

Session Report

At the recent Session meeting we discussed the following items.

Innes Duncan has been invited by the Gala Day Committee to attend the event as a representative of the kirk.

It was agreed to hold a Gala Day Café. In order to comply with Health & Safety requirements, only bought sealed items will be provided, with customers pouring their own tea and coffee from flasks.

We hope to hold an evening to feature the songs written by the congregation, inviting our sister congregations as well as the other local churches to attend.

With regard to the planned union, the conference of Sessions and Boards of the four congregations had gone well with no dissent expressed.

The Basis of Union document was discussed. The restrictions on a permitted possible name is proving a problem, as there are no obvious linking geographical features. 'Avon Valley Church' has been suggested, with each location being named underneath on its own noticeboards.

The Liaison Committee would like to ask elders to consider their future roles in the new union. The new union will have a unitary constitution. A Session of 150 elders would be unmanageable.

The decision is still awaited re the future of Avonbridge Church.

Prof A Small is arranging to hold this Christian Aid book sale in the different Linlithgow Churches in September, the large one in Edinburgh now having stopped. As well as asking for support and volunteers, he is looking for storage for the books. It was agreed that the west gallery could be used.

Oleg Dmitriev would like to hold a meeting to explain about his charity, Sunflower Scotland. The possibility of a Ukrainian cultural evening was also agreed.

It is hoped to publicise Christian Aid's digital envelope.

St Michael's have a new Community Audit Worker (funded centrally) who will be in touch with the three other congregations soon.

Innes Duncan, Session Clerk. May 2024