

e The Irish e Endeavourer

Autumn 2025

Let your light shine

Matt 5 v 16



SAVED TO SERVE

It was lovely to see a large congregation present for the 110th Irish National Christian Endeavour Convention, held on Saturday 20th September 2025, in Ballygawley Presbyterian Church. The Convention opened with a time of praise, commencing at 7.15pm, led by a sizeable praise group from Clonaneese YP and YA Societies, conducted by Emma-Jane Condy, Armagh & South Tyrone's President.

On behalf of the Local Union, Emma-Jane welcomed everyone, especially Mr Philip Meeke, incoming Irish Union President and thanked Mr Ken McGall, outgoing President, wishing both Ken and Jean God's Richest Blessing as they enjoy this time relaxing!

Ken, conducting the initial part of the service, thanked the host Church and its elders; Jonathan for coming to speak; Armagh & South Tyrone Union for the arrangements and one and all for what they had done for Christian Endeavour this year.

Following the singing of, "Praise the Name", Irish Union Prayer Convenor, Lizanne McKee led the opening prayers.

As the outgoing President remarked, as Christian Endeavourers we like to support missionary work.

Avril Graham, Missionary Convenor, presented £4750.00 to Pauline Crozier for the work of Jengana, the 2024-25 project.

Pauline, in thanking CE for their hard work, dedication and time given to support Jengana gave a whistle stop tour of its work. All this help had meant the world to the charity and even more to the children and families whom they serve in Kenya. It has helped to change lives, one life at a time.

Nineteen children, from difficult backgrounds, are safe, loved and fully provided for in the Home while more have been sponsored through school and college gaining employment in medicine, education, engineering and more.

£4,000.00 has been spent on school fees since April.

Pauline illustrated her remarks with two videos, one of which showed the children's love of music and how they praise and glorify God with what they have, with a joy that is unforgettable. We listened as the children gave a delightful rendition of, "Thank you, O my Father".

Last summer Jengana bought musical instruments for them.

The other showed how the lives of three people, Noah, Sarah and Mary had been turned around and their dreams have been made possible.

We can still support the children through prayer, sponsorship or by joining a summer team. The team is open to anyone between 16 and 80. Participants not only pray with and share



God's love with the children but also do practical work such as maintenance, building classrooms, cow sheds or whatever may be needed and planting.

Laura Farrell, from Stand By Me, a charity based in Carrickfergus, spoke of her delight to be partnering with CE this year. She shared how the charity works in six countries, mentioning Ethiopia, in particular and with the aid of a video told of how Gemechu had been provided with his very first bed and the difference this has made to his life as he now goes into school refreshed, enjoys a breakfast and other nourishing meals there and gains a life changing education.

She shared details of, "February on the Floor" a sponsored challenge to sleep on the floor, in February, for either a weekend or a week on a carpet, under a blanket or in a sleeping bag to provide beds and other basic essentials to help the children pursue their dreams and have the best start to their school day.

Further details about the 2025-26 Missionary Project are found in a separate article.

Clonaneese YP/YA praise group sang, "There is one Gospel on which I stand for all eternity" and, "You made a covenant with me" before Ken installed Philip as his successor.



In his outgoing President's remarks, Ken spoke of the wonderful two years which he had and of how he had the opportunity to visit Societies some very small, some very large with others in between. Extending thanks to the leaders for inviting him, he had been encouraged by the participation of the children, young people and seniors. He noted the devotion of the leaders and the inspiration which they give to the children and young people all through their service to CE and thanked them for it.

There were the business meetings too; on his own behalf and on behalf of all Endeavourers he extended profound thanks to those who served on these.

Ken speaking of his theme, "In His time" related the story of how two sisters, Peggy [84 and blind] and Christine Smith [82 and crippled with arthritis], in 1949 in the village of Barvas,, on Lewis, prayed fervently two nights a week from 10.00pm until 3.00am for revival as no young person on the island attended Church. Evangelist, Duncan Campbell was invited to come and preach but initially was unable due a prior engagement. This was cancelled; he was available to speak. It was in God's time that God answered; It was in God's time that God sent Duncan Campbell to Lewis; It was in God's time that God sent revival to Lewis and the Hebrides.

The outgoing President encouraged young people to attend prayer meetings and challenged us all to pray that revival would start in our Churches in Ireland through Christian Endeavour.

Ken's final presidential duty was to install his successor, asking us to remember Philip in our prayers.

Philip extended thanks first of all to Jesus for saving him and then to his wife, Hilda and family including son Aaron and daughter Sarah; to the CE and people in Garvagh and to the Irish CE Executive. His presidential theme is, "**Jesus loves you**". He is greatly encouraged by Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me ". It makes all the difference, getting up in the morning, knowing that Jesus loves us.



After the Irish Union General Secretary, Mrs Rosemary McDaniel made some announcements and remarks, the Ballygawley Praise Group sang Graham Kendrick's song, "All that I once held dear" as the offering was collected.

Ephesians 2:1-10 was read so beautifully and distinctly by Daniel, a Junior CE member who was complimented by the President.

Following the singing of Keith Getty's and Stuart Townend's song,, "Speak, O Lord", the Revd Jonathan Boyd the Church's minister, addressed the Convention theme, "**Saved To Serve**".



He considered it a privilege to be asked to speak at the Convention and felt blessed for having his connections with. and having grown up through CE.

Ephesians is not immediately addressed to the people of Ephesus but was meant for all Christians in Asia Minor; it was a general letter for all Christians of all time and it is relevant to us today.

Ephesians 2:1-10 is a reminder of:-

- [a] Where we came from spiritually
- [b] How we were changed through God and His grace
- [c] And what we are saved for.



There are two types of people;- those who are dead in sin and those who are alive and we are one or the other.

Without Jesus we are children of wrath, deserving death; without Jesus we die and go to hell.

We were dead in our transgressions and sins. God sent His Son, Jesus to die on the Cross for us, the sinless one for sinners. It is by grace that we have been saved, through faith and not by works.

Ephesians 2:10 *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them”* reminds us that God has made us and saved us so that we should work for Him. Acts 1:8 teaches us that we will receive the Holy Spirit to help us witness about what Christ has done for us, both in season and out of season.

Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit will be with us in our daily lives and to the end of the age.

We are saved to serve and to tell others about how God has brought us from death to life, to let our light shine and we are to be in the world but not of it.

We are to pray for opportunities to share the faith and to praise God for what He has done.

Every Christian is to be a missionary. Jonathan asked, “Are you willing to serve Him wherever He calls and do the good works He has prepared before hand for you”?

Following the singing of, “Ireland for Christ” further fellowship was enjoyed over a delicious supper.



On the road

With the Irish President

Almost into my last 6 months as Irish President, with Christmas past and January 2025 already gone it's time to get on to the road again and start to visit some Societies.

On the first Sunday in February, CE Sunday, Jean and I travelled to Clonaneese to share in their YP, YA and Senior CE Service. I have to say that it was a thrill to see the three groups working together, well done to everyone who took part.

16th of February took me to Magheramorne Juniors for their annual CE service, it was a great morning with the Juniors taking part and I also had the privilege of delivering the message to the boys and girls.

Saturday 22nd February we were in headquarters at Moygashel for the Irish Council meeting; can I thank all those who attended without your help and commitment it would be very hard for Christian Endeavour to operate.

Sunday 23rd was a busy day but a very enjoyable one, in the morning it was Saltersland Juniors' CE service, I hope they enjoyed my talk as much as I enjoyed their programme. They were fantastic.

On Sunday night it was back to Clonaneese YPs with June and her young people. We had a good time sharing with them, keep up the good work.

4th of March took me to the Down Union, to Garvaghy. Jean and I had a great time sharing with the young people and enjoying their enthusiasm. Well done Phillip and team.

On the 6th of March I was invited to speak at Fergus Hall Seniors, it was so encouraging to be able to share with them.

Saturday 8th March was Irish Junior CE Fun Day in Ballyhenry Presbyterian Church and I can say that a good time was had by all even the President!! Can I just say, Thank You to the boys and girls for allowing me to talk to you and for listening so well.

The 19th March took me to Buckna Juniors it was nice to be there as Buckna was where Jean and I were first introduced to YP Christian Endeavour by the Rev Tom Cuming. There was a large group of children and I enjoyed my time with them.

The 20th March saw me in my home church of 2nd Broughshane, it was great the children did really well and I had nothing to do other than sit back and enjoy the evening.

The 21st March we were off to Ballyhenry Juniors. It was a joy to be with the children and their leaders, we had a great time with them.

4th of April back to business with an Executive meeting. The work of the Union has to go on but it is helpful when we are able to use Zoom.

The last meeting of my time as Irish President on the 6th of September the Council meeting followed by the Annual Business meeting. As always everything straight forward and all went well.

Can I take this opportunity to say, Thank You, to all the different Societies that I have visited in the last two years and to all those who work in Irish Union; without you the work would not go on.

To Philip, as he steps into the roll of Irish President, may God Bless you and use you as you serve Him through Christian Endeavour.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Another year is slipping by and autumn is here - I hope you are able to enjoy the wonders of creation of this time of year. On the farm the harvest is gathered in, cows are started to calve and the rams are in with the ewes - it's all go. Yes, if you didn't already know your new CE President is a farmer from between Banbridge and Dromara - is this a first for Christian Endeavour?

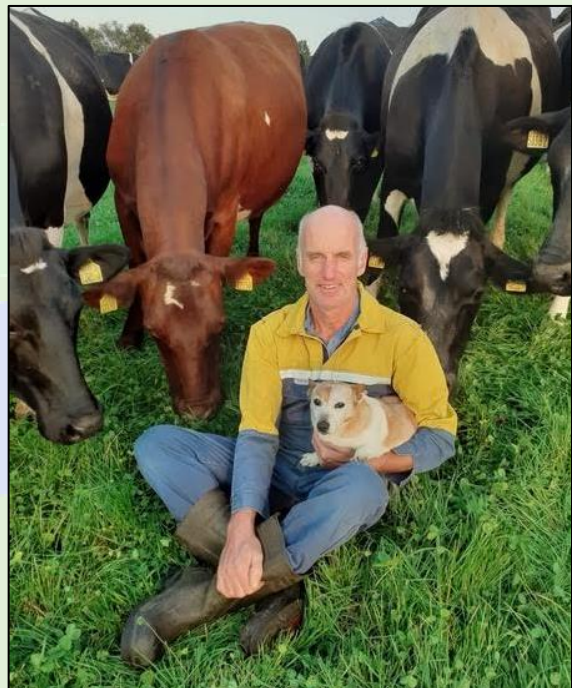
Autumn also means our 110th Convention is over; thanks to all who organised and took part. It was a special evening for all and in particular for myself, my wife Hilda and children Aaron and Sarah. Thanks to Ken, supported by Jean, for his two years service as President - a great example for me to follow. It was great that everyone went home reminded that we are saved to serve and no better place to do that than in CE.

On the farm and in life, if basic principles aren't in place the big things don't work out, so I have chosen **"JESUS LOVES YOU"** as my theme. Three straight forward, but life changing words, when we understand them, accept them and allow them to direct our lives. They are applicable to every CE member and isn't it wonderful to be able to say "The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me" Galatians 2:20.

In Garvaghy CE we have begun our new season and thankfully all is going well. I hope that is true in each of your Societies as you share the good news of the gospel with your members.

If I can be of any help and encouragement to you and your Society my contact number is 07548875719. It would be great to visit you and share three words we all need to hear - **JESUS LOVES YOU.**

Every Blessing,
Philip.



ENDEAVOURERS ENJOY AFTERNOON TEA AND LEARN ABOUT HEALTHCARE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The Irish CE Union's annual Afternoon Tea was held in Ballygawley Presbyterian Church hall.

Organised by Olive Rowe and Rosemary McDaniel, it was gratifying to see a significant increase in numbers.



Christelle Andrich and Shirley Alexander, from the Healthcare Christian Fellowship, spoke passionately about its history and aims.

Founded in 1936, in South Africa, by Francis Grim it is now found in over 120 countries, including Ireland, both North and South, with its aim being to provide spiritual care for the sick and those who care for the sick.



CLONANESE SENIORS CELEBRATE 20th ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday 27 April a special Senior CE meeting was held to mark the 20th anniversary of Clonaneese Senior CE Society. It was founded by The Revd Dr Ian Fleck, who came back to celebrate with us along with Mrs Fleck.

Noel Condry has led Clonaneese Seniors from the beginning and we are all very grateful to God for his leadership. This anniversary event was also his wife Sandra's last evening to wear the chain as Local CE President. Noel, Mr. Fleck and Caroline Condry formed a panel to answer questions about different aspects of their Christian walk and God's leading in their lives.



Pauline Condry asked the questions, then rounded off the meeting with a devotional showing God's faithfulness in her life.



Ian and Sandra Fleck cut the anniversary cake and we enjoyed a delicious supper provided by Senior CE ladies.



CLONANESE YP's BIG BREAKFAST MISSIONARY OUTREACH PROJECT REACHES HUNDREDS

On Saturday 29th March, an enthusiastic group of about 20 young people volunteered to help at the Annual Big Breakfast. For some, it was their first Big Breakfast, for others they are now seasoned pros. It was a busy morning, but everyone worked together.



This year was our biggest turn-out so far. We served over 200 breakfasts complete with sausages, bacon, eggs and toast. There were also scones and tray bakes, and top ups of tea and coffee. On the way out, there was a stall full of delicious, donated home-baked goods.



Throughout the morning, the hall was constantly full and buzzing with chat. This year in Young People's we have been studying "Life on the Front Line". We encouraged the young people to invite people from their, "Front Lines". This included family, friends, team mates, band members or wherever else God has placed them. It was encouraging to see so many coming along. We also had fantastic support from our own Churches, other Churches in the local area and from the wider community around us.



A huge thank you must be said to everyone who helped in any way. As always there were those behind the scenes, praying for us, encouraging us, and helping out where needed. Every job was important and made everything run so smoothly.

The CE motto is, "For Christ and the Church" - we value this opportunity to see the young people working together and physically serving the Church to the glory of God. In total, we raised over £1800 which will go towards YPCE funds, the CE project, Jengana, and other missions we have been learning about this year.



SO MUCH CHRISTIAN ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT AT CLONANEESE YP/YA WEEKEND

On Friday 7th March, two very noisy minibuses and a couple of jam-packed cars headed off to Ballyhornan Scout Centre, with over 40 of us attending in total.

The speaker for the weekend was Owen Wilson, a Youth and Family worker from Castlecaulfield Presbyterian. Over the course of the weekend, Owen encouraged us all to look at the big picture of the Bible. Although we thought we knew the Bible pretty well, a few parts of the Old Testament were more unfamiliar.



During our discussion groups, many of the group said it had challenged them to really get into God's Word. We also looked at the person of Jesus Christ and the sacrifice He made for us, and we were challenged as to how we could truly live for Him. Worship was led by Joshua and Jonny, which really added to the weekend.

There was of course plenty of craic over the weekend. Late (LATE!) Friday night team games organised by Jonny and Alan kicked us off to a great start. Turns out there are some VERY competitive people in Clonaneese with some very unique skills!! God blessed us with great weather so on Saturday afternoon, we visited Castlewelan Forest to



complete the Maze then enjoyed a photo challenge, scavenger hunt and tea in Newcastle. The highlight of the weekend had to be "Clonaneese's Got Talent" on Saturday Night with everyone teaming to take part, using costumes or props they had bought earlier in the day. It was a tough call for the judges deciding who was best with so much talent on show, but ultimately the boys won, hands down!

Of course, food is always a key part of any YP/YA event. We took our fantastic team, April, Linda and Sandra who always do so much for us. They had organised everything we needed and went above and beyond as always. They fed us SO incredibly well, from cooked breakfasts each morning to a full Sunday

roast chicken dinner, with late night suppers and amazing choices at lunch! No one went hungry!

A stand-out thing about the weekend was the opportunities to build relationships and deepen connections between groups. Everyone mixed during the different activities and down time, and with the beach nearby, we enjoyed several early mornings and late night walks.

The cooks and the drivers (thanks, Andrew and June) were fantastic. Owen's family joined us on Saturday which was lovely. We also had the pleasure of meeting one of the Scout leaders who joined us for some of our meals, activities and even the meetings. It was also great to see the YAs taking the lead in discussion groups and encouraging younger ones in their faith through sharing their recent lived experiences. We knew our Church family was also praying for us while we were away. All combined, it reminded us in a very real way what strong Christian communities should look like, all learning from each other, encouraging each other and supporting each other. We pray that the things learnt and experienced on the weekend continue to impact all our lives, going forward with and for God.



EMMA-JANE WOULD VALUE PRAYER AS SHE TAKES ARMAGH & SOUTH TYRONE'S PRESIDENCY

The annual Rally of Armagh South Tyrone Union was held, on Thursday 8th April, in First Portadown Presbyterian. The room was full, with extra chairs brought in, and yet there was space for everyone!

Rosemary McDaniel gave her report of the year's activities, including the two missionary meetings and the annual Carol Service.

Sandra Condy handed over the Presidential chain to Miss Emma-Jane Condy. They are both from Upper Clonaneese Presbyterian, but they are not related! Sandra gives God the glory for all that He has enabled her to do during her two years in office.

Emma-Jane is grateful for the support of her family, CE members and work colleagues who came along to the Rally.



Clonaneese YP/YA choir sang two beautiful pieces for us and the praise group accompanied us as we sang God's praises together.



The Revd Jackie Spence, Emma-Jane's minister, brought a closing message on Elijah handing over the mantle of responsibility to Elisha. Emma-Jane would appreciate prayer as she takes up this mantle of service for God.

Further fellowship was enjoyed over a delicious supper provided by members of First Portadown Senior Society.



CE AND ME

Mrs May Anderson, who served as Irish Union President from 1998-1999, has given a lifetime of faithful service to CE. When asked to tell us a little about her involvement in CE and what this has meant to her, she readily agreed and for this we are deeply grateful and extend our sincere thanks.

My first contact with CE was when I was "Junior" age. I was introduced to a group of about twenty children in Berry Street Presbyterian Church. The Church, at that time, did not have an organ or piano but the lovely lady, Ethel Scott had a strong singing voice.

I enjoyed the choruses she taught us, and some of the words have continued to come to mind down through the years - "I'm in the Lord's army" - "Dare to be a Daniel, dare to stand alone" - "Jesus bids us shine".

Through Chain Prayer - learning to pray aloud was such a valuable introduction to participation in group prayer.

The stories we were told, with flannel graph were not just interesting Bible stories but through using them there was helpful teaching about being a Christian.

There were great fun times too - going for hikes on summer evenings - I still recall, with pleasure, gathering bluebells on the outskirts of Belfast. - The summer excursion to the seaside was not a common experience as not many of the families had cars.

Looking back on those earlier times, the wealth of input provided by CE - social, recreational and spiritual was such a blessing for us all.

There was no Young People's or Senior CE in Berry Street and so there was a considerable gap until I joined Saintfield Road Presbyterian Church CE as a Young People's Convenor.

At the time the Society was very big - some nights there would be 50-60 young people present.

It was a thriving group. There was ready participation in giving Papers, Planning groups and Prayer times.

It was inspiring to see evidence of spiritual growth and young people willing to take responsibility.

It has been a privilege to have been involved in CE and to see God at work - to learn that CE played a part in the development of Christian faith - to see men and women grow to play a part in congregational life, become ministers of the gospel and going to work overseas.

DR MARY TODD

Dr. Mary Todd died on 22nd April 2025 after 12 years being cared for in Camphill Nursing Home.

After university, Mary taught English and French in the old Ballymena Technical College. She was a member of Eskylane Presbyterian Church and with her late husband, John was heavily involved in the congregation. She was a Sunday School teacher and a Leader in the CE.



Mary and John took early retirement and devoted their time to the CE and other charitable organisations such as the Leprosy Mission. She prepared the material, "GO Teach" for Sunday Schools.

They had an excellent CE Society in Kells & Eskylane and it was well known within the Irish Union. Mary held several positions in the Ballymena & Coleraine CE Union, and also within the Irish Union. She was the Training Convenor and looked after the CE Award scheme. She was the Irish CE President and the British CE President in 1990.

Both John and Mary were heavily committed with the CE Programme Books and also CE online material, which involved many trips to England.

Both Mary and John enjoyed gardening and always produced a massive display of flowers. Anyone who ever visited their home at Chapletown Road would have seen their beautiful garden and the variety of trees.

Mary was a faithful servant of the Lord and is fondly remembered by many in her local congregation and in CE circles.

BUSY DROMARA FARMER APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF CE IN IRELAND

Mr Philip Meeke, a busy farmer from Dromara, in Co Down, and member of Garvaghy Presbyterian Church, will be installed as the next Irish CE President at the 110th Irish National Christian Endeavour Convention on Saturday 20th September 2025 at 7.30pm, in Ballygawley Presbyterian Church BT70 2LJ.

The Convention's theme is, *"Saved to Serve"*.

Married to Hilda, with two children Aaron and Sarah, Philip works on the family-run farm with dairy, cereals, beef and sheep.

"There is always plenty of work to do but, with family support, there has always been time for CE on a Tuesday night over the last 27 years, but it is a good job Church is only a mile down the road", said Philip and continued, "the farm has often come in useful for CE Fun Nights, teaching ideas and when we could not meet indoors during Covid...it has been a very valuable resource"!

Over the years he has always regarded it a privilege to share the good news of the gospel with the young people and has many good memories of teaching times, faithful attendance, supportive parents, their annual CE Services and many dedicated helpers.

He said that it has also been great getting to know Executive and Council members and appreciate the work they do for CE.

Philip is looking forward to working with everyone and hopes he can be an encouragement to continue the work of CE and be faithful to our motto, "For Christ and the Church".



Juniors Own!

FUN AFTERNOON ENJOYED BY ENTHUSIASTIC ARMAGH & SOUTH TYRONE JUNIORS

An enthusiastic group of 24 Juniors gathered for the annual Fun Afternoon, held again in the church hall at St Elizabeth's, Moygashel. We are grateful to the Church for granting the use of their premises, centrally located and just the right size for our group.

The games were in the form of Whistle Stop, where the children could go around various stations in groups of four. Some games were at a table, such as seeing how many pegs they could put in the board in one minute. Another game was dribbling a ball around cones, as demonstrated by June Knox, the Juniors' Convener for our area.

After the games we settled down for a few well-known choruses and then our guest speaker, Andrew Witherall gave a presentation of the Gospel message. He clearly explained how the children could put their trust in Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. We are very grateful to Andrew and his family for coming along to share in our Fun Afternoon.

The event was rounded off as usual with delicious hot dogs, nuggets, pancakes, juice and biscuits for everyone, including the hard-working helpers. Our thanks go to Rosemary McDaniel for cooking for us in the church hall kitchen.



CE SUNDAY IS HIGHLIGHT IN UPPER CLONANESE'S CALENDAR

CE Sunday is always a highlight in our calendar, with the Juniors taking part in the morning service and the other age groups in the evening. The church was well filled for both services, with families and friends coming along to support everyone taking part.

The morning theme was Running God's Race, with illustrations as seen in the accompanying photos. Some Juniors cheered on the participants taking part in a sketch, encouraging them to "keep going" and "don't give up"! We all learned the Bible verse: "I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7

Our minister Jackie Spence was the speaker. He too was ably assisted by one of the Juniors, showing how there are things that can hinder us from running God's race in our everyday lives. He was only able to run without wearing the winter coat, carrying the umbrella, a chair in case he got tired and other encumbrances.

The evening theme was "Still", how to be still in our "crazy busy" lives. The Seniors joined with the Young People and Young Adults to sing "Still", trusting God in the midst of the storms of life. The Young People and Young Adults choir also sang two more pieces later in the service. This is always a blessing to us. We are grateful to Emma-Jane Condy for her efforts in conducting both the morning and evening choirs.

Johnny Strain interviewed some people about how they go about taking time to be still before God each day. He included our speaker, James Diffin, who is student mentor at the University of Ulster. We were grateful to James for his encouraging message at the end of the evening, on Psalm 46. There was a special emphasis on verse 10, "Be still and know that I am God".





EVERY CHILD PLAYED A PART IN SALTERSLAND SERVICE

“Gideon - The Deliverer” was the theme at Salter’sland’s CE Sunday where the P7 children led the service as they told the story of Gideon. This was interspersed with prayers, Bible readings and poems by others while some were responsible for lifting the offering and retiring offering. Several of the children were delighted to ensure that every person present was given a bookmark.

Irish Union President, Mr Ken McGall and his wife, Jean gave a very interesting and challenging address.

Every single child was involved in this beautiful service.



PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT BEAUTIFUL CE SERVICE IN MAGHERAMORNE

Another beautiful CE Service was held in Magheramorne Presbyterian Church where CE is vibrant.

Conducted by Juniors Charlotte and Daniel, prayers were led by Lily and Ruby with Scripture Lessons read by Daniel and Poppy.

Irish Union President, Mr Ken McGall gave the address. The loose offering was shared between Society funds and Irish Union's Missionary Project, Jengana.

Further fellowship was enjoyed over refreshments at the close of the service.



CLONANESE JUNIORS FAMILY & FRIENDS PONDER BEST TIME TO TRUST JESUS

Friday 28th March was the last meeting of the season for Clonaneese Juniors and Junior High. Families and friends of the children came along and some were even roped in to participate in the sword drill and quiz!

The speakers for the evening were Andrew and Claire McNabb from CEF. Their theme, as you can see from the large clock, was Time. They used examples of different Bible characters to illustrate the theme. The most important aspect of their talk was “When is the right time to trust in Jesus as your Saviour”? The answer is, NOW.



For two leaders it was their last time to be involved in Junior CE, as Emily Condy is getting married and Rev Jackie Spence is retiring later this year. They were each presented with a gift of appreciation for their faithful ministry.



By the end of the evening, the children were ready for their supper of sandwiches, traybakes and juice.



MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL JUNIORS IN THE CONVENTION COMPETITION

As part of this year's Convention Competition one of the options was to make a puppet.

Belinda was thinking about this when she was planning the craft activity at this year's Juniors' Day.

Inspired by Numbers 22: 21-39, lots of donkeys were made. Some then sent the finished donkeys to me for the Competition, which is why I have a herd of donkeys in my dining room!

My little helpers assessed the donkeys in different age categories and these are the results. I don't know how they chose, they're all fantastic to me.

4 - 6 years old:-

- 1st Ellan Craig - Magheramorne
- 2nd Olivia Bell - Magheramorne
- 3rd Charlie Esler - 2nd Donegore

7 - 8 years old:-

- 1st Olivia Montgomery - Magheramorne
- 2nd Amelia Cubitt - 2nd Donegore
- 3rd Lia Graham - Magheramorne

9 - 11 years old:-

- 1st Ethan Riddell - 2nd Donegore
- 2nd Lily Swain - Magheramorne
- 3rd Ava Graham – Magheramorne



IRISH CE FUN DAY RESOUNDING SUCCESS

The Irish CE Junior Fun Day was held on Saturday 9th March 2025 in Ballyhenry Presbyterian Church.

Organised by Irish Union Junior Convenor, Rosemary Carson and Assistant Junior Convenor, Caroline Edgar, in conjunction with members of the East Antrim CE Union, the event was a resounding success and much enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Following registration, Rosemary welcomed all present particularly Irish CE Union President, Mr Ken McGall and his wife, Jean.

Everyone gathered in the church to sing praises to God and then it was into the hall for drama, crafts, refreshments, and a closely fought quiz won by Ballyhenry Presbyterian.

The children were spellbound as they listened to Mr McGall's address based on Matt 6:33 *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you"*.

Mr McGall, using sand, stones and balls to represent the little things, the bigger things and then most important things and, one by one, putting them into a jug discovered that there was no room left for God but when the symbol representing God was added first it was found that there was ample room for all the other things. When we put God first in our lives there will be space for all the other things too.

He finished with prayer.

Mr McGall presented the Irish CE Award Scheme - Silver - to Charlotte Paisley with Marc Bergin and Rea Topping, all Magheramorne Presbyterian, earning the Bronze Award.

Thank you so much to John Acheson for kindly taking photos.



PRAISE AND PRAYER

“Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts”. Psalm 145:3,4



Praise God for His continued blessing on the work of CE; for faithful leaders and for wisdom granted in decision-making by the Executive and other Committees.

Pray for Philip Meeke, our new Irish CE President, as he travels to visit CE Societies and as he shares what God puts on his heart from His Word for each meeting.

Pray for the Missionary Project, **Stand By Me**, which is based in Carrickfergus. They work in various countries rescuing children from poverty, for example providing accommodation, education and sharing the Gospel with them. www.standby.me

Pray for the CE Societies starting up again this autumn, particularly that many Juniors will come along and bring their friends to hear about Jesus and His love for them.

Pray that the readership of the CE magazine will increase as it goes digital, shared on the CE website and Facebook page.

CE Missionary Project 2025-26

Stand By Me

This year, Irish CE are supporting the work of **Stand By Me** for their Missionary Project. We will hear more about their work at the CE Convention, and they have sent us an introduction about who they are and what they do:

“Stand by Me rescues children and then we do whatever it takes to provide the love, care and attention they need to thrive. We work in 6 different countries, caring for thousands of children who each day face the realities of poverty. Through the provision of nutritious meals, access to healthcare and the opportunity of a life changing education we hope to make a lasting difference, helping the children in our care to overcome the obstacles they face and become the people God created them to be.

We are excited to partner with CE this year and love helping children and young people in Northern Ireland discover the difference they can make in the lives of our kids around the world. We’ll have some resources available for leaders to use with their young people, helping them to think about what life is like for the children in our care, and would love for CE groups to partner with us through fundraising, either by participating in February on the Floor, or coming up with your own ideas! We are so grateful for CE’s support this year in helping to transform the lives of Stand by Me kids around the world.”

Stand By Me have put together a Missionary Pack with details about their work and how we in CE can support them. This will be available on their website, and CE leaders will receive an email linking to this. There will be resources available for both Juniors and Seniors, so please do have a look and make use of this within your CE Society.

To find out more information about **Stand By Me**, you can check out their website and social media, or contact them at the details below to book a speaker for your CE event.

Their website is: www.standby.me

You can follow them on Instagram [@standbymeHQ](https://www.instagram.com/standbymeHQ) or www.facebook.com/www.standby.me

Contact details:

Danny Moore
Church and Schools Coordinator
16 West Street
Carrickfergus
BT38 7AR
02893 350009

danny@standby.me

ENDS.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2025-2026

Remainder of 2025

Nov Sun 2nd- Sun 9th - Irish Union Prayer Week.

Nov Mon 3rd at 8.00pm - CE Week of Prayer Zoom prayer meeting.

Nov Sat 8th - 2.00pm-4.00pm - East Antrim Movie Day in Ballyhenry
Presbyterian Church.

Nov Fri 14th - Irish CE Union Executive Board.

Nov Sun 16th - Tues 18th - Irish CE Union's Autumn Break in Lodge Hotel,
Coleraine.

Dec Thurs 4th at 3.00pm - Armagh & South Tyrone Carol Service in Fergus Hall.

2026

Jan Thurs 29th at 7.45pm - East Antrim CE Executive in Eileen's home.

Feb Sun 1st - CE Sunday.

Feb Sat 28th - Irish Council & Planning Board in Headquarters.

Mar Thurs 5th at 7.45pm - East Antrim CE Executive.

Mar Sat 7th - Irish CE Junior Fun Day

April - Senior event - Afternoon Tea.

April Fri 17th Irish Union Executive

May Tues 12th at 7.30pm - East Antrim AGM & Planning in Ballyhenry Presbyterian Church.

September Fri 4th - Irish CE Council Meeting

Sept Sat 19th at 7.30pm - 111th Irish National Christian Endeavour Convention in Second
Broughshane Presbyterian Church

Speaker - The Revd Jeffery Blue - Second Broughshane Presbyterian Church

Theme - Joy in Jesus.

If you have an event in your Union or Society, which you would like included, please email details, including date, place and title of event to irishcepress@gmail.com