



Morning service on Sundays at 11 a.m.

***N.B.: Joint Service at North Church
27 September, 25 October, & 22 November at 10.30 a.m.***

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US

Letter from Eddie McKenna, Interim Moderator

Dear Friends of St Leonards-in the Fields,

On behalf of the Kirk Session, I am writing to you today to update you on the plan to Union with Perth North with dates and the process to that point.

Earlier this month the Title Deeds of the Church, were formally transferred to the General Trustees of the General Assembly, they were accepted and the building will now proceed to sale in due course.

Meetings have taken place by representatives of St- Leonards-in-the- Fields and Perth North Kirk Sessions and the Basis of Union has now been accepted by the relevant church parties and cannot now be changed.

This basis of Union is now ready to be put to both congregations and is added to this letter for you to see.

Church representatives have also met with representatives of the Church of Scotland regarding the movement of certain items from St Leonards to Perth North.

Items which MUST go are:

- All pulpit falls & bookmarks
- 2 war memorials in the church & the lectern in the hall which has a war memorial plaque on it
- All communion ware incl. minister's small travelling communion set
- Alms dish in front of communion table
- Archive material (selected)

It was further agreed the following items will be transferred:

- Communion table
- Minister's chair behind communion table
- Plaque with shackles (above rear door)
- Font

- Guild China
- Small table-top lectern from hall
- Various small crosses

Other matters

The Electoral register, which is updated from the Communion Roll, will be made up in advance of the Vote.

Votes

1. The Kirk Session will vote on the Basis of Union on **Tuesday 15th September**.
(Perth North Kirk Session meet the same night.)
2. The Congregation will meet to vote on the Basis of Union on **Sunday 20th September**
(Perth North Congregation will also vote on the same Night.)
3. In St Leonards the congregation will have **TWO votes**
 - 1 On the Basis of Union itself.
 - 2: On accepting the Rev Kenny Stott as their Minister.

If the Votes are Yes to the Union, and Presbytery approves the decisions, then the Union will take place on **Tuesday 17th November 2026**.

Our last service for regular worship will be on **Sunday 15th November** which will be a Thanksgiving and Closing-Service, a light lunch will be held in the Hall after the Service. This will be my last service as your Interim Moderator.

Sunday 22nd November would be the first service of the united congregation at Perth North.

Update from the Session Clerks.

Eddie has provided an up-to-date account of the considerable work that has been going on, to allow us to continue on our journey to Union with Perth North Church. He has also highlighted important dates and actions that have to take place over the next few weeks. (A full list of dates is provided at the end of this newsletter). We look for your continued support as we approach each event.

We want to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to Eddie for everything that he has done for our congregation. Taking over the role as Interim Moderator at a time when we were experiencing many challenges was not an easy task. He has been beside us all the way, leading our worship and steering us in the right direction. Thank you, Eddie, we will not forget the care and support you have shown us. It is also appropriate to thank everyone else who has led our worship each Sunday over the past few years. Too many names to detail, but we thank them all.

Beryl Smeaton recently stepped back from her role as Session Clerk. Since taking over our roles as joint Session Clerks, we have quickly realised the amount of work that a Session Clerk has to carry out. Beryl, we are not sure how you managed to fit everything in as well as having your own personal time, but on behalf of the entire congregation of St Leonards in the Fields, thank you for everything you have done for us all. It is greatly appreciated. We know you continue to devote so much of your time to the church, in so many other ways.

Gift Aid

Assuming everything goes as expected, there will be some updates required. However, we will contact everyone who currently contributes through the Gift Aid scheme, in due course. If you do have any questions at this time, please contact Jim.

If anyone has any questions on our move to Union, or indeed any other church related matters, we are both available by phone or email, (contact details below), but can we ask that you try and contact Jim in the first instance.

As mentioned earlier, a list of important dates now follows.

Jim Granger - jim.granger57@gmail.com 07896771850

David Lindsay - david@dlpltd.com 07850707474.

Joint Session Clerks

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday 6th September - First reading of a short Edict at the end of the service. *Rev E. McKenna*

Sunday 13th September - Second reading of the Edict at the end of the service. *David Johnston*

Tuesday 15th September - Kirk Session Meeting and a vote to be held on the Union in the presence of Presbytery.

Sunday 20th September - Congregation will vote on the Union, in the presence of Presbytery representatives. *Rev E McKenna*

Sunday 27th September - Joint service at Perth North Church.

Sunday 4th October - Harvest Thanksgiving. *Rev A. Graham*

Sunday 11th October - Christian Aid soup and bread lunch. *Rev Donna Heys*

Sunday 18th October - Communion service. *Rev E. McKenna*

Sunday 25th October - Joint service at Perth North Church.

Sunday 1st November - Normal Sunday service. *Rev A. Graham*

Sunday 8th November - Remembrance Service *Rev E. McKenna*

Sunday 15th November - Thanksgiving and Closing Service. Light lunch to be held in the hall after the service. *Rev E. McKenna*

Tuesday 17th November - Service for the Union. Evening service, Perth North Church (Time to be advised).

Sunday 22nd November - First Sunday service of the united congregations at Perth North Church

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH

BASIS OF UNION:

Perth North and Perth St. Leonard's-in-the-Fields

The congregation of Perth North, Church of Scotland (Scottish Charity No. SC013014) and the congregation of Perth St. Leonard's-in-the-Fields Church of Scotland (Scottish Charity No. SC002919) shall be united on 17th November 2026.

The union will take effect on the following terms and conditions:

1. **Name:** The name of the united charge shall be Perth North, Church of Scotland; and Scottish Charity No. SC013014 will be retained.
2. **Transfer of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to, or held on behalf of, each congregation shall belong to, or be held on behalf of, the united charge, and any necessary transfer shall be duly made.
3. **Place of Worship:**
 - (a) The church at present used and occupied by the congregation of Perth North shall be the place of worship of the united charge.
 - (b) The church at present used and occupied by the congregation of St. Leonard's-in-the-Fields shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the titles on which it is held, and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, of the General Trustees or the General Assembly.
 - (c) The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall: (a) if falling within the scope of the Church of Scotland General Trustees (Properties, Funds and Endowments) Act (Act 5, 2024) be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund; or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.
 - (d) Until the sale, let or disposal of St. Leonard's-in-the-Fields church building is completed, which shall be as soon as is practicable, it shall be used as an additional place of worship of the united congregation on at least one Sunday each month, on dates and times to be decided by the Minister and the Kirk Session.
4. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be designated as the combined parishes of both congregations.

5. **Kirk Session:** The elders of both Kirk Sessions shall form, with the minister, the Kirk Session of the united charge.
6. **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of the united congregation shall be administered by the Kirk Session in terms of the Unitary Constitution. The Delegation of Assembly will issue the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the congregation.
7. **Minister:** The Rev Kenneth Stott currently minister at Perth North, shall be the minister of the united charge in terms of section 8.2 of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 2021).
8. **Manse:** The manse of the congregation of Perth North shall be the manse of the united charge.
9. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
10. **Power to Readjust:** While these terms and conditions shall form the Basis of Union for the two congregations now uniting, the united charge shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.