



# Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

## Presbytery Précis -September 2013

**REMINDER - Bike and Hike 2013** - Saturday 7th September from 10am-6pm.

In his opening worship Rev Tony Fowler challenged Presbyters to remember that 'Jesus is Lord' is either a shout of joy or a cry of anguish, the hope of heaven or the fear of hell. In life there are choices to be made with eternal consequences and we have a responsibility to make these choices clear to other people.

**Membership** - Tony welcomed 6 new members of Presbytery as well as Eileen Miller who, as a Graduate Candidate undertaking her final placement at St Kenneth's, is now a corresponding member. Tony congratulated Rev Alex Forsyth on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination. He then led Presbytery in a moving tribute to Mrs Jean Wilson who died suddenly at the end of June. Jean was Presbytery Elder for Templehall and Convener of the Education Working Group.

**New Moderator** – Tony thanked Presbytery for the honour of serving as Moderator and the privilege of being involved in several special services throughout the year – the Union of Dysart St Clair, the Ordination and Induction of Rev Alan Kimmit, the Banner Pilgrimage and Praise Service, the recent Graduate Candidate Service. Presbytery then approved the appointment of Mrs Myra Deas, Session Clerk at St Ninian's Church, Glenrothes, as Moderator for the coming session. Tony had done his homework and gave Presbytery her potted life-story, much to her surprise! Myra was welcomed warmly by Presbytery. She in turn thanked Tony for his year of service. His leading of worship, his careful planning and quiet authority had been much appreciated.

**Service of Union** – A Service of Union for the charge of Auchterderran Kinglassie will be held on Sunday 27th October at 3.00pm in the Auchterderran building, the service to be conducted by the Moderator and the preacher to be the Rev. Elizabeth Cranfield. Presbytery convenes at 2.45pm.

**Presbytery Accounts 2012/13** - Presbytery approved the accounts for 2012/13 and the budget for 2013/14. Congregations are to be assessed at the rate of £2.00 per member for 2013/14. Miss Jane Webster was thanked for carrying out the duties of Presbytery Treasurer with diligence and care. Andrew Duncan and William Aitken were thanked for serving as independent examiners.

**Congregational Accounts 2012** – Richard Baxter reported on behalf of the Accounts Attestation Team. On the whole the standard of accounts was good but with 2 exceptions. Presbytery thanked Richard and his team, particularly Bert Simpson who is retiring after many years' service. Many congregations over the years have benefitted from his time and advice.

**Applications for Reduction in Ministry and Mission Allocations** - Congregations who wish to apply for a reduction in their Ministries and Mission Allocation for 2014 must submit their application by 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013. The deadline date is set to allow consideration of the application by the Fabric and Finance Committee prior to presentation to Presbytery and submission to the Church of Scotland by 15 November 2013. The application form and guidelines have already been circulated to all Ministers and Session Clerks. Allocation figures have just been received and will be forwarded shortly.

**Remembering Christians in Extreme Situations** – Rev Gilbert Nisbet, Convener of the Business Committee reminded Presbyters of the plight of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Coptic Church, and in other countries where Christians are persecuted. Presbytery resolved to keep them in our prayers during these difficult times.

**Locum provision in a vacancy** – Presbytery and congregations are asked to note that as from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013 two day locums are the normal practice in a vacancy.

**“Go for it” Fund** - Congregations are encouraged, where appropriate, to make applications to the Fund. [www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/go\\_for\\_it](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/go_for_it)

**Resources** – Mission and Discipleship resources available at [www.resourcingmission.org.uk](http://www.resourcingmission.org.uk)  
Mission Forum resources available at [www.resourcingmission.org.uk/resources/mission-forum](http://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/resources/mission-forum)

**Education** - To help develop a network of *Congregational Learning Facilitators*, Presbytery urges congregations to identify people with the appropriate gifts and skills, to be trained to develop learning across the Presbytery. Info from Robin McAlpine [robinmcalpine@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:robinmcalpine@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Safeguarding** – Tom Conway is standing down after 10 years as our Safeguarding Trainer. He was warmly thanked by Presbytery for his time and commitment. Joyce Leggate of Torbain Parish Church has been appointed as a trainee Safeguarding Trainer.

**Markinch** - In view of the impending retirement of Rev Alex Forsyth, Mrs May Russell has been appointed to serve as Interim Moderator at Markinch Parish Church.

**General Assembly Report** – Craig Higgins of St Ninian’s Church, Glenrothes was our Youth Rep this year. Craig gave Presbytery an insight into what was a most memorable week for him, complete with pictures. Craig was warmly thanked for his interesting report and his enthusiasm!

**Wed 25th Sept 7pm** - Africa, Debt and Tax, a Joint Jubilee Scotland, World Mission and Christian Aid event in Dalgety Parish Church. [www.jubileescotland.org.uk](http://www.jubileescotland.org.uk)

**Sun 29th Sept, 7pm** - “Imagine Scotland” in Christ’s Kirk Glenrothes

**Friday 25 October, 10.30am** – Maria Silo from the Aids Project at Ekwendeni Hospital, Malawi, will share her story in Methilhill and Denbeath Church.

**Local Community Involvement** – Congregations are encouraged to reflect on their community involvement, using a Discussion Starter paper issued to Presbyters in June; and to provide examples of good community involvement to the Convener of the Church and Society Committee, Rev Marc Prowe.

**Truth and Lies about Poverty** – Each congregation has been issued with 2 copies of this report and they are urged to discuss and develop its findings and recommendations. Find it online at <http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/truthandliesaboutpoverty/>



*“I am the vine and you are the branches”*

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March from 10am to 5pm**

**in Kirkcaldy High School**

**THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN!**

*Presbytery meets next on Sunday 27 October at 2.45pm in Auchterderran for the Service of Union for Auchterderran Kinglassie Parish Church and then on Tuesday 5 November 2013 at 7.00pm in St Ninian’s Church, Glenrothes, for a Celebration of the Lord’s Supper, an address from Paul Wilson of Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland and the transaction of any urgent business.*