

Ballywillan Presbyterian Church

“To know Christ and lovingly to make him known”

Sunday 7th June 2020

10.30am

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Praise *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Prayers of Adoration & Confession

Bible Reading:

2 Corinthians 13: 5-14

Helen Johnston

Praise *How deep the Father's love*

Sermon *“Our God is a great big God”* Stephen Williamson

Praise *Lord of all hopefulness*

Prayers of Intercession

John Brown

Video *He will hold me fast*

The Benediction

Wednesday Evening Devotional

We invite you to join with us each Wednesday evening during June at 9.00 pm for a short devotional. This will be on the usual Live Webcast platform.

The Church Office is now closed but can still receive and respond to emails. If you wish to contact us by email we will do our best to answer your queries. (office@ballywillanpci.org) If you wish to leave a message on the telephone (70822612) we will also respond.

F.W.O.

Please note: if you prefer to leave your church envelopes at the church, there will be someone here in the Link **each Monday fortnight** to take them. The next date will be **Monday 15th June**. This will coincide with leaving items in the Oasis trolley.

BLT

Any donations going towards our P.C.I. Mission Fund and Special Projects can be put in an envelope marked for BLT noting if we can claim Gift Aid on it.

Cheques can be made out to Ballywillan Presbyterian Church and the back of the cheque marked BLT or PW, Thank you so much for your continued support for those who serve in so many ways.

Oasis Food Donations

The shopping trolley is in the outside porch of the Church **between 9 and 11 am each Monday fortnight**. If you would like to donate please leave your items before 11.00am. The next pick up date is **Monday 15th June**. Non-perishable and microwaveable foods would be most welcome. Thank you for your continued support.

Let's Do Church

A WhatsApp Group for members of the congregation has been set up to keep in touch during these difficult times.

If you would like to join the group please contact Heather Williamson on 07713840060 (Ladies Group) or Isaac Thompson on 07802984242 (Men's Group)

Bulletin/Order of Service

A copy of this bulletin sheet can be printed from the website. If you know of anyone who cannot access the internet and therefore cannot follow our Sunday Service - please print them out a copy so that they can keep in touch with notices and prayers etc.

Holiday Bible Club



We are looking into running a Holiday Bible Club Online this year in July. We would love to get as many volunteers involved as possible. If you would like get involved, please either contact the office or Chris Cunningham at

ballywillanyafworker@outlook.com

Girls Brigade Northern Ireland



Girls Brigade NI have brought out a resource called "Resources4home." It includes lots of wonderful ideas for creative prayers, crafts, indoor games, and baking. It can be found on the Girls Brigade website, or at this link:

www.gbni.co.uk/resources4home

Points for Prayer

Please pray

- for Ruth Brennan, Frances Hume, Audrey Robinson, Ronnie Dunlop, Ian Moffatt, Ben Johnston, Ron McCartney, George Hall, Dennis Higgins, & Robin Henry.
- for those in residential and nursing homes including - Ida Donnelly, Noel Harte, Jean Fillis, Margaret McKeague, May Twaddle, Kathleen Campbell, Pamela Douglas, Jean Steenson, Ruth Taylor, Eddie & Eileen Flannigan, Alan McCrum, Jean Francis, Margaret Dunlop.

Digital ministry

- *Pray for those who are preparing and delivering messages, prayers and other material for week by week digital ministry, asking that God would continue to give a word in season, clarity and creativity in communication and energy for the task of recording.*
- *Pray for those who edit and upload weekly digital ministry for congregations, asking that God would continue to use their gifts to bring blessing to others and smooth the processes of delivery.*

Towards easing of the lockdown

- *Give thanks to God for the steady decrease in cases of coronavirus and pray that as lockdown measures are gradually eased there will not be an upsurge in the rate of infection.*
- *Pray that a wise balance between continuing care in the area of public health and actions needed to restore other aspects of life and society impacted by the lockdown might be found and followed.*

The bereaved and suffering

- *Pray for those who have been bereaved during the lockdown, asking that God would draw especially near to bring comfort and strength in this season when the normal support of family and friends remains limited due to ongoing social distancing.*
- *Pray for those who suffer with serious and ongoing health conditions, asking that God would give extra strength, peace and perseverance in this period in which the usual care and treatment is restricted by lockdown and health service capacity.*

Search for a vaccine

- *Pray for scientific researchers as they continue to work towards developing a vaccine for Covid-19, asking that God would enable the use of their gifts and experience to provide a solution that will save many lives.*
- *Pray that increased knowledge and learning from the treatment of those who have had Covid-19 would enable a better understanding of the issues involved in combatting the virus.*

Family life

- *Give thanks for opportunities for families to keep in touch through technology and to begin to see each other face-to-face again as restrictions are relaxed. Ask God to give us a new appreciation for one another.*
- *Pray for parents, children and young people all continuing to experience family life in a different way than usual, asking God for patience with one another and pleasure in closer relationships forged in lockdown.*

Maintaining social distancing

- *Pray that as lockdown restrictions are gradually relaxed that the general public will continue to exercise necessary restraint in social distancing and behave with common sense and a genuine concern for others.*
- *Pray for those who are working to develop social distancing in workplaces, shops, schools and other everyday settings, asking that God would help them to find viable ways of enabling a safe return to greater normality in coming days.*

The PCI family

- *Give thanks to God for the denominational family of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, praying that he would help us to find encouragement in one another's stories of faith, hope and love.*
- *Pray for those who continue to provide support to congregations and their members through the various councils of the General Assembly, asking that God would give them the wisdom, strength and vision needed to work around present circumstances and find new ways of exercising their ministries.*

In this moment

A prayer for patience in a time of waiting

Timeless God,
what we thought might be a short pause,
now seems like an eternity;
what we began describing as extraordinary times,
are beginning to feel pretty ordinary;
what we first experienced as an interruption to our lives,
has merged into an unwanted new normal.
We need you to stay our hearts,
giving staying power for the long haul,
but also helping us stay put for the moment with patience and
restraint.

Help us to learn the lesson that our times are in your hands,
and as we wait upon the Lord our strength will be renewed.
Help us to live in the in-between time;
like our father Abraham anticipating your blessing,
before the birth of God's promised son;
like Joseph captive as a prisoner in Egypt,
before his dreams came true;
like Moses tending his father-in-law's flock in the desert,
before encountering you in the burning bush;
like the Israelites wandering for forty years in the wilderness,
before entering the promised land;
like David on the run from Saul,
before his anointing led to his ascending the throne;
like Jesus, tried and tempted for forty days and nights,
before emerging to his life's great purpose.

Our hearts cry, 'how long O Lord?'
And you reply,
'know that the testing of your faith,
produces perseverance,
let perseverance finish its work,
so that you may be mature and complete,
not lacking anything.'

As we continue to wait on you,
give strength and courage,
for these long days.

In Jesus' name.

Amen

Youth and Family Updates:

M.T.T. and Bible Class:

The Ballywillan Youth team have crash landed on the internet! Join us on Discord throughout the coming months, which will be our official meet up space online. On Sunday nights, this is where we will be hosting M.T.T. from 7:30pm-9:15pm. We would love members of Bible Class, who normally meet on a Sunday morning and other teenagers to join us. Over the course of the night, there will be time for fellowship, prayer and bible study.

To get involved, download a consent form from the Church website.

Boys Brigade:

Boys Brigade NI have launched a resource for the next few weeks called B.B at Home, which is available from their website. Each week, they will update it with new resources, which will have lots of fun activities, games and challenges to keep the boys entertained, whatever age they are.

JAM:

Each Sunday, after the church service finishes at about 11:15, we are running JAM online. It will last about 15-20 minutes and include a song, memory verse, story and some activities to do at home. No matter what age you are, we hope that you'll invite your friends along and join with us again this Sunday.

Weekly Family Email:

Each week we want to send out an email which will have an encouragement, some resources that can help you at home during this time and some prayer topics. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be trying to build a list of emails for families in the church. If you would like to be added to the list, please contact the email below or the church office.

Midweek Devotional:

Every Wednesday, on the Ballywillan Youth Facebook and Instagram pages and also over email, we will be posting a midweek personal devotional. It will follow the SOAP bible study method and give you a chance to dig deeper into the passages.

Youth Club:

Youth Club leaders have been creating devotionals, which will be sent out each Saturday night to the parents of young people to let them know we are thinking about them.

For more information, please email ballywillanyafworker@outlook.com.