



Background

The following mission plan is the result of a process of consultation, research, study and prayer throughout 2009. The main elements of this process were:

- an elders conference, with invited members of the congregation, in January
- a congregational 'vision casting' day in March
- special session meetings, with invited members of the congregation, focussed on pastoral care, worship and mission in March, April and May
- a research project on "Youth, Family and Community" carried out by Jenny McGarvey

Reports of each of these are available from Peter and will be on the website.

Our Vision

The overall vision of Garnerville is to promote the 5 E's: to Exalt, Equip, Evangelize, Encourage and Edify.

The process throughout 2009 highlighted several dreams for the future, which can be summarised as follows:

- inward focus: we want to see more people coming into relationship with God and joining our fellowship. We want to be attracting and welcoming people and then integrating them into the life of the church.
- outward focus: we want to be good news in the community in which we are located and in the places we live and work as individuals. We want to be involved in acts of witness to the gospel as well as acts of service.
- staffing: we have a dream of being able to employ personnel to develop new ministries and release existing members to serve in the community and church family.

Some Principles

Through the process several principles for our mission have emerged:

- it is God's mission, not ours. We need to have God and a focus on him.
- God is concerned about every aspect of human life: spiritual, physical and social. We are therefore called to a mission that involves witness to the gospel as well as acts of service and involvement.
- we need to meet people on common ground – not just asking them to come to us, but us going to them.
- we need to earn respect and build trust with people – this takes time, effort and patience.
- we need to find ways to incorporate people into the life of the church.
- we should be more concerned about people coming into relationship with God than on bringing them to Garnerville. Mission is not the same as recruitment!
- there is small core of people who are very involved and cannot take on new activities. We will therefore not start any new activities unless a) some existing activities are stopped, or b) new people are found to run the new activity, or c) people already involved in activities are released by new people taking over their existing roles.

Who Are We?

Garnerville Presbyterian church was the brain child of the Rev. Dr. Hyndhan, minister of Belmont Presbyterian Church. He foresaw the potential church development in the Garnerville area whenever the prefab dwellings were being built on the Garnerville Road.

In 1950 Garnerville Church was born, and just like the Nativity, our church started in a stable in the ground of the old Garnerville house for a rental of 10 pounds per annum from the Education Board.

On Saturday 4th November, the church was dedicated by then the Moderator Rev. David Dowling. The first year's income was 90 pounds.

In 1952 our church moved to a site where the Joss Cardwell centre now stands. They obtained the temporary hall that St. Andrews church had occupied while their new church was under construction. The stable was still used for Sunday school and youth work. On the 1st February 1953, the Rev. J.S.P. Black took his first service with his new congregation. On a census taken there was approximately 150 families attending and organisations included Sunday School, Brownies, Guides, Life Boys, Boys Brigade, Workers Group, Youth Club, Guild and Men's Club.

However, we were running out of space and eventually in November 1959 the Black family donated a fairly large site at the corner of Old Holywood Road and Glenmachan Road. It was still a few years before the foundation stones were laid on the, 16th May 1964.

On the 4th September 1965, the church was fittingly opened by Mrs Grace Black. The total cost for the new church building was Thirty five Thousand pounds which was paid by the Church Extension committee as a free gift.

The church continued to develop under the ministry of the Rev. Cecil Courtney, Rev. Joan Barr/Scott and the Rev. Richard Hill

We now move on 45 years to present day 2010. Our minister is the Rev Peter McDowell who has entered into the second year of his charge at Garnerville and we hope he feels very much at home in our congregation.

There are currently 240 families associated with our church with the Girls Brigade being the only uniformed organisation. Other groups range from Child's Play, P.W. and The Friendly Club all of which certainly accommodate all ages and needs within the congregation.

We also have close association with The Church of the Annunciation, Knocknagoney Primary School and the Glenluce Trust to which some of our congregation serve on the Board of Governors.

We are fortunate to have Patricia Cope join us from the Young Adults Volunteers U.S.A. scheme for this year. She has been very active in both the primary school and community centre in our area whilst undoubtedly enhancing our fellowship. We hope this will help us tackle the lack of outreach within our local community, and have an impact on attendances from the 18 – 40 age group.

We are very excited at the prospect of the ordination of 7 new elders in April of this year. Who are all outstanding personalities within our congregation. Two of which, for the first time are in their mid twenties, Karen Kerr and Jenny M^cGarvey (we know they will be encouraging the youth within our church and community.)

It will be uplifting having new and refreshing input, at all future Elders Meetings.

We are extremely blessed to have such gifted people who work together, tirelessly for the good of Garnerville Presbyterian Church. Their love and dedication to doing and living Gods vision will surely reap its rewards in the years to come.

Without being too complacent, we feel we are in an optimistic position, and our mission is to always enhance the word and deeds of the Lord into our local community.

Congregational Mission Plan

September 2010 to August 2015

Introduction

Garnerville Presbyterian Church's **mission statement** is to;

Promote the five Es, to Exalt, Equip, Evangelise, Encourage and Edify

To help us achieve this mission statement, a mission plan has been devised with three key themes as follows;

- Our Church;
- Our Community
- Our World

5 year Objectives

Garnerville Presbyterian Church has set itself a number of 5 year objectives as the central element of this plan. These 5 year objectives, i.e., to be in place by September 2015 as measured against September 2010, are;

Our church	Our community	Our world
<p>To develop fellowship within the church across all ages and to achieve a greater involvement in church activities, both spiritual and social</p> <p>To help people grow in service and witness</p> <p>To help equip each other for Christian living in the world</p>	<p>To increase the number of people in Knocknagoney/Garnerville with an association with the church</p> <p>To increase the visibility and reputation of the church in Knocknagoney/Garnerville</p> <p>To have a programme of activities that meets both the social and spiritual needs of the wider community</p>	<p>To continue to support projects in Ecuador, Nepal, Jamaica and the wider world;</p> <p>To support projects in Ireland including Presbyterian Orphans and the Board of Mission in Ireland</p>

Annual Plans

To support these 5 year objectives an annual plan will be drawn up. The first plan covers the year **September 2010 to August 2011**. The plan has two main objectives during this year which fit across all themes. These are to;

1. Undertake a feasibility study during 2010 to determine whether a church/family worker could be employed. If the study considers this is feasible we will put in place plans to enable employment to begin during 2011/12; and
2. To celebrate Garnerville's 60th birthday;

Objective number 1 will be taken forward by a special Committee set up for this purpose chaired by the Minister.

Objective number 2 will be carried forward by a Committee (already in place) to consider events to celebrate this landmark.

These 2 main objectives will be supported by a series of actions across the three themes as set out below:

Theme: Our church

Target area	Action	Who	Progress
To develop fellowship within the church across all ages and to achieve a wider involvement among the congregation and beyond in church activities, both spiritual and social	<p>Have a special “bring your neighbour/relative/friend/absentee to church Sunday” day during 2010</p> <p>Provide a church welcome pack to each new member</p> <p>To develop a boys organisation</p>	<p>Kirk session to organise but involve whole church</p> <p>Sub-group of Committee</p> <p>Youth Council to consider and put forward options</p>	
To help people grow in service and witness	<p>To develop a strategy for moving people into membership of the church</p> <p>Hold communion class in Spring 2011</p> <p>Hold 2 short sets of Sunday evening events in autumn 2010 and spring 2011</p>	<p>Kirk Session led by Minister</p> <p>Peter</p> <p>Worship Committee</p>	
To help equip each other for Christian living in the world	<p>Consideration to be given to this topic in preparation of services, fellowship groups programmes etc.</p>	<p>Peter</p>	

Theme: Our community

Target	Action	Who	Progress
To increase the number of people in Knocknagoney/Garnerville with an association with the church	Hold a "visit your church" day in 2011 targeted at the local community.		
To increase the visibility and reputation of the church in Knocknagoney/Garnerville	Seek a further volunteer from USA Sing carols at Tesco's Knocknagoney December 2010	Minister via PCI/Doug Baker Musical Director and choir	
To have a programme of activities that meets both the social and spiritual needs of the wider community	Hold an experimental church service "service" in local community location Draw up a skills register of people within the church that could be put to practical use within the community Introduce a be-friending project for older people in the local community	Minister to take lead but involve others as required. Tom Talks??	

Theme: Our World

Target	Action	Who	Progress
To continue to support projects in Ecuador, Nepal, Jamaica and the wider world	Select and support projects for Harvest 2010. Hold Christian Aid door to door collection in May 2011 To publicise within church FoG sponsorship of child in Ethiopia	Kirk Session David McCullough FoG leaders	
To support projects in Ireland including Presbyterian Orphans and the Board of Mission in Ireland	To maintain the 2009 level of giving to the United Appeal and Presbyterian Orphan Society	Finance sub-group within Committee	

In May 2011 Session will review the 2010/11 plan. From this review, a new annual plan for 2011/12 will be drawn up. This plan will take what has worked well in the 2010/11 plan and develop this further but where success has been more elusive, the activity will be either re-worked, scaled down, or if appropriate ceased. The 2011/12 plan will be agreed by June 2011