

# Lisburn Cathedral



**Featured Stories**

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**Christmas Services**

**2025 Dates**

**Church Hall Update**

**SLCC**





## Lisburn Cathedral



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## DEAN'S CHRISTMAS LETTER

### JESUS - HOPE OF THE WORLD

In the book of Job Chapter 6 and verse 11, we read of Job asking the questions - **"What strength do I have, that I should still HOPE? What prospects, that I should be patient?"**

And then in Job 8:21 we see he receives his answer **"He (God) will yet fill your mouth with laughter and your lips with shouts of joy"**.

As Christmas approaches this year I will step aside from ministry amongst you for about 6 or 7 months as I undergo Chemotherapy treatment. For myself and my family it will be a very different Christmas but our trust is firmly placed in **Jesus Christ, Our Living Hope**.

Like many to whom I have ministered over the years in the same situation, I will continue to prayerfully place myself and my family into our loving Heavenly Father's hands and try to patiently look forward to better days when 'my lips will shout for joy' as I return to share in the life and ministry of the Cathedral.



Annabel and Elizabeth

As a family we had much joy in celebrating the first birthday of our beautiful, happy little granddaughters Annabel and Elizabeth at the end of November and at Christmas time we are reminded of another baby, our Beautiful Saviour, Jesus Son of God. A baby born for us that we might know and understand how vast and great is the love of God for each one of us. In Romans 15: 12 we are told Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, One who will arise to rule over the nations; in Him the Gentiles will **HOPE**."

This Christmas my prayer for every one of you is that you will remember **HOPE IS A PERSON AND HIS NAME IS JESUS**. He came to rescue and restore all of us who place our trust in Him. He came to call, draw, and love exceedingly abundantly each one of us who like to live 'our way', those who are struggling, those who feel unloved, and those who without his grace would feel hopeless. He came, and because he did, **there is Hope that sinners can be redeemed and the world can be renewed. That we might all experience life eternal.**

As you prepare for Christmas, I pray you may all enjoy your times of fun and celebration but more importantly I pray you will know the true joy that can only be found when you place your life into the hands of **Jesus Christ, Our Living Hope**.

Wishing you a very happy and blessed Christmas, with much love,

*Sam & Paula*

## BISHOPS' APPEAL CHRISTMAS DONATION ENVELOPES

Bishops' Appeal is the Church's World Aid and Development Programme. It was set up by the Bishops of the Church in response to the commands in the Bible to bring good news to the poor and relief to the suffering. The Bishops' Appeal has launched a fresh appeal this Advent and Christmas to support those in great need in the Middle East. Your donations in the Bishops' Appeal Envelopes will help to provide humanitarian aid for people in need across the Middle East.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER

7.30 PM

11TH DECEMBER  
8TH JANUARY  
5TH FEBRUARY  
5TH MARCH  
9TH APRIL

## WORSHIP & PRAYER NIGHTS

7 PM

SUNDAY  
26TH JANUARY  
23RD FEBRUARY  
23RD MARCH  
25TH MAY

# **CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL**

**Sunday 22nd December**

**9.30am**

**6 Lessons & Carols**

**11am**

**The Greatest Journey - Family Nativity**

**6pm**

**9 Lessons & Carols**

**followed by Christmas Party in the  
Church Hall for all ages**

**Christmas Eve**

**Tuesday 24th December**

**11pm**

**Christmas Eve Communion Service  
Speaker: Bishop George Davison**

**Christmas Day**

**Wednesday 25th December**

**10.30am**

**All Age Worship for Christmas Day  
with Family Communion**



# CATHEDRAL HOME GROUPS

Bill and Karen Welsh

## The Home Group experience

As we approach the end of another year, this is a good time to consider the benefits of Home Group membership.

We asked members from different groups what Home Group means to them and this is what they told us:

“Joining a home group has been a great opportunity to get to know members of the Church and share and grow our faith in an open and supportive environment”.

**Aaron and Claire**

“I love my homegroup. I feel welcomed and loved by the other members. They have really helped and encouraged me to develop more confidence in reading the Bible, praying and discussing the “study materials”.

**Lena**

“When there was the possibility of a morning house group within our church I was delighted to join as it suited me well. It is an all-age group that has become part of an extended, close-knit family. Our members share

discussions on biblical passages, coming from different angles, making them diverse and very thoughtful. We are able to confidentially support each other in many other ways, prayerfully and practically”.

**Kay**

“Acts 2 describes the early Church as a community who shared and gave their goods according to the needs they faced. They met daily at the temple and in their homes”.

**Blair**

As we have been reminded, Homegroup is a Church model that has been around for 2,000 years and is still relevant today.

In a recent sermon, Lee reminded us that the early Church devoted themselves to a series of social and spiritual practices:

- Teaching
- Fellowship
- Prayer
- Generosity
- Worship
- Hospitality

Attending a Homegroup enables us to follow their example. Why not join us? We would love to have your company and input.

## Home Groups @ Lisburn Cathedral



Why not make it your New Year's resolution to join a Home Group?

We meet fortnightly during term time to share fellowship and grow in our faith

During the Spring term, we will link in with the sermon series on the theme of Biblical generosity.

Homegroups start up again w/c Monday 13th January 2024

For further details contact  
Bill and Karen Welsh or Lee Boal



# LEST WE FORGET

## 8TH-15TH NOVEMBER

Margaret Fullerton

### THAT WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS!

From the moment the Cathedral doors opened on Friday 8th we had a steady stream of visitors from far and wide visiting the poppy exhibition. This was the culmination of five months of intense planning and preparation - and production of thousands of poppies. We owe a huge thank you to the members of Lisburn Cathedral who not only created poppies but shared the patterns with family and friends. Poppies arrived from as far away as Limerick and came in their hundreds from our local community and beyond.

Almost 1000 visitors came through the doors of the Cathedral to view the poppy displays (inside and outside), read the memories boards, view quilts, models, paintings, pictures and personal documents and medals.

On Saturday 9th, Mayor Dickson of Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council formally opened the exhibition. Dr. Brian Walker delivered two talks on the lives of two army chaplains and Gemma McLoughlin entertained the visitors with songs of the period - she was our very own 'Vera Lynn'! A very successful cream tea event took place in the Cathedral Hall on Saturday followed by an opportunity for afternoon tea in the hall on Sunday afternoon.



Eight members of our congregation were recorded sharing their war time stories or those of a family member. The video was shown during the exhibition and is now available on Lisburn Cathedral's YouTube channel.

We were honoured to welcome the High Sheriff for County Antrim, Mrs Patricia Perry and family, The Deputy First minister, Emma Little Pengelly, Sorcha Eastwood, MP for Lagan Valley and various local councillors to the exhibition.

### Comments from the Visitors' Book included:

- A wonderful reminder
- Fantastic, symbolic and very meaningful display
- We thank you to all who sacrificed their lives for us
- Totally blown away by this wonderful exhibition. So much hard work has gone into it - so important.
- Wonderful stories



## Thank you to:

- Dean Sam Wright and Select Vestry for permission to hold the event
- The Sound and Visuals Team
- Tracey Carberry and Des Henry for the production of the video
- Joanne Irwin and Heather Gibson and teams for the catering
- Those who helped steward the exhibition and welcome visitors, who loaned items for display, and those who just volunteered their help in any way

Most of all, thank you for visiting our 'Lest We Forget' exhibition and making it all worthwhile. We have been asked what Nimble Fingers will be doing next -having a good rest!

On behalf of Lisburn Cathedral Nimble Fingers,  
Margaret Fullerton



# SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH

Lee Bood



Sunday nights in the McCammon  
Room: 6:30pm-8pm:  
First year to Upper sixth  
**Sunday Night Youth**

Alternate Sunday nights  
8.15pm-9.15pm:  
Fifth year and above  
**Small Group**

## SESSIONS 2025

JANUARY 19TH	OUTING
JANUARY 26TH	WORSHIP AND PRAYER
FEBRUARY 2ND	SNY - SMALL GROUP
FEBRUARY 9TH	SNY - SMALL GROUP
FEBRUARY 16TH	HALF TERM
FEBRUARY 23RD	WORSHIP AND PRAYER
MARCH 2ND	SNY - SMALL GROUP
MARCH 9TH	SNY
MARCH 16TH	SNY - SMALL GROUP
MARCH 23RD	WORSHIP AND PRAYER
MARCH 30TH	SNY - SMALL GROUP
APRIL 6TH	SNY
APRIL 13TH	SNY - SMALL GROUP
APRIL 20TH	EASTER BREAK
APRIL 27TH	EASTER BREAK



## MOTHERS' UNION

Lisburn Cathedral Mothers' Union branch has been working to support the 'Rise Up' campaign against domestic abuse. We appealed to the Cathedral congregation for donations of towels and toiletries and were overwhelmed by the response, as were Women's Aid when we presented them on the day of their talk to our branch last September.



*Towels and toiletries collected and them being presented by Christine Mitchell to the speaker from Women's Aid, Gillian Gordon.*

We have since been liaising with other branches in our area to continue our support to Women's Aid and the Rise Up campaign on a wider scale.

Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. There is no joining criteria, and there is no obligation to join if you attend.

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

**SPRING PROGRAMME 2025**  
Every third Monday  
at 2.30pm in the  
Church Hall

**MONDAY 20TH JANUARY**  
**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**PRESENTATION**  
(ORGANISED BY BILLY MOORE)

**MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY**  
**THE ART OF THE PARTY**

**MONDAY 17TH MARCH**  
**A CELEBRATION OF ST PATRICK**



## Lisburn Cathedral Men's Fellowship

**Tuesday 4 March | 7.30pm**

Ian Bingham, Head of Christian Action Research and Education (CARE) in NI, will be speaking on the topic of **Christians in Politics** in the McCammon Room, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4 March 2025.

CARE NI speaks up for the most vulnerable in society, from preborn babies and women facing crisis pregnancies, to those struggling with gambling addiction and children facing online harms.

Prior to joining CARE, Ian worked for Belfast Bible College as their Engagement Officer and before that he worked for 15 years as a Religious Studies and PE teacher.

## CAMEO

Michael & Evelyn McCune



Our Autumn/ Winter programme resumed after the Summer break with a talk about the work of the South American Mission Society by the Rev. Stephen McElhinney. It was good to learn about the ongoing work of S.A.M.S. in the church in South America.

Stephen finished his talk with an acrostic on the word **C.A.M.E.O** under the headings of Character, Attitude, Mentorship, Endurance and Openness which the Cameo members found both interesting and inspiring.

Details of the acrostic are as follows and we hope that everyone of all ages reading them will be encouraged in their faith.

### **C - Character**

- In old age, one's character is often fully formed, and it reflects a lifetime of experiences, choices, and values. This is a time to showcase the strength of character through integrity, humility, kindness, and faith.

**Proverbs 22:1** "A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold." A well-developed character becomes a person's enduring legacy.

### **A - Attitude**

- Maintaining a positive and godly attitude is essential in the latter years. This involves cultivating contentment, gratitude, and hope even in the face of physical decline or life's challenges. A joyful and trusting attitude in God sets a powerful example to others.

**Philippians 4:11** "I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content." A positive attitude reflects spiritual maturity.

### **M - Mentorship**

- Older individuals have much to offer through mentoring younger generations, passing on wisdom, life lessons, and spiritual guidance. This can be a season of giving back and investing in others.

**Titus 2:2-3:** "Teach the older men to be temperate... Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live..." The Bible encourages the elderly to share their knowledge and guide the next generation.

### **E - Endurance**

- Endurance is critical in old age—both physically and spiritually. It is about finishing well, maintaining faith, and continuing to walk closely with God despite difficulties or limitations.

**Hebrews 12:1** "...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us." Endurance is a hallmark of perseverance and faithfulness throughout life.

### **O - Openness**

- Openness in old age involves being open to God's continued work in one's life, new experiences, learning, and relationships. It can also mean being open-hearted in sharing stories, wisdom, and experiences with others.

**Psalms 92:14** "They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green." Staying open to God's purposes ensures that one's later years are vibrant and purposeful despite difficulties or limitations.



Other events in Cameo to date included a Soup Lunch followed by a quiz and a very informative presentation by Jill Lester about the recent visit to the U.K. by the Abaana Childrens Choir.



The Cameo programme finishes this year on December 19th with a short Communion Service followed by our annual Cameo Christmas Dinner and some festive entertainment. This is an annual event that we all look forward to and really enjoy.

## Cameo

Sadly one of our Cameo members Liz Cunningham passed away in late September. Although Liz was a fairly new member, she attended regularly and really enjoyed coming along. Liz will be greatly missed by all of her friends in Cameo.

Our new Winter 2025 programme is available in the Church Coffee Room or at the side entrance to the Church. Cameo starts up again on **Thursday 16th January 2025 at 2.30pm.**

If you are thinking of coming along to Cameo with its varied programme, and of course a cuppa and chat, you would be so welcome.

To find out more about Cameo, please speak with Michael or Evelyn (07412421122) or with anyone on the team.

## COFFEE ROOM



### Coffee Room

Open Fridays | 10am - 1pm

Closed: 20th December,  
27th December &  
3rd January

Reopening: 10th January

## LADIES BIBLE GROUP

Greetings Ladies,

We meet every other Tuesday between 10.45 and 12 mid-day to discuss the Bible and we have a very enjoyable time together. If you would like to join us, you will be very welcome. Please contact Amy Hall or Helen Getgood





**MUMS & TOTS**  
at Lisburn Cathedral



**WEDNESDAYS 10AM - 11.30AM**  
LAST ONE OF 2024- 11TH DECEMBER  
STARTS BACK AFTER CHRISTMAS  
ON 8TH JANUARY UNTIL 9TH APRIL



**Nimble Fingers**

Last date in 2024 - Friday 13th December

Restarts 10th January 2025  
24th Jan  
14th and 28th Feb  
14th and 28th March  
11th April

Cathedral Hall, 10am to 12 noon





## GOD'S CREATION

### The Gaston Family

**If you want to know the Creator, understand created things.** *Columbanus*

We love getting out and about in our beautiful world! There are so many places near us where we can enjoy God's creation together as a family. We learn to appreciate it and praise its Maker, which ignites a passion to look after it.

There are lots of ways to look after God's world. As a family, we're keen to reduce our household waste. In Northern Ireland, the average person produces 509kg of waste a year and only around 50% of this is recycled.

This year we made blackberry jam. We picked blackberries from the garden and we heated them with sugar. We reused glass jars to store the jam in. The great thing about glass is that it can be recycled infinitely without losing its quality. In Northern Ireland we recycle around 32,000 tonnes of glass every year. The energy saved by recycling one glass bottle is enough to power a TV for 20 minutes. It is better to reuse glass bottles and jars as that saves even more energy. (Esme, age 8)

We go to Sonas (Lisburn's refill shop) every Thursday to collect our vegetables. Refill shops are a great way to save waste. You can use your own jars or get some from the refill shop. In ours you can get things like snacks, fruit and vegetables, drinks, soaps and shampoo - you can get the exact amount you need, so you don't need to waste anything. It's easy and doesn't make much waste. (Miriam, age 10)



Reducing our waste is a way of looking after our environment and living a more sustainable life. We are called as Christians to be stewards of the world and to praise God as we look after His creation.

Come Lord, come down,  
come in, come among us.  
Come as the wind to move us;  
come as the light to prove us;  
come as the night to rest us;  
come as the storm to test us;  
come as the sun to warm us;  
come as the stillness to calm us;  
come Lord, come down,  
Come in, come among us.  
To God the Father,  
who created the world;  
to God the Son,  
who redeemed the world;  
to God the Holy Spirit,  
who sustains the world;  
be all praise and glory,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

(David Adam, Northumbria Community)

## CHARITY GOLF DAY

Bryn Lister

It took about 4 months in the planning and on the 17th of September all our prayers were answered with the best day of the summer.

Some 70 golfers joined us on the fairways of Dunmurry Golf Club for the day and the fabulous conditions were enjoyed by all.

The total raised by the event was in excess of £3,000.00 with every penny going towards the refurbishment of our church hall.

Thanks for making the day such a great success must go to all our sponsors, all those who donated prizes, all the players whose generosity was unbelievable and last but certainly not least to those who in anyway helped with the organisation of the day.



Billy Moore with the team from Resurgam

## QUIZ NIGHT - 20TH FEBRUARY 2025

Bryn Lister

Calling all budding Masterminds and all those who just want an evening of fun, save the above date in your diary.

The quiz will be held in the Beechlawn Hotel, Dunmurry at 7:30pm in the evening. During the interval we will also be holding a charity auction for a small but select

number of lots - details of which will be available on our social media sites in the run up to the event.

Tickets for teams of six will be available shortly, and as we are restricted to maximum of 180 (30 teams) please contact the office to reserve your tables.

# LISBURN CATHEDRAL

## QUIZ NIGHT & AUCTION



Do you have what it takes to be the ultimate quiz champion? Then, gather your friends and join us for our Quiz Night at The Beechlawn Hotel. This is your chance to show off your knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition and raise money for the hall renovation fund.

### BIG PRIZES

**20TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7:30**

**BEECHLAWN HOTEL, DUNMURRY**

### TICKETS PRICE £8

available from Church Office:

028 9260 2400

or Bryn Lister: 07546 813582

[www.lisburncathedral.org](http://www.lisburncathedral.org)



Lisburn Cathedral



# GERMANY AND UKRAINE FAMILY ROAD TRIP

Sam Shaw

In July we covered 5000 miles from Lisburn, driving through Ireland, France, Belgium, Germany, Poland, Ukraine and back again.

In Germany we were able to equip a refugee family with all they need to do puppet shows like we do here. As I write this, they are preparing for Christmas programs in Ukrainian churches in Germany. While we were with them, we shared in many different churches, mostly Protestant, but also a couple Greek Catholic/Orthodox churches. The response from the people, no matter what kind of church, was very positive, they really listened. In one church we were told, "this is the first time we have smiled and laughed since the war started." The faith was vibrant, and they were so active in their churches.



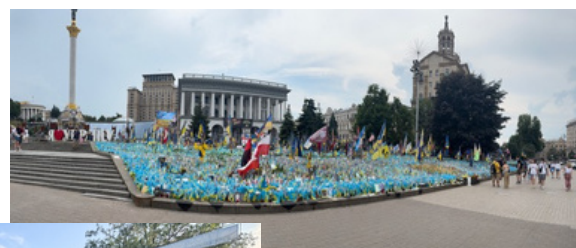
Along the way to Ukraine, we slept in a church's Sunday school room in Katowice, Poland. This was where refugees had stayed coming from Ukraine and now many who are returning stay on their way home. We struggled with the heat along this journey, 35+C, in Ukraine even the generator we brought two years ago had a heat sensor fail.

The church in Ukraine told us if we hadn't been there, they would not have attempted to do the Holiday Bible club. The rest of the summer after we left, they ran a shorter version every Friday. While we were there it was 6 hours each day, two home cooked meals, an hour with us, crafts, sports, games English class, and small groups. It was an amazing experience to be part of.



We saw many sobering sights in Ukraine, ambulances taking the wounded to western hospitals, the physical damage, and the memorials in Kyiv. Hardest of all were the stories we heard from the friends we made.

We are praying about returning next July to a different region. This comes from a "chance" conversation in one of the churches in Germany we will be exploring. Please join us in prayer for this possible project!



# GENEROSITY INITIATIVE- JANUARY 2025

Keith Gardiner

What images does the word '**Generosity**' bring to your mind? Perhaps someone has offered you their seat in a bus or let you go ahead of them in a queue. Or you may have received a card of encouragement or an unexpected present?

One Saturday morning, Ruth and I sat down in a café just outside Hillsborough for coffee and scones. There was a woman sitting on her own at the next table to us in the café with whom we got into conversation. This woman left the café first and when we went to ask for our bill, the waitress told us that the lady sitting at the next table to us had paid for our coffees and scones as well as her own. We had never met this woman before and all we knew about her was her first name and the town she lived in. We had no way of thanking her or returning the favour. That was generosity - caring for the needs of others and then taking action to meet those needs.

## Do you think God is generous?

If we turn to the Psalms, we can find an answer to this question:

**The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing Psalm 145:15-16**

On Sunday 5 January, we will be starting a four-part mini-series in Lisburn Cathedral which will look at the generous life that we are called to as disciples of Jesus.

In the first week, we will look at the many ways that God has been and continues to be generous to us. We will consider what the Bible teaches us about how we should respond to God's generosity.



We live in a culture where the demands on our time can be there 24/7. It is easy to fill our lives so full of activities that we don't have time for God or his mission in the world. However, we are called to be members of Christ's church and each person has their own unique part to play in God's plans for the extension of His Kingdom. Where we invest our time, energy and talents reveals what matters most to us. In the second week, we will consider how we can be generous with our **Time and Talents**.

Have you ever noticed how some people do all the talking- chattering endlessly about themselves? Or perhaps we only half listen to what someone else is saying, because we are so busy framing our next thoughts about us? We will continue our series, by considering how we can be generous in our **Talking** - our conversations, our comments about people, our prayers and in sharing our story.

Many people spend their lives searching for treasure - bigger homes, nicer cars, more clothes, better food, or luxurious holidays. Perhaps we have done that ourselves? However, Jesus talked about a different type of treasure that we should be seeking, likening the Kingdom of heaven to a treasure hidden in a field. We will finish the series by discussing Jesus' teaching about our **Treasures** and possessions and how we can put our earthly treasures to work for Jesus.

While most people approve of the concept of generosity, I wonder if like me, you sometimes find it much more difficult to put generosity into practice. Please join us as we learn together about the life that God desires for us.

# CHURCH HALL PROGRESS AND PLANS

Richard Thompson

As we approach the end of another year, I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight the work we have been able to do on the hall, and the funds raised to date. The overall estimated cost is £500,000. To date we have spent around £35,000 and raised £80,000 from a combination of regular donations, one off gifts, fundraising events and the Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) grant.

## **New Windows Fitted**

The replacement of the windows was a major improvement, supported by the parish and Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council, replacing rotting and damaged woodwork with the new aluminium frames and glazing. The new windows can be opened with ease and enhance the building's insulation notably, while also looking great.

## **The Next Phase of Work.**

Further work is still needed, but we want to be sure we can safely finance the remaining works; re-pointing the brick work, damp repairs, chimney repairs, guttering and drain repairs along with re-roofing, improving the insulation and re-decoration, while continuing to meet all of our existing commitments and outreach aims.

## **Appreciation for Contributions Given**

For those of you who have already contributed and continue to do so, this is very much appreciated and is a great start

towards applying for supporting grants. For those of you who have not yet been able to contribute, I'd ask you give some thought to this. Consider how often the hall features in our weekly activities, how often you and your family have attended memorable events hosted there and what the Cathedral would be like, if the hall was to become unusable. See also the great potential for this building to use to reach others for Christ, to bless our members and to be a great resource for the local community.

## **Wonderful People**

We are very blessed in the Cathedral, with great resources, great staff and an army of willing volunteers, which we should be very thankful for, but we do not have deep pockets. Our monthly income covers our monthly expenses, though there's not much slack for the unexpected, like many households today, so we need our regular free will offering (FWO) to continue to keep pace with our costs.

## **Grant Applications**

We hope to apply for some larger grants to help us reach the target, this is the only realistic way that we're going to get to the final amount. For most of the grants we would like to apply for, we need to show that we've got a larger amount of committed funding, already in place. That doesn't necessarily mean cash in the bank right now, although that always helps.



## CHURCH HALL PROGRESS AND PLANS CONT'D

### How You Can Help

What is needed is for you to consider what you could commit to giving over the course of the next 3 years. If we can demonstrate promises of donations, we can use this along with already collected money to apply for larger grants that offer to match raised funds. That could mean one lump sum now, or nothing now and one payment in three years' time, or any kind of regular contributions across that time. With that kind of long term committed funding, it opens a lot more doors for us in terms of eligibility to apply for bigger grants.

Regular commitments are one way to support the Hall Fund but other options also exist and if you'd like to talk to someone

about these, for one off donations, legacies, Gift Aid, fund raising ideas or other forms of support, then please do speak to myself or Lee and we'll be very happy to chat through the possibilities.

As we start a new year, the finance committee may also seek to speak directly to those of you who may be able to help through your experience in property related work, finance, grant application work, website maintenance or other areas of support for this long term project. Your help would be very much appreciated.

*Richard Thompson.*  
*Hon. Treasurer.*



# SOUTH LISBURN COMMUNITY CHURCH UPDATE

We've had a busy few months at SLCC.

In September we had the **TLG dinner** at Titanic Belfast. There were a number of representatives from schools, churches and businesses attending and it was a brilliant night. The highlight being some of the powerful videos from the kids we have coached being shown. The dinner was to raise awareness of TLG for schools and also to raise money for the ongoing work of TLG. £40k was raised that evening so a big thanks to all who came along and gave. We will be doing a TLG Sunday on 24th November if anyone wants to find out more about TLG.

The **Sunday services** have continued to grow and engage people in the community, our latest sermon series important events in Jesus life has allowed us to look deeper into the times of Jesus and how the Bible is one unified story which leads to Jesus. **Sunday club** we have been looking at the I ams of Jesus and the kids have really engaged with that.

**Bible study** on Tuesdays is going well as we have been looking at the sermon on the mount. There's a variety of people who come along.

We had an **all-in service BBQ** at the end of September. We purposely invited a lot of the people on the fringes of church and their families, there was a good crowd of around 70 who enjoyed coming along and hearing about how Jesus values them.



TLG Dinner

Pete was commissioned as the first Pioneer minister in the Church of Ireland at the **annual Community Harvest Service** on October 11th with a large attendance of members from the Cathedral and South Lisburn Community Church and local community representatives. Thank you to everybody who came along.



All-in BBQ

We also said goodbye to **Cathy and Stephen McElhinney**. They were there from the beginning of SLCC and invested so much into the church. We will miss them a lot but wish them God's blessings in Glenavy where Stephen is to become the minister.



Cathy and Stephen McElhinney

God continues to amaze us and be so faithful. We've had **2 more people from the area come to faith and started coming to church**. God is just reaching people in such powerful ways.

We began **Connect Youth** drop in every Wednesday after school and started a youth alpha series at this. The young people who come along are engaging well with that and a couple of them have started coming to church.



The **mens and womens groups** are also going from strength to strength. The women's group went to new wine ladies and the breakfasts and walks seem to be going well with the men.



Thank you all for your continued support and prayers.



## Christmas at SLCC

- Wednesday 11th Dec 7pm, Carols at the Highway
- Thursday 12th Dec 7pm Carols in the Community
- Sunday 15th Dec 11.30am All-in Christmas Nativity
- Wednesday 18th Dec 10.30am Chit Chat Christmas
- Sunday 22nd Dec 11.30am SLCC Carol service

Blessings,

*Pete, Donna, Jayne & Steve*



## CAP

Paul Bailie

### **GIVE SOMEONE THE BEST PRESENT THIS CHRISTMAS**

CAP exists to inspire and equip the UK Church to help people out of poverty, in all its forms. We help people out of debt, because that's what we're set up to do and that's how we can serve the Church. And just to be clear... We want to see them become followers of Jesus - because if you're serious about bringing an end to poverty - Jesus is the complete and eternal answer to all the brokenness that is known and lived in the earth, whether material, social, personal or spiritual.

So why not encourage someone who needs help with debt to phone 0800 328 0006 and make a booking for a member of the local CAP team to visit them and help release them from their financial prison.

Is it not surprising therefore that one of the regular groups of referrers to CAP in Lisburn are health workers. This is because they see at first hand the physical benefit of working with CAP, as all the stress and strain evaporates as those in need receive the help they deserve.



It is also a joy for local CAP team members to observe this as we explain the CAP process and keep in touch until they are debt free be it after a few months or in some cases 5 years.

It is a free and confidential service and for many years has been recommended by Martin Lewis the financial guru.

So this Christmas ask God to direct you to someone who needs help with their debts. Be with them while they phone CAP at 0800 328 0006 (most people find this the most difficult part) and pray that Jesus will reveal himself through the love and care of CAP. What a great Christmas present that would be.

## PASTORAL INFO

### **New to Lisburn ?**

Welcome to Lisburn Cathedral. It gives us great joy to welcome new people to worship. It is our desire to provide a caring worshipping community where through teaching and prayer we grow and mature as Christians who know Christ and learn to follow him as our personal Lord and Saviour.

### **Registration**

Then following prayerful consideration, if you decide the Lord is calling you to commit to worshipping regularly in the Cathedral, the registration forms will enable you become members of the church. These forms can also be filled out should you have moved house. We can only store information with the consent of those who are registered members and this information enables us to serve the needs of our members more effectively. Registration forms are available for download on our website, and printed copies are available in the porch of the Cathedral. If you need any assistance accessing these please contact our Administrator by phone or email.

### **Weddings**

Christian Marriage is the most important decision any couple can make together. All couples are asked to attend Church each week, attend the Marriage Preparation Course and uphold Christian standards as they prepare for their Marriage.

All dates should be checked with the Dean before booking with hotels as the staff and Cathedral may not be available for specific dates. A Wedding Information sheet will be provided to couples, which should be returned to the clergy, before a firm booking is taken.

### **Baptism**

What a joy it is to welcome the children of believing Christians into the fellowship of Lisburn Cathedral through baptism. The Clergy should be contacted to provide the parents with the 'Baptism at Lisburn Cathedral' leaflet. You can download this leaflet from our website: [lisburncathedral.org/family-celebrations](http://lisburncathedral.org/family-celebrations)

Once parents have read this information they may decide to bring their baby for baptism or thanksgiving service. Both parents should be regular attenders at Lisburn Cathedral and have the clear intention of bringing up their child in the fellowship of the Christian Church.

The purpose of our Children's Ministry in the Cathedral is for all children to have the opportunity to come to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

### **Funerals**

Please notify clergy or staff immediately upon serious illness or death of parishioners for support and guidance. The Clergy should always be consulted before any funeral plans or times are arranged.

### **Hospital & Nursing Home admissions**

We are no longer automatically informed about admissions by hospital chaplains, so we would value your help in keeping us up to date with parishioners who are unwell or in hospital.

When Clergy are informed of church members in hospitals and nursing homes they would be pleased to visit them.



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Funerals

8th September | Stuart Bradley  
 27th September | Elizabeth (Liz) Cunningham  
 20th October | Caroline Downes

## OFFICE HOURS

The Church office is open:  
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
 9.30am - 1pm

### Christmas holidays

The office will close at 1pm on Thursday  
 20th December 2024 and reopens at  
 9.30am on Tuesday 7th January 2025

Lee Boal will be off from Monday 30th  
 December until Monday 6th January  
 (inclusive). Will Murphy will be available for  
 any pastoral emergencies during this time  
 and can be contacted via phone:  
 028 92795012 or 07484332397



Lisburn Cathedral

## CONTACTS

### Curate

Rev. Lee Boal  
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*Lee's day off is Monday*

### Pioneer Evangelist

*(South Lisburn Community Church)*

Rev Pete Meenagh  
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### Hon Secretary

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### Hon Treasurer

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