



Congregation No: 331977
Scottish Charity No: SC014790

REPORT BY THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
Year ending 31 December 2016

Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name Kemnay Parish Church of Scotland
Charity Registration Number SC014790
Congregational Reference 331977
Contact Address Kemnay Church Office
Church Lane
Kemnay
Inverurie
AB51 5QP

Trustees:-

KIRK SESSION

Rev Joshua Mikelson

Dr David Bale	Mrs Judith Bale	Mrs Amelia Beaton	Mr James Buchan
Miss Ann Brown	Mrs Suzanne Bunton	Mr Peter Cape	Mr Graham Collie
Mrs Rita Custard	Mrs Linda Duguid	Miss Isabel Emslie	Miss Annie Ferries
Mr Alan Gorvett	Mrs Lynda Gorvett	Mrs Muriel Gratton	Mrs Kathleen Gunn
Mrs Alison Hunter	Mr Jim Hunter	Mrs Helen Lal	Mr Andrew Lister
Mrs Fiona Lister	Mrs Helen McKay	Mr Leslie McKay	Mrs Mary MacKay
Mrs Helen Macquarrie	Prof. Paul Nimmo	Mrs Pam Pashley	Mr David Porter
Mr Ian Rigby	Mr William Shand	Dr Sheila Simpson	Mr Frazer Simpson
Mr Andrew Radcliffe	Mrs Ruth Radcliffe	Mr Jeff Thomas	Mrs Joyce Thomas

Mr Mike Mair (Transferred to St Leonards Forres 02.08.16)
Mrs Jo Beddows (On Leave)
Mrs Irene Anderson (Resigned 24.02.16)
Mr James MacKay (Deceased 17.06.16)

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

Mrs Ann Gilmour	Mr James Stuart
Mrs Ishbel Imrie (29.02.16)	Mrs Joanna Black (29.02.16)
Mr Charlie Milne (29.02.16)	Mrs Shirley Milne (29.02.16)
Mrs Karen Simpson (Resigned 29.02.16)	

Minister	Rev Joshua M Mikelson
Lay Reader	Mrs Noel Lord
Church Treasurer	Mr Ian T Rigby
Session Clerk	Dr Sheila A Simpson
Clerk to the Board	Mrs Rita E Custard

Independent Examiner **David Minett MA (Hons) CA**
James Milne
Chartered Accountants
5 High Street
Inverurie
AB51 3QA

Bankers **Clydesdale Bank PLC**
26 West High Street
Inverurie AB51 3SL

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Model Deed of Constitution.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

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 affairs of the Church, to become members of the Board. These Board members are then appointed at the Stated Annual Meeting and serve for a period of three years after which they must seek re-election at the next Stated Annual Meeting.

Organisational Structure

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 four times a year.

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

STAFFING:

Minister: Our vacancy has been filled by Rev Joshua Mikelson, who took up his position in July 2015.

Children's and Youth Coordinator: Mrs Suzanne Bunton continues to be 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. The Congregation continues to benefit from Suzanne's input and we continue to see growth in children and youth work. Suzanne continues to do a very valuable job, and her work is much appreciated.

Secretary: Mr Stuart Argo as secretary has proved a very valuable resource for the church and has helped develop the work of the office. His support of the congregation is very much appreciated. The Secretary serves the Minister and congregational groups from the Church Office and acts as Roll Keeper for the congregation.

General Statistics: At 31 December 2015 we had 491 members. To this number 1 member joined by certificate and 2 members joined by resolution. Those removed from the roll included 11 by death, 3 by certificate and 9 otherwise, which left us with 471 members at 31 December 2016. We have 15 male and 21 female Elders and 4 female and 2 male Congregational Board members. There were 5 weddings, 20 funerals, and 3 baptisms.

KIRK SESSION

Session Clerk: Mrs Linda Duguid retired as Session Clerk and this post was filled by Dr Sheila Simpson.

Charity Fund: This is available to Minister for Pastoral Care within the congregation and Parish. The Fund was not used this year.

Stated Annual Meeting: This was held on 29th February 2016.

Attestation of Church Records: This was done by Presbytery on 1st March 2016.

Presbytery Elder: Miss Ann Brown is our Presbytery Elder and makes regular reports to the Kirk Session.

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

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.

Legacies and Gifts: No legacies or substantial gifts were received in 2016

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AREAS OF WORK IN KIRK SESSION

There are seven priorities, which are each served with a Working Group (WG) made up of members of the Kirk Session and members of the congregation who are interested in that area of work. Each WG has its own budget and reports regularly to the Kirk Session.

WORSHIP

We are still worshipping at 10.00am and the service is well attended with a mix of ages.

Joshua has committed himself to every aspect of our church life and his teaching is true to the word of Scripture. Members of the Congregation continue to participate in Worship with reading of Scripture and leading in prayers. There are rotas for both.

There are three elders and Mrs Noel Lord, who is a Reader of the Church of Scotland, who take services when required.

The Church building continues to work well for all the different types of Services held. The Session House is used as a crèche for younger children while older children use the Fellowship area for an Activity Time during the Service.

There are a few new members on the rota for the computer and mixing desk operations.

The Services are recorded and distributed to housebound members, which is greatly appreciated by those unable to attend church. Services are available in audio on our website and G4G (Gospel 4 Grampian) radio station.

Videoed services are also now available on the church website and Facebook pages as a result of the development of our technology facilities in our 'Kemnay Kirk Anytime Anywhere' (KCAA) project.

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

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

Holy Communion: Usually held on the last Sunday of the month.

Communion for Housebound: This is available to members upon request.

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 or choose this form of service.

Marriage Wedding services are offered for those living within the Parish or who may have a family connection with the Parish. This is done in consultation with and consent from the Minister.

Praise Band: There are five members of the Praise Band under the leadership of Mr Jim Buchan. They continue to make a valuable contribution to the music of the Church.

Organists: Miss Isabel Emslie and Mrs Dorothea Adam also make a valuable contribution Sunday by Sunday and playing for funerals and weddings. We are indebted to Mr Michael Christie for arranging regular servicing and generally looking after our organ.

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

CARE

Elders Care Areas: The Congregation is divided into 15 Care Areas, each with two/three elders. There is also a Postal Area.

Bereavement Follow up: The minister passes on information to the Care Group when the funeral is past. The family is visited 2/3 weeks after. If they require further support a member of the Care Group is delegated to arrange further visits, which may be ongoing, but only if that is requested.

Elderly Visits: A small group of elders and members visit those aged over 80.

Hospital Visits: Rev Joshua Mikelson is responsible for Aberdeen Hospitals. Mrs Pam Pashley assists with Aberdeen, Mrs Alison Hunter for Inverurie Hospital and Mrs Muriel Gration for Inch Hospital. We continue to encourage members and parishioners to let us know of people in hospital.

Eventide Home visits: Regular visits are made to those members in Residential Care Homes.

Easter Plants: These are distributed to those in Residential Care Homes through the Care Committee members.

Birthday Cards: A birthday card is also sent out to members who celebrate their 90th birthday and each year thereafter where details are known.

Pastoral Care and Counselling: Counselling is available.

Severe Weather: Members are encouraged to look out for other Church members in their area who may need support and to let their Care Area Elder know.

Year ending 31 December 2016

EDUCATION

Adult activities

Bible Discovery Groups: varied studies and groups meeting Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

Men's Group: This year the group has had a variety of speakers and has been well attended. The audience continues to be diverse, being drawn from Kemnay and other churches and denominations.

Good Morning Group: This well-established group for ladies, and gentlemen on occasion, has been serving the Congregation for some years and draws ladies from other congregations and denominations. It provides a weekly programme of Bible Study and a variety of other topics with times of sharing and prayer. It also responds to needs at home and overseas demonstrating practical care. They support a Milk Distribution Project at Nkhoma, Malawi.

Inverurie Food Bank: Collection baskets are provided at the Church and Church Centre for the local Food Bank and regular deliveries are made to it.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Kaleidoscope: The Space Academy theme continued to June and the children shared what they learned with the congregation on Sundays. This alternative to Sunday School had good leadership and parental support and help, but unfortunately the number of children has reduced to a point where it was no longer viable to run.

Fusion: This group aimed at teenagers, meet on a Sunday evening for pizza, games and Bible study. Fusion have been exploring Youth Alpha and are ably assisted with the help of a number of adults. We now have 12 youngsters coming along on a regular basis.

Badminton: This group have 12 young people ranging from P6 to S3. The group meet during the season at Kemnay Academy and is led by a coach who is assisted by parents.

Morning Service: CATCH (Children at the Church) uses the fellowship area for a time together. The group has four leaders, operating on a rota,. The children enjoy stories, craft and worksheets.

A crèche is available in the Session house, and our youngest children are learning about the Bible through stories and play.

The Word: This group for young people now have 25 to 35 attending the Church Centre on a Friday evening. The leaders and volunteers work hard to build relationships with the young people, through baking, craft, games, and listening to their stories. The Youth Coordinator has worked hard this year to build up our volunteer team and there are now enough to run two sessions every month. At the end of the year we heard the disappointing news that the youth café in the village is now closed, so The Word is now the only youth club operating in the village.

Mainly Music: This group continues to prove popular and has a committed team of volunteers. This group runs on a Friday morning and is aimed at families with pre-school children. This is a music based group with a Christian theme that encourages children to interact with their carers. The meeting ends with a time of fellowship for the carers and volunteers. This group has been very well received with new families connecting with the Church.

Walk through Holy Week: This was a brand new initiative run specifically to engage with the schools. Six classes from the two primary schools were invited along to the Church Centre to experience through drama, craft, video and narrative accounts what happened during the lead up and subsequent death and resurrection of Jesus. The feedback from teachers, pupils and parents was very positive and it is planned to repeat this..

Summer Mission – Aberdeen based Youth for Christ brought along their football cage for 1 week in the summer. It was based at Alehousewells Primary during the day and in the evening was moved to the car park at the Centre. The Word ran for a full week alongside the cage and attracted lots of youngsters, with 40 coming along on the Thursday evening of that week. YFC had a good team of volunteers to man the cage and we had many willing (and sometimes not so willing) volunteers from our own congregation, who helped with manning the event, providing hospitality and prayer support. It was good to have so much support from the congregation, as events as large as these require a lot of manpower to make them a success.

Red Bus: Dyce Church has a converted double decker bus that serves as a mobile youth club. They came along for 5 Mondays in the summer holidays to engage with young people in our community. The bus was sited at various areas in the village, usually next to a green space so we could have games (weather permitting). We had young people of all ages come along and a few parents asking what it was all about. It was a very good resource, and if we had more manpower, would serve as a good outreach project.

Holiday Club; This year, to attract more children from the other side of the village, we hosted the holiday club at the Academy for two days. It was disappointing, as no children came along on the first day, and only a few of our own Catch children came on the second day. Even at the centre, numbers were low but we still had fun as the story of Moses unfolded through games, craft and stories.

Messy Church: We had two Messy Church events this year. A Rainbow party in November, and a Messy Nativity in December. We wanted to encourage families to come along from Mainly Music. Although numbers were not very high, a few new families came and commented on how relaxed and warm the atmosphere was. This was due in no small part, to the team of volunteers who did a great job helping to support this ministry.

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Messy Sheep Trail: This was a quirky idea to engage the whole village around Christmas time. We asked knitters to knit sheep to be hosted by local businesses and other centres in the village. The children from both primary schools, Mainly Music and the toddler groups, were invited to go and “find” our lost sheep. We received more than 60 entries and each participant received a candy cane and card with the story on it. It certainly got the village talking!

WORLD CHURCH

Christian Aid: In 2016 Kemnay Parish Church continued to work with the local Scottish Episcopal Church and the Roman Catholic community in Kemnay to raise funds for Christian Aid. This includes collecting 20p pieces in Smartie tubes, running a Christian Aid shop selling goods donated by the public and Fair Trade goods. A sponsored jog walk also takes place and is supported by adults and children from the local community.

Suffering Church Support: Interest is maintained by regular articles included in the Kirk News. Petitions and letters to M.P.s are promoted as issues arise. A Suffering Church Sunday is marked each November. A church partnership with Open Doors is being considered.

TEARFUND: Support for TEARFUND has continued with information and Prayer Points being publicised. A special presentation for TEARFUND'S appeal for Chad was given at our Harvest Thanksgiving and the sum of £355 was donated. We also donated £550.00 to their No Child Taken Appeal

Shoebox Appeal: The congregation were invited to share in filling Christmas shoeboxes boxes for Blythswood Care and this has been very successful.

Mission Partners: We continue to support our Mission Partners David and Rebecca Morton who are working at Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi. Updates about their work are regularly included in the Kirk News. A number of bags of knitted items for babies have been sent through Gordon Presbytery. The Mortons paid a visit to Kemnay in September.

Partner Church: There have been no recent contacts with our Partner Church in Minyara, Lebanon.

Fair Trade: The congregation continued to support the Fair Trade Initiative in the following ways –

- through magazine material and special services.
- having Fair Trade goods available for sale in the Church Fellowship area
- working with local schools to encourage Fair Trade
- using Fair Trade goods in the Church coffee shop and Church Centre
- selling Fair Trade goods during Christian Aid week.

Scottish Bible Society: We continue to have an opportunity for an active Congregational Contact.

Wycliffe Bible Translators: We continue to follow the career of Jen Wright who finished her service in Congo prior to her marriage to another Wycliffe missionary. After further study and preparation they have now moved to a new location in West Africa.

Samaritan's Purse. Parts of the village were severely affected by flooding in January. A response team from the congregation was mobilised, based at the Centre. They were joined by volunteers from Samaritan's Purse U.K. helping recovery in Donside and Deeside. Subsequently it was agreed that we would become a designated partner 'Lighthouse Church' for Samaritan's Purse to provide a base for them should there ever be a similar need in our area again. Our Christmas Offerings this year were directed to the U.K. work of Samaritan's Purse.

OUTREACH

Ongoing Outreach

Loaves & Fishes

An ongoing outreach path continues through Loaves and Fishes (the Church Centre café), bridging the gap between Church and Community for both customers and volunteers.

During the Kemnay floods in January, the Loaves and Fishes provided practical help with food and shelter to several families whose homes were no longer habitable.

Welcome Teams

The Welcome Teams have warmly greeted all who have visited our Church with a friendly smile and invitation to stay after the service for a cup of tea/coffee and fellowship.

Modern Media

The Publications group merged with Outreach from early in the year as the remit of Outreach grew to include all Modern Media activities including the Kirk News and Church Website.

Kemnay Kirk News

The 10 issues per year of the church magazine are produced by our two editors. We remain greatly indebted to Duncan Downie of Kirkstyle who kindly prints the magazine for no cost to the church. It is then distributed, to homes of the congregation and friends who wish a copy, by elders and a team of helpers. The Kirk News is also available on the church website.

Christmas and Easter cards, with details of the various services, are delivered to every home in the Parish.

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Facebook

The Facebook account for Loaves & Fishes and one for the Church are functioning well, providing a useful interface with the community.

Church Website

The church website has been completely upgraded and now covers all aspects of church life including services, activities and events. www.kemnayparish.church

Kemnay Kirk Anytime Anywhere (KKA)

A major project was undertaken this year to provide video recordings of the Sunday Church Service via the internet. During 2016 the project has been procured, installed and tested. At year end the project was ready to broadcast live but was unable to do so because of the lack of superfast broadband. The initial intended audience was the two local care homes and one sheltered housing complex. Unfortunately, none of them were quite ready to receive the recordings in their public rooms despite the project providing help and guidance. Superfast broadband will be available in January of 2017 which will allow live broadcasting and the three complexes will be ready soon after. The project has, however, been broadcasting video recordings of services via the Church Website. (see <http://kemnayparish.church/wp/webcast/>). Statistics from the video archive service indicate that in the period 1st September 2016 to 31st December 2016 that there have been in total 842 views of archived church services. Of these, 132 were complete views the rest were partial views. The vast majority of viewers have been UK based, some from the USA and over fifty other countries have also viewed services. Members of the congregation have been very enthusiastic about the close-up live video shown on the church screens. The cost of the project has so far been met by grants and donations from the congregation which has been both encouraging and humbling.

Specific Programmes

Street Party

Following the help provided by Loaves and Fishes during the floods of January the manager and youth co-ordinator helped organise a barbeque and children's activities which was appreciated by all who attended.

Alpha/Messy Church

The initial plan to run an Alpha/Messy Church programme in the autumn of 2016 was shelved in favour of a Reframe.

Reframe

This is a new initiative which is scheduled to commence mid-January.

Data Protection Team

Over the course of the last year, the Kirk Session has adopted the Data Protection Policy and Privacy Policy provided by the Church of Scotland and to ensure the data handlers can comply with the document, members of the data protection team have written and reviewed a data handling procedure for all those concerned to read and follow.

The data handling procedure recommends data handlers having an O365 account to conduct their church business to ensure all the documentation including personal data is kept secure and not on their own computer. Members of the kirk session and congregational board have now been offered an account and assistance with set up.

Information on data protection and the Kemnay Parish Church Privacy policy has been put on the Church Website which can be found in the documents folder.

In December 2016 every person on the church roll was contacted by letter . A template letter provided by the Church of Scotland was used to inform people of the personal information held by the church. An opportunity was given to update or add to the information and signed consent was requested. The forms are still being returned to the church office and as a result the church roll is being updated. It was originally understood we would require signed consent from each person on the church roll, however further guidance from the Church of Scotland law department has stated this is no longer required, however this exercise has still been useful and worthwhile.

Child Protection annual report Jan2017

In March 2016 the safeguarding congregational register for Kemnay Parish Church and a completed audit document supplied by 121 George Street was submitted to presbytery - the documentation was found to be in very good order. Following this the child protection panel met in May 2016 to discuss the audit report and make ourselves aware of the 'managing those who pose a risk' policy, and the process the Church of Scotland advises we follow should the church be approached.

Those on the congregational register have all attended Church of Scotland child protection training, however there is training available specifically for the Kirk Session and it is recommended this training is run as part of a Kirk Session meeting and we can invite the trainer along when time allows.

The Kemnay Kirk website contains a safeguarding folder found under the **childrens and youth** heading on the main page of the website. This is maintained by Fiona Gray, the Safeguarding Officer for Kemnay Parish Church.

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AREAS OF WORK IN THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD

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

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

This committee monitors the income and expenditure of the church and continues to look for ways to encourage members and friends to support its work. Stewardship is ongoing and the givings are monitored to ensure that members are reminded of their commitment. Every year a Stewardship Season is held to highlight various Stewardship issues such as the giving of Time, Talent or Money. The main thrust of the Stewardship Season this year was to produce a booklet giving information about the workings and costs associated with Kemnay Kirk. The booklet was used to encourage everyone to prayerfully consider their commitment to Kemnay Kirk. This was well received and as a result, a number of people have changed the way they give money, many opting for regular giving such as standing orders or envelopes. Updated Gift Aid forms were also returned during this period.

General Treasurer: Although Mr Ian Rigby had given notice that he would like to stand down as our treasurer, no replacement has been found. Ian has agreed to stay on as Treasurer meantime.

Dr Sheila Simpson is Treasurer for the Church Centre and Mrs. Fiona Lister as part of her role of Manager is Treasurer for Loaves and Fishes.

SOCIAL

The beginning of the year saw the Social Committee organise a very well attended Burns Supper. Because of the work involved it was decided that we would not be able to make this an annual event.

We like to have Shared Lunches over the year and in 2016 we had one on 29th May and later on 21st August for Jen Wright and her husband coming.

A wonderful success was the Tea Dance on 12th November with a Wartime theme. About 70 people attended having made great efforts to embrace the theme - soldier outfits, 1940 dresses and child evacuees and The Andrews Sisters - finishing off with a hearty 1940s singalong with Mrs Mary MacKay.

The Christmas Readings and Carols service was well attended. The Social Committee went into the Community inviting groups and individuals to come along. There was a lovely sociable feeling at the end when people stayed and chatted with Tea and Mulled Wine with mincemeat pies.

PROPERTY

A new Property Management Committee has been established retaining key members from the previous Fabric Committee along with additional members who bring appropriate skills. The new team is responsible for the maintenance of the Kirk, Church Centre and Manse. A formal property inspection has been recently carried out. Although some remedial work is required, the buildings are in good order and furnished to a high standard. An annual budget is established for the servicing and maintenance of the Kirk and Manse. The Church Centre has its own management team but liaises with the property committee on matters concerning repair and maintenance.

CHURCH CENTRE

The Church Centre continues to be the focus for church related meetings and activities as well as accommodating a variety of external user groups. The management team meets regularly to address operational matters, financial reports, health and safety issues, and bookings for regular and occasional use. The financial contribution from the Loaves and Fishes coffee shop continues to provide the major element of our income but an increase from regular and ad-hoc bookings over the past year has helped.

Significant improvements have been made to the paths at the Centre and we are very grateful to some volunteers who have been clearing, pruning and generally tending to the shrubbery and, in particular, the Easter Garden.

The management team is always keen to ensure that those making use of the Church Centre find it a welcoming place and that the facilities meet with their requirements. Customer feedback continues to be very positive.

The matter of Health and Safety is important in all our buildings but particularly so in the Church Centre with so many activities taking place. Both external and church groups are required to carry out risk assessments for all their activities. Our Health and Safety Coordinator provides guidance on such matters.

The Church Office is located in the Centre where our secretary deals with church administration matters. In addition, the secretary responds to booking enquiries, issues the appropriate paperwork, and maintains the booking schedule for the Centre.

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OTHER MATTERS

Prayer life of the Congregation:

- A Prayer Chain is available to all, and gives contact names. When Prayers are received, these are passed on by email or phone.
- A Prayer Box is available at the Church Centre for people to leave prayer requests. These are passed down the Prayer Chain.
- A Monthly Prayer Calendar is compiled and issued with the Kirk News magazine to the congregation and now also posted daily on the Church's Facebook page.
- Prayer requests can be given to the Minister before the start of a service.
- Each working group and committee is encouraged to pray about their work and the wider work of the congregation and Church.

Working with other denominations: We work very closely with St Anne's Episcopal Church with some representatives invited on to our working Groups. A member of the Vestry attends our Session meetings and a member of the Session attends their Vestry. We also work with the Roman Catholic community in Kemnay.

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Community groups: Many church members are supportive of community groups and often take positions of responsibility.

Charities supported: Christian Aid is well supported by the Congregation along with the other denominations in the village. The October Harvest Thanksgiving Service supported TEARFUND. Poppy Scotland was supported through a retiring collection and with more money being raised in the Loaves and Fishes Coffee Shop. The Christmas appeal was made for U K Samaritans' Purse. The Men's Group also donated to a number of charities.

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

Church Centre flowers: These are constantly renewed and decorations are made for special occasions.

Loaves and Fishes: We continue to provide a very good service to the community, which is shown by the number of people who return regularly. A number of new volunteers have joined the team and a part-time paid Manager continues in post.

Loaves and Fishes Fund: No awards were made this year

The Loaves and Fishes charity box is also available throughout the year for customers to make donations for the ongoing work of Loaves and Fishes.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEW INITIATIVES

New Formats for Worship: In the coming year, it is the intention of the minister together with the worship committee to continue the exploration of new ways of engaging in Christian worship. The hope is that offering worship in different formats, styles, and times will help to draw in those who wish to grow in their faith, but who wish to do so in a less structured/traditional worship environment. Most if not all of these alternative/non-traditional services would take place outside of Sunday morning worship. In 2017, focus is also being given to the importance of Christian Discipleship, and one way that focus has taken form is in the Reframe Initiative on Sunday mornings. From 15 January until 19 March 2017, worship will be held at 9:30 a.m., with Reframe being held at 10:45 at the church centre for a total of ten Sundays.

Recording of Services: In 2017, Kemnay Parish Church will continue to record and broadcast its services via the internet, with the **potential** for live streaming in the future.

Presbytery Plan: Vicky Stigant (youth work facilitator for Gordon Presbytery) is continuing to grow and organize a Youth Leaders Network for Presbytery. The intent is to have two gatherings every six to eight weeks, with one gathering in the western part of presbytery, and one gathering in the eastern part of presbytery. Hopefully the existing connections between churches (especially those in the same area group) will be utilised to facilitate this important work.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal source of income to the General Fund is derived from Congregational giving which was received through standing orders (63%), envelopes (27%) and through open plate (10%). Our overall giving this year has sadly decreased by 3.5%. This is due mainly to the loss of a couple of large givers who have moved from the area and also the deaths of members. Currently 73% of our income is Gift Aided, meaning that we have been able to claim back £11,719 from HMRC with an additional £1,250 under the new Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GADS). We try and encourage as many of those who are eligible, to subscribe to the Gift Aid Scheme. Unfortunately our expenditure continues to increase and this is not matched by any significant increase in income.

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

All our surplus funds are held with The Church of Scotland Investment Trust.

Overall, we are in good health financially meantime, although our costs continue to rise more than the increase in our Congregational Giving.

RESERVES POLICY

It is the Trustees' policy to hold a Reserve Fund of £50,000 (excluding designated fund) for future events and to hold liquid funds to cover approximately six months expenditure. At the year end the Church held unrestricted cash funds of £72,084 of which £2,525 had been designated for Church Centre Funds; £3,205 for Loaves and Fishes Fund; £45,932 for Equipment Replacement, £8,057 in the Reserve Fund and £4,129 designated for special projects. The remaining balance of £8,236 is held in the General Fund. The Church also holds £10,452 of restricted funds and an investment of £30,002 with the Church of Scotland Investment Trust Growth Fund.

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITY

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures and disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.

By Dr Sheila A Simpson

Session Clerk

Date 21st February 2017