

Christmas will always be more popular than Easter with the non-Christians. Christmas is an easy answer to understand and, to many, it is 'safe' and it is 'cosy.' Easter, by contrast, is 'brutal' and 'savage.' It reminds us all of our morality and the reality of death. We celebrate, not the fact that Jesus died, but that he died for our sins and rose again that we too, one day, might rise again. We celebrate that God's wrath at sin has been atoned and death itself has been defeated. So, let me ask you as you read this, Do you celebrate Christmas more than Easter?.....Why?

God Bless.

Alan McCann

FIELDS OF LIFE – UGANDA 2008

Alan McCann, Carol Mulligan, David Mulligan and Lisa McIlwaine will be in Uganda from February 29th to March 15th, training teachers in Bible teaching and also teaching in several secondary schools.

Please remember them in your prayers and also remember the families they have left at home.

HOLY TRINITY CHOIR

This year we have decided to try some changes in our approach to leading Praise at our services. To achieve this, over the next few weeks, we will be trying a few things that we feel may help. This will include different seating arrangements and experimenting with microphone positioning where we pray that we can get a better balance of voices coming from the choir through the sound system. We would appreciate your feedback on this – good or bad!! Please speak to anyone in the choir if you feel that the way the choir was set up on a particular Sunday morning helped lead the praise, or didn't as the case may be. Thanks.

Bert Macartney

MARANATHA KENYA TRUST - VISPA ORPHANAGE, KISUMU, KENYA.

Since the elections in December, the Kisumu region has been experiencing Tribal fighting, killings and looting. This has resulted in a severe shortage of food for the children and staff of the orphanage. Food that is available is very expensive. As a Trust we have been providing finances from our emergency funds but we have been truly blessed by the generosity of Holy Trinity Church through the allocations committee, the Mens Fellowship (annual quiz) and individuals. Thank you.

The children have been kept safe in the orphanage compound and they have certainly known the presence of the Lord.

At the moment there is relative peace but the area is inundated with hundreds of refugees attempting to return to their fatherlands. The orphanage is playing an important part in helping these refugees by providing shelter and food. Obviously the orphanage children are given priority.

Please pray for Hellen and the staff as they attempt to provide something for everyone. Their faith in God will ensure this happens.

Maurice Langley

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MONDAY MARCH 17- FRIDAY MARCH 21ST.

At THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Parochalia THE POWER OF PRAYER



ARE YOU, in need? troubled? lonely? anxious? angry? resentful? worried? feeling sinful? spiritually, physically or emotionally unwell?

GOD WANTS TO HELP

There will be an open prayer evening on the first Thursday of the month, commencing on March 6th.

Please call in, any time between 7.45pm and 9.00pm, and there will be someone to pray for you and to pray with you, in total confidence.

Please, also, make use of the prayer request forms, which can be found on the left hand side as you enter the Church.

Simply complete the form and place it in the prayer request box. The prayer team meets every Thursday when your prayer requests will be passed to the Lord.

“Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good will come and settle you down.” Philippians ch. 4 vs. 6-7

The Prayer Team:

Nicky Quigg, Joan Harvey, Johanne Moore,
Fiona Moody, Linda Horner, Libby Todd.

YOUTH CLUB NEWS

The next outing is to watch the Belfast Giants at the Odyssey Arena on Friday March 7th. Cost is £10. As seats on the bus are limited please have your form returned as soon as possible (first come, first served). We meet at the Church at 6pm for a 6.15pm departure, returning approx. 10pm. The youth club will be closed on this date.

The club is also closed on Friday March 21st and March 28th for the Easter Break.

Membership is closed and will not open again until September.

May I, once again, appeal to anyone who would like to help on Friday night, please speak to one of the leaders.

Bert Macartney

WILD AT HEART MENS GROUP

On Thursday March 6th we will be holding a 'Dads and Lads' evening at Crawfordsburn. 'Lads' must be secondary school age!! Please speak to me for full details.

On Wednesday April 9th we are organising a visit to the Synagogue. This is open to all of the congregation so please put this in your diary. The only stipulation is that EVERYONE will be required to wear suitable head covering.

Vic Wootton

Services –

MARCH 2008

2nd. 10.30am

Holy Communion

Why do you allow suffering?

Job ch. 1 vs. 6 – 22 Rev. David Luckman

Luke ch. 13 vs. 1 – 13 Avril Waller

Prayer leader: Maurice Langley

9th. 10.30am

Morning Prayer

What would God ask you?

Daniel ch. 5 vs. 5-8 & 18-28 Sam McGeown

(Crosslinks)

Luke ch. 12 vs. 13 – 21 Lorraine Ross

Prayer leader: Janis Gibson

16th. 10.30am **PALM SUNDAY Morning Prayer**

Luke ch. 19 vs. 28 – 36 Gail Doherty

Luke ch. 19 vs. 37 – 48 Vic Wootton

Prayer leader: Yvonne Best

6.00pm

Meditative Service

17th – 26th. **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Methodist Church 7.30pm Rev. Gordon Fyles

23rd. 10.30am

Psalm 22 vs. 19 – 31 Lisa McIlwaine

Luke ch. 24 vs. 1 – 12 Jonathon Mulligan

Prayer leader: Rev. Alan McCann

30th. 10.30am

Psalm 23 Garry Richmond

John ch. 20 vs. 24 – 31 Eddie Quigg

Prayer leader: Rev. Alan McCann

HOLY TRINITY WOODBURN VISION COMMITMENT

I will strive to:

Pray daily for Holy Trinity
Worship weekly at Holy Trinity
Read and study The Bible regularly
Serve at and beyond Holy Trinity
Be in a relationship to encourage spiritual growth
Give sacrificially of my time, talents and resources

Amen.

BB NEWS:

On Saturday Jan. 26th 18 teams turned out for the junior 5 a-side Battalion competition held in Larne Leisure Centre.

Our panel of: Jamie Cameron, Andrew Harrison, Nicholas Craig, Stuart Carlisle, David Campbell, Rhys McConnell and Sam Stewart reached the semi-final stage, losing by the odd goal to 1st. Ballyclare, the eventual winners.

The boys were great and thoroughly deserved their bronze medal.

On Monday Feb. 4th our panel of: Jamie Cameron, John Campbell, Adam Edgar, Andrew Harrison, Calvin Lawrence and Oliver McGowan competed in the Battalion Company Section Table Tennis Competition. All 6 boys played in the Singles, with Andrew as runner-up and Jamie coming third.

John and Jamie teamed up for the Doubles and played very well, only to be beaten in the quarter finals.

Andrew teamed up with Curtis Bell from 7th. Carrickfergus and were narrowly beaten in the final.

A great night was had by all.

Well done boys.

For full BB information please visit our website:

www.8thcarrickbb.org.uk

Drew Buchanan

BUCHANAN TRUST:

The Trust shall provide small grants, of no more than £100, to young people at Holy Trinity who are undertaking training or the like in Christian Youth Work. This work could be GB or BB related.

Applications for grants should be made in writing, setting out briefly the project being undertaken.

The decision of the Trustee on any application will be final.

YOUTH INITIATIVE:

It was great to see the familiar faces back at the YI activities in January after the Christmas break. It has also been encouraging to see new faces coming along too!

Godzone has been looking at CEF's 5 great questions programme, finding out how we can be right with God.

The Point has been working through a life skills course, all about self image and identity in Christ.

Thanks to the congregation for continual support and prayers.

Godzone and Day Breakers finish for the Easter break on March 19th whilst the Point finishes on the 21st.

All clubs recommence week beginning Monday April 7th.

I would appreciate the prayers and guidance of the congregation as, over the Easter break I will be seeking teaching material for the Spring sessions leading up to the summer holidays.

Thanks and God Bless.

Lisa McIlwaine

CRECHE ROTA - MARCH 2008

Sunday 2 nd .	Fiona Moody	Donna Harrison
	Joan Logan	Joan Cummings
Sunday 9 th .	Nicola Miller	Donna Harrison
	Valerie Sprott	Helen Fittis
Sunday 16 th .	Fiona Moody	Nicola Miller
	Valerie Sprott	Ann Robinson

There will be no crèche on Sunday 23rd but the room will be available with toys for parents to use with their child.

Sunday 30 th .	Helen Fittis	Ann Robinson
	Linda Purvis	Olga Granger

Please swap with someone else on the rota if you are unable to cover your day. Thanks to everyone who helps and if you could help with the crèche or wish to change your slot on the rota please speak to me or phone me on 93360463 or 07807055615
Thanks

Fiona Moody

Parochalia

MENS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP.....

is for all men of the congregation. We meet once a month to read a passage from the Bible and discuss how it relates to us as men in 2008.

We ALL need to study Gods Word so why not, in the informal company of fellow men.

We next meet on Monday March 10th.

Please speak to me for full details.

Maurice Langley

FACE TO FACE

Due to the Holy Week services we will not be meeting this month but will return to our programme on Thursday April 24th.

Sharon Piddock

THE MANDATE 2008

The Mandate is an annual conference for men. It consists of speakers, praise and drama (humorous) and, this year, is on Saturday November 15th.

Tickets @ £30 must be ordered as soon as possible.

Please speak to one of us for full details.

Keith Montgomery and Andrew Hanley



Holy Trinity Church

Woodburn, Carrickfergus

MARCH 2008

Ministry Team

Rev. Alan M ^c Cann		93 362126
Jack Blair		93 378130
Youth Club Leader	Maurice Dalzell	93 351236
Rector's Warden	Bill Lunny	93 361453
People's Warden	David Mulligan	93 369123
Organist		
BB Captain	Drew Buchanan	93 365620
GB Captain	Irené Moffett	93 367678
Potters House Supt.	Vicky Watson	93 360523

ADDRESS FROM THE REVEREND

Reading: *1 Timothy ch. 1 verse 15*
Dear Friends,

I am sure you all know that the central celebration of the Christian faith is not Christmas but Easter. The world and, sadly, many Christians have forgotten that truth. The verse above tells us the wonderful truth of why Christ came to earth – to save sinners (us) from our sins. That is the reason for His birth, His life, His death and His resurrection. In Romans 5 verse 8 Paul writes “God shows His love for us while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” That is an amazing statement. While we were still dead in our sins Christ came and died for us. He did not wait until we had changed our minds or changed our behaviour. It was whilst we were still God's enemies that, in love, He sent His Son to die in our place.

At Easter we take time to remember, with thanks, that in Christ Jesus (God's Son) God saved us from eternal death. There is no message more important for us to hear and believe than the Easter message. There is no message more urgent for the world to hear than that Christ died for sinners. For those who do not know Christ as their Saviour, Easter is a strange festival to celebrate. Why should we celebrate the death of a man in the first century? What importance is His death today? In contrast, for those who are saved, the cross is the central most important moment in history.