The Window

Clackmannan Parish Church of Scotland
linked with Sauchie and Coalsnaughton

Minister
Rev Austin Wicks

December 2026
January 2027



Joan Davidson with the flowers she received in celebration of her 90th birthday

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*
6 Dec	11.30 am	Second Sunday in Advent - **Women's Aid Gift Service** - Rev Austin Wicks
13 Dec	11.30 am	Third Sunday in Advent - **Communion Service** - Rev Austin Wicks (Sunday School Party in Church Hall)
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Communion in Church Hall - Rev Austin Wicks
20 Dec	11.30 am	Fourth Sunday in Advent - **Nativity - All-age Worship led by Sunday School**
24 Dec	4.00 pm	**Christingle Service** - Rev Austin Wicks
	11.15 pm	**Watchnight Service** - Rev Austin Wicks
27 Dec	11.30 am	Morning Worship - Rev Austin Wicks
3 Jan	**10.30 am**	**Joint New Year Service in Clackmannan Parish Church**
10 Jan	11.30 am	First Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Austin Wicks
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service in Church Hall - Rev Austin Wicks
17 Jan	11.30 am	Second Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Austin Wicks
24 Jan	11.30 am	Third Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Austin Wicks
31 Jan	11.30 am	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Austin Wicks
7 Feb	11.30 am	Last Sunday after Epiphany - Rev Austin Wicks

Crèche available every Sunday

Position	**Name**	**Tel No**	**Email Address**
Minister	Rev Austin Wicks	07547392248	AWicks@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerks	Margaret Kidd	07787398703	sessionclerk@clackmannankirk.org.uk
	Gayle Fisher	07960181733	
Depute Sc + Clerk to Board	Anne Dawson	01259219350	
Treasurer	Joyce Morrison	07557537611	treasurer@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Window Editor	Mary Millar		windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Organist	Maciej Piszczalka		
Church Officer	Garry McPhee	01259219235	
Church Office	Tues 10 am	01259720583	office@clackmannankirk.org.uk

Deadline Date for February Window - Sunday 17th January 2027

Grace and Peace to you, and Happy Christmas!

Well, almost. We're still at the beginning of advent, but it can feel like Christmas is almost upon us. In many ways it already is for me. In fact some of our preparation for the Festival of Christmas frequently begins before June. We are excited to welcome our wider community into the church to share in the joy of the birth of our Saviour.

We have had many people offer to help with the festival but we can always use a few extra hands to welcome our neighbours into the church. If you are unable to come along and volunteer, you can help your church by coming along and bringing a friend. Telling everyone about the event is also a wonderful way to help your church get the word out in the community. Flyers and Facebook posts help, but hearing their neighbour or friend personally recommend it is always the best way to learn about new things.

Speaking of new things, we have a new boiler that is to be installed soon into our church, which will be nice to have once again. And it will continue to serve our congregation even long after our new building renovations are completed.

We are still a ways off from when that will be completed, but we move closer every day. Please continue to pray for our Way Forward team who are working hard to ensure our building is renovated to meet our needs, and who are working hard to find sources of funding so that we can afford said renovations.

We will begin the applications in earnest in the new year once final approvals are received so please continue to pray for your kirk. New things are on the horizon, new events, a new building, and new members too. I'm sure of it.

May you have a blessed Christmas and New Year,

Love and Peace,
Rev Austin Wicks

Please note - The service on 3rd January 2027 will be a Joint Service in Clackmannan Parish Church at 10.30 am

TO BOOK OR HIRE THE CHURCH HALL—Contact the Office (01259 720583). ALL meetings should be entered in the diary.

Visiting in the New Year

If you would like a visit from your district elder, please don't hesitate to reach out to the church office and let them know. They will pass the message along to the appropriate individuals.

If you would like a visit from the minister please send your name and contact details into the church office or you can email them to me directly. I cannot promise I will be able to visit everyone swiftly, but I promise to visit as many of you as I can.

Austin (AWicks@churchofscotland.org.uk)

NEPAL APPEAL

The response to the Smartie tube appeal for Nepal has been good. With still a few donations to come in the total at present stands at £803. Many thanks to all who helped with this appeal.

CHURCH DIARY

4th February - Board Meeting at 7 pm followed by Session Meeting.

PASTORAL CARE

Please inform Helen White (07900837546) if you know of anyone who would appreciate a card, visit or some flowers. We know that these are all very much appreciated but need information from YOU to help us deliver this service.



What do you call a snowman with a six-pack?

An abdominal snowman!



Why did the gingerbread man go to the doctor?

He was feeling crummy!



What's a snowman's favorite snack?

Ice Krispie treats.



How do Christmas trees get ready for a party?

They spruce up!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Wow what a quick year this has been. Some dates for your diary:

Christmas Party – this will take place on **Sunday 13th December** during the Communion Service and will finish at 12.40 pm. Please can children be dropped off at the Church Hall at 11.20 am? Families are welcome to join us in the hall after church - hopefully we may get a visit from Santa.

Nativity – this will take place on **20th December** with a dress rehearsal at 10.30 am before the congregation arrive.

Christmas Holidays – There will be no Sunday School 27th December or 3rd January but we look forward to seeing everyone again on **10th January 2027**.

Fiona, Sharon, Nancy and Denise

FINANCE - OCTOBER 2026

	£		£
Offerings	3,438.00	Giving to Grow	3,682.70
Investment Income	30.33	Salaries	673.59
Ragbag	22.40	Travel	115.86
		Council Tax	375.00
		Heat and Light	181.28
		Telephone	129.89
		Insurance	472.60
		Fabric	225.00
		Office etc	339.26
		Website	41.99
		Spill the Beans	12.00
		Bank Charges	18.97
	3,490.73		6,268.14
Deficit	-2,777.41		

This gives a deficit for the month of £2,777.41 and a deficit year to date of £3,907.75.

COMMUNION

The next communion services will be on Sunday 13th December at 11.30 am and 3 pm. There will be a retiring collection to support our Mission Partners.

ROCK CHOIR

Clackmannan Parish Church

12th December 2026
From 2pm till 4 pm

Come and join us as we welcome back
the ever popular Rock Choir

This is a great time to hear a variety of your
favourite songs and you are guaranteed
to be singing along.

There will be a break midway through
the performance where you can enjoy
a cuppa and cake.



Entry by Donation

All donations will go towards future renovations

Clackmannan Parish Church of Scotland
Scottish Charity Number SC002324



John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

BLYTHWOOD CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

Last Wednesday (11th November) Blythswood came with their van and collected a total of 201 boxes together with a cash sum of £280 (for postage). To say they were delighted to take all the boxes is an understatement. I am also glad that they were collected as I can now get the use of my front room, Eleanor can get the use of her summerhouse and Janis can get into her house via the front door! It has most definitely been a team effort, as in past years, with Eleanor doing the shopping and obtaining the bargains (she has an inner power) and Janis, who is surrounded by folk who just love to give her boxes and their contents, helping, along with all of you, to make it a really magnificent success again this year. I would also like to thank Anne and Lynne from Asda who very kindly donated empty boxes and 40 rolls of Christmas wrapping paper. As I said - a whole team effort. So if you filled a box or donated some cash - thank you most sincerely for your kindness.

It fills our hearts with a great pride knowing that what is to us a little effort will make such a difference to folk we don't know, but who will appreciate the contents of the boxes. We have so much so it is good to spread the wealth that we have with others less fortunate than ourselves.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU,THANK YOU THANK YOU.

Helen White



TUB2PUB

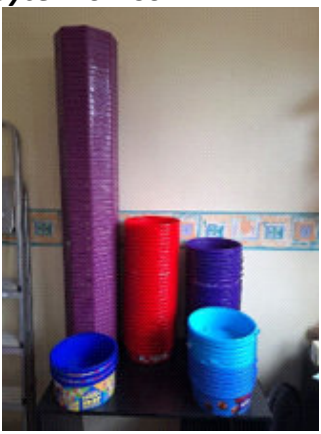
It's that time of year again and soon everyone will be tucking into those lovely chocolates. Whether your choice is Quality Street, Roses, Heroes, Celebrations, or any other, please remember to keep hold of your tubs, and either pass them to me in church, or give me a call on 07557537611 to arrange collection – plastic tubs only please, unfortunately the tins are not accepted.

I will then take them to a Greene King pub, where they will be passed for recycling. Since Tub2Pub launched Greene King has diverted over 470,000 tubs from landfill and donated over £34,000 to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Over the3 years we have been doing this collection, we have contributed 189 tubs, with the total last year being 108 – can we beat that? I already have over 30 as some people have been giving me them throughout the year.

Many thanks

Joyce Morrison





USED STAMPS

Please cut the stamps from your Christmas mail but remember to leave a border round the stamps. There is a collection jar for them in the church vestibule.

Anne Dawson

CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING - 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.



November 2026

1 Mrs Lysbeth Fleming
2 Mr Alastair Todd
3 Mr Alastair Todd
4 Ms Lesley McKenzie
5 Mrs Helen McCallum
6
7 Mrs Grace Hamilton
8 The Ross Family/Mrs Margaret Easton
9
10 Mrs Julie Moorhouse
11
12
13 The Ross Family/Mrs Margaret Easton
14
15
16
17 Mr Neil Wyllie, Dublin
18 Jim and Mary Millar
19 Mrs Jan McTaggart
20
21 Mrs Nesta Kettles
22
23 Mrs Lysbeth Fleming
24 Mrs Nancy Turnbull
25 Mrs Nancy Turnbull
26 Mrs Nancy Turnbull
27 Mrs Nancy Turnbull
28 Mrs Nancy Turnbull
29 Mrs Nancy Turnbull
30 Mrs Nancy Turnbull

December 2026 dates still available:

2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 28th and 29th.

December 2026

1 Mrs Jan McTaggart
2
3 Mrs Rosemary Ramage
4
5
6
7 Mrs Marjorie Gray, Essex
8
9
10 Mrs Lillian Wilson
11 Mrs Margaret Duncan and Family
12 Mrs Lorraine Lindsay
13 Mrs Margaret Murphy
14 Mrs Margaret Duncan and Family
15 Jim and Mary Millar
16 Mr Neil Wyllie, Dublin
17 Mrs Margaret Murphy
18 Sam and Margaret Harris
19
20
21
22 Mr James Lindsay
23 The Reid Family
24 The Reid Family
25 Mr Ian Smith
26 Mrs Chris Fyfe
27 Mrs Chris Fyfe
28
29
30 Mrs Margo Smith
31 Mrs Margo Smith

January 2027 dates still available:

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 9th, 14th, 18th, 19th, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th and 30th.

FLOWER DONATIONS FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

Dec	*Donated by*	*Arranged by*
6	Jean Hillis	Jean Hillis
13	Anne Dawson	*Delivered by*
20	Flower Fund	Helen White, elders and others
27	Christmas Flowers	
Jan	*Donated by*	*Arranged by*
3	Christmas Flowers	Karen Brander
10	Flower Fund	*Delivered by*
17	Flower Fund	Helen White, elders and others
24	Flower Fund	
31	Flower Fund	

JUST A WORD OF THANKS ...

Thanks you for the lovely flowers I received recently from the church.. they were much appreciated as was Helen's visit to deliver them. Thanks you. ***Jenny Trevino***

Janet Hawke would like to thank Pastoral Care Team for flowers delivered after morning worship – also thanks to Helen for delivering them.

Betty Watson would like to say thank you very much for the lovely flowers Helen delivered. She made time to have a chat. Thanks Helen.

I would like to say thank you to the Church for the beautiful flowers for my 90th birthday. It was very much appreciated. Thank you. **Joan Davidson**

😂 **What do you call an obnoxious reindeer?**

Rude-olph.

😂 **What did the stamp say to the Christmas card?**

Stick with me and we'll go places!

😂 **Why did no one bid for Rudolph and Blitzen on eBay?**

Because they were two deer!

CLACKMANNAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

9TH December 2026 – Senior Citizens' Christmas Party, Clackmannan Bowling Club. Doors open at 12 noon with the event starting at 12.30 pm.

No Council Meeting or Bingo Tea in December.

20th January 2027 – Monthly Meeting of Council in Clackmannan Town Hall at 7 pm. All residents of Clackmannan, Forestmill and Kennet are invited.

Tuesday 26th January, 2027 - Bingo Tea (first for 2027) in Clackmannan Bowling Club – doors open at 7 pm with eyes down at 7.30 pm.

The Sunshine Has A Pleasant Way by Annette Wynne

The sunshine has a pleasant way
Of shining on us all the day,
It makes the little window bright,
And fills the room with pretty light.

It goes into the garden bed,
And shines on every flower head;
It warms each leaf and bud and seed
Till all the world is glad, indeed.

It creeps into the children's faces
And climbs into the highest places,
It makes me want to work and sing
And do my best in everything.

I'm glad the sunshine comes each day
To help me work and laugh and play;
To keep the little window bright
And fill the room with pretty light.

CLACKMANNAN PARISH CHURCH

Festival of Christmas 2026

Thursday 3rd December 10am to 8pm
Friday 4th December 10am to 8pm
Saturday 5th December 10am to 7pm



There will be musical entertainment and gifts to buy



Our Festival will end with carol singing on the Saturday evening from 7.00 to 7.30pm.



Entry by donation

ALL ARE WELCOME



Scottish Charity Number SC 002324

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