

FIRST LISBURN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Wavelength

Spring 2002

What a funny (peculiar) winter we have had, so many mild days and now a touch of winter again, whoever heard of our reservoirs not being full in Feb? You will be pleased to hear that I have acquired some new computer bits and will try to concoct a news update for you all. First of all, please re-read your Winter 2001 Wavelength to save me retyping a lot of the information given there!

Christian Aid Advance notice of Christian Aid week - 12th-18th May 2002 with presumably a street collection on Tuesday 14th May. Last year nearly £12 million was raised to help those less fortunate than we are. This year Christian Aid is focusing on how international trade dictates which crops of mainly exotic fruits should be grown, leaving the small farmers little ground to grow their own food. We hear of overfishing around our own coasts, but it is happening off the Philippines also. And mining companies are dumping their waste into the oceans, with devastating results for marine life and the environment.

You will presently receive literature from our Borough Council asking for us all to help limit the waste from our homes and to recycle more. Do please give it some thought. I watched a Biomass plant being built in Devon which will deal with slurry, giving back to farmers fertiliser for the land but making electricity from the methane gas - let's campaign for a few of those in Northern Ireland to stop the fish kills from the run-off into our rivers and lakes. That's my 60-second "Soap Box"!

What a lovely All-Age Service we had on 17th February - those children are a credit to their parents and leaders and they do seem to enjoy singing to us. The League of Church Loyalty attendance awards made some of us think of our own church attendance - it is a good habit to establish young and then encourage through the teenage years, giving them a moral background to hold on to when the going gets tough. Do encourage them to go on to Laser group on Saturday evenings.

- First Lisburn Fun Day: Saturday 8th June at the home of the Davis family, 2 Taghnabrick Lane, Waterloo Road, Lisburn. Watch out for more news of this event.

Please do try to support our *PCI Project* this year by attending the two Fun Days mentioned above. The theme is *Building Hope*. Our efforts will be focused on two areas of need. Firstly, we will be helping to rebuild and refurbish the Irish Presbyterian Mission Girl's School, Rajkot, Gujarat, India - it was destroyed in the devastating earthquake that recently hit the region. Secondly, the Willow Brook housing scheme in Coleraine for people with a learning disability - a joint venture between our Board of Social Witness and Oaklee Housing Association. Would you believe that only 25 per cent of congregations in the PCI actually support the *Project* each year!

We do need more volunteers to work in Sunday School and Lazer. Please give serious consideration to this form of service. You will find the work rewarding and worthwhile. Training is given. If you feel you could contribute please speak to John Davis or Maureen Staniland.

Have a go at the "**Bible Year Cake**" competition!
Young people, use the Biblical clues to find the recipe for the cake.
Then give the completed recipe to Maureen Killiner.
There is a prize for the winner.

1½ cups Judges 5 v.25
6 Jeremiah 17 v. 11
4½ cups 1 Kings 4 v.22
2 cups 1 Samuel 30 v. 12
1 cup Proverbs 27 v. 18
1 cup 1 Samuel 14 v.25
½ cup Judges 4 v. 19

Season with:
2 Chronicles 9 v.9
Pinch of Leviticus 2 v. 13
3 tsp. Exodus 12 v. 15

Follow the instructions in Exodus 2 v. 13
and you will have a good cake.

SUNDAY SCHOOL and LAZER NEWS

Some highlights of our programme and forthcoming events. Look out for the "Bible Year Cake" competition!!

Our March and Easter SALT Teaching Programme: **"The Bible For All"** - *an exploration of what the Bible is and how its teaching can help us in our every day lives.*

Can You Master the Memory Verse?

"Everything in the Scriptures is God's word. All of it is useful for teaching and helping people and for correcting them and showing them how to live".

2 Timothy chapter 3_verse 16

Teachers for this quarter: *Beginners and PI*-Karen Graham and Nicola Anderson; *P2/3* - Sheila Hammonds and Petula Vient; *P4/5* Kathy Robinson and Susie Gilbert; *P6* Paula Nicol; *P7* Maureen Killiner and Richard Millen; *Form1/2* Perry Reid and Susan McNeight; *Lazer Group* Angie Nicol.

We are reviving the "Books of the New Testament" in song and hope to include this in our March All Age Service. We will soon begin work on the "Books of the Old Testament", a much bigger task!

Parents please look out for the *worksheet* that children bring home from time to time. They may need your help to complete it.

Dates for your diary: -

- First Lisburn YPA - St Patrick's Day Party at 7.30 p.m. in Main Hall
- All Age Services: Sunday 17th March (St. Patrick); Sunday 21st April; and Sunday 26th May.
- Family Evening: Friday 19th April.
- PCI Fun Day, Ulster Folk and Transport Museum: Saturday 11th May. Volunteers in the 18+ age group are urgently needed to staff this event. If you feel you could contribute please speak to John Davis. We are assured that trains will be running on the day on the Bangor line.

Wasn't it great to have Ross and Ruth Mulholland back with us for a short time? And to see Ruth looking so well again. If any of you go to Cyprus you would get a warm welcome from them. The grapevine tells me that the Choir had a great evening with them at Vera's, and they wouldn't mind spending a holiday out there!

Thank you to my many and varied contributors. Keep it coming!

Anne Kain

Despite the frustrations and what must at times have seemed a lack of progress we are moving forward in the search for a minister. Before Christmas, many of you gave me the names of ministers whom you thought should be considered as candidates for the vacancy. I contacted all of them and a number expressed interest indicating a willingness to pursue the matter further by meeting the Kirk Session. Finding dates to suit everyone has not been easy but these meetings should take place next month and as a result of that the Session will draw up a short list of ministers.

I have resolutely refused to speculate about a time table as to when an Installation might take place but we are making our way towards a settlement. Please pray for all concerned: the candidates, the elders, the members of the Presbytery Commission and myself that all of us may have God's Wisdom and His guidance for the next part of the journey.

Easter is earlyish this year with Easter Day on the last Sunday of March. The Holy Week Services will be held as usual each evening at 7.00 p.m. Those on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will be in the Upper Room and on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, in the Church. At the Thursday Service there will be a Celebration of Holy Communion. I hope to centre our thoughts at the Services on some of Jesus' Parables. I found the attendance at last year's services very encouraging but there is always room for more. So do come as we reflect on the Suffering and Death of Jesus through which God was reconciling the world to Himself.

On the evening of Palm Sunday we will again be joining with our friends from St. Michael's in Finaghy for a service of readings and music. Last year's attendance at this service was quite poor- need I say more!

Since Christmas, a number of members of the Congregation have died. To all who mourn their passing, we express our sympathy and pray that they may know God's love supporting and surrounding them. Easter stands as the constant reminder that through God's mighty act in raising Jesus Christ, death really has been conquered so that we do not sorrow as other who have no hope.

Bert Tosh

FAMILY EVENT

**Friday 19th April 6.30 p.m.
in the MAIN HALL**

A special evening for parents and children.

It will begin with a buffet meal provided by the Bible Study groups after which there will be events for different age groups and of course a crèche.

Parents will meet with Roy and Paddy Totten who will share their own experience of parenting and there will be opportunity to ask questions.

At around 8.45pm there will be a short family worship and the evening will end at around 9.00 pm.

This is a great opportunity for families to meet together and we would encourage as many families as possible to come.

If you have any queries please contact:

Ann at the church office 92660144,
Angie Nicol Part time youth worker 90681855,
or Evelyn Whyte 90613410.

Invitations with return slips will be out soon .

Part of Downtown is the **Get Together Club** for adults with a learning disability which meets on Wednesday afternoons. The Group has now finished a ceramic wall panel, of different churches and buildings around Lisburn. The former Mayor of Lisburn, Councillor Hagan, will perform the launch of this panel on Wednesday, 13th March in the Downtown Centre. This project was funded by the Community & Arts Council. Congratulations to all who achieved such an art form and to those who helped in any way. Annabelle Poots

Pulse Youth Club

In January this year, Pulse split into a junior and senior Youth Club. Catering for years 6 – 10 between 7.30 & 9.30, and year 11 upwards from 8.30 –10.30, Pulse is now able to meet the needs of the Pulsers in more specific ways. There are now approximately 40 Pulsers attending each week, a few of whom have also started to attend church as well.

The last term has been challenging for the leaders as they give even more on a Saturday night...please do remember them in your prayers. Pulse would be interested in establishing a small group of people who would commit to praying for them while Pulse runs on a Saturday night. You could do this at home by yourself, or meet with friends to do it. If you feel God leading you to get involved in the work in this way, please contact me and I will give you some prayer points.

Summer Holiday Club

Thanks must go to all who volunteered to help in our Holiday Club. Because of your offers of help, we have now secured the PCI team from Seattle. They will be with us between the 29th July & 11th August. I will soon be trying to place them with families in the church for their stay, so if you would like to host a team member, please let me know. The Holiday Club will run from the 5th – 11th August, with the week before being taken for preparation...again if you would like to be involved in *any* way please let me know. Whatever your age, gifts or skills we will be able to use you.

If you would like any more information on volunteering for the Holiday Club or getting involved with the church's on-going youth programme, feel free to contact me on either of the numbers listed below.

Angie

028 90 681855 / 07769 885674

**FIRST LISBURN GIRLS' BRIGADE
Diamond Jubilee Celebrations
26th and 27th April 2002**

From May Armstrong:

Were you, or do you know anyone who was, a member of First Lisburn Girls' Brigade ? We are having difficulty trying to trace our younger Past members from 1970 onwards due to their moving away from the Lisburn area. We hope to hold the following events and if you are interested please contact May or Maureen at 926702283 or 92683726.

To help us with catering and seating arrangements for the event we would be grateful if you would indicate on the slip below if you intend to be present at any of the planned events. If you know of any other past members who might be interested please let me have their names and addresses.

FIRST LISBURN GIRLS' BRIGADE

NAME: _____
ADDRESS _____ Tel.No. _____

hopes to be present at the following events (PLEASE TICK)

FRIDAY 26th April - Annual Display in Laurelhill School at 7.30 pm. Price £3.00

SATURDAY 27th April - Past Members Tea in the Church Hall. Price £10.00

- Take part in a P.E. item on the Display
- Take part in a Fancy item on the Display
- Form a Past Members Choir to sing at the Display.
This will be trained by Yvette Anderson and will meet for practice on a Saturday afternoon.

**RSVP to: Miss May Armstrong, 37 Seymour Street. Lisburn
BT27 4SY Telephone: 028 9267 0283**

HISTORICAL RECORDS

Spring-cleaning time. Sorting through old memorabilia? Think before you throw it in the waste bin.

The end of an era brings with it an array of bits and pieces, items of news, snippets of information to be sifted and stored for future reference and so it was with the retirement of Dr. Gray.

To this end the Sub-committee responsible for Church records, Anne Kain, Joyce Moran and I embarked on a revision of our First Lisburn Historical Records to reorganise and update as necessary during the "Vacancy".

Many years ago four volumes containing Session Minutes and Baptism and Marriage Records for the years between 1692 – 1824 were deposited with The Presbyterian Historical Society for safe-keeping. Microfilm copies of these are held by Public Records Office, 66 Balmoral Avenue.

Committee felt it would be sensible to duplicate the records covering the later period between 1824 – 1975. PRONI, always eager to obtain new material, have placed these on microfilm - free of charge - and have forwarded copies to The Presbyterian Historical Society. These microfilm copies should have reached the Public Search Room Shelves, even though the "Church Record's Guide" which is only updated annually may not indicate this as yet. Staff at PRO are only too willing to assist researchers. We say thank-you to Mr Steven Scarth, "Acquisition Officer" for his overseeing of this work.

Penal Laws severely curtailed the freedom of Presbyterians making it illegal for Presbyterian ministers to perform marriages of members of their congregations until 1782 and not until 1845 could they legally marry a Presbyterian to a member of The Church of Ireland. Our first baptism records date from 1692 and marriage from 1688. The church owes a debt of gratitude to the foresight of our forefathers in leaving such carefully detailed records. According to PRONI, First Lisburn is amongst the very few early churches to hold such early artefacts - a real treasure.

Some of you, we are certain, have little snippets from yesteryear. We would be only too happy to borrow them for copying to add to our records. For a start, old Church Reports, and Wavelengths become historic as the years go by and many copies are missing.

Contact can be made through Anne Kain, Joyce Moran or Elizabeth Watt.

Elizabeth Watt

What do you know about... scales?

- The simplest form of weighing scales - 'the equal-arm balance' - was first used by the Egyptians around 2500 BC.
- Scales feature on Christian Aid's trade badge, highlighting the imbalance of global trade. The figure in the middle reminds us that the imbalance is the result of human rules; but it also gives us hope, because people are the solution - we must all take action to help tip the balance of trade in favour of poor people. See below for how you can order your badge and encourage others to do the same.



Support *Trade for Life*, wear the badge Talking trade

Christian Aid is campaigning the Trade Justice Movement the negative impact of international trade rules on the world's poorest people, on the environment and on democracy.

Instead of bringing prosperity, trade often causes injustice and poverty, making the world's poorest people poorer. The problem is that the rules, which govern international trade are shaped by rich governments and companies to their own advantage.



Rules are important. With the right rules, trade could bring new products, new technology and new opportunities that would help countries tackle poverty.

It could create income, employment and investment for the world's poorest people. Rules could work for poor people not against them.

But they have to be the right rules, fully endorsed by those they seek to protect.

As a sign of your support for the *Trade for Life* campaign, why not wear the badge?

Do you love football?

Football fans will need no reminding that the World Cup finals will soon be underway in Japan and South Korea. But how much will they be told about the origin of the sports equipment and souvenirs available during the summer? The Delhi-based Organisation Global March Against Child Labour is campaigning against the use of merchandise which has been produced using child labour. FIFA is already committed to using balls that have not been made in this way, but kits and boots and a host of other items could well have been made by children as young as six or seven.

To find out how this campaign is progressing log on to the Global March website: www.globalmarch.org

Why not check with your local team that they are already using and selling "child-friendly" kits and merchandise?

Jokes?

Why don't elephants like penguins? Because they can't get the wrapper off.

What is yellow and very dangerous? Shark-infested custard!

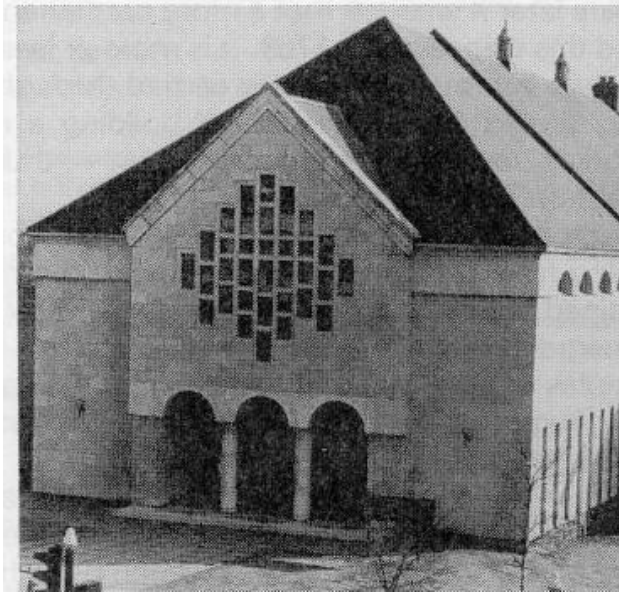
What do you call a bear with no hairs? Fred bear.

Why did Mickey Mouse take a trip to outer space? He wanted to find Pluto.

Why is Europe like a frying pan? Because it has Greece at the bottom.

Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them up to Jerusalem.

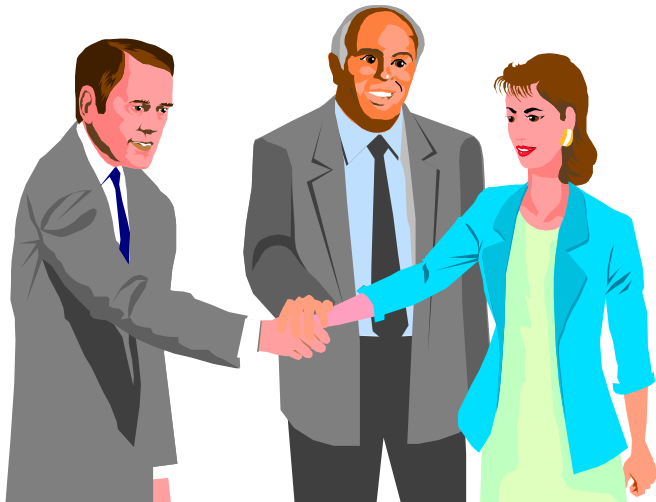
A small child replied: "They couldn't get a babysitter".



First Lisburn Presbyterian Church

A warm welcome awaits you
at
First Lisburn Presbyterian Church

Wavelength



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