

DATES FOR THE DIARY SUNDAY SERVICES

SEPTEMBER- STARTING BACK

1ST COMMUNION
8TH BACK TO CHURCH WITH CAKE
29TH MISSION NIGHT

OCTOBER

3RD STEPHEN & ANGELINA COWAN EVENING
13TH HARVEST
20TH GB ENROLMENT

NOVEMBER

3RD REGISTERED COMMUNION
10TH REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE
17TH BB ENROLMENT

DECEMBER

15TH MORNING NATIVITY SERVICE
EVENING CAROL SERVICE
25TH CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT 10:30AM

PLEASE TAKE NOTE THAT WE RUN OUR USUAL
SUNDAY SERVICES THROUGHOUT: 9:30 & 11:00
WEEKLY

PRAYER & HEALING SERVICE - FIRST SUNDAY
EVENING OF THE MONTH, FROM 19:00
SUNDAY EVENINGS IN THE GLENFIELD HALL WILL BE
ON THE 2ND & 3RD SUNDAYS FROM 19:00

IF THERE IS A 5TH SUNDAY IN THE MONTH THE
EVENING TIME WILL BE GIVEN TO HIGHLIGHTING
WORLD MISSION.



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HARBOUR

About a year ago I wrote about The Harbour. I know, for some, it would have been the first time to hear and think about how I see the life and ministry of the Church and its place in the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we finish this picture let's recap some of the main ideas:

A Harbour is a safe place to come for rest, repair, for refuge and even recreation. It is a place of ships, and we have looked briefly at Discipleship - growing personally in Jesus; Worship - praising God in music, prayer and everyday life; and Fellowship - which is possibly one of the hardest to grasp as we can use this word interchangeably with socialising, friendships and being together. It is these things, yes, but so much more! Biblical Fellowship is found in Acts with the depth of one heart, one soul, one mind of the people of God.



Relationship

To finish our Harbour of Ships, I would like to talk about Relationship: How we relate to the World around us as individuals and also as a community with faith in Jesus. This can take many paths, often depending on our own interests and lifestyle. Your view of the World could be Environmental/Ecological; it could be Spiritual; it could be Emotional; it could be Political; it could be... well hopefully you get the idea.

What is our relationship like? Is it a Love-Hate relationship... the World loves to hate us..? I think this is taking things a little too far. However, does the World see our relationship as the nutty uncle you only see at Christmas who can give you nice presents, but is really a bit weird and you don't really want to talk to him, just take his stuff? How do you think people outside the church see us as people within the church? Can you relate to any of these pictures?

RELATIONSHIP

I believe that we are seeing a change in how people relate to the church, or maybe people are becoming more open to the truth of Jesus and willing to think about him. This is why our Relationship is so important. If someone comes to us and is seeking help we don't need to answer with proof of the resurrection of Jesus, we respond pastorally.



There are a couple of 'Christian' words to help us understand Relationship with the world:

Evangelism - getting the Good News to people who need it, which is everybody. Evangelism is seeing the Spirit work in people at whatever level and answering them, think of Philip and the Ethiopian in Acts 8.

Compassion - being the hands and heart of Jesus to bring the words of Jesus from Matt 25:35 - 45 to life!

Apologetics - being able to explain the ways of Jesus and the reason Scripture in a clear and convincing way, think of Paul in Acts 19:8

These are just a few of the words that make up Relationship. You can probably think of others from the world of agriculture and business finance. Ultimately we have to keep this in mind: We may be the only Jesus that people relate to. So let's relate well and know Jesus ourselves to reflect him to others.

SPOTLIGHT

ELDERSHIP

Do you know why we are called Presbyterian? It is because we are an Elder based church, rather than bishops etc. We have Teaching Elders (The Minister) and Ruling Elders (Kirk Session). In case you didn't know, the word translated as 'elder' in the New Testament is 'presbyteros' in Greek.

Shore Street currently has 12 Elders (plus minister) who have the oversight of the entire congregation and pastoral responsibilities within the district structure. However, we are really only 11 as Maurice McAuley has retired and will be an Elder Emeritus. There is not enough space here to give our thanks to Maurice, but we will soon! Needless to say these men are already stretched to fulfil their duties, but they still do their utmost in humility to serve people and passion in their ministry for the cause of Jesus and His Kingdom.



We are now at a point of seeking to elect some new Elders to help with the current work of the congregation and build the ministry into the future. Any election has to be done through Presbytery, following The Code - the rules and structure of PCI. We are seeking to elect up to 8 new Elders, but we may not reach 8 of course. The method of election and all the ways we do things will be explained on Sunday mornings through September.

What does an Elder actually do? Through September we will examine Scripture regarding the attributes and character of any prospective Elder. One of the main activities for any elder is active participation in Session Meetings: seeking out God's will for the direction of His church, the current Kingdom witness and the future impact of Gospel ministry in Donaghadee; there is also Pastoral Care within our districts: this comes through visitation and conversation.

Elders are also Charity Trustees, something they have to sign up to as this is a ruling of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. There are a couple of things which the Church requires of any Elder, this being one, the other being subscription to the Westminster Confession of Faith as the subordinate rule of the Church. However, it wouldn't be too much to say that the main role of any elder is to pray for their people! So we need those who are saved in Jesus name, Spirit filled and living for the Glory of Jesus name and His Kingdom come.

SET COURSE!

Once you have spent time in a harbour there must come a moment when you set out to the open waters once again. This is also true for our own Christian lives in the Harbour. Church is a place of refuge and readying us for life on the high seas. To help with this we are aiming to run some 'short course' teaching and practical workshops from time to time.



So many courses are available to use, from Alpha to Christianity Explored all the way to specific focus schemes such as Grief Share. These are all good, but one of the greatest limitations they have is their length. It was difficult to have people commit to 12 weeks pre-Covid, now it is nearly impossible.

Therefore we will look to run short courses on a more regular basis. So if you miss one you don't have to wait that long until it comes round again. Membership classes will be 4 - 5 weeks; there is an Evangelism Course called 3-2-1, which can be run in 5 weeks; some Christian Basics / Discipleship Courses can be run over 5-6 weeks; we can even tailor something to our own needs. More information about these will be coming out in the near future, but here is the question:

Not, would you like to come to these (because, of course you will!), but would you like to be involved in running these?

Probably running on Thursday evenings, but that's not to say they MUST run then, for about 90mins each time these are easy ways for you to get involved in ministry for the Kingdom and at the same time grow your own relationship with God. Talk to Graeme if you want to know more.

RESTART DATES

Services

Early morning - Quieter service 9.30am

Morning service with children's ministries 11.00am

Evening Services

Sunday 1st September - Prayer Ministry and Healing Service Church Sanctuary at 7pm and thereafter 1st Sunday of month

Sunday 15th September Glenfield Hall at 7pm

Youth and Children's Ministries

Creche and Toddler 0-3 years Copeland Room

P1&P2 Kid's Church Warren Room

P3-P7 Kid's Church Andrew's Hall

Faffers YR8 -YR10 The Attic

Youth Fellowship YR10 - YR 14 The Attic 7- 8.30pm every 2nd and 4th Sunday

Kirk Session

Monday 2nd September 2024 Warren Room 1st Monday of the month

Committee Meeting

Monday 16th September at 7.30pm Glenfield Hall

Cuppa Chat and Prayer

Mondays 10.30am -12noon Warren Room. Feel free to drop in!

Gift - Growing In Faith Together

Monday 14th October Warren Room at 8pm 2nd Monday of the month. All women of all ages welcome

Craft Group

Tuesday 3rd September at 10am-12noon Glenfield Hall 1st and 3rd Tuesday. New members always welcome, no experience necessary.

RESTART DATES

Praise Band Practice

Tuesday 3rd September Warren Room at 7.30pm

Watchmen Prayer

Tuesday 10th September The Attic at 7.30pm - please contact our prayer team with any requests.

GB (Girls' Brigade) All contact for GB - Tracey Erskine - 028 9188 8465

Starts Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Tinies age 3 (by the 1st July) - P1 Glenfield Hall 6-6.45pm

Explorers P2-P5 Glenfield Hall 7-8pm

Company Section P6+ Andrew's Hall 7-8.15pm

Coffee With Kids

Wednesday 11th September 10am -11.15am. All wee ones and their carers welcome

Men's Fellowship

Wednesday 10th September at 10am Warren Room 1st & 3rd Wed of the month

PW

Wednesday 9th October at 3pm Warren Room

Mid Week Bible Study

Wednesday 4th September at 7.30 for coffee and 7.45pm start Warren Room

BB (Boys' Brigade) All contact for BB - David Wilson 07742 196205

Starts Friday 13th September 2024

Anchor Boys - P1-P4 6:30-7:30pm Glenfield Hall

Junior Section - P5-P7 6:30-8:00pm Andrews Hall

Company Section - Year8-Year 14 8:00-10:00 pm Andrews Hall

If you want any information on any of our activities please ask, or you can email info@shorestreet.org