

Edenshead Parish Church

Newsletter – October 2021

Hello Friends at Edenshead

It is my privilege to introduce myself to you as the newly appointed Interim Moderator to Edenshead following the demission of the Rev M. Rose at end of August. I am Rev Gavin Boswell and I am minister at Largo Parish Church.

I have had the joy of meeting some of the Kirk Session elders at a meeting at the end of September. By the time this newsletter is in your hands, I may well have met a few more of you as church members on Sunday 17th October, conducting morning worship and sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion at Auchtermuchty Church.

As I begin my work with you as IM, sadly it will not be in progressing the vacancy at Edenshead for now, as we, like every other Presbytery in Church of Scotland await the production of the new Missional Presbytery Plans for end of 2022. In effect that means we will tread water for a while.

However, on a positive note, I am grateful to Rod and Kay McCall for their continued locum work in worship and pastoral care, along with Elspeth Smith who assists with pulpit supply. Please continue to pray for them as they service the congregation and parish. Rod and Kay, along with all the elders, are there in the first instance to assist with pastoral needs. That does not mean I am unavailable, but I do have my own charge to attend to as well as Edenshead.

I am sure in due course, I will get to know some of you better and I look forward to working with you all as your IM.

For now, all God's blessings.

Rev Gavin Boswell

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Presbytery Update

Fife Presbytery as you know, is developing the new Presbytery Plan for the next 5-10 years. You will remember that we have already shared some of this information with you and recently the Kirk Session was asked to respond to a series of topics relating to the future shape of Fife Presbytery. The following is a summary of the response sent into the Presbytery Office.

On Monday 27 September our Kirk Session met to consider the questions set by the Presbytery Board of Mission.

Interim Moderator Rev Gavin Boswell constituted the meeting and aided the presentation.

Discussions took place in small groups with responses gathered and then opened up for sharing in the wider group. The topics covered included Mission where we were asked to discuss how we reach out to our community, how we share the Good News and how we can care for our world with sustainability in mind. The group felt that we had made some efforts in most areas but could certainly do better.

Moving onto looking to the future of the church, we came back to the fact that the people of Edenshead Church and the surrounding Eden Tay Cluster have already explored different ways of being church. It would seem appropriate to revisit the plans put forward in 2017/18.

One of our Kirk Session shared a quote she heard some 30 or 40 years ago. "It was said that the time would come when no church would have its own minister – there would be a pool of ministers"

This is something we do keep coming back to, but it was interesting that it has been in the conversations for so long!

Presbytery Update contd.

Church property is a huge responsibility for Kirk Sessions and rationalisation of buildings would relieve much of this drain on financial resources and manpower. Rethinking how and where we “live” also fits in with the Eden Tay cluster plan of 2017/18.

Looking at our sustainability as a church, we felt that with a little fresh input, some improvement in our position by 2025 may be possible. Edenshead Church has been coping very well for a parish with no “leader”. We have an excellent core team, but it can often feel as if Edenshead Church is simply treading water. Sharing with others could be the key to reinvigorating and reshaping the local view of church.

We have now taken this opportunity to “have our say” and have submitted our comments to be included with all the other Parishes. Let’s see what happens next!

Good news! Sunday 3 October saw the return of hospitality. We are finally able to have teas and coffees after worship again.



Members were encouraged to simply rearrange the chairs into groups and everyone really enjoyed being able to have a time of fellowship and sharing together. Masks are required while moving around but, once seated they can be removed.

Session Clerk

You may not be aware that from the 1 September, Rod McCall has “retired” as Session Clerk. However, he will still be working as Pastoral Care Locum along with Kay and will still be leading Sunday worship. We very much appreciate Rod’s input during his time in office but will now need to remember that he has stood down - we’ve all got so used to him being there! Thanks Rod.

Depute Session Clerk, Liz Slattery will take calls or queries meantime.

**Coffee Morning
with
Music by Alan Small**

**Saturday 23 October
10 - 12
Church Hall**

**Home Baking
Raffle & Sales table**



**Come along for your coffee
and enjoy the live music.**

**Entry by Donation
Masks are required while
moving around the hall.**

Newsletter Changes

Next year, there will be fewer issues of the church newsletter.

We are proposing Spring, Summer, Autumn and then the Christmas Card

However, if we do need to share important news in between times, we'll make sure you get that news.

If you have items to add at any time, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Liz on 07719 724730

**Sunday 31 October
Worship 10.30am
Auchtermuchty Church**

During worship you will be invited to hang a label on our Giving Tree with suggestions of what you might "give".

You can offer your time or talents or anything at all you feel you can offer to our God in this place.

**Sunday 14 November
Worship 10.45am
Auchtermuchty Church**

Service of Remembrance

Note Start time

Future Worship Dates

**Sunday 28 November
Sunday 12 December
Sunday 19 December
Friday 24 December
Watchnight service**