

MEETINGS ON THE LORD'S DAY

3rd Apr	AM/PM: Pastor Victor Maxwell
10th Apr	AM/PM: Pastor Denis Lyle
17th Apr	AM/PM: Mr Alan Dundas
24th Apr	AM/PM: Pastor Victor Maxwell

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Dates and subjects of Youth Fellowship meetings in April 2016 will be announced so please listen out for details.

All young people P7 and above will be made very welcome at Youth Fellowship.

SPEAKER AT BIBLE STUDY

Our guest speaker at our Bible Study and Prayer meetings for the month of April will be **Pastor Victor Maxwell**.

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

The Ladies' Fellowship will meet on **Tuesday 26th April at 8.00pm** for our Annual Women's Rally meeting. The special guest speaker at this meeting will be **Maud Kells OBE** who will be giving her testimony and telling us about her work as a WEC missionary in Congo.

A cup of tea will be served following the meeting and all are welcome. Please make use of one of the special invitations in the entrance to invite others to the meeting.

PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for the following in your prayer times this month:

- ◆ Stephen and Rachel Moffitt as they prepare to take up the work in Saintfield Baptist.
- ◆ Forthcoming Tent Mission in May and for Pastors Wilson and McConnell as they prepare
- ◆ Missions: in particular for work of SDHS
- ◆ Ladies' Meeting Annual Rally for response to invitations given out and for Maud Kells as she prepares
- ◆ Those who are shut in through illness or advancing years

ROTAS FOR THE MONTH

	3rd	10th	17th	24th
DOOR DUTY	Group B: D Glover *, E Shaw *, T McCormick *, B Gibson, J Carson & D McGreevy * <i>deacon in charge</i>			
CHILDREN'S CHURCH	Paul Gillian	David Jeanette	Mark Tanya	Karen Lynsey
FLOWERS	Naomi Dudgeon	Naomi Dudgeon	Mae Glover	Mae Glover
RECORDING	Gareth	Gary	Scott	Derek

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sun 10th April @ 3.00 pm — Meeting in Tullywest Nursing Home—Mr Gary McNeill speaking
- Sun 24th April @ 3.00pm — Meeting in Silverbirch Nursing Home—Mr Alan Burgess speaking

Friendly Hour Outing (Advance Notice)

The Friendly Hour Outing will take place on **Thursday 19th May**. Further details will be in the next bulletin.

AMAZING JOURNEY

The Amazing Journey will be visiting Academy Primary School on **Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th May**.

If you are available extra help would be greatly appreciated. Listen out for further details of how you can be of assistance. Please pray for this work and for those involved in this outreach.

Sports 4 Christ Summer Outreach (Advance Notice)

This year our summer sports outreach week will take place from **Monday 22nd August to Thursday 25th August 2016**

The debt outstanding on the Building Loan for the New Multipurpose Hall is currently £149,985

Details of items to appear in the bulletin must be given to Karen not later than the second Sunday in the month for inclusion in the next month's edition (email to: nk Reid@outlook.com).

Saintfield Baptist Church
51 Crossgar Road
Saintfield

Monthly Bulletin



**SAINTFIELD
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

www.saintfieldbaptist.org.uk

*April
2016*

John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

**Sunday
Services:
11.30am
& 7pm**

**Sunday
Sch: 10.30am
Searchers:
Wed 6.45pm**

**Bible Study
& Prayer
Meeting
Wed 8pm**

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



Wilfred's Two Birthdays!



Birthday Number One

I was born in 1940. My parents were both believers and I was raised in, what was by today's standards, a strict home. Sunday mornings my sister, Dorothy, and I walked to Second Saintfield Sunday School, stayed on for church and then home with Mum and Dad in the Austin 7 for Sunday dinner. In the afternoon we walked to Sunday School in Ballymacramery Mission Hall. On alternate Sunday nights we were at the gospel meetings with our parents in Ballymacramery and Tonaghmore Mission Halls. Sometimes the speakers were the Sunday School teachers from the morning Sunday School.

I cannot remember a time as a young boy that I did not know I was a sinner. I also knew that Jesus died on the cross for my sin. As a prize from Ballymacramery Sunday School I received a picture of Stags on a mountain and a text—1st Peter 2:24 'Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree'. That picture hung in my bedroom for many years. In both Mission Halls I mentioned there were Scripture texts in large print so if you were not listening to the speaker you could read John 3:16, 1st Timothy 1:15 or John 3:7 'Ye must be born again' etc.

I am thankful for being so privileged to be brought up in this environment. As I stated earlier I knew I was a sinner and had to repent of my sin and trust the Lord Jesus as my personal Saviour. For several months I was under deep conviction of sin and knew, if the Lord was to come for those who were saved, I would be left behind and be in a lost eternity.

Birthday Number Two



After a meeting in Tonaghmore Mission Hall at age 10 on 10th July 1950 I was born again, saved, redeemed and heaven bound. Ephesians 2:8&9 'For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.'

About 10 years later Dorothy and I were invited to a Saturday night young people's fellowship meetings in Murphy's loft in Carryduff. Those were great days and the spiritual growth of the young people was evident, some going on to full time Christian service. Apart from the loft meetings we were asked to take meetings in halls locally and in Belfast, some would speak, others

testify—usually girls as they were not so shy! A quartet was formed, Brian and Graham Murphy, Wilfred Crawford and I sang base. I was also greatly helped and blessed by attending Faith Mission meetings and the Bangor Convention at Easter.

I was baptised in Carryduff Baptist and became a member in 1966 and later was a deacon and treasurer. I have happy memories of those days and enjoyed the ministry of Pastor Garrett and Pastor Lyle.

It was in 1987 that a Baptist Missions team held a tent mission in Saintfield. Following the mission meetings were held in the Orange Hall and on 9th January 1988 the Church was formed and we as a family became foundation members. A full history is on the Church website.

For all that the Lord has done for me I never will cease to praise Him.

SAINTFIELD BAPTIST TENT MISSION

Sunday 1st to Sunday 15th May 2016

Speakers: Pastor Ian Wilson & Pastor George McConnell

The tent will be located at the council owned site of the proposed Saintfield Comm. Centre on the Belfast Road opposite Saintfield HS

Pre-Mission Meeting

The evangelists for the mission, Pastor Ian Wilson and Pastor George McConnell will be visiting the church on **Tuesday 19th April at 8.00pm**. This will be an open meeting when plans for the mission will be shared and Pastors Wilson and McConnell will share their vision for the mission.

All are welcome. Please plan to attend and encourage the evangelists by your attendance.

JOHN HARPER-TRUE HERO OF TITANIC

We all know the story. The Titanic, a British passenger liner, struck an iceberg off Newfoundland on the night of April 14-15, 1912, and sank. There is part of that story, however, that is not widely known. One of the passengers on the Titanic was a godly Pastor from Scotland, by the name of John Harper. Harper had recently spent three months ministering at the Moody Church in Chicago, during which time the church had experienced one of the most wonderful revivals in its history. He had not been back in Britain long when he was asked to return and continue his ministry. He quickly made arrangements for himself and his six-year old

JOHN HARPER STORY-CONTINUED

daughter, Nana, to travel back to America on board the *Lusitania*. However, he decided to delay their departure for one week, so that they could sail on a new ship, the *Titanic*, which was about to make its maiden voyage.

On Sunday the 14th of April, 1912, the day when the iceberg was struck, the weather was fine, the sea calm. Harper attended the church service for the passengers. His niece reported that later that afternoon she saw her Uncle speaking individually to people about their souls. It seems he was in the habit of seeking out the lost sheep wherever he went.

The *Titanic* struck the iceberg at 11:40 p.m. on April 14, 1912. As the call was issued for passengers to vacate their cabins, Harper wrapped his daughter in a blanket, told her that she would see him again one day, and passed her to one of the crewmen. After watching her safely board one of the lifeboats, he removed his life jacket and gave it to one of the other passengers. One survivor distinctly remembered hearing him shout, "Women, children and **the unsaved** into the lifeboats!" Harper knew that believers were ready to die but the unsaved were not ready. Harper then ran along the decks pleading with people to turn to Christ, and with the ship sinking, he called upon the *Titanic's* orchestra to play, "Nearer, my God, to Thee." Gathering people around him on deck, he then knelt down, and "with holy joy in his face" raised his arms in prayer. As the ship began to lurch, he jumped into the icy waters and swam frantically to all he could reach, beseeching them to turn to the Lord Jesus and be saved. Finally, as hypothermia set in, John Harper sank beneath the waters and passed into the Lord's presence; he was 39.

Four years later, a young Scotsman by the name of Aguilla Webb stood up in a meeting in Hamilton, Canada, and gave the following testimony: *I am a survivor of the Titanic. When I was drifting alone on a spar that awful night, the tide brought Mr. John Harper of Glasgow, also on a piece of wreck, near me. 'Man,' he said, 'Are you saved?' 'No,' I said, 'I am not.' He replied, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.' The waves bore him away; but, strange to say brought him back a little later, and he said, 'Are you saved now?' 'No,' I said, 'I cannot honestly say that I am.' He said again, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,' and shortly after he went down; and there, alone in the night, and with two miles of water under me, I believed. I am John Harper's last convert.*

Apparently God wanted Webb's amazing testimony to be shared, because only seven people were plucked from the icy water that night to join the survivors in the lifeboats. Webb was one of them. In the face of death and drowning, John Harper was concerned about the souls of men.