



The Window

Clackmannan Parish
Church of Scotland

Come Join Us

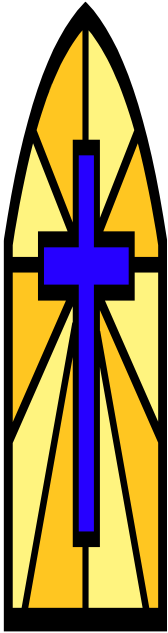
July/August 2023



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CLACKMANNAN PARISH CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

“God has called His people in Clackmannan Parish Church, under His guidance, to be a congregation committed to sharing Jesus’ Word and Love with the community.” *Adopted by Kirk Session 17th November 2001*

**Church
Services**

Date	Time	Service
2nd July	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—You can make a difference
9th July	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—I was only trying to help
	3 pm	Afternoon Service—BMH*
16th July	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—The burning bush
23rd July	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—The plagues
30th July	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—Keep right on to the end of the road
6th Aug	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—Some folk are aye moaning!
13th Aug	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—The Ten Commandments
	3 pm	Afternoon Service—BMH*
20th Aug	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—You have a choice!
27th Aug	11 am	TBC
3rd Sep	11 am	TBC
10th Sep	11 am	Rev Ken Russell—Communion
	3 pm	Afternoon Service—Communion

* Bruce Memorial Hall (beside Manse) Crèche available every Sunday

Telephone Numbers and Email Addresses

Position	Name	Tel No	Email address
Interim Moderator	Rev Mike Goodison	01259 760262	MGoodison@ churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk	Jim Millar	01259 217361	sessionclerk@ clackmannankirk.org.uk
Depute SC + Clerk to Board	Anne Dawson	01259 219350	
Treasurer	Joyce Morrison	07557537611	treasurer@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Organist	vacant		
Church Officer	Willie Hunter	07775686664	
Church Office	Tues 10 am	01259 214238	office@clackmannankirk.org.uk



Just a story?

Most of us grew up with Bible stories. As youngsters we took them literally because we were youngsters and that's what we were taught. As we grew up, we began to question. Perhaps we particularly questioned some of the stories from the Old Testa-

ment. Some of them seem so brutal. We began to wonder "would God really do or say that?"

Over the years, each of us will have found our own way of dealing with the difficult stories. One approach is to put these stories away. We decide to just stick with the New Testament (although even it has bits we struggle with, as struggle we should). But there are other ways.

Taking the Bible seriously means asking the questions. Taking the Bible seriously means recognizing that the Bible is both the product of human authors writing for their own time and historical situation, and also writing out of their own experience of faith in God within that historical situation.

Remember the stories of Moses? Starting on Sunday 2nd July, we will have a series of 8 sermons about the life of Moses. We will ask questions. And we will also look for how God might still be saying something to us through these stories. Below this article you will find details of the sermons.

If you are interested in this and not able to be at some of the services, remember, the church website has podcasts of Sunday Services.

Have a good summer.

Ken Russell

2nd July We will begin with the famous "Moses basket" hidden in the bulrushes, and discover that even when things look pretty grim, things can be done, and we ponder "Maybe you can make a difference!"

9th July Then again, sometimes what we do backfires and we find ourselves saying "I was only trying to help...!"

16th July Are we thoroughly into the barbecue season now if the weather

is good? What about the burning bush that Moses encountered?

23rd July The plagues. What kind of God would do that?

30th July Keep right on to the end of the road ... but what if the road runs out before the end?

6th August Some folk are aye moaning!

13th August The Ten Commandments. All of them?

20th August Last words from Moses - "You have a choice!"

Tape Ministry

Are you house-bound and unable to attend worship regularly?

All the services at Clackmannan led by Rev Ken Russell are recorded on disc, which can later be listened to in the home.

If you do not have a suitable CD player, one can be borrowed from the church.

Should you desire to be linked to the Sunday worship please contact me on 723204, with name and address and I will be pleased to add your name.



Bill Izett

TO BOOK OR HIRE THE CHURCH HALL OR BRUCE MEMORIAL HALL—

Contact the **Office** (01259 214238). **ALL** meetings should be entered in the Diary held in the Office.

DEADLINE DATE FOR SEPTEMBER WINDOW - 13TH AUGUST

Articles for the Window may be placed in the "Window" box in the Office OR emailed to

windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk

Magazines will be available on 27th August.

PASTORAL CARE

Remember to contact **Helen White** (Co-ordinator) by phone (07900837546) or email—white-helen3@sky.com if you know someone who needs a card or a visit, either at home or in hospital.



CLACKMANNAN CHURCH CALENDARS

It is with regret that Maureen and Duncan Brember have to advise you that owing to significant cost increases in consumables, used to produce the church annual calendar, it has become no longer viable to produce a calendar. We hope that this early notice will allow plenty of time for people to make alternative arrangements.

We would like to thank all the people who, over the years, have supported this fundraising venture either by providing beautiful pictures or buying the calendar.

Maureen and Duncan

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School will be off for the summer, restarting on

Sunday 20th August.

We have enjoyed our sessions and hope the children enjoy their end of session party on

Sunday 25th June.

Fiona, Sharon, Nancy and Denise

UPDATE TO CHRISTIAN AID WEEK CONTRIBUTIONS

The total donated to Christian Aid week now stands at £691.50.

News from Mwandu

Keith and Ida were looking forward to the opening of the new primary school for children of mission staff at Mwandu. They have had guidance by Zoom from a retired nursery teacher in St Andrews about using imaginative play to assist learning, rather than the formal early years curriculum normally followed, where toys and colourful teaching aids are often in short supply and rote learning is commonplace. Other good news came from the Czech Embassy which has agreed to fund the headboards for ICU and a suction machine. The layers are producing 90 eggs per day which are easily sold within the mission and, after a hiccup caused by low oxygen level in the water, the fish are growing well in the ponds. The water is now changed daily and the discarded water goes to the experimental rice paddy.

The building blocks which are made on the mission are finding a market locally and others are being used to construct a new Xray suite at the hospital. The government minister for Western Province has been to inspect the oxygen plant. There has been the usual stream of other visitors, among them a team from Birmingham, Alabama and a lady doctor who was cycling from Cairo to Cape Town raising money for the hospital. The roads are not great towards the end of the rainy season and Keith says that the 82 mile journey to Livingstone now takes 4 hours. Repairs are promised once the rains are over. The prospects for the maize harvest are poor because the high pressure associated with Cyclone Freddy, which brought such devastating flooding to Malawi, kept the rains away from Zambia so cobs are drying before they are properly formed.

For themselves, Keith and Ida are now convenors respectively of Education and Health committees of the Western Presbytery of UCZ. In an effort to decentralise the work of the church, these committees will support the schools and hospitals with resources and repairs and liaise with the relevant authorities with regard to staffing and standards.

Their 8th grandchild was born just before they flew home to be with Keith's father who passed away peacefully in FVRH. They were able to attend Ida's brother's wedding, so caught up with both sides of the family while in UK. They have had an anxious time following the decision by RBS to freeze

their bank accounts because they reside in Zambia and pay tax there so apparently rules have changed and they are no longer eligible to hold accounts here.

We continue to uphold Keith and Ida in our prayers.

Anne Dawson

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS FOR MAY 2023

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Offerings	3,532.75	Ministry	3,009.40
Investment Income	103.43	Pulpit supply	310.00
Easyfundraising	41.95	Salary	340.00
Amazon Smile	24.19	Travel	80.75
		Relief Organist	280.00
		Heat and Light	407.24
		Telephone	66.95
		Insurance	503.19
		Office/stat/postage	202.20
		Fabric	170.98
Total Income	3,702.32	Total Expenditure	5,370.71
Deficit	-1,668.39		

Presbytery of Perth Video

The Presbytery of Perth has produced a short video to introduce the Presbytery Staff and to say a little about the new Presbytery.

The Presbytery has asked that we pass on the link to the video to the congregation. The video lasts for about 11 minutes.

The video can be found here: [\(141\) Presbytery Staff video - 2 June 2023 - YouTube](#)

CHURCH FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the Flower Fund which covers the dates when no-one has chosen a particular date.

The flowers are sorted into bouquets by Linda Sloan and Helen White ready for distribution by elders/volunteers.

July/August Flowers		
July	Contributed by	Arranged by
2nd	Elizabeth MacDonald	Jean Hillis
9th	Maureen Brember	
16th	Irene McKay	
23rd	<i>Flower Fund</i>	
30th	<i>Flower Fund</i>	
Aug	Contributed by	Karen Brander
6th	Flower Fund	
13th	Jean Hillis	
20th	<i>Flower Fund</i>	
27th	<i>Flower Fund</i>	

JUST A WORD OF THANKS ...

Many thanks to Pastoral Care Team for the lovely card and good wishes. I hope before much longer to be back among my 'ain folk'.

Ian Smith

I would like to say thank you for the lovely flowers that were delivered by Helen White - a very nice surprise.

Sheila Graham

Many thanks to Helen White and the Pastoral Care Team for your card. Also thanks to Helen Paterson who delivered flowers on Sunday (11th). Your considerations are greatly appreciated. Thanks again.

Frank Cowe

I would like to thank you all for the beautiful flowers received after my stay in hospital—now recovering. Thanks also to Helen White for delivering them to me with a smile—very much appreciated.

Aileen Lindsay

Margo Prentice and family would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Clackmannan Kirk Community for the beautiful flowers accompanied by your caring thoughts and prayers over the past few weeks. Thanks also to Maureen Brember, for your comforting card. Everyone's kindness is very much appreciated at what is a challenging time with ongoing ill health.

Mrs Winnie McDermott would like to express her thanks for the lovely

church flowers delivered to her on her 80th birthday.

Jenny Trevena would like to thank Helen White for delivering flowers to her and taking the time to have a 'blether'.

NEW BEGINNINGS—UPDATE

Following on from what I stated last month we are firming up on dates for the forming of a Nominating Committee. Both Kirk Sessions have to decide if they are willing to accept applications from ministers who are in a same sex marriage or civil partnership or not. The combined Parish Profile is nearing completion. The Meeting with the Vacancy Advisory Committee (VAC) is scheduled for 20th June. Following this meeting with the VAC we can then plan a congregational meeting to elect a Nominating Committee. At present we have been allocated 5 places from a total of 11. Once the Nominating Committee is formed it has to find a sole nominee to fill the vacant charge of Clackmannan linked with Sauchie and Coalsnaughton.

Jim Millar



IMPORTANT NOTICE OPEN CHURCH

The church will be open to visitors on
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons
between the hours of **2 pm and 4 pm**
from **13th June – 21st September 2023.**

We will also participate in Clackmannanshire Doors Open Days on
Saturday 23rd September and Sunday 24th September.

We will need volunteers to be on duty during these times. If you can help with this, please add your name and telephone number to the appropriate date in the diary which is in the vestibule. For more information phone Anne Paterson on 01259 751742.

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>JUNE</i>		<i>JUNE (continued)</i>	
1		16	
2	Mr and Mrs Hugh Livingstone, Kirkcaldy	17	
3	Mrs Jan McTaggart	18	Mrs Margaret MacPhie
4	Mrs Irene McKay	19	
5	Mrs R Donald	20	Mrs Rosemary Ramage
6	Mrs R Donald	21	
7	Carolyn Bones and Rosemary Finlay	22	The White Family
8	Mrs Rosemary Ramage	23	
9		24	
10		25	Mrs Margaret MacPhie
11	Mrs Margaret MacPhie	26	
12	Mrs Freda Lambie	27	
13	The Bramham Family	28	Mrs Louie Birrell
14	Mrs Grace Hamilton	29	Mrs Louie Birrell
15	Mrs Margaret Duncan and Family	30	
See next page for July Floodlighting			

Philippians 4:6-7

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



JULY		JULY (continued)	
1	Mrs Margaret Murphy	17	
2	Jim and Mary Millar	18	
3	The Hill Family	19	
4	Mrs Jan McTaggart	20	
5	Mrs Helen Crews	21	Mrs Mabel Davidson
6	Mrs Helen Crews	22	Mr Ian Smith
7	Mr Ian Smith	23	The Russell Family
8		24	
9	Robert and Lysbeth Fleming	25	
10	The White Family	26	
11	George and Doreen Gallagher	27	The Bramham Family
12	Mrs Freda Lambie	28	Mrs Janette Wilkie
13		29	James Lindsay
14	The Russell Family	30	Mrs Marjory F Gray
15	Mrs Jan McTaggart	31	Mr Ian Smith
16	Mrs Lorraine Lindsay		

August dates still available

**3rd, 8th, 9th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st,
22nd, 24th, 25th, 26th and 31st**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023

Life and Work's free summary of the May 2023 General Assembly can be found here:

www.lifeandwork.org/resources/general-assembly-2023-special-supplement

Afternoon Service

The afternoon service is held on the second Sunday* of each month at 3 pm in the Bruce Memorial Hall (behind the Manse). This is a short service followed by a cup of tea and is ideal for those who find getting to the church, or sitting in church for a full service, difficult. Of course, everyone is welcome. Most months this service will be conducted by our pulpit supply Rev Ken Russell.

We would be delighted to see more people attending and would remind you that we offer transport if needed. The hall has easy access via a ramp and it is possible to park next to this.

If you would like to arrange a lift, or want more information, please speak to Anne on 01259 751742 / 07766475877, or Joyce on 07557537611.

** December is usually the first Sunday in the month*



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Community Weekly Events

Wednesday	2.00 pm	Wee County Walkers—meet at Town Hall
Friday	10.30 am	Knit and Natter—CDT Office

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