



The Window

February 2026
Scottish Charity
Number SC002324

Clackmannan Parish Church of Scotland
linked with Sauchie and Coalsnaughton

Minister
Rev Austin Wicks



Photos © Duncan Brember

Sunday School Nativity Presentation



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.”

Church Services



Date	Time	Service
1st Feb	11.30 am	Day before Candlemas—Rev Austin Wicks
8th Feb	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks—No Sunday School
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service—Church Hall
15th Feb	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks—No Sunday School
22nd Feb	11.30 am	First Sunday in Lent—Rev Austin Wicks
1st Mar	11.30 am	Rev Austin Wicks
6th Mar	2.00 pm	WORLD DAY OF PRAYER —Sauchie—(tbc)
8th Mar	11.30 am	COMMUNION SERVICES
Crèche available every Sunday		

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 Board	Anne Dawson	01259219350	
Treasurer	Joyce Morrison	07557537611	treasurer@clackmannankirk.org.uk
The Window	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

**The World Day of Prayer service will take place at 2 pm (tbc) on
Friday 6th March
In Sauchie and Coalsnaughton Parish Church**

**Lent for the year 2026 starts on
Wednesday, February 18th and ends on Thursday, April 2nd**

Happy New Year!

I hope that everyone has had a joyful Christmastide and a happy Hogmanay. I for one had a delightful Advent and Christmas. We had wonderful activities at the church from the children's fourth advent performance, to the Festival of Christmas, end of term assemblies with Clackmannan Primary and more.

For many January is a time for resolutions and planning for the year ahead. And I am full of hope and dreams for our church. My hopes for this church and the year ahead are simple.

- I hope that this year we can finish the various authorisations needed to begin work in earnest on the church building.
- I hope this year we can connect on a deeper level with the people in our community.
- I hope to have time for long-term planning.
- I hope that we are able to find a replacement for our Session Clerk.
- I hope that we see more people stepping forward with burning desires to help lead and be an active part in the life of the church.
- I hope that I have time to run that new member class I've been trying to plan for a few months now.
- I hope to be invited to more community events run by other organisations.
- I hope we can organise a church choir to participate in worship from time to time.
- I hope that our congregation continues to grow a deeper connection with Jesus Christ.

As we look ahead to a new year together I hope that you will also share with me your hopes and dreams for our church. We are currently working on a 5-year plan to set goals for us to achieve in the next five years. Five years feels like a long time to plan for, but I think it is a good practice to get into.

Lang may yer lum reek, and may the blessing of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit be upon all of you as we start this new year together.

Love and Peace,

Austin

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Well done to everyone for a fabulous Nativity Service. All those involved had a role to play and we hope that the congregation enjoyed it as much as we did. A special thanks to Karen for making costumes at the last minute - they were amazing.

The children enjoyed a party with a visit from Santa too. Thanks to all those who contributed to the food and drinks. What a feast with goody bags to take home too.

Following on from the lessons led in church, the Sunday School theme will be 'Fruits of the Spirit' and learning around the Easter story.

Due to the February holiday there will be no Sunday School on 8th or 15th February.

If you know of any family who would like to have their children attend Sunday School please contact one of us.

Many thanks,

Sharon, Nancy, Denise and Fiona

SCHOOL FEES FOR MALAWI

The Malawi Government has announced that, from this January, fees will no longer be charged for tuition at government day schools (though, given the state of the economy, it is hard to see how this can be afforded!). However, fees will still be needed for Boarding schools and girls especially benefit from being in that environment, so we will continue to try to provide some support for them.

Anne Dawson

MEETINGS

A meeting of the Congregational Board will take place on **Tuesday 10th February at 7 pm** in the Church Hall followed by a meeting of the Kirk Session.

Please enter all bookings for the Church Hall in the Diary kept in the Church Office. **This includes meetings.**

Thank you letter from Clackmannanshire Women's Aid

Dear Mr Millar

On behalf of Clackmannanshire Women's Aid, I would like to extend our sincere thanks for the generous Christmas gifts kindly donated by the congregation of Clackmannan Parish Church to the women, children, and young people we support.

The festive season can be especially difficult for those facing challenging circumstances. Your thoughtful contributions bring not only joy but also comfort and reassurance to those in need. The gifts were received with heartfelt gratitude and have made a real difference in creating a sense of hope and belonging during this special time of year.

It is truly uplifting to witness the compassion and generosity of your congregation. Your kindness is a powerful reminder of the strength of community and the impact of reaching out with care and support.

Please share our appreciation with everyone involved in organising and contributing to this wonderful initiative. Your support means so much to us and to those we serve.

Now that the New Year has begun we send our warmest wishes to you all and our deepest gratitude for your ongoing generosity.

Kindest regards

Leanne Reynolds (Signed)

Business Officer

Many thanks to all those who supported this worthwhile venture and for supplying your gifts unwrapped. As always, you did a wonderful job. My car was so full of presents that Mary had to cadge a lift home from church.

Jim Millar

COMMUNION

The next Communion morning service will be on **Sunday 8th March at 11.30 am**. The afternoon service will be at **3 pm in the Church Hall**.

FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS—TREE FESTIVAL—SOME PHOTOS

Photos © Duncan Brember





FINANCIAL AFFAIRS FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Offerings	7,782.60	Giving to Grow	3,754.50
Investment Income	94.49	Salaries	1,347.18
Donations	390.00	Heat and Light	677.26
Funeral	115.00	Telephone	195.76
Hall Lets	260.00	Insurance	1,063.00
Fairtrade	52.62	Office, stationery, postage	153.57
Books/card sales	43.50	Spill the Beans	12.00
Festival of Christmas	3,737.04	Travel	78.42
		Fabric	484.40
		Council Tax	352.50
		Floral Gifts	106.00
		Freewill Offering Envelopes	162.51
Total Income	<u>12,475.25</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>8,387.10</u>
Surplus	4,088.15		

Deficit for year to date is £2,198.59. Please note this deficit is not the end of year position. There are some transfers done at year end that are not included in these figures, as well as Building Society interest which is added to the General Fund. The 2025 accounts are currently being finalised, at present it looks as if General Fund will end with a deficit or around £885.00 for the year.

The Christmas Eve offerings totalled £235 which has been sent to the Christian Aid 'No crib for a bed' appeal, which supports women and children fleeing violence and conflict.

The donations given at communion services retiring offerings throughout the year totalled £250 which has been sent to the Church of Scotland in support of our mission partners, Keith and Ida Waddell.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Remember to let Helen White know of anyone who would benefit from a visit, card or flowers - Helen White (07900837546).

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>January</i>		<i>January (continued)</i>	
1	Karolyn Bridgeman	18	
2		19	
3	Karolyn Brdigeman	20	Mrs Margaret Murphy
4	Mrs Irene McKay	21	Mrs Barbara Wilson
5	Anonymous	22	
6		23	The Reid Family-Inverurie
7	Jim and Mary Millar	24	
8	The Reid Family-Inverurie	25	
9	Mrs Freda Lambie	26	Anonymous
10	Mrs Isabel Gilroy	27	
11	Mrs Lysbeth Fleming	28	Mrs Lillian Clark
12	Mrs Lorraine Lindsay	29	The Young Family
13	The Ross Family-Kincardine	30	
14	Mrs Cathie Howie	31	Mrs Lysbeth Fleming
15	Mrs Helen McCallum	February dates available: 1st, 7th, 9th, 11th, 14th, 15th, 23rd, 24th, and 27th	
16	The Russell Family		
17			

Stamp Project

Church of Scotland will end their collection of used stamps in February after 56 years of support for various causes. However, as a number of charities are happy to receive them, I will still collect any used stamps you care to hand in and will look for a worthy cause to send them on to and am happy to have your suggestions for any you may know of.

Anne Dawson

CHURCH FLOWERS

We are delighted to display fresh flowers in the church but need people to donate the flowers. The Flower Diary sits in the vestibule. We can always use more volunteers to arrange the flowers for a Sunday. Speak to Jean Hillis if you can help.

February Flowers

<i>Feb</i>	<i>Contributed by</i>	<i>Arranged by</i>
<i>1</i>	Flower Fund	Jan McTaggart
<i>8</i>	Flower Fund	<i>Distributed by</i>
<i>15</i>	Flower Fund	Linda Sloan
<i>22</i>	Flower Fund	Helen White
		Elders and others
March dates are still available:		

JUST A WORD OF THANKS ...

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the cards of condolence, words of comfort, kind support and sympathy shown to them during their recent loss.

Many thanks too for your cards, visits and kind wishes during Bob's recent stay in hospital.

Bob, Lizabeth and family (Sommerville)

Susan Little would like to thank the church for the lovely flowers and card kindly delivered by Kathryn. Flowers, card and visit were very much appreciated.

I would like to thank the Pastoral Care Team for the lovely flowers and cards which were delivered from the church during my recent stay in Hospital. They were very much appreciated on my return home.

Janet Shaw

I would like to thank the Church for the flowers received after Laraine's Hospital treatment in December. And many thanks to Elizabeth for delivering and stopping by for a chat. Both flowers and visit were very much appreciated.

Alex and Laraine Birrell

Kathryn Clark would like to thank everyone for all their kind thoughts, cards and flowers and also flowers received from Pastoral Care Team – thanks to Maureen and Helen for delivering them.

Caroline McLean would like to thank Helen for delivering flowers to her recently.

Retired Nurses' Association

Nurses at Ekwendeni Hospital are no longer allowed to continue to work after the age of sixty. Having paid into a pension, they would have expected to be able to draw on that, but the Employers' Contributions have not been forthcoming and the high rate of inflation has put the cost of living beyond their means, even with the gardens most of them tend to grow their maize, beans and vegetables. Looking at ways of subsidising their income, they have begun to construct, stage by stage, a small rentable housing unit for use by students at local colleges. I propose to send them some of the jam money to assist their progress.

Anne Dawson

CLACKMANNAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Community Council Monthly meeting – **Wednesday, 18th February 2026** in Clackmannan Town Hall at 7 pm.

Bingo Tea – **Tuesday, 24th February 2026** in Clackmannan Bowling Club, doors open at 7 pm and eyes down 7.30 pm.

TUB2PUB

Now that Christmas is over, I hope you have all enjoyed munching your way through those chocolates! Remember to save the tubs and either hand them to me in church or give me a call on 07557537611 and I will collect them from you. These will then be taken to a Greene King pub where they will be recycled and the funds raised donated to MacMillan Cancer Care. In 2024 we donated 27 tubs, in 2025 it was 54. This year, thanks to a very generous donation, we had over 60 before Christmas even arrived! Last year Greene King collected over 240,000 tubs and raised £10,916 for this worthy cause. The final date for getting the tubs to me will be **Sunday 8th February**. Thank you.

Joyce Morrison

DEADLINE DATE FOR MARCH WINDOW - 8TH FEBRUARY

Email articles to **windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk**. Magazines will be available on 22nd February.



The day Santa visited the Afternoon Service

