

## WMC Church Family Day, 18th September 2016

For our Church Family Day this year we are planning to go to the Ulster museum on the Stranmillis Road, Belfast.

Following the normal church service on Sunday 18th September we will catch the train at 12.15 from Whitehead (*though cars will also be available for anyone who wouldn't be able to do the walk at either end*).

We have a big room booked for eating packed lunches - bring yours with you. The restaurant will also be open for lunches, teas and coffees if you prefer. After lunch we will have an afternoon in the museum and around the Botanic Gardens and Palm House so there are many things for people of all ages to see. There is also a shop in the museum for souvenirs. We will then come home by train and be back in Whitehead about 5.30 or 6.30pm.

There is a poster at the back of the church - please put your name on the sheet beside it to let us know you are coming and tick the box if you require transport. There is no cost for the day but the museum itself suggests a donation simply for its upkeep.

*Like all our previous Family Days, this is a day for EVERYONE, it's not just a Sunday School event so we hope that everyone can come along on 18th September for our special day at the museum.*

*Please send announcements to me by Wednesday before 9.00pm*

Rev Gary D Millar

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Society Stewards

Mr Ken Stewart (WMC) 93378812

Mr Brian Connor (IMC) 93353041

Whitehead & Islandmagee Methodist Churches  
Announcements for Week Beginning

Sunday 11 September 2016

15 years since 9-11



## Sunday 11 September – Holy Communion

10:30am WMC Worship Rev Gary Millar  
12:00pm IMC Worship Rev Gary Millar

## Tuesday 13 September

Tuesday evening meetings will resume next Tuesday at 8.00pm in WMC  
NE District Synod will meet in Carrickfergus MC tonight

## Wednesday 14 September

7.30pm Houston Room WMC Council Meeting

## Thursday 15 September

10.00am Church Hall WMC Craft Class

## Saturday 17 September

9.30am WMC Car Park M&M's Activity

*Our painting party is going ahead as originally planned.*

*In order to arrange catering, please let TN know by*

*Wednesday 14th if you can attend.*

*You can contact him on 078 84032105*

## Sunday 18 September

10:30am WMC Worship Rev Gary Millar  
12:00pm IMC Worship Rev Gary Millar  
12:15pm WMC Family Day Depart from Whitehead Train Station

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## IMYC Safeguarding Training Events

(Child Protection)

Open to all who have any contact with children in the name of the  
Methodist Church in Ireland

*Finaghy Methodist Church on 13 September at 7.30pm.*

*Carnlea Methodist Church on 4 October at 7.30pm.*

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PAUL IS  
REALLY HARD  
ON HIMSELF!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

IT'S NOT ABOUT PAUL -  
IT'S ABOUT THE ABUNDANCE  
OF GOD'S GRACE!



STILL, WITH SELF-ESTEEM  
THIS LOW, WHERE DOES  
GOD EVEN START?



1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17

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## A LIGHT NAMED AL

On the morning of September 11, Jeannie Braca switched on the television to check the weather report, only to hear that a plane had just hit the World Trade Centre. Jeannie's husband, Al, worked as a corporate bond trader for Cantor Fitzgerald. His office was on the 105th floor of Tower One. Al had survived the World Trade Centre bombing in 1993 and had even helped a woman with asthma escape from the building. Jeannie knew that Al would do the same thing this time, "I knew he would stop to help and minister to people," she said, "but I never thought for a minute that he wouldn't be coming home!"

A week later, like so many others who were in that building, Al's body was found in the rubble. Al's wife, Jeannie, and his son Christopher were devastated! Then the reports began to trickle in from friends and acquaintances. Some people on the 105th floor had made a last call or sent a final e-mail to loved ones saying that a man was leading people in prayer. A few referred to Al by name. Al's family learned that Al had indeed been ministering to people during the attack! When Al realized that they were all trapped in the building and would not be able to escape, Al shared the gospel with a group of 50 co-workers and led them in prayer. This news came as no surprise to Al's wife, Jeannie. For years, she and Al had been praying for the salvation of these men and women. According to Jeannie, Al hated his job and couldn't stand the environment. It was a world so out of touch with his Christian values, but he wouldn't quit. Al was convinced that God wanted him to stay there, to be a light in the darkness, and although Al would not have put it this way, to be a hero!

Al was not ashamed of Christ and Christ's words ... and he paid the price of taking up his cross daily. Al shared his faith with his co-workers ... many of whom sarcastically nicknamed him "The Rev." And on that fateful day...on September 11, in the midst of the chaos, Al's co-workers looked to him - and Al delivered! At the same time, Al too tried to get a phone call through to his family. He asked an MCI operator to contact his family. "Tell them that I love them," he said.

It took the operator more than a month to reach the Bracas, but the message brought them much-needed comfort. "The last thing my dad did involved the two things most important to him - God and his family," his son Christopher told a writer for Focus on The Family.

"He loved to lead people to Christ. That takes away a lot of the hurt and the pain."

*SOURCE: compiled by Kenneth Sauer from "A Light in the Darkness" by Christin Ditchfield.  
Focus on the Family Magazine, September 2002.*

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## POWER IN THE CROSS-COMMUNION MEDITATION

There is power in the cross. It's undeniable. Even unbelievers seem to squirm when considering its potential. David Brooks, of the Weekly Standard, reports "of the conviction being thrown by the American Atheist, the group founded by the late Madalyn Murray O'Hair. It seems that when the World Trade Center collapsed, the force of the fall, or some supernatural force, fused two steel beams into a 20-foot-high cross, which has been kept on the edge of the site. The atheists want the cross removed, of course, but in their passion to do that, they are actually revealing their faith in the power of the cross. If it didn't have power, why get so upset?" There is power in the cross. It's undeniable. As we come around the Lord's Table, we consider the potential of the cross--it's potential to reconcile all things to Christ who "made peace through the blood of His cross." (Colossians 1:20).

*Citation: David Brooks. "Religious Impulses, Good and Bad." The Weekly Standard, 6/21/2002.  
<http://www.weeklystandard.com/Content/Public/Articles>*