

**KEMNAY PARISH
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**



THE LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

2009

How the Church Works

The members of the Kirk Session and Congregational Board are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are elders of the Church and are chosen from those members of the Church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The Congregational Board is appointed from within the congregation and members of the congregation are invited to nominate individuals who are believed to have skills and commitment to the management of the affairs of the Church, to become members of the Board. Board members are then appointed at the Annual Stated Meeting and serve for a period of three years after which they must seek re-election at the next Annual Stated Meeting.

The Kirk Session which meets six times a year is responsible for the spiritual affairs of the congregation. The Congregational Board is chaired by the Minister and meets six times a year. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the Finance Committee, Fabric Committee and Church Centre Committee as appropriate.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

GENERAL

Minister: the Minister is now in his 19th year at Kemnay Church. He continues to be Chaplain to Kemnay Primary and Alehousewells Primary School. He is also part of a Chaplaincy team at Kemnay Academy. The Minister is Convener for the Mission and Discipleship Committee of Presbytery covering three areas of responsibility, Home Mission, Parish Education and Ecumenical Affairs. He is also Convener of the Presbytery Plan Implementation Committee and a member of the Presbytery Business Committee. The Minister is a facilitator for 'Future Focus' material for Presbytery. He is a member of a small Fraternal that meets in Inverurie and is also member of a small Theological Book Group. A support Group made up of Elders continues to meet with the Minister.

Children's and Youth Coordinator:

Mrs Suzanne Bunton is our Coordinator. This is a part time paid post providing support for children and youth group leaders and developing our work among children and young people. Suzanne continues to develop this post and initiate new activities.

Secretary: Mr Argo was appointed part time paid secretary at the end of December 2009 (he had been temporary Secretary during the long term illness of Mrs Helen Aitken). He has many skills that make the office run smoothly. The Secretary serves the Minister and congregational groups from the Church Office.

KIRK SESSION

Charity Fund: this is available to Minister for Pastoral Care within the congregation and Parish. Funds were used on one occasion this year.

Kirk Session Conference: A very successful Conference was held in the Church Centre on Sunday in September (see Education Report)

Study Time: usually the first 30-45 minutes of the Kirk Session meeting is taken up with a time of study or discussion.

St Anne's Church: a representative from St Anne's attends meeting and a representative from our Kirk Session attends At Anne's Vestry.

Presbytery Elder: Mr Mike Mair has reported regularly from Presbytery Meetings. Mr James MacKay is an additional Elder for Presbytery and reports when Mr Mair is unable to attend meetings.

Safeguarding (Child Protection): During the year Mrs Shiranthi Mountford stepped down as our Safeguarding Officer and Mrs Fiona Gray was appointed. The Safeguarding Officer ensures all those working with children and young people are Disclosed and have attended a Child Protection Course. We have a database of those Disclosed. A Congregational Register is also held and updated. There is also a safeguarding group in place. A report was taken to the Kirk Session in October indicating that all was in order.

A 'Church for All Policy' this policy has been endorsed by the Kirk Session and a copy is displayed at the Centre and Church.

Gifts and memorials leaflet: a leaflet has been prepared giving guidance to those who might wish to make a gift to the Church or give something in the memory of a loved one.

Positive Discrimination: a leaflet has been adopted by the Kirk Session and is available to all leaders of groups and those working at Loaves and Fishes and the Centre.

Elders: The Kirk Session is looking to add to its numbers early in 2010.

Christmas Offerings: the Kirk Session designated the Offerings over Christmas to the work of SSAFA. The total was £856.66 (£577.33 from Christmas Eve services; £170.55 from Christmas Day and £108.78 from Loaves & Fishes Charity Box).

AREAS OF WORK IN KIRK SESSION

There are seven priorities each served with a Working Group made up of members of the Kirk Session and members of the congregation who are interested in this area of work. Each WG has its own budget. The Working Group system was affirmed by the Kirk Session in the autumn and arrangements are in hand for the Conveners to meet with the ministers to look at ways to develop this system.

Services of Worship:

Services were held in the Church Centre during the time of the refurbishment work at the Worship Centre at Fraser Place from mid September 2008. This was completed in March 2009 and soon after the Congregation moved back to the Church building. A reception was held at the Church for those companies involved in the project to say thanks for their contribution and satisfactory completion. An open day was also held when a good number of past and present members visited the building. In April there was a Service of Rededication when the Rev Bob Jones a senior minister of Presbytery and friend of the Congregation led the Service. The building has been well received by the congregation and even those who were unsure about the changes have congratulated the Project Team and Congregational Board on the work done. The building works well for all the different types of Services held. The screens under the main gallery provide a good area for children's work and for fellowship. The audio visual system works very well and PowerPoint presentations have now moved to the 11.00 am Service as well as the 9.30 am service. The Services are now easily recorded and distributed to housebound members and available on G4G radio station. An All Age Service at 9.30 am with a contemporary approach, lasting about 45-50 minutes making use of a Praise Band.

The Morning Service at 11.00 am is along more traditional lines, lasting about 60 minutes and makes use of the pipe organ. A Communion Service is held on the last Sunday of the month.

There is a Monthly Evening Service which takes the form of a teaching, healing or praise service.

Monthly Services are also held at the Grove Nursing Home and Littlewood Court Sheltered Housing complex.

Summer Services: usually one joint service offering different styles of worship during July and August.

Special Services: additional services are held at Pentecost, Easter, Christmas, and Harvest.

Holy Communion: Usually on the last Sunday of the month at 11.00 am. Communion is offered twice a year at the 9.30 am and 6.30 pm Service.

Communion for Housebound: this is available to members.

Baptism: both adult and children's Baptism is offered by arrangement with the Minister.

Blessing and Dedication Services for infants: alternative services are offered for children whose parents are not members of the Church.

Marriage: Wedding services are offered for those living within the Parish or whose parents live in the Parish. This is done in consultation with the Minister.

Praise Band: six instrumentalists and two vocalists make up the Praise Band which plays each Sunday.

Organists and pianists: we have three regular organists available for Sunday worship and a number of pianists.

Choir and Singing Group: a four part singing group of about 16 voices are available to sing at special services.

Service of Healing: this is held from time to time when prayer requests are made and also the 'laying on of hands'.

Funerals: are offered to all members and all who live within the Parish.

Joint Services with St Anne's: These were held over Easter.

CARE

Elders Care Areas: the Congregation is divided into 15 Care Areas, each with two/three elders, who visit the homes of members twice a year, with 2/3 visitors to help with the distribution of Kirk News. There is also a Postal Area and a list of Eventide Homes, Nursing homes and long term hospital visits.

Bereavement Follow up: a small group of visitors follow up bereavements to provide friendship and support from the Church about six weeks after the funeral. First year anniversary cards are posted or delivered. Books on bereavement have been purchased and made available.

Elderly Visits: a small group of elders and members visit the over 80's along with the Minister.

Hospital Visits: weekly visits are made by the Minister and two elders, Mrs Amelia Beaton is responsible for Aberdeen Hospitals and Mrs Alison Hunter for Inverurie hospital. Following a ruling last year by the Information Commissioner with regard to Data protection, changes have been made on how information is gathered for hospital visits. Information about this was made known in the Kirk News, Community Newsletter and web site informing members and parishioners of the need to indicate their wish for a church visit when they go into hospital. There is concern however that information is not being gathered at hospitals which means some people are missing out on visits.

Eventide Home visits: Minister has a list of members in Eventide Homes and makes regular visits

Over Eighties visits: Minister has a list of over eighties and makes regular visits.

Easter Plants: these are distributed to those in Eventide Homes

Birthday Cards: a birthday card is also sent out to members who celebrate their 90th birthday and each year thereafter.

Pastoral Care and Counseling: counseling is available by Minister and an elder trained in counseling.

Marriage Preparation Course: this was offered early in the year for couples due to be married.

Marriage Enrichment Course: it is hoped to offer a course soon.

Healing Ministry: the Minister is available with Elders to pray with and lay hands on those who request this ministry.

EDUCATION

Adult activities Good Morning Group weekly, for ladies, numbers around 25 Men's Group meeting 6-weekly, numbers around 30, Bible Discovery Groups – varied studies - Monday (8), Wednesday(12), Thursday (12), Alpha Course – available as required, A Way Course was offered in the autumn

Activities for young people - Junior Alpha was run by the Fusion Group

Bookshelf - books and cards available as required

Kirk Session Conference – annually, to meet needs e.g. in 2009 in September the theme of 'Being One', based on a verse from of Acts Chapter 4. It was planned by a group of elders and led by the Minister

Planned for 2010 – Women's Group called 'Timeout' in January following consultation with women of the Church regarding the programme.

Church Bookshelf: Books are made available along with cards at Easter and Christmas.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Children's and Youth Coordinator: This post is working well and support given is much appreciated. Regular meetings are held with the Minister for planning.

Youth Council: this is made up of leaders of groups and representatives of children and young people. They plan and initiate new activities.

Youth Forum: made up of young people to feed in new ideas to you the Coordinator.

Youth Leaders: three of our leaders Suzanne, Kirsty and Philip attended a conference in January.

Children and Youth Groups: Kaleidoscope is a monthly Children Club (4+). Fusion is a group aimed at academy aged children. Simcha dance 7) is aimed at children and young people. Girl's Brigade (8) working with girls of all ages. Badminton Group.

Changemakers: This is a new group aimed to fill the gap left by RockSolid and met every day for a week during the summer. The young people aged 11- 14 years looked at ways to make changes in the world. Through the interest of the young people this is now a regular monthly group meeting on a Saturday morning.

Weekend away: The young people from the Fusion Group will attend a weekend away at Arthur Grant Centre in 2010 as part of the Youth Alpha Program.

Mission 2009: There was no Mission for Teenagers in 2009 because of the changes in visa regulations for young people coming from Canada.

Holiday Club: Showstoppers proved very popular with about 50-60 children attending over the period of a week.

Engage: a new initiative with leaders from Kemnay and other local Churches. This has proved very successful with about 70 young people attending.

PA and PP: many of our young people are involved in operation of the PA and PP systems at the Church after having been trained.

Kemnay Churches Junior Badminton Club: Season 2009/2010 Primary – 14 girls & 16 boys, 2 coaches (1 Elder Helen Lal). Secondary – 9 girls & 20 boys, 4 coaches (1 Elder JT). Primary from both Kemnay schools and one each from Oldmeldrum & Inverurie. Secondary from Kemnay Academy (including children from Blackburn) & 2 from Inverurie. Coaching Mondays in Kemnay Academy & Jr Club on Wednesdays at the Church Centre.

WORLD CHURCH

Christian Aid: the main events take place in May of each year with Nearly New Shop, Smartie tubes filled with 20p coins and our Jog Walk. (Money raised: Jog/Walk £3636, Shop & Coffee £3179, Coins £2395, Donations £480) was raised this year. This is an ecumenical venture with the local Scottish Episcopal Church and the Roman Catholic community in Kemnay.

Christian Solidarity: a small group ensures a regular article is included in the Kirk News, updates on

Tearfund: Gifts are given at the Harvest Service in support of this International Charity. This year we sent

Tearcraft (now called 'Createdgifts'): catalogues made available to members of the congregation and friends resulted in orders totaling over £1000 in time for Christmas 2009. A donation of £100 was made to Tearfund.

Shoebox Appeal: Thirty four boxes and extras were donated to the New Hope Trust through the Good Morning Group.

Kirsty Buchan: Ongoing prayer support along with a donation from Loaves and Fishes Fund has been given to Kirsty who is presently working in central Asia. Update information on her work was available in the December Kirk News.

Mission Partners: the World Mission Council Presbytery appointed David and Rebecca Morrison as new Mission Partners to Gordon Presbytery. They are working at Nkoma Hospital in Malawi. We hosted a meeting to welcome them to Presbytery when they provided a most enlightening talk about their plans for Mission work at the hospital.

Partner Church: This year two of our Elders, Miss Ann Brown and Mrs Irene Anderson visited our partner church in Minyara and were very well received. They made good contacts and built on the relationship already made. Their visit was much appreciated by both congregations. Plans are under discussion to send some young people to Minyara in 2010.

Fair Trade: The congregation continued to support the Fair Trade Initiative in the following ways – through magazine material and special services on Sunday 8 March, at a coffee morning to demonstrate Fair Trade goods, having a monthly Fair Trade stall, working with local school to encourage Fair Trade, using Fair Trade goods in the Church coffee shop and Centre, Selling Fair Trade goods during Christian Aid week.

Global Poverty Week: This was marked from 23 February to 1 March with material in the Kirk News and mentioned in prayers.

World Day of Prayer: Members of the Good Morning Group and St Anne's Episcopal Church led this day. A service was held at Littlewood Court in March. The theme was 'In Christ there are many members, yet one body' and was prepared by women from Papua New Guinea.

Jen Wright: Jen is working with the Wycliffe Translators in Cameroon helping to translate parts of the Bible.

OUTREACH

Alpha Course: An Alpha course is planned for 2010 and will be led by two of our young adults.

Youth Alpha Course: this was available through the Fusion Group.

Summer Mission: It was not possible to host a Mission Group from Inverness YFC since travel visa arrangements have changed restricting young people coming from Canada. It is hoped to make other arrangements for 2010.

Have Another Look Evenings: an opportunity was given following Back to Church Sunday to look at the Way course material.

WAY Course: five people attended this course.

Homecoming and Back to Church Sunday: Homecoming Scotland, the Scottish Government initiative to raise awareness of Scotland's heritage, was taken up by our Outreach Group starting with a very successful Burns' Supper in January. The Homecoming theme was continued and linked to Back to Church Sunday which led to a Homecoming Season in September with Services welcoming back those who had been Baptized and those who had been married at Kemnay Church, with invitations going to those concerned over the past five years, culminating with Back to Church Sunday at the end of September. Seeds were sown and we have seen a number of new people come to services and activities over the weeks since then.

Mission 2010: The Presbytery have designated 2010 as a year of Mission. In support of this the Kirk Session agreed to support a Pentecost 2010 initiative. A first meeting was held in December and there was a very positive response.

GREEN GROUP

Eco Congregation Award: the Church is working at maintaining the Eco Congregation Award.

Recycling: the group continues to encourage recycling of waste materials. Recycling Tips are a regular feature of the Kirk News.

Carbon Footprint: building's yearly carbon footprint has been measured and the group is working on methods to allow to measure their own carbon footprint.

Wildlife Garden: The group is working with the youth groups to maintain wildlife friendly plants to the garden.

Aberdeen and Shire Network: continues to support the Network and participated in a workshop to promote Eco-congregation Network for other Churches in the Presbytery.

Community Action: the group were invited into the local Beaver group to teach about recycling, held a viewing of the film 'Age of Stupid' and linked up with ARoche providing a daytime and evening talk on their work for wildlife conservation Lebanon.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

There are five areas of work for which the Board is responsible each group has its own budget.

The Minute Books of the Board were bound this year as a permanent record.

Mrs Margaret Urquhart retired as Clerk to the Congregational Board in December. Mrs Rita Custard was appointed as our new Clerk.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

This committee monitors the income and expenditure and looks for ways to encourage members and friends to support the work of the church. The giving's both through the Open Plate and Free Will Offering, over the past year have risen despite the economic downturn. A note of thanks for these giving's was issued through the Kirk News in November. The group oversaw the accounting for the Church Project. The costs of the Project (£145,000), have been paid with standing orders, fundraising, gifts and funds from the Special Project Fund. We were also able to repay a loan from the Church of Scotland of £66,000 which saved incurring interest over a longer period. We were able to pay all bills for the project shortly after it was completed and we give thanks to God for making this possible.

SOCIAL

This committee looks for ways to encourage the congregation to share in fellowship. They took the lead in organizing the Burn Supper in January and a Home coming meal at the end of September when some new folks were welcomed. Funds from the Burns Night bought new china mugs with the Church logo for the Church Fellowship Area. Annual Church BBQ and Picnic was held in August with a programme for all ages.

Two shared lunches have also been held to develop fellowship in the congregation.

PROPERTY

An architectural survey of the Church and Church Centre buildings delivered a very good report that said all buildings were in good order. The architects were pleased with the three buildings over all and defects were fairly minor. Where recommendations have been made they are in the process of being carried out.

Manse: general maintenance of the Manse has been carried out including external paintwork. A laminated wood floor has been laid in the study.

Church: The Church Project was completed in March and thanks were recorded to the Project Group and all involved. Additional work was completed during the year including external paintwork, draught excluding and adding plastic covers to the external windows.

Church cleaning: this is carried out by a Rota of volunteers on a weekly basis.

Equipment replacement fund: seeing the benefit such a fund has been to the Centre it is proposed to

have a similar fund for equipment in the church particularly with AV and electrical and heating equipment.
Church Centre: see separate inclusion.

PUBLICATIONS

Welcome Pack & Leaflets – give information on the life and work of the Church - to be found in the Church Centre Information and also part of a Welcome Pack for new members.

Kirk News – monthly magazines giving details of church life e.g. prayer calendar, details of services. It is distributed to all homes of the congregation and features include articles on Suffering Church, children's page and updates from groups and others

Minister's letter to the community – pay monthly for the inclusion in the Community Newsletter

Cards – Christmas and Easter cards to every home in the Parish

Bookshelf – books and cards available as required

Church Office – at the Church Centre to serve the Minister and the congregation the Office provides secretarial cover for the Minister and the congregation. The secretary is a part-time and paid position for 4 mornings per week.

Website – administered by the secretary and popular in terms of 'hits'

Literature – A Church Windows leaflet has been produced. The Life & Work magazine is available to the congregation

Equipment – A desktop computer was purchased at the beginning of 2009 and in 2010 scanner and laptop will be replaced in the rolling replacement programme.

CHURCH CENTRE

The Church Centre has its own management group responsible for budgeting, property maintenance, marketing and general management of the Centre.

Use of halls and rooms: Whilst congregational groups have a priority for the use of the Centre's facilities these are extensively used by external groups and individuals for meetings, conferences and private functions.

The Catering Group supports conferences, functions and meetings and can cater for special events. This group has proved to be very popular, has a good reputation and has attracted new clients to the Centre.

Property Maintenance takes the form of a rolling programme to ensure the exterior and interior of the building is maintained to a high standard. For example, external paintwork was carried out in the autumn of 2009, the Fellowship Hall floor has been recently sanded, relined and varnished and additional storage has been created in the loft space above the Donaldson Room. In addition, it is planned to replace all the chairs in the Fellowship Hall during 2010.

Health and Safety Matters are addressed at the regular meetings of the Church Centre Management Committee.

The Health and Safety Officer takes responsibility for ensuring that the various users of the Centre carry out appropriate risk assessments for their particular activities, and to ensure all relevant regulations are addressed.

Church Centre Cleaning is carried out by two paid cleaners.

Grounds maintenance is carried out by a paid gardener along with support from a team of volunteers.

OTHER MATTERS

PRAYER LIFE OF THE

CONGREGATION: A Prayer Chain is available to all with contact names. When Prayers are received these are passed down three lists of about 18 names. Prayer Box is available at the Church Centre for people to leave prayer requests. These are passed down the Prayer Chain. Monthly Prayer Calendar is compiled and issued with the Kirk New magazine to the congregation. Prayer requests can be given to the Minister before the start of an 11.00 am service.

WORKING WITH OTHER

CONGREGATIONS: we are part of an Area Group as part of the Presbytery Plan aimed at encouraging congregations to work together (Kemnay, Monymusk and Cluny, Howe Trinity, Cushnie and Tough and Upper Donside Church of Scotland Congregations). Mr Mike Mair and Mr Leslie McKay were appointed as our link people with the Group. There have been two exchanges of ministers on Sundays over the past year and on one occasion link people visited other congregations and brought greetings.

WORKING WITH OTHER

DENOMINATIONS: we work very closely with St Anne's Episcopal Church and have an agreement to have pulpit exchanges, Lent study series and work together on various projects. We also work with the Roman Catholic community in Kemnay.

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Community Council: we have a representative on the Community Council who keeps the Board and Session up to date with developments and issues.

Schools: the Minister is Chaplain to Alehousewells and Kemnay Primary and Nursery school and also one of a team of Chaplains at Kemnay Academy. The Minister is also a member of the School Board at Kemnay Primary.

Community groups: many members are supportive of community groups and often taken positions of responsibility.

CHARITIES SUPPORTED: Christian Aid is well supported by the Congregation along with the other denominations in the village. In 2009 £9690 was raised from Smartie Tubes, Shop, Café and charity box, jog/walk, and donations. We also work closely with both primary schools in raising funds for Christian Aid. Tearfund is supported by the congregation. In 2009 £411 was gathered in October for the Harvest offering. A Christmas appeal is made for a local Charity and in 2009 this was the SSAFA and £882 was raised; Earl Haig Fund £187

A number of other charities have been supported over the past year through Loaves and Fishes Charity Box. The Men's Group also donated to Guide Dogs for the Blind £105, MAF £100 and Open Doors £200

CHURCH FLOWERS: Each Sunday flowers are donated to decorate the chancel of the Church by members and friends. The flowers are then distributed to the bereaved or ill in congregation and Parish. Decorations for special occasions are much appreciated.

CENTRE FLOWERS: These are constantly renewed and decorations are made for special occasions

LOAVES AND FISHES

Coffee Shop: this continues to be successful and serve the community. A number of new volunteers have joined the group and with a new management structure in place it is working well. The Coffee Shop is fully compliant with environmental health regulations.

Loaves and Fishes Fund: in 2009 distributed £5200 in support of Students in Zambia, Minyara partnership, Youth Coordinator KPC, Books Abroad, The Gaitherin, Jen Wright in Bambalang, Mission Partners in Malawi, Linda Buchan in Uganda, Kirsty Buchan in Central Asia, Gary Simpson Project Trust in Guyana, Engage Youth, and Family & Children's support worker in Kemnay schools.

CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS: At the heart of the movement is the change of mindsets. From Church focus to Christ focus; from running congregations to building communities; from isolation to interdependence; from individualism to teamwork; from faith as security to faith as risk. The congregation continues to explore ways of developing its aim to be a Church without Walls and following these guidelines

ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEW INITIATIVES

CHURCH BUILDING PROJECT:

'An Open door of opportunity' 1 Cor 16/8 was the theme taken up by the Church Project group describing the wonderful opportunity open to us for the Gospel to be advanced here at Kemnay through the work done in the Church building. The work started in September 2008 and we returned to the Church on Sunday 1 March with an Open Day after morning services to give people the opportunity to view the building. A

Service of Rededication was held on Sunday 19 April led by the Rev Robert Jones a senior minister of Presbytery. This was followed with a 'Shared Lunch' and a Songs of Praise evening.

The congregational Board is most grateful to the Project Group who worked with the main contractors and subcontractors to complete the build while consulting with the Board on all matters.

Funding: With some very generous donations, grants from outside bodies, direct Gift Aid giving by members and numerous fundraising events the congregational Board have been able to pay for the Project and at the same time repay a loan of £60,000 to the Church of Scotland.

New Logo: A new logo was developed for the Church, incorporating the North Window shape and the Burning Bush.

Pulpit Fall and Book Marks: These were made for the rededication Service of the Church Building and were made by Mrs Jackie Campbell who also made some of our Banners. The Fall and Bookmarks include the new Church logo or Mark.

Presbytery Visit: Presbytery held one of their regular meetings in the Church building and there were very positive comments.

Care and maintenance: Booklets giving information about the care and maintenance building have been compiled and are available at the Church.

Manuals: for the Computer and the audio system have been prepared.

Risk Assessment: this has been prepared for the Church Building by our Risk Assessment Officer.

REFLECTIONS FOR LENT this was a four week series for Lent provided by ministers and members of St Anne's Episcopal Church and ourselves.

CHICKS FOR CHARITY: a number of members made woolen chicks in support the local Academy in aid of the Starlight Express Foundation.

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2010: About thirty people have now booked for this visit and a number of meetings have been held to help participants meet each other and be updated on information.

KIRK NEWS: This is now on our web page through a PDF (Adobe) Link

RECORDING OF SERVICES: Both morning Services are now recorded and distributed to the housebound. The Service is also available through Gospel 4 Grampian (supported through the Loaves and Fishes Fund) details are to be found on Order sheets or on the web page www.g4g.org.uk

EVENING SERVICES: a new series of services over the autumn and spring of 200-2010 has proved popular and have included the A Doric Service, Songs of Praise and a local group Spectrum Singers and a Moody and Sankey evening.

TIME OUT: new group for women. (Information in Education WG)

MISSION 2010: The Kirk Session has supported this initiative and is planning a major mission event in May 2010.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY: see information under Outreach.

CHANGEMAKERS: a new Youth Group for young people to encourage them in making changes in the world (See Youth Working Group).

YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN WORSHIP SERVICES: the new PA and PP equipment has helped attract a number of our young people as operators for Sunday services. Along with a number of adults they have been trained in the use of the equipment and manuals are available at the operators' desk.

ST ANDREW'S DAY; a new approach providing special services and a Fellowship Meal in the Church Centre after the service.

FUNERAL MUSIC: a leaflet has been prepared giving guidance on music for funerals and the place of secular music during the Services.

MISSION PARTNERS: The appointment of David and Rebecca Morton by the Presbytery was very much welcomed. We were able to host an opportunity for them to be introduced to the Presbytery.

PRESBYTERY PLAN

We have been working to develop our Area Group. Kemnay is part of the group that includes Monymusk and Cluny, Howe Trinity, Cushnie and Tough and Upper Donside. We have developed this with pulpit exchanges and Link People visits to congregations.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal source of income to the General Fund is derived from Congregational giving which was received through (2009) standing orders (54%), envelopes (34%) and through open plate (12%).

Due to the ongoing stewardship campaign, our giving this year has increased by 4.75%. We are trying to decrease the percentage given by open plate and convert this to standing orders, hopefully Gift Aided.

The Church Centre Fund is used for the upkeep of the Church Centre and its income comes mainly from letting of the rooms and from our catering group. The principal lessee is the Loaves and Fishes Coffee Shop.

The Loaves and Fishes Fund is funded from the proceeds of the coffee shop. Surplus funds are used for various charities as described elsewhere in this document.

An Equipment Replacement Fund for equipment in both the Church Centre and the church is in place. Each piece of equipment is given a lifetime, and every year a sum set aside, so that when equipment needs replaced, there are funds available.

The refurbishment work in the church has now been completed with our loan of £66,000 from Church of Scotland having been repaid. We have now started to build up a Reserve Fund again.

All our surplus funds are held with The Church of Scotland Investment Trust in Deposit Funds at no risk.

After having completed all the refurbishment work to the church in the past year, we are in good health financially and the main objective is to continue to build up a Reserve Fund again.