



Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Presbytery Précis - February 2014

Reminder - Sunday 9 February – Presbytery Pulpit Interchange.

In her opening worship the Moderator, Myra Deas, talked about words and dictionaries and how some words are hard to define. She went on to say that in 1 John 4 we read a definition of God – God is love. We don't merit that love, deserve that love but God in his love goes on forgiving, cleansing and restoring us. What a word! What a God!

Membership – Myra welcomed Rev Maudeen MacDougall, the new minister at Dysart St Clair.

Thanks – Maudeen thanked Presbytery for a warm welcome and a wonderful Service of Induction. The Clerk read a letter of thanks from Professor David Ferguson, New College. The retiring offering at the Service of Induction went to the John McIntyre Scholarship Fund which has been established to provide support for students studying in the School of Divinity for the ministry of one of the Scottish churches.

Scottish Bible Society - Peter Chirnside, Church Partnership Manager of the Scottish Bible Society addressed Presbytery about some of the current initiatives of the Society. Presbyters were given 2 leaflets – one about some of the challenges the SBS faces, the other about the Penny Gospel. He spoke of 3 particular Bible Reading initiatives – 'Conversations', 'Lection Divina' and 'Talk the Word' which he tried out on Presbyters. More information from <http://scottishbiblesociety.org>

General Assembly – Invitations to attend this year's General Assembly have been sent out to the relevant Ministers, Deacon and Session Clerks.

Inspection of Records – The annual inspection of records will take place on Wednesday 16 April in the St Bryce Centre. A timetable for the day will be issued to Session Clerks.

Locum – Rev Alistair McLeod has been appointed Locum at Markinch Church.

Interim Moderator – Rev David Adams has been appointed Interim Moderator at Leslie: Trinity.

Jubilee Scotland Debt Justice Pledge – Presbyters and Congregations are encouraged to sign the debt justice pledge brought by Jubilee Scotland. The Jubilee pledge is for debt release so nations can be unchained from endless servicing old debt (sometimes accrued by previous dictatorships) and instead spend the money on education and medical care, to rebuild their nations lives. www.jubileescotland.org.uk/sign-debt-justice-pledge This campaign is supported by the Church of Scotland. www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/mission_worldwide/current_focus

Crossreach – Marc Prowe, Convener of the Church and Society Committee, commended the work of Crossreach to members of Presbytery and encouraged congregations to pray for this important and diverse service. Presbyters were given A Guide to Crossreach.

Safeguarding Training – Part 1 (3 hours) will be held on 8 March at 9.15 for 9.30am at Glenrothes: St Margaret's. Responsibilities of the Kirk Session (for new and prospective elders along with those who missed previous training) will be held on 29 March, 9.45 for 10.00am start in Kirkcaldy: Linktown. For more information please contact Taylor Bell - taylor.bell@sky.com

Ecumenical matters - Douglas Galbraith, our ecumenical 'friend', drew attention to the six Lent Studies from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, written by a Church of Scotland team, based on the 2012 Assembly report, 'A right relationship with money' and downloadable from the CTBI website; the study guide based on the recent WCC Assembly in South Korea and its fresh unity statement and presented along with specific questions to Scotland (download from C of S site); the reflection materials from ACTS, *Values for Scotland*, with the four values carved on the Scottish Parliamentary Mace as starting point (ACTS website); the appointment of a new General Secretary for ACTS, Rev Matthew Ross of the C of S; and the open day at Kirkcaldy Islamic Centre, 12-2 this Saturday.

Diaconate – Jacqueline Thomson drew attention to a book recently published to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Diaconate. 'A Story to Tell' was written by Morag Crawford DCS, Deacon at Rosyth. It can be ordered from Jacqueline for £5.00.

Visit to Belfast and Corrymeela – Robin MacAlpine intimated to Presbytery a proposed visit from churches in and around Kirkcaldy to Belfast and the Corrymeela Community Centre at Ballycastle being organised by one of his members, Dr Bob Purdie. His suggestion is to take part in this year's Friends Weekend, which will be from Friday 9th to Sunday 11th May 2014. In addition there will be a visit to Belfast to learn about the Troubles. (A separate e-mail giving full details has been sent to members of Presbytery.)

Parables and Possessions – Beryl Luke is running a series of 6 Bible Studies for Lent. They begin on Saturday 1 March, 10.00am – 12noon in St Bryce. The cost is £3. Presbyters have leaflets. (These are the studies mentioned by Douglas Galbraith...)

Session Clerks' Get Together – Tuesday 4 March, 7.00pm in St Bryce Kirk. Beryl will be in touch soon with more information.

Caring for God's People – This Pastoral Care conference will be held on Saturday 10 May, 10.00am-4.00pm in St Bryce at a cost of £10. Suggestions for content to Beryl please.
berylluke@googlemail.com

Commonwealth Games – Robin MacAlpine spoke of 2 initiatives to help churches make the most of the Commonwealth Games. The Penny Gospel (already mentioned by Peter Chirnside) and More than Gold <http://morethangold2014.org.uk/> which focusses on outreach, hospitality and service.

Celebrate and Discover – Gillian Paterson enthused Presbytery with her report on the preparations for this big Presbytery get together. She emphasised the importance of all the congregations being there, all the branches on the vine represented. Opening worship at 10.00am. The Big Sing at 4.00pm to round off the day. Messy Church will be running all day as will the Prayer Zone, Holy Week Prayer Journey, KART sports activities, exhibits, resources, workshops.... Catering is available all day. Shuttle bus service from the bus station. Plenty of stewards and signposts!! More input needed for the 'Here's an Idea' workshops. Still looking for more stewards, musicians, singers along with your support and prayers. Please contact Gillian with any offers of help etc gillianpaterson10@hotmail.co.uk



"I am the vine and you are the branches"
Saturday 22nd March from 10am to 5pm
in Kirkcaldy High School

*Presbytery meets next at 7.00pm on Tuesday 1 April 2014 in St Bryce Kirk,
Kirkcaldy for the transaction of ordinary business.*