

Regent Street Methodist Church



To Know God's Love and to Share it with Others
www.regentstreetmethodist.org

Welcome to Our Service Today
Sunday 3 December 2017
First Sunday in Advent

Announcements

Introit

Lighting of Advent Candle (Jamie & Ella, Gail & Sophie)

Praise Group

Prayer (Page 117)

Children's Story "Nadita Saying Grace"

Hymn 710 "Fight the Good Fight"

(Young People leave for Sunday School)

Offering and Dedication

Scripture Reading "1 Timothy 6 v 12-16"

(Read by Patricia Burns)

ADDRESS

"The Good Confession"

Anthem

"Hark the Glad Sound"

Prayers for Others

Hymn 86 "Tell Out My Soul"

Those who wish to do so, may leave after the singing of this hymn.

Communion & the Lord's Prayer (sung, page 124)

Hymn 81 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

BENEDICTION



PRAYER Prayer Ministry will be available at the Prayer Corner at the back of the Church after the morning service each week (except Communion Sunday). If you would like to use our Telephone Prayer Link, contact Mary Mulligan on 9181 4486 / 07702701726 or mulliganmary727@gmail.com at any time. Please remember that any Information given will be treated with the strictest confidence.

SUNDAY 3 December

10.45am Church
 11.00am Halls
 3.00pm Stream PC
 7.00pm Epworth Rm
 Graham

Regent Street Trevor Spencer, John Henderson, Kerri Cunningham
 Mill Street Ossie and Lorraine Bruce
 Scripture Reading Patricia Burns
 Flower Rota Mr & Mrs J Steen
 Prayer Request Book John Steen

First Sunday in Advent

Morning Worship (Communion)
 Sunday School & YP's Group
 BB Carol Service
 Evening Worship - Mr Robert

MONDAY 4 December

7.30pm Scrabo Rm Girls' Brigade Hug a Mug
 7.30pm Living Rm Church Council

TUESDAY 5 December

1.00pm Church Lunchtime Prayer (Holy Communion)
 6.30pm Halls Boys' Brigade
 7.30pm Scrabo Rm Human Sexuality (Week 3 of 3)

WEDNESDAY 6 December

1.00pm Epworth Rm Friendship Group Christmas Party

THURSDAY 7 December

10.00am Epworth Rm Craft Class
 7.30pm Halls Bowling Club

FRIDAY 8 December

7.00pm Halls Soul Kidz
 7.30pm Halls Element
 8.00pm Glen Church Plant Christmas Tree Festival in
 Londonderry Primary School

SATURDAY 9 December

10.00am Halls Art Class

SUNDAY 10 December

10.45am Church Morning Worship - Ark Gift Service
 3.00pm Church Blue Christmas Service
 7.00pm Epworth Rm Evening Worship - Rev Daphne Twinem
 Regent Street Trevor Spencer, John Henderson, Kerri Cunningham
 Mill Street Desmond, Anna and Olivia Elder
 Scripture Reading Ark Service
 Flower Rota Mr & Mrs M Skimin
 Prayer Request Book John Steen
 Coffee Rota Anna and Desmond Elder

Second Sunday in Advent**MONDAY 11 December**

12.30pm Halls Luncheon Club Christmas Dinner
 7.30pm Movilla Circuit Executive



Girls' Brigade Christmas Hug a

Monday 4 December at 7.30pm

Please come along and support the GB at Christmas evening. All proceeds in aid of Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for

Children.

Methodist Newsletter The Methodist Newsletter provides an information channel to all Methodists throughout the length and breadth of Ireland. The regular features include our President's

letter keeping all Irish Methodists informed about the President's travels and key messages such as "Prayer is Crucial". The regular items and the special features combine together to inform teach and support our Church Members, be they young or not so young, lay or ministerial, academic or non-academic. The Newsletter is published 11 times per year and all our research indicates that it is considered to be an excellent publication providing a wide range of interesting and informative articles about the Methodist Church in Ireland.

Maintaining the price at £12.50 for 11 issues per year requires that the circulation is maintained or increased. We are therefore

appealing to you to place an order with their local Church Agent Mr Desmond Elder for 2018. The Newsletter Committee would also like you to convey a word of appreciation to Desmond who collects subscriptions and distributes the Newsletter.

Special Christmas Services

Advent Sunday (3rd December), 3-4pm: All are invited to a BOY'S BRIGADE CAROL SERVICE in Strean Presbyterian Church.

Sunday 10th 10.45am: Ark and Young People's Group GIFT SERVICE. Gifts for young children will be particularly useful and will be shared through Quayside Parental Support Group locally. (Suggestions: Educational toys for 1-3 yrs, clothes for children aged 1-5, toiletries, selection boxes, stationery items, dolls, football accessories – not linked to any team, gifts for children aged 8-12 yrs).

3pm: BLUE CHRISTMAS Memorial Service. Mr Ian Stewart, a Counsellor with Christian Guidelines will share a short meditation.

Sunday 17th 3pm: MESSY CHURCH CHRISTMAS SPECIAL is an opportunity for the Church family to celebrate the meaning of Christmas in a relaxed and informal way. We will do this through crafts, activities, story telling and we will also share food together.

7pm: SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS. The choir will lead this perennial favourite. Come early for a bite of shortbread and warmed berry juice.

Monday 18th 6.30pm. CAROL SINGING. Meet at the Church at 6.30pm sharp. Gather at the Manse for a few festive games afterwards.

Christmas Eve (Sunday 24th) 11.15pm: CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION.

Christmas Day 9.30am: Short **FAMILY SERVICE.** Children are invited to bring along a present.

Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre Committee would like to thank everyone who worked, gave donations and supported the Christmas Fayre in any way. The final amount raised was £1574.60.

Macmillan Sale (Dundonald Hospital)

Friday 8 December 2017 from 8.30am-4.30pm

Any donations of bric-a-brac, knitting, home baking etc would be greatly appreciated. These can be left on the Church Hall on or before 7 December, *Thank you, Roberta Coffey*

The Candles of Advent

First Sunday of Advent: HOPE

VOICE 1: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent means 'coming' and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. One of the ways we prepare for His coming is by making an Advent wreath and lighting its candles to remind us of the gifts Christ brings to the world.

VOICE 2: The Advent wreath includes many symbols to help us think about Christ and his gifts. A circle has no beginning and no end. This reminds us that there is no beginning and no end to God and that God's love and caring are forever.

VOICE 1: The light from the candles—which grows stronger each Sunday in Advent, reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.

VOICE 2: Today we light the candle of hope. The people of Israel hoped in God's promises and were not disappointed. Again and again God delivered Israel from its enemies. We too have the same experience of salvation. That is why we believe in God's promise to send Jesus to us once again to judge the world and establish his kingdom forever upon the earth. *(A person lights a candle).*

VOICE 1: Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

VOICE 2: Let us pray—Thank you God for the hope you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

SONG:

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,

A candle of hope in December's dark night.

While angels sing blessing from heaven's starry sky,

Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh. *(Tune: Away in a Manger)*