



WELCOME

FIRST CHURCH BALLYNAHINCH 28th April 2024

ABOUT US

Our vision is to be a vibrant, worshipping Christian community, growing in our love for God, love for each other and love for the world in which we live. We are glad that you have joined with us and we hope you feel comfortable to worship as the Spirit leads you.

SERVICES:

Month of April

- **Sunday 28th “Rev Vision of Jesus 9-20” Dario Leal**

Month of May

- **Sunday 5th “Vision of Jesus, Rev 1:9-20” Dario Leal**
- **Sunday 12th “Letter to the church in Ephesus, Rev2 : 1-7” Dario Leal**

Weekly Bulletin

- **Churches Together Foodbank donations / Tuesday/ 9am-1pm / First Halls**
- **First Steps / Thursday/ 10.30am-12 / Halls**
- **First creche, First Kids, Breakfast & Bible/ Sunday 218th April / 11am-12noon/ Halls**
- **First Youth Lunch / Sunday 28th April / 12.30– 2pm / Café Rossi**
- **Youth Together / Sunday 28th April / 6pm—9pm / Endengrove Presbyterian**
- **Upcoming Events in May: Christian Aid / Walking Group / Fortify Training courses / Presbyterian Women’s Conference — More info detailed below —**

Church Programs:

House Groups (twice a month)

First Steps every Thursday 10.30-12noon

Whatever Wednesday - 10.30-12noon

Creche every Sun 11am-12noon except all age services

First Kids every Sun 11—12noon except all age services

Breakfast and Bible (11+) Most weeks 11.15-12noon

First Youth (1st Year+) every Sunday 7 - 9pm

Friends First— once a month, Monday 7.30pm-9.15om

Bowls every Wednesday 7.30pm

Likewise Tuesday, twice a month, 7.30pm-9pm

Other Programs:

Girl guides Tuesday/ 7.30-9pm

Scouts: Thursday /6,30pm

The Edge P7's every Wednesday 3pm-4.30pm First Halls

NUT ALLERGIES

- **As we have members of the congregation who have a severe allergy to nuts, please do not bring nuts or foodstuffs which contain nuts (e.g. snickers bars, hand wash / soaps containing shea butter) into our halls. Thank you.**

PRAYER

Sunday Morning

10.15 - 10.45am in the Prayer room behind the pulpit, plus prayer ministry available after every Service.

Wednesday Churches Together

Prayer Zoom from 1-2pm
contact Kelvin for details

02897564699

Notices:

Please Note: Home group is a great place to get to know one another in Church through fellowship outings, prayer and bible studies; and usually meet twice a month. Its an easy going group that walks through life with you supporting you through the highs and lows. If you would like to know more or join a home group in Church to do life with one another, please speak to Brian Mc Kee.

Monday - Facilitators
John and Elaine Orr
meeting in the Fee's home

Tuesday - Facilitators
Joanne McFadzean
and Jennie Campbell
meeting in the Davidson's home

Tuesday - Facilitators Gavin Martin and Ann Armstrong meeting in the Guy's home

Wednesday - Facilitators Karren smith and Tristan Bell meeting in the various homes

Home Groups starting February will be looking will be looking at the book of Daniel with the help of Jeff Lucas' book "Singing in Babylon" Singing in Babylon explores what it looks like to live with second choices - events and circumstances that we would not chose, some trivial, some tragic, and how we, like Daniel, can find purpose and meaning in life's second choices.

<https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/singing-in-babylon/>





Ballynahinch
Food Bank

The Helpline is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. The Foodbank operates all week but through the Helpline. The number is 03330501167.

Food donations welcomed!

First Presbyterian Church Ballynahinch



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
Matthew 19:14

First Steps

First Steps parent and toddler group is on every Thursday from 10.30am - 12noon! We cant wait to welcome you with a cuppa, chat and playtime for your little ones including crafts and song time! All Welcome!



CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid annual collection week is from 12 to 18 May this year. Christian Aid has had a very challenging year with situations in Ukraine, Gaza, many parts of Africa and elsewhere and depends heavily on the Annual collection to be able to provide the vital support in development activities and disaster situations. On the local front the Ballynahinch CA group collection last year was considerably down compared with past years, due partly to less house to house collectors and partly to competition within First with the SAT7 Appeal. The house to house Collection depends almost completely now on First and some of the stalwarts of past years are no longer able to do this on health grounds so we urgently need a new group of volunteers!! If you are able to walk at least 1 kilometer (fast or slow) you are a potential volunteer !! Please, please consider if you could set aside a few hours during the week (12-18 May) for this very valuable service and contact Kelvin (028 9756 4699, mobile 07940865540) or speak to me at Church before the end of April.





First Walking Group

First Walking Group commences in June and will run through the summer months. Dates, time and locations are all provided! Everyone Welcome to join, please speak to Heather to join the What's app group for updated info in-case of weather, or location updates!

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
03.06.24	7.30PM	Meeting at First Church then walk around Ballynahinch, river walk, past windmill etc...
10.06.24	7.30PM	Tievenadarragh Forrest walk – Brennan's ice cream after!
17.06.24	7.30PM	Killyleagh
24.06.24	7.30PM	Delamont
08.07.24	7.30PM	Murlough beach
15.07.24	7.30PM	Glasswater Woods
22.07.24	7.30PM	Castlewellan Forrest Park
29.07.24	7.30PM	Quoile Downpatrick
05.08.24	7.30PM	Castlewellan Forrest Park
12.08.24	7.30PM	Ballynahinch (Prayer walk for MK)
19.08.24	7.30PM	Hillsborough Forest Park
26.08.24	7.30PM	Newcastle promenade

KIDS, YOUTH AND FAMILIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Church Creche



Every Sunday 11am

Bible & Breakfast



First Creche and **First Kids** are running every week as per usual, except for special services. We begin in Church and then head out to our programmes within the first 15mins of the service.

Bible & Breakfast will be running every week until the end of June, in the youth room except for special services. Same time as above .



First Youth

We are aiming to get First Youth Hoodies ORDERED soon so anyone who hasn't already filled out a form please see Heather ASAP and we thank you all for your patience waiting on them during Heathers absence!

First Youth Sunday Lunch

Date: 28th April

Time: 12.30

Where: Café Rossi

We are inviting all our young people to join us around the table for Sunday lunch on the 28th April, in Café Rossi. Each of us are paying individually and menu's will be provided. This will be a great chance for us to have fellowship around the table together before exams season starts! Please tell Heather if you are planning to attend for booking purposes! Thank you <3

P.s REMEMBER TO FILL OUT A CONSENT FORM!

You're invited
to
Sunday lunch

@ Cafe Rossi



Youth Together

Youth Together is on Sunday 28th April from 6pm -9pm! I wish to encourage all our young people to attend before we loose you all to exams over the months of May & June.

Please Note: there will be no alternative to First Youth Fellowship as we get to know other Christians in our town from other churches at Youth Together, held in Edengrove Presbyterian Church.



Youth Together

Usually last Sunday of the month/ 6-9pm/
Edengrove Presbyterian



Events:

DOWN

Presbytery Youth



DPY IS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN
THE DOWN AREA WHO WANT TO
FOLLOW JESUS.

ALL
WELCOME

DPY
Down Presbytery Youth

Dates for the Diary

- Saturday 29th June 2024
- Time: 7pm-9.30pm

MORE INFO
COMING SOON...

DOWN PRESBYTERY YOUTH

Please put the dates in the diary as I would love all of First Youth to attend as we gather together to worship God, get to know one another from different churches, play games, eat food and hang out!

Presbyterian Women's Annual Conference

entrusted

'... from the one
who has been entrusted with much,
much more will be asked.'

Luke 12:48

Presbyterian Women's Annual Conference

Saturday 11th May 2024 in Assembly Buildings, Belfast

Guest Speaker | Dr Amy Orr-Ewing

Morning Session | 10.30am – 12.15pm

Afternoon Celebration | 2.00pm – 3.45pm

Praise led by Emma Smyth and band

Join with women from across Ireland as we come together to worship and celebrate all that God is doing in our lives and through his church. We come expectant to encounter him afresh and take his blessing and hope back to our local churches and communities.

PCI Family Festival 2024 - Fun at the Farm!

The 2024 Family Festival will be an afternoon of 'Fun at the Farm' with plenty of activities to keep families and little ones entertained.

Activities will include:

- Barrel Rides
- Bouncy castle
- Disco dome bouncy castle
- Rodeo bull
- Junior quads
- Reptile handling
- Animal feeding
- Crafts



Come along with your family and invite families to join you! Bring a picnic and join with families from other churches for the afternoon's fun.

WHEN: Saturday 18 May, 2.00 - 5.00 pm

WHERE: Spruce Meadows, Lisburn

WHO: Families with pre-schoolers and primary school children.

If you and your family wish to go to this event PLEASE contact Heather Anthony on 07544638863 or email heather@firstchurch.co.uk as this is a booked event and we would love to go as a group from First Church!

First Picnic

23rd June



First Church Annual Picnic

Date: Sunday 23rd June

Time: After Church Service

Location : TO BE CONFIRMED

Put it in the Diary!

Not to be missed games, activities, music/ crafts and good craic!

Training opportunities

... Ladies, DO NOT MISS OUT ...



Can I encourage ALL of our
Creche, First kids and Youth
volunteers to attend this amazing
training opportunity!

Fortify
Days

DATE: 18TH MAY 2024

TIME: 10.30AM—4.30PM

COST: £20

WHERE: First Portadown Presbyterian, 5 Watson St, Portadown, Craigavon BT63 5AQ

Holding out HOPE

(Irish Women's Convention Workshop)

Come and join us ladies for our evangelism workshop, led by **Rico Tice** from Christianity Explored Ministries. Rico will help us understand how God is sovereignly at work drawing people to himself, and yet chooses to use us as a means of reaching those who do not yet know him.

[I wish to encourage ALL FIRST LADIES serving in church as elders, home group leaders, friends first, first steps, youth, children volunteers, catering team—the list is endless— Go to this event—it teaches us the fundamentals of talking about Jesus in your circumstances and will be invaluable to everything you serve in!](#)

Date: Sat 1 Jun 2024

Time: 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM BST

Where: Assembly Buildings Belfast

Cost: £18

**Speak to Heather Anthony who can organise
Tickets**

Fortify Days are for everyone involved in kid's and youth ministry! The aim of the days is to encourage, resource and equip those who are passionate about raising the next generation to know Jesus and live for God's glory. There will be several days every year across the U.K. and Ireland that you can plan to bring your teams to, we hope that they'll be accessible for everyone and that includes making them very affordable and highly interactive.

The children and teens we serve are each a unique masterpiece knitted together by their loving Heavenly Father. They each have been created in their Maker's image. They carry immense dignity, value and worth. Join us as we consider how to best love this next generation. Throughout each Fortify Day we will mine the riches of God's Word for help and guidance, join together to sing the praises of our loving Creator, and unite in prayer for the children and teens entrusted to our care.

Fortify

Courses

Running a Toddler Group

2 Thursday evenings, starting 2 May 2024
7:45pm – 9:15pm, on Zoom
£18pp or £90 per team

GYD growingyoungdisciples.co.uk/fortify/courses

Fortify

Courses

Culture and Children's & Youth Ministry

4 Thursday evenings, starting 2 May 2024
7:45pm – 9:15pm, on Zoom
£35pp or £150 per team

GYD growingyoungdisciples.co.uk/fortify/courses

Two New Fortify Courses

Join us in the halls as we zoom into this amazing training course over four Thursday evenings beginning 2nd May!

Can I encourage all leaders/ volunteers in First Steps, First Kids and First youth to book these evenings in the diary and contact Heather to let her know your attendance!

Training paid for as a team and we will zoom in and put it on the big screen in the halls!

Good Reads for 2024 - The Good Book Company



5 THINGS TO PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH

We long for God to be working in our church fellowship, and we know we're meant to be praying for our church. But often when it comes to it, we don't quite know what to ask for. Or we feel our requests to God are shallow, repetitive and stuck in a rut.

That's where this little book is designed to help. It will equip you to pray powerful prayers for your church family—prayers that really change things, because they're based on God's word.

Each spread takes a passage of Scripture and suggests 5 things to pray for an aspect of church life. Because when we pray in line with God's priorities as found in his word, our prayers are powerful and effective (James 5 v 16)—and that's a truly thrilling prospect.



5 THINGS TO PRAY FOR YOUR KIDS

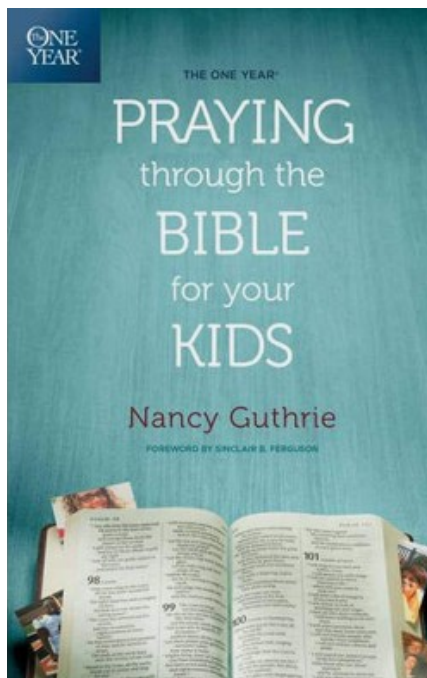
Our culture says that the most important things for children are education, good health, treats, entertainment, and material things.

Yet as Christians, we know that children's spiritual health is the most important thing. So we need to pray for them, but where do we start?

This little guide is both deep and easy to use. Melissa Kruger takes us back to the Bible to show us what God's will for children is, so we can pray in line with it.

She selects 21 key areas of spiritual growth and character development. For each one, there are five short prayer prompts drawn straight from the Bible.

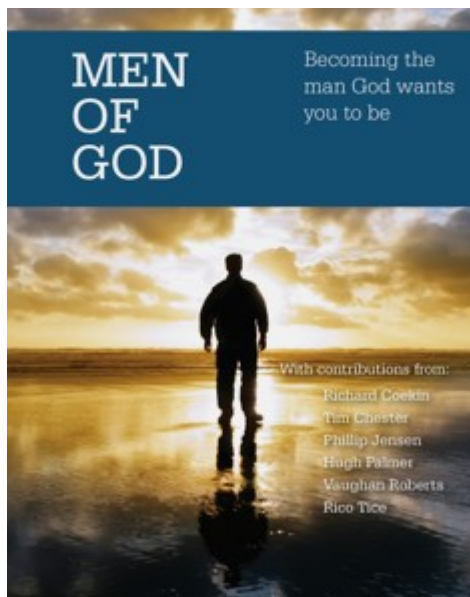
This book can be used in any number of ways: work through it as part of your daily quiet time, or pick it up whenever a particular need arises. Either way, it's worth stepping out of the busyness of daily life for five minutes to pray meaningfully for your child, grandchild, godchild, or kids in your church—from tots to teens, and every age in between.



PRAYING through the BIBLE for your KIDS

As parents we want to protect our children; we want them to move forward in life; most importantly, we want them to take hold of and grow in Christ. And while the advice offered by parenting experts can be helpful, at some point we realize there are no simplistic formulas or sure-fire methods. We need wisdom from God's Word for this all-important task.

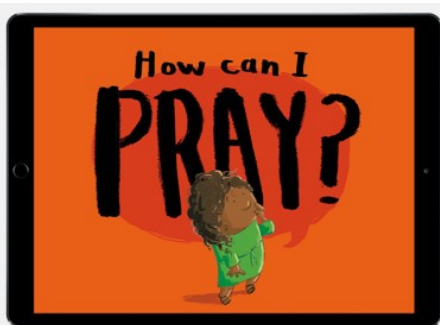
In *The One Year Praying through the Bible for Your Kids*, trusted author Nancy Guthrie weaves together wisdom and insight from each day's reading in *The One Year Bible*, providing encouragement through the triumphs and turbulence of parenting. Day by day you'll find your dreams and desires for your children are becoming shaped more by Scripture than by the culture around you. Worry less, pray more, and help yourself to a daily dose of perspective, hope, and grace as you parent



MEN OF GOD

Has there ever been a more urgent time for Christian men to stand up and be counted? Family life is being systematically destroyed in our culture. Biblical Christianity is being undermined from within the historic denominations. The demands and insecurity of working life are increasing.

This book is designed to encourage Christian men to live for Christ: in their homes; in their workplaces; in their leisure; and in their churches. It is a resource for developing strong men's ministries in the local church which will lead to the mutual nurture, support and encouragement of men to keep going in our resolve to know Christ and to make Him known.



How Can I Pray? storybook,

Perfect for use in groups with children aged **2-4 years old**.

An engaging retelling for toddlers of Jesus teaching his followers how to pray, including the Lord's Prayer.



ANYTIME, ANY PLACE, ANY PRAYER

Teach **kids** how to pray with this beautifully illustrated Bible storybook



Does prayer change things? Teens/adults

When a Christian prays, does it make any difference? Does it change anything? Though our prayers do not change God's mind, He ordains prayer as a means to accomplish His will. We can be confident that prayer does change things--including our own hearts. The *Crucial Questions* booklet series by Dr. R.C. Sproul offers succinct answers to important questions often asked by Christians and thoughtful inquirers.

For your information...

Choose a caring career...

Presbyterian



Lawnfield House Newcastle

Caring for older people

Service
related
pay
awards

ONE-STOP RECRUITMENT DAY

Lawnfield House

5 King Street, Newcastle, BT33 0HA

Wednesday 22 May 2024

10am–4pm

• Application form • Interview • Outcome

We have a range of roles that could suit you, with a variety of working patterns.

Current vacancies include:

- Senior Care Assistant (nights)
- Relief Senior Care Assistant
- Care Assistant (nights)
- Relief Care Assistant
- Housekeeper
- Relief Cook

Any queries?

Contact Karen Zeigelmeier on +44 (0)28 4372 6860 Lawnfield House, 5 King Street, Newcastle

Benefits include:

- Discount card – entitling you to money off in various locations
- Free uniform and training
- Enhanced annual leave
- Free Access NI and NISCC registration
- Enhanced maternity pay and pension scheme
- Pay awards – service related

You are invited!



Katie Weir
Relief Care
Assistant

"I love working in Lawnfield House as it is extremely rewarding."

"The residents and staff are all so welcoming and friendly."

For more information about Lawnfield House vacancies and opportunities in other Homes, please visit:

www.presbyterianireland.org/socialcarejobs

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

*Terms and conditions apply

CONTACT US

Tel: Church Office 028 97564404
Thursday 9.00am to 1.45pm

Email: info@firstchurch.co.uk

Web: www.firstchurch.co.uk

Minister: Rev Dario Leal - info@firstchurch.co.uk

Youth, Family , Children's and mission worker: Mrs Heather Anthony - 07544638863 or heather@firstchurch.co.uk



Find us on Facebook @firstchurchballynahinch

Data protection - GDPR. During our services and other church events, sound and image recordings are often made in connection with spreading the gospel and sharing Congregational life. If you have any concerns regarding this, please speak to Rev Dario Leal, Brian McKee (Clerk of Session).

A Living Sacrifice

12 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your ^[a] faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, ^[b] do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Romans 12 v 1-8