



# The Window

Clackmannann Parish  
Church of Scotland

## Long Service Award

November 2022

Honouring 50 years  
as an elder.



© Duncan Brember

**Rev Ken Russell**

presenting our  
Session Clerk,

**Jim Millar,**

with a

long-service  
certificate on

25th September

In recognition of  
his service as an

elder for

**50 years.**

**Congratulations**

**Jim!**

Laying of Wreaths will take place at the  
War Memorial on Sunday 13th November at 10.50 am followed by a  
Service of Remembrance in Clackmannann Parish Church.

### **CLACKMANNAN PARISH CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

*adopted by Kirk Session 17th November 2001*

"God has called His people in Clackmannann Parish Church, under His guidance, to be a congregation committed to sharing Jesus' Word and Love with the community."

## Church Services



Date	Time	Service
6th Nov	11.00 am	Rev Ken Russell— <i>Abraham Series 8/9</i>
13th Nov	10.50 am	Laying of Wreaths at War Memorial
	11.15 am	Remembrance Service in Church— Rev Ken Russell— <i>Abraham Series 9/9</i>
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service—BMH*
20th Nov	11.00 am	Morning Worship—Worship Group
27th Nov	11.00 am	Rev Ken Russell—First Sunday in Advent
4th Dec	11.00 am	Rev Ken Russell— <b>Communion</b>
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service—Rev Ken Russell
11th Dec	11.00 am	Rev Ken Russell—Third Sunday in Advent

\* Bruce Memorial Hall (beside Manse)

## Telephone Numbers and Email Addresses

Position	Name	Tel No	Email address
Interim Moderator	Rev Jim McNeil	01259760262	JMcNeil@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk	Jim Millar	01259217361	sessionclerk@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Depute Session Clerk Clerk—Board	Anne Dawson	01259219350	
Treasurer	Joyce Morrison	07557537611	treasurer@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Organist	Vacant		
Church Officer	Willie Hunter	07775686664	
Church Office	Tues 10 am	01259214238	office@clackmannankirk.org.uk

### ***Deadline Date for December Window—Sunday 13th November.***

Email articles to **windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk**, hand to **Mary Millar**, or leave in the Window tray in the office. (Tuesday 10 am to noon). Magazines available on **27th November 2022**.

To book the Church Hall or Bruce Memorial Hall please contact the Office.

Dear Friends,

It has been a turbulent time over the last year. But hopefully as you read this presbytery will be accepting the proposal for the linkage between Clackmannan and Sauchie and Coalsnaughton.

I believe that this is a good way forward for both churches.

First of all because at its basis has always been the belief that the linkage should have two worship sites: that even if the linkage becomes a union later on, that the basis of that union is that there is two worship sites; one in Clackmannan and one in Sauchie.

The local church has a chance to grow in two opposite conditions. The first is if it is local, so local people encourage other local people to come to their local church where they can see people that they could bump into in the Co-op. The second is the polar opposite, where a charismatic leader gathers a congregation from all over the place. If this linkage (maybe union later on) had only one worship centre it would be doomed to fail. Both churches would be too small to entice a charismatic leader to join them, and the people of the area which closed its church building would just stop going to the other church because the distances would be prohibitive. But with two worship centres the congregations get to stay local, and encourage the local people to support the local community.

The second reason I believe this is good for the two churches is that in the past both churches have struggled with presbytery decisions. Communication between presbytery and congregations hasn't been great, and often decisions have been made without real knowledge of the needs of the congregations. With the two churches linked I believe that you will support each other well. Each church will benefit from the encouragement of the other congregation who will be on your side. Already it has been heart-warming to see the two churches supporting each other at the joint Kirk Session meetings.

As we begin to sneak into Advent we begin a time when things are changing. The nights and mornings start getting darker and things are getting older, harder. But behind that we feel the old ways are stirring and something new, unpredictable, better, is on the horizon just waiting to burst through. It

is something that people have hoped for but are not sure what it would look like. In truth it is something both wonderful and frightening. It is the time that God is working in the world.

I pray that that is also true of the churches in Clackmannan and Sauchie. True a scary, unpredictable time, but if it is a time where God is working, then it is a time when we need not fear, but a time we can begin to have hope again.

Your friend in Christ

**Jim McNeil**

## FINANCIAL AFFAIRS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

	Sep		Sep
<b>INCOME</b>	£	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	£
Offerings	3,924.10	Ministry	3,760.25
Investment Income	385.85	Salaries	670.00
Coin-a-day	97.88	Telephone	143.56
Bicentenary books	21.00	Insurance	503.19
Sale of crafts	100.00	Heat and Light	137.33
Ragbag	5.60	Fabric	1,614.00
		Office	425.91
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,534.43</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>7,254.24</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>-2,719.81</b>		

### THE GUILD SYLLABUS

Meetings are held in the Church Hall every second Monday at 1.30 pm. All welcome.



#### November/December

14th Nov	Guild Project—Starchild
28th Nov	Scottish Night—Music, Quiz and Bring and Buy
12th Dec	Christmas Dinner

## FLOODLIGHTING OUR CHURCH

Contributors are listed below and their names and dedications will be on display at the Church entrance. If you wish to sponsor any future dates please contact Maureen Brember (01259 220690). The cost to light up the Church for one night is **£5**.



<i>October</i>		<i>October (continued)</i>	
<b>1</b>	Mr and Mrs Hugh Livingstone	<b>19</b>	Mr George Burt
<b>2</b>	Mrs Grace Hamilton	<b>20</b>	Mr George Burt
<b>3</b>	The Higgins Family	<b>21</b>	Mrs Isabel Gilroy
<b>4</b>	Sam and Margaret Harris	<b>22</b>	Mr George Burt
<b>5</b>	The Bramham Family	<b>23</b>	Jim and Mary Millar
<b>6</b>	Jan McTaggart	<b>24</b>	James and Elspeth Cuthbertson
<b>7</b>	The Higgins Family	<b>25</b>	James and Elspeth Cuthbertson
<b>8</b>	Jim and Mary Millar	<b>26</b>	James and Elspeth Cuthbertson
<b>9</b>	Mrs Linda Sloan	<b>27</b>	James and Elspeth Cuthbertson
<b>10</b>	Mrs Linda Sloan	<b>28</b>	James and Elspeth Cuthbertson
<b>11</b>	Mrs Freda Lambie	<b>29</b>	Jim and Mary Millar
<b>12</b>	Mrs Lillian Clark	<b>30</b>	The Reid Family
<b>13</b>	Jim Blyth and Family	<b>31</b>	Anne and Robert Paton (Turrieff)
<b>14</b>	Mrs Marjory Gray	Dates available in November: 1st and 10th	
<b>15</b>	Mrs Christina Innes		
<b>16</b>	Duncan and Maureen Brember		
<b>17</b>	Mrs Christina Innes		
<b>18</b>	Mrs Irene McKay		

### PASTORAL CARE GROUP

If you know of anyone at all who is sick, in hospital, bereaved or just 'under the weather' – let Helen White know (**07900837546**). A card can make such a difference – let us be the ones to make that difference.





## *The Italian Chapel on Orkney*



In September Hilary and I travelled to Orkney. The Italian Chapel is one of Orkney's "must see" visits. During the Second World War several hundred Italian Prisoners of War were housed in Camp 60 on Lambholm, one of the small islands. The camp lacked a chapel and the provision of one had been urged by the War Office Inspector of P.O.W. Camps. In late 1943 two Nissen huts were made available to the prisoners. These were placed end to end and joined together. An artistic prisoner named Domenico Chiocchetti and the Italian Padre, Father P. Gioacchino Giacobazzi, with the blessing of the camp commandant set about transforming the basic and utilitarian Nissen huts into a satisfactory chapel. The unsightly corrugated iron of the hut was hidden by plaster-board. The altar, altar-rail and holy water stoup were moulded in concrete. The booklet produced by the Chapel Preservation Committee gives further details on construction and decoration of various aspects of the chapel.

It was clear that everyone who visited found the interior of the chapel to be beautiful and inspirational as a place of worship. It was also clear that Nissen huts are, in themselves, not particularly attractive! For the Catholic Italian prisoners, the priority was the development of a space that served well their worship, and in particular, the celebration of Mass. From the most uninspiring starting places, and using materials that could readily be procured, a beautiful chapel was developed.

I wonder if this might say something to us? I remember being told many years ago that in any building you need to first be clear on its function. Then you look at what form the building will take. The form of the building should support the function for which it was built. Life in 19<sup>th</sup> century Scotland was different from life in 21<sup>st</sup> century Scotland. How the Church of Scotland functioned in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was different from how the Church of Scot-

land needs to function in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. And the form of church buildings which support the function of the Church of Scotland today needs to be different too.

Thankfully the Presbytery has granted our appeal for time to carry out a feasibility study on the way forward for our buildings. I believe that this is effectively a God given time to do some hard and challenging work. Time to give serious, prayerful and practical consideration to our ongoing function as a church, and time to give serious, prayerful and practical consideration to what form of church building best supports that function in the context of our time and our location.

The function of a chapel in the context of a WWII camp of Italian Catholics was to provide a space for Mass. Using materials that were available, a form of building was constructed which served that function well.

I am not advocating the purchase of a couple of Nissan huts! However, I can't help wonder if the Italian Chapel on Orkney might not possibly be saying something to us? Just a thought!

*Ken Russell*



### **FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS—TREE FESTIVAL**

Our Tree Festival will take place on



*Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022.*

Preparations for the Tree Festival are well under way so make sure you add these dates to your diary.

We are still working on the entertainment part but suffice to say that there will be something for everyone.

We need your presence to make this a success so we are looking forward to seeing you there.

*Maureen Brember*



## SERVING OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS—HAVE YOUR SAY

Since the church re-opened in April 2021 we have not “served” communion elements but have had them already in place, socially distanced. At the September communion we experimented with placing the elements in certain pews and leaving other pews empty. The purpose of this was to see if it would be possible for elders, in future, to move along the empty pews and deliver the elements to the holders on the pews. This would remove the necessity for people to hand the communion trays and bread plates from one person to another and so cut down on the amount of handling involved.

At the October Kirk Session the serving of communion was discussed. It was decided that in December the elders would “serve” communion in certain areas of the church and in other areas the elements would already be in place. What we need you to do is ... if you wish to participate in communion and would prefer to have your elements in place then please write your name on the slips provided. This is so we can assess the numbers preferring not to handle the elements themselves and organise accordingly.

**Jim Millar**

Session Clerk

## CHURCH FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone for your continuing support of the Flower Fund.

The flowers are greatly appreciated by the whole congregation and the recipients who receive the flowers after the service. Please inform the Pastoral Care Team or your elder of anyone you know who has had an illness or bereavement and the Sunday flowers can be distributed accordingly. If you wish to buy the flowers for a particular Sunday then please write your name in the Flower diary at the door of the church and put your donation in the envelopes provided.

Church Flowers		
Nov	Contributed by	Arranged by
6th	Jan McTaggart	Jean Hillis * Karen Brander
13th	Fiona Aitken	<b>Distributed by</b>
20th	Flower Fund	Linda Sloan
27th*	Flower Fund	Helen White



## THANK YOU ...

I would like to thank the church for the lovely flowers I received recently. Thanks also to Helen White who delivered them.

*Jean Lindsay*

*Mabel Davidson* would like to express her heartfelt thanks for the church flowers delivered to her recently by Mary Millar.

Many thanks to the Pastoral Care Team for the lovely card and flowers and to Helen White who delivered them. I enjoyed the wee chat with her after my stay in hospital.

*Margaret Duncan*

*Freda and Ronnie Blair* would like to say 'thank you' for the flowers from the church after Freda's stay in hospital. Thank you also to Jan McTaggart for delivering them. They were very much appreciated.

I would like to thank Clackmannan Parish Church for the lovely flowers I received, especially as they were in autumn colours. A special thanks to Elizabeth for delivering them and the long blether afterwards.

*Louie Birrell*

I would like to thank the church for the lovely flowers and the Pastoral Care Group for the card following my fall. Thanks also to my elder, Bill Izett, for delivering them. They were very much appreciated.

*Nesta Kettles*

### IT'S A THANKS FROM ANNE(S)

Thanks to those who handed in stamps. I've just sent off a 2 kg parcel.

Thanks to all who supported the soup and sandwich lunch which raised £330.30 for Christian Aid.

Thanks to Jamie, Earl of Mar, for considerable time and effort expended in keeping the grass at the manse under control.

*Anne Dawson*

Thank you to all those who volunteered to help with the summer opening of the church and the Doors Open weekend. We had quite a number of visitors this year with some 50 names being added to the visitors' book.

*Anne Paterson*

## News from the Waddells, our Mission Partners

It has been a sad time for the folk at Mwandu of late. A road traffic accident in Northern Province claimed the lives of 21 members of the Women's Christian Fellowship of UCZ.

A local businessman, member of the congregation that Keith and Ida belong to, was shot dead during a robbery. This is a rare occurrence in that area so everyone is very shocked and sad for his wife and family. The Nursing Officer who had been at Mwandu for 24 years suffered a pulmonary embolism and died, leaving a young daughter still at school and a trusted and knowledgeable worker at the mission farm passed away in his sleep.

The work goes on and there is positive news of the blockmaking project where Mubita works, and the poultry keeping. An old fish pond is being rehabilitated, fitted with a pump and stocked with bream. Donors have given a freezer to stock the fish after harvesting.

The American surgical team has once again visited in October, carrying out operations on goitres, hernias etc and assisting with other treatments. The theatre lights which were burnt out by a surge last year have been replaced by a partner congregation in St Andrews which also helps with knitted clothes for newborn babies.

The oxygen plant, the preparations for which Ida told us about, has got as far as Walvis Bay in Namibia, from where it will travel overland to Mwandu. An application has been made to the Czech government for 10 acute beds with associated electronics and for a suction machine.

Clearly Keith and Ida would value the support of our prayers as they meet needs and cope with challenges day by day.

**Anne Dawson**

### **Community Fortnightly Events**

Alt Mondays	1.30 pm	The Guild—from 3rd October—Church Hall
1st+3rd Tuesdays	2.00 pm	Home Energy Advice - CDT Office
1st+3rd Fridays	1.30 pm	THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES - CDT Office
Last Friday	2.00 pm	TIME FOR TEA - CDT Office, Music/Fun games

## Community Council

The Clackmannan Tapestry stitchers attended the opening day for Alloa Hub on Saturday 8th October (see photos on back page).

County Councillor Kathleen Martin has given details of revised management rules for cemeteries. The list has a table of 20 contents and can be found on

### **221006clackmannanshire council agenda-WEB (clacks.gov.uk)**

The Community Council is holding its last Bingo tea of this year in the Bowling Clubhouse on 25th October at the usual time of 7.00 pm with eyes down at 7.30 pm. {too late for this issue}

There will be a pamper event in the Scout Hall on Friday 25th November between 7 pm and 10 pm with Cheese, Wine and nibbles—£5 entry. Demonstrators include Liz Earle rep, Sara hair, Fiona Reflexology and massage, Nicola beauty, tropics, Michelle melts etc.

The Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch will be taking place in the Bowling Clubhouse on **Tuesday 13th December**. If you're 65 years of age and over you can collect tickets for this event on **Fridays 25th November and 2nd December** from the CDT Office **between 10.30 am and 12.00 noon**. Entertainment has been arranged.

**Garry McPhee**

<b>Community Weekly Events</b>		
Monday	10.00 am	CHANGE, GROW, LIVE—CDT Office, Main Street—Information on drug and alcohol use + tea/coffee
Monday	2.00 pm	Citizens Advice Bureau—CDT Office
Tuesday	10.00 am	OOMPH Physical Wellness Sessions—CDT Office
Wednesday	2.00 pm	Walking group—Town Hall, Main Street
Friday	10.30 am	Knit and Natter—CDT Office
Sunday	11.00 am	Sunday Worship—Church, High Street

Email [windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk](mailto:windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk) if you want an item included in Events information



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**SAYING FAREWELL**  
**Jim Millar,**  
 Session Clerk, presenting  
**Meg Carroll,**  
 Organist,  
 with flowers on  
 25th September as she  
 leaves to take up the  
 post of organist at  
**Menstrie Parish Church.**

The Choir is again leading the singing in the church and would welcome your support. There are no practices being held at present but please think about joining the choir.



© Doreen Gallagher



© Mary Millar

**The Clacks Crafters beside the Tapestry**

**The Hub in Alloa is open  
 Monday-Friday 10 am - 4 pm  
 and Saturday 11 am - 3 pm**

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