

# UNITED REFORMED CHURCH SYNOD OF SCOTLAND

## INTENTIONAL CHURCH

### Bulletin # 1

#### The decision:

Synod in September embarked on a journey of three phases:

1. to explore and talk to each other about what we intend as church; what we intend as congregations and what we intend together as a Synod of the United Reformed Church. We will take time over this and dig deep into our hearts to discover what God is calling us to be as church. We may have some miserable moments as we contemplate the next 5-10 years of the church. We will have fascinating and exciting conversations. This will culminate in a Synod day celebration of our intentions in 2007.
2. If these are the things we intend, then this is what we must do and this is how we are to use our human and myriad other resources.
3. We will then in the third phase continue the journeys to which we believe ourselves called.

#### NB:

**Each congregation is different and witnesses, worships and serves in a different community. Being an intentional church is not about us all being or doing the same things,. It is about us supporting each other to do what we believe God calls us to do well and to continue the pilgrimage of exploring that call.**

#### Progress thus far:

- ⇒ Synod made the decision in September to be an intentional church
- ⇒ The intentional church introductory paper is on the synod website: [www.urcscotland.org.uk](http://www.urcscotland.org.uk)
- ⇒ Church meetings and elders'/deacons' meetings will be beginning the exploration
- ⇒ Synod's Policy, Planning and Strategy Committee met in mid-October to help move the process forward:
- ⇒ A steering group is being formed to work alongside the moderator. This group will focus on developing the intentional church process, gather feed-back from congregations and others and prepare material to help the process along
- ⇒ A planning group is being formed to prepare for the Synod day for all in 2007
- ⇒ In the first quarter of 2006 a series of 'road shows' will travel the Synod to introduce the idea of intentionality to anyone and everyone in our congregations

John Humphreys 25/10/05