



Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Presbytery Précis - June 2012

The evening began with our annual fellowship meal - a most enjoyable occasion. Many thanks to the catering staff at the St Bryce Kirk Centre.

In her opening worship the Moderator, Rev Wilma Cairns, commented that we can all get bogged down by the pressures of life. We must remember that God is the source of our strength and take time to re-charge the spiritual batteries.

Address – Rev Ian Marr, a Church of Scotland minister, was recently appointed Development Manager for Christian Mission for the YMCA in Scotland. He spoke about the red triangle, the logo of YMCA representing the aims of the YMCA – the development of body, mind and spirit in the lives of young people. There is a desire to re-focus the organisation on 'spirit' and Christian mission – hence his appointment. This work can only be done in conjunction with churches. The YMCA works in 34 areas of Scotland. In our Presbytery it operates in Kirkcaldy, Glenrothes and Buckhaven. Local churches are encouraged to get involved. Ian mentioned a scheme piloted in Kirkcaldy – PlusOne Mentoring – which has proven very successful and will be rolled out nationally. If you are interested in finding out more Ian can be contacted on ian@ymcascotland.org

Union of Innerleven: East and Methil – Representatives of both congregations were present. On Sunday 17 June 2012 both congregations voted in favour of the Basis of Union. This was also approved by Presbytery. The new congregation is to be called Wellesley Parish Church of Scotland, Methil. The Service of Union and Introduction will be held on Thursday 28 June at 7.00pm. Presbytery meets at 6.45pm. Presbytery was encouraged to pray for God's blessing on the united congregation as they move into a new life together.

Union of Dysart and Kirkcaldy: Viewforth – Representatives of both congregations were present. On Sunday 17 June 2012 both congregations voted in favour of the Basis of Union. This was also approved by Presbytery. The new congregation is to be called Dysart St Clair Church of Scotland. A date for the Service of Union has to be agreed with the Kirk Sessions. Presbytery was encouraged to pray for God's blessing on the united congregation as they move into a new life together.

Report from the General Assembly – George Grant of Bennoch Church, Kirkcaldy, reported diligence on behalf of Commissioners to the General Assembly in May. He gave an honest and interesting reflection on his week in Edinburgh.

Committee Conveners – some new Committee Conveners were appointed 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.

Retiring Conveners John McLean (Ministries) and Craig Caskie (Fabric and Finance) were thanked for their service to Presbytery.

Moderator designate – Notice was given that 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.

Twining - 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 was celebrated by Presbytery. Rev Elizabeth Cranfield spoke of the benefits of the twinning for both congregations, not least the introduction of fish suppers after Bible Study in Methilhill and Denbeath!!

Nomination of Candidate for Ordained Local Ministry – James Bisset of Linktown Church attended a recent Assessment Centre and has been recognised as a candidate for Ordained Local Ministry. James was present to hear Presbytery nominate him officially and wish him well as he begins his training.

Moderator's Visit – The Moderator of the General Assembly, Rt Rev Albert Bogle, will be visiting the new Victoria Hospital on Wednesday 5 September 2012. Plans are well advanced. This is a follow-on visit from that made by Very Rev David Lunan during his Moderatorial year. The aim of the visit is to encourage staff and patients. Rev Jim Reid of Kinghorn spoke very personally of his appreciation of the staff of the Fife hospitals and encouraged us all to be encouragers.

Bike and Hike – Saturday 1 September, 10.00am-6.00pm – Only 10 congregations have signed up so far! Marc Prowe, Convener of Church and Society, encouraged all congregations to sign up as soon as possible. All congregations have information. Fife Council's Transportation Service is keen to provide maps and suggested routes.

Where do we direct people looking for help? – The Church and Society Committee is drawing up a list of contacts to help us help others. Copies have gone out to each congregation. Please let Marc Prowe know of any others. marc@linktown.org.uk

Congratulations – Presbytery congratulated 2 church organists who were recently in the news. Eric Christie (St Columba's) received an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to the community. Richard Michael (Abbotshall) received a BEM for services to musical education.

Some diary dates...

Sat 1 September – Safeguarding Training for Voluntary Workers, Panel Members and Co-ordinators in Wellesley Parish Church. Safeguarding Co-ordinators have details. More information from Taylor Bell

Sat 8 or 15 September – Session Clerks' event

Sat 3 November – Leading Worship Workshop

Presbytery meets next on Tuesday 4 September 2012 at 7.00pm in the St Bryce Kirk Centre for the transaction of ordinary business.