



Leadership Team

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September 2025

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

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Letter to Parishioners

Reading: Proverbs 3 verses 5-8



Hello everyone,

hard to believe that it is September already and we are about to begin another year of organisations and activities in Holy Trinity. As I sit down to write this short letter it is still August, August 11th to be precise. As I look at

my diary I can see what we have planned for later this month, the family fun night. Then as I look on in to September I see all the registration nights for organisations beginning and another evening of people requiring AccessNi checks and Safeguarding Trust Training. Both of which have to be repeated every three years. Then there are the endless other policies required now that we are a registered charity and a quinquennial inspection looming as well. I don't expect you to know what that is. It is all too easy to get caught up in the administration work, necessary and legal as it is, and to lose sight of why we are actually here. Namely to glorify God and have fellowship with Him in and through His only Son, Jesus Christ.

The reading from Proverbs 3 helps to remind me to focus on and lean on God and to allow Him, through His Word and the Holy Spirit, to direct my path in life. When I look back over my life I can see how God's hand has been upon my life and how He has guided me, often unseen by me, in the paths of righteousness and blessing. There is no denying there were times when I felt lost and lonely and longed for His guidance. Yet, that too is part of God's guiding hand because in those dark and difficult days I had to trust His Providential care and remind myself that He cares for me and that His plans are for His glory and my good. Take a moment and

read Psalm 139 verse 16 and Romans 8 verse 28. Both of these verses remind me that God is in control of every moment of my life.

It can be difficult to trust God when everything seems to be going wrong. When we get bad news from the GP or when some other "trigger" arrives in our lives unexpectedly. When we look at the world around us things seem to be in a terrible state of chaos, with wars, famines, pandemics and evil abounding. Those are the moments when I remind myself that God is sovereign and in that He will one day bring all this to an end when His Son returns and the new heaven and the new earth appear.

For me it is a constant challenge to have the right perspective on life and on the events of life. I need to constantly lift my eyes off myself and turn my face, my mind and heart, heavenward and do as Proverbs 3 says to acknowledge God in all my ways and then the promised blessing will flow in to my life. The right perspective is not to lean on my understanding of the times, the situations or the events of life but to lean on God's Word and His revealed will. Then I can lift my eyes above the dark gloom of this world and my heart and mind rests on the knowledge that God is in control and He will bring good out of all situations. I may not understand at this present moment but I remind myself I am not called to understand but to place my faith and trust in God, especially when I do not understand.

So as we begin new year of work at Holy Trinity can I encourage you to take Proverbs 3.5-8 as the foundation verses for this term ahead. To consciously and faithfully each morning commit yourself to lean not on your own understanding but in all ways to acknowledge God. To seek His glory in everything that we do as individuals and as a church this term.

May God richly bless you toady and always

yours in Christ

Rev Dr Alan McCann

AccessNI Checks

There will be an evening on Thursday 18th September @ 6pm – 7.30pm for those who last complete their AccessNI checks in 2022. A list of who is required to update their AccessNI will be available during September.

Parish Prayer Time

A Prayer time will be held on Wednesday 3rd September @ 7pm – 9pm for the Parish as we begin a new year.

Alan's Bible Study & Prayer Time



Bible Study recommences on Wednesday 8th September at 1.00pm. We will continue our study in the Psalms. Please note the following day and times for prayer times and bible study:

Wednesday's

1.00pm-2.00pm 7.00pm-7.30pm - Lunch time Bible Study in the Bennett Room

- Prayer Time - Kerr Room

7.30pm-8.30pm

- Bible Study continuing our study in Genesis

Everyone will be very welcome. God bless

Rev Dr Alan McCann

6UP

The first meeting of 6Up will be on Sunday 7th September @ 6pm. All welcome.

Thank you from Anne and Maurice

As many of you will know, our bungalow was recently destroyed by fire. Standing there watching our bungalow burn down and destroying everything we own is not something we wanted. Whilst that was difficult enough it wasn't the most overwhelming thing we encountered that day or the days that followed. No, the most overwhelming part of this whole episode is the generosity of the people of this town and particularly, this congregation.

Whilst watching the firemen at work we were blessed with over 20 offers of a room for that night. Some from strangers.

Two things we'd like to share with you:

One of our congregation offered to buy a new bible, which spoke volumes of the level of her faith and our own faith.

It shows what is important in our lives.

The day after the fire we met our Insurance Loss Adjuster on site. He needed the front door opened to take pictures. (He didn't go inside as it was unsafe). Laying on the door mat was a soaking wet white envelope. Written on the envelope was "Sorry this has happened. Hope this will help" Inside was £5 made up of an assortment of coins. It instantly reminded us of Luke chapter 21, the Widows mite.

Our bungalow is to be completely demolished and rebuilt. We are now in rental accommodation for the next 12 months whilst the rebuild procedure is followed.

Satan may have lit the fire but Jesus Christ put it out and got us out safely. Our faith in Jesus Christ is stronger than ever.

Fellowship Café at Holy Trinity



Every Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm

WE'RE BACK!!!! Refreshed and raring to go. We re-open on Thursday September 4th.

"Under New Management"

Yes, after 11 years Anne and Maurice have stood down from leading the fellowship café although they will still be helping.

Our new team leaders are: Karen, Joanne, Graeme and Terry.

Please call in any Thursday morning for the usual good food, unlimited tea/coffee and great craic. A warm and friendly welcome is extended to everyone who visits us.

If you've never been before please call in any Thursday morning and be part of this amazing journey we are on. It won't cost you anything unless you choose to make a donation in which case all our profits are passed to local, national and international worthy causes.

To date we have donated over £30,000 to 95 organisations.

If you can spare a couple of hours to help out on any Thursday morning please speak to one of our team. We have a job for you whether it is making tea, serving food, washing dishes or simply chatting to our visitors.

Every part of this ministry is important

You can keep up to date by following us on facebook at:

"Holy Trinity Fellowship Café"

Yours in Christ's service, The Fellowship Café Team

Craic and Craft

First and Third Thursday from 7pm to 9pm.

Re-commencing Thursday September 4th.

Open to all our ladies and their friends.

Please come along, bring the crafts you are currently working on and, if you wish, join in the activity we may have organised.

Equally importantly don't forget the the tea and the craic.

All for just £2

For further details please speak to *Hazel, Anne or Donna*

Trinity Tots - Toddlers Group



Hello to all of our babies, toddlers and their carers! We hope you have had a great summer and are really looking forward to seeing you all again on Thursday mornings. Our first get together will be on Thursday 11 th September. Our times are 10.00-11.30am.

Please feel free to invite others to join us for play, singing, craft and the all important snacks.

God Bless *Trinity Tots Team*

Holy Trinity Bowls Fellowship



Your Invitation to join us

Where do we meet: Holy Trinity Church – Prospect Road

When: Every Thursday - 7.30 pm

Why should you come??

Our emphasis is on - FRIENDLINESS Do we play league matches? - No

No pressure to play matches at home or away

Never played before? - We will show you how

No bowls? - No Problem – we have some

Age Limit? - Yes - Over 18 please (except – see below)

(15-17 – must be accompanied by a parent at all times)

Ask for - Vic or Jack (when you arrive)

Enjoy the craic over tea and eats

Interested? We resume on Thursday 4th Sept at 7.30pm

God bless Vic Wootton

Carrickfergus Food Bank (JVC Church)

Please place non-perishable donations into the 2 black bins in the entrance hall. The food is delivered monthly.

Thank you for the continued support which is very much appreciated.

LIGHT (Sunday School)



LIGHT is ready to welcome you - P1(this Sept) - P7. If you did not have an opportunity to complete a Registration form at the open evening, a further Registration will take place in the foyer on Sunday 7th September. Classes start on Sunday 14th September.

We are looking forward to welcoming the children back & hopefully meeting some newcomers for fun, friendship & learning about God together.

Chrissi & the team.

8th Carrickfergus Boys Brigade



BB registration is at 6.30pm-7.30pm on the first Monday 1st September with start date Monday 8th September. Anchor Boys meet at 6.00pm till 7.00pm each

week. Junior and Company Section meet 7.00pm-8.30pm each week.

Rev Dr Alan McCann

Harvest Fayre



Saturday 18th October 11am to 3pm

Holy Trinity Church, Woodburn, Carrickfergus



Quiz Night

Holy Trinity Fundraisers with Dejavu Promotions present



Saturday 20th September

7. 30pm - £5 per person - Max 6 per table includes tea/coffee - feel free to bring your own <u>soft</u> drinks Holy Trinity Church, Woodburn, Carrickfergus

Samaritans Purse Christmas Boxes - Operation Christmas Child.



Please take a box and fill it and return it before 25th October 2025.



A football and pump, cuddly toys, dolls, toy cars, small musical instruments, yo-yos, skipping ropes, balls, small puzzles etc.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.



HYGIENE ITEMS

Toothbrush, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.



OTHER ITEMS

Hat, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, socks, T-shirt, flip-flops, hair accessories, jewellery set, watch, wind-up torch etc.



Toothpaste, sweets, lotions and liquids; used or damaged items; warrelated items; seeds, gum, chocolate or food items; religious or political literature; medicines, aerosol cans, sharp or fragile items.

Items packed from this list will be removed from shoeboxes.



Young At Heart

Hello everyone, we hope you have all enjoyed the summer break and are looking forward to joining us on the first Monday of each month at 11.00 for fellowship and a cuppa. We have planned a varied of speakers and activities. Our first meeting will be

on Monday 1st September. Please feel free to join us, you will be assured of a warm welcome.

God Bless

Yvonne and her team

Fields of Life

Following the video presentation in church at the end of June, we were reminded of the life-changing work of **Fields of Life**, whose mission is to see **one million children given the opportunity to thrive**.

Just £5 a month can play a part in transforming a child's future through education, clean water, and hope. If you would like to join in this vision, simply place your £5 in an envelope marked *Fields of Life*, and our treasurer will ensure it is sent on your behalf.

Together, small steps can make a big difference in young lives.

Storehouse



Storehouse continue to help those in need within our community. Please contact me if you have items of unwanted furniture and I will gladly arrange a collection.

Thank you for your support.

Donna Harrison



Helen D'Arcy (Fundraising & Marketing Manager)

House of Vic-Ryn I Moira Road I Lisburn I Co. Antrim I BT28 2RF

E: helen.darcy@fieldsoflife.org T: +44 (0)28 92636200 W: www.fieldsoflife.org



Charity No: NIC 104839 | ROI 20042677 | England & Wales 1173249 Company No: NI 30695 | ROI 352300 | England & Wales 09642193



Let every child thrive

We're on a mission to reach 1,000,000 children and let them thrive. Will you join us? You can help a child to say "I am educated, I am fed, I am safe and I am loved."

www.fieldsoflife.org/thrive

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Update on the Children's Outreach Mission (C.O.M.), Labora, Tanzania

It's hard to think, for me anyway, that it is a year since I visited Labora and experienced again the vibrant worship and enthusiastic R.E. classes in schools.

Some of you will recall the presentation I gave in October and the pictures and video clips of many of the activities.

In that year, there have been trials and tribulations but through them all God's guiding hand is evident and experienced.

The schools that Elizabeth and her team visit continue to attract large numbers of youngsters ranging from the 80's to well over 100, in one class 149. The two schools I visited had over 120 in each.



We thank God that Elizabeth and her Christian teaching is welcome in these school, both Primary and Secondary, where existing teachers are not spiritually equipped nor have a Biblical understanding to teach Biblical studies.

Elizabeth's link with Scripture Union as a volunteer has involved her in S.U.s initiative to reach out to all denominations in the Labora area to encourage Children's Ministry. Many churches don't have any sort of Sunday School or other children's activities due to the attitude that

'children should be seen and not heard', also a lack of adults willing to commit to this responsibility.

Elizabeth has been responsible for visiting these churches and enthusing them in the need to provide Christian teaching for children. Then she has organised teaching seminars for prospective Sunday School teachers, some 30 of whom attended the most recent seminar.

Coupled with all of this are the Good News Clubs that meet at Elizabeth's house on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Members attending range from 40's to 60's, where bible teaching, fun and games and food are the order of the day.

'Friends' of C.O.M. were able to provide supports for the construction of a new swing and slide for the children's entertainment. 'Friends' support continues to provide for Elizabeth and her 2 girls daily needs. Coupled with this is the support for the work of C.O.M., stationary and teaching aids, visits and outings and much more. Needy families and individuals have also, and continue to be assisted, particularly with medical costs.

These are some of the tribulations, however, there have been the trails also.

In April Elizabeth was injured in a motorbike-taxi accident on her way to school. Suspected broken ribs turned out to be severe bruising, coupled with cuts to her legs, arms and face. A week's rest and she was back at work despite her pain.

Then, believe it or not, she was involved in another accident in May. Fortunately her injuries this time amounted to a few scratches. We thank God that in both accidents her injuries were not more serious or worse. Fatalities are common on Labora roads.

And that's not all. On the 27th July her home was broken into while she was at school. A lot of personal belongings were taken, including clothes, shoes and more belonging to her and her girls. Also stolen was a laptop which I had brought out for her husband Emmanuel on my previous visit. While Elizabeth has reported this robbery to the police, they have not been to see her, their response has been non-existent! There is no such thing as

household insurance. Consequently I have promised that we will help with replacement costs.

As 'Friends', supporters and interested onlookers, we are called to play our part. I ask that we give thanks for the vision, enthusiasm and perseverance that Elizabeth and her team have been blessed with. Please also pray for the new Sunday School teachers as they grow in faith and confidence to teach the Bible. Please also pray for safety on the roads and at home.

There is no doubt that Elizabeth and her team have been blessed with a persevering nature as through all that they do in schools and Good News Clubs is driven by their desire to make Jesus known to children.

For more information and regular updates and prayer requests, contact Lynn Rodgers, 07970 974604.

Lynn Rodgers

Carrickfergus Baby Bank

We thank you for the support and ask for donations of nappies, new baby grows, wipes, lotions, baby bath shampoo etc. Please place the items into the bin provided. The contents are delivered each month.

Select Vestry

If anyone wants an item raised at the Select Vestry please contact:

secretary@holytrinitycarrick.org.uk

Drew Buchanan: treasurer@holytrinitycarrick.org.uk

or any member of SV. This includes booking the church hall for any events.

Prayer Team

Alison Allen, Joan Harvey & Libby Todd



Two members of the Prayer Team will be meeting in the Prayer Room on Sundays after the service to lift your prayer slips. Two members will also be available at the front of the church to pray with you at this time each week. We will rotate in these roles so you will see different faces from week to week. Please do ask if you

would prefer prayer in the privacy of the prayer room. The slips will continue to be lifted weekly and on 4 occasions as previously (usually over 4 weeks but may be over a longer period). Therefore, please do continue to make use of our prayer request box situated in the front hall of the church. As always, be assured that information on the slips remains confidential. We would encourage you to complete a prayer slip after you have attended for prayer so that we can continue to pray for your situation when we meet together.

If you would be interested in being part of the prayer team we ask that you consider this and know that we would dearly love to have your support. Please do approach one of us.

On behalf of the prayer team

Scrap to Money to Crosslinks

Any **scrap metal** such as; kitchen utensils, car parts, unwanted trampolines, garden gates, tools of any kind, central heating boilers, etc, etc, collected and redeemed for cash, proceeds to **Crosslinks Missionary Society.**

Contact : Lynn Rodgers, 07970974604.

Creche Rota - September 2025



Many thanks, *Laura Kerr*

C.M.S Ireland Used Postage Stamps



Hello everyone. I hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer and have soaked up all the lovely sunshine we have had. I also hope that you have not forgotten about the support work

that CMS Ireland is still involved with in Africa. As you know, we are all facing the reality of bills that are continuing to increase, no less so than our poorer brothers and sisters in Africa. But I am not asking you for your money, just for those stamps that come through your door or arrive in your workplace. They provide a small but important means of revenue when sold on to a stamp dealer.

Please remember to leave a paper border around those stamps and leave them in the stamp box on the table in the church foyer.

Yvonne Best

Tea & Coffee Rota

Team	Team Members				
1	Ann Calvert	Tracey Bowden	Joanne Hunter		
2	Arlene Macartney	Hannah Hulme	Marilyn Hulme		
3	Lorraine Hagan	John Doherty	Gail Doherty		
4	Yvonne Best	Jennifer Hamilton			
5	Wenda Gray	Sue Majury	Eva Dunn		
6	Kel McDermott	Drew Buchanan	Karen Buchanan		
7	Lorraine Ross	Maureen Lunn	Adrienne Tasker		

Team	Dates		
1		12 th Oct	
2		19 th Oct	
3	7 th sept	26 th Oct	
4	14 th Sept	2 nd Nov	
5	21st Sept	9 th Nov	
6	28 th Sept	16 th Nov	
7	5 th Oct	23 rd Nov	

Karen Buchanan
Hon Secretary

Welcome Team Rota

Teams	Dates		
Jack Blair		28th Sept	
Hazel Blair		20th Sept	
Karen Buchanan		5 th Oct	
Jenny Wightman		2 000	
Liz Adair		12 th Oct	
Janis Gibson		12 000	
Maureen Lunn		19 th Oct	
Adrienne Tasker			
Eva Dunn		26 th Oct	
Eleanor Steele			
Sharon McNeill		2 nd Nov	
Alison Moffett			
Kel McDermott		9 th Nov	
Maurice Langley			
Libby Todd		16 th Nov	
Marjory Edgar Ann Calvert			
Lorraine Hagan		23 rd Nov	
Yvonne Best			
Jennifer Hamilton		30 th Nov	
Joanne Hunter			
Laura Kerr	31st Aug	7 th Dec	
Arlene Macartney	7 th Sept	14 th Dec	
Wenda Gray	/ Sepi	14 Dec	
Donna Harrison	14 th Sept	21st Dec	
Sue Majury	14 Schi	21 DCC	
Elaine Wright	21st Sept	28 th Dec	
Joan Cummings	21 50pt	20 Dec	

Karen Buchanan

Holy Trinity Chair Rota

Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5
Kel McDermott	Dougie Hempton	Graeme Hunter	David Sprott	John Fittis
Colin McIlwaine	Simon McDonald	Jim McNerlan	Charlie Killow	Daniel Lafferty
Garry Richmond	Phil Moody	Bert Macartney	Richard Hambleton	
Peter Moffett		Maurice Langley		

Team	Dates			
1	7 th Sept	5 th Oct	2 nd Nov	7 th Dec
2	14 th Sept	12 th Oct	9 th Nov	14 th Dec
3	21st Sept	19 th Oct	16 th Nov	21st Dec
4	28 th Sept	26 th Oct	23 rd Nov	28 th Dec
5			30 th Nov	



Please note: Some teams need additional help. If you think you can help, please contact Simon.

Please take note of church announcements regarding organisations using the church and possible need to put out and put away chairs each week. If possible, please liaise with the others in your group.

Thank you **Simon McDonald**

Sunday Services

Date	Reading Number	Reader	Title & Prayer Leader	Book	Chapter & Verses
7th September 2025	1st Reading	Alison Moffett	Holy Communion	Jeremiah	Chapter 18 verses 1 - 11
	2nd Reading	Rev Dr Alan McCann	Prayers Yvonne Best	Luke	Chapter 14 verses 25 - 33
14th September 2025	1st Reading	Colin McIlwaine	Service of the Word	Jeremiah	Chapter 4 verses 11 - 22
	2nd Reading	David Sprott	Prayers Rev Dr Alan McCann	Luke	Chapter 5 verses 1 - 10
21 September 2025	1st Reading	Helen Fittis	Morning Prayer	Jeremiah	Chapter 8 verses 18 - Chapter 9 verse 1
	2nd Reading	Terry Shimmon	Prayers Janis Gibson	Luke	Chapter 16 verses 1 - 13
28th September 2025			Family Service		

Colin McIlwaine