

Come, prepare the way
for the LORD, with us at

HOLY TRINITY

Church of Ireland

PROSPECT ROAD, CARRICKFERGUS



MARCH 2010

**A Bible in their hands
A Saviour in their hearts
A Purpose in their lives**

www.holytrinitycarrick.org.uk

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Alan McCann	93362126
Jack Blair	93378130
Rector's Warden – Bill Lunny	93361453
People's Warden – Vic Wootton	93360653
GB Captain – Irenè Moffett MBE	93367678
BB Captain – Drew Buchanan MBE	93365620
Potter's House Supt. – Vicky Watson	93360523
Youth Club Leader – Maurice Dalzell	93351236

Reading: Hebrews chapter 10 verses 19 - 25

Dear Friends,

Most of us know, and believe, that we are brought into the presence of God by Christ Jesus, His death, resurrection and ascension and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. Yet, how do we express that when we come together? How do we express that, what we are doing together, is a function of the gospel? There are many things, last month I looked at congregational singing, in this letter I want to concentrate on prayer.

Prayer and the Gospel – praying together in church is an important expression of the gospel in our congregational life. Prayer exemplifies the gospel as we pray to the Father in the name of the Son in the power of the Holy Spirit. We can only come to the Father because of the finished work of Christ on the cross which mediated to us by the Holy Spirit who is sent by the Father and Son.

Prayer is the means by which we appropriated the gospel – in our congregational prayers we confess our sins, thank God for what Christ has done for us and seek His forgiveness. This describes and teaches the gospel to us and enables us to receive God's grace personally. -1John chapter 1 verse 8 to chapter 2 verse 2. Prayer is also the appropriate response to the gospel – 1Timothy chapter 2 verse 1. For the Christian prayer is a response to the grace of God in our lives and towards us. These three reasons – prayer exemplifies the gospel, appropriates the gospel and is a right response to the gospel – then encourage us to pray when we come together as the people of God. So, be encouraged and pray!.

Yours in Christ.

Rev. Alan McCann

RECOMMENDED READING:

If you want an easy read with a twist – read Joseph Girzone – the Joshua books – you will catch on pretty quickly what the author is trying to do and the biblical parallels. You need a bit of imagination for this author!!!

I recommend, again, “You Can Change: God's transforming power of our sinful behaviour and negative emotions” by Tim Chester.

“Only one way” by Richard Phillips – which reaffirms the exclusive claims of Christianity.

“Leaning into a hail of bullets: real life stuff for men on temptation” by Navpress – a good discussion book for the men's bible study group?!!

VESTRY HOUR

Rev. Alan McCann will be at Holy Trinity every Wednesday between 6.30 and 7.30pm to discuss weddings, baptisms etc. and any Christian topic.

CONFIRMATION 2010

The Bishop of Connor, Rt. Rev. Alan Abernethy, will be with us on Sunday June 20th for the service of Confirmation. Those who are third year and above, in secondary school, will be eligible to take classes, which will begin after Easter,

A parent/candidate information evening is on Thurs. March 4th at 7pm

A TIME FOR PRAYER

On Wednesday March 3rd. we have an opportunity to come together to pray for the work being carried out at Holy Trinity and by Holy Trinity within our community.

Please call in anytime between 7.30 and 8.30pm to spend time in prayer and reflection with fellow parishioners. Never been because you may be asked to pray out loud?? That's not the case. Pray out loud if you want or pray quietly if you want, God will hear both. The important thing is that you are there, offering prayer to God with your fellow parishioners.

There will be no bible study groups for this Wednesday only.

HOLY WEEK 2010

Monday March 29th to Friday April 2nd at 7.30pm.

North Street Presbyterian Church

JOURNEY to JERUSALEM

Lessons on discipleship from Mark's gospel.

By Desi Maxwell

DATES TO REMEMBER DURING MARCH

Mon 1st Young at Heart 11.30am

Wed 3rd Evening of Prayer 7.30 – 8.30pm.

Thurs 4th Confirmation information class 7pm. Mens Fellowship 8pm.

Mon 8th Men's Bible Fellowship 7.30pm.

Thurs 18th Face to Face 8pm

Mon 22nd -Sat 27th Whilst doing your shopping, purchase non-perishable foods, personal hygiene and household products to leave at church on Sunday 28th for distribution in Carrickfergus by Social Services.

Thurs 25th Select Vestry 8pm

Fri 26th BB display. 7pm.

Mon 29th – Fri Apr 2nd. Holy Week services at North Street Presbyterian Church at 7.30pm

BIBLE STUDY

In our walk with God we all need to study his Word. By all means read your bible in the comfort of your home but please be encouraged to join one of these groups to help you with your understanding of God's Word. It is not too late to join any of these bible study groups

Parish Bible Study is on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in the computer suite and is led by Rev. Alan McCann. We will continue with our study of the Acts of the Apostles. It would be such an encouragement to see more people regularly attending our mid-week bible study.

Inductive Bible Study: is led by Jack Blair and is on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Henly Room.

We will continue to study the three letters of John.

Men's Bible Fellowship is for all men of the congregation. We meet around God's Word on the second Monday of every month with our next meeting on March 8th at 7.30pm at the home of Nigel Wright.

We are trying something different by reading and discussing the book 'Everyman's Challenge' available from waterbrookpress.com or Faith Mission bookshops. Please use this opportunity as a 'new beginning' if you haven't joined us or have lapsed. Please speak to me for further details.

God Bless. *Maurice Langley*

Ladies Bible Study is for the ladies of the congregation and meets at the home of Libby Todd every Tuesday at 10am. We are currently looking at the book of Colossians. Please speak to me for further details. God Bless. *Libby Todd.*

Young People's Bible Study

If you are between the ages of 11 and 18 years then please join us for breakfast and bible study on the first and third Sunday of every month from 9.30 – 10.15am.

God Bless, *Janis Gibson*

BUCHANAN TRUST

The Trust provides small grants of no more than £100 to young people of Holy Trinity, aged between 11 and 25 years who are undertaking training or the like in Christian Youth Work. Application forms can be obtained from Janis Gibson or downloaded from the church website. The decision of the Trustees will be final.

BOWLS FELLOWSHIP meets every Thursday commencing at 7.45pm. As always, there is a warm welcome to those who wish to join us, especially those who have never bowled before. There are spare bowls, and willing volunteers waiting to pass on their expertise. God Bless. *Jack Blair*

As part of our outreach to the local community, on the fourth Sunday (family service) of every month, we bring non-perishable food, personal hygiene and household products to be distributed to those in need in Carrickfergus. These donations are greatly appreciated by the local Social Services Family and Child Care Team. They enable the team to provide some practical support to people in the town. If you do this then, thank you, and please continue, if you have never brought anything for this cause then it is not too late to start. Maybe leave a reminder on your calendar.

BOYS BRIGADE NEWS

Display:

The 18th Annual Display will be held in Holy Trinity on Friday March 26th at 7pm.

Our chief guests will be Mr. and Mrs. Neil McAllister, a lieutenant in 1st Ballyclare Company and Battalion Recreation Officer.

Tickets will be on sale on Monday 8th and Monday 15th March from 6 – 7.30pm priced at £4 for adults and £2 for children under 16 years of age.

Admission will be by ticket only due to restricted space.

For the first time in 8 years all sections of the Company will be involved in this display so please put the date in your diary and plan to be there to support the work of the Boys Brigade at Holy Trinity.

We thank the youth club for allowing us use of the hall on their night.

7 a side football:

Our Junior 7 a side team came so close to winning the Battalion Cup on the 3G pitches in Ballyclare. We were tied at the end on thirteen points with

1st. Ballyclare but lost out as we had lost our head to head match with them

A full report on this and all other information for our BB company can be found on the web-site www.8thcarrickbb.org.uk

God Bless. *Drew Buchanan MBE – Captain*

FOCUSFEST is looking for a volunteer to serve 4-6 hours per week to provide administration support to our Chairperson. The requirements are: computer skills, general administration skills and a heart for women's ministry.

Volunteers in the area of Prayer Ministry and Welcome Teams are also required for this year's FocusFest. For more information please contact Victoria on 02890 455400 or e-mail: focusfest@emins.com

HOW DID YOU CELEBRATE YOUR 50th ????

Congratulations to our brother, Sam Skelly, who, for his 'mid-life crisis', abseiled down the outside of the Europa Hotel and raised a staggering £1200 for the Northern Ireland Hospice. If you didn't get the chance to sponsor Sam I'm sure he would still gratefully accept your donations, either in cash or at:

[Http://www.justgiving.com/sam-skelly](http://www.justgiving.com/sam-skelly)

Well done, Sam.

G1 is the youth fellowship here at Holy Trinity. We are very blessed as leaders to be part of this ministry. We have a regular group of young people who we see growing and maturing in Christ. If you are secondary school age and above please accept this as your invitation to be part of our youth fellowship. We meet from 7.30 – 9.30pm each Sunday evening. This year we have been looking at 'The Bible Overview' and have learnt about how the books of the bible all fit together and all point to Jesus.

God Bless. *Lindy, John, Gerry, Neill and Helen.*

GIRLS BRIGADE NEWS

Unfortunately, due to the present shortage of leaders within our Girls Brigade, there will be no Annual Display, which was scheduled for April 2010. Our planned programme will continue until the end of the 2009/2010 Girls Brigade term. Please pray for the current leadership team who are coping under severe pressure and that more leaders will come forward.

God Bless. *Irenè Moffett MBE – Captain.*

SUMMER'S ON THE WAY!!!

We are planning a fun day for a Saturday in June at the Crawfordsburn Scout Centre. Activities will include climbing, grass sledging, archery, caving, plus many more. The evening time will see a barbecue and a sing song. The day is open to all Holy Trinity congregation and their friends. If it interests you would you please speak to me. God Bless, *Vic Wootton.*

Rosemary Conley Diet and Fitness Clubs – at Holy Trinity

Tuesdays from 10 – 11.30am includes weigh in, motivational talk and 45 minutes of exercise. For further details please contact Avril Waller on 93355129 or e-mail: avril.waller@rosemaryconley.com

Pilates - at Holy Trinity

Good for your back and your tummy!! Thursdays from 10.00 – 11.00am. For further details please contact Avril Waller on 93355129 or e-mail: avrilwaller@talktalk.net

CRÈCHE ROTA.

Sunday March 7 th .	Adrienne Tasker	Sharon Piddock
	Anne Boggs	Olga Grange
Sunday March 14 th .	Fiona Moody	Eileen McLaughlin
	Nicola Miller	Lorraine Saunderson Browne
Sunday March 21 st .	Joan Harvey	Joan Logan
	Lorriane Ross	Valerie Sprott
Sunday March 28 th .	No crèche, although the room will be set up ready.	

Please swap with someone else on the rota if you are unable to do your day. Thanks to everyone who helps. If you would like to be included on the rota or wish to change your slot please speak to me or phone me on 07706707332
God Bless. *Sharon McNeill*

Thanks from the congregation to Fiona Moody who has been organising the Crèche Rota for the past couple of years. Fiona wishes to thank those who have supported her over this time and prays that the same support will be offered to Sharon as she takes over organising the rota.

YOUTH CLUB NEWS

Please note that the youth club will be closed on the following dates:

Friday March 26th (BB display)

Friday April 2nd. (Good Friday)

Friday 9th (Easter holiday)

The club will re-open on Friday April 16th at 7.30pm for the final session before the summer break.

God Bless. *Bert Macartney*

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 two members of our Prayer team available in the prayer room after the service every Sunday. Please accept our warm invitation to come for prayer for yourself or someone you know. Prayers are confidential and will not be discussed outside of the prayer room. There will be a notice on the Prayer Room door indicating when the room is free and the team will be available until the wardens lock the building (approx. 12.30)

Additionally, Prayer Team meets most Thursdays at 7.30pm should you need to call in for prayer. (see Prayer notice board for details)

Please also make use of the prayer request forms which can be found on the left hand side as you enter church. Simply complete the form and place it in the prayer box. The requests will be lifted in prayer for one month, after which time please complete another request should the situation require further prayer or we need updated. God Bless

The Prayer Team: Nicky Quigg, Joan Harvey, Libby Todd, Johanne Moore, Linda Horner, Vera Saunderson, Alison Allen, Stuart Purvis, Fiona Moody.

POINTS FOR PRAYER

Please ask for God's safe hands around Carol and Alan for their visit to Uganda
Please pray for Carlee's safe return to us during March
Ask for God's healing hands on those injured in Haiti
Please pray for those who you find it difficult to love
Please pray that help will come forward for our Girls Brigade

POINTS FOR PRAISE

Praise God for the safe return 'home' of Amy
Give thanks for His blessings today.
Give thanks for the fellowship shared at Holy Trinity
Praise God that we can meet here freely every week
Give thanks for those 'in the background' who ensure we that can worship here
Thank God for Jesus

Is your prayer life stale? There are a lot of resources in the prayer room to help with your prayers and your prayer life. Please feel free to make use of them.

DID YOU KNOW????...at the end of every year Holy Trinity tithes the income from Freewill Offering and passes it to worthy causes. During November of each year the Allocations Committee, chosen by the Select Vestry, meets to discuss and decide on funding applications. At the end of 2009 the following funds were allocated:

CROSSLINKS: £750	MARTIN TRUST: £300
SAMS : £750	COACHING4CHRIST: £1000
BIBLE SOCIETY: £300	OPEN DOORS: £500
MINISTRY OF HEALING: £300	LIFEWORDS: £250
STAROUS FOUNDATION: £300	BLUE HOUSE: £250
C of I BOARD of SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: £300	
CARRICKFERGUS PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTRE: £300	
HAITI DISASTER APPEAL: £500	UNALLOCATED; £300

The above causes are all supported by various members of this congregation. Notices for applications for 2010 will be in this magazine nearer the time. For your information, below are details of some of the 2009 recipients:

Coaching4Christ, based in Ahoghill, spreads the Word of God to children at home and in third world countries, through football coaching. They have incorporated within their own scheme, the child sponsorship scheme of the former Maranatha Kenya Trust, supporting the Vision and Passion Fellowship and Orphanage Home in Kisumu, Kenya.

Blue House is the name used by 'Ballysillan Youth for Christ' for a drop-in centre in North Belfast which works with many disadvantaged and underprivileged young people. For the past 14 years it has been dedicated to meeting the practical, emotional and spiritual needs of young people from all backgrounds and abilities, through the provision of programmes of recreational, educational, cross-community and citizenship initiatives.

Lifewords, part of Scripture Gift Mission, is a bible charity whose aim is to spread God's Word to as many people as possible throughout the world. As well as selling Christian material to those who can afford it, it also sends free material to the poorer parts of the world thanks to the donations it receives. As far as is possible it translates scripture into local languages and simplifies scripture for use with children.

CHAIR and DOOR ROTA

Sunday March 7 th .	Chairs: Kel McDermott, Ashton McDermott, Davey Mulligan, Alan Love. Door: Carol Mulligan, Lorna Brown.
Sunday March 14 th .	Chairs: Keith Montgomery, Colin Watson, Eddie Quigg. Door: Yvonne Best, Joan Harvey.
Sunday March 21 st .	Chairs: Edwin Moffett, Bert Macartney, Arlene Macartney, Kurtis Macartney. Door: Libby Todd, Helen McQuitty.
Sunday March 28 th .	Chairs: Garry Richmond, Victor Apsley Jack Blair, Colin McIlwaine Door: Hazel Blair, Joan Cummings.

If you could spare approx. one hour every month to help with any of the above, please speak to Eddie Quigg.

Next time you see him please say 'thanks' to Eddie for organising this

FACE TO FACE

The next meeting of Face to Face will be held on Thursday March 18th. We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day and want to invite you to a party!! We are planning an evening of Irish themed fun and there will even be Irish dancers providing entertainment. Please do make a point of coming along, we would love to see you there. God Bless. ***The Face to Face Committee***

MEN!!

On Thursday Feb 4th the mens group met with Bishop Alan Abernethy, when he spoke in great depth of his life, his faith, his vision for the future of the church and his position as Bishop. The fifteen men who attended enjoyed listening to him as he spoke in great depth, with feeling and humour.

Due to unforeseen circumstances our next planned event, paintballing, will not now take place. Instead we will meet at Holy Trinity on Thursday March 4th at 8pm for an evening of informal chat, tea and coffee. The mens group is open to all men of the congregation so please feel free to come along and enjoy the company of fellow men of Holy Trinity.

God Bless, ***Vic Wootton.***

Do you enjoy your cup of tea or coffee after Sunday service?
Can you help one Sunday? Please add your name to the rota or speak to Helen.

Do you make good use of the donation basket?
Please say 'thanks' to Helen for organising this.

UPLIFT PERFORMING ARTS runs classes at Holy Trinity every Saturday from 10.00am until 4.00pm. Classes cost £5 each and have an initial £10 registration fee. We have seen a great growth in the last month with numbers increased by a third. We also became “international” with one of our students being from Australia!! Only joking, BUT she really was born in Australia. Sarah Morrison and Emma Moore have been doing a great job lately and have agreed to stay on as UpLift staff, which is great news for the students. There are many projects underway and only time will tell what is next????

If you require any information on Uplift and the classes please speak to me or contact me on mobile: 07840453723 or e-mail: info@weareuplift.com

God Bless. **Ryan Moffett**. Mobile: 07840453723.

A massive thanks to all who worked so hard to produce the recent STEP IN TIME show. It was an enjoyable evening for everyone who came along to watch.

Everyone connected to the show deserves a mention:

Directors: **Sarah, Bebhinn and Donald**; Sound Guys: **Christopher and Daniel**;

Lighting: **Gareth**; Recording : **Dean**; Music: **Our very own music group**

Cast: **Laurie, Claire, Jessica, Gemma, Victoria, Hannah, Joshua, Victoria, Sarah, Rachel, Rebecca, Katie, Leah, Heather, Sarah, Olivia, Calum, Jordan.**

And not forgetting: **Janis** and how could we forget the ‘special guests’

Lorraine, Sandra and Adrienne!!!! Approx. £1100 was raised for the building fund. Well done, thanks and God Bless.

This is YOUR magazine, I only gather the information, put it together (and fill in any gaps). Please feel free to comment, critical or praiseworthy; to write a short article say, a page or half page; send in printable humour!!; or whatever you think may be of interest to our congregation.

Please speak to me or e-mail: maurice.langley@gmail.com

YOUNG AT HEART is for all ladies over the age of 55 years and meets on the first Monday of every month at 11.30am for chat, tea and craic.

New members always welcome. God Bless. **Ann and Eva**.

HARVEST APPEAL 2010: Instead of fund raising in 2010 we are asking you to give sacrificially to our October Harvest Appeal to help clear out building fund debt. Letters explaining this are available from Edwin Moffett, our Treasurer. Please pray about it and then return your reply, in confidence, to Edwin, even if you cannot commit to this appeal. For those who haven’t yet responded please do so, even if you cannot commit to a specific sum.

SERVICES – MARCH 2010

Sunday 7th. 10.30am **Holy Communion**
Are we a healthy church? - Worship
 First reading: Psalm 134 Erin Gillies
 Second reading: Revelation ch. 7 vs. 9 - 17 Rev Alan McCann
 Prayer leader: Yvonne Best

Sunday 14th. 10.30am **Morning Prayer**
Are we a healthy church? - Outreach
 First reading: Matthew ch. 28 vs. 16 - 20 Alan Sprott
 Second reading: John ch. 4 vs. 27 - 42 Lorna Brown
 Prayer leader: Rev. Alan McCann

Sunday 21st. 10.30am **Morning Prayer**
Are we a healthy church?
 First reading: 1 Timothy ch. 4 vs. 1 - 16 Roger Ball
 Second reading: Galatians ch. 5 vs. 16 - 26 Liz Apsley
 Prayer leader:

6pm **Song Café**

Sunday 28th. 10.30am **Family Service**
PALM SUNDAY

VISION COMMITMENT

I will strive to:

Pray daily for Holy trinity

Worship weekly at Holy Trinity

Read and study the Bible daily

Serve at and beyond Holy Trinity

Be in a relationship to encourage spiritual growth

Give sacrificially of my time, talents and resources. Amen

