

Abbotshall Church**Thursday 26 November 2015**

which place and date the Kirk Session met and was duly convened with a reading of the Christmas story, a meditation and prayer.

Sederunt	Rev R Frew with I Anderson, M Baxendine, J Browning, I Clark, R Duncan, T Espie, B Farrell, R Henderson, M Hope, J McLeod, M Michael, M Petrie, J Scott, M Scriven, A Steward.
Apologies	P Bell, G Bruce, S Docherty, A Duncan, J Farrell, E Fraser, R Michael, A Moyes, D Murray, J Napier, B Page, E Smith, K Wilkie.
Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 24 th September 2015 were approved.
Matters Arising	<p>The summer services feedback suggested that the 10 am service timing was not popular.</p> <p>The Minister thanked all those who had helped with the Heart and Soul concert which had raised over £1000.</p> <p>Elders were reminded again to check district lists for changes.</p> <p>Various views on the investigation of handrails were expressed and it was agreed that this should be left to Mike Petrie to consult with the fabric committee and bring proposals to the Congregational Board.</p> <p>The offering from people in the gallery will be collected in a plate in the vestibule from the new year.</p> <p>Information re Trustees responsibilities had been circulated.</p>
“Learn” Resource	The Learn resource book had been studied by most Elders, the majority of whom had identified <i>Mission/Discipleship</i> and <i>Children</i> as areas of concern. Messy Church was considered to be the best way of taking forward the mission to children and it was noted that all children had to be accompanied by an adult and that food was an important aspect.
Congregational Board Membership	The Session Clerk reported that Richard Michael had asked to be removed from the Congregational board and that issues with all other members had been resolved.
Winter Arrangements	The last service in the church is to be on Sunday January 3 rd after which services will be in the hall until the end of February.
Presbytery Update	Presbytery Communion was held in Abbotshall Church on 3 rd November. This was followed by the Conference Session entitled “Re-imagining the Regional Church” which was led by Rev Dr Marjory MacLean, Vice Convener of the Ministries Council.

Scott McCrum was ordained and inducted as minister at Christ's Kirk Glenrothes on 12th November.

Safeguarding All training is currently up to date.

"Think u Know": This is a new Safeguarding course aimed at parents, grandparents and those who look after children and young adults. There will be a pilot course on Monday 18th January 2016 starting at 7pm at St Ninians, Glenrothes. The course will last 90 minutes. Two members from each congregation are invited to attend and report back to their church. The intention would then be to run courses either at individual churches or at a church in each area, depending on numbers. Interested Elders should advise Mike Baxendine as soon as possible.

The Session was reminded that anyone who is being asked by the Church to carry out work with children and vulnerable adults, e.g. Young Church, Pastoral Care, must first be appointed by the Session, then undertake Safeguarding training and be approved under the PVG scheme before they can start.

Pastoral Care Anne Steward reported that the cards sent out by the group were greatly appreciated by the recipients and that older members had indicated that the service in the halls was very welcome due to the improved accessibility in bad weather. She reminded Elders of the need to keep her informed of members who might benefit from pastoral care.

Correspondence KART had emailed an update and intimated that their summer school on the subject of *"Going for Growth"* will be from 6th - 9th June next year.

Morag Michael advised the Session that her four year term on the board of the Iona Community was ending. There is considerable refurbishment work planned for the community's buildings and so funds were being sought from Historic Scotland. Peter MacDonald, leader of the Iona Community, is to walk from St Andrews to Iona by way of as many Historic Scotland properties as possible to raise funds. Details of this will be available in the new year.

Diary dates Saturday 28 November – Christmas Fayre
Sunday 13 December, 11.00am – Gift Service for Fife Women's Aid
Thursday 17 December, 2.00 pm – Christmas Service at Abbotshall Raith Manor
Saturday 19 December, 5.00pm– Christingle Service

Sunday 20 December, 11.00am – Young Church Christmas Service

Thursday 24 December, 11.15pm – Carol singing, Watchnight Service

Friday 25 December, 11.00am – Christmas Day Service

Sunday 27 December, 11.00am – United Service in Bennoch Church

Sunday 3 January, 11.00 am – Service in the Church

Saturday 9 January, 10.00 am - Coffee morning

Sundays 10 January to 28 February-Worship in the Church Halls

Sunday 6 March, 9.00 am and 11.00 am – Communion

Tuesday 22 March, 7.00 pm – Holy Week Service in Abbotshall

Sunday 27 March, 11.00 am – Easter Sunday Service

Sunday 24 April – Annual Stated Meeting.

Dates of next meetings Thursday 4th February 7.30 pm– Trustees and Board
Wednesday 24th February 7.30 pm - Kirk Session
Thursday 31st March 7.30 pm – Trustees
Sunday 24th April – Annual Stated Meeting.

Closing Prayer The meeting was closed by the Session saying “*The Grace*” together.

Action Items Elders interested in attending the “*Think u Know*” safeguarding course on Monday 18th January 2016 at 7pm in St Ninians Glenrothes should advise Mike Baxendine as soon as possible. Elders

Anne Steward reminded Elders of the need to keep her informed of members who might benefit from pastoral care. Elders

Minute Clerk

Moderator