



# The Window

March 2025  
Scottish Charity  
Number SC002324

Clackmannan Parish Church of Scotland  
linked with Sauchie and Coalsnaughton

Minister  
Rev Austin Wicks



**Sketch of Clackmannan Parish Church from the High Street by local artist Bobby Rennie**

## **CLACKMANNAN PARISH CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

*adopted by Kirk Session 17th November 2001*

“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.”

**Find us at [www.clackmannankirk.org.uk](http://www.clackmannankirk.org.uk)**

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## Church Services

Date	Time	Service
2nd Mar	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks
7th Mar	2.00 pm	<b>World Day of Prayer Service—Clackmannan Church</b>
9th Mar	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks— <b>Sacrament of Communion</b>
	3.00 pm	<b>Afternoon Communion Service—Church Hall</b>
16th Mar	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks
23rd Mar	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks
26th Mar	7.00 pm	<b>Service of Remembrance—Pastoral Care Group</b>
30th Mar	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks— <b>Mothering Sunday</b>
6th Apr	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks
13th Apr	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service—Church Hall
Sunday School and Crèche every Sunday except holidays		

## Telephone Numbers and Email Addresses

Position	Name	Tel No	Email address
Minister	Rev Austin Wicks	07547392248	AWicks@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk	Jim Millar	01259217361	sessionclerk@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Depute SC + Clerk to	Anne Dawson	01259219350	
Treasurer	Joyce Morrison	07557537611	treasurer@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Window Editor	Mary Millar		windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Organist	Maciej Piszczalka		
Church Officers	Willie Hunter	07775686664	
	Garry McPhee	01259219235	
Church Office	Tues 10 am	01259720583	office@clackmannankirk.org.uk

A merry March to you all.

I am enjoying a spot of sunshine today, with steam rising from the hills and I am reminded of how wonderful our God's creation is. I hope to always be reminded of the beauty that God has wrought on this earth. Sometimes it can be easy to fall into patterns of what we are always surrounded by—the hills, the lochs, the people and indeed our very church.

At Clackmannan we have been tasked with examining which building will be renovated to be fit for purpose for our future ministries to come. Though the conversation may be tough around how we change our spaces, we will choose the one that will best suit our Christian calling.

Just as the hills are slowly carved by water, and the streams meander to and fro across the field, so too will our church's home be changed over time as well. No matter which space is chosen, it will never be the same as it was. This too is a part of life, as things grow and change. Things need repairing, upgrading, transforming into new life.

With this in mind as we begin Lent on 5th of March I would invite you to spend time this season for reflection and repentance. Many people practice the ancient tradition of giving something up for Lent. Giving up fats and sugars was a traditional practice with Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, being a day when leftover fat was used up so as not to waste and not to be tempted through Lent.

The purpose of doing such a thing is to remind us of our devotion to God almighty as well as serve as a reminder that when we reach Good Friday Jesus gave up his life for us. Being a Christian very frequently is about sacrifice, and what we need to give up to serve the Lord. To serve Jesus.

I hope you will spend some time this Lenten season contemplating not just changes within your personal life, but rather what you can do to help change your church as well. Our renovation projects will not be cheap and we will need financial boons to make the necessary changes happen. We will need new leaders to step forward to pioneer new ministry projects, to revive old missional works, and to guide our church into the future. We will need individuals to help drive enthusiasm and cheer

as change can be difficult for some.

If we are not willing to give of ourselves, how can we ask strangers who seek to join us to give of themselves for Christ as well? After all, we undertake these tasks of great transformation to not only preserve our church life but to see it flourish and grow.

So I ask you once more, *what can you do for Christ this season? What can you give to your church that we might grow together as a community of God?*

Love and Peace,  
Austin

### **Thank You re The Moderator's Challenge**

Many thanks for the £250 donation to the Moderator's Challenge from the Christmas Eve offerings at Clackmannan Parish Church.

Dr Paterson very much appreciates the congregation's generosity and knows that the contribution will make a real impact in Malawi.

Thank you once again to all those involved for your thoughtfulness.

***Catherine McIntosh***

### ***TUBS2PUB***

Over the last few weeks I have been collecting empty sweetie tubs for the Greene King Tubs2Pub appeal. **Fifty-four** tubs were handed in, which is double last year's total of twenty-seven. All money raised by this appeal is donated to MacMillan Cancer Care.

Many thanks to everyone who donated. If you happen to get any of these tubs during the year, please hold on to them as I'll be back in January to do it all again.

***Joyce Morrison***

**EVENTS IN MARCH****WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

The World Day of Prayer service will take place  
on  
Friday 7th March at 2 pm  
in Clackmannan Parish Church

This year the service comes from the Cook Islands. Everyone is welcome to join us for the service in the church at 2 pm.

**Home baking required—speak to Anne Dawson if you can help**

**STIRLING ROCK CHOIR**

will be performing in the Church  
on  
Saturday 8th March at 1 pm

Come and join us for a wonderful afternoon raising funds for our renovation project.

**COMMUNION**

The next Communion morning service will be on **Sunday 9th March at 11.30 am**. The afternoon service will be at **3 pm in the Church Hall**.

**CLACKMANNAN PARISH CHURCH PASTORAL CARE TEAM*****Remembrance Service***

*in Clackmannan Parish Church*

***Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7 pm***

*a short service of remembrance and reflection.*

*All welcome.*

## Stamp Project 2025

Last year the sale of used stamps supported tree planting in Malawi. This year the project will benefit the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza city. It is run by the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, a partner of the Church of Scotland. It is Gaza's only cancer hospital. Despite the kind of relentless bombardment we could witness on our evening news over the last 16 months, it has continued to function, treating three to five hundred cases each day, even though restrictions in aid have meant constant shortages of medicines and equipment. Water and electricity supplies have frequently been interrupted and the staff have come under attack at home and at work. The charity, Embrace the Middle East, helps to pay staff salaries and supports an outreach clinic in Rafah. After Rafah was overrun by the IDF in May, the clinic was moved to Khan Younis and then to Al Mawasi.

Being, on paper, a safe zone, the neighbourhood of the hospital was crowded with displaced families seeking refuge. Forced to live in tents, crammed together with inadequate sanitation and insufficient food, disease is rife. Under these extremely challenging conditions the medical staff continues to provide what care they can and the psychological support team helps children to process the horrors which they have witnessed.

Please continue to save your stamps. We have just sent off a 650g parcel and the next envelope is fast filling up, so every little does help.

In addition Anne Dawson has Easter cards for sale in support of Embrace the Middle East.

Last March the World Day of Prayer service was prepared by Christian women of Palestine. This year the service comes from the Cook Islands. Everyone is welcome to join us for the service in the church at 2 pm on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

***Anne Dawson***

Shrove Tuesday—4th March and Ash Wednesday—5th March

## FINANCIAL AFFAIRS FOR JANUARY 2025

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Offerings	3,973.90	Salaries	920.68
Investment Income	30.24	Heat and Light	887.13
		Insurance	473.67
		Fabric	54.60
		Office, stationery, postage	466.65
		Piano Tuning	128.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4,004.14</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>2,930.73</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>1,073.41</b>		

## EASTER SERVICES

17 Apr	<b>Maundy Thursday—Clackmannan Parish Church 7 pm</b>
18 Apr	<b>Good Friday—Sauchie United Free Church 7 pm</b>
19 Apr	<b>Holy Saturday—Sauchie and Coalsnaughton Parish Church 7 pm</b>
20 Apr	<b>Easter Sunday—Clackmannan Parish Church 11.30 am</b>

**Please note the different venues for Holy Week services**

## FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

**Proposed Flower Festival at Clackmannan Parish Church**

**9th and 10th May 2025**

## DELIVERY OF CHURCH MAGAZINE—THE WINDOW

We are looking for a volunteer to deliver the magazines to the even numbered houses in Devonway. If you can offer your help please speak to Jean Hillis, Joyce Morrison or Nesta Kettles.



## CHURCH FLOWERS

To provide the flowers for a specific Sunday please place your donation in an envelope in the vestibule and put it in the collection plate. Add your name to the Flower Diary.

It costs about £20 to provide the flowers.

March Flowers		
Mar	Contributed by	<b>Arranged by</b> Jean Hillis <b>Distributed by</b> Linda Sloan Helen White Elders and others
2		
9	Jan McTaggart	
16		
23	Barbara Wilson	
30		
<b>There are still dates in April available.</b>		

## JUST A WORD OF THANKS ...

Thank you for the lovely card and flowers I received after my stay in hospital. Thank you to Mary for delivery of flowers in such dreadful weather.

Thank you too for the lovely card from Helen, pp the Pastoral Care Team. All gratefully appreciated. Regards

*Margaret Marr*

Thank you for the beautiful flowers delivered the Sunday before Ian's third anniversary. I was really touched at the thoughtful gesture. It was much appreciated. Kind regards,

*Cathie Farquhar*

## PASTORAL CARE

Remember, if you know someone who needs a card or a visit, either at home or in hospital, contact **Helen White** (Co-ordinator) by **phone (07900837546)** or email:

**white-helen3@sky.com**



**The Pastoral Care Team is looking for new members.  
If interested please contact Helen White.**



## 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 720583). The cost to light up the Church for one night is **£5**.



<i>February</i>		<i>February (continued)</i>	
1		19	Mrs Jan McTaggart
2	Sam and Margaret Harris	20	Mrs Helen McCallum
3	George and Doreen Gallagher	21	
4	Mrs Chris Fyfe	22	Sam and Margaret Harris
5	Mrs Grace Hamilton	23	
6	Mrs Freda Lambie	24	
7		25	Mrs Lysbeth Fleming
8	Sam and Margaret Harris	26	Sam and Margaret Harris
9		27	
10	Mrs Irene McKay	28	The Russell Family
11	Mrs Grace Hamilton		
12	Anne and Robert Paton (Turriff)		
13			
14			
15			
16	Duncan and Maureen Brember		
17			
18	Mrs Marjory F Gray (Essex)		

**March dates still available:**

1st, 13th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 24th, 29th and 31st.



1 Peter 4:8-9 – “Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.”

### TO BOOK OR HIRE THE CHURCH HALL

Contact the Office — 01259214238 [office@clackmannankirk.org.uk](mailto:office@clackmannankirk.org.uk)  
**Please enter all bookings/meetings in the Diary in the Church Office.**

## Prayers for peace and justice

The Church of Scotland has joined other denominations in calling for peace around the world. As conflict continues in many areas of the world, many are looking for ways to offer support, be it through humanitarian aid or prayer and acts of worship.

Almighty God,  
Your Son came to be the Saviour of the world  
and the Prince of peace.  
Give us grace to follow in His ways  
and to fulfil our calling  
as peacemakers in His name.  
May His Holy Spirit  
so move in the hearts of all people  
and among the nations of the world,  
that barriers of fear, suspicion, and hatred  
which separate us may crumble and fall,  
and the peoples of the world  
be united in justice and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

(A prayer for Peace – Book of Common Order)

### CALLING ALL CHURCH MEMBERS

Our Session Clerk, Jim Millar, has indicated his wish to step down from his role later this year after 17 years in the post. We are therefore looking for someone to take on the role of Session Clerk. You do not need to be a member of Session to take on this task provided you are a member of the church.

If you are interested, or know of someone who might be suitable for the post, please speak to Jim or Austin.



## COMMUNITY COUNCIL EVENTS IN MARCH

### Wednesday March 19th

Clackmannan Community Council monthly meeting in Clackmannan Town Hall at 7 pm.

### Tuesday March 25th

#### Bingo Tea in the Bowling Clubhouse

Doors open at 7 pm—Eyes down at 7.30 pm

### Sunday March 30th

#### Mother's Day Afternoon Tea in the Bowling Clubhouse

From 1 pm—3 pm

Tickets £10 per adult and £5 child 12 and under.

Contact any Community Council Member for tickets or contact

[clackmannancc@gmail.com](mailto:clackmannancc@gmail.com)

## EASYFUNDRAISING

Twenty-four supporters have raised £1,205.65 for Clackmannan Parish Church of Scotland by logging into Easyfundraising before placing their orders online. Could you join them?

### HOW IT WORKS:

Easyfundraising turns your online shopping into every day magic! It partners with over 8,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand. Brands pay Easyfundraising a commission because when you start your shop from the Easyfundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and we turn that into a donation - magic!

Visit

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/clackmannanchurch>

to register and choose Clackmannan Parish Church as your cause—remember the charity number is SC002324.

## Feasibility Study Report – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025

In early February there was a brief meeting with the ARPL architect, Rebecca Cadie. The architect had prepared some initial sketch layouts for how we could approach alterations to both the church and church hall as possible options for future church use. She felt it would be good to go over these with us at this early stage to gauge our response before they were developed any further.

The architect indicated that these sketches were only preliminary thoughts which would need to be reviewed in detail and further discussions between ourselves and the architects to develop an agreeable layout proposal for the church and church hall before costings could be calculated.

The Steering Group will meet soon to discuss and review the proposals further and generate some feedback to the architect for further consideration.

At an appropriate stage of the study the architect has agreed, initially, to do a formal presentation of her outcome to a joint Board and Session meeting. Thereafter, a similar presentation would be planned for the congregation.

***Duncan Brember***



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*web: [www.clackmannankirk.org.uk](http://www.clackmannankirk.org.uk)*