



Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Presbytery Précis - September 2014

The Moderator, Myra Deas, welcomed new members of Presbytery at the start of the 2014 / 2015 session. She welcomed a visitor, Rev Joshua Nyangulu, chaplain to Ekwendeni Hospital in Malawi. Joshua was sponsored by the Church of Scotland to study for a Masters degree in leadership and change management. He addressed Presbytery and brought greetings from the church in Livingstonia. He closed by asking Richard Baxter to take some photos of him with the Presbytery.....

New Moderator – Rev Robin MacAlpine of Bennoch Church was appointed Moderator for the coming year. Myra Deas spoke warmly of the gifts that he will bring to this task. She mentioned that at the General Assembly it was revealed that the Moderator and Clerks had Jelly Babies to sustain them through the meetings....She presented Robin with a tub of Jelly Beans!!

Myra Deas – Myra thanked Presbytery for the great privilege of being Moderator. She confessed that she began her year with trepidation but was very grateful for the help, support and prayers of all of Presbytery. It was a busy year with 2 Services of Union, a Service of Induction and invitations to many special events. She mentioned in particular the presentation of long service certificates to 2 elders in Burntisland who had served 65 and 50 years respectively. Robin thanked Myra on behalf of Presbytery for the thought and preparation she had put into worship, for her gentle leading of business and for the commitment she had shown in all she did throughout the year. He remarked that she would not be returning to the back benches as she was now an Interim Moderator and would pick up her Superintendence remit once again.

Demission of Rev Alexandra Rosener – Alexandra and her family are returning to Germany after almost 4 years at Christ's Kirk, Glenrothes. Mr Ron McDougall spoke on behalf of the congregation, thanking her for all her hard work on behalf of the congregation. She brought many new ideas, especially on the publicity side of things. The Guild welcomed her support. The congregation benefitted from visits from German choirs and visitors. Her culinary skills and artistic talents were also praised. The Moderator thanked her for the contribution she had made to the life of Presbytery, in particular as Interim Moderator at Dysart St Clair. Alexandra was unable to be present but Presbytery approved her demission and granted her a Practising Certificate. We wish Alexandra, Timo and Paul God's blessing as they return home. Rev Richard Baxter will serve as Interim Moderator.

SRT Project - Dr Murdo MacDonald of the Church of Scotland's Society, Religion and Technology Project gave a fascinating address to Presbytery on the work of the Project. It was set up in 1970 to help the church engage with the scientific community and scientific issues and with the aim of renewing a right relationship between science and faith. Murdo took Presbyters on a fascinating trip into the far reaches of the universe and then into the wonders of the human brain. He spoke of the many issues that SRT has engaged with over the years. He asked us to pray for the SRT Project; to invite speakers to meetings; and for those with a scientific interest to get involved. Presbyters have leaflets. Further information from the SRT website www.srtp.org.uk

Service of Welcome – Presbytery will meet at 2.45pm on Sunday 5 October 2014 in St Columba's Church, Glenrothes for a Service of Welcome for the 3 recently appointed Ministries Development Staff for the Leslie and Glenrothes Parishes – Ellie Morrocco, Alastair Stark and John Hutchison. The Service begins at 3.00pm.

Youth Delegate Report – Iona Kimmitt of St Columba's Church, Glenrothes represented Presbytery at the General Assembly. She really enjoyed her week in Edinburgh, highlights being John Chalmers with his theme of respectful dialogue, Heart and Soul in Princes Street Gardens, the range of work done by the Councils of the Church and the special bond established amongst all the youth reps. She

also reported on the recent National Youth Assembly at Gartmore House and the establishment of regional C of S youth groups. It is hoped to establish a group in Fife. Contact Iona for further details.

PIMS – PIMS is the Presbytery Information Management System and it is one way that information is transmitted between Presbyteries and '121'. This year our 'Persons and Agencies Form' will be sent out, completed and returned electronically and then transferred onto PIMS at the click of a computer key. George Luke is overseeing this and will provide clear instructions and a helpline!! The forms should be sent out on 1 November 2014.

Congregational Per Capita Levy for 2014/15 - Presbytery agreed to assess congregations within the bounds at the rate of £2 per member on the roll as at 31 December 2013.

Transfer to the Presbytery of St. Andrews - Rev John McLean, formerly of Glenrothes: St Margaret's is transferring to the Presbytery of St Andrews. We wish him well.

Attestation of Accounts – Rev Richard Baxter reported on the attestation of accounts and thanked congregational treasurers and finance conveners for their diligent work and for the high standard of the accounts presented this year. Presbytery thanked the attestation team of Steve Pimentil, Sam Dryburgh and Richard Baxter. Sam has indicated that he is standing down and he was thanked for his many years' service. Richard highlighted the need to add additional team members for next year's attestation process, most particularly someone with an accounting qualification. Anyone interested please contact him - richard-baxter@msn.com

Presbytery Retreat - The Day Retreat for those in ministry will be held on Thursday 25th September 2014 at Dunnikier House Hotel. Please reply to the invitation asap if you have not yet done so!!

Pulpit Interchange - The next Pulpit Interchange will be on Sunday 8th February 2015.

Presbytery Assessor Training – During the selection and training of candidates for the ministries of the church Presbytery is involved in assessment. If this is something you would be interested in please contact Rev Andrew Donald, our Ministries Convener - andrewcdonald@blueyonder.co.uk

Methil: Wellesley – This charge is now designated a Priority Areas Church

Congregational Publicity Contact - All congregations are encouraged to appoint a Publicity Contact person for the Mission and Discipleship Committee by 30 October 2014. Names should be submitted to the Convener, Gillian Paterson, by that date. gillianpaterson10@hotmail.co.uk

Locum - Presbytery noted the appointment of Reverend Tilly Wilson as Locum at Auchterderran Kinglassie Parish Church as from 1st September 2014.

Certificate – Mrs Joyce Leggate was presented with her Safeguarding Trainer Certificate.

Ministries and Mission Reductions 2015 – Information has already been sent out to Treasurers. Any application for a reduction should be returned to the Fabric and Finance Convener by Friday 10 October 2014.

Prevention First Directory – This Directory of help agencies and charities was sent to Ministers and Session Clerks in June and is also available on the Presbytery Website (under Church and Society.)

INVITATION – A twin town Songs of Praise will be held in St Columba's Church, Glenrothes with visitors from Boblingen. All welcome.

REMINDER - Coastal Route Challenge, Saturday 13 September (the new look Bike and Hike). For further information contact Louise at EMMS on 0131 313 3828, louise.stuart@emms.org

Presbytery meets next at 2.45pm on Sunday 5 October in St Columba's Church, Glenrothes for a Service of Welcome and then at 7.00pm on Tuesday 4 November in Bennochty Church, Kirkcaldy for a Celebration of the Lord's Supper followed by a meeting to discuss and vote on the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships Overture.