



PRESBYTERY MISSION PLAN A BRAVE NEW WORLD

There has been much talk over the last year about the Presbytery Mission Planning process which has been called for by the General Assembly and which each presbytery must complete by 31st December 2022.

In Angus, the work has been challenging and hugely time-consuming - not least for Martin who has had a lead role.

Even so, we are nearly there and the Presbytery is meeting / met on 3rd September in 2022 to receive the Plan. In short, it represents the biggest shake-up in terms of the shape of the Church that we've witnessed in a hundred years.

1. It addresses the need for us to have less buildings and the Plan does indeed include proposals for closure and disposal of a goodly number of buildings. For those whose buildings are going, there should be great understanding of the loss involved.

2. It addresses the fact that we are drastically short of ministers by concentrating our resources where people are and by bringing ministers into teams.

3. It encourages much closer relationships between congregations than we've hitherto known. We'll be trying to cut duplication, share resources and join together for all of those things which are better done across the Churches.

If and when the Plan is agreed, we'll be in a position to share with you much more of the detail but, for now, you should know that the Kirk Session met with Presbytery representatives on the 30th June and unanimously gave its support to the direction set out. Much work remains to be done to bring these ideas into being and, to restate, following the Presbytery's deliberations, we'll be in a much better place to share with the whole congregation.

Holiday Club

During the last week of the summer holidays, I was part of a team leading the Teambuilders Holiday Club which took place in the West Kirk. This ran across five mornings with a Friday evening family event and an invitation extended to the Sunday morning service.

This was a sports themed club with the stories of Joseph, Moses, Esther, Jesus & the disciples and Paul to show the kids what life is like on God's team! Both the kids and the leaders had a fantastic week with enthusiasm seeming to grow each day.

West Kirk minister Chris Hay and I led the upfront material and a large volunteer team from both the West Kirk and St Vigeans Church were group leaders, actors in the drama, craft leaders, games leaders and snack preparers. This team really mirrored the content we were teaching the kids - we were all on God's team working towards a shared vision and goal.

I very much hope that this successful multi-church approach is a positive sign of the times ahead and I look forward to working this way for events in the future.

Carla

Dalitso Fundraisers Return

On Sunday 25th September, the Friends Choir and Band are hosting a concert with proceeds going towards the work in Malawi. It will begin at 7.30pm and will take place in St. Andrews Church. The group of very talented local singers will sing a selection of songs from shows, pop, rock and classical with something for all ages and tastes. Tickets are £10 and can be bought by contacting any of the Dalitso team, emailing info@dalitso.org or by phone/text to 07877256236.

It has been a long time since our last face to face fundraiser and we are really looking forward to welcoming you along to what is sure to be a great night of entertainment.

Thanks to everyone who handed in their gifts for their sponsor children. The rucksacks will be transported by container at the end of September and the summer (autumn!!) gifts will be handed out in October by the team of 7 travelling to Malawi. We would appreciate your prayers as we prepare for this here and in Malawi. With only 2 weeks it will be a really busy trip. We plan to meet with every child and member of staff involved in the programme as well catch up with what is going on at the clinic and the skills centre. We are excited to also see the builds completed over Covid like the shops, bakery, wall and student accommodation. Please pray that everything will run smoothly including our travel arrangements. Thanks as always for your continued support.

Charis

CHURCH OFFICE: 431135
ADMINISTRATOR
 Linda Hunter: 431135
 Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri : 9 -12noon

MINISTER

Rev Dr W Martin Fair, BA, BD
 07889 982 216

PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Ian Gray: 01674 677126

SESSION CLERK

Joan Hainsworth: 875409

TREASURER

Pending

CHURCH OFFICER

Janis Clark: 878594

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES
 WORKER**

Carla Ingram: 07931 420 905

**HAVILAH PROJECT
 LEADER**

Tracey McLeod: 434088

**HAVILAH SUPPORT
 WORKER**

Karen Reaney: 01307 818277

**HAVILAH PROJECT
 WORKER**

Tammy Stuart: 434088

FABRIC CONVENOR

Pending

SUNDAY CLUB

Elaine Fair: 873238

FREEWILL ENVELOPES

Linda Hunter: 431135

SAFEGUARDING

Kim Marr
 07986 447365

FLOWER CONVENOR

Margaret McIntosh:
 01307 641355

PRAYER COORDINATORS

Scott and Elaine Anderson
 890291

SUPPLIES CO-ORDINATOR

Janis Clark: 878594

BOOKINGS / ROLLKEEPER

Linda Hunter: 431135

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Ken Miller: 875235

ST. ANDREW'S ARBROATH

Member Records

June/July/August 2022

Baptisms - Logan and Jonah Cameron

Weddings - None

Funerals - None

Martin and Ian, our pastoral assistant, conducted other funerals though none were of members of our congregation. Nonetheless, we remember the bereaved families in our prayers.

IMPORTANT DATE

OCTOBER EDITION

**Word Processed files,
 as attachments,
 should be sent directly
 to the Editor by**

**Thursday 22nd
 September**

Coffee O'Clock

**St Andrew's Church, Arbroath
 Wednesday 9.30am to 11.30am**

Why not come along on a Wednesday morning for a cup of tea or coffee? A time to meet up with friends for chat and fellowship.

From the Coffee O'Clock team - good news. We have restarted our coffee morning.

We look forward to welcoming you very soon.

The Tenth Commandment

You shall not covet Exodus 20:17

*I should not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said,
 'You shall not covet.' Romans 7:7*

There is great gain in godliness with contentment 1 Timothy 6:6

Happiness is the prize for which we all strive. But the great delusion is that happiness can be achieved in 'getting'. Yet part of the sinfulness of humanity is that no matter how much we get, we are never satisfied, but always long for more. The Tenth Commandment opens our eyes to what is wrong and directs our ways to what is right.

Lord, how hard to take seriously the poverty of so many in this world:

Children who are diseased and underfed, young people with no education, no employment, no prospects, families living in makeshift shelters built of materials gathered from the rubbish heaps -

how hard, Lord, to take that poverty seriously!

Lord, how easy to let covetousness warp our thinking:

so that we look with envy on our neighbour, on his new car, on her new expensive outfit, on their motorhome, so that we believe money really makes them happy, so that we forget that covetousness robs us of our peace -

how easy to be covetous, Lord!

Lord, how important to obey your commandment:

to remember every day that you know all our needs, to realise this world's goods are fleeting and fading, to live in that spiritual wealth of godliness with contentment -

how important, Lord, to keep our eyes on you!

My child, during my earthly life, I owned no wealth, no land, no home. Yet peace was always Mine; Mine, not only to enjoy, but to share with others. If only you, my people, would take me at my word that happiness is not in getting but in giving.

Lord, write your word on my heart. Enable me to take seriously the need of the world, the sin of my greed, the truth of your commandment. May I be rich with that godly contentment which finds its peace in you alone.

D Searle.

Martin Fair

September 2022

Dear friends,

By the time you're reading this, I will once again have enjoyed the privilege of spending a weekend at Balmoral Castle with the Queen and members of the Royal Family and will once more have had opportunity to preach in Crathie Kirk. This should have happened in 2020 when I was serving as Moderator but, of course, was cancelled due to Covid - and should have happened in 2021 but again, it was decided that the Queen would not travel due to concerns about rising case numbers. So I'll add the last weekend in August to my store of memories of those doors which have opened to me in the exercising of my ministry.

After being welcomed to the Castle by the Master of the Royal Household, for the visiting minister the weekend at Balmoral begins with a private audience with the Queen. This is about spending some time with Her Majesty. I look forward to it and though she will lead the conversation, I will take the opportunity to congratulate her on her Platinum Jubilee and will assure her of the prayers of Christian people in Scotland.

But while that has been for me an enormous privilege, I'm always minded that I have opportunity to spend time in royal presence every day of my life - that is to be before the King of kings. The Gospels describe how, at the time of Jesus' death, the curtain in the temple was torn in two (Matthew 27:51) - the symbolism being that there was now unrestricted access to the Holiest place where God resides.

And so it is for all Christians that Jesus makes it possible to have, as it were, an audience with the King. We call it prayer. Are you taking that opportunity - making the most of that privilege? The Creator of all things, the Almighty God who was and is and is to come, awaits you.

With love,

Martin & Elaine

mfair@churchofscotland.org.uk

Rising Costs

All of us are painfully aware that we're in the worst 'cost of living' crisis since the 1970s with inflation now in double-digit levels and with estimates that it could reach 18% next year. Strike action across many sectors is happening as workers seek pay deals to keep up with rising costs.

Central to the crisis is the cost of energy - gas and electricity - where we have seen huge rises, in some cases 400%, as the energy price cap has been revised. While most of us have been thinking about this in terms of our household budgets, we need to recognise that it's going to affect churches too, not least our own. Indeed we've just paid a gas bill which was upwards of £5,000.

Going forward, we need to look for all possible ways to reduce our energy usage and that will affect which of our

spaces we use and how our organisations function. It will mean increased costs for hall users - in-house and external. Further to all of this, the Fabric Team has begun to look at efficiency measures such as additional double glazing for the sanctuary and solar panels. Time will tell as to the outcome of these investigations but, regardless of the current crisis, it makes sense for us to be reducing our carbon footprint.

Elsewhere, some churches have already decided that they will close over the winter months, realising that they simply won't be able to afford to heat their buildings. They're treating it as a crisis in the same way that Covid was and so are deciding to go online.

It remains to be seen what happens locally but none of us should be ignorant to the fact that this represents a significant challenge. Please pray for our leaders as they seek the best way forward.

Guild News

Hi everyone,

To round off the Guild holiday recess a group of ladies enjoyed an evening at Potter Rhoney. There we were treated to a fun evening, getting paint on our fingers (as well as our chosen ceramic), reminiscing and "singing along?!" to a sixties sound track fortified by a welcome cuppa and choccy biscuits. All the ladies agreed it was a super evening, with lots of fun.

We look forward to an interesting year ahead where we can once again come together in fellowship.

Our approaching new Guild session begins with:-

Annual Gathering in Edinburgh on Sept 10th
Guild week of suggested activities Sept 11th- 17th
Guild Sunday 18th Sept.

"Whose we are and whom we serve"

Don't Worry God will take care of you

The UCB Word for Today – 16th August 2022

'I have not seen the righteous forsaken'
Psalm 37:25 NKJV

If you're worried about making ends meet, read on: 'The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholds him with His hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread' (vv. 23-25 NKJV).

You may be at the cliff's edge today, but God won't let you go over it. And if you do, He will catch you. 'You will have plenty to eat...and you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you' (Joel 2:26

NIV). Stop trying to figure everything out and start leaning on God. 'Trust in the Lord and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you' (Psalm 37:3-5 NLT).

God may not give you everything you want, but He will give you everything you need: 'Don't worry about these things, saying, "What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?" These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need' (Matthew 6:31-33 NLT). 'Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you' (Psalm 55:22 NLT). Don't worry, God will take care of you!

Thank you to Lynne and Ron Morrison for this submission.

More In Photos

Our band being supported by enthusiastic youngsters who made their own instruments during the service.



Come and enjoy the Coffee O'Clock on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 11am



Our Guild enjoyed their time at Potter Rhoney