

PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY

November 8th 2016

At Bishopton and within The Cornerstone there, the eighth day of November 2016, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Ann McCool, Moderator, with 30 ministers, 41 elders, 2 deacons and 12 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 11 ministers, 8 elders, 2 deacons and 2 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

MINUTES

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on October 11th 2016 being in print and in the hands of members were approved.

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as December 13th 2016 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed

NOTICES

The Clerk highlighted the notices.

PRESENTATION OF READERS

Rev Jonathan Fleming, Convener of the Ministry Committee, presented the following Readers to the Moderator: Mary Jane Bird, Russell Banks, Tom Campbell, Charles Davey, Jack Glenny, Eleanor Hood, Christine MacDonald, Elizabeth McFarlane, Jack McHugh, Leon Marshall, Margaret Maxwell, Geoff Orry, Kenneth Rankine and Jennifer Boag. The Moderator thanked them for all their work for Presbytery in the preceding year and asked God's blessing on them in their future work for the church.

PRESENTATION TO STUDENTS

The Moderator presented Mr Thomas Blane, Mr William Boyle and Mrs Annette Gordon with a small grant from the Weddell Bursary Fund to assist in the purchase of books during their training for the Ministry.

BUSINESS

Rev Alistair Shaw, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee, and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the continuing sick leave of Rev Peter Gill;
3. homologates the appointment of Rev Alan Birss as Interim Moderator at Paisley: Wallneuk North from 1st November 2016 during the sick leave of Rev Peter Gill;
4. homologates the appointment of Mr Jack McHugh as Interim Moderator at Paisley: St Ninian's Ferguslie from November 1st 2016 during the sick leave of Rev Peter Gill;
5. notes the intention of Rev Ritchie Gillon to retire as he seeks permission to demit his charge at Paisley: St Luke's as from 29th January 2017;
6. appoints Rev Robin Allison as Interim Moderator at Bridge of Weir: St Machar's Ranfurly from 8th November 2016 following the resignation of Rev David Stewart;

7. grants a practising certificate to Rev Donald Campbell, recently retired from Houston & Killellan;
8. appoints Ms Cathie Dunnachie as representative elder for Port Glasgow: Hamilton Bardrainney and instructs the Clerk to add her name to the roll of Presbytery;
9. approves the request from Port Glasgow: St Andrew's and Langbank to hold joint services in Langbank Church on Sunday 25th December at 11.00am and in St Andrew's Church on Sunday 1st January at 11.00am;
10. notes the appointment of Rev Dr Derek Browning MA BD DMin as Moderator Designate of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland for 2017;
11. notes the resignation of Miss Greta Gray as locum at Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainney;
12. notes the appointment of Rev Ian Bell as locum at Houston & Killellan from 13th November 2016;
13. congratulates Paisley St Ninians' Ferguslie on being raised to full status and notes that the celebratory service recognising this took place on the 6th November 2016;

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Mr Leon Marshall, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. Instructs Paisley Martyrs Sandyford to clear their 2015 Ministries and Mission shortfall of £1,561 by 30 November 2016 and to notify the Convener when this has been done;
3. Agrees that the following sums be awarded towards the purchase and installation of audio visual and multimedia systems from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to reduce the 2017 Ministries and Mission contributions of the congregations concerned:

▪ Greenock Mount Kirk	£2,685
▪ Kilmacolm Old Kirk	5,000
4. Agrees that the following sums be awarded from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to reduce the 2017 Ministries and Mission contributions of the congregations concerned :

▪ Erskine	£2,833
▪ Greenock Wellpark Mid Kirk	1,000
▪ Paisley Abbey	5,392
5. Approves the proposed 2017 Ministries and Mission contributions for all congregations as detailed in **Appendix 1**;
6. Instructs the Clerk to transmit the approved Ministries and Mission allocation schedule to the Stewardship and Finance Department of the Church of Scotland by the due date of 15 November 2016;

MISSION & DISCIPLESHIP

Rev Eileen Ross, Convener, presented the report of the Mission & Discipleship Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the nomination process for a Presbytery youth representative to the General Assembly 2017, and encourages congregations to make suitable nominations;
3. notes the opportunities for Safeguarding Training;
4. notes that the next deadline for receiving grant applications is 12 noon on Friday 18th November 2016.

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

Mrs Alison McKenzie, Convener, presented the report of the Community Interests Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. acknowledges NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's three month consultation process which commences November 2016 and concludes in February 2017 on the future of Ward 15 at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley;
3. acknowledges NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde's engagement process regarding proposed changes to the birthing services at Inverclyde Royal Hospital Community Maternity Unit;
4. notes Inverclyde Council's proposal to apply new procedures for admissions and placing requests to schools within Inverclyde;
5. congratulates the Counselling Service at the Wynd Centre in Paisley on receiving the prestigious honour of the Queens Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK to recognise outstanding work in their communities.

CONFERENCE SESSION

Presbytery then went into conference session and heard an interesting presentation from Very Rev John Chalmers, Mr Ian Morris and Mr Neil McLennan about "Grasping the Nettle" and dealing with the "God question". Materials were available for further information or for purchase at the close of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment to meet for ordinary business on **Tuesday 13th December 2016** in The Cornerstone, Bishopton

Moderator

Clerk