

Old Manse Update

Work has been continuing on the manse. The chimneys are nearly finished with some of them now rendered. The plasterers are starting the final dash coat on the external walls. The stone masons are now finished, they have replaced some of the sandstone on the front façade, the stone work was repaired in places, all cleaned and repointed. The old roof slates are now all removed and the roof is all felt and lathed and roof slating has commenced. On the wet days the contractor has been working on the inside of the property and good progress has been achieved internally as well.

Scout Leaders required (urgently)

As you may be aware, the Scout Section of 1st Cookstown Scout Group (11-14year olds) has not been able to run for the past 2 years as we haven't been able to find leaders. This situation gives us great concern. If there is anyone who would feel able to undertake the role with 1/2 others please contact Margaret Hamilton ([07880 975337](tel:07880975337)) or Colin Rea ([07761 229052](tel:07761229052)) for details.

Christmas Carol Festival

This is an exciting weekend planned for later in the year (Friday 21st - Sunday 23rd November 2025) where we can all be involved and there is a role for everyone. Please sign up on the sheet, or speak to either Michael Currie or Judith McGeown, thank you.

Prayer Requests

If anyone has any requests for prayer, please contact Lynne Dripps on 07901 691093.

ROTAS

Church Stewarding Rota

November Brian Donaghy, Ronnie Nicholl
December Margaret Hamilton, Colin Rea

Collection Rota

Manse side (November) Norman Bell
Town side (November) John Topping
Gallery (November) Trevor Crooks, Ted McKinney
Manse side (December) Margaret Hamilton
Town side (December) Gary McDeown
Gallery (December) Heather Parke, Norman Wilson

FWO Rota

This week Brian Donaghy Next week Carol Moore

Sound Desk Rota

Today David Hartley Next week Stephen Park

Junior Church Rota

Today Nativity Practice
Next Week Nativity Practice

Crèche Rota

Today Sandra Black, Gillian Lyle, Faye Lyle
Next Sunday Naomi Ferguson, Alison Currie

Announcements for inclusion in the bulletin should be sent to:
Paul Ferguson (paulferguson@firstcookstown.co.uk)

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC 105651)



First Presbyterian Church Cookstown

(founded 1646)

Welcome!

Sunday, 2 November 2025

Please take this Bulletin home with you.

"So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12



Remember: www.firstcookstown.co.uk You can access this Bulletin, listen to service recordings, and contribute news and updates, along with much more information.

*Before any Service, speak to God; During the Service, let God speak to you;
After the Service, speak to one another! MISSION is every believer's responsibility!*

Today we will be streaming our services live via **YouTube**. Why not visit our YouTube channel, where you can watch live, or catch up on previous services. Simply go to:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCzB39BpHtK85Pb9hKRpc1Yw

Praise

AM

IPH 104 Guide me O my great redeemer
For God so loved the world
What can wash away my sin
Behold the lamb who bears our sin away

PM

IPH 999 The Kingdom of God is justice...
All to Jesus I surrender
IPH 999 Rock of Ages
Jesus is Lord, the cry that echoes...

Today

11:30 am **Morning Service:** Revd Michael Currie; 1 Samuel 23:1-14 "Listening to the right voice" (we will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper and a cup of tea will also be served in the church hall afterwards).
6:00 pm **Evening Service:** Revd Michael Currie; Genesis 18:16-33 "The Judge of all the earth will do what is just!" (Communion will be available in the minister's room immediately after our evening service).
7:00 pm **Youth Fellowship** meet in *The Loft*.

Monday

6:00 pm **Squirrel Scouts** meet in the halls until 6:55 pm.
6:30 pm **Cub Scouts** meet in the halls until 8:00 pm.
7:00 pm **Beaver Scouts** meet in the halls until 8:00 pm.
8:00 pm **PW** meet in the Morrison Room. Please remember that if you plan to attend the PW Link Breakfast on 15 November, money needs to be paid at this meeting. Looking forward to seeing all of the ladies of our church family then.

Tuesday

10:30 am **Prayer Time** in the Morrison Room.
7:45 pm **First Cookstown Bowling Club:** We look forward to welcoming anybody who would like to try bowls for the first, or who maybe hasn't played in a while, as well as our 'old faithfuls'. Even if you just want to come along to watch, chat and have a cup of tea, please come and join us.

Wednesday

10:30 am **Bible Study** in the Morrison Room.
6:30 pm **Rainbows, Brownies ,Guides and Rangers** in the halls and loft.
8:00 pm **Bible Study** in the Morrison Room (repeated).

Thursday

8:00 pm **Prayer Meeting** in the Minister’s Room.

Friday

7:00 pm **Buildings clean and tidy-up** this week.

Next Sunday

10:15 am **Sunday School and Bible Class** resume.
10:50 am **Prayer time** in the Minister’s room until 11:10 am.
11:30 am **Morning Service:** Revd Michael Currie; 1 Samuel 24 “An Opportune Moment!” (we will have our annual act of remembrance during worship).
6:00 pm **Evening Service:** Revd Michael Currie; Genesis 19 “The not so smooth escape from Sodom!”
7:00 pm **Youth Fellowship** meet in *The Loft*.

Looking Ahead

Monday 10/11/25 **Congregational Committee** meet in the Morrison Room.
Sunday 16/11/25 **Morning Service** taken by Revd Eddie Kirk
Monday 24/11/25 **Kirk Session** meeting in the Morrison Room.

Catechism Corner

Q.51 Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension?
A. Christ physically ascended on our behalf, just as he came down to earth physically on our account, and he is now advocating for us in the presence of His Father, preparing a place for us, and also sends us his Spirit.

Parking

Work has started on the old manse. This means that the back yard is no longer available for additional parking.

Church Autumn Clean

We plan to have a deep clean of the meeting house and the hall before our Christmas Carol festival in November. These will be on Friday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. Anyone coming along is asked to bring their own cleaning utensils and there will be a sheet available to record what areas of the meeting house and the church hall have been cleaned. If a Friday night doesn't suit there will be other opportunities, but everyone in the congregation is encouraged to come along and help out. Thank you in anticipation.

Operation Christmas Child (Scout Project)

First Cookstown Scout Group have been sending shoe boxes from the Scout Group and congregation since 2007. These boxes go to children around the world to show God's love in a tangible way and share the good news of Jesus Christ. If you would like to fill a shoe box, leaflets and boxes are available this morning in the front and back vestibules and the entrance to the halls. However, we would encourage our young people to decorate their own box. Please follow the guidelines on what items should or should not be included in the box. A £5 donation is requested with each box to cover shipping and other costs. Filled shoe boxes can be left in the church today and the halls tomorrow evening, Monday 3rd November from 6-8 pm. This is the final date for leaving shoe boxes. For any further details you can contact Naomi Ferguson, Sarah Thompson or Sandra Black.

Evening Services

From November we will hold our evening services in the Morrison Room. Once a month we will also have a more informal service with tea/coffee beforehand. On these evenings someone will also share their journey with God when we will also have an epilogue. Even if you cannot commit to every Sunday evening, do come along if possible as we seek to grow in our faith together and encourage one another as a church family.

Tyrone Presbytery Marriage Preparation Course

Couples married within the Presbyterian Church must attend some form of preparation and each year presbytery facilitates classes free of charge. The next course will be held on Saturday 7th February 2026. Couples can register using the following link: tyronepresbytery.weebly.com

Men’s Fellowship

We hope to plan some events as part of our Men’s Fellowship which will be aimed at all age groups. If you would like to be involved please speak to Chris Kerr.

Irish Men’s Convention

If anyone would like to come along to the Irish men’s Convention on Saturday 28th February 2026, where Gary Millar is the speaker, please speak to Michael. Tickets cost £26 (£20 student/concession) and go on sale Friday 14th November and they do sell out very quickly.

Home Communion

Home communion will be available to communicant members with legitimate reasons for not attending corporate worship. Speak to Michael or your district elder so this can be arranged.

Website

We recently updated our church website: www.firstcookstown.co.uk We trust this will be easier to navigate for those who visit in the future.

PW Link Breakfast

PW Tyrone Link breakfast in the Royal Hotel on Saturday 15th November at 9am, cost £12:50 pp. Speaker will be Christine Mahood. Please let Lynne Dripps or Moira Shaw know if you intend to come. We can receive payment no later than our meeting on Monday 3rd November. We would be grateful if money is in an envelope with your name on. Thank you.