiz at the Lakeside Inn at 7.30 for 8.00 pm.

Thursday, 4th October Presbytery of Antrim meeting, Glenarm at 7.30 pm.

| | Downpatrick | Ballee | Clough |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| 2 nd September | 11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers Family Service | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers | 11.15 am Rev Dr William Patterson |
| 9 th September | 3.30 pm Service for the Ordination of Elders | 9.45 am Sue Steers | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers |
| 16 th September | 11.15 am Sue Steers | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers | 11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers |
| 23 rd September | 11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers | 9.45 am Rev Ernie Boggs | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers |
| 30 th September | <i>11.15 am Joint Service Ballee</i> | 11.15 am Joint Service Ballee Rev Dr David Steers | <i>11.15 am Joint Service Ballee</i> |
| 7 th October | 3.00 pm Harvest Rev Roger McKee <i>Lyndsay Chorale</i> | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers | 11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers |
| 14 th October | 11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers | 3.00 pm Harvest Rev Dr William Patterson <i>Harmony</i> | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers |
| 21 st October | 11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers | 3.00 pm Harvest Rev Dr Heather Walker <i>Clare Chorale</i> |
| 28 th October | 11.15 am Rev Dr David Steers | 9.45 am Rev Dr William Patterson | 9.45 am Rev Dr David Steers |

Around the Fellowship

Our thoughts and prayers are with Myrtle McBride and Thelma Lowry who are undergoing treatment at the moment and with Renee Cleland and with everyone who has been unwell in any way recently. Our deepest sympathy is with Andria Cleland following the death of her mother over the summer.

Congratulations to all our younger members who graduated in recent months and to all those who received their various results at school, it is very encouraging to hear everyone doing so well.

Downpatrick Building Work

The work is continuing very well in the church at the moment and we hope to see it completed soon. Thank you to everyone who has attended the various meetings and helped with the cleaning to make the church ready for worship. Part of the church will remain sealed off until the work is completed.

Joint Afternoon Tea Party

This was held on Saturday, 30th June at the Lakeside Inn at 2.00 pm and was a great success. There was great participation and wonderful weather. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and to Margaret and Geoffrey Ferguson for hosting.

Downpatrick Treasure Hunt

This was another great event, again with good weather, held on Saturday, 4th August. A big thank you to everyone who helped in any way either in preparation or on the day – it takes a lot of organising to see all the cars sent out on their way and then parked up later. Thank you to Marion Moffett and Anna Ferguson who devised the questions, this year taking us on a different route through the town and out to Struell Wells from where St Patrick is said to have prepared for the Christianisation of Ireland. Thanks also to everyone who did the timings and marked the completed sheets and who donated prizes for the ballot. Everyone enjoyed the hog roast on return and spending time in the marquee where Renee Finlay entertained everyone on the keyboards. Thank you also to Margaret and Geoffrey for providing such an ideal venue. We also raised around £850 for the church in the evening which is a tremendous result from an enjoyable evening.

Downpatrick Sunday School Outing

There were 51 children and adults taking part in the trip to Streamvale Open Dairy Farm on Tuesday, 21st August. This proved to be a great day out and everyone enjoyed their time at the Farm which is to be recommended as a venue. Once inside everyone is able to take part in the various activities and many seized the opportunity to go on a tractor ride – which stopped to allow the passengers to feed the deer – or - if you were a bit braver – to go on a barrel ride around the farm. There are plenty of animals to enjoy at Streamvale and afterwards most people went on to Bangor. A big thank you to Annabel Cleland for arranging the visit.

Ordination of Elders

A special service for the ordination of Myrtle McBride and Dr Charles Stewart as elders of Downpatrick congregation by a commission of the Presbytery of Antrim will take place at Downpatrick on Sunday, 9th September at 3.30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Ballee Table Quiz

The Ballee Table Quiz will take place on Saturday, 22nd September at 7.30 for 8.00 pm at the Lakeside Inn. Please note that this date is changed from that originally advertised. These are always great evenings so please speak to Jayne Caven to book your table as soon as possible.

Downpatrick Table Quiz Advance Notice

This will take place on Saturday, 1st December at the Lakeside Inn. Please make a note of the date.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services

First Presbyterian (Non-Subscribing) Church, Downpatrick

Sunday, 7th October 3.00 pm

Preacher: Rev Roger McKee.

Special Music: Lyndsay Chorale

Ballee Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church

Sunday, 14th October 3.00 pm

Preacher: Rev Dr William Patterson

Special Music: Harmony

Clough Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church

Sunday, 21st October 3.00 pm

Preacher: Rev Dr Heather Walker

Special Music: Clare Chorale

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts to me;
My soul is longing and fainting, the courts of the Lord to see.
My heart and flesh, they are singing for joy to the living God;
How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts to me.

Even the sparrow finds a home where he can settle down;
And the swallow, she can build a nest where she may lay her young,
Within the courts of the Lord of hosts, my King, my Lord and my God;
And happy are those who are dwelling where the song of praise is sung.

(From a hymn based on Psalm 84 and sung at the joint service at Ballee on 21st August)