

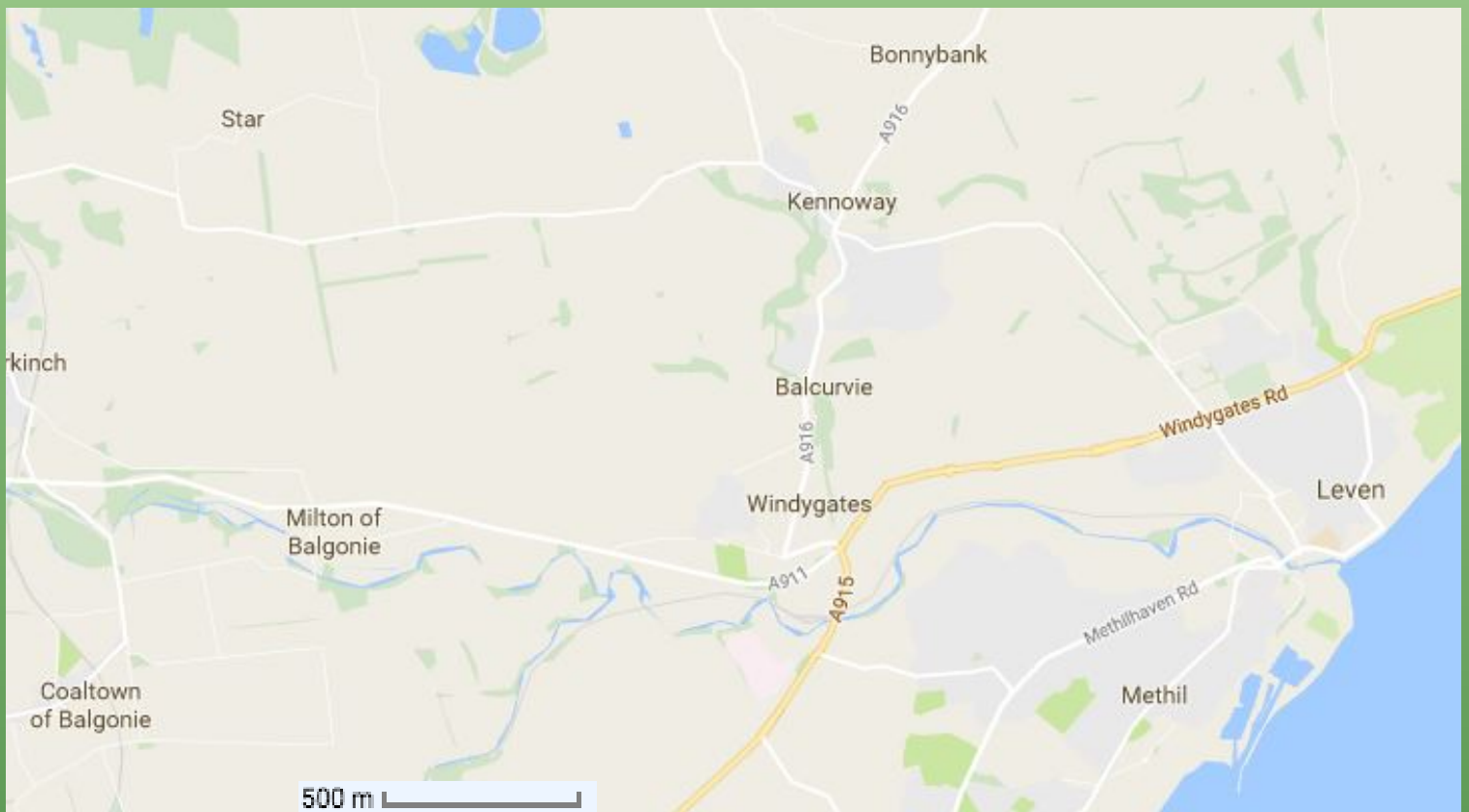
A photograph of St. Kenneth's Church, a large brick building with a prominent steeple on the left side. The church has Gothic-style windows and a large arched entrance. The sky is clear and blue. The text is overlaid on the image.

ST KENNETH'S CHURCH PARISH PROFILE

**KENNOWAY, WINDYGATES
& BALGONIE**

INTRODUCTION

St Kenneth's is a parish in Fife, situated between the more industrial parts of central Fife and the more rural area of north-east Fife. St Kenneth's serves the communities of Kennoway, Windygates, Milton of Balgonie and Star of Markinch.



HISTORY

The earliest known 'church' in Kennoway was thought to date back to St Kenneth who first preached the Christian faith in the East of Fife in the 6th century AD. In 1619 the original old stone parish church was built and completed in the Causeway but after falling into disrepair the congregation moved to the present Norman style building in 1850. In 1975 the Arnot Church united with the Old Parish Church to form the Church of Scotland, Kennoway. The present building underwent a major refurbishment programme in 1994 providing the congregation with a flexible worship space.

A missionary church was established in Windygates by the United Free Church in 1917 and the congregation were allowed to call their own minister. The present Church was built in 1926.

The Church at Milton of Balgonie was founded in 1836/37 and in 1956 the Church at Milton of Balgonie united with Windygates to become Windygates Balgonie Church. In 1996 both churches in Kennoway and Windygates became vacant, and in 1997 entered into a union, forming the present united congregation, St Kenneth's Parish Church.

The Church at Kennoway's historic connections are recognised by it being a part of the new Fife Pilgrim Way.



Eighteenth Century Kennoway communion tokens.

LOCATION

Kennoway is the largest of the four communities making up St Kenneth's and like the other villages has seen a marked expansion of private house building over the last few years and this has increased the number of families with young children in the community. Kennoway, in particular, suffers from pockets of significant deprivation and social exclusion and there are a significant number of single person and lone parent households. The population distribution is slightly skewed towards mature adults and elderly people compared to the national average mainly due to the high influx of working families in the 1950's.

Kennoway Church



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE



As one family we are committed to:

- Worshipping God joyfully and seeking His will.
- Encouraging and nurturing the faith of all ages by prayer, fellowship and learning together.
- Spreading the love of Jesus by sharing the good news and caring for others.
- Serving our community and supporting God's work throughout the world.

To these ends we will pray faithfully, remain open to the Spirit's leading and give freely of our time, talents and resources.

WORSHIP



There are currently two places of worship, Kennoway and Windygates with weekly Sunday services in both places, Windygates, 9 45am, Kennoway, 11 15am. Communion is celebrated three times a year in both Churches as well as at Easter.

There is also a monthly service in Star village Hall on the 2nd Sunday at 11 15am.

Sunday School is available at both Churches during term time although numbers have dropped significantly over the last few years. However, Messy Church held monthly has proved popular with children and their parents or carers and allows participation in a range of craft activities and games in the hall, with songs and a story in the Church then a meal together back in the hall.

Throughout the year there are many opportunities for other forms of worship.

Welcome to Worship (WOW) is a monthly service where people with learning difficulties can come together to share in activities and worship together.

A weekly prayer meeting takes place at both Kennoway and Windygates Churches.

Soul Space is a recent development led by a team providing an opportunity to explore, reflect, pray, to find peace, stillness and reflection and relax in God's presence.

Traditional and folk music services are a chance to worship using a range of music led by a range of instruments and musicians using Scottish and Irish music.

Bereavement Service is a yearly service where the recently bereaved are invited to a quiet reflective service with refreshments afterwards and the chance to talk to members of the ministry team.

Worship is complemented by a praise band which can be extended/expanded for special services. There has also been a 'pop up' choir which sang at last year's Christmas services in both churches.



Welcome to Worship



Levenmouth Churches Together Good Friday Walk of Faith



Windygates Church

MINISTRY TEAM

The Ministry Team was joined by Iona Pringle B.D. as full time, permanent Ministries Development Staff member in November 2015. Iona has experience in worship leadership, pastoral care, community development work and workplace chaplaincy.

There are many people who take an active part in almost every service by reading and teams have led worship on a number of occasions. Guild members lead services once a year, the Star planning team helps organise their monthly service and the Welcome to Worship team organise their services. The Soul Space Team meets together to plan and organise appropriate theme led activities.

The Church office has an administrator, which is a permanent post, supported by a team of volunteers.



Soul Space - Pentecost

Mealtime at Messy Church



OUTREACH

There is a very strong sense of parish identity and the church is at the heart of the community providing a place where people can come together to meet.

Kirk Lunches are provided on a weekly basis in Kennoway providing an opportunity for people from the local area and further afield to meet together and enjoy homemade soup, toasties and tea and coffee. There are approximately 60 people attending on a regular basis.

Open Door Meals run weekly providing a free three course meal for those who are homeless or in temporary accommodation. They also receive a bag of food items to take away.

Chatterbox runs on a monthly basis providing the opportunity for the elderly or people on their own to come together for entertainment, tea and a chat. It has become a popular community event.

The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** group meets in a local café. They knit and crochet shawls at home and then distribute these to those who are ill or housebound.

'The Chronicle', the Church magazine is produced 10 times a year and is a valuable resource for communicating with members and the community.

Drop-in in Windygates hall meets on a weekly basis where people can come together for coffee and a chat.

The **Concert Party** meets weekly to rehearse for an annual show which they then perform to many social groups in the wider community.

OUTREACH



The Women's Guild in our Lusangazi partnership manage our microfinance programme.

The **Malawi Partnership** is run by a team from St Kenneth's but other churches are also involved. This partnership supports churches in the Lusangazi area of Malawi and several members from St Kenneth's have visited Malawi over the years. The church is currently supporting student midwives and joiners through their studies and supporting a micro-finance scheme.

There are two **Guilds**, one in Windygates which meets in the afternoon and the other in Kennoway which meets in the evening. The Guilds organise coffee mornings and also take part in services including the annual World Day of Prayer Service.

The Ministry Team works with primary **schools** in the area and a Presbytery Chaplaincy team attends by invitation events at the secondary school, Levenmouth Academy.



A wide variety of groups use the church halls on a regular basis;: Tea Dance, Women's Institute, keep fit groups and the local MP's surgeries.

Monthly services are held in the local sheltered housing complex and care homes. Occasional services are also held at Balgonie Castle.

Many one-off events are held such as coffee mornings, strawberry teas, concerts and fundraisers which are open to all and enrich the social standing of St Kenneth's.

The Ramblers attracts around 80 people with a mix of Church members and non-members from all over the area who feel very welcome. The group helped fund the Church mini bus which is used by them on a regular basis as well as on a Sunday to bring people to worship. It also provides transport for Guild members and the Welcome to Worship Group. The mini bus is driven by a team of volunteer drivers on a rota basis.



The Ramblers

Leaflets are distributed to the whole Parish advertising the Christmas services and a Christmas postal service is offered in December.

The Churches are well used for wedding and funeral services and both buildings are used by local schools for their end of term services attracting a large number of parents and carers.



The Church minibus outside Windygates' Hall

The Church in Kennoway is also the venue for the Kirking of the village Lad and Lass and again this is well attended by the local community.

THE MANSE

The Manse is a modern detached bungalow situated in a private residential development in Windygates. It is conveniently located for Balcurvie Primary School and the new Levenmouth Academy which opened in August 2016. The property is well placed for easy access to the motorway system allowing major towns in Fife, Dundee and Edinburgh to be reached within a comfortable drive. Edinburgh airport is a 45 minute drive away. There is a regular bus service to Leven, Glenrothes and Kirkcaldy and there are train stations at Markinch and Kirkcaldy. There are theatres, cinemas and retail parks in Kirkcaldy and Glenrothes as well as excellent sports facilities. The beaches and fishing villages of the East Neuk are nearby and there is an abundance of golf courses in Leven and Lundin Links as well as in the university town of St Andrews, home of golf.



The Manse comprises of Lounge with dining area, fully fitted kitchen with electric hob and oven, utility room, study, master bedroom with ensuite, four further bedrooms, two bathrooms, one with corner bath and the other with shower cubicle. The Manse has gas central heating and there is a large double garage and ample parking in the driveway with gardens to the front and rear

CURRENT PLANS

A Development Team is currently working on behalf of the Kirk Session to explore the possibility of replacing the current hall in Kennoway with a purpose-built facility which can be used by a wide range of organisations and activities and will support groups in the wider community. These plans are at an early stage.

STATISTICS

There are currently 663 members on the Electoral Roll which was attested on June 7th 2016. The weekly attendance at Sunday Worship is approximately 50 at Windygates, 90-100 at Kennoway and 20 at Star.

The Kirk Session, which consists of 52 elders has now moved to a Unitary Constitutional Model after a trial period from January 2014. The Kirk Session meets seven times a year and there are seven working groups which report on a regular basis to Session.

In 2015 there were 8 Baptisms, 14 Weddings and 34 Funerals.

FINANCIAL POSITION

The income is approximately £120,000 per year, through regular giving and fund raising. Copies of the Trustee accounts, year ending December 2015 are available for further information.