

# Glens and Dalriada u3a January meeting

**THE GLENS and Dalriada u3a held their January meeting in the Marine Hotel Ballycastle.**

Patrick O'Donnell, group Chairman said: "The guest speaker was Rev. Dr. Alex Wimberly, leader of the Corrymeela Community, who gave a most inspiring and charismatic address.

"He began with a brief autobiographical account of his pastoral journey as a Presbyterian Minister from his origins in the United States to his current pastoral ministry in Northern Ireland.

"Alex first came to Corrymeela as a volunteer; now as leader he has the challenge, opportunity and responsibility of continuing the mission of its founder Rev Ray Davey whose prophetic vision inspired its foundation.

"Alex sees Corrymeela as an open village of goodwill to all, a space to provide opportunities where all may experience a sense of acceptance, belonging, love and healing. It aims to be an inclusive welcoming oasis of reconciliation and peace.

"I think it is true to say that members left the meeting with a sense of wonder and awe challenged by the following: "It is in shelter of each other that the people live."

Alex is originally from the United States, but is no stranger



**Dr Alex Wimberly, Leader of Corrymeela Community who was guest speaker at the January meeting of Glens and Dalriada u3a meeting.**

to Ireland.

For almost seven years Alex worked in Belfast as minister of the McCracken Memorial Presbyterian Church.

He completed his PhD studies in history — focusing on the theme of reconciliation in American Presbyterianism — at the University of Notre Dame after which he returned to Northern Ireland, working in various roles with Corrymeela up until his appointment.