

Notes on September's PCC meeting

There were 18 members of the PCC present for the meeting on 21st September 2015. In addition, Jennie Schofield, our new Parish Intern, was welcomed as an observer to the meeting, and she explained a little about her role this year.

Changes to the Parish Office

We have slightly changed the opening hours of the Parish Office, so it from 1st November it will be open Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 13:00, with the Parish Administrator being there all the time the office is open. This is good news as it enables there to be continuity from one day to the next, and there will always be a professional administrator on hand to support the wonderful group of volunteers.

Youth and Childrens work

James Simister informed us of the changes to the pattern of youth and childrens work that occurs during the week, with many of the groups now happening on a Thursday (thus helping the children transition from one group to the next as they grow older). Many other activities happen on other days, too (such as university prep sessions, and the regular bi-weekly Monday drop-in). He said that there had been wonderful opportunities to share the gospel during that week - "It's just brilliant! There are great things going on, praise the Lord!"

Buildings

The Buildings and Fabric working group informed us of the proposed return of the 12th Century font, current at St Andrews, to All Saints, and how the corner of the church near the vestry could become our bapistry.

The next major phase of St Andrews redevelopment was explained. This involves installing taller new windows and roof lights in the narthex, moving the office to the Sleeper Track entrance, and installing a mezzanine floor at the Sleeper Track entrance, giving the office a roof, and covering approximately half the narthex. The PCC approved a faculty petition for the whole of the project, although the work will be done in stages. Plans for this development are now on display outside the Parish Office.

Christmas services

This Christmas an extra Christingle service will be added at St Andrews, and the St Andrews midnight communion will cease. The reason for the extra Christingle is the popularity of the St Andrews service has grown to such an extent that the single service has become sufficiently crowded to cause a health and safety risk. The reason for removing the midnight communion from St Andrews is that there is still a well-attended midnight service at All Saints, there were staffing issues with musicians for this service, and it was felt that having eight services in 24 hours was too many.

Finance

We discussed the plans for Prayer and Gift week, and decided that the harvest gifts this year will go to the Salvation Army and Besom.

We discussed the Archbishop's call for all churches to pay the Living Wage and we agreed that we will do this for workers over the age of 25.

We were updated on the money raised from the website EasyFundRaising.co.uk. Signing up to this website means you can raise money for the St Andrews Building Fund through shopping online at no extra cost to you. To date fifteen people are signed up and have raised over £60.

Reports received and policies

Reports were received from Standing Committee and the Finance, Pastoral Care, Buildings & Fabric, Mission & Outreach, and Youth & Children working groups, updating us on their on-going activities.

The Pastoral Care working group presented a new Adult Safeguarding policy, which was discussed and adopted.

There were no major changes to the Y&C Pastoral & IT Policy, and it was re-approved.

The church website will be undergoing a refresh shortly.

All the working groups will be sending representatives to a risk assessment training event, thus ensuring we are all prepared to consciously notice, and more importantly mitigate, potentially risky situations.