



Sunday 10th October 2021

Due to the easing of COVID restrictions, we are delighted to announce that our church buildings will allow for 1 metre distancing, and therefore offers slightly more room for people to join in worship. Please share this news.

Please continue to book through the website

10th October 2021

10.00am Christ Church
Harvest Celebration

11.30am St John's
Harvest Celebration

17th October 2021

10.00am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30am St John's
Morning Praise

For Your Attention

Harvest 2021

A warm welcome to Gillian Maganda from CMSi. This morning Gillian will be teaching on Isaiah 55 and also giving us an update on our partnership link in Nairobi, Kenya (UDP & TAF).

This year the funds raised from our Harvest Gift Day are going to help Antony and the team with various projects. At the heart of these is to bring God's Word to the community, give them hope for their future, whilst providing food, education, and alleviating poverty.

If you would like to give towards the project, envelopes and a recent update can be found in the pews this morning or are available from the wardens. A facility also exists to give to the work on a regular basis. Contact the office for further info.

Mid- Week Bible Study

A new face this **Wednesday** as Will McCallion takes us through a few more chapters of Mark's Gospel over the forthcoming weeks. Meeting in St John's Church @ 10.45-11.45am. This week the group will be looking at the Parable of the Sower.

Harvest Flowers

Could the Pastoral visiting team along with anyone else who wishes to help, meet on **Monday 11th at Christ Church, 10.00am** to make up flower bundles for distribution. Both Churches will need to be tidied – volunteers required!

Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal

More details on page 7- don't forget boxes need to be back in Church by Sunday 31st October.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Hilary Smylie, Cecil Millar, Myrtle Evans, Lou & Bertie Cornett's daughter Lorraine, Wesley Lamont, Crawford Surgeoner, Ed Rodgers, The Arthur Family, Pray also for Hannah Millar on the recent loss of her sister. Please remember in our prayers Michael & Lorraine Ogilby and family, sadly Michael's father Hugh died last week.

Those recently baptised & confirmed

Please continue to pray for those recently baptised & confirmed Arlene, Rachel, Ellie, Emma, Jenna & Jamie. That the Holy Spirit will continue to help them to grow in faith and spirituality.

Music Ministry Lead

We are presently recruiting for a new Music Ministry Lead for St John's. The closing date for applications is 15th October. Please pray that God would direct the right person to join our team. More details are available from <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/we-are-hiring/>

Pastoral Visits & Hospital Admissions

Conscious that due to COVID, pastoral visits have been difficult. However, we are now happy to visit you in your home if you are comfortable with this. Please get in touch should you require a visit. Also, if you or a loved one are going into Hospital, please let us know so we can be praying for you.

Going deeper

Clive West Annual Lecture.

This year on Thursday 11th November 7.30pm-9.30pm @ St Nicholas Church in Belfast; Revd Dr John Yates will be dealing with the subject of what it means to hear God. John is the Rector of Holy Trinity Church in Raleigh NC and in the past was John Stott's study assistant. Free Tickets can be booked via the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hearing-god-clive-west-annual-lecture-tickets-164882338513>

Autumn Reading!

Faith For Life by Richard Coekin.

Recently published and only 102 pages in length. Its always a great hope that we have the promise of eternity with God. However we can all feel weary in this life- discouraged, personal disappointment, opposition or even the costly grind of church life. In this book Richard looks at Hebrews 11. A must have book giving us inspiration that God's Spirit will help us to endure through exhaustion, opposition & discouragement.

This book along with others can be found on our virtual book shop hosted by The GoodBook Company using the following link:

<https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/bookstall/theunitedparish/>

Shaping a new generation

Sunday Kids' Registration

Every year we must complete registration forms. We are doing this electronically this year. This can be done very quickly for each child attending by going to <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/2021-2022-parental-consent/>. If you haven't completed a form already **If you have not completed a registration form, unfortunately from this week onwards your child will not be permitted to attend – this is in line with our Child Safeguarding Policies.**

October Pumpkin Party – Sunday 31st October

The whole family is invited to join us for a fun filled evening and alternative way to enjoy Halloween, as we celebrate the light of Christ.

Events will take place at Christ Church, Ballynure from 4pm – 7pm
Including: Movie/popcorn (for Primary school aged children)
Fancy dress competition (not too scary!) Pumpkin carving competition “Let your light Shine” Hotdogs and a little treat bag for all children. Booking is open Soon!! For more information, please contact Dianne Hamilton.

Connor takes the Castle.

Connor Diocese is running a youth residential at Castlewellan Castle for those in yr 7 – yr 13 on the 14th – 16th January. We would love to bring along a group from the United Parish. Numbers are limited so please book as soon as possibly via the following link

<https://forms.gle/QLd6sb3unTCNdImGA>

(Cost is £60 for the full weekend) (if you would like to go but would need a reduced ticket price, please talk to Dianne – this won't be an issue!) If you are unable to make the full weekend, there is the option to come and join us for the Saturday at a cost is £20.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

School Uniform Scheme.

We still have excellent quality items in stock. Children & teenagers continue to grow at a rapid rate! Our School uniform scheme is open by appointment only by contacting Arlene Gracey on 07510 121517.

Giving help to those in need

As we reach more into our community, we are finding that some people need practical help. If you would like to be part of a working group to help from time to time, please let David know.

Parish Weekend- 18th -20th March 2022!

It's not that far away and thank goodness if everything goes according to plan, we will have our weekend in March as we had to postpone it from 2021 due to Covid. The venue as before is the Kilbroney Centre in Rostrevor and the theme will be "Unlocking"

We are so blessed to have Bishop Ken Clarke leading our sessions. Victoria Jackson and Christina Bailie looking after our Children & Youth. John & Hannah McGrath will lead worship.

Don't worry if you can't join us for the full weekend – consider joining us for the Saturday, and if you would prefer not to stay at the centre there are plenty of B&Bs in the area.

The costs are £70 per adult, £50 per child (Pre- schoolchildren free). Subsidised places for large families. **Cost will not be an issue for those who wish to attend.**

For further information, contact Revd Jonny, Dianne, or office.

Reserve through ChurchSuite using the following link:

<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/events/exlb5rt0>

Partnering

Newtownabbey Foodbank

The items presently required are **Jam's & Marmalades, Rice, Tinned Custard & Crisps**. Please leave in the tub at St John's Halls or the inside foyer of St John's Church or bring to Christ Church on a Sunday. Further information on the Foodbank can be obtained from Sandra Vaughan our Foodbank Co-ordinator on 07999 580548.

CMSi

The CMSI quarterly magazine is now available in both Christ Church & St John's. An updated newsletter on Antony's work with UDP & TAF can be found on our website using the following link:

<https://theunitedparish.org.uk/latest-news-from-cmsi-in-kenya/>

For more information, please contact Bert Rea on 07393 695043

Release International

You can read or download the latest version of the magazine by clicking on the following link:

<https://releaseinternational.org/resources/magazines/>

If you are interested in finding out what's happening in Iraq. A zoom event is happening on 1st November- link below gives all the info:-

<https://releaseinternational.org/events/event/jamal-liddawi-online-speaker-tour-northern-ireland/>

For more information, please contact Lisa Willett on 07456 648308

Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal

Time for this year's appeal. It would be wonderful to get our numbers up near 100 again. Leaflets are available in Church this morning. Empty boxes are available from Blythswood for a nominal cost of £1. Boxes need to be returned to both churches by end of October. If you have any questions, please contact Alwyn or Trish Tweed who are coordinating the appeal Tel: 07733 238175.

OUR VALUES

Jesus at the centre

Offering a **pastoral** heart

Going **deeper** with God

Shaping a new generation

Reaching out and welcoming in

Partnering in the Gospel

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