

Election of Ruling Elders

In preparation for an election of up to six ruling elders a list of voting members is exhibited today, Sunday 17th February 2019, in the church vestibule and will also be displayed next Sunday 24th February 2019.

Qualified Voters

The Code paragraph 175

(1) Voting members in the Church are communicants on the roll of the congregation who are listed, whether by name or number, as having contributed to the stipend or weekly freewill offering of the congregation in the last financial year.

(2) In addition to those so listed the following shall also be qualified, if themselves communicants on the roll -

(a) A wife shall be qualified on a husband's contribution, and vice versa, where both are communicants. This shall also apply should the contributor himself or herself not be a communicant. If neither husband nor wife in such circumstances is a communicant, then their contribution shall qualify the eldest child, residing in the family, who is on the communicants' roll.

(b) Should a contributor, who is not a communicant, be a member of a family residing together, then his contribution shall qualify the eldest member residing in the family who is on the communicants' roll.

(c) Those who have been added to the communicants' roll of the congregation since the close of the last financial year, upon confirmation by the treasurer that they have contributed during the current year, shall also be qualified voters.

The Code paragraph 176 (2)

(c) Should any member of the congregation who claims to be a voting member desire to make an objection regarding any name on the list, or omitted from the list, he shall lodge his objections, with his reasons in writing, with the Moderator of Kirk Session within a week of the first publication of the lists by any of the prescribed methods; and the Kirk Session shall give its decision thereon or refer the matter for decision by Presbytery.

(d) Should any member objecting be dissatisfied with the decision of the Kirk Session with respect to his own or another's qualifications he shall have the right of appeal to Presbytery within seven days. The same right belongs in such cases to any member of the Kirk Session, including any assessors that may have been appointed by Presbytery.

(e) When the voters' list has been finalised by the Kirk Session without appeal or reference, or by the Presbytery after appeal or reference, it shall be dated, signed and certified as correct by the presiding Moderator, who shall forthwith have it lodged with the Clerk of Presbytery, with a certified copy being retained by the Moderator or interim Moderator of Kirk Session as the case may be. This procedure must be completed before proceeding to the election.

The Election – in summary

Voting papers will be distributed by the the Kirk Session for voting members to choose up to six qualified persons suitable for the office. The Kirk Session will form a list of those who received the most votes up to the number of new elders being sought, i.e. six. Each person on the list must have received a minimum of a third of the votes cast. The Kirk Session must approve each person on the list and the consent of those proposed obtained.

(The Code paragraph 178 (1) (a) (b))

The list of those selected, when completed as far as possible, shall be read to the congregation on two successive Sundays, with opportunity for any objections in writing. The names will then be presented individually at a congregational meeting at which the selected persons must each obtain at least two thirds of the vote to be declared elected.

(The Code paragraph 179)



Sunday 24th February 2019

Thought for the Week

'For I know the plans I have for you', declares the Lord,
'plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.'

Jeremiah 29:11

A WARM WELCOME is extended to members and visitors to our Services today. We hope you feel at home in our Worship.

THE VISITORS' BOOK is in the front porch for signing.

THE YELLOW WELCOME CARDS in the pews are for your convenience and may be placed on the Offering Plate.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.30am

Organ Prelude & Preparation for Worship in quietness before God

Welcome & Announcements

INTROIT Jesus, the very thought of You (St. Agnes, Durham)

Scripture Sentences

PRAISE 537 Fill now my life, O Lord my God (Richmond)

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Introduction to Reading

Scripture Reading Titus 1:5-9 (page 1198) read by Catherine Dalzell

PRAISE 643 We have heard a joyful sound (Limpsfield)

Talk with the girls and boys God gives us strength

PRAISE 556 Father, I place into Your hands
(Children leave for Children's Church)

Offering & Prayer of Dedication

PRAISE 531 I'm not ashamed to own my Lord (Jackson)

Intercessory Prayer

Scripture Reading 1 Timothy 3:1-7 (page 1192)
& SERMON Qualifications for Elders

PRAISE 552 Take my life and let it be (Nottingham)

Benediction & Choral Amen

World Leprosy Day Appeal 2019

Heal Nepal is a UK wide campaign to raise funds to help the staff at Anandaban Hospital find, cure and heal people with Leprosy today.

This year we have a rare opportunity to reach out to twice the number of people. Thanks to UK Aid Match the UK government will match every pound donated to the *Heal Nepal* campaign. Cheques are payable to Groomspoint Presbyterian Church.

Please join us for our:

Coffee Morning Saturday 2nd March 2019
10.30 - 12 noon

World Leprosy Day Service Sunday 3rd March 2019
at 11.30am

Everyone Welcome

Announcements

(1) **ELECTION OF ELDERS:** The Kirk Session has received permission from the Presbytery of Ards to proceed with the election of up to six new elders. In preparation for this, a Voters List is exhibited in the Church vestibule today.

(2) **PW** meet again tomorrow evening, Monday 25th February when Rev Dalzell will take a Bible Study in preparation for World Day of Prayer
(3) The church is open on a Wednesday morning for anyone who would like to spend time in **prayer and quiet reflection.**

(4) **The Kirk Session** will meet this Tuesday 26th February at 7.30pm.

(5) The next **Friendship Lunch** will take place this Wednesday 27th February. Sign up sheets are in the vestibule.

(6) **World Day of Prayer** will take place this Friday 1st March at Ballycrochan Presbyterian Church at 11.00am. Refreshments will be served from 10.00 am. Everyone welcome.

(7) **The 'InBetweeners'** - those members of the congregation aged between the youth and young at heart are invited along to 10 pin bowling at The Dundonald Ice Bowl complex on Friday Evening 1st March. Contact Roy & Amanda McWhinney if you wish to join them.

(8) A warm welcome awaits all congregational members to our **Annual General Meeting** on Wednesday 6th March at 7.45pm. Please plan to attend this important meeting in the congregation's calendar, when essential business takes place, after which entertainment and a light supper will be provided.

(continues overleaf)

(9) **Choir practices** will resume on Thursday 7th March at 7.30 pm in preparation for our Palm Sunday morning meditational service on 14th April. New members will be especially welcome, and we also look forward to the return of all those choristers who regularly augment the choir.

(10) **Eagle Wing**: It is time to begin working towards the Easter issue of our magazine - even though Easter itself falls very late this year. We have actually received some contributions already, and look forward to more over the next few weeks. If possible, please email to eagle.wing@hotmail.co.uk

The deadline is SUNDAY 10 MARCH.

(11) Join us for a six week Lent **bible study series** looking at Jesus' final week upon earth, led by Ryan. Throughout the week, we will be examining how Jesus' final week upon earth has changed everything about our world. The six weeks will begin on March 20th, and will run until the Wednesday after Easter Sunday. They will occur at 7.30 in the Walter Nelson Hall. Come join us for a time of prayer and study, you will be most welcome!"

(12) **Humble Folk** - A night of sing along, hand clapping, feet stomping to well known and not so well know traditional Irish Folk music. This will be held in The Walter Nelson Hall at 7.30pm, Friday evening 22nd March. Tickets £5 and are available

from the Events Committee or contact the church office and website. This is an Outreach event.

(13) The **Congregational Committee** will meet on Monday 1st April at 8pm.

(14) **First Aid and Defibrillator Training**: There is a sign up sheet in the vestibule in relation to this training. Could two people from each organisation, or anyone who is interested, please add your name to the list.