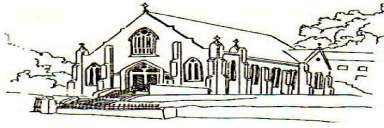
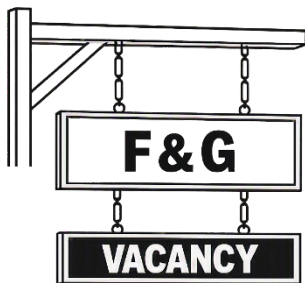


Faughanvale Presbyterian Church



NEWSLETTER – Autumn 2026



Dear Faughanvale Friends,

At our seaside resorts we sometimes see a sign outside B&B establishments that say, "Vacancies".

Imagine if our congregations were a guesthouse. "Vacancy".

Bedroom – our congregations are places of rest where people come with various troubles and distresses and find the One who promises peace.

Sitting room – don't guest houses have sitting rooms where guests can get to know each other and perhaps make lasting friendships? That's a picture of good congregational life.

Dining room – where lovely food is provided and enjoyed by all. Well, don't we look to Christ as the bread of life (John 6:48), and we read and study the Bible which is sweeter than honey (Psalm 19:10)? We also have milk for those who are young in the faith and solid food for the more mature (Hebrews 12:5-14). Our souls "will be satisfied as with fat and rich food" (Psalm 63:5)

Good View. Perhaps it is from a bedroom window, the sitting room, or the front steps –

but a good view of the ocean is wonderful!
What is the view offered by our congregations?
Don't we have a vast ocean to show off?

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
Lovingkindness as the flood;
When the Prince of Life, our ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.

The Owner. Ah, what can we say about Him?
He's the King of kings and yet He's the Friend of sinners. He's the Physician to the sin-sick and yet the Good Shepherd of His sheep. He was once dead but now is alive forever. And His face!

.... his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

Revelation 1:16

May the Lord in His perfect grace continue to encourage you in these days of vacancy.

All for Him,

Keith Duddy

Forthcoming Special Sunday Services

Harvest

11.45 am Sunday 11 October

Come and see the church decorated and join us
in our thanksgiving service for harvest

Evening Service 7.00pm, followed by supper

Lord's Supper

**The Sacrament of the Lord's
Supper will be observed at
11.45 am on Sunday, 25
October**

If, at any time during the vacancy, you need
pastoral assistance please contact
Donald Montgomery: 07808736826

Bible Study Group/Prayer Group

There was a good attendance at three special prayer evenings to pray for the vacancy held in Faughanvale and in Gortnessey during the summer. Please continue to remember the vacancy in your prayers.

It is planned to start up the Sunday evening Bible Study group again later in the autumn. Watch out for an announcement and please think about coming along to these informal acts of fellowship, prayer and study.

Update on the Vacancy

A quick update on how things are progressing with the vacancy – after receiving both church families' lists over the summer, I have been in contact with all those suggested. As is often the case, the responses have been varied; some feel settled where they are, while others have shown interested in exploring further.

At present, I am waiting to hear back from a few individuals and continue to pray that someone may sense the Lord's call to serve in the NW. I remain deeply grateful for the faithful work the Rev Duddy continues to carry out and I commend him and the ministers considering the charge to your prayers. I hope that in the coming months we will have more to share. For now, please be assured of my and Kilfennan's prayers for you during this season of vacancy
Russel Edgar, Vacancy Convenor

Sunday School

Junior Sunday school

As we welcome everyone back after the summer holidays, we look forward to a new year in junior Sunday school. Following the success of our children's day service (especially the chimes) and prize giving, we had a sunny Sunday school excursion back in June to Portrush, with lots of ice cream and fun at Curry's and the beach. Over the next couple of weeks, we'll be preparing for harvest, by coming up with ideas for helping to decorate the church. Can't wait to see everyone from nursery all the way to P7 for another year of teaching and learning about God and the bible.

Dianne Moore

Youth Fellowship

The congregation's youth fellowship is being relaunched in a different format, with one combined group meeting every two weeks. The first meeting will be a special relaunch event at 7 pm on Sunday, 11 October and all young people from P5 to Year 12 will be very welcome. We are especially keen to involve young people from the Eglinton area who have little or no church association at present so, if you know anyone who might be interested in coming along, please invite them.



Boys Brigade

New Company Captain

Following the retirement of Anne Montgomery, the Kirk Session was very pleased to appoint Stephen Montgomery as the new captain of the Faughanvale company of the Boys Brigade. We are very grateful to Stephen for taking up this role and we wish him every success.

BB meets on a Thursday evening in the church hall, starting the new session on Thursday 10th September.

Anchor boys is for boys in Yr1 to Yr4 and runs from 6.30 - 7.45pm.

Junior section is for boys in Yr5 to Yr7 and runs from 6.30 - 8pm.

Company section is for boys in Yr8 to Yr14 and runs from 7.30 - 9pm.

Each night the boys take part in a wide range of activities from games to scripture lessons.

New members would be warmly welcomed into any of the age groups. We also have 3 new leaders who have joined us this year - Yasmin Montgomery, Valerie Spencer and Leah Montgomery. We want to thank them for offering to help out and hope they will enjoy their time in BB.

Our BB Enrolment Service is on Sunday 18th October during the morning service. All parents and friends are welcome to attend.

Finally, the BB would value your prayers as we meet each week and that the boys and leaders would know the Lord's presence in their lives.

Stephen Montgomery, Captain

Junior Section

Junior Section is back up and running for another year. With 6 new recruits our numbers are up to 13. The boys this year

will enjoy a full programme of Battalion competitions, and we also have a number of guests lined up for the year.

Of course, the most important item on the programme will be the Scripture and this year we will focus on "Young People of the Bible", taking in Joseph, Samuel, David and many others. As we go into another year, please pray for the boys and leaders, that this year will be a year of blessing and that we will see the boys progress in their walk with the Lord.

Faughanvale Woman (formerly PW)

Our theme for 2026/27 is 'Generation to Generation', based on Psalm 79 v13:

'Then we your people, the sheep of your pasture will praise you forever; from generation to generation, we will proclaim your praise'

The Derry and Donegal Link Rally is on Monday, 28 September at 7.30pm in Ray Presbyterian Church, Manorcunningham. The speaker will be Volker Glissman from Malawi; our overseas project this year.

We meet on the first Monday of the month from October to April. Our programme is:

5 October – Jane Christie, Spiral Soul, making herbal remedies from natural products

2 November – Jo McIlwaine from Transforming Lives for Good TLG – our home project for this year.

7 December – Christmas dinner at the Green Cat – always an enjoyable night. We would love to see ladies of all ages coming together for fun and fellowship and to encourage each other in our spiritual life.

Pamela Montgomery

Sunshine Club

The Sunshine Club usually meets at 2 pm every third Friday of the month, for a variety of talks and crafts and, of course, most important of all, a cup of tea and a good chat! The programme up to Christmas is:

16 October – ‘Play your Cards Right’

20 November – Talk by Tony Crowe, Lord Lieutenant

18 December – Christmas Programme and special tea

News members are always welcome.

Please come along and enjoy a short period of fellowship and fun.

Bowling Club

The Bowling Club will be back in league action again shortly, this season in the more familiar and comfortable waters of Section B, after our brief sojourn in the dizzy height of Section A last season. The club meets every Tuesday evening at 8.00 pm. New members, including complete beginners, are very welcome. Club nights are just a bit of fun so, why not come along and give it a go. It's not hard to pick the game up and there is always someone on hand to show a beginner what to do.

Guides

The Guide unit meets on Tuesday evening throughout the year for girls aged 10-14. We feel Guides provides an opportunity to develop friendships and learn new skills. Through a variety of activities, girls are encouraged to develop confidence, independence and teamwork. They have opportunities to try new experiences, take on challenges and learn practical

skills. This can include craft, task solving, cooking challenges and camping experiences. Previous highlights the previous year include the Christmas shopping trip, outdoor treasure hunt and the Surf Day at Benone.

Registration night 29th September at 7pm for previous and new members all welcome

Vicky Cochrane

Faughanvale Youth on Mission

It is great that again this year young people from the congregation took part in mission work, both at home and abroad. They have outlined what that work involved.

‘I was a part of the team of 21 leaders for Roe Valley CSSM again this year from the 1st to the 9th of August. There were a total of 158 children and young people who attended throughout the week, including 40 teenagers - the highest number in recent years. I was a leader in the ‘minis’ - aged 4-6 and there was a total of 49 in this age group. I had a small group of 8 which I was responsible for. Each day the team gathered for devotions at 10, had a team lunch and then the children arrived at half 1. They stayed until half 4, and during this time there was a big mat service, games and a craft. We had a team dinner followed by ‘teen scene’ from 7:30 to 10. Finally, the team met for reflective prayers, and we got home at around 11. This was an amazing week full of hope! It's so encouraging to see God working in local communities.

Sarah McGrath

This summer I was able to lead at two different teams here in the Northwest and

I had a brilliant time at both. From 30 June to 4 July, I was a leader at Castlerock CEF Junior Camp, for P5 -P7. Throughout the week, we did loads of fun activities like swimming, football, cricket, a social and a talent show and many other things. There was also a morning and evening meeting where the kids learned about John the Baptist. We had a missionary worker there and the kids learned a memory verse, and we had loads of songs. By the end of the week, they had learned so much and had all become so confident in talking about Jesus. Furthermore, from 25 July to 2 August, I was a leader at Kilfennan Presbyterian Church's Impact team. Similar to ourselves, we had a Holiday Bible Club as well as meetings for teens in the evening, where we discussed some big questions about faith with them, as well as some great nights of 'Taskmaster', escape rooms and a social. We also did some community work throughout the week. Once again, everyone who attended became really confident through the week and were all really engaged in the talks at each event. Thank you for your prayerful support and I would love it if we were able to continue praying for all the wonderful missions that are going on around us.

Callum Smith

My name is Karl Murray and this summer as part of Exodus teams 2026 I travelled to Moldova with team 43. The team was a cross-community team who partnered with a local church in Moldova. We arrived with the goal of assisting the church with a kids Bible club and helping members of the congregation with village upkeep. We were able to deliver food packages and share the gospel as well as paint fences, restore overgrown areas and paint clean houses. Many of the people we helped came from difficult living conditions and

we were able to set a positive Christian example by being available and willing to help. As a team we studied the Bible together each day, prayed together and talked about what we had learned. This allowed for us all to benefit from each other and grow in our faith. I am very thankful for the donations and support from the congregation which allowed me to take part in this team.

Karl Murray

Bike Show and Biker's Café Church, Saturday and Sunday 12 & 13 September

For the third year, the Faughanvale Bike show was staged in September.

Unfortunately, the weather was again not very kind to us and that, combined with a clash with some other events in the locality, kept numbers down compared to last year, both in terms of bikes on display and visitors. However, the event was still a huge success and was enjoyed by all who attended, especially the bikers who love the opportunity to meet old friends and show off their machines.



As usual, the refreshments team were kept busy all day, serving burgers, sausage and bacon baps, tray bakes, scones, and tea and coffee.

A very successful auction was held thanks to generous donations of items from many local businesses and the opportunity for outreach was taken and everyone attending was given a gospel booklet, 'The Man on the Cross'. The staging of the show involves a great deal of work over many months, and tremendous thanks are due to the fundraising team of Lynn Taggart, Stephen Montgomery, Jenny Lewers and Alison Simpson, and also Anne Hamilton for the excellent promotion of the event in social media. However, there was also a great team of volunteers who worked hard baking tray-bakes and scones, serving food, tea and coffee, erecting marquees, directing traffic and doing a thousand and one other things without which the show would not have been a success. After expenses, the show will raise in the region of £2,500 which will go to church funds and to the first-aid charity 'First Responders.'

Continuing the Bike theme, Café Church was held in the church hall on Sunday, 13 September. A large congregation enjoyed tea and coffee with scones and traybakes and then witnessed an inspiring service conducted by members of the Christian Motorcycle Association. .

Treasurer's Update

2026 to date has been a good year for the church from a financial perspective. Those members who contribute to the work of our congregation have continued to be generous in their giving with both Freewill Offering and Maintenance Fund

giving showing increases from the 2025 levels.

In addition, a real highlight to date has been our work in raising funds for the wider work of God's church, both here and abroad. Back in April we held a United Appeal Sunday, and this was very successful, raising almost £1,000. As at 31 August we had raised £6521.88 towards our annual target of £8749. However, the United Appeal is not the only work we have supported, with a further £6000 raised for the work of others including CEF, Scripture Union, Exodus Summer Mission trip, Christian Aid, Kids4School and Limavady Food Bank.

Can I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the work to date. If you are not currently contributing but would like to get involved, please speak to either myself or your elder to arrange things.

Gordon Smith, Treasurer

Want some easy ways to raise a bit of extra funds for the Church?

£ Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for Faughanvale Presbyterian Church with easyfundraising? There are over 8,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds. Some retailers, such as Tesco, also now give a donation for your shopping in-store. All you need to do is to get started is: 1. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/caus>

es/faughanvalepresch/ and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online or, go to
easyfundraising first to find the site you
want and start shopping. 3. After you've
checked out, the retailer will make a
donation to Faughanvale Presbyterian
Church at no extra cost to you
whatsoever! There are no catches or
hidden charges, and Faughanvale
Presbyterian Church will be really grateful
for your donations. We have raised over
£600 this way and with your help we
could raise more. Thank you for your
support.

£ At the last count, the Smartie Tube
Challenge had raised £11,031! Sadly,
there are now only a very small
number of supporters, so we need
more to join. You won't notice the odd
20p that turns up in your change, but,
as you can see, it all adds up to a great
contribution to church funds. Please
pick up a Smartie Tube from the
vestibule table, eat the Smarties and
fill the empty tube with 20 pence
pieces from your change and bring it
back when it is full.

"I KNOW GOD ANSWERS PRAYER!"

Mary Slessor was a Scottish missionary to Nigeria and was once asked what prayer meant to her. She replied,

"My life is one long, daily, hourly record of answered prayer
for physical health,
for mental overstrain,
for guidance given marvellously,
for errors and dangers averted,
for enmity to the Gospel subdued,
for food provided at the exact hour needed,
for everything that goes to make up life and my poor service.

"I can testify with a full and often wonder-stricken awe that I believe God answers prayer. I know God answers prayer!"

A HARD TIME OF IT

"If any man tries to introduce the name of Jesus into the world, he will have a hard time of it; it is that despised name that the world hates; it does not hate religion. It is the name of Jesus that we are to hold up in these last days." - *Harold Schofield*.

"IT WILL BLOW THE WHISTLE ONCE"

A steam locomotive stood at rest, and a fireman (or stoker) threw a lump of coke into the furnace, saying, "It will blow the whistle once." And so it did.

The railway meaning of blowing the whistle was to warn people of danger, or to announce that the train was about to start.

Do you feel that you can't do much to warn people graciously of spiritual danger or tell them warmly that it is time to start following Jesus? Remember that little piece of coke, no bigger than a man's fist, and how it made enough steam to blow a loud whistle.

Zechariah 4:10 ... whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice ...

- THE BIBLE -

It is	A Book Completely Divine - <i>MATTHEW 4:4</i> Eternally Faithful. <i>PSALM 119:89</i>
It is the	Guide to Heaven, <i>JOHN 14:1-6</i> Inspired and <i>2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17</i> Jesus-centred. <i>LUKE 24:27</i>
It provides	Knowledge regarding Life everlasting, <i>PSALM 16:11</i> Mankind's Need, and <i>MARK 2:17</i> Overwhelming Pardon though Christ. <i>ISAIAH 55:7; PETER 1:3</i>
Vital The	Questions answered. <i>ACTS 16:30-</i> Return of the Saviour is Taught <i>1THESSALONIANS 4:13-18</i>
It is of	Unfathomable Value. <i>PSALM 19:10</i> Wonders are Xhibited! <i>PSALM 40:5</i>
Do you	You Zealously study it? <i>ACTS 17:11</i>

- TROUBLED BY YOUR YESTERDAYS? -

My yesterdays,
so dark with shame,
He has forgiven.
Oh praise His Name!
My sins are gone;
I've peace at last.
The blood of Jesus
covers all the past!

Source Unknown

- BIBLE CROSSWORD -

Across

- 3.** In what city was the church described by the Lord Jesus as lukewarm? (Revelation 2)
- 5.** Who was the father of Isaac?
- 7.** Where was Saul going on the day He met Christ (Acts 9).
- 10.** Peter's occupation before he followed the Lord Jesus.
- 13.** The third last book of the Old Testament
- 14.** What was the apostle Peter's original name?
- 15.** The Lord Jesus taught us to pray for this daily.

Down

- 1.** What type of coin did the woman lose in the parable told by the Lord Jesus?
- 2.** Which of the Ten Commandments refers to the Sabbath day?
- 4.** A word that means eternal.
- 6.** 'The Lord is my portion and my ---' 3 letters (Psalm 16).
- 8.** What relation was Moses to Aaron?
- 9.** This book of the Bible comes after Hebrews.
- 11.** What animal did John the Baptist mention to describe the Lord Jesus?
- 12.** In Ephesians 6, Paul describes the word of God as the ----- of the Spirit.

