

INTERIM MODERATOR'S LETTER

"I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity,----plans to bring about the future you hope for." Jeremiah 29: 11

Dear Friends,

I am so pleased to confirm all that has occurred over the last week or so, the vote for Rev. Elspeth McKay was successful and she has accepted. The Call has gone out and by the time you read this will have reached Presbytery so that the next part of the process can go ahead. If all goes as planned there will be an Induction Service in Cumbernauld Old on the 3rd August. This is a Thursday evening [as all Presbytery Services are] and will be a joint service; you will all be informed nearer the time.

I would like to thank the Nominating Committee for their diligence and hard work in the process leading up to Sunday 30th April. There were so many decisions to be made and meetings to attend and each was done prayerfully and with such good heart. Their work is now completed and they have effectively been disbanded since the 30th April and again many thanks to each one.

So now we all embark on a new journey, a new direction for the Church here in Cumbernauld. I vaguely remember my first letter to you all reminding you that God has His plan for you and that He was preparing the new Minister and the Church to come together. This has been my thought throughout and I have a feeling that our patience and faith has been rewarded.

I must say that I thought that Elspeth looked very at home in the church and that everyone felt that a friend had come among them. Let us give thanks to God for His Blessing and His Guidance through the last 18 months.

This means that this will be my last letter to you as your Interim Moderator as I will be dismissed on the 3rd August at the Induction. It has been a great experience for me and I have had the privilege of working with you all at Cumbernauld Old. There have been changes and many have had an insight into the work of a minister and now have found talents that they did not know they had. God had plans for all of us and has grown each one of us in all different kinds of directions for which we can only be thankful. What strikes me most about the congregation is the kind and thoughtful way people relate to each other and to the larger community. It is a lovely feature of the church and is most encouraging for not only the present but also the future of the church.

I wish to thank everyone for their help and support throughout our time together, Brian Smillie for all his help and support, Val Cuthbertson for her Pastoral Care and her work which provided continuity throughout the Vacancy, Marion Perry for her work as Locum, and the members of the Kirk Session and Congregational Board for their continued work always with the good of the church at heart.

May God Bless You All,
Grace Saunders
Interim Moderator