



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 4 December 2018 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Order of Business – 4 December 2018

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Decisions under Delegated Powers
6. Roll of Presbytery
7. Correspondence
8. Good News Stories
9. Report of the Presbytery Support Committee
10. Report of the Relationships and Context Committee
11. Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee
12. Developing Relationships
13. Intimations
14. Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 February 2019 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Intimations

Meditative Chants by Candlelight – A Taize Experience – Forth: St.Paul's Parish Church, Wednesday 5th December at 7pm

Decisions under delegated powers

The Clerk has not been informed of any decisions that have been made under Delegated Powers.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland will visit the Presbytery from 26 October – 4 November 2019.
3. Agree that a sum of £20,000 be made available for grants from the Ministry and Mission Variance for the first application window of 2019 in line with the guidelines approved in June 2018
4. Agree that a sum of £8,000 from the Minsitries and Mission Variance be used by Presbytery to fund Local Church Reviews in 2019.
5. Agree that the sum of £1,560 be grated to both Douglas Valley and Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old in respect of the charges having a second act of worship on a Sunday morning that is not covered by the Vacancy Allowance due to their status as united charges with 2 places of worship.
6. Grant powers to the Moderator, Presbytery Clerk, Depute Presbytery Clerk and Presbytery Support Convener from 5 December 2018 until the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery on 5 February 2019

Report

Presbytery Yearbook

It is planned to produce a new version of the Year Book in early January when the annual data check forms are completed by Session Clerks.

Moderators Visit 2019/2020

The dates for the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland for 2019-2020, Rev Colin Sinclair's visit have been set from 26th October – 4th November 2019. The committee will be in touch with all congregations early in the New Year to discuss possible plans and ideas for the visit.

Ministry & Mission Variance 2019

In June 2018 new guidelines were approved for agreeing grants from the Ministry and Mission Variance. The committee recommend that the first application window for 2019 will consist of a total of £20,000. This allows for a sum to be left for the second application window of 2019, as well as paying for Local Church Review, and pulpit supply costs in vacant congregations who are united but have two places of worship. It is further recommended that a sum of £8,000 be approved for Local Church Reviews in 2019 and a sum of £1,560 for each charge of Douglas Valley and Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old in respect of second service supply costs be approved. The committee will be in contact with the Tinto Parishes to bring forward recommendations to assist with third Sunday cover in due course.

Christmas Break Powers

As is customary, the committee invite Presbytery to approve powers to the Moderator, Presbytery Clerk, Depute Presbytery Clerk and Presbytery Support Convener from 5 December 2018 until the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery on 5 February 2019

Report of the Relationships and Context Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the flyer distributed regarding the Presbytery Mission Conference.
3. Agree that all congregations should send at least two representatives to the conference on Saturday 2 February 2019
4. Invite the Presbytery Support Committee to consider appointing one of the Presbytery Representatives in the LCR process to act as a “Champion” for the congregation when moving into the “What next” phase of Review, especially if the congregation is in vacancy.
5. Commend the flyer prepared to take forward the question of Farming Chaplaincy
6. Support the development of a working group to examine how Farming Chaplaincy might work locally.

Report

Presbytery Mission Conference -Delegation of responsibilities for managing elements of the conference: It was confirmed the Presbytery Clerk had agreed to arrange for Flyers to be distributed regarding the conference and these are to be distributed at the December Presbytery meeting. We agreed that numbers should be provided to us by the date of the next Committee meeting (22 January) to enable confirmation of catering details. Congregations should each send at least two representatives. Duties and responsibilities on the day were agreed.

Local Church Review – a great deal was discussed about LCR in the course of earlier discussions and it was confirmed that there is a plan to round off the assessment process with a conference day to take forward the “What next” part of the review, and to look at how Presbytery can help and support congregations on the journey. The suggestion of presbyters who had been external participants in the reviews acting as “Champions” was welcomed. It was agreed that the R&C Committee could have an important role in this aspect of LCR. The Path of Renewal” being followed in the Tinto Parishes was also discussed and there was a suggestion that it should be good to learn more about this and to share it with Presbytery.

Farming Chaplaincy – The issues around the situation for many farmers and the need for chaplaincy was discussed. A draft Flyer has been prepared with the purpose order to seek a working group to take forward the question of Farming Chaplaincy for Presbytery. The Committee warmly supported the content of the flyer and welcomed advocating for the development of a working group to take this forward.
Presbytery Mission Conference

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report
2. encourage all congregations to engage with the committees list of ideas for training when this is circulated and to respond timeously.

Report

Funeral celebrant training

The training course has now been completed, and the one candidate from Lanark Presbytery, Lesley Ewing

will begin her six month period of training, shadowing her minister, and learning from him. All the candidates from Hamilton Presbytery will do likewise.

National Day of Prayer

There was some very positive feedback from the churches who took part in the National Day of Prayer. The general opinion was that people appreciated the churches being open.

Discussion about proposed remits.

The discussion concentrated on Worship, and Discipleship, and what, as a committee, we could offer to support the congregations in the Presbytery. It was decided that dividing into working parties was not necessarily the best way forward. Rather we should identify themes of activity and concentrate on covering fewer areas but doing them well. It was agreed that we should prepare congregations for their attendance at the June Presbytery meeting. There would be a dual approach:

- Approach Kirk Sessions to find out what their church does well and is in some way innovative. Invite those who feel they could, to share, by way of display, at the June 2019 meeting.
- Approach sessions with a list, compiled by the committee, of ideas of areas where the committee could organise events to support congregations. Seek areas of interest and begin to plan in accordance of where priorities lay. The committee would test out the level of interest prior to holding any event.

IDEAS

The initial ideas put forward were as follows:

- Training in public reading of Scripture
- Training in composing and reading prayers
- Training for session clerks, clerks to the board, roll keepers (these may belong to the remit of the other committee and doesn't particularly fit into Worship and Discipleship)
- Messy Church
- Music in worship
- Leading worship training and follow up for those who have already completed initial training
- Discipleship programme.
- Conference on the emerging church. Bearing in mind the forecast of the reduction in the number of ordained ministers the mindset of one congregation, one minister will have to change. This should not be seen as a declining church but rather as a changing church.
- Pilgrimage – church walks
- Using social media.

It was agreed that if any of the above was to be productive and useful, activities must not be seen as a "chore" set by Presbytery. Congregations must be encouraged to look at the gifts and talents they possess and capitalise on those, share them where appropriate, and accept not all churches need or should **be** the same or **do** the same things.

The committee will think about these ideas, include others if appropriate and, come to our meeting ready to begin making concrete plans to further the work of the committee.