



Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Presbytery Précis - December 2011

In her opening worship the Moderator, Rev Wilma Cairns, reflected on journeys - the journeys made by the different characters in our Christmas story and our own pilgrimage of faith.

It was another quick meeting, not much 'official business' but so many good and exciting things happening!

National Stewardship Programme – Rev Richard Baxter will Convene a small committee charged with overseeing and encouraging our Presbytery's response to this national initiative.

Health and Safety – The Fabric and Finance Committee have put together a Health and Safety and Risk Assessment Review Document. All Presbyters have a copy to be forwarded to Property Conveners. It is a helpful, user-friendly guide and not reams of red tape!!

Pulpit Interchange – The annual Pulpit Interchange will be held on Sunday 12 February 2012. Presbytery members have the list of who is going where.

THANKS – Presbytery thanked Rev Alistair Wynne for his service as Locum at Kirkcaldy: Viewforth and Thornton. Alistair has recently moved to Edinburgh and finishes as locum on 18 December. Rev David Ferguson has agreed to lead worship and do some pastoral work from 1 January 2012. Presbytery also thanked Rev Christine Houghton for all the sterling work she is doing as Locum at Glenrothes: St Columba's. Presbytery acknowledged the commitment of the Interim Moderators: Rev Mitchell Collins; Rev Ian Elston and Mr Alec Redpath.

WANTED – Someone to work alongside Beryl Luke, our Presbytery Adult Trainer. This person would learn from her and then begin to take on some of her varied responsibilities. Interested? Have a word with Beryl or contact Rev Robin McAlpine, Convener of the Mission and Discipleship Committee.

Celebrate and Discover – Rev Gillian Paterson gave Presbytery an update on plans for this special day - Saturday 24 March, 10am-5pm in Kirkcaldy High School. There will be Exhibitions from each congregation; Workshops by and for our members; Stage area show-casing a wealth of talent; Exhibitions from a whole host of Christian groups; Workshops run by outside agencies. Worship from 4pm-5pm..... It sounds amazing! Come along and be inspired and encouraged! (If your congregation has not yet registered please contact Gillian NOW!) There will be a meeting with Congregational Reps on Wednesday 18 January, 7.30pm in Glenrothes: Christ's Kirk.

Hospital Chaplaincy – Rev Marc Prowe, Convener of the Church and Society Committee, spoke of all the work his committee has been doing to support Mark Evans and his team of Hospital Chaplains. Letters to NHS Fife from a number of different faith groups expressing

concern about the chapel at the new Victoria Hospital have elicited the strongest ever commitment to Spiritual Care from NHS Fife - and a more central site for the chapel. Sunday Services at Victoria Hospital will re-commence after the move to the new wards. Mark and Marc have produced an article for Church Magazines – 'Ill, in hospital, and visited'. This was sent out to all members of Presbytery on e-mail.

Personal Search Week – Rev John McLean spoke to Presbytery about this exciting initiative which is taking place in Auchmuty High School from 16-20 January. For this week in January a team of music and drama specialists along with GROW, SU Scotland, the school chaplain (John) and local volunteers will take over the S1 timetable exploring issues such as Who am I? Does God exist? Friendship, health and well-being, conflict resolution and world issues.... Presbytery members have information leaflets. Please pray for the team as they prepare for and lead this week of opportunity.

Souper Sunday – Sunday 8 January 2012 (or any other Sunday that suits your congregation.) Materials available soon from the Church of Scotland website.

PRAY NOW – On sale now. Please contact George Luke with your orders. Price £5. The theme is taken from Ecclesiastes 3 – there is a time for everything.

A virtual nativity.....Experience the 2000 year old nativity story in real time as eye witness messages are sent direct to you by text, email, facebook or twitter from 18 December until 1 January. It's free and will give your Christmas a whole new perspective. Log on to www.christmasstarts.com/experience or text STORY to 60777

A real nativity..... will be staged on Saturday 17 December, between 4pm and 9pm at South Glassmount, near Kinghorn. As well as being a Christmas celebration it is also a fund-raiser for a group of young folk from Burntisland and Kinghorn Churches who are visiting Malawi next summer. More information will be sent out soon.

Renewable energy – Marc Prowe alerted Presbytery to changes in feed-in tariffs. These run out at the end of March so, if you are thinking about solar panels etc you need to act quickly.

16 Days of Action to End Violence Against Women – Rev Marc Prowe reminded Presbyters of this campaign and drew attention to the Guild's involvement. From the most recent Guild newsletter... On the 25th November Scottish Women's Aid launched their Stop Domestic Abuse campaign. As part of this they are asking people to pledge to do one thing to stop domestic abuse - this can be writing to your MSP/MP; understanding the causes and impacts of domestic abuse on women, children and young people or reading the tips on how you can support someone experiencing domestic abuse. They have put together 10 things you can do, but they want to hear your suggestions too. SWA believe that domestic abuse is preventable, and together we can stop it. Please visit their website and sign their pledge here: <http://www.togetherwecanstopit.org> or contact Fiona Buchanan on 0131 2266606

Presbytery meets next on Tuesday 7 February 2012 at 7.00pm in the St Bryce Kirk Centre, Kirkcaldy.