John Gilkinson—Chaplain serving in Antrim Area and Causeway Hospitals—John writes, “I count it a privilege to be able to journey alongside patients who can be facing all kinds of questions and concerns in the midst of illness, pain, trauma and suffering, and seek to offer spiritual, religious and pastoral care to them.” The role of chaplain has been defined as “a spiritual care provider in the midst of an anxious system.” Pray that John will be able to provide appropriate spiritual care to patients, family members and staff in an ever-changing and increasingly stressful healthcare environment. Pray too for Joanne Dunlop, deaconess, working alongside John in Antrim Area Hospital.

Galway United Methodist Presbyterian Church—Rev Helen Freeburn—‘Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain.’ Psalm 127:1 Pray that Galway congregation will be guided and obedient to the Lord in all endeavours. Pray for unity, energy and deep faith for the Council members (elders), Sunday School teachers and helpers, and youth group leaders. Pray also for newcomers, that they will feel at home in the congregation and grow in faith; for those moving into lay preaching; for the Essentials discipleship course starting in the congregation this week. Pray especially for comfort for Rev Helen Freeburn, whose father died recently.

Strand Presbyterian Church—Rev Danny Rankin—Give thanks for Strand’s partnership with Knock Presbyterian Church. The two churches have been working together for a number of years in different projects, both in Sydenham and in the Knock area. Pray for the new Girls’ Brigade Company in Strand. Pray that many girls may come and that those who have volunteered will be encouraged and be filled with the Holy Spirit as they share their lives with the girls.

Overseas: (Full version: www.presbyterianireland.org/Prayer/Prayer-Line.aspx)

BRAZIL—Naomi Keefe reports that there are many activities this month planned with the Good News Club and Reading Room, including visiting the old people’s home, film day and a Children’s Fun Day on 21 October. Pray for the above activities and that each child who attends the Good News club and Reading Room will come to know Christ as their personal Saviour. Pray for the various training sessions Naomi will be involved with this month with Camocim and Peixinhos congregations and for Naomi’s health and safety, especially due to water supply problems and frequent attacks on people on buses.

ASIANS in the UK—Pray for Christopher and Nivedita Benjamin in the Wembley area of London, where they reach out to the Gujarati expatriate community: Pray that God will give many opportunities to share the Good News of the Gospel.

KENYA—Stephen Cowan writes, “There is much uncertainty in the country as the planned rerun of the presidential election on 26 October is still being challenged by the opposition. Civic demonstrations are planned for Mondays and Fridays, while the incumbent team are busy campaigning for re-election. In Samburu county, the normal life struggles continue with herding animals in hostile terrain and keeping cattle rustlers at bay.” Pray for the schools preparing youth for exams in the midst of the political tensions, and for teachers who will travel at the end of term to their homes to vote. Pray for those in authority in Kenya, that they will act with integrity as they face challenging issues. Pray for preparations for youth camps in Tuum in December, including work on the new kitchen.

INDIA—Rev John Faris, Convener of PCI Global Mission’s Leadership Development Committee, has been representing PCI at the Church of North India (CNI) Synod meetings in Delhi, and is looking forward to attending a week of meetings and events in CNI’s Diocese of Gujarat. Pray for the leadership of the CNI as they implement decisions made at the Synod Meeting and for the ongoing work and witness of CNI. Pray for John’s visit to Gujarat, for continued safety, health and energy throughout his trip.

MYANMAR—Over the past few weeks, violence in Rakhine State has forced around half a million people, mainly Rohingya Muslims, to flee to Bangladesh in fear of their lives. People are arriving in Bangladesh with little or no money or possessions, and are in need of food aid and medical assistance. Pray for all those who have fled their homes and are in need of humanitarian assistance, and for aid agencies helping those in need.

Announcements for inclusion in the bulletin must be with Paul Ferguson (paulferguson@firstcookstown.co.uk or 028 8644 8601) no later than 12 noon on Friday of this week.

First Presbyterian Church Cookstown
(founded 1646)

in the Presbytery of Tyrone

Welcome!
Please take this Bulletin home with you.

...the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

II Timothy 1:7

Sunday 8 October 2017

11.30 am Very Revd Dr Andrew Rodgers
No service—Molesworth Harvest

Remember: www.firstcookstown.co.uk You can access this Bulletin, listen to service recordings, and contribute news and updates, along with much more information.

MISSION is every believer’s responsibility!

MORNING

Scripture: Acts 12:1-17 (page 1106)

The sin of prayerlessness

Praise: Psalm 51:7-13

IPH 256

IPH 255

RCH 404

Ministerial Cover: The Presbytery of Tyrone has agreed that Revd Ivor Smith should continue as Interim Moderator for the next few months, and help complete the formalities necessary to allow the congregation to look for a new minister. If you require the services of a minister, please contact your District Elder, Revd Smith (028 8674 8212 or 07743 239818) or The Very Revd Dr Andrew Rodgers (028 8773 8751 or 07801 079179).

This Week

Today

11.30 am Very Revd Dr Andrew Rodgers

12.30 pm The Presbyterian Prayer Handbook is available at a cost of £2. Anyone who would like one, including those who have received them in the past, and those who would like one for the first time, should see Kenneth Brown in the Morrison Room after this mornings service.

7.00 pm No evening service—Molesworth Harvest

8.00 pm Youth Fellowship in The Loft until 9.30 pm—year 8 to age 24.
Monday
12.00 pm  PW catering
6.00 pm  Squirrels meet in the halls until 7.00 pm.
7.00 pm  Beavers meet in the halls until 8.00 pm.
7.30 pm  Dr Eamon Phoenix will speak on The Reformation in Gortalowry House. Dr Phoenix is a political historian, broadcaster and lecturer at Stranmillis University College, Belfast. All welcome.
8.00 pm  Explorer Scouts meet in the hall until 9.30 pm.

Tuesday
10.15 am  Tuesday morning Prayer Meeting in the Minister's Room. Everyone welcome.
7.45 pm  Bowling Club in the main hall. New members will be very welcome. Come along and try bowling. No experience necessary.

Wednesday
10.30 am  Midweek Morning Bible Study continues in The Loft. We are studying the book of Jonah and everybody is very welcome to join us for a cup of tea and fellowship.
6.30 pm  Rainbows, Brownies and Guides until 8 pm. All girls aged 4 - 14. New members welcome.

Thursday
6.30 pm  Ranger Guides Senior Section. Any girls from 15 years up to 25 years most welcome. No need to have been a member of guides previously.
8.00 pm  Thursday evening Prayer Meeting in the Minister's Room. Everyone welcome.
8.00 pm  Scouts meet in the hall until 9.30 pm.

Next Sunday
10.15 am  Sunday School and Bible Class
11.30 am  Revd Trevor Coburn
7.00 pm  No evening service—Ortorr Harvest

October
Wednesday 18  Home Bible Studies continue (81 Sweep Road). Studies in Colossians—"Confident Christianity". Study 2: Jesus our Lord. Everyone welcome!

Monday 23  Newmills Presbyterian Hall - visitors night. Mrs. Anne Uprichard will speak on her faith and previous battles with addiction. Also hand crafts for sale - proceeds in aid of mission work in Russia. Please inform Linda Donaghy (86765805) by 9th October if attending.

Sunday 29  Deirdre Patterson and Naomi Ferguson travel to Nyeri, Kenya, with a team from the Metropolitan Tabernacle, Belfast, on a short-term missionary project.

Sat 18 Nov 'Ladies Breakfast' in Royal Hotel, Cookstown, at 9am. Cost £10 per person. Speaker - Lyn Dowds, a missionary serving in Malawi. Names and payment to Linda Donaghy (86765805) no later than Friday 27th October.

The will of God will never take you, where the grace of God cannot keep you, the arms of God cannot support you, where the riches of God cannot supply your needs, where the power of God cannot endow you.  Author unknown

(Where do you struggle with accepting God’s will at this time in your life? Let this quote reassure you of God’s providential care.)

ROTAS—read through them carefully!

FLOWER ROTA
Today .................................................. Dr Helen McLernon
Next Sunday ......................................... Mrs Barbara Patterson

F.W.O. TEAM ROTA
This Week ........................................... Mrs Black, George Black, Jean Short, Derek Short
Next Week ........................................... Bob Agnew, Noel Forde, John Faulkner, June Reid

CAR PARK ROTA
Today .................................................. Trevor Crooks  Next Sunday ............................. Tony Patterson

READERS’ ROTA
Today .................................................. Chris Kerr  Next Sunday ............................. Rosemary Gilmour

COLLECTION ROTA
Manse side (October) ......................................................... Alison Bell, David McDowell
Gallery (October) ............................................................. Harold Leonard, Ted McKinney, Norman Wilson
Town side (October) ........................................................... Noel Forde, Jim Rutherford
Manse side (November) ..................................................... David Junk, Glen Morton
Gallery (November) ........................................................... David Johnston, Tony Patterson, John Purdy

CHURCH STEWARING ROTA
October ................................................................................. Ronnie Nicholl, Margaret Wallace

JUNIOR CHURCH ROTA
Today ................................................................................. Jennifer Park, Elaine Miller, Nicola Morton

SOUND DESK ROTA
This Morning ........................................... John Black  Next Sunday ............................. Andrew Johnston

SUNDAy SCHOOL SUPERVISION ROTA
Next Sunday ............................................................................ Robert Hamilton, Brian McLaughlin

F.W.O. TEAM ROTA
Last summer, the International Meeting Point has loaned out over 150 bicycles. These bicycles are of enormous benefit to those wanting to come to the centre, but who live too far away to walk. There are still people needing bicycles. If you have a serviceable bicycle that you could donate, please contact

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND PRAYER FOCUS / PRAYERLINE: (edited)
Home:  (Full version: www.presbyterianireland.org/Prayer/Prayer-Focus.aspx)
Keith Preston – Irish mission worker serving in the International Meeting Point, Belfast — Keith writes, “Please continue to remember the International Meeting Point in your prayers. Every day we have over 80 people visiting our centre.” Give thanks for a fantastic International Meeting Point away day to Carnfunnock Country Park last Saturday, 30 September. Three bus loads enjoyed a fabulous day out together. Pray for the ongoing work of the International Meeting Point as it seeks to reach out with the Good News of salvation to an increasingly multi-cultural Belfast, and for Keith and his colleagues, Henry Coulter and Sharon Heron, as they staff the project and for the volunteers who make it possible. Since last summer, the International Meeting Point has gone out over 150 bicycles. These bicycles are of enormous benefit to those wanting to come to the centre, but who live too far away to walk. There are still people needing bicycles. If you have a serviceable bicycle that you could donate, please contact

Alzheimer’s Society
The Alzheimer’s Society in Mid Ulster are seeking to recruit volunteers for their Side by Side service (Befriending Service). Are you interested in volunteering with people in the early stages of dementia? Side by Side volunteers offer companionship and support to individuals to enable them to keep active in their local communities. If you require further information, or wish to have a chat about the service, then please contact Maureen Hughes on 07703 470746 or email maureen.hughes@alzheimers.org.uk

An annual contribution is made from our congregation. Should any member wish to make an individual contribution, please do so using the envelopes available on the vestibule tables. Tax payers should include their FWO number or their name and address to enable Gift Aid to be claimed. The most recent Annual Report is available in the side vestibule for your perusal.

PRAyER FOCUS