

# August 2020



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Registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC104317

**MINISTER** *Rev. Reuben McCormick.*

**Tel:** 07548605525

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## Services

*Please join us on **Sunday mornings** as we stay at home and link in with our service at 11am*

*<https://www.youtube.com/glengormleypresbyterianchurch>*

### Church Notices

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Hannah McKinstry and Ben Wilson on their wedding on Tuesday 28th July 2020.

**ANNUAL LEAVE:** Rev Reuben McCormick is currently on holiday until Tuesday 11th August. In the event of a pastoral emergency where a minister is required, please contact Rev George Moore on 028 9034 2832.

**PRAYER MEETING:** Zoom Prayer Meeting will resume at the end of August.

#### **CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS:**

Thursday 20th August 12:30-3:30pm resuming normal hours

**FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS:** If anyone would like advice on how to continue contributing to the work of the congregation at this time please contact the church office on [office@glengormley.org](mailto:office@glengormley.org) or 028 9084 8774 and leave email or phone contact details. Mark, our treasurer, will get in contact with you to discuss options.

**GLENGORMLEY BABY BANK** is open to everyone in Glengormley and Newtownabbey area who have children and are in need of help. To find out more use the following link. <https://www.facebook.com/Baby-Bank-Glengormley-and-Newtownabbey-101375724920881/?ti=as>

### With Regret

With regret we announce the death of Ethel Bell, Glenkeen Nursing Home on 20th July. We extend our sympathy to her daughter Lyn, Grandson David and family circle.

### Prayer Diary

#### ***A prayer of new appreciation of silence***

Lord of softly spoken truth,  
I hear the volume of life steadily rising,  
how it's all getting so noisy once again.

In lockdown everything seemed so much quieter,  
no planes, less traffic, fewer crowds, more tranquillity.  
Lockdown helped me to learn to listen perhaps as never before,  
it truly was a time to be silent,  
to hear creation voice its praise of you,  
to hear one another in a deeper way,  
to hear the inner voice of my soul.  
Thank you for reminding me that you can be found in the silence,  
and that I often fail to sense you present amid the daily hubbub of a busy life.  
Thank you for the uncomfortable sense of conviction that silence evoked,  
of how often I sin in words casually thought and carelessly uttered,  
all adding to the clamour of godless inner and outer chatter.  
Thank you for the silent moments of deeper appreciation of all your gifts,  
calling forth fresh thanks and praise, fuller adoration and gratitude.  
As the racket of life ramps up once more,  
help me to carefully recall and retain -  
the silent awe of just being in your company,  
the silent response as your Spirit brings home your Word to my heart,  
the silent heart of prayerful reflection,  
the silent moment to remember you go before me in an eventful day,  
the silent, unspoken love given and received in just being with someone special.  
Hear these my prayers,  
softly spoken, deeply felt,  
gently offered, greatly sought,  
from the one who hears even my inward groans,  
as I wait for the full unfolding of future hope in you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen

### **Sunday** | *Renewed thankfulness and praise*

Give thanks and praise to God for his mercy, grace, provision and blessing, asking for an attitude of gratitude to saturate our church life at this time.

Pray for those who facilitate our worship in music and song enabling us to praise God with heart and voice, asking that he will equip them for the challenges of having to deploy their gifts differently in this period.

### **Monday** | *Unemployment*

Give thanks to God for the impact of government funding which has protected employment and supported many businesses through the period of lockdown, asking that it will bear fruit in saving jobs.

Pray for those who have lost their jobs and those who are impacted by their loss of income, asking that God would help them quickly find work in their field or retrain for a new sphere of working life.

### **Tuesday** | *Families*

Give thanks for God's protection of family life during the coronavirus lockdown, asking that he would continue to enable spouses, parents, children and wider family life to thrive in their relationships.

Pray for those families who have particularly felt the strain of the last few months, asking that God would restore his peace in relationships and his calm where there is ongoing stress and strain.

### **Wednesday** | *Domestic abuse*

Pray for those who have suffered, or are suffering, domestic abuse which has increased during the period of lockdown, asking that God will be their safety, comfort and strength.

Give thanks for family, friends and organisations who are helping victims of abuse providing refuge and supporting recovery, asking that God will use their work to bring hope and healing.

### **Thursday** | *Schools*

Give thanks that schooling is going to be able to return in the new term, asking God to smooth the path towards the safe return of pupils, teachers and other staff.

Pray that God will enable the satisfactory resolution of many difficulties surrounding classroom set up, social distancing, blended learning and transport so that the new term can restart positively.

### **Friday** | *Those living with trauma*

Pray for those living with trauma due to the period of the pandemic and pressures of lockdown restrictions, asking that God would gently restore them mind, body and soul.

Pray especially for those in the hospital and care sectors drained from the strain of caring for the vulnerable, suffering and dying during the worst of the pandemic, asking for a sense of God's peace and calm.

### **Saturday** | *Ministry organisations*

Give thanks to God for the many ministries and organisations that have supported and resourced the church's response to the coronavirus and lockdown period.

Pray for those ministries and organisations particularly struggling with funding and other issues resulting from the period of lockdown, asking that God would provide and help them reshape their work as circumstances dictate.

**We are asked to pray for Students and Licentiates under Care of North Belfast Presbytery.** Remember their wives and families and pray for patience and direction for them all particularly as all summer assistantships have been postponed this year.

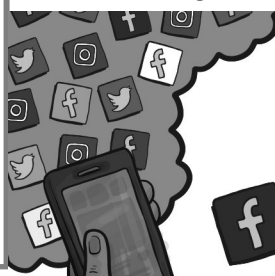
Stephen Cairns is married to Susan and they have three children: Toby, Nick and Ellie. Stephen was accepted as a student in 2019 but deferred for a year to continue his work as the Young Adults' Worker with Whiteabbey Presbyterian Church where they are members. Stephen will commence his studies in the College in September as one of eight new students. Pray for him as he lets go of one ministry to train for another.

Stephen Gaston is married to Gill and they have one daughter: Emma. They had recently announced that they were expecting their second child, due later this year, but sadly a week later they found there was no heartbeat. Gill is a Dr in Antrim Hospital and has just returned to work there. Pray for them as they come to terms with their loss. Stephen will return to start his second year in the College when it reopens in September. They are members of Abbots Cross Congregation.

Matthew Horner is married to Helen and they have three children: Naomi, Reuben and Lydia. Matthew is about to begin his third year of studies and has recently started as the student assistant with Whiteabbey. Pray that Matthew and Helen will be able to become involved in the life of Whiteabbey despite the current restrictions.

Michael Wylie is married to Rachael and they have three children: James, Robbie and Rosa. They belong to Carnmoney Congregation where he is the Discipleship Associate and he will continue in this role for at least another year. He has been exceptionally busy there in the unique and deeply sad circumstances facing John Dickinson and the Congregation. He will commence his studies in UTH in September. Pray for him as he continues his work in Carnmoney and sets out on the 'Alternative Pathway' before for him.

John McCracken is married to Justine and they have two children Sara and Anna with another on the way. They are members of Abbey Presbyterian Church in Monkstown and he was an elder and leader there. John has just recently begun his time as an Assistant Minister with Ravenhill Presbyterian Church and we hope he will be licensed in Abbey on a suitable date not too distant in time. Pray he gets to grip with his time in Ravenhill and also for the plans for his Licensing Service.



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