

St Anne's Parish Church

Team Report for Kirk Session Meeting of 30/09/2015

Worship & Education Team

The Worship & Education Team met on 9th September 2015.

There was lengthy discussion regarding future dates. Previous concerns regarding clashes of dates have, to some extent, been mitigated by the introduction of a comprehensive list of future dates (and the publishing of these on the website). It was noted that so many activities mean that a clear booking procedure is needed – and that there will always be a challenge for those who like to be involved with the study groups. The challenge of co-ordinating activities with neighbouring congregations continues. The Moderator has discussed this with our neighbours, and has agreed that the Advent Studies will be our offering to the community, run here.

The Organist and the Minister continue to meet regularly to plan worship. There was discussion in the meeting regarding the use of the Common Worship Lectionary, and the way hymns are chosen: articles will appear in future newsletters and magazines.

Services: the forthcoming diet of worship was discussed. There will be a Youth Organisations Service on 27/9 (plus visiting Choir). Key dates: Harvest Celebration will take place on 4/10; Celebration of Holy Communion 25/10, with Evening Communion on 28/10. Remembrance Sunday is 8/11; Advent Sunday 29/11. There will be a Quiet Service on 18/12; Nativity & Evening Carol Service (7.00pm) 20/12; Christingle 24/12 (4.00pm); Watchnight (11.30); Christmas Day (10.30); Souper Sunday will be 10/01/16.

Kath Palmer (Vice-Convenor) gave a detailed update on the work of the Sunday School. The Team met in July to discuss the future provision for children. It was agreed that, because of numbers and the planned development, all groups would meet in the Kaimes Hall, which is now happening. Future All-Age service dates were agreed (27/09; 29/11; 20/12; 25/12; 06/03/16; 19/06/16). The next Messy Church is planned for 24/10 – the theme is 'Light'. The Session will be pleased and relieved to note that two members of the team have offered to focus on Seniors and develop their activities.

There was review of the summer services: it was noted with concern that sadly there were no takers for the activities organised for youngsters during the summer holidays, although it was also noted that neighbouring congregations have indicated few children attending over the summer. Some comments had been made that the services over the summer were 'heavy', but it was noted that as there was only ONE service each Sunday, it was inevitable it would be longer than the 'early service' of previous years. It is important to note that numbers remained strong throughout the

summer season. There was discussion regarding the starting time of the Sunday Service: comments had been received by members of the team that a 10.30 start made church a possibility for some youngsters, who had sport activities beginning at 12. It was also noted that many children's parties also took place on Sundays at 12. Following discussion, it was agreed that further consultation should take place with Session and Congregation regarding the future timing of Sunday Worship.

Struan Lodge services continue, with joint services with Saughtonhall URC for Harvest, Christmas and Easter planned.

Advent Study: These will take place on 2,9,16 & 23 December. Rather different this year, using television, film and literary resources to encourage reflection on 'O Help, it's Advent!'.

Film Nights: There was discussion regarding suitable films for the first foray into 'Film Nights: agreed on 'Places in the Heart'; 'The Theory of Everything'; 'Mrs Miniver'; 'The Butler'. There is also a plan to show 'Monty Python's Life of Brian' towards the end of November, to try to reach out to the younger people in the parish – it will be followed by a Q&A session.

I am very grateful for the ongoing support from all members of the team, and those involved in Sunday School.

The Moderator.

Deliverance:

- 1 The Kirk Session receives the report:
 - a) Notes comments regarding the benefit of publishing dates in advance, and encourages all members to make use of the website calendar when planning activities.
 - b) Encourages all members to read the articles to be published regarding worship planning.
 - c) Notes the plan for services over the next months.
 - d) Commends the Sunday School Team, and the Superintendent, for their clarity of vision and commitment to our young families. In particular, thanks those who are focusing on the Seniors.
 - e) Notes the discussion regarding the Summer Service.
 - f) Agrees to a consultation regarding the timing of Morning Worship to be undertaken, with a report and recommendation being presented at the next Session Meeting.
 - g) Encourages all involved with services at Struan Lodge.
 - h) Notes the arrangements for Advent Studies and Film Nights, and, seeing these as a new outreach venture, undertakes to support and encourage these.