

The Church of Scotland
The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Kirkcaldy

26 June 2012

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy met and was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, Rev Wilma Cairns, for the transaction of ordinary business.

Sederunt

23 Ministers, 32 Elders and 8 Corresponding Members as per the attendance sheets.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from 6 Ministers, 1 Deacon and 11 other Presbyters as recorded.

The Moderator welcomed representatives from the congregations of Innerleven: East, Methil, Kirkcaldy: Viewforth and Dysart who had been cited for their interest. The Moderator also welcomed the Rev. Ian Marr from YMCA Scotland.

Minutes of Meetings

The Minute of the meeting held on 1 May 2012 (pages 2466 – 2471) was approved.

Agenda

The Business Committee Convener, Rev Gilbert Nisbet, moved adoption of the Agenda as printed. This was agreed.

YMCA Scotland

The Moderator invited the Rev. Ian Marr, Development Manager Christian Mission, YMCA Scotland to address Presbytery.

Mr Marr outlined the work of YMCA Scotland which is part of a global Christian youth-work organisation operating in local communities across Scotland to serve the needs of vulnerable children and young people to enable them to achieve their full potential. Mr. Marr stated that there is a clear desire to concentrate the work of their organisation on Christian mission. He appealed to members of congregations to consider joining their mentoring programme which had resulted in significant success.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Marr for his informative address and wished him and his organisation well in the future.

Basis of Union of Methil Parish and Innerleven: East

The Moderator called for the report of the Ministries Committee in relation to :- section 1, sub-sections (a) (b) (c) and (d) of the deliverance which was given by the Convener, Rev. John McLean.

It was moved seconded and agreed -

1. a) Presbytery notes that on Sunday 17 June 2012 the congregations of Innerleven East and Methil both voted in favour of the Basis of Union.

b) Presbytery approves the Basis of Union between the congregations of Innerleven East and Methil in accordance with the terms & conditions of the attached Basis of Union.

c) Presbytery thanks and commends the office-bearers of the congregation for the willing and efficient way in which they have taken all the necessary steps towards creating the Basis of Union.

d) Presbytery prays for God's blessing on the united congregation as they move into a new life together.

BASIS OF UNION BETWEEN METHIL AND INNERLEVEN: EAST

1. NAME

The name of the united congregation shall be Wellesley Parish Church of Scotland, Methil and the former Methil Parish Church Scottish Charity Number SC009581 will be retained.

2. TRANSFERENCE OF PROPERTY AND FUNDS

The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregations, and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.

3. PLACE OF WORSHIP

The church building to be used as the place of worship by the united congregation shall be Methil Parish Church. After the union comes into effect, the Innerleven: East Church building shall be used, sold, let or disposed of, subject to the titles on which they are held, subject to the approval of Presbytery, and if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.

4. TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be the bounds at present served by the congregations of Methil and Innerleven: East, or as Presbytery shall determine.

5. KIRK SESSION

The Elders of both Kirk Sessions shall form, with the Minister, the Kirk Session of the united charge.

6. CONGREGATIONAL MANAGEMENT

The temporal affairs of the united charge shall be administered by a Congregational Board constituted as in the Model Deed of Constitution, the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue to the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the united congregation.

7. MINISTER

The Minister of the united charge, on an unrestricted basis, shall be Rev Gillian Paterson.

8. MANSE

The manse shall be the present manse of Methil Parish Church at 10 Vetriciano Vale, Leven, KY8 4GD. After the union comes into effect, the Innerleven: East Manse at 77 McDonald Street, Methil, KY8 3AJ shall be sold, subject to the titles on which they are held, subject to the approval of Presbytery, and if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated

Fabric Fund or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.

9. MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.

10. POWER TO READJUST

While these articles and terms shall form a basis of union for the two congregations to be united, the united congregation shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise and with the approval of the Ministries Council.

Basis of Union of Dysart and Kirkcaldy: Viewforth

The Moderator called for the report of the Ministries Committee in relation to :- section 2, sub-sections (a) (b) (c) and (d) of the deliverance which was given by the Convener, Rev. John McLean.

It was moved seconded and agreed -

2. a) Presbytery notes that on Sunday 17 June 2012 the congregations of Dysart and Kirkcaldy: Viewforth both voted in favour of the Basis of Union.

b) Presbytery approves the Basis of Union between the congregations of Dysart and Kirkcaldy: Viewforth subject to the concurrence of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the General Assembly's Ministries Council and in accordance with the terms & conditions of the attached Basis of Union.

c) Presbytery thanks and commends the office-bearers of the congregation for the willing and efficient way in which they have taken all the necessary steps towards creating the Basis of Union.

d) Presbytery prays for God's blessing on the united congregation as they move into a new life together.

BASIS OF UNION BETWEEN DYSART AND KIRKCALDY: VIEWFORTH

The Congregations of Dysart and the Congregation of Kirkcaldy: Viewforth shall be united as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery of Kirkcaldy, and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. NAME

The name of the united congregation shall be Dysart St. Clair Church of Scotland and the Scottish Charity Number SC008991 will be retained.

2. TRANSFERENCE OF PROPERTY AND FUNDS

The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.

3. PLACES OF WORSHIP

The church buildings to be used as the places of worship and other activities by the united congregation shall be the church buildings currently used by the individual congregations subject to review three years from the date of union.

Should it be decided then that not all buildings shall continue to be used, then the church buildings not chosen by the Presbytery shall be used, sold, let or disposed of subject to the titles on which they are held, subject to the approval of Presbytery and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.

4. TERRITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Bounds to be served by the united charge shall be the Bounds at present served by the Congregations of Dysart and Kirkcaldy: Viewforth, or as the Presbytery shall determine.

5. KIRK SESSION

The Elders of both Kirk Sessions shall form, with the Minister, the Kirk Session of the united charge.

6. CONGREGATIONAL MANAGEMENT

The temporal affairs of the united congregation shall be administered by a Congregational Board constituted as in the Model Deed of Constitution , the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the said congregation.

7. MINISTER

Both charges being vacant, the united charge shall proceed to the election of a minister.

8. MANSE

The manse to be used shall be decided by the Kirk Session of the united congregation no later than 31st December, 2012, in consultation with Presbytery. The manse not chosen shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the titles on which it is held, subject to the approval of Presbytery and, if necessary, of the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.

9. MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

The stipend of the charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.

10. POWER TO READJUST

While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Union for the two congregations now uniting, the united congregation shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.

The Moderator, on behalf of Presbytery, thanked the representatives from the four cited congregations for their attendance and assured them that the prayers and thoughts of Presbytery are with them as they embark on a new and evolving period of their Christian witness.

Report from the General Assembly 2012

On behalf of Commissioners to the General Assembly, Mr. George Grant, Kirkcaldy: Bennochy reported diligence.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Grant for his informative and comprehensive report.

Report of the Business Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Business Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev. Gilbert Nisbet.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Committee Conveners

Presbytery appoints the following to serve as conveners of committees for the years 2012 – 2015: Business Committee – Rev. Gilbert Nisbet;

Fabric and Finance – Mr. George Grant [as co-convenor with Mr. Andrew Moore];

Ministries – Rev. Andrew Donald;

Vacancy Procedures – Mrs. Jacqueline Thomson.

2. Practising Certificates

Presbytery approves the issue of Practising Certificates to the following ministers: Rev. Christine Houghton, Rev. Dr Douglas Galbraith, Rev. Jack Gisbey, Rev. James Templeton, Rev. Maureen Paterson and Rev. Tilly Wilson.

3. Twinning Agreement

a) Presbytery records the continuing success of the twinning agreement between Methilhill and Denbeath and Greyfriars St. Ann's & Arouca with Sangre Grande Church of Scotland in Trinidad & Tobago, and commends the unremitting dedication of the Rev. Elisabeth Cranfield, the office-bearers and members of Methilhill & Denbeath congregation.

b) Presbytery notes, as they demonstrate through their faith and practical approach, the Church of Scotland's policy to advance the Kingdom of God throughout the world.

4. Election of Moderator

Presbytery agrees that the names of future Moderators Designate be brought to the May meeting of Presbytery to allow a period of familiarisation before taking office at the September meeting.

5. Notice of Motion

Notice is given that the Convener of the Business Committee will bring the name of the Rev. Tony Fowler to the next meeting of Presbytery to serve as Moderator for the ensuing year.

Intimations

Relevant intimations were made to Presbytery.

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Moderator called for the remaining part of the report of the Ministries Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev John McLean.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

3. Nomination of Candidate for the Ordained Local Ministry

Presbytery agrees to the nomination of Mr James Bissett, and elder in Kirkcaldy: Linktown, as a candidate for the Ordained Local Ministry.

The Moderator, on behalf of Presbytery, congratulated Mr Bissett on his nomination and wished him well in the future assuring him that Presbytery will follow his progress with interest.

Report of the Mission and Discipleship Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Mission & Discipleship committee which was given by the Convener, Rev. Robin McAlpine. There were no deliverances.

Report of the Church and Society Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Church and Society Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev Marc Prowe.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Moderator's Visit

Presbytery notes that all appropriate arrangements are in place for the Moderatorial visit to the Victoria Hospital on Wednesday 5 September 2012.

Report of the Fabric and Finance Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Fabric and Finance Committee which was given by the Convener, Mr Craig Caskie.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Fabric Matters

Presbytery notes that the Fabric and Finance Committee have approved under delegated authority the following item:-

a) Kirkcaldy:Viewforth

Approval to the release of £5,658.00 from the monies held by the General Trustees in the capital account of the Consolidated Fabric Fund to meet the cost of maintenance works to the Hall central heating system.

2. Wellesley Manse

(i) Presbytery concurs with the decision of the Congregation of Wellesley that the Manse to be used for the united charge be the Methil Manse.

(ii) Presbytery approves the sale of the redundant Innerleven: East Manse and refers this matter to the General Trustees for approval or otherwise.

Retiring Standing Committee Conveners

Rev. John McLean and Mr Craig Caskie are retiring from convenership of the Ministries Committee and Fabric & Finance Committee respectively. On behalf of Presbytery the Moderator thanked both Conveners for their diligence and dedication in their past roles and wished them well in the future.

Correspondence**Forwarded**

14 May Info re Community Bible Study UK

18 May E-mail from Janette Wilson re Listed Places of Worship – VAT on alterations

24 May Church and Society news

29 May Info re course in Religious Observance

7 Jun Mission and Discipleship Council E-news

8 Jun Amendments to Model and Unitary Forms of Constitution from Law Dept

12 Jun Info re 'How Can I Say It?' conference

Business Committee / Clerk

10 May Sick note

14 May Letter from Robin McAlpine re Project for Presbytery (museum exhibition)

23 May E-mail from Jennifer Hamilton, Law Dept, confirming new legal name 'Wellesley Parish Church of Scotland, Methil' and charity number.

28 May PIMS 2 update

- 31 May E-mail from Rev Andrew Philip re role of Fife Council Church Rep
- 7 Jun Update from Andrew Philip, Religious Rep on Fife Council
- 8 Jun Sick note
- 9 Jun Letter from Glenrothes: St Ninian's Kirk Session
- 11 Jun Letter re visit from Dr Inderjit Bhogal, leader of the Corrymeela Community

Church and Society

- 11 May WCC Weekly
- 30 May SCPO Monthly Parliamentary news
- 9 Jun Info re Community Engagement Conference

Fabric and Finance

- 4 May E-mail from Archie McDowall for Accounts Attestation Committee
- 10 May Letter from Keith Mason re meeting at Wemyss
- 22 May Letter from General Trustees re Kirkcaldy: Bennoch
- 29 May Info re Presbytery Stewardship and Finance Reps Conference
- 31 May E-mail from Archie McDowall re M and M payments

Ministries

- 10 May PPTG draft minute
- 8 Jun PPTG draft minute

Mission and Discipleship

- 23 May Rural Deprivation Report
- 7 Jun E-mail from Suzi Farrant re General Assembly Youth Reps

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Thursday 28 June in Methil Parish Church for the Service of Declaration of Union of the congregations of Methil and Innerleven: East; and on Tuesday 4 September 2012 in the St Bryce Kirk Centre at 7 pm for the transaction of ordinary business

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

_____(Moderator)

_____(Clerk)

The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Methil

28 June 2012

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy met for the Service of Declaration of Union of Innerleven: East and Methil Congregations and the Introduction of the Rev. Gillian Paterson, presently the Minister at Methil Parish Church, as Minister of the United Charge, and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator the Rev. Wilma Cairns.

Sederunt

11 Ministers, 20 Elders and 2 Corresponding Members as per the attendance sheets.

Apologies

Apologies for absence received from 5 Ministers, 1 Deacon and 5 other Presbyters as recorded.

Service of Declaration of Union and the Introduction of the Rev. Gillian Paterson

The Presbytery repaired to the Church where the Rev. Robin McAlpine, Minister, Kirkcaldy: Bennoch conducted Worship and preached the Sermon.

The Narrative having been read by the Clerk, the Moderator asked the Congregations of Innerleven: East and Methil, having agreed to form one Congregation, to signify their assent. The Congregations having signified their assent, the Moderator then declared the Union to have been effected.

The Moderator put the prescribed Questions to Mrs. Paterson, who returned satisfactory answers. Mrs. Paterson then signed the Formula. The Prescribed Questions to the United Congregation were assented to by the Members and Adherents who were present.

The Moderator declared Mrs. Paterson to have been introduced as Minister of the United Charge, following which all present expressed their approval. The Moderator, Members of Presbytery and the Kirk Session then extended the right-hand of Fellowship to Mrs. Paterson.

At the conclusion of the Service the Presbytery repaired from the Church to the Church Hall where the Moderator thanked all those involved with the conduct of the Service and the Congregation for making the necessary arrangements. The Rev. Ken Froude was thanked for undertaking the duties of Interim Moderator at Innerleven: East and was discharged.

The Clerk confirmed that certified notice of the Declaration of Union will be forwarded to the General Assembly Ministries Council.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer and led Presbyters in the saying of the Grace.

_____ (Moderator)

_____ (Clerk)