Kilsyth Community Church
Low Craigends
Kilsyth G65 0BH
Tel: 01236 822252
Office@kilsythcommunitychurch.com
Scottish Charity Number SCO48698

Annual Report – 2026 for 2025

2025 was a significant year of change and development for the church, with a number of important decisions made to ensure the ongoing sustainability and effectiveness of our work within the church and the wider community.

In January 2025, the process of transitioning from a charitable organisation to a *Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)* was successfully completed. This marked an important milestone in the development and governance of the church.

Throughout the year, we continued to employ an **Intentional Interim Pastor**. This appointment has been very successful and has provided valuable leadership and encouragement during a period of transition. We have continued to see encouraging growth in church attendance and engagement throughout the year.

There were also a number of difficult decisions relating to our community activities and services. In April 2025, staff were informed of the decision to close our *Out of School Club*, which subsequently closed in June. This decision was primarily due to the resignation of the Club Manager and the ongoing difficulty in recruiting a suitable replacement. In addition, attendance numbers had been declining and the club was no longer financially sustainable. This was a difficult decision, which resulted in all members of staff being made redundant.

In September 2025, we also made the difficult decision to close *Café Refresh*, which had served the local community for approximately 20 years. The café had consistently operated at a financial loss for over a year, largely as a result of increasing food and electricity costs. The closure resulted in the redundancy of all café staff and was a particularly difficult decision given the important role the café had played within the local community. As the building remains the property of the church, we intend to consider how the space can be repurposed to benefit the church and wider community in the future.

Alongside these challenges, we have continued to see positive development across our community activities.

Our **Allsortz programme** continued to develop, providing opportunities for people to share their skills, learn from one another and participate in a wide range of activities. The programme continues to provide an important opportunity for connection, friendship and community engagement.

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Our *Mother and Toddler group* also continued to grow during the year and is now operating at full capacity, meeting weekly and providing a welcoming environment for local families.

Our *Community Café* continued to thrive throughout 2025. Attendance steadily increased, with more people from the local community making use of the café as a safe and welcoming space. The café provides opportunities for people to enjoy homemade food, meet others and build meaningful relationships within the community.

Despite the challenges and difficult decisions faced during the year, the church remains in a positive and stable position. We are grateful for the continued commitment of our staff, volunteers and church members, and for the many opportunities we have to serve and engage with our local community.

As we look ahead, we do so with hope and confidence for the future. We look forward to continuing to grow as a church, strengthening our community connections and seeing the work of the church develop in the years ahead.



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