

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown" – and he replied "Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way"

(Spoken by King George IV on Christmas Day 1939)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are always happy to have visitors with us in Cregagh; and we welcome any who may be worshipping with us on this New Year morning. We would invite our visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Vestibule, giving full name and postal address.

We give a very special welcome to our visiting minister, the Rev. William Haslett (Minister Emeritus of Ballyblack Presbyterian Church)

** The following may help our visitors to share in the service:

** The Processional and Recessional hymns are not announced – the numbers are on the hymn boards (those marked 'Hy', 'Ps' and 'Par' are in the red Irish Presbyterian Hymn Books, and those marked 'G' are in the Glory to God Books) – both books are in the pews.

** Please stand as the service begins when the Bible, Choir, Elders and Minister enter.

** At the end of the service please remain standing until after the Recessional hymn, the Elders have removed the Elements and the Bible is carried from church.

LOOSE OFFERING

The loose offering at Communion this morning is in aid of the Benevolent Fund.

FIRST SUNDAY COFFEE BAR

The First Sunday Coffee Bar will be open in the Allen Hall after the service and all are invited to stay behind for a cuppa and a chat.

EVENING SERVICE

There is no Evening Service in Cregagh today.

TODAY'S FLOWERS

The flowers today are provided by the Molyneaux Family, Carnalea and Dromore – 'In Memory of Eunice and Billy'

ROOM FOR QUESTIONS

The 'Room for Questions' group's first meeting for 2012 is on Wednesday and the members will be going out to lunch! Full details from Barbara Dunlop (9045 3829)

OFFICE HOURS

The Session Clerk will be in the Minister's Room on Thursday from 7.30 – 8.30 p.m.

Any matters requiring urgent attention or the services of a minister during the vacancy may be referred to the Clerk, Dennison Mahood (tel: 9079 9307) or email dmahood@btinternet.com

OPEN CHURCH

The church will be open for private prayer and meditation on Friday from 10.30 am-12.30 pm

CAR BOOT SALE

The January Car Boot Sale will be held on Saturday from 9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. in the Church Grounds and Halls. Volunteers are required to help with the Church Stall, the refreshments and the clearing up afterwards. Donations of good quality stock for the Church Stall are most welcome (no 'junk' or videos/tapes please) To offer help contact Karen McCurry (9070 5644) or to reserve a table in the hall contact Kathryn Glover (07810276546)

NEXT SUNDAY

Both services next Sunday will be conducted by the Very Rev. Dr. Sam Hutchinson.

MORNING WATCH

The Morning Watch will resume on Tuesday week, 10th January at 10.45 a.m.

CALLING ALL ORGANISATIONS!

Organisation leaders/secretaries are asked to submit their Activity Reports for 2011, numbers on roll and contact details (names of leaders, secretaries, telephone numbers and email addresses) to David Gillespie; and Financial Reports for 2011 to Dawn Johnston **next Sunday URGENT!!!!!! – ORGANISATION DETAILS!!**

Organisation leaders/office bearers are requested to supply the following details **not later than next Sunday** – Name of organisation/group, age range, frequency of meetings average attendance at meetings, % of non-Cregagh members. These details are required in connection with the vacancy procedures – please supply them to Dennison Mahood asap.

ORGANISATION'S RISK ASSESSMENTS

Following the request made at the Organisational Forum in November, all leaders are reminded that they should have submitted the risk assessments for their organisation's activities to Jim McCurry by yesterday! If anyone has not done so or is having difficulty completing these please contact Jim as soon as possible for assistance. (tel: 9070 5644)

FOOD SAFETY TRAINING

The Congregational Committee recently agreed to training all our volunteers in food safety preparation and hygiene, and to facilitate this two evening courses are planned for Monday 23rd January and Wednesday 1st February. It is requested that anyone involved with food preparation or the cleaning of the church kitchen will attend one of these sessions. The training will be taken by qualified food safety personnel and will last 3 hours from 6.30 – 9.30 p.m. The course is free to all our volunteers and a certificate of attendance and handouts will be issued to all those that complete the training. It is expected that anyone involved with church activities will attend, whether it be Mission Lunches, Funeral Teas, Car Boot Sale refreshments, Big Breakfasts, Coffee Mornings, Lenten Lunches etc. A sheet is in the Vestibule to put your name and preferred date.

For further details please contact Karen McCurry (9070 5644)

TITANIC MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

The Titanic Murder Mystery Dinners will be held on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Allen Hall. Please make sure you 'don't miss the boat' by reserving your tickets now as already a quarter of the tickets have gone due to a great deal of interest from non-Cregagh members. Tickets cost £20 to include a full four course meal, so do plan to come along for a great night's fun to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the sinking of this great ship. Full information and tickets available from Karen McCurry (90705644)

CHURCH RESOURCES EXHIBITION 2012.

This annual event combines an Exhibition of Resources to enhance Church life – with a Programme of 50 Seminars to challenge and inspire you. The event will be held on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February at the Ramada Hotel, Shaw's Bridge. The various Seminars include Church Resources, Leadership, Local Community Engagement, Mission, Pastoral Care and Youth Work. For further details and full programme of seminar times etc. please check the website: www.churchresourcesonline.com.

TEARFUND – THANK YOU

A letter of thanks has been received from Tim Magowan (N.I. Director of Tearfund) for the donation of £233.41 from Cregagh. The letter may be viewed on the corridor notice board.

CHRISTMAS AT CREGAGH

Again, the Christmas Season has been celebrated in style and so many favourable comments have been received from members and visitors alike with many remarking on the wonderful atmosphere and sense of worship Cregagh can create. To make Cregagh at Christmas so special many folk are involved in so many ways – things just don't happen!! – people make them happen – and to all we say a very big 'thank you'

To John Dallas and the Church Choir, Maureen Mulligan, Dorothy Platt and the Junior Choir, the Youth Fellowship, the Praise Group, the Handbell Choir, the readers, the carolsingers, the church decorators, those who arranged the collection and erection of the Christmas tree, those who brought gifts to the Christmas tree for the Belfast City Mission, the caterers who provided food and served it, those who helped with producing orders of service, those who cleared the decorations from the church and cleared up after the various functions, those who contributed generously to the Christmas World Development Appeal; and of course we appreciate the extra work undertaken during the season by our caretaker, Don Jackson.

We would also thank all who attended the Christmas services in such good numbers.

Thanks to all in Cregagh who helped make Christ's birthday such a happy and inspiring time.

WEEKLY NEWS-SHEET

At the start of another year, organisation leaders/secretaries are reminded that items for inclusion in the Weekly News-Sheet must be submitted not later than 7.00 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the Sunday on which the announcement is to be included.

Late notices cannot be accepted!

DUTY ROTAS FOR JANUARY

KIRK SESSION – E.Allen, J.Atkinson, M.Mulligan, A.Spence, R.Day, B.Dyatt, A.Gamble and R.Oliver (Team Leader)

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE – R.Davey, R.Carlisle, S.Michael, J.McCormick, J.Hill, H.Collins, R.Hill (Leader) and R.Irvine (Deputy Leader)

CRECHE- (1st) W.McCluskey and J.Darragh. (8th) L.Watson, C. & K.Collins. (15th) B.McNair and L.Maxwell. (22nd) A.Day and L.Feely. (29th) B.Dunlop and G.Chambers.

KIDZONE – M.Mulligan, S.Forsythe, J.Hill, C.McCormick and C.McMillan.

FLOWER DELIVERIES – (1st) M.Thompson and B.McNair. (8th) P.Davey and P.Chambers. (15th) B.Dunlop and M.Elliott. (22nd) J.McConnell and R.Irvine. (29th) R.Carlisle and A.Sheppard.

QUOTES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Irish Toast

"In the New Year, may your hand always be stretched out in friendship, never in want".

Edith Lovejoy Pierce

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called 'Opportunity' and its first chapter is New Years Day"

T.S.Eliot

"For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning"

Benjamin Franklin

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbours, and let each New Year find you a better person"

A VERY HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

Weekly News-Sheet Sunday 1st January 2012 New Year Communion

"The eyes of the Lord your God are always upon you, from the beginning of the year unto the end" Deut.11.12.
"Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations" Deut. 32.7.
"Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom" Job 32.7.

TODAY'S SERVICE at 11.00 a.m.
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Celebrant – Rev.William Haslett

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Vacancy Convenor: Rev.P.Purvis Campbell.