

# NEW LIGHT

All Souls' Church Calendar

*AUGUST – OCTOBER 2018*



*Great is the Sun, and wide he goes  
Through empty heaven with repose;  
And in the blue and glowing days  
More thick than rain he showers his rays.*

Robert Louis Stephenson



## **WORDS FROM THE MINISTER**

This year, our annual Pride Service will take place on Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> August at 3pm. This will also be a communion service and will feature music from Quire and Northern Lights. This is a very special event in our calendar and I hope as many as possible will be in attendance. The service will be led by myself and All Souls' assistant minister Rev. Alister Bell.

Presently, I am in discussion with others about organising a service to recall, in a dignified way, all those who died in relation to the troubles in Northern Ireland. It will involve the reading of names as listed in the book "Lost Lives". This service has taken place in Dublin for the last seventeen years, on each Good Friday. We intend to hold a similar service on 20<sup>th</sup> September, which is the eve of International Peace Day. This service will take place with little commentary and will include prayer and music. It is intended to be a cross- community and interfaith event. I am aware of the sensitivities around such an event and these will be taken into consideration with regard to the planning of the service, which will be thoughtful, prayerful, respectful and dignified.

On the 23rd of September I look forward to welcoming Lord John Alderdice to take our pulpit. John will speak about his recent decision to resign as an Elder in the Presbyterian Church due to the latest controversy over baptism. I regard John as a good friend and he is someone I have admired for many years, in particular going back to our days together in the Peace Train Organisation. I am really pleased that he has agreed to take part in our service on the 23rd of September and address us. Please come along and please invite others as it will be a very important occasion in our calendar.

## **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

I will be attending the International Association of Religious Freedom (IARF) Conference in Washington representing The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, from July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The International Association for Religious Freedom is a UK-based charity working for freedom of religion & belief at a global level. It is the world's oldest global inter-religious organisation with over a century's experience in encouraging interfaith dialogue and tolerance. It has member groups in twenty-five

countries from faith traditions including Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Baha-i, Shinto & Zoroastrianism. The IARF has member organisations, regional co-ordinators and national chapters in sixteen countries, and so it is well placed to obtain local perspectives on religious freedom concerns and issues. The IARF's work and activities are guided by the principles expressed in Article 18 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

*'Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance'.*

The theme of the Washington Conference is "Reimagining Interfaith". It will consider how we can improve relations between peoples of different faith and understand each other better. The conference will focus on skill-building, networking, and organising for grassroots activists and interfaith peacebuilders from around the world. The event is co-sponsored by numerous diverse organisations, including Religions for Peace-USA, Shoulder-to-Shoulder, United Religions Initiative-North America, World Congress of Faith, the Interfaith Funders Group, the International Association for Religious Freedom and multiple faith communities.

It is worth remembering that the IARF held its World Congress in All Souls' in 1955 under the stewardship of Doctor Agnew and was long remembered as one of the highlights of the life of All Souls'. Also, in 1978 Reverend Bill McMillan received the Albert Schweitzer Award for his work in Northern Ireland, particularly his involvement in supporting cross community projects involving children. The citation read, "Presented to Rev. William McMillan for distinguished international leadership, character, scholarship and courageous action". The award was presented to him at the IARF Congress in Oxford, England. We can be very proud of our support and connection to the IARF over the years. It should also be remembered that the IARF was very supportive financially to the establishment of the Lagan School, an integrated school project in Northern Ireland.

I am looking forward to attending and playing my continued roll on behalf of The Non-subscribing Presbyterians.

This is the time of year when we all plan and take holidays. May you have a wonderful break and relaxation, where ever you go. It is always great to see new places, experience their uniqueness and new sights, sounds and tastes, to meet new people and perhaps make new friends. The following few lines on travel are from the poem "Song of Myself" by one of my favourite poets, Walt Whitman:

*Not I, not anyone else can travel that road for you,  
You must travel it for yourself.  
It is not far, it is within reach,  
Perhaps you have been on it since you were born and did not know,  
Perhaps it is everywhere, on water and on land.*

**Rev. Chris**

## All Souls' News and Activities

### New Website

The new website address is [www.allsoulsbelfast.org](http://www.allsoulsbelfast.org)

### Special Services at All Souls church

The annual Pride service will take place in All Souls' church on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August at 3.00pm. The service will be led by Rev. Chris Hudson and Rev. Alister Bell, with music by Rev. Trevor Gillian, Quire and Northern Lights. All are welcome.

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September the service will be led by Rev. Chris and due to their decision to exclude the children of gay couples from baptism, and he will take this opportunity to address this issue.

The annual Harvest service will take place on October 28<sup>th</sup> at the usual time of 11.30am.

### Church Readers

Our list of readers needs augmenting, so if you would like to read in church occasionally please give/send your name to Isabella for inclusion in the next rota, beginning in August.

### Book Club

The All Souls' book club meets about monthly. The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September** in the church meeting room at 7.30pm when the book being discussed will be *Nemesis* by Philip Roth. All are welcome to join or simply to drop in from time to time.

### Sunday Coffee

Every Sunday we enjoy tea, coffee and treats after our service, and it's a fun way to get together and stay in touch. If you feel you can contribute to this experience in any way, by baking or bringing goodies, by serving the drinks, or by tidying up afterwards, please put your name on the list on the noticeboard behind the coffee

table. Another way to help is to contribute financially if baking is not your thing!

In an effort to play our part in cutting down on the use of single-use plastics, we have ceased using disposable coffee cups in the church and have reverted to using mugs. This involves a little more work clearing up every Sunday, so we would appreciate any offers of help.

### **Email Addresses**

By now most of you receive the church calendar by email, saving the church time and money. If you are still receiving a copy by post and you have an email address please send your contact details to [ievangelisti96@gmail.com](mailto:ievangelisti96@gmail.com) so that you can be added to the list, thank you.

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### **A Note on Pastoral Visits**

As minister of All Souls I am always aware that we have members of the congregation who are suffering illness and are unable to come to church or are in need of some pastoral care. However, it is important, if you are that person, or know of someone in need of a visit, that you bring this to my attention. I cannot intuit that someone needs my attention. In general, what happens is that people approach me in the church or contact me by telephone or email and advise me of their situation and need for pastoral care. My response is, if they are unable to make it to church, to visit them at home, but I also take the opportunity to meet people in my office at the rear of the church. Not a week goes by without several such meetings taking place. These are often related to pastoral matters but also deal with other issues including advice about help available through statutory bodies and even some welfare support. At general synod ministers are advised not to make cold calls to members of their congregations but to call by appointment only. Therefore, it is considered best practice for the person in need of a visit to contact the minister to make an appointment. To avoid any misunderstanding, I would gently advise those in need of a visit to contact me directly and I will happily oblige. Although the calendar always carries my contact details on the back page, I include them here also for your convenience – 07969059993 – [HUDSON351@BTINTERNET.COM](mailto:HUDSON351@BTINTERNET.COM)

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**SERVICES ARE AT 11.30 am UNLESS OTHERWISE SHOWN**

**AUGUST 2018**

- 05 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 05 **Annual Pride Service at 3.00pm**
- 12 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 19 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 26 Rev. Alister Bell

**SEPTEMBER 2018**

- 02 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 09 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 16 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 23 Rev. Chris Hudson – **Address by Lord John Alderdice**
- 30 Rev. Chris Hudson

**OCTOBER 2018**

- 07 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 14 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 21 Rev. Chris Hudson
- 28 Rev. Chris Hudson – **Harvest Service**



## ROTA

### August 2018

- 05    Opening and Closing: Isabella Evangelisti  
      Reader: Anne Stewart
- 12    Opening and Closing: Ken Steele  
      Reader: Isabella Evangelisti
- 19    Opening and Closing: Jim Jackson  
      Reader: Jim Jackson
- 26    Opening and Closing: Charles Stewart  
      Reader: Charles Stewart

### September 2018

- 02    Opening and Closing: Niall Haldene  
      Reader: Niall Haldene
- 09    Opening and Closing: Bryan Cooney  
      Reader: David Linton
- 16    Opening and Closing: Isabella Evangelisti  
      Reader: Roger Courtney
- 23    Opening and Closing: Ken Steele  
      Reader: Sheena Lewis
- 30    Opening and Closing: Michael McKelvey  
      Reader: Errol Steele

### October 2018

- 07    Opening and Closing: Jim Jackson  
      Reader: Philomena McQuillan
- 14    Opening and Closing: Charles Stewart  
      Reader: Charles Stewart
- 21    Opening and Closing: Niall Haldene  
      Reader: Isabella Evangelisti
- 28    Opening and Closing: Bryan Cooney  
      Reader: Anne Stewart

**ALL SOULS NON-SUBSCRIBING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**5 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast, BT9 6AZ**



**Minister: Rev. Chris Hudson M.B.E.**

**20 Myrtlefield Manor, Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 6NE**

**02890663830 (home), 07969059993 (mobile)**

**Email: [HUDSON351@btinternet.com](mailto:HUDSON351@btinternet.com)**

**Secretary: Niall Haldene**

**Treasurer: John Lyness**

**Stipend Clerk: Anne Stewart**

**Clerk of Session: Errol Steele**

**Gift Aid Clerk: (see Stipend Clerk)**

**Sunday School Superintendent: Lynda Kane**

**Enquiries re calendar to Isabella Evangelisti at [IEVANGELISTI96@GMAIL.COM](mailto:IEVANGELISTI96@GMAIL.COM)**