



CONTACT

The Magazine of All Saints' Church, Tullylish
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THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Aids. Poverty. Iraq. Iran. North Korea. China. Soaring oil prices. Culture wars. Sectarian violence. Climate change. It seems like our world is just seconds away from being ignited.

And then there's broken relationships, broken promises, broken values, broken hearts, broken lives in a broken - down world.

Is there really any hope? Is the church the hope? If so, why does it seem like things are getting worse?

The world is not in good shape. Wars are raging and new ideologies are emerging. It is becoming an increasingly hostile place especially for Christians and Christianity.

But the Church is alive and well. You won't see many reports about it on the evening news. The faces of church leaders and missionaries sometimes operating in the shadows won't get the headlines on the cover of our newspapers or be screened on Newsnight.

But they're there.

They're offering relief from earthquakes and other natural disasters. They're feeding the hungry. They're helping to build orphanages and schools. They're earning the confidence of the locals by meeting their physical needs and loving them unconditionally. They're showing the love of Jesus through actions as well as words.

And we, as we play our part as the local church, are to function as envisioned by Jesus, with a thriving, radiating witness of Christian love that reaches out to women, men, teenagers and children in our area, in our part of the vineyard, so to give hope and the offering of life in Jesus.

The size of the task before us is daunting but the promise of God is still the same - that He is with us.

Jesus has commissioned us to become communicators of his love and truth. I wonder have you blown your cover, and are you living it and sharing it and do others see it? As we join hands in faith and love, let's continue to bring the Good News of Jesus to our area and our homes, and let's see lives change for God.

It is said that William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, who was driven by his passion to see God's Kingdom come on earth in the here and now, ended his last public address in London's Royal Albert Hall on May 9th 1912, with these words - "While women weep, as they do now, I'll fight; while little children go hungry, as they do now, I'll fight; while there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl upon the streets, while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight to the very end."

Be strong and courageous and get to work. Don't be frightened by the size of the task. For the Lord my God is with you.

1 Chronicles 28: 20

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CRUSADERS

Once again it has been a busy year, with many things happening. For us as leaders, it is encouraging to see the young people coming along every week and we thank their parents for bringing them. This year it was rewarding to witness two young people give their lives to God. In the future we will be there to talk to them when they are finding it difficult to be a Christian in today's society.

Throughout the year Crusaders have been attending Presbyterian Youth rallies with the leaders taking various nights. This year also, we started collecting Tesco Sports vouchers and the three combined churches collected 1566 vouchers with which we were able to get some sport equipment. At Christmas we went ten pin bowling at Sheepbridge in Newry, where an enjoyable night was had by all who attended.

In February Tearfund visited us and showed videos and spoke about the work they are doing about the AIDS problem in third world countries. Since that night, the Crusaders and leaders have been filling Smartie tubes with 20 pence pieces. To date we have raised £221.60 for Tearfund AIDS project.

In March we held our Birthday Service, where the Reverend Denise Caddoo spoke to us on the theme of teamwork. At this service, five Crusader badges and five Bibles were presented to the Crusaders. This shows their dedication in coming along every week enabling them to achieve these awards.

In May, Steven Lawson and the guys from Dromore Youth for Christ came and spoke to us on "The cost of being a disciple." Steven spoke really well and told us that God should take Number One place in our lives, coming before everything else. To finish off the year we headed to Tullymore Forest Park for an enjoyable day out.

On behalf of Crusaders may I thank the congregation for their support, and the parents for bringing the children along each week? Remember, any young person of secondary school age is welcome to attend Crusaders, as are new leaders who would like to join our leadership team. If you are interested in either, please speak to any of our leaders.

Heather Walker
Secretary - Tullylish Crusaders

THE BBC NEEDS YOU!

The BBC (Barm Brack Club) operates in All Saints on Wednesday mornings from around 10am to finish, whatever suits the individual. It has been meeting for approximately 5 years and does various jobs around the church property, anything from painting windows to cutting hedges, from repairing graves to preparing for church fund raising events. It's not a meeting house for those with nothing else to do, but an integral part of the operation of the church. To date it has saved the church an estimated £30 000 in labour costs alone. Without this input the church and its surroundings would not be looking as good as they do, and the church would also be a lot poorer.

Do you feel that you would like to help? Then come along and lend a hand. You can choose the job you would like to do from the "jobs to do list" on the notice board and soon to be on the web page. You don't even have to do it on a Wednesday morning, you can choose whatever day suits you. We are a self help group working for the common good and the church family, why not be a part of it?

We would also like to extend the work we do to cover those within the church family.

"How?" you ask. By simply offering to take on some of the jobs that some within the church family cannot do themselves. This can be done either by offering advice or practical help. There are obvious drawbacks to this, just think of the issues, but we must remember that we are all part of the church family and we must stand together or fall individually. With God's help and with those of us who can give a hand we can prove that we believe in the real Church Family by offering practical assistance both inside and out of the church, in Croatia and at home!

We can show others that there is more to All Saints than a building, that we are a family mutually supporting each other when there is the need.

So if you are interested in helping, please speak to Arthur (the manager) Allen (the foreman) William (the apprentice) or Jim (the "gofor") or see the list of things to do and choose from that what your strong point might be. Also, if it's help you need, please speak in total confidence to any of the above.

Jim Bell

ORGANISATION NEWS

AUTUMN LEAVES

Autumn Leaves continues to flourish and for many has become an important date in their diaries.

During the past session we had, as usual, an interesting and varied programme ranging from Jill Acheson with beauty care advice, Brenda instructing us on making greeting cards, Herbie McCauley with a slide show of the changing face of his garden during the year to Annie Burrell recalling her visit to Buckingham Palace to receive her MBE from the Queen.

We ended the season with a bus trip to Bangor when members and friends enjoyed a memorable day in beautiful weather. After being let loose on the shops we were then ready for the delicious meal in Bangor Bay Inn. Then relaxed and refreshed we were ready to tackle the shops again.

We would like to thank Ruth for organising the trip. The fact that the day went so smoothly is proof of the great job she did.

Autumn Leaves will resume in September. Why not come along and join with us? Look out for programme details in our next issue.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, 10 May. Our Rector chaired the meeting and the new committee was elected.

President:	Yvonne Davison
Vice President:	Sharon Lappin
Secretary:	Rachel Sinton
Treasurer:	Valerie Walker
Committee Members:	Heather Carswell, Lillian Hall Eileen Hamilton Deborah Mulligan

Yvonne welcomed Kelly McClimmond from Macmillan Support Group and handed over a cheque for £1000 which was raised at a Daffodil Tea held in March. It was gratefully received. The evening and season ended with an enjoyable beetle drive.

The annual outing took place on 12th May when we travelled by bus to Londonderry. On the return journey we stopped at Maghera Garden Centre before making our way to Walsh's Hotel for a delicious meal.

Everyone agreed it had been an enjoyable day. The new season will begin in September with a joint meeting with the Men's Fellowship.

BELFAST CITY MARATHON 2007



Arthur and a group of parishioners ready to take to the streets of Belfast to raise money for Charity and Mission.

FEATURES

THE DEVIL'S BEATITUDES!

If the devil were to write his own beatitudes, they might go something like this:

Blessed are those who are too tired, too busy, too distracted to spend an hour a week with their fellow Christians - they are my best work.

Blessed are those Christians who wait to be asked and expect to be thanked - I can use them!

Blessed are the touchy who stop going to church - they are my missionaries.

Blessed are the troublemakers - they shall be called my children.

Blessed are the complainers - I'm all ears to them.

Blessed are those who are bored with the minister's mannerisms and mistakes - for they get nothing out of his sermons.

Blessed are those who gossip for they cause strife and that pleases me.

Blessed are those who are easily offended for they will soon get angry and quit.

Blessed are those who do not give their offering to carry on God's work - for they are my helpers.

Blessed is he who professes to love God but hates his brother and sister - for he shall be with me forever.

Blessed are those who read this and think it is about other people and not themselves - I've got them too.

"Submit yourself, then to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Come near to God and He will come near to you."

James 4:7

God is always looking for hands to use

Some years ago, an Irish physician, Dr Alexander Irvine, wrote a book dedicated to his saintly mother. It was called "My Lady of the Chimney Corner." It is based on his childhood in Antrim. The lead character in the book, a godly woman named Anna, lived and ministered to others as Dr Irvine's own mother had done.

The book tells of Anna going to the home of a neighbour who had just lost a son in a tragedy at sea. Anna sat with the mother for a time and then Anna suggested that they have a prayer together. As their heads bowed, Anna reached out and placed her loving hand on the neighbour's forehead. When the prayer was over, the mourning mother said, "I think I felt His touch upon my brow."

Anna replied, "God is everywhere looking for hands to use. Sometimes he takes the hand of a doctor and uses it in healing. Sometimes he takes the hand of a mother to soothe the brow of a fevered child. And sometimes he takes the hand of an old "critter" like me to bring a bit of help and comfort to a neighbour. But they are all God's hands, and God is everywhere looking for hands to use.

GOD'S FINGERPRINTS

God has signed his signature
Across the midnight sky,
His hands have placed the stars in space
Beyond the naked eye.
On snowflakes, birds and butterflies
And waves upon the sea,
On seashells on the sandy shore
His fingerprints we see.

Mountain peaks and singing streams
The clouds, the earth, the land,
Each living thing all bears the stamp
Of his creative hand.
In colour, texture and design
On blossom, bud and tree,
He leaves his hallmark everywhere
For those with eyes to see.

MISSION UPDATE



The Leprosy Mission - Northern Ireland

Just outside the little rural village of Hombolo in Tanzania, 49 houses make up the settlement of Samaria. Many of the 180 people who live there are affected by leprosy. Although cured of the disease, and a threat to no-one, they came together as a community some years ago because of the pressure and stigma forced upon them by a wider society driven by fear and superstition. Today they are subsistence farmers. They have no source of income and exist depending on the crops they plant to feed their families. They live in homes that are unsatisfactory and beyond repair.

A team of 18 men and women will be going out to help the people of Samaria help themselves by coming alongside them to build 5 basic but structurally sound houses. There is no electricity or indoor plumbing in the village so these houses will consist of a brick structure on concrete foundations and floor, and a corrugated tin roof.

As the team work with the people of the village, they will seek to show and share the love of Christ. Your prayers for the team of 12 men and 6 women would be very much appreciated.

“Oh give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name. Make known His deeds among the peoples.” 1 Chronicles 16:8

Betty Jones

CHURCH PLANTING IN CROATIA

Extracts from Nathanael's latest letter:

Dear friends in Christ,

In Koprivnica, over these last weeks we had a number of services and events. We continue with our Bible Studies, children's ministry and outreach activities. As a church we are all encouraged to see that almost every Sunday morning the church is full (25-30 people). The fellowship we enjoy as a church means a lot to those who come along and the latest church BBQ served as a great blessing to all.

Ballycraig Congregational Church is coming back in June. The church sent their first mission team in 2003 and laid the foundation for all the future

summer teams. The Ballycraig team will be involved in Children/Youth ministry and Outreach ministry.

All Saints' Church, Tullylish is coming back as well. They were with us last year. They worked, served and witnessed for only a week but left a great testimony. The Tullylish team will concentrate on the social needs and manual work. They will also be taking active part in our church services.

Please pray for the summer teams and give thanks to the Lord. He has done great things for us.

Yours in Christ's Service,
Nathanael

Heather Hanna



CMS IRELAND

CMSI is preparing for a major celebration of mission later this year.

M'Brace will be a week long event at the end of September which will highlight events on mission work. Partners from overseas and the Church of Ireland will meet together in the Armagh City Hotel and will concentrate on some of the major issues we face as we look to the future, resolving how best to serve God's people.

An evening celebration on September 28 will cumulate the week's events, bringing mission before God, allowing delegates to give thanks for all that has been achieved, in a real sense of global fellowship.

The event will also see the commissioning of Ian Smith, our new Director of Mission, as he prepares to lead CMSI into a new and exciting phase.

Please continue to pray for the work of CMSI, especially for those who will travel to various projects overseas during the summer. We pray especially that this experience and challenge will be a blessing to them and also to their churches on their return.

Isabel Whiteside