



Dedication of Floral Cart Situated at the front of the Carrickfergus Castle is the most beautiful Floral Cart (above left) which welcomes all or visitors from home and abroad to our beautiful Borough. We at Christchurch have had the honour and privilege to sponsor it for the past number of years. It is a silent tribute to the people of Carrickfergus who have been so good to our church for many years. It is also a good witness to the Gospel as the plaque beside it states:

Christchurch-proclaiming the Good news of Jesus Christ. This is followed by the times of our services and a further statement identifying with the beautiful summer and winter flowers "**He makes everything beautiful in His time.**" Our thanks to The Christchurch Choir, (above right) under the leadership of Isobel Martin, which sang during the dedication and to Ian Kelly for his ministry. Special thanks to all who have supported this project.

Mothers and Toddlers

This happy group of Parents and Toddlers enjoy each Tuesday Morning together at Christchurch. Why not arrange to meet with them next session beginning in September. See Sonya Grant for details.



Church Banner A new church banner has been dedicated. It contains a beautiful photo of our church buildings with the slogan **Christchurch-a church to come home to.** It is placed on the wall in the Great Hall where many visitors who come through our doors may read and feel welcome to attend our services.

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Deaths

Mary Carol Clawson (May)
(1929-2008)

Lorraine McGookin
(1960-2008)

Our deepest sympathy to
our bereaved families.



CHRISTCHURCH Carrickfergus

NEWSLETTER

Vol VIII. No 3. 2008

a church to come home to





Dr Sam Grant

Since we published our last newsletter earlier this year, so many activities have taken place, it will be difficult to record them all. Needless to say we are greatly encouraged. On the missionary front we record the completion of the Valliore church in South India which we subscribed to over two years ago and we rejoice with pastor and people. Sister Joyce Hyslop has returned to Nigeria and will be progressing a new village church for us during her four month stay. This is our second church in this area and will be in the Bassa village of Uboobuluba. All this is very exciting as we seek to build up the church both at home and abroad.

The Franklin Graham Mission was a real blessing as we witnessed many people giving their lives to Christ. Here in Carrickfergus we further extended our outreach through our mission amongst the ex-service community, during Veterans Week 2008. Four services took place one for the UDR RA when their new UDR Memorial was dedicated; another service when a large number of Veterans paraded to the Marine Gardens for a service in honour of the our Veterans. Then the Carrickfergus Borough Council requested me to take the Somme Service which takes place each year high up on the Knockagh Hill overlooking the spectacular view of the Belfast Lough. In addition to these the Annual service for the Ulster Defence Regimental Association was held at the church in June.

Some years ago I told the Lord that whatever doors He opened for me, I would go through them. This I have done, and we have sown much seed. Much prayer is now needed to bring in the harvest. Do remember us in your prayers.

Bible Studies

A special Praise Service with the Lord Street Church concluded our Bible Study series in June. Thanks to all our singers, sound men and caterers. Sister Caroline Martin released her new CD at this service. If you would like to purchase one please see Caroline.



Caroline Martin

Had Jesus Christ never walked the dusty paths of ancient Palestine, suffered, died, and risen from the dead, and never assembled around him a small group of disciples who spread out into the pagan world, the West would not have attained its high level of civilisation, giving it the many human benefits it enjoys today."

Alvin J. Schmidt, How Christianity Changed the World

The task ahead of you, is never as great as the power behind you.

Be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might
Eph 6:10

We Believe

We believe that the Bible contained in both Old and New Testaments, is the inspired Word of God.

We believe in the historic doctrine of the Trinity.

We believe in the incarnation: that the Son of God took our nature to himself: that He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died a vicarious death, and that after His death on the Cross He physically arose from the grave; that He ascended into heaven where He reigns in glory.

We believe in person and work of the Holy Spirit.

We believe in the personal, physical and visible return of Jesus Christ, in the Resurrection of the dead and thereafter the final Day of Judgement for all men.

We believe in the universal sinfulness of man since the fall and that repentance toward God is necessary for salvation.

We practice believers baptism as instructed by Jesus in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

We observe a weekly Breaking of Bread service.

We believe the Church is made up of those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of life. That entry into the church is through Christ and that believers share in fellowship and service together in the Local congregation under the headship of Christ.

We believe that the Gifts of the Spirit which the risen Christ bestowed upon His church are still within the church today.

We believe in the great commission that the church is to take the Gospel to the whole world.

Christchurch is a non-denominational evangelical pentecostal church



Letters

"I want you to pass on my thanks to all the dear friends at Christchurch for their most generous and loving gift to build another church building in Bassa at Uboobuluba. Pronounced oo boo bu loo bu. By the time I come home you will all be able to say it easily. I pray that the Lord will bountifully repay you for what you have sacrificially given. I know you will all be praying for us all out in Bassa. Yours in the risen Lord
With love and thanks. Joyce Hyslop. 1/07/08



Letter from Tearfund

Your support is providing Baskar (our sponsored child in India) with a Christian education, healthcare and an opportunity to develop vital social and life skills. Thanks to you, he can now experience the joys of a proper childhood. You are also giving him the chance to break free from the cycle of poverty that enslaves so many people around the world... Your prayers and support are making a real difference to Baskar, his family and his community-thank you again for your generosity. Wendy Wright. Donor Care Team 7/07/08

Seventh Anniversary

The Upper Room Church under the leadership of Pastor Laurence Edgar has recently celebrated its 7th Anniversary in Lord Street. A night of singing, music and testimony was enjoyed by all attending and good wishes were brought by the visiting pastors. The Christchurch Choir and the Forestside Praise Group were invited guests to sing as were Isobel and Caroline Martin from Christchurch. Many others were singing and taking part and the church was packed to capacity. The evening finished with a sumptuous supper provided by the Lord Street ladies.



Easter Celebration Supper

A night of feasting and fun was held over the Easter weekend for the congregation at Christchurch. It was a great success and a delight to see so many enjoying a great time of fellowship together. Christianity allows us to enjoy ourselves as we sincerely serve the Lord. Our thanks to all who came, to those who provided the food and to those fun loving people who participated in the games. It is hoped to have another of these occasions very soon.



** Why not visit us
Sunday Night at 6.30 pm
for our Sunday night Live
Service?
Pre-service Prayer
Powerhouse 6.00 pm*

Smile with us

A young boy was questioned by his teacher; "What is a lie?" She said. The boy replied: "A lie is an abomination to the Lord and... a very present help in the time of trouble."

Sunday Club

The Annual Sunday Club outing took place at the beginning of July to W5. (Meaning Whowhatwhenwherewhy?) With 160 amazing interactive exhibits in four incredible exhibition areas, W5 provides a unique experience as well as fantastic fun for visitors of all ages. We knew our children were looking forward to this visit but some of us adults wondered why.



To the Glory of God

This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of **Robert (Bobby) Lynn** Always remembered by his loving Sister Meta, brother in law Tommy and their family circle.

When we got there we made some amazing discoveries and all the adults enjoyed the exhibits as much as the children did. Thanks to Jonathan and Sonya Grant and the teachers for organising this wonderful day out.

Service of Baptisms at Christchurch

A service of baptisms was held during March at Christchurch. Two candidates presented themselves for baptism. They are **Stephen Devenney** and **Charles Holmes**. Officiating in the baptismal pool were Pastor and Jonathan Grant. All baptisms carried out at Christchurch are



by total immersion in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit in accordance with the words of Jesus in Matt 28:19.

The happy pictures of the candidates express their joy. Above: candidates with Pastor and Jonathan; right: Pastor Marie with the candidates on the Christchurch pulpit prior to baptism. **"Then they that gladly received the word were baptised... And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship and in breaking of bread and in prayers." Acts 2:41**





Nicola Porter

Congratulations to sister Nicola Porter who recently graduated as a Master of Science (MSc) at the University of Jordanstown. She celebrated the conferment of her degree with her mum and Dad, May and Bobbie, at the Waterfront Hall, Belfast. Nicola, who attends God's house faithfully, recently organised a church day out to Ballymena followed by a dinner on the way back at The Ross Park Hotel. The day was most enjoyable and Nicola has received many requests to do it again. The group picture (above) is at the Ross Park taken by Nicola. Thanks to Thomas Nicholl who kindly drove the coach for us.



Stewardship

If you would like church Envelopes and/or a Gift Aid Declaration you may request one today. Please see Ester or Jonathan. It is worthwhile noting that the Envelope Scheme, which is confidential, is a great blessing to the church as it helps us identify our membership, encourages believers to give regularly and responsibly. This is your opportunity to bless and further the work of God in this place that we may be a blessing not only in Carrickfergus but in other parts of the world.

Timbrel Team

The Christchurch Timbrel team meet regularly to practice their timbrels. They are a real blessing to the church as they bring their joyful praise to the hymns and choruses. We have a number of new recruits and we are inviting further recruits to the team. If you would like to join please see Sonya or Irene who will give you details. Christchurch has had a Timbrel Team since its inception 34 years ago.



Sonya Grant and Margaret Black play at the opening of the Christchurch Millennium Complex September 2000.

New Village Church for VALLIORE

Tamil Nadu, South India.



-building for God in far away places!

Our hearts rejoice when we see the unfolding of our God-given vision in the raising up of village churches both in India and Nigeria. We are delighted to bring you news of another of our village church projects; from Valliore, South India, where Dr Grant visited in 2006. This building is now finished and was opened in February 2008.



Pastors pray for God's provision 2006

The Christchurch/Maranatha Village Church project has been wonderfully fruitful over the past ten years as we have seen many building projects helped through the kindness of the Christchurch congregation.



New foundation is laid

Please remember to keep these villages in your prayers as sometimes extremists come and burn the churches. Please pray for the safety of both the people and their property and also for the salvation of many precious souls. Our thanks to you all for your sacrificial giving which makes all this possible.

Jesus said, Go ye into all the world...



The new Village Church at Valliore opened Feb 2008