

Independent Governance and Safeguarding Review Survey

INEQE Safeguarding Group have been commissioned to conduct an Independent Governance and Safeguarding Review of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI). As part of the review process it is hoped to engage with those who visit and attend services through PCI, via an online survey. The survey is both anonymous and confidential. The survey results are received directly by INEQE's Review Team and not by The Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Listening to and learning from individuals involved in the life and work of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is a critically important part of the Review. Information will only be shared if what you tell indicates a serious risk of harm. You can access the survey here: ineqe.com/presbyterian-church-in-ireland Closing date is 21st September.

2026 HOPE Tyrone dates for your diary (for more details speak to Michael)

September

- Kids Leaders Training: Saturday 12th Sept, 10am - 1pm, Kildress Parish Church Hall, Cookstown
- Youth Leaders Training - Tuesday 22nd Sept, 7:30-9:30pm, Omagh Community Church

October

- 1WAY Youth Event - Saturday 10th Oct, 7:00-10:00pm, Dungannon Leisure Centre
- I am Mark (staging of Mark's Gospel) Wednesday 14th October 7:30pm, First Cookstown
- Family Carnival & Kids Event - Saturday 17th Oct, 1:00-4:00pm, Molesworth Presbyterian, Cookstown
- Adult Outreach Event - Friday 23rd Oct, 8:00pm, The Burnavon, Cookstown

November

- Puppet Training - Saturday 7th Nov, 9:30am-1:00pm, Dungannon Baptist

ROTAS

Church Stewarding Rota

September Alison Bell, David McDowell
October Norman Bell, Clarke Faulkner

Collection Rota

Manse side (September) Alison Bell
Town side (September) Gary McKeown
Gallery (September) Alastair Brown, Ronnie Nicholl
Manse side (October) Norman Bell
Town side (October) Clarke Faulkner
Gallery (October) Trevor Crooks, Ted McKinney

FWO Rota

This week Clarke Faulkner Next week Bob Agnew

Sound Desk Rota

Today Andrew Johnston Next week David Hartley

Junior Church Rota

Today Family Service
Next Week Jennifer Park, Sandra McKeown

Crèche Rota

Today Sharon Crooks, Naomi Ferguson
Next Sunday Sharon Crooks, Judith McGeown

You can keep up with all that is going on in church life by following our Facebook page, subscribing to our YouTube channel, or visiting our website: www.firstcookstown.co.uk

To contact Revd Michael Currie, Tel: [07754 168911](tel:07754168911) or Email: mcurrie@presbyterianireland.org

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First Cookstown is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, registered with the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland (NIC 105651).



First Cookstown

Knowing Jesus, making Jesus known

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday 6 September 2026

“Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.” Psalm 25:6

We warmly welcome you to worship this morning on this first day of another week, whether you are part of our church family, here in First Cookstown, or just visiting with us.

We hope that as we worship together we will encounter God and experience the hope and assurance of the Gospel and the relevance of God's word in our world today.

If you're new to First Cookstown, we do hope you have been made welcome at the door and someone helped you get your bearings. Maybe you are new to the area and you are looking for a local church where you can feel at home.

Catechism Corner will return in September

Praise

AM

Bless the Lord (10,000 reasons)
This little light of mine
Your word is a lamp unto my feet
IPH 491 Be Thou my vision

PM

IPH 33 O worship the King
IPH 67 Jesus, lover of my soul
IPH 266 Break now the bread of life
IPH 551 O Jesus I have promised

Today

11:00 am
6:00 pm

Morning Service: Revd Michael Currie - **“Restart” family service** (BBQ after worship)
Evening Service: Revd Michael Currie - “A Meal with a lesson in love” Luke 7:36-50 (we will meet around the Lord's Table)

Monday

6:00 pm
6:30 pm
7:00 pm
7:00 pm

Squirrel Scouts resume 21 September (6:00 - 6:55 pm). Squirrel registration for boys and girls aged 4-6 years on Monday 14 September, 6:15 - 7:00 pm.
Cub Scouts resume 21 September (6:30 - 8:00 pm). Cub registration for boys and girls aged 8-10½ on Monday 14 September, 6:30 - 7 pm.
Beaver Scouts resume 21 September (7:00 - 8:00 pm). Beaver registration for boys and girls aged 6-8 years on Monday 14 September 6:15 - 7:00 pm.
HOPE Tyrone leaders meeting in the Morrison Room.

Tuesday

10:30 am
7:45 pm

Prayer Time in the Morrison Room.

First Cookstown Bowling Club in the Main Hall. It would be great to see a few new faces. Come along and give bowls a go, even if you've never played before - bowls provided. If you just want to come and watch, chat and have a cup of tea, you will also be made very welcome.

8:00 pm

Kirk Session meeting in the Morrison Room.

Wednesday

8:00 pm

Bible Study & Prayer meeting in the Morrison room.

Saturday

10:30 am

PW from 10.30 to 1pm, when Alison McKeown starts the new season with some (chair) Pilates. This will be followed by some fun craft and a little bite of lunch. All ladies will be made very welcome, and if you've never been to a PW meeting, this will be a great opportunity to meet others and hopefully have a bit of fun.

Next Sunday

10:15 am

Sunday School and Bible Class resume. Can parents/carers please stay when leaving your child to complete parental consent forms. If you wish to fill out the forms in advance, they can be found on both vestibule tables today.

10:50 am

Prayer Time in the Minister's room until 11:10 am.

11:30 am

Morning Service: Revd Michael Currie - Romans 1:1-5 "The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ"

6:00 pm

Evening Service: Revd Michael Currie—Malachi 1:1-5 "I have loved you"

Looking ahead...

Monday 14/9/26

Friends at First Craft & Chat meets at 2pm in the Minor Hall. Come along, even if it's just for the tea and chat. Everyone will be made very welcome.

Sunday 20/9/26

Morning Service: Mr Andrew Houston (Belfast City Mission)

Sunday 4/10/26

Harvest services

Wednesday 7/10/26

Tyrone Foundations in Molesworth - John Graham will speak on baptism.

Child Safeguarding Training

PCI have now re-commenced safeguarding training for those working with children. Training will be carried out in each Presbytery, and is limited to people from that Presbytery. Each training date is limited to 80 persons, and pre-booking through PCI's website is compulsory. Bookings have to be made individually, and no group booking is possible.

Those in the congregation who received interim child safeguarding training in 1st Cookstown in January and March of this year are reminded that this interim training was only a temporary measure until official PCI safeguarding training became available.

Unfortunately, there is only one training date this year for Tyrone Presbytery, taking place in Dungannon Presbyterian Church on 6 October 2026 from 7:30pm to 10:00pm. There has been high demand for this training and there are now only 3 places left. Anyone from 1st wishing to attend should book this ASAP.

PCI have indicated that this is an ongoing process and that there will eventually be sufficient dates for everyone who requires training, but unfortunately there will be no further training dates until February 2027.

Anyone who does attend should ensure that our DP or DDP is notified to enable accurate records to be kept.

Membership Classes

Membership classes will be held in the autumn, in preparation for our November communion service. If you would be interested in being a communicant member, please speak to Michael **by next Sunday (13/9/26)**. Classes can be arranged to suit whoever comes along.

Prayer Requests

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

Prayer Meetings & Bible Studies

Kirk Session met earlier in the summer where the importance of encouraging discipleship amongst the congregation was discussed. This year they have decided to change the structure of our prayer meetings and Bible studies. The Tuesday morning prayer meeting will continue as normal, but the Wednesday morning Bible study and the Thursday evening prayer meeting will merge into a Bible Study / Prayer meeting which will be held at 8:00pm on a Wednesday. The book studies planned for men and women planned in the new Church season will go ahead. These will take place one week in the month on an evening that suits each group, and on that particular week will take the place of the Wednesday Bible study/Prayer meeting. It is hoped to have proposed timetable for next week. Everyone is encouraged to come along as we seek to grow together in our faith and engage in the call to discipleship.

REACH

The REACH team, made up of volunteers from the local churches, have started a night-time street outreach ministry. If you would be interested in being involved, or would like some more information please speak to Michael.

Congregational Walk

A congregational walk has been organised for Saturday 19th September along the North Coast from Portstewart to Portrush and back. We plan to meet at the harbour end of Portstewart promenade at 11:00am, and return by early afternoon. You are encouraged to bring a packed lunch and we will eat together at the West strand in Portrush at 12:30pm. If you can meet in Portstewart that would be great, alternatively if enough people wish to travel by bus, we can arrange to hire one. Everyone will be made very welcome and are encouraged to join with us on the day.

Football

A group from the local churches regularly meet on Friday evenings at MUSA to play football. If you would be interested, contact Michael for more information.

Women's Book Study

Women are encouraged to take a copy of Cheryl Marshall's book, entitled "all of me", for a read over the summer. Later in the year a study will be held based on the book, so if you are happy to leave a contact number on the sign up sheet when you pick up your copy that would be appreciated. Even if you don't think you will make the study, feel free to take a book.

Men's Book Study

In the Autumn, as part of our Men's Fellowship, we hope to complete the study material that accompanies Matt Fuller's book, entitled *Reclaiming Masculinity*. From next Sunday (dv), all men can sign up and collect a copy to read over the summer months in preparation for later in the year. Even if you can't make the study, you are welcome to take a copy as it will be well worth reading.

RE Lessons Public consultation

Back in February, the Education Minister announced that there was to be a review and update of the content of RE following the ruling of the Supreme Court that RE in Northern Ireland was unlawful. A drafting group was set up to revise and rewrite the content, the first draft of the new Core Syllabus has been released for public viewing. This is not the final version and is open for public consultation meaning we can read it and respond with our thoughts and suggestions for improvement. Anyone with an interest in what our children and grandchildren are going to learn in RE lessons in the future are encouraged to respond. The consultation closes on 30th September at 11.59pm. To read it and have your say on it, follow this link: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-religious-education-core-syllabus>

'Harvest Fete' - Saturday 3rd October

Save the date and start prepping for our 'Harvest Fete' - Saturday 3rd October. From fresh vegetables and homemade cakes to delicious preserves and creative crafts, there will be something for everyone to enjoy! Our church is delighted to host a 'Harvest Fete' this year, and we would love as many people as possible to take part. Now is the perfect time to start planting, baking, and creating, so you can share your talents and join in the fun. We look forward to a wonderful day of community, competition, and harvest joy!