

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ARMAGH

‘A place of history, holiness and hope.’

To all who are weary and need rest, to all who mourn and need comfort, to all who feel worthless and wonder if God cares. To all who fail and need strength, to all who sin and need a Saviour, to all who hunger and thirst for righteousness, and to whoever else will come. This church opens wide her doors and offers welcome and love, in the name of the risen Christ. You are most welcome.

Services - 11.45am

Sunday 5th October

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sunday 12th October (6.7pm)

Harvest Thanksgiving Services

Special music by Church Choir

Sunday 19th October

Harvest Thanksgiving, Mall

Presbyterian Church, 6.30pm

Sunday 26th October

Family Service

Worship led by Praise Band

Meetings & Events

Held in Temple Lundie Room unless stated.

Thursday 2nd October

Kirk Session, 7.30pm

Friday 3rd October

Hub Harvest Supper, 7.30pm

Tuesday 14th October

Presbyterian Women, 7.30pm

Q&A with Rev Thomas Moore



Dear friends,

On Monday 22nd September, the Autumn Equinox occurred – that moment when the Earth's axis lies perpendicular to the Sun, meaning day and night are almost exactly equal in length. After this date, the daylight is reduced and the darkness increases. On December 21st, known as the 'shortest day', daylight will once again increase.

BBC Yorkshire posted this phenomenon on their Facebook page, and it was remarkable the number of comments from people lamenting the arrival of the dark nights, as though this was somehow unexpected.

It reminds us that although the seasons bring changes to our natural light, Jesus Christ is the light of the world (John 8:12). The Apostle John reminds us that *'God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all'*. (1 John 1:5). In two months' time we will hear the prophet Isaiah remind us *'the people walking in darkness have seen a great light.'* (Isaiah 9:2).

God, our creator and Father, dwells in unapproachable light, writes the Apostle Paul (1 Timothy 6:16) and yet those who follow Jesus are filled with the light of life. Even though our world is spiritually dark and we will shortly experience increased physical darkness, the light of God's love never diminishes: it shines forever in our hearts.

'But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings.' (Malachi 4:2).

Yours in Christ,

Rev Thomas Moore



Youth Ministry

Kingdom Kids meets during the service on Sunday 5th, 12th (Harvest Celebration) & 19th October. Kingdom Youth meets on Sunday 19th October. There will also be a Kingdom Youth Presbytery Event on Friday 17th October. More information to follow.

Study & Prayer

Held in Temple Lundie Room unless stated.

Wednesday 1st October

Bible Study, 7.30pm

Wednesday 8th October

Prayer Meeting, 7.30pm

Wednesday 15th October

Bible Study, 7.30pm, Tassagh Church

Wednesday 22nd October

Prayer Meeting, 7.30pm

(There will be no meeting on Wednesday 29th October for half term break).

Rotas

Cleaning Team (preparing for)

Sunday 5th & 12th October

Led by Jennifer Somerville

Sunday 19th & 26th October

Led by Wilson Ballantine

Stewards

Ken Gordon, David Harrison,

Melanie Houston, Billy Monaghan

Contact Details

Rev Thomas Moore

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Rev Thomas Moore will be on holiday from Monday 27th October until Monday 3rd November. In cases of pastoral emergency, please contact the Clerk of Session, Ian Kyle on 07713636413.

**First
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Church**
ARMAGH



Web: firstarmagh.co.uk

Looking Back

September was an exceptionally busy and encouraging month as church life resumed after the summer. Kingdom Kids and Kingdom Youth, our newly named Sunday School groups, now have a Church Loyalty Card, have begun learning the Catechism, and are meeting in the refurbished Thomas Sproule Room. Another highlight was our first Family Service, when children and young people remained in church, taking part in readings, prayers and songs alongside the Praise Band. A First Aid Training session equipped members with valuable skills, while the Session Away Day provided time for planning and fellowship. We shared food and conversation at the Soup Lunch, and joined in joyful witness through 'Singing on the Steps'. Regular activities, including Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, Presbyterian Women, Bowls and Crochet, also recommenced, offering opportunities for learning, prayer, creativity, fun and friendship.



Prayer Points

- ♦ Pray for the work of Kingdom Kids and Kingdom Youth, for all our teachers and helpers, that our young people will hear the good news of Jesus and respond in faith.
- ♦ Give thanks for our farming families and all those involved in the agri-food industry. As we celebrate harvest, pray that the Lord will strengthen and protect our farmers and prosper the work of their hands.
- ♦ Pray for all our sister Presbyterian congregations in the Presbytery of Armagh, remembering those churches which are vacant, or about to enter a vacancy. Pray that God will raise up men and women to serve in parish ministry and many will come to faith in Christ.
- ♦ Pray for members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords as they consider and debate 'The Assisted Dying Bill.' Give thanks for those members who have opposed this proposed legislation and pray that God in his mercy would prevent this becoming UK law.
- ♦ Pray for our local hospitals and health centres. Give thanks for GPs, consultants, nursing and auxiliary staff, and all who work long and trying hours for our good. Pray that the winter pressures will be manageable this year.

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