

Vestry & Trustees Update - August 2017

After the summer break, the vestry and trustees met on Monday 28th August. Before Vestry minutes are agreed we want to update you on some things we are implementing now and in the near future. We plan on making this a regular communication following vestry meetings.

1. The congregation of St Thomas are invited to participate in a programme called “40 Days of Discernment” from 1st October to 12th November. This is to facilitate us prayerfully listening to what the Lord is saying in terms of our relationship with the Scottish Episcopal Church following the introduction of same-sex marriage to its canon law and liturgy. More details to follow.
2. We are delighted that Mike Turner has accepted appointment to vestry for a period of three years. Mike is married to Diedra and they have twin school-age boys, Masen and Malek.
3. We are seeking two paid interns, one to help with music in worship, the other to assist with youth and children.
4. As part of our commitment to work with other churches, St Thomas’ is becoming a member congregation of the East of Scotland Gospel Partnership. The Partnership is a coalition of like-minded gospel churches that seek to partner together in glorifying God.
Find out more about the Partnership at <http://www.eosgp.org>:
The partnership is made up of a broad range of churches from different backgrounds, there are Independent Churches, Presbyterian Churches and New Frontiers Churches.
There are churches in the city centre, in the suburbs and in outlying communities. There are affluent churches, churches in housing schemes and others in between. The gospel partnership is a rich tapestry of different churches all woven together out of our love for the Lord Jesus and our desire to make him known in the East of Scotland.

5. A new “intelligent glass” screen and projector is to be installed in the chancel. The white screen will be replaced by a new banner at some point. This will provide us with better presentation equipment and aesthetics.
6. New cupboards are to be fitted where the old PA desk was situated. This will provide space for the flower team and the books currently stored on shelves. It will also provide surfaces that can be used to serve refreshments.
7. We have planning permission for new notice boards outside the church. The plan is that these will enhance our external advertising and be easier to read for people passing by.