



September 2011

Information in relation to mission and outreach in Ireland for Prayer Focus can be emailed to prayerfocus@presbyterianireland.org

WEB ADDRESS: www.missionireland.org

PRAYER FOCUS: 14 - 20 September 2011

MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pray for:

The Moderator as he attends the following:

- 9 - 15 September Tour Overseas
- 17 – 22 September A visit to Latvia where the Moderator plans to visit the Baltic Reformed Theological Seminary in Riga; as well as meeting the leaders and members of the Latvian Evangelical Reformed Church.

BOARD OF MISSION IN IRELAND

HOME & IRISH MISSION

Cork Presbyterian Church – Revd John Faris & Harry Moreland

Prayer and Praise for:

- We are preparing a short 'pageant' to present something about Trinity Church for 'Cork Culture Night' on 23 September. Please pray that this light-hearted presentation may be a bridge into different people's lives in the wider community.
- Harry Moreland, Irish Mission Worker, and Donal O'Donovan, a church member, have been encouraged by the contacts they have made in opening the church to visitors during the week.

- Harry hopes to run an Evangelism Explosion course this autumn for church members to improve our effectiveness in explaining the good news on a one-to-one basis.
- A newly elected committee and an 'outreach action group' have made good starts but we need to give prayerful attention in particular to developing our praise and ministering to the growing number of young children. There is a lot to do, but still not too many to do it!

Kerrykeel Presbyterian Church – Revd Janice Browne

Praise and Prayer for:

- Give thanks for the team from High Kirk Presbyterian Church who came to Kerrykeel in August to do outreach work in a local housing estate.
- Pray for the boys and girls they engaged with, that the seed of the gospel sown in their lives will grow and blossom.

Malin & Carndonagh Presbyterian Churches – Vacancy Convener, Revd Dr Joseph Fell

On 4 September Malin Congregation celebrated its 300th Anniversary by holding an impressive Service of Thanksgiving. The Service was conducted by the Revd Dr Joseph Fell (Convener) and the Very Revd Dr Kenneth Newell was the Preacher. The Minister Emeritus, Revd Dr John Lapin and the previous minister, Revd David Hagan took part. Prayers for the mission of the congregation were led by the Presbytery Moderator, Revd Dr Robert Buick. Mr William Loughlin of Londonderry was the soloist and the Clerk of Session Mrs Barbara Smyth, gave an account of the work being done in the area. The Church and halls were packed by a large congregation. Dr Newell delivered a penetrating message of encouragement and confidence in the Gospel.

Praise and Prayer for:

- All the winter work is underway in the two congregations after a busy summer programme of outreach. Thanks are due to the Revd Gordon Best and a team from Newmills who led the outreach work to our children and young people.
- Pray for the congregations and the Presbytery as the “deferred linkage scheme” is eventually implemented. God has a Minister ready for the work in Innishowen. Ask Him to work in the heart and mind of His servant to whom He will entrust this important task.

Ballina, Ballymote & Killala Presbyterian Churches – Revd Molly Deathredge

- Harvest services in this part of Ireland are events and celebrations that everyone can invite friends and neighbours to, and are often opportunities to minister to the wider community. Pray that all those who attend draw closer to Jesus.
- While most churches have their mission plans long written and submitted; we are now just going through the process. Please pray that the congregations will find ways to reach out to their communities that are authentic to them, and fruitful.

South Belfast Outreach – Keith Preston & Michael Sentence

Praise and Prayer for:

- Give thanks for our outreach team who share the gospel on the street every Wednesday. Pray for Michael as he leads that team each week.
- Please also remember some new ministries we are going to try from September. We are starting a Tuesday night friendship club. Volunteers from three churches will staff the drop-in and try to reach a new group of people in the evenings. Thursday evening will see the start of a ladies aerobics class.

Drogheda – Billy Patterson

Pray for:

- Do keep in prayer our Bible Study beginning Wednesday 21 September. Some new people have promised to come.
- Please continue to pray for the door visitation. I have been invited into several homes. There is a real desire in the hearts of many people for some spiritual reality. I'm working in a really downtrodden area, many can't read and there is high unemployment. It would be great to see a break-through for the gospel here.

Ballyloughan Presbyterian Church, Ballymena – Gareth Parker

Praise and Prayer for:

- Praise God for the appointment of Gareth Parker as Community Evangelist in Ballyloughan Presbyterian Church, Ballymena.
- Pray for Gareth as he settles into the role and seeks to reach out into the community with the gospel.

Deaconesses

West Church Ballymena – Phyllis Linton

Pray for:

- Pray for the Ballymena Friendship Club which is every Wednesday evening.
- Pray that people from ethnic backgrounds will come to the club along with others in the community who need friendship and support.
- Pray for funding so we can offer English classes and practical support to those in obvious need.
- Pray that conversations about Jesus will become part of the chat each week.
- Pray for people to enrol for our Griefshare Course which will begin in October, both from within the congregation and the community.

Strand Presbyterian Church, East Belfast – Sharon Heron

Prayer and Praise for:

- Pray for the Strand congregation as we move back into the school after worshipping in St Brendan's during the summer.
- Praise God that our numbers have remained steady. We are thrilled to see a trickle of new people attending.
- Pray for wisdom as we consider new possibilities during our time out of our church building. Also for wisdom as we put out to tender for rebuilding new premises.

BMI Worship Panel

Pray for:

- Pray for the Worship Panel meeting on Monday evening, 19 September, in Hillhall Presbyterian Church.

Special Events

Christianity Explored

Hydepark Presbyterian Church

Pray for:

- A Christianity Explored course commencing in Hydepark Presbyterian church on 21 September.

Greenisland Presbyterian Church

Pray for:

- Pray for the congregation as they commence Christianity Explored.

Comber Churches Together

Pray for:

- Pray for a group of churches in Comber as they run Christianity Explored in a local coffee shop.