



***'Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.'***

When I arrived in the Parish of Derryvolgie in late May there was much weeping, shock and sadness at the departure of Stephen and Cathy from the Parish. There was also shock in the combined Rural Deaneries of Derriaghy and Lisburn at Stephen's move to SAMS (South American Mission Society) especially after his appointment as Derriaghy Rural Dean the previous year. Stephen and Cathy's ministry in Derryvolgie was energetic, passionate, warm and relational. Their love, loyalty and service for their Parishioners was a testimony to their love, loyalty and service of their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

As fellow clergy in the combined Deaneries we found Stephen extremely passionate for the Gospel and building up God's Kingdom. His energy was infectious and he was clearly full of the fruits of the Spirit. When I met with Stephen the week before he left I had to ask him if he was sure of his new calling of which he assured me he was despite the sacrifice. It is not surprising that after such a successful ministry and the close relationship built up over the past 7 years that the loss of Stephen, Cathy and family was so deeply felt in Derryvolgie, like a death.

At this stage I would like to commend Archdeacon Stephen McBride and the Nominators for their reaction. A choice was clear between an immediate call in order to catch clergy and curates before the traditional holiday months of July and August when many take a month off or leaving the advertisement of the post until September. The previous position was adopted and a closing date towards the end of June for applications for the incumbency set. This quick action gradually changed the mood throughout the Parish. Lament gave way to anticipation and hope, Parishioners were now starting to look forwards rather than back. Questions were circulating, 'Have there been many applicants?', 'Will the new minister be like Stephen?'; 'Do you know where the applicants are from?' Standard response from the Nominators who are sworn to secrecy were standard Top Gun, 'I could tell but then I would have to kill you', which would have been very bad witness!

In September the process was complete and the announcement made that the Rev James Boyd of Willowfield Parish will be the new incumbent of Derryvolgie. 'The King is dead, long live the King!' The mood in the Parish is now very upbeat as the Parishioners prepare to welcome James to the Parish on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November. The buzz of questions around the Parish continue, 'Where's he from?', 'What age is he?', 'What family has he?', 'Will he be like Stephen?', 'Stephen who?' My congratulations go to Archdeacon Stephen and the nominators for their speed and efficiency in appointing James; it has certainly been by a long way the shortest vacancy cover I have been involved in!

It just remains for me to wish God's anointing and blessing on the Rev Boyd and the Parish for the future. I have been honoured by the way you have welcomed me into your Parish, homes, lives and trust, allowed me to mourn with you and rejoice with you. Please be assured of my continued support and work in the Parish until the 13<sup>th</sup> November when James will give me my DCB (*'Don't come back' lol*).

Yours in Christ  
John





## Service of Institution for Rev. James Boyd



The Parochial nominators were delighted to announce on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September that a new Rector had been appointed. Rev Stephen McElhinney took his last service at the end of May. A small team then prepared a parish profile and organized an advert in the Church of Ireland Gazette; applicants were to respond by the end of June. The first Board of Nomination was held on 4<sup>th</sup> July and nominators then commenced the task of interviewing and hearing prospective

candidates preach. At the second Board of Nomination on 29<sup>th</sup> August it was unanimously agreed that Reverend James Boyd be offered the position. He accepted.

Rev Boyd is currently Vicar of the Parish of Willowfield in East Belfast, his home parish is St Saviour's, Connor. He is a past pupil of Ballymena Academy and has a degree in computer programming from Ulster University. He worked in computer programming for a short time, but felt God was calling him to some level of ministry.

James worked with the Church of Ireland Year Out team in 1998-99, and during his 12 months he helped in 26 different churches across Ireland, doing short term mission work. He was appointed Youth Ministry Co-ordinator in Moira and spent five years developing and delivering youth work in the parish.

James left in 2004 to begin three years training for ordination at the Church of Ireland Theological College in Dublin. After ordination he was curate in the parish of Magheralin with Dollingstown, Diocese of Down and Dromore, for four years before his appointment as rector of Holy Trinity, Dromore, Co Tyrone, Diocese of Clogher. James moved to Willowfield Parish, Belfast, as Vicar in 2015.

He is married to Shirley and they have two daughters, Rebekah aged nine and Hannah aged five.

"We feel a real sense of God's call. Derryvolgie is a parish which has been in our hearts for a long time," James said. "We are very excited about the move. We see a lot of opportunity in Derryvolgie. It will be different but good."

The date for the **Service of Institution** has been confirmed for **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00pm.**

Thanks are due to Noreen Kavanagh, David Pedlow and Stewart Gavin for their commitment to identifying the individual best suited to taking the Parish forward.

Andrew Sproule



### THANK YOU

In August, I found myself in hospital. My stay there lasted three weeks. It came as something of a surprise to me that I needed a pacemaker fitted. As is usually the case with our health service, the care and attention I received were first rate but I discovered that there is more to being in hospital than simply receiving medical treatment.

It is hard, of course, not to feel down and anxious and indeed a bit lonely. My stay in hospital, however, taught me the benefit of belonging to a group and, in particular, of belonging to my family and to a church. Not just any church, of course, but Derryvolgie

Church in particular! Your good wishes, your thoughts and your prayers were conveyed to me through cards, by visits and by the Rev Farr. The thought that others were thinking of me and wishing me well meant more than I ever imagined. I appreciate the opportunity of being able to say Thank You through this Newsletter. By the way, I am feeling much better. As Jesus..... almost..... said: "Blessed are the pacemakers!"





## Parish Walk and Barbeque



Thank you to everyone who came along to the Parish walk and bbq at Lady Dixon's Park on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September! It was a great opportunity for our church family to get together for a wee dander, a chat and a cuppa (*and we all love our cuppa*) along with a lovely barbeque lunch.... the burgers of course were cooked to perfection! A BIG Thank you to Margaret and Lyn Perry for organising the food! The walk raised £200 even though it was not an actual fundraiser and all donations went to church funds.



### Derryvolgie Pop Up Choir

This choir 'popped up' for a one off performance at the Christmas Carol service last year, under the inspirational leadership of Kirsty Orr. She is the director of the Lisburn Harmony Ladies Choir, a 70 strong, award winning group of singers who have performed at many concerts throughout Ireland and in Europe. Our efforts were well received and further appearances were made at subsequent services. It is hoped that the Pop Up choir will sing a piece at the Harvest Service on 14<sup>th</sup> October. A practice will be held on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm**. Due to popular demand and not

wanting to disappoint our growing legion of fans, the choir will again be singing at the Christmas Carol Service. The first practice for this will be on **Sunday 4th November at 6.30pm**. Currently at least four men and four women sing regularly with the choir but we encourage new members, all you need is enthusiasm. You never know you may have that 'X' Factor, we guarantee an enjoyable experience which adds to the real sense of fellowship at our worship services.

### Data and Derryvolgie

In common with other organisations you may deal with, Derryvolgie must comply with the requirements of the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The parish holds personal information about you so that we can communicate with you and so that we can administer your charitable giving (freewill offering). We will only collect this information from you personally.

In order to protect your privacy, the communication information is accessible by members of the Select Vestry only and the charitable giving information is accessible by the Honorary Treasurer, the Financial Administrator and the Gift Aid Secretary only.

Your personal information is held securely and it is not shared with others.

Please contact Colin McDonald if you are unhappy with the way we are handling your personal information. We will try to find a way around which meets both your needs and the needs of the parish.

Colin McDonald







## DVM: DerryVolgie Men

Derryvolgie Men's Group held the first meeting of their new year in September. This was a planning meeting to get together the programme of speakers and visits until June 2019. DVM meets on the third Monday of each month. In past years attendances have been between 15 and 20 members. This year's programme is yet to be finalised. However, amongst the activities being considered are visits to the Mayor's Parlour at Lisburn and Castlereagh Council and to St Anne's Cathedral. There will also be the annual Golf and BBQ evening as well as Ten Pin Bowling. Please feel free to join us for the fellowship that DVM provides. As an added incentive, we often follow our evening's activity with a meal! Details of the programme will be given in the weekly notices in church. We look forward to welcoming old and new members.

**Derek Shuter**

## HARVEST SUNDAY

Our Harvest Sunday celebration will be on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct - 10.30am** (next Sunday!) This will be followed by our annual Pot Luck Lunch in the Youth Hall. (Approx 12-3pm).

This year our Harvest Appeal donations will be divided between **The Intercontinental Church Society** and **Lisburn Mayor's Cancer Fund for Children**. If you would like to give a donation, please use the envelope provided and bring it along to the Harvest Service or pass it on to one of the Church Wardens. The Pot Luck lunch operates on the principle that everyone makes a contribution to the Lunch (Main courses & desserts), which means everyone gets a meal. Please see the list in the foyer.



Also, help is needed for **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30am** – we will be meeting for an **Autumn Tidy Up** and to **Decorate the Church** for the Harvest Service, we also need help putting out **tables and chairs** for the Harvest Lunch. So the more volunteers the easier it will be!

*Many Hands Make Light Work*

## PRAYERS ARE THE STAIRS TO GOD

Prayers are the stairs we  
must climb every day,  
If we would reach God there  
is no other way,  
For we learn to know God  
when we meet Him in  
prayer,  
and ask Him to lighten our  
burden of care.  
So start in the morning and,  
though the way's steep,  
Climb ever upwards 'til your  
eyes close in sleep.  
For prayers are the stairs  
that lead to the Lord,  
and to meet Him in prayer is  
the climber's reward.

**Helen Steiner Rice**







## Congratulations Pedlow family!!

Congratulations to Sarah and David on the birth of their beautiful daughter Martha Joy Pedlow, weighing in at 10lb 1oz on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018 just after 8am!



Congratulations also to big sisters Naomi and Esther! Jesus blessings on you Martha Joy! Our youngest member of our church family!

## Festive Craft Fair and Teas 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 11am – 3pm

I know we haven't even passed Harvest yet in the church calendar.... BUT following on from our successful Festive fair last year we are pleased to announce it's coming back again!

We will be joined by some old and new crafters including Little Bow Geek, MarieB Ceramics, Pauline Currie Jewellery, Funky Crafts, Green Thumb Chutneys and of course our Fabulous ladies group 'Cameo' and their crafty makes!

We will be announcing all our crafters on our church Facebook page so you can pre plan all your purchases. So give the page a like and follow our events tab to share and invite friends and family!

We will be sourcing the bakers amongst us for our cake stall (I can be very persuasive!) as well as being on the scrounge for donations for two hampers for our ever popular raffle!

Let's get behind this event as a church family and encourage local friends and family to come along and see what a friendly bunch we are!

Laura Coburn

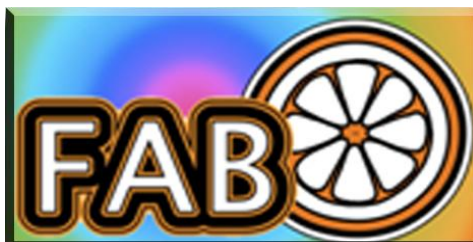


## PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December is the Parish Christmas Dinner served from 12.30pm. This is a lovely occasion to meet up with friends and enjoy a 2 course Turkey & ham dinner with all the trimmings. Afterwards we can enjoy Christmas music and entertainment from Harmony Hill Choir and the afternoon concludes with carols with Jim Hamilton. Invitations to the dinner will follow shortly.

*Helen Kane*

## Fridays at Belsize (FAB) started back on Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Oct



**\*\*VOLUNTEERS\*\*  
\*\*NEEDED!!**

A great team of volunteers means that we can welcome more children into the youth club and only need to do the dates that we can! If you can help out on the Rota at all please get in touch with Noreen. FAB runs on the first 3 Fridays of each month (term Time) After some free play, children enjoy juice and biscuits followed by singing, a fun Bible story and a thought about how we can get to know God and follow him with our lives. **Go on, you know you want to VOLUNTEER!!**

## BOWLING CLUB

Derryvolgie Bowling Club have now recommenced and we hope everyone is refreshed after the summer break, raring to go and eager to get up the league!

We would be delighted to welcome new members on a Thursday evening at 8pm for an evening of fun and light exercise and of course a cup of tea.

*Brendon Kane*



## PARISH REGISTER:

### Deaths

William Morrison  
Priory Close  
27<sup>th</sup> August 2018

## What's This For?



Every Sunday during the offertory hymn, the wardens present the freewill offering and the plate collection from the lobby. This service has been carried out since 2001. Many of you have joined the parish after that so you probably have no idea what it's all about.

At the turn of the millennium, we were privileged to have on placement from the Belfast Bible College a young student called Joseph Muchai. He was from Nakuru in



Kenya and was accompanied by his wife Mary. Through this delightful young couple Derryvolgie formed a link of friendship with the Anglican Diocese of Nakuru. In particular we supported St Nicholas School for orphans by sending children's clothes and shoes, tools and school equipment. We began to raise funds through charitable giving which has sent over £7,500 to date.

That giving is collected on the plate in the lobby. Parishioners drop in their small change but it's amazing how it mounts up! As you might expect it's a very efficient way to help God's work in Africa. Every penny goes straight to Nakuru Diocese with no administration or overheads to pay for.

Joseph Muchai is now the Bishop of Nakuru but he's still the same Joseph and still keeps in touch. Give me a shout over tea some Sunday if you'd like to hear more about Nakuru.

**Colin McDonald**



### **Claire Holmes – SAMS**

Dear friends, I hope you all had a good summer. We were delighted to have a team from Annaghmore with us and it was a great encouragement for the church. The team came with the team here in Concepcion to



all the different places we work with children and young people. The children absolutely loved it as they taught them songs, did craft activities with them, played games and taught Bible stories. We also had lovely times with the young people as we all encouraged each other. Mission teams always

remind me and teach me so much about what it means to be part of God's worldwide family as well as teach his Word and show his love. In August we received an invitation to teach the Bible in a local pre-school and primary school and we have been doing that since September. It's such a great opportunity and we pray that it will make a big difference in the lives of the children.

In December we always do Nativity plays in the 7 areas where we work with children and young people. We will start this in November. It's always hard work but great fun and a good way of spending time with the people of the communities as we teach the Christmas Story. Thank you for all your support and prayers. You are in my thoughts and prayers as well.

God bless. Love Claire.

### **Dates for your Diary**

SAT 13 <sup>TH</sup> OCT	10.30am	Autumn Tidy Up and Decorate Church for Harvest Service
<b>SUN 14<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Harvest Sunday Service Followed by 'Pot Luck Lunch'</b>
SUN 11 <sup>TH</sup> NOV	10.30am	Remembrance Sunday Service
<b>TUES 13<sup>TH</sup> NOV</b>	<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Rev. James Boyd – Service of Institution</b>
SAT 24 <sup>TH</sup> NOV	11am–3pm	Christmas Craft Fair
<b>FRI 14<sup>TH</sup> DEC</b>	<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Parish Christmas Dinner</b>
SUN 16 <sup>TH</sup> DEC	5.00pm	Evening Carol Service
<b>SUN 23<sup>RD</sup> DEC</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Nativity Play</b>

### **A PRICELESS GIFT**

Friendship is a priceless gift, that can't be bought or sold, But its value is far greater than a mountain made of gold.

For gold is cold and lifeless, it cannot see nor hear, And in your times of trouble, it is powerless to cheer.

It has no ears to listen, no heart to understand.

It cannot bring you comfort or reach out a helping hand.

So when you ask God for a gift, be thankful that he sends, Not diamonds, pearls, or riches, but the love of a real, true friend.

**Helen Steiner Rice**