

# What's Happening



Welcome to our morning worship 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

This morning we conclude our teaching series entitled 'After God's Heart' with guest preacher Rev Stephen Moore.

Based on 1 and 2 Samuel this series sets out to explore the life of David. This story of is one of political intrigue, war, courage, friendship, and a fulfillment of the promises of God. However, the story of David is also a story of failure, sin, betrayal, and the struggles of life. He is the picture of what we encounter day in and day out — that our lives are a mixture of victory and defeat, of joy and despair, of peace in the Lord and chaos in the midst of our sin. David is by far the model by which we should live our lives, but one thing is clear — God had a plan for David that through Him all the nations would be blessed. That what defines us at the end of our lives is not our victories or our failures. What defines us is our pursuit of the one worthy of all our affection and twice in the Scriptures David is described as a man that was “after God's heart.” From both the successes and failures of David's life we learn what it means to be a people After God's Heart.



JAM is our Sunday school for children from preschool to P7and takes place during our Sunday service, except for the second Sunday of the month when CHILDREN'S CHURCH takes place for children aged 0-7.

This year the Belfast marathon kicks off at Stormont on Sunday 3rd May. Again we'll be opening our doors early that morning (7:30am) for people to come and go as they wish. We invite as many as are able to join for our early morning service and stay on to welcome visitors and competitors as they use our facilities.



# PRAYER POINTS

**Please pray** for God's power and presence to move in our church family that we might be open to what He is asking us to do and to be

**Please pray** for courage and leadership as Kirk Session discern together what our next steps in our faith journey as a church family should be

**Please pray** that God will bring more people to our church family and that we will be ready to welcome them in Jesus' name

**Please pray** for our search for a new person to help lead our music ministry

**Please pray** for members willing to serve on our Congregational Committee

**Please pray** for all our volunteers, leaders and helpers without whom we would not be able to meet and serve one another and our community each week.

## *Prayer Space*

Monday evenings @ 7:30pm

Join us for a time of prayer and reflection. This will be a quiet time to come together, share gratitude, and lift up our intentions. Everyone in our church family and wider community is welcome!

## *Afternoon Service*

You are warmly invited to join us for our regular **Afternoon Fellowship Service** designed with our senior members in mind. **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 3pm in Kirk Cara.**

This will be a time of worship, encouragement, and companionship. The service will include music for reflection and worship, a short devotional message, and light refreshments.

## *Weekly Church Activities*

### First Friends

Carers and Tots Group – Wednesdays 10 - 11:30am In the Park Hall and Family Room

### Youth Club

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 7:30 – 9pm For everyone in P6 and over – Football/Tuck shop/Games

### Stormont Evergreens

Wednesdays 10am in Kirk Cara

Commencing with a cup of tea or coffee and biscuit at 10am and followed by a programme at 10:30

# *Messy Church*

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026 @ SPC 4-6pm**

Join us for fun – food – games – stories – craft – celebration  
for all the family – an opportunity for people of all ages to worship together



## *Safeguarding*

Safeguarding, both for children/young people and for adults, has been a significant and important element in congregational life for over two decades. Policies and procedures were developed by PCI and adopted and followed by congregations in good faith. The events of autumn 2025 revealed that serious and systemic failures had occurred in the implementation and application of the policies and procedures and this have triggered not only a criminal enquiry by PSN and a statutory review by the charity regulator CCNI but a root and branch re write and upgrade of all policies, procedures and guidance pertaining to Safeguarding in PCI.

The result is over 500 pages of material all of which is accessible on the PCI website (<https://presbyterianireland.org/safeguarding>) At the core of new tranche of material are three policy documents – PCI Child Safeguarding Policy NI; PCI Adult Safeguarding Policy NI and PCI Criminal Vetting Checks Policy. There are also equivalent ROI policies applicable for congregations in the Republic of Ireland.

As the Kirk Session of SPC we have always sought to maintain the highest standards and the most robust approach to Safeguarding. The policies issued by PCI will be formally adopted by Kirk Session and the regulations, procedures, protocols and guidance will be followed meticulously. In every way we can we will endeavor to treat everyone with dignity, respect and Christian pastoral care while maintaining the highest standards of Safeguarding.

It has been made clear by PCI that the documents that make up the new Safeguarding approach are living documents. In other words, they will be updated as and when appropriate and in light of new developments in Safeguarding and any regulatory requirements from bodies such as CCNI, PSNI or any other statutory agencies.

Copies of the three core policy documents can be obtained, upon request, from the Church Office. They will also be published on the Church Noticeboard (Internal) in the Foyer.

The Kirk Session have created a Safeguarding Team, Julie Power (our existing Safeguarding Designated Person) and Diana Byrne (our new co-Designated Person) Should anyone have questions or indeed concerns on

any matter relating to Safeguarding they should contact Julie or Diana using this SPC email: [safeguarding@stormontchurch.org](mailto:safeguarding@stormontchurch.org)

## *Storehouse*

Requested item for collection in April – Toilet rolls

Requested item for collection in May – Pot Noodles

## *Christian Aid week*

Christian Aid week is one of the biggest acts of Christian witness in the UK and Ireland. We would like to share how you can take part and make a difference in 2026.

Where hardship means hunger - when farmers can grow hope.

We will look at the story of Fridah, a mother and grandmother living in a sprawling settlement of Dagoretti in Nairobi, Kenya. As a sole bread winner for her family, she was struggling.

Through Christian Aid's partner, Beacon of Hope, she became an urban farmer, cultivating vegetables in small unused city spaces. With these vegetables she can feed her family and sell vegetables in a local market.

You can help to support people like Fridah this Christian Aid Week.

Sun 17th May. Christian Aid Service with a speaker from Christian Aid. Followed by a Special Coffee/Cake morning where (together with Knock Presbyterian Church) we can support the work of this charity



Knock Methodist Church presents

## MUSIC IN MAY

Starring Special Guest

## Concentio Chamber Choir

*in memory of Drew Moore*

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.30pm

in the Sanctuary

Minimum donation £15

in aid of Church Funds & Marie Curie





## **Stormont Evergreens Outing**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May to Colemans Garden Centre  
Templepatrick

Leaving Church by coach @10:15am and returning  
around 3pm

Cost £25 includes transport & lunch.

If you are interested in attending please contact Helen  
07808881528

**Stormont Evergreens  
Open morning  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April  
10am**

Talk entitled

‘Bee keeping & Honey’

*All very welcome!*



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