

Minutes of Elders' Meeting Thursday 23rd June 2022

Present: Alasdair Macleod, Norman Cordiner, Duncan Dundas, Alan Cuthbert, William Hamilton, David Goudie,

Apologies: Allan Dunbar, Daniel Stephen Angus Jamieson, Jonathan Dunbar, George Mackenzie

The meeting began with time of prayer. Several pastoral issues prayed for.

Devotion:

Alasdair shared from Colossians 3

Church Membership:

Stuart and Anna Mould; James and Dawn Beaton to be welcomed in 3rd July.

Sue Marrs to be welcomed in - the date to be confirmed.

All five have been added to the membership roll.

Baptism:

At the baptismal service will on 5th June. Kyle Fraser; Beth Hutchison; Aoife Dransfield and Catriona Macleod were all baptised.

Thanksgiving Service

The thanksgiving service for the life of Jeff Howarth will be held on July 4th at 12:30pm at CCC.

Sunday Services summer teaching plan.

Morning all age services are to be held over the summer with a new series entitled "Joseph – God meant this for Good"

An evening prayer meeting will be held each week. A paper was distributed and confirmed that we were happy to proceed on this basis. Any feedback to go directly to Helen Cuthbert.

Time out for reflection (paper attached)

Alasdair distributed a paper in advance of the meeting. The paper was discussed.

As we prepare for the AGM we can look back with thankfulness for God's provision, answered prayer and the rebuilding of our church family and ministry after the pandemic. We are not complacent recognising that the work of rebuilding is ongoing. There are so many new people to share Christ with and many existing members and adherents to disciple, pastor and equip for works of service.

It was agreed that we need to prayerfully take stock of what the Lord has done and is doing amongst us.

The Lord has blessed the steps of faith the church has taken in recent years, and we are experiencing growth simultaneously in several areas of church life. Teams are stretched raising questions about priorities and resources.

We appear to be in a crucial phase where we need to deepen our roots in Christ and at the same time seek God's guidance for the future shape of our ministries so that we can become even more fruitful (John 15). This is growth not only numerically but spiritually recognising that evangelism, pastoral care, teaching, and discipleship all help to prepare God's people for works of service.

It was agreed that further discussion is required on this.

Children and families ministry 2022 / 2023 including kidzone volunteer team update.

NH provided an update on Messy Church and Kidzone in advance of the meeting. It is fantastic that people within the Church have stepped forward to allow expansion of the ministry to 3 groups starting in August.

There was a discussion on the papers. Whilst kidzone is the foundation to the ministry, Messy Church is recognised as being an important ministry, that fits really well with where we are and being central moving forward. The frequency of events needs to be explored further, and a team needs to be built to support this initiative.

There has been a really good community response to Messy Church.

AGM preparation.

It was confirmed that the AGM will be held on 21st September 2022.

It was confirmed that as Elders we would meet on 15th September to prepare for the AGM.

Communications Team

William and Alasdair provided an update on the recent meeting with Kirsty Bateson and it was confirmed that Kirsty would be joining the team and providing some support on a Communications front.

After Alpha?

The Alpha course finishes on 27/6/22 and we are considering how best to support each one by providing a new group starting in August.

Three people have asked for baptism since the recent service and others have recently made a commitment. The priority is to patiently disciple all.

Recent Events

Bereavement café Saturday 28 May. 10 am to 12 pm.

A follow up course: bereavement journey to be offered in Autumn term. There will also be a service in November with a bereavement focus.

Weekend of 4-6th June.

Royal Messy Church was held on Saturday 4th June and was well attended.

The Lunch Club held an afternoon tea. The team were thanked for their work.

A Baptismal Service was held and Matt Alexander preached at both services. This was a fruitful weekend of ministry.

Safeguarding training – Saturday morning 11th June in person. Wednesday 15th evening on zoom.

Objective achieved. This was well attended. The committee will be meeting in September. Elspeth Lee has joined the team to provide admin support.

The team were thanked for their hard work in organising the training events.

The Trustees will receive training in November.

DG to meet with the committee to review the report to the AGM.

Focus on Blythswood in morning service 12 June.

This was postponed to make room for dedication. This will be rescheduled - the Mission Support Team are looking at this., and dates are awaited.

Alpha course Saturday 18th June.

21 people attended. Worship led by Alan Cuthbert. A fruitful day of ministry in the presence of the Lord. Testimonies emerging of lives changed / salvation.

Forthcoming Events / Services

Summer holiday fellowship events (1 per week). Allan Dunbar and Helen MacNaughton are coordinating

Youth + families Barbeque Saturday 25th at 5.30pm

All age end of term celebration Sunday 26 July. In the evening there will be a communion service.

Sunday 3rd July. Start of all age summer series.

Thanksgiving service for the life of Jeff Howarth. July 4th 12:30pm at CCC.

Dedication for Alice and Aaron Macinnes 24th July. Parents: Aaron and Sara Macinnes.

Holiday club: Monday 8th August to Friday 12th August.

Open Items

- **Health & Safety Issues**

There are a number of issues to be addressed around the buildings. Alan Imrie is working through these with Norman Cordiner.

- **Prayer Meeting Before Service**

The Elders were encouraged to attend this whenever possible.

- **Welcome Team**

Discussions are to be held on the role of the team, and numbers required each Sunday

- **Christians Against Poverty**

A meeting is arranged for 24th June with James Campbell and Elders to follow up on the items in the minutes of May.

- **Kingsmills dinner 30th September**

Angus and Jonathan are to taking the lead on organising this. There was no further update.

- **Listening Ear Covid Recovery Support (Hilton)**

An update was provided on this work.

- **Communion**

Marion Hamilton is to take on the role as interim coordinator.

- **Discipleship Update**

Alasdair is to build a new team including David Gibson. This will be discussed in September's Elders Meeting.

- **Home group coordinator**

Janet will take on this role in the interim.

- **Craig Campbell**

It was noted that Craig has left his job to take on a 2-year internship at Chalmers Church. It was agreed that as a Church we would financially support Craig. Duncan is to follow this through. It was agreed that as an Eldership it would be good to encourage Craig.

- **Finance update**

Duncan circulated a paper in advance.

Duncan noted that our requirement is to have at any one time 3-months of unrestricted funds in the bank at any one given point in time.

Giving – DD and DG are currently discussing our giving to various organisations and support partners.

- **Chalmers Institute**

Alasdair provided an update on discussions with Mark Stirling where we would work with Mark to deliver short discipleship classes over a 6-week period. Alasdair is to have further discussions with Mark and will report back.

AOB

Nil

Alasdair noted that he had postponed his holiday until October.

Next Meeting:

The next Elders Meeting 18th August 7.15pm at CCC