

Stirling: Allan Park South Church

STATED ANNUAL MEETING

24th March 2019 at 12noon

Constitute	The Interim Moderator, Rev Lynne Mack, constituted the meeting with a bible reading, and prayer followed by a prayer. by the Rev. Lynne Mack.	
Present	The meeting was attended by 31 Elders and members of the congregation.	
Apologies	No apologies were received in advance of the meeting.	
Treasurer's report	<p>Mr. Ed Morton thanked Rev Mack, the Kirk Session, the Property team, the Property Convener, Mr. David Boyd and all of those who assist with counting and recording the offering each week.</p> <p>Mr. Morton then presented a summary of the current financial position of the congregation.</p> <p>Church income</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 2017 = £100,940 ▶ 2018 = £101,096 ▶ No change <p>Unrestricted income down 22%</p> <p>Restricted income up 60%</p> <p>Unrestricted fund income</p> <p>2017 £73,481</p> <p>2018 £57,223</p> <p>However.....</p> <p>Unrestricted Expenditure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Has DECREASED by 41% (2017 – 2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2017 - £108,601 ◦ 2018 - £ 63,597 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease in M & M • Decrease in salaries • Decrease in repairs <p>Cost of running the church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Total unrestricted income £57,223 ▶ Or £1,100 per week ▶ We spent £67,608 ▶ Or £1,300 per week <p>Gift Aid and Taxation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Amount received in Gift Aid is DOWN by 10.5% ▶ Tax reclaim is DOWN by 2% ▶ Gift Aided Small Donation Scheme provided £2000 	

	<p>Heating and Lighting Costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2017 = £ 8840 ◦ 2018 = £10,831 <p>In Summary</p> <p>We Received £101,096</p> <p>We Spent £105,354</p> <p>Nett Deficit £ 4258</p> <p>Cash Reserves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Balances as at 31st December: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017 - £ 49,763 • 2018 - £ 46,877 • Of which - at the 31st December 2018: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Fund £21,213 • Restricted Funds £25,664 <p>Balance Sheet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Nett asset value <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017 - £322,916 • 2018 - £318,658 • Decrease of £4,258 	
Session Clerk's Report	<p>Despite our Minister's translation and the congregation being placed in guardianship in May 2018, Sunday worship has continued weekly led by a group of ministers providing pulpit supply and being supported by the worship team. Thanks were expressed for the support of Rev Gordon Mathew, Very Rev Albert Bogle, and Rev Mike Dawson for conduct of worship. Sunday morning service attendance regularly averages 40 people but through our community programs we reach and serve many more people each week</p> <p>Monthly services at Allan Park House have continued with the support of Rev Lynne Mack.</p> <p>School end of terms services have also continued.</p> <p>In the past year; 3 funerals were conducted, 1 wedding, 3 baptisms and 1 admission by profession of faith.</p> <p>It was a challenging year on the funding front, our main funder Go For It, and a lot of work was undertaken to ensure compliance with their financial management requirements. It was confirmed in November that the second continuation grant has been awarded which will continue until November 2021.</p> <p>Throughout the year applications were made to attract new and continued external funding from various including the Cora Foundation, the Voluntary Action Fund, the Co-operative Fund and Foundation Scotland, for our expanding outreach projects.</p> <p>Bairns Rock Intergenerational Project has started in January 2019, with one afternoon session a week. This will bring together older people with young children and their parents, to provide mutual benefit to them both in a relaxed setting</p>	<p>Worship Services</p> <p>Offices of religion</p> <p>Funding</p> <p>Project updates</p>

	<p>Bairns Rock, continues to be successful and a new part time employee has been recruited as Co-Ordinator and started on 7th January 2019. The group also held additional activities for the children in 2018 which were very well attended with over 40 children at each.</p> <p>Jubilee Lunch Club continues to prove very popular, with several care homes attending as well as our long-term regulars. A new part time employee has been recruited as Jubilee Lunch Club Co-Ordinator and started on 7th January 2019.</p> <p>We supported Contact the Elderly, at their annual Christmas lunch party also providing musical entertainment for them on the day. It was well attended with 25+ older people from the local area.</p> <p>The Wellbeing Choir continues to be very well attended and has 25-30 people attending each week. The attendees are varied and come from all areas of the city centre, some of church and some of no church. The group held two concerts in 2018 with 70+ attendees each time.</p> <p>The Bible art group runs with 5-8 people every week. The group ran as a sketching group with Bible study for 7 months of the year, followed by creation of wall art to decorate the church. The group is working on 'Stations of The Cross' Lent themed colouring sheets which we will be framed and display around the church.</p> <p>The Monthly Tea Dance continues to grow with 50+ attendees at our December Christmas dance. Regular attendance is usually about 25-30 with a broad range of ages, and several local care homes bringing their residents along every month. A light snack is provided along with music 'Huroosh'. Funding permitting, we would like to increase this to twice a month with ballroom dancing offered as well, in 2019.</p> <p>The Boys Brigade continue to run three groups every Friday evening for boys aging from P1 to S5 and participation in this is growing again in attendance with 25 boys currently.</p> <p>Prayer Hour every Thursday morning is a vital part of our week with a small group of attendees each week. Additionally, there is a developing Life and Listening Prayer group running every Friday afternoon and although numbers are low, it is viewed as a very important part of our church life.</p> <p>Bible Study home groups have been very active throughout 2018, with 3 groups running in the first half of the year, and one group in the latter half. The group has studied all of the New Testament and the Old Testament and is currently following the Sanctuary First Lent study guide.</p> <p>A Traidcraft stall is run on a monthly basis thanks to Hugh Buchanan, which encourages the use of fairly traded products and food in support of developing countries.</p> <p>Sanctuary Outreach Project.</p> <p>Monday evening music group met in the Sanctuary throughout 2018, thanks to Jim Steel and this has been well attended with 5-10 attendees each week.</p>	
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	<p>Several music concerts have been held throughout 2018, including Christian bands, Gospel bands and Folk bands. These have seen hundreds of people attend from our local community.</p> <p>A Monthly Blues Club ran with our support for the first 9 months of the year and was well attended with 25+ each month. However, the Blues Club has now stopped running in Stirling and are looking at new ways of running their club more successfully.</p> <p>Within 2018, live video streaming of music events and parts of our Sunday morning worship service. This provided an opportunity to share the gospel with those not physically present at the event or service and reaching non-church people within the community.</p> <p>Our Chinese Bairns Rock group continue to meet every Saturday morning and engage with us through our regular Bairns Rock events.</p> <p>Several joint church activities were engaged in including Easter week services, and the Walk of Witness, as well as joint Easter and Summer holiday clubs with St Columba's and St Mark's.</p> <p>For the second year running, a 20 strong mission team from St John's Lutheran Church, Bakersfield, California visited us for two weeks in July 2018, and worked with both APS and YWAM Stirling, to carry out multiple outreach activities including a two-day outreach at Church of the Holy Rude, with outdoor music, activities and prayer and an evening community ceilidh event. They will return again in June 2019.</p> <p>The Kirk Session met every 6 weeks up to October, but has since Nov 2018, agreed to meet on the second Wednesday of every month.</p> <p>The church halls were in regular use throughout 2018 by various organisations serving the community, as well as Stirling Street Pastors continuing to use the church premises most Friday's and Saturday's throughout the year. This provides the church with much needed income and also an opportunity to engage with these groups each week.</p> <p>During 2018 hall lets were given to two other faith groups Agape All Nations Church who hold their worship service in our large hall every Sunday morning, and a Buddhist Group who hold their weekly meetings in our small hall every Thursday. This has gone smoothly, and has increased our income considerably, and is beginning to open up opportunities for greater engagement particularly with the Agape Church.</p> <p>In October 2018 Sally Forshaw, stood down as our Session Clerk, and was replaced by Jan Steel. Thanks were expressed for Sally's dedication and hard work during her 4 years' service in this role.</p> <p>Thanks were also expressed to Ed Morton, who was made redundant from both our Administrator and Treasurer posts due to financial restrictions, but remains in post as our Treasurer on a voluntary basis.</p> <p>Sincere thanks were expressed to everyone in the congregation, who have responded to the translation of our former Minister, coming forward to take</p>	<p>Joint services</p> <p>Church business</p>
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	an active part in the running of the Church, taking Bible readings, prayers, flower arranging, cleaning, and social get togethers.	
Property Convener's Report	Mr. David Boyd reported that there had been issues with the roof in 2018, as well as painting carried out in 2018. An appeal was extended for a work party to clear and decorate the 'retiring room'. The boiler room was cleaned out by the Men's Shed team and is now being used as their work storage area. The manse has been refurbished with a new bathroom, new carpets, new cooker, walls painted and the garden tidied. Thanks were expressed to all who helped with this work. The manse is now up for potential rent with Property Bureau.	
Interim Moderator Report	Rev Lynne Mack advised that a Basis of Union team had now been established and the first meeting of the team has taken place. The team consisting of 5 from both St Columba's and Allan Park South will meet to discuss all matters relating to the union of the two churches to form one united congregation. A review group will be set up to look at both church buildings and manses, and the purposes they can be used for. The team will engage architectural advice as necessary to assist with this. David Boyd will be the representative for APS on the work party.	
Other Competent Business	None raised.	
Benediction	The meeting was closed by the saying of The Grace by all.	

MODERATOR

CLERK

Date

Date