

Lochgilphead Parish Church



Kirk Session Work Plan 2009-10

Our Vision

Lochgilphead Parish Church is a church focussed on people, not buildings. We are committed to the improvement and modernisation of our Hall and Church, recognising how these “new” facilities will facilitate our outreach within the community and aspirations for a family friendly church environment.

We have a desire to see the church in our town grow and develop, to be relevant to the people who live within the town and to be a meaningful presence for God and His purposes. We want our church to have an increased impact on the local community, and to increase the activity and involvement of members in the life and work of the Church.

We have a desire for children and young people and our vision is for more to share with us in the church’s life and witness and for them to feel something of God’s love in our church and in their lives.

It is our aspiration for our Church to be recognised as:

- a. A busy, vibrant and caring church
- b. Somewhere where residents and visitors want to come to worship
- c. A place where all are assured of a warm welcome and fellowship, and
- d. An organisation which plays its full part in the life of the community, playing its part in addressing some of its social and pastoral needs.

Our Aims

The Kirk Session has identified the following aims which will, together, provide for the growth and development of the Church's work and influence within the community.

- Aim 1. To remain alert to the needs of the community, working to address identified needs as resources allow**
- Aim 2. To encourage membership of the Church**
- Aim 3. To ensure church services and opportunities for developing faith and worship, both in Scotland and in the World**
- Aim 4. To provide opportunities for work with children and young people, including education and parish-based work in children's and youth ministry**
- Aim 5. To ensure the best child protection arrangements prevail in respect of all church and church-related activities which involve children and young people, in compliance with the Church of Scotland's expectations of us.**
- Aim 6. To manage the Church's use of resources so as to reduce to a minimum our impact on the natural environment and the world's resources.**
- Aim 7. To pursue the development of the Church's physical resources as a means to facilitate the renewal of the Church in the community, and to promote its role in nurture, worship and witness.**
- Aim 8. To provide opportunities for adult learning**
- Aim 9. To ensure the effective discharge of the Kirk Session's responsibilities.**

How We Are Organised

Management of Congregational Business

The management of Congregational business is undertaken through the Kirk Session and Congregational Board.

Functions of Kirk Session

The Kirk Session has oversight of the whole life and service of the Church within its Parish; responsibility for the spiritual and temporal oversight of the Congregation's affairs. Its spiritual responsibility involves "leadership, nurturing the spirituality of the congregation and its members, caring for the spiritual welfare of the parish and parishioners, encouraging members to participate in the worship and life of the congregation, and promoting mission and evangelism in the parish".

Responsibilities include welcome, evangelism, outreach, community, education, communication, development, nurture, youth, membership, eldership, fellowship, hospitality, social, world, and mission.

Child Protection is an additional, specific responsibility.

The Office Bearers and Members which serve the Kirk Session are:

Moderator: The Minister: Rev Hilda C Smith

Administration (inc. Minutes): Session Clerk: Sandy Taylor

Members:

Alex Emslie

Bill Kennedy

Chris Stevenson

Edna Armstrong

Flora Gillies

Frances Fleming

Frank Killeen

Ian Davidson

Jessie Cranston

Jim Morrison

Jimmy Logie

Malcolm MacFadyen

Margaret Davidson

Mary MacDonald

May Taylor

Roddy Morrison

Sandy Taylor

Tom Stevenson

	b. Work through the congregation, to encourage new membership of the Church; through <i>ad hoc</i> initiatives such as “bring a friend” and an attractive social programme	March 2010
	c. Establish an on-going relationship with all visitors to the Church	June 2010
3, 4 & 8	Ensure Opportunities for Worship, Developing Faith etc.	
	a. Ensure a programme of worship which includes life events in the Church such as Baptisms, marriages, blessings and funerals, and celebration of festivals and events in the Christian calendar	June 2010
	b. Participate in national and local community worship initiatives, such as Holy Week, the National Day of Prayer and Blue Christmas service	December and on 2010
	c. Participate in the Malawi partnership	Dec. 2010
	d. Maintain a vibrant Sunday School programme	June 2010
	e. Ensure Bible Study opportunities in response to demand.	June 2010
5 & 9	Child Protection	
	a. Approve the formal criteria and procedure(s) for the appointment of a Child Protection Panel	September 2009
	b. Establish a Child Protection Panel	
7	“Our” Renewal Project	
	a. Actively support the LPC Renovation Appeal, recognising the role of modern facilities and resources as an essential pre-requisite to the realisation of our Renewal Project which extends beyond the physical renewal of buildings and other assets, to the spiritual and pastoral well-being of the congregation and wider community	June 2010
3 & 4	Childrens' and Youth Ministry	
	a. Establish a Youth Fellowship Group	October 2009
	b. Develop the Church’s outreach work within the local school	June 2010
	c. Evaluate the potential for the re-establishment of the Lochgilphead Boy’s Brigade unit	- ditto -
	d. Explore opportunities for youth ministry through events, visits and social activities for young people	- ditto -
9	Review	
	Review the value of this approach and its potential development in 2010	May 2010

Our Team

2009 Work Plan Review Team

Ian Davidson
Malcolm MacFadyen
Rev Hilda Smith
Roddy Morrison
Sandy Taylor

Fabric Convener
Elder
Moderator
Assistant Treasurer
Session Clerk