

First Larne Presbyterian Church

"We are here to worship God, build up His church and share His love."

www.firstlarne.org.uk www.facebook.com/Firstlarne



"We preachers have an opportunity to declare that there is another narrative out of which we can live our lives.

It is a narrative of generosity, and freedom, and forgiveness, and hospitality, and justice.

It is the narrative of the future."

Walter Brueggemann, Old Testament scholar and theologian

Worship @ First
Sunday 16th May 2021
CHRISTIAN AID SERVICE 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 98

Hy.194 *"This earth belongs to God...."* (from Psalm 24)

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

READING: John 15 v.5-17

Hy.611 *"The kingdom of God is justice and joy...."*

Justice and Joy!

Prayer – led by Bob Kikuyu, Global Theology Advisor at Christian Aid

Hy.509 *"Love divine, all loves excelling..."*

Benediction

"The Song of Kingdom Come"



The Meeting House is open for services at 11am each Sunday.
Services will continue to be live-streamed on Facebook & Youtube, as well as being available later on our website.

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 23rd May 11am

"How can being told what to do be freedom?"

Exodus 20 v.1-21

Later in MAY

Sunday 30th May:

Freedom's Choice:

Big Grapes or Big Giants?

Numbers 13 v.1-2, 26 – 14 v.9

All Covid-19 protocols are still being observed.

Find details towards the end of these announcements.

If you are planning to attend it would assist efficient stewarding if you could book for each service in advance using "Eventbrite".

Use the link below or on the website homepage.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/morning-worship-tickets-149516569083>

Alternatively, leave your name on the Church Office answering machine

Tel 028 28269968



We hope before too long to be celebrating our next communion service. If you are not already a communicant member but would like to find out more speak to the Rev. McClure, your district elder or one of the stewards.

As soon as guidelines permit, over a period of a few weeks, we plan to run a group for anyone considering full communicant membership of First Larne.

KIDS church



EVERY SUNDAY MORNING DURING THE SERVICE

The Kids Church Programme is now running in person and online. Extra-special measures are in place to ensure everyone's safety and comfort.

Children are greeted at the "Link" door to the Church Halls just prior to the beginning of the service.

Parents are welcome to remain with their children.

Parents in church are asked to remain seated until others have left before going to the Memorial Hall to collect their children.

KID'S CHURCH PROGRAMME for MAY

(during service time in the Memorial Hall AND online)

Each week, in a stimulating format, a key story is introduced by our leaders, including a video and a range of activities encouraging families to creatively and joyfully grow together in their understanding.

Everyone is welcome – in-person or on-line!



Together we **STOP** this climate crisis

Every.

Last.

Drop.

For Rose, every last drop of water is precious. This Christian Aid Week, you could help Rose's family survive the drought. Donate to help her community build a dam. Go to caweek.org

christian aid

Helping you to make a difference

Resources available from the vestibule

- ❖ **Seven-day Devotional**
readings, reflections, prayers,
- ❖ **Children's Activity Sheet**

DONATE

<https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid-ireland/larne-virtual-soup-lunch-caw-2021>

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK LUNCH CHALLENGE

Sunday 16th May 2021.

Plan to have soup and bread for your Sunday lunch
on Sunday 16th May 2021.

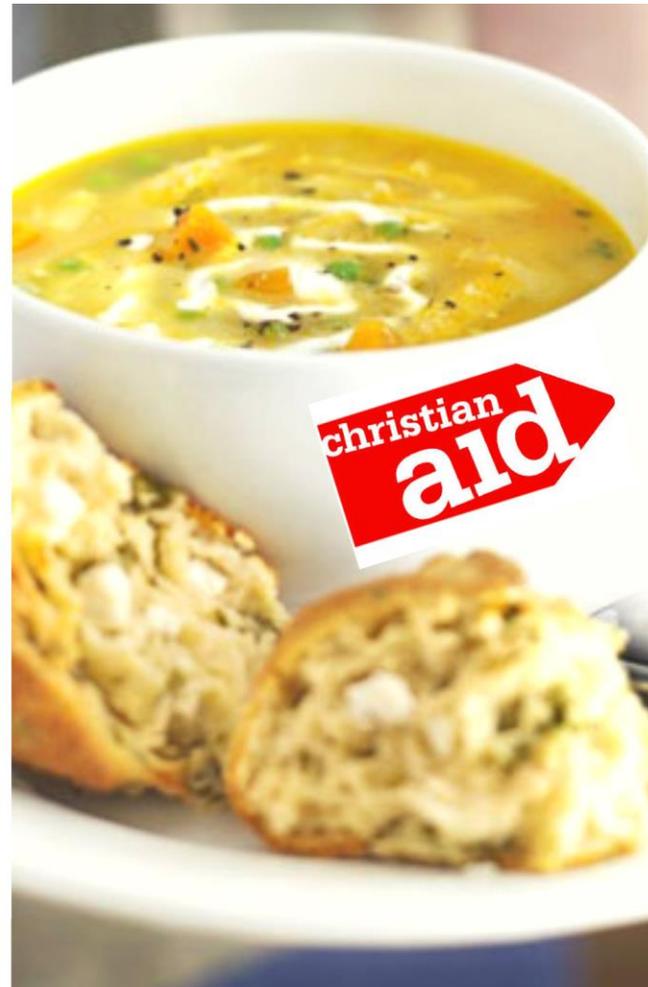
Take a photo of those gathered around your home
table and post it to your church Facebook page
Tag with #LarneChristianAidLunchChallenge.

If you can, gather with other homes across a video
chat (WhatsApp, Messenger, Zoom - whatever works for you) and post
a picture of a screen showing homes joined together.

Enjoy the fellowship and the soup!

Donate to Christian Aid

#LarneChristianAidLunchChallenge



“Zoom” into the First Larne lunch TODAY!

Join us – with a few friends – any time between 1-1.30pm

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72171921651?pwd=Sk1yU3NkOEVTSktGaGMrM2J4cTJJZz09>

Meeting ID: 721 7192 1651

Passcode: FLCAWLunch

Make your Donation online: <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid-ireland/larne-virtual-soup-lunch-caw-2021>



Following on from the “For Now...” booklet issued to every household, our small groups will be looking at a specially prepared resource for discovering more of what the Bible says to us at this unusual and challenging time in our history. The series is accompanied by specially commissioned videos, allowing us to link up with the experience of other Presbyterians.

Topics include:

- Caring for one another
- Following Jesus together
- Engaging with God in worship
- Encouraging young people
- Encouraging families with younger children
- Sharing our faith

WATCH OUT FOR THE SMALL GROUP NEAR YOU!

Meeting dates will be released soon

Below are contact details of the three groups open to you:

TUESDAY at 11am (2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month)

Email Bev Moore: bevandnat@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY at 7.30pm

Email Sandy Lindsay: sandy30654@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY at 7.30pm Women’s Group

Email Jax Murphy: jaxmccallum@gmail.com

INFORMATION for Your PRAYING

On our website homepage, under “Resources for you to share”, each week you can pick up prayer points from various home and overseas sources, including:

1. “Let’s Pray” – PCI’s own weekly bulletin
2. HabitatNI – Habitat for Humanity’s prayer requests
3. Christian Aid updates
4. The latest Leremore family bulletin from Kenya

**STATEMENTS
Issued this week by the Moderator**



1. Ballymurphy Inquest
2. Legacy Issues

The text of these statements can be accessed on our website home page: www.firstlarne.org.uk
Go to the links at “Resources for you to Share”



REFRESHING OUR ROTAS

It’s not too late to join the following teams:
**Stewarding
Grass-cutting
AV Team**

If you think you could join any of these teams you will not be left alone but will be introduced to the work by others with some experience and you will be working alongside others.

Contact the Rev. McClure or leave a message on the Church Office answering machine or make direct contact with

- Bev Moore – Stewarding
- Jan McKay – Grass cutting
- Neill Murray – AV Team



First Larne's Youth App Is currently being developed...

Blog of the Week

Searching for home in Nomadland
Also contains a link to the official trailer.



A wealth of resources for this exceptional time in our lives produced by PCI for PCI. Check it out!

A selection of BIBLE READING RESOURCES

❖ "Spiritual Healthcheck" *16 steps to a thriving Christian life*
Available by contacting the Rev. McClure

Larne Interchurch Divine Healing Team invite you to find out more about their ministry of prayer. Join them at their next "Zoom" meeting THIS Thursday at 8pm or speak with Robert Alexander for further information.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75121076536?pwd=SnRWdHIRSjM2YUhtUVIYK0JENW03QT09>

Meeting ID: 751 2107 6536 Passcode: k1Gt3b



PRESBYTERIAN HERALD & WIDER WORLD

There will be four editions of the Herald in 2021.

No subscriptions are due for 2021.

Printed editions of both magazines have been distributed.

An online version of the Herald is now available on the PCI website.



An initiative of the Corrymeela Community

On each of the 50 days from Easter Monday (5th April 2021) and Pentecost Sunday (23rd May 2021), **#couragepentecost** will share an image and courageous action that can be taken in the face of sectarianism and paramilitary violence. Each action is invitational rather than aspirational, seeking to equip and encourage individuals to consider and deepen their own journeys of courage towards reconciliation.

There are four ways to join us: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

Each week, we will share with you an email update on the previous seven days. If you would like to tell us what you are thinking, learning and experiencing during this process, why not share with us on our email couragepentecost@corrymeela.org. We can then use some of the feedback in the weekly updates.

This journey is an open invitation. We look forward to seeing where the Holy Spirit takes us and if together, we can build a more reconciled society.



Is There a Common Good?

To mark the 50th anniversary of the Irish School of Ecumenics a new three year education and research programme exploring the theme: “Is There A Common Good?”

is being launched with a series of civic conversations on zoom. These will run over two six- weekly series, from Saturday 6 February 2021 to Monday 24 May 2021.

The focus for this: “Is the Past Preventing the Future and the Common Good?” provides an opportunity to explore obstacles to the common good and positive actions for change. The range of speakers are from Northern Ireland, or have lived here for many years, and they will address the theme from their areas of expertise. The programme is open to anyone who is interested, particularly those living in Northern Ireland and Border Counties.

For more information click on the following hyperlink
<https://www.tcd.ie/ise/assets/pdf/Common-Good-Course-Brochure.pdf>
To register contact Kirstie at kirstie479@hotmail.com.



Gamble Library (Union Theological College)
Annual electronic membership offer:
Access to 750+ eBooks and
ATLA Databases

Cost: £50

(plus a one-off library card fee of £10).
Further reductions may be available.

Contact librarian@union.ac.uk or 02890205093 for details.

Scripture Union E3 Workers in Schools throughout East Antrim

The latest edition of their prayer letter is now available.

Go the home page of our website and you will find a link with the other resources.

Connect with services ONLINE, CD, DVD and by PHONE

Live feeds are still on Facebook and YouTube.

Let the Rev. McClure know if you know somebody who would simply like to watch or hear our services on a DVD or CD player. We can provide audio recordings on a CD or videos on DVD (preferably user's own player).

Important INFORMATION for Online Users

Our services are now live streamed on Facebook and YouTube.

After the live stream the service is available to view immediately on **Facebook**.

On **YouTube** it can be up to 24 hours after the live stream before the video is available.

Similarly, it can be up to 24 hours before the service recording is on our website.

Listen to the latest service by phoning local number 028 91249550.



Update on PCI Ministries supported via United Appeal

Check *Resources* on our home page for fresh information and updates from a range of the ministries and initiatives supported by our giving to United Appeal.

This Week:

Steve & Rosie Kennedy (Romania)

HOSPITAL and other PASTORAL VISITATION

Continue to inform the Rev. McClure of hospital admissions and other pastoral situations.

Whilst routine in-person visitation is still limited we are working closely with hospital chaplains to ensure our members are receiving the best possible support.

The Rev. McClure has now completed several rounds of pastoral phone calls throughout the congregation and this continues.

If, for any reason, you would like to speak with him do not hesitate to phone at 028 28272441 or 07984030881

or email: cmclure@presbyterianireland.org to make arrangements

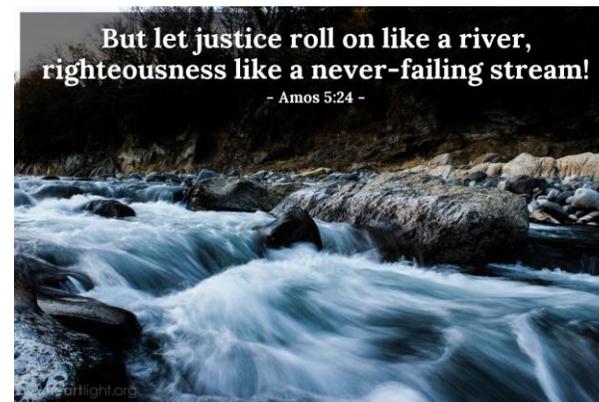


Surrounding families in crisis with caring, compassionate community

SAFE FAMILIES

This Christian charity has been contracted by the Northern Trust to help provide friendship, emotional and practical support for families in vulnerable situations. Perhaps you could help.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to take a look at how Daphne was helped through the support of a Safe Families volunteer. Please [Click Here](#) to see how Toby's life was changed by the intervention of a volunteer in his life. You can also find more information about Safe on our website: <https://www.safefamilies.uk/>



JOURNEYING TOGETHER INTO 2021

After the year we have had what's the 2021 journey going to be like?

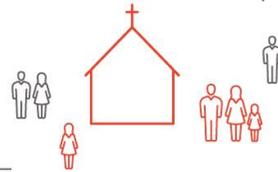
To make sense of any journey you should know where it begins, where it is heading for and how to get there.

In our services throughout 2021 join us as small step by small step we journey towards greater understanding of the big story for us, as relayed to us in the Bible.

As we attempt to make sense of the new normal we will explore more of the Bible – a story, from beginning to end, that makes sense of life, makes sense of us and makes sense of life for us!

Is this not what you need in 2021?

Stay SAFE at church



S A F E

Stick to the rules

- Follow advice and instruction issued by the kirk session at all times
- Follow arrangements for signing up in advance to attend activities or organisations
- Follow signage for entering, using and leaving the building



Assess the risks

- If you are displaying any of the symptoms of COVID-19, or have been in close contact with anyone displaying such symptoms, do not attend any church activities or organisations
- Take primary responsibility for your own health and wellbeing by carefully considering the level of risk involved in coming to any gathering of people at church
- Do not feel under any pressure to be present if you are uncomfortable about any aspect of attending



Foster good routines

- Wash your hands before, after, and during if necessary, time spent in the church premises
- Arrive in good time and leave promptly to limit unnecessary contact with others
- Be aware of what is involved in applying social distancing from others at all times

Encourage individual responsibility

- Hold yourself and others lovingly accountable for taking advice and instruction seriously
- Resist the temptation to become careless as necessary practices become more familiar as week follows week
- Be understanding of limitations on normal activities remaining so that we might love our neighbour as we love ourselves

KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE

- In order to ensure the safety of our entire community it will be necessary to ensure we keep numbers attending worship within the approved limits.
- Therefore you will be asked to register your intention to attend by using the “Eventbrite” app (link from our website or Facebook age) or phoning or emailing the church office by the Friday morning prior to each service.
- You simply need to give the number from your household who intend to attend.
- For instance: “Four of us are coming on Sunday.”
- As you come into the Meeting House your presence will be recorded.
- You will be asked to complete a sheet giving your name and contact phone number unless you have previously registered with “Eventbrite”.
- You will then be shown to one of the designated seats.
- You will notice stewards filling up the seats in sequence from the front.
- Your details are required should it be necessary to alert you to a possible risk of infection by someone subsequently identified as a carrier.
- You will be directed to a specific seat to maintain the required distancing and thus reduce the chances of cross infection. If we did not do this and anyone subsequently developed symptoms then everyone in the building would have to self-isolate!

PHONE FIRST-24/7

Make sure you PHONE FIRST before going to Antrim or Causeway Hospital Emergency Departments, or Mid Ulster Hospital Minor Injuries Unit.

0300 123 1 123

TEXT RELAY NUMBER: 18001 0300 123 1 123
or Interpreter Now app

Get directed to
the right care

Avoid busy
waiting rooms

Stay safe

Save time



FOR EMERGENCIES - 999

Including: stroke, heart attack, loss of consciousness, breathing difficulties, severe bleeding or major trauma

ALWAYS CALL 999 IMMEDIATELY



Two key areas of our ministry are expanding and need YOUR help.

1. **READERS:** Could you read – live in church or recorded at home?
2. **STREAMING OF SUNDAY SERVICES** – Now that we have the marvellous facility of streaming our services we have realised how important this is going to be into the future. Some of our senior members who are not able to attend will continue to be part of our worshipping community. However, this can only happen if we have more volunteers to assist at the AV desk. We would love you to have a go and see if this is for you. Speak to Neill Murray or the Rev. McClure who can arrange to let you see what is involved.



Contact Details

OFFICE Tel: 028-28269968

Email: admin@firstlarne.org.uk, Website: www.firstlarne.org.uk,

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Firstlarne

Minister: Rev. Dr. Colin D. McClure, Tel: (028)28272441,
Mobile: 07984030881 Email: cmclure@presbyterianireland.org

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104895)



ALLCHURCHES TRUST LIMITED®

OWNERS OF ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE GROUP

We acknowledge a generous grant from the Allchurches Trust Ltd “Hope Beyond” scheme (associated with the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group) which has assisted us in providing ongoing streaming and video provision of our services, ensuring access is available to all, including those unable to be physically present in our Meeting House.

Not online? USE YOUR PHONE

First Larne Service – Dial this local number (028) 91 249550

Normal charges apply. However, for most landlines there will be no charge if phoned at those times your supplier gives free calls of up to one hour. Likewise, mobile charges will vary according to your contract.



2. “Daily Hope”

A freephone service provided by the Church of England.

Dial **0800 804 8044**

The Archbishop of Canterbury is still there to greet you!

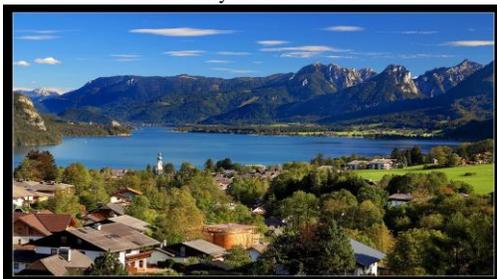
You can then choose from several options, including favourite hymns, the stories behind some hymns, prayers, reflections and other services.

Holiday tour to Austria including the Oberammergau Passion Play (10-17th August 2022)

Interested?

Contact the Rev. McClure for
further details.

Although taking place in 2022 this historic, once-in-a-decade, event books up quickly. The prime seats and accommodation in the village of Oberammergau, allocated to the tour company can only be reserved until the early months of 2021.



TAKE UP THE OPPORTUNITY OF FREE HOME ENERGY SUPPORT

Are you or anyone you know struggling to heat your home, have difficulty understanding energy bills, or how to work your heating controls?

If so Mid and East Antrim Borough Council have a free home energy service to help with these issues around the home.

They can:

Refer you to energy efficiency grant schemes available for a range of home improvements (including wall & roof insulation and heating) to maximise the energy efficiency of your home (eligibility criteria apply).

Provide advice on current household energy use and managing your heating system.

Provide advice on budgeting for fuel.

Should you require further information, contact one of the Community Health and Wellbeing Officers.

**Email wellbeing@midandeantrim.gov.uk (giving your name, address and a contact telephone number)
Tel. **028 28 262 498** - open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm**

If you need help with getting food, medicine or supplies you can call

Mid and East Antrim Community Advice Service.

Tel. 028 96 001 333

**advice line open Monday to Friday,
9am to 5pm (closed 12-1 for lunch)**

Email michele.campbell@meacas.com