

## ROTA

### Church Stewarding Rota

January ..... Lynne Dripps, Maurice Murphy  
February ..... Robert Leonard, David McDowell

### Collection Rota

Manse side (January) ..... Lynne Dripps  
Town side (January) ..... David Hartley  
Gallery (January) ..... Alastair Brown, Maurice Murphy  
Manse side (February) ..... David McDowell  
Town side (February) ..... Alastair Henry  
Gallery (February) ..... Robert Leonard, Judith McGeown

### FWO Rota

This week ..... Robert Hamilton Next week ..... Brian Donaghy  
(The Jan—June 2026 Counting Teams Rota is now available to view in the church office.)

### Sound Desk Rota

Today ..... David Hartley Next week ..... Stephen Park

### Junior Church Rota

Today ..... Joan Park, Rachel Johnston, Daniel Johnston  
Next Week ..... Jennifer Park, Sandra Henry

### Crèche Rota

Today ..... Pauline Brown, Elsa Brown, Paula Faulkner  
Next Sunday ..... June Reid, Nichola Cheevers, Naomi Ferguson

If anyone would be willing to assist on the creche rota, or if you are no longer able to commit, please contact Gillian Lyle on [07889 756457](tel:07889756457).

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

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC 105651)



# First Presbyterian Church Cookstown

(founded 1646)

**Welcome!**

**Sunday, 4 January 2026**

***Please take this Bulletin home with you.***

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



Remember: [www.firstcookstown.co.uk](http://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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzB39BpHtK85Pb9hKRPc1Yw)

### Praise

#### AM

Tis the Church triumphant singing  
Read your Bible pray everyday...  
IPH 427 - When I survey  
IPH 383 - Here O my Lord

#### PM

Come Thou fount of every blessing  
He will hold me fast  
IPH 512 - May the mind of Christ my Saviour  
IPH 89 - Great is Thy faithfulness

### Today

11:30 am

**Morning Service:** Revd Michael Currie - 1 Samuel 27 “When David fell into Despair!” (we will meet around the Lord’s Table and a cup of tea will also be served in the church hall afterwards).

6:00 pm

**Evening Service:** Revd Michael Currie - Genesis 21:8-21 “When faith gets complicated!”

### Monday

6:00 pm

**NO Squirrel Scouts**—Squirrels will resume on 19 January.

6:30 pm **NO Cub Scouts** this week.

**NO Beaver Scouts**—Beavers will resume on 19 January.

7:00 pm

**PW** meet in the Morrison Room. Come along and enjoy an evening listening to Deborah Caskey. Some of you will remember Deborah (Kee) who grew up in First or know her now, as wife of Revd Dean Caskey in Moneymore Congregational.

8:00 pm

## 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 (handouts available).  
6:30 pm **Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers** in the *The Loft* and halls.  
8:00 pm **Bible Study** (repeated).

## Thursday

8:00 pm **Prayer meeting** in the Minister's Room.

## 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 28 "A dark night for David!"  
6:00 pm **Evening Service:** Revd Michael Currie - Genesis 21:22-34 "How to practice Everyday Faithful Living!"  
7:00 pm **Youth Fellowship** meet in *The Loft*.

## Looking ahead...

Tuesday 12/1/26 **Safeguarding Training** in the Morrison Room at 8 pm.  
Sunday 25/1/26 **Financial and written reports** for inclusion in the 2025 report booklet to be with Brian Donaghy ([b.donaghy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:b.donaghy@yahoo.co.uk)) or Paul Ferguson ([paul@digitance.co.uk](mailto:paul@digitance.co.uk)), respectively.

## Catechism Corner

Q1. What is the chief end of man?  
A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

## Safeguarding Training

Refresher Safeguarding Training will be held in the Morrison room on Tuesday 13/1/26 at 8:00pm. All those involved in any form of ministry to children, youth or adults are encouraged to attend. If you would like any more information, speak to Michael.

## Parking

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

## World Development Appeal

The total raised for the 2025 WDA amounted to £987.50 (inc. Gift-Aid). Thank-you to everyone who contributed.

## 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.

## Contribution Envelopes

Please note that all envelopes received from 4th January 2026 (today) will be allocated to 2026 funds accordingly.

## REACH

The REACH team made up of volunteers from the local churches are exploring the idea of a night-time street outreach. If you would be interested in helping out, or would like some more information please speak to Michael.

## 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](http://tyronepresbytery.weebly.com)

## Website

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

## Old Manse Update

The building contractor, after taking a couple of weeks off for the Christmas break, will be re-starting in the new year, focusing mainly on the internal areas of the property. The majority of the outside work is now complete, with some site works and drainage alterations still to be completed when the weather improves.

## 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.

## Prayer Requests

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