

Old Manse Update

Work been ongoing on the former manse, with the contractor having to contend with some very wet weather recently. The plasterers have nearly all the final dash coat on the external walls completed. The roof is now re-slatted with new lead being installed to the valleys and flashings. The front parapet leadwork has commenced. A flat roof has been renewed to the rear at high level. Internally the re-wiring has commenced along with the re-piping of the heating system.

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.

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 McKeown
Gallery (December) Heather Parke, Norman Wilson

FWO Rota

This week Lynne Dripps Next week Stephen Park

Sound Desk Rota

Today Stephen Park Next week Andrew Johnston

Junior Church Rota

Today Nativity Practice
Next Week Nativity Practice

Crèche Rota

Today Jennifer Park, Pauline Brown
Next Sunday Sandra Hunter, June Reid, Sandra Black
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)

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC 105651)



First Presbyterian Church Cookstown

(founded 1646)

Welcome!

Sunday, 30 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

Psalm 95 - O come, and let us to the Lord
IPH 565 O what can little hands do
Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Blessed Assurance

PM

I stand amazed in the presence
To God be the glory
My Jesus I love Thee / There is a Redeemer
All hail the lamb / He is Lord
Holy Spirit living breath of God

Today

11:30 am **Morning Service:** Revd Michael Currie: 1 Samuel 26—"Another Opportune Moment!" (members of Kirk Session please meet briefly in the Morrison room afterwards)
6:00 pm **Evening Service:** this is the first of our monthly informal services. Come early and grab a cup of tea or coffee.
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** meets in the Morrison Room. Come along and enjoy the Christmas craft

with Helen & Ella-Jane McCullough. Please bring £3 for the kit and a pair of scissors with you. If you haven't been asked yet for your Mission Box contribution, please bring it along with you.

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.

Saturday

11:00 am

Friends at First are having a special Christmas get-together from 11am to 1pm. Come along and enjoy a morning together when we will have something hot followed by something sweet to eat. We look forward to seeing all our friends there.

Next Sunday

10:15 am

Sunday School and Bible Class.

10:50 am

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

11:30 am

Morning Service: Revd Michael Currie: "Christmas Unwrapped #1 - A Promise" - Luke 1:26-38 (there will be a cup of tea served afterwards in the church hall)

6:30 pm

Evening Service: we join with Molesworth for their evening service.

7:00 pm

Youth Fellowship meet in *The Loft*.

Looking Ahead

Monday 8/12/25

Friends at First Craft & Chat will meet from 2pm to 4pm. Everybody is welcome to come along and try some craft, bring your own, or just come and enjoy a cup of tea with the chat. This group had a stall at the recent Craft Fair and raised £403 to give to the Building Fund.

Sunday 21/12/25

Nativity Service @ 11:30 am

Sunday 21/12/25

Carols by Candlelight Service @ 6 pm (supper will be served afterwards)

Thursday 25/12/25

Christmas Morning Service @ 10:30 am

Friday 26/12/25

Boxing Day football (details to be confirmed)

(Heidelberg) Catechism Corner

Q31 Why is He called Christ, that is, anointed?

A: Because He is ordained of God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Ghost, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; and to be our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of His body, has redeemed us, and makes continual intercession with the Father for us; and also to be our eternal King, who governs us by His word and Spirit,

and who defends and preserves us in the enjoyment of that salvation He has purchased for us."

Parking

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

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.

Choir

We hope to have a choir take part in our Carols by Candlelight service on Sunday 21st December. A practice is planned for next Sunday morning in the Morrison Room at 10:30am for anyone interested.

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. They also plan to sing some carols at their stall on the street next Saturday from 1:00-1:30pm. Anyone who would like to come along and join in will be made very welcome.

INSPIRE magazine subscription

Anyone wishing to start a subscription for the INSPIRE magazine (formerly Wider World), or to cancel an existing subscription, please contact Rachel Johnston on [07732 107352](tel:07732107352) or johnstonrachel77@gmail.com. The cost of the annual subscription for 2026 is £10.00 (4 issues), or the digital copy of the magazine can be purchased online for £2.50 per magazine. Could I have any outstanding payments by Sunday 14th of December, please and thank you.

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.

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.