

Sunday 22nd September

WELCOME to the United Parish. We hope that you feel at home in our church family. It is our prayer that you will know the love that God has for you today as we in praise, hearing God speak to us, sending us out equipped for the week ahead.

This Sunday

10am Christ Church
Morning Prayer

11.30 St John's
Morning Praise

Sunday 29th September

8.30am Christ Church
Holy Communion

11.00 St John's
Baptism Celebration
Service

For Your Attention

Joint Adult Baptism Service – 29th September

Next Sunday is our Baptism Celebration in St John's. This will be a joint service of both congregations because members from both churches are being baptised. The service will begin in St John's at **11am**. **There will be no 10am service in Christ Church**, however we will have an early morning Holy Communion at **8.30am** in Christ Church.

Please join us in the hall immediately after the service for our 'Pudding Party': - refreshments along with a great selection of deserts- great way to celebrate! If you would like to bring a pudding, a sign-up sheet is in Church this morning.

Greenisland Parish Arson Attack

After the arson attack on Greenisland, the Bishop has asked for parishioners across the Diocese to consider giving a gift to the Church. Envelopes are in church this morning, a collection plate for donations will also be in situ at rear of each church.

Harvest Celebrations

We have much to celebrate and give thanks for; this year our Harvest Services will be on **Sunday 20th October**. If folk could arrange to decorate both churches on **Saturday 19th, meeting at 10.30am**.

Easyfundraising

It's not that often in this world that we get something for free. During the last week we managed to find out something that is and that we can all use as we are all consumers! Easyfundraising, partners with over 7500 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice- hopefully that will be The United Parish. It won't cost you any extra as this cost is covered by the brand. We have leaflets in church this morning telling you how to sign up or simply click on the link: - <http://bit.ly/3Xsb0Jk> Over the next 2 weeks for every person that signs up we will receive £1.

Pastoring

Please pray for:

Pray continue to pray for Paul & Graeme Reid along with all their families. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will comfort them at this challenging time as they deal with the recent death of their father.

Pray for Eileen Green & Evelyn Boyles presently in Hospital.

Pray for Isabel Scott after recent surgery.

Pray for Hilary Scott, Bertha Haugh, Irene Howard, & David Metcalfe recovering after hospitalisation.

Please also pray for Jean Smyth, Liz McConnell, and Hilary Smiley. Continue to pray for Anna Mitchell along with Laura & Ryan (relatives of Anna).

Please pray for our 6 friends from our church family that are being baptised next Sunday: Roberta, Evelyn, Cara, Peter, Caleb, & Hazel.

Staff Holidays

David will be on holiday from Wed. 25th September - Tue. 1st October, Office will be closed, Revd Jonny working as normal and contactable on his mobile: - 07808 479649.

Confirmation Classes – started last week

For those who wish to make a public declaration of their faith, **Confirmation** classes/preparation **started last week but it's not too late to join**. Please have a chat with the Revd Jonny as soon as possible if you are thinking about confirmation. **Leaflets are available at rear of both churches this morning.**

Going deeper

Small Groups have commenced

Our small groups started back last week.

We have nine groups meeting at various times during the week and evenings- offering bible study, support, care for each other and fellowship. It is so important as a member of the parish to try and be available to join one. Full details can be found on all our groups by visiting: <https://theunitedparish.org.uk/ministries/growing-disciples/small-groups/>

Creation Light Party

The Diocese of Connor are running a Creation Light Party on Saturday 2nd November (4-6pm) in Mossley Parish – Church of the Holy Spirit. This is a free event, and we will be celebrating the God who brought light out of darkness, at a time of the year where we see lots of dark decorations and costumes! Those attending are encouraged to dress up as something from God's creation for the chance to win a prize! For those who aren't keen to dress up, God also created you, just as you are!

At the event there will be a light parade, crafts, campfire singing and stories, and much more!

This event is open to all families and children's ministry groups in Connor so please spread the word! Children must be supervised by an adult, so the whole family are welcome!

To book a place just fill in this very simple form;

<https://forms.gle/vSFGEFznrwtfSSyo6>

2nd Sunday's – What a start!

Thank you to everyone who made the launch of 2nd Sundays a brilliant success. The next service will be on **Sunday 13th October** and our guest speaker will be Millie Bellew, Children's Development Officer Down & Dromore Diocese.

Shaping a new generation

Consent Forms 2024/2025- Very Important

The new year/term has recently started – we have had an excellent start with plenty of consent forms being completed. Please remember if your children/youth are attending any of our church-based programmes, then it is **most important that a consent form is completed**. We have made a few changes to the form which can be found and completed using the following link.

<https://theunitedparish.churchsuite.com/forms/q35jfvuw>



Even better just click on the QR Code: -

Due to our Safeguarding policy no child can attend a group without a consent form completed. Consent forms are also available from the office or in Church.

(Note that the Boys' Brigade have a separate consent process)

Youth Fellowship

Youth Fellowship started back last Sunday evening. Pick up the weekly programme flyer at the back of both churches.

Friday Night Serve

If you are in Year 12 and over, Tim & Leah Burns would love to invite you over their home on Friday evenings for food, chat and some bible study. Contact Tim or Leah on 07572 817429.

BB Enrolment Service

Our BB enrolment service this year will be on **Sunday 27th October** in St John's during Morning Family Service.

Reaching Out & Welcoming in

Mothers' Union

Are you free on a Monday afternoon once a month? Are you interested in being part of a Worldwide Christian Organisation.

Would you like to join others in our United Parish for Fellowship, Faith and Fun. Why not come along and join us: - we are starting our new season of **Mothers' Union on Monday 23rd September at 2.30pm in Christ Church Hall**. Join us and join in. For more information contact Vera Jones 07714 286684 or Maureen Paige 07546 576654 in St John's or Rosaleen Buchanan 07759 563190 & Catherine Watson 07746 878507 in Christ Church.

New Waste bins

In St John's the new recycling bins are in our hall, kitchen and lounge. They are clearly labelled and used for items such as tins, plastic, glass, cardboard. One is clearly marked **Food Waste Only**. After you have used the hall, if the food waste bin can be emptied and a new green liner bag inserted- these bags are kept in kitchen under the sink.

Bio. Site For The United Parish

It's not recycling but a convenient platform to bring all our technological sites under one place. So easy to use on a mobile, give it a go by clicking on the link: - <https://bio.site/theunitedparish>

Partnering

Grange Community Clean Up

Grange Community Action, our newest Baby Basics referrer, is organising a clean-up on **Sat 28th September**. If you would be able to help, they are meeting at 2.00pm at Wilson's Nearby Shop.

Baby Basics

To help support our ministry we would appreciate donations of the following items: baby grows in sizes 0-3 months and 3-6 months in neutral colours, vests for girls aged 3-6 months, shampoo, shower gels and baby toiletries (lotion, shampoo, baby bath, nappy cream).

Newtownabbey Food Bank

The Foodbank require the following items: - **Soap Powder/Liquid, Washing Up Liquid, Gents toiletries, diluting juice**. If contributions can be left in either church on a Sunday, or in the tub at St John's Church Hall. Any queries please contact **Sandra on 07999 580548**. Thank You

Project Can Do

We are hosting the Redeeming Our Communities (ROC) 'Project Can Do' programme starting on **Monday 30th September**. ROC will be exploring the "5 Steps to Well-being" over five sessions - Connect, Be Active, Keep Learning, Give to Others and Take Notice. This is a free programme (funded by Impact Network (N.I.)) with guest speakers, self-care resources and refreshments. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this programme or need more info, please have a chat with Frances (07791 249025). Leaflets at rear of church.

Hazaq Coffee

New supplies of cafetiere coffee have arrived. All the proceeds go to the work of **Release International**, cost is **£6 per bag**.

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

CONTACT US

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Tue & Thu working from home 9am-1pm.

St John's Music Lead: Chris McCabe

chris@theunitedparish.org.uk

Any items for publication in the News Sheet must be with David by **12.00 noon on Thursday.**

If you have a matter which requires the attention of the Select Vestry, you can contact them in the following way: - Rachel Wilson (Hon. Secretary)

honsec@theunitedparish.org.uk

