

## Golspie Free Church of Scotland - 3 Monthly Report October – December 2017

With the Lords help and the goodness of His provision, we seek to honour our commitment to Him to the best of our ability.

The ongoing work in Golspie Free Church has continued to witness the blessing of God upon it. This is the grateful opinion of Minister and Office Bearers.

Financially, the congregation have continued to meet their target commitments. Although the new financial arrangement was a big step up for them, they have, with God's help, met that challenge. (When the accounts for 2017 have been audited, accurate figures will be available for the April report) It is to be noted with thanks that individuals from the community have expressed their support for GFC and we have welcomed the contributions that have been offered from that quarter.

Attendance has also increased. This has resulted from people joining the congregation, and also because others have wanted to come along to one of the services. The service format has changed recently in the hope that it will be more interesting for people that do visit.

### Figures for last 3 months:

Attendance figures: Morning Evening

October 1 <sup>st</sup>	46	17
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	27	15
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	34	18
October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	34	20
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	34	60
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	38	15
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	28	16
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	34	14
November 26 <sup>th</sup>	34	met elsewhere
December 3 <sup>rd</sup>	36	19
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	29	10
December 17 <sup>th</sup>	34	67
December 24 <sup>th</sup>	43	24
December 31 <sup>st</sup>	24	no service.

### Oct-Dec

Av attend 2017      34                      24.5

(Av attend 2016      27.5                      18)

These figures are mainly adults as the Sunday School currently ranges between 1 and 3 children

It has been possible, thanks to the providence of God, to appoint new office bearers. There are 2 new Elders, 1 new Deacon, and another who is in the process of becoming a member and Elder.

The weekly services are ongoing and the new format has been received in a positive manner. We are continuing with the 'Songs of Praise' which has also been favourably received by those attending from the congregation and community. The communion services were held in November and taken by Rev Duncan Peters. There were 9 new members admitted to the congregation.

The Kirk Session are beginning to work out the 3-year development plan of which the above is just the start. Other initiatives will take place during 2018 and be announced as they occur.

Rev Eric Paterson would like to personally thank the people in Golspie, and all the many other people who supported himself, his family, and the congregation last year. Your support was most humbling and greatly appreciated. With this in mind, the congregation plans to have an open day and thanksgiving event in the near future where Eric intends to personally thank as many as is possible.

The minister and congregation look forward to updating all interested parties with their next report in April.