



The Window

Scottish Charity
Number SC002324

Clackmannan Parish Church of Scotland
linked with Sauchie and Coalsnaughton

May 2024

Christian Aid Week 12-18 May 2024

With your help, we can work towards a world where families can escape the trap of poverty and fulfil their ambitions. Seven days, so many ways to fund lasting change.

Churches across Scotland are raising funds whichever way they can for this year's Christian Aid Week (the 68th) focusing on Burundi - one of the most densely populated and poorest countries in Africa.

We are offering a Soup and Sandwich lunch after the service on 12th May to raise funds for Christian Aid



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 May	7.00 pm	Service of Remembrance
5th May	11.30 am	Morning Worship
12th May	11.30 am	Morning Worship followed by Soup and Sandwich lunch for Christian Aid
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service—BMH*
19th May	11.30 am	Morning Worship + Fairtrade Stall
26th May	11.30 am	Morning Worship + magazine uplift
2nd June	11.30 am	Morning Worship followed by Stated Annual Meeting
9th June	11.30 am	Morning Worship—Communion
	3.00 pm	Afternoon Service BMH + Communion
* Bruce Memorial Hall next to Manse		Crèche available every Sunday

Telephone Numbers and Email Addresses

Position	Name	Tel No	Email address
Minister	Rev Austin Wicks	07547 392248	AWicks@churchofscotland.org.uk
Session Clerk	Jim Millar	01259217361	sessionclerk@clackmannankirk.org.uk
Depute SC + Clerk to Board	Anne Dawson	01259219350	
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Church Office	Tues 10 am	01259214238	office@clackmannankirk.org.uk

DEADLINE DATE FOR JUNE WINDOW - 12TH MAY

Email articles to **windoweditor@clackmannankirk.org.uk** or place in the "Window" box in the **Church Office** (open Tuesdays 10 am—12 noon). Magazines will be available on 26th May 2024.

Dear Friends

Spring is beginning to bravely show its face with flowers blooming, lambs prancing, and rain showers constantly reminding me that I live in Scotland. (I love living here!) It's been a little over a month since my arrival and I think that we have weathered the stress test that is Holy Week and Easter. Thank you to everyone who was able to make it out to the extra services, all were well attended and hopefully attended well to your spiritual needs. With my eyes on the future, I have been doing my best to ascertain what has happened and what is happening. I still have to make the time to meet with some of the church folks to learn more about their experiences and history, but I am beginning to develop a few thoughts of my own about what we might do next together.

The first of which is to re-establish the church Facebook page. Having our own website does wonders for us, but nothing beats the easy advertising of asking members to share church posts to their own Facebook page. If you have any interest in helping manage the church Facebook page, please reach out to me and let me know.

I have enjoyed our times together on Sunday mornings but I have a desire for a minor change to our morning services. As someone who thoroughly enjoys leading worship and feels spiritually fulfilled from helping guide others in worship, I would like to open up the opportunity for others to share in some of the elements of worship leadership.

Specifically, I would like volunteers to lead Prayer during at least one of the prayers on a Sunday morning. I will not be tossing you to the wolves alone of course, I intend to run a 'prayer workshop' of sorts. A quick guide to ways in which you can find prayer inspiration or some pre-written prayers that you could read during worship.

For what it's worth all of my favourite Sunday morning prayers have been from somebody else. I love to hear others pray on our behalf to God almighty and I hope you will be willing to step up and give it a try. Again please reach out to me if you are interested.

I have a few more ideas in the pipeline but they need time to percolate before being publicised. In the meantime I hope that you will continue to

join us on a Sunday morning, and continue to keep your ears open to the call of the Spirit and all the wonderful ways you can serve your local church.

Love and Peace

Austin

CHURCH UPDATE

Hello Everyone

A quick update on the building process. As per the revised Presbytery Mission Plan, Clackmannan has been tasked with choosing either the Church Hall, or the church building going forward. This was previously a dictation to sell the church building, but we have been given the opportunity to explore our options.

As of the writing of this newsletter, the Session and working group assigned to this task have chosen an architectural firm to do a feasibility study on both of these buildings to see what changes will need to be made for them to be fit for purpose and how much it would cost.

We have applied to Presbytery for a grant to cover the cost of the feasibility study, and hopefully will hear back good news from them soon. If approval is given, we will proceed with the feasibility study over the course of 12 weeks before being given final project proposals.

We are still a long way down the line before any final decisions need to be made, but on behalf of the Session I wanted to notify you, the congregation, of our progress so far.

Love and Peace

Austin

on behalf of the Board and Session

CHURCH DIARY

1st May	7 pm	Service of Remembrance
14th May	7 pm	Board Meeting/Kirk Session Meeting
11th June—5th September	2 pm — 4 pm	Open Church

CHURCH FLOWERS

Thank you for your continued support of the Flower Fund which funds the flowers when no-one has chosen a particular date. All donations are gratefully received and there are envelopes in the vestry for donations. If you wish to donate flowers for a particular date a donation of £20 is suggested. Remember to add your name and phone number to the Flower Diary and place your donation envelope in the offering plate.

May Flowers		
<i>May</i>	<i>Contributed by</i>	<i>Arranged by</i>
5th	Jan McTaggart	Jan McTaggart
12th	Agnes Walker	<i>Distributed by</i>
19st	Helen White	Linda Sloan
26th	Margaret Marr	Helen White, elders and others

JUST A WORD OF THANKS ...

What a wonderful surprise to receive the church flowers. They were so appreciated. Thank you all for thinking of me, and to Aileen for delivering them.

Lucy McGregor

Thank you for the flowers I received—they were much appreciated and thank you to Aileen Birrell for delivering them

Angela Bond

Many thanks for the church flowers delivered by Jim.

Margaret McIntyre

I was surprised and delighted to receive flowers from the church on Sunday. They were lovely, and fairly lifted my spirits. This kind gesture was very much appreciated.

Maureen Dalglish

Anne Blackadder would like to say thank you for the flowers and kind wishes sent following her recent operation.

Mabel Davidson was delighted to receive the flowers from the church after her long stay in hospital and thanks the church members for remembering her in this way.

TO BOOK OR HIRE THE CHURCH HALL OR BRUCE MEMORIAL HALL— contact the **Office (01259 214238)**. Enter **ALL** meetings in Diary.

ITEMS FROM MANSE LOOKING FOR A GOOD HOME



Virtually new combined fridge/freezer



If you are interested in any of the above items please contact Property Convener Craig Hislop or the Clerk to the Board Anne Dawson

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, flowers or a visit.



People really appreciate being remembered with the flowers from the church which are distributed after the services.

Isaiah 43:18-19



“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.”

OPEN CHURCH—VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The church will be open to visitors on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons between the hours of 2 pm and 4 pm from **11th June – 5th September 2024.**



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 will be in the vestibule. For more information phone Anne Paterson on 01259 751742.

**CLACKMANNAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Forthcoming Events**

BINGO TEA

31st May, 2024

Clackmannan Masonic Hall

Doors open 7 pm and Eyes down 7.30 pm

ROCK IN THE PARK

15th June, 2024

Alexander Park—1-4 pm

Stirling Rock Choir, Children’s Disco, Disney Characters,
Cake & Candy Stall, Homemade Jams, Tombola, Bottle Stall, Jewellery,
Scented Candles, Bric-a-Brac,
Pre-loved clothes, (don’t throw anything out – we can collect)
Local Fire Brigade

to name but a few – make a day of it. Look forward to seeing you there!

Latest News from Mwandi

Keith and Ida Waddell will be home on furlough soon and there will be an opportunity to hear them speak at the evening service at Tullibody St Serf's on 5th May.

In their Easter letter they sounded less upbeat than normal and said how much they value the prayers of Partner congregations as they encounter challenges.

At the brickyard they have had to put workers on to shorter hours as orders have been slow to come in. Their quality, durable blocks are made with quarry dust which is expensive to transport but makes a better block than those locally produced using sand and cement. Not having their own lorry on the mission greatly increases the cost of anything that has to be brought in, like food for the fish and the chickens or building materials.

Zambia, like neighbouring Malawi, has been dealing with a cholera epidemic which delayed the opening of schools. Mwandi escaped the cholera, being a drier and less densely populated part of the country. Heavy rainfall was followed by a drought which caused the maize crop to fail and 85% of households face food insecurity. The water level in the Kariba Dam is too low to allow the turbines to operate at full capacity, leading to load sharing (a euphemism for intermittent power cuts). The old petrol generator has been brought out of retirement.

On the plus side, the visit of the voluntary surgical team from USA was eagerly anticipated for a number of trickier surgeries to be undertaken. The home for the elderly has had a bit of a facelift and both hospital staff and vulnerable patients have benefited from art therapy sessions designed to improve mental health.

Anne Dawson

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” — John 14:27



FINANCIAL AFFAIRS FOR MARCH 2024

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Offerings	4,028.60	Ministry	2,961.70
Investment Income	28.52	Presbytery	1,166.00
Hall lets	72.00	Travel	49.50
Donations	30.00	Relief Organist	455.00
Sale of book	6.00	Heat and Light	1,259.91
Funeral	100.00	Telephone	66.95
		Insurance	559.19
		Salaries	340.00
		Office	292.99
		Pulpit Supply	100.00
		Independent examiner	330.00
		Fabric	384.00
		Urn	54.99
		Induction costs	58.50
		Communion glasses	89.19
		Gifts/presentations	57.50
Total Income	4,265.12	Total Expenditure	8,225.42
Deficit	-3,960.30		

Following the induction on 7th March, we received the new figure for our Giving to Grow contribution. The amount now required for the year is £35,453.00. We have already paid £5,923.40 of this in February and March, leaving £29,529.60 due. A new standing order of £3,691.20 per month, from April to November, has been set up to cover this.

FYI—Sauchie and Coalsnaughton Parish Church services on a Sunday will now start at 9.30 am.

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>April</i>		<i>April (continued)</i>	
1	Duncan and Maureen Brember	19	
2	Mrs Linda Sloan	20	Mrs Lysbeth Fleming
3		21	
4	Bill and Margaret McKenzie	22	Jim and Mary Millar
5	Mrs Margaret MacPhie	23	Duncan and Maureen Brember
6	Sam and Margaret Harris	24	
7		25	Mrs Margaret MacPhie
8		26	
9	Bill and Margaret McKenzie	27	
10	George and Doreen Gallagher	28	Mrs Freda Lambie
11	Duncan and Maureen Brember	29	
12	Mrs Ishbel Brown	30	
13		May dates still available: 2nd, 3rd, 4th 13th, 17th, 24th, 29th, 30th and 31st.	
14	The Bramham Family		
15			
16	Mrs Linda Sloan		
17			
18	Mrs Lysbeth Fleming		

DON'T FOR HUSBANDS – A FEW TIPS FROM 1913-submitted by Helen White

Don't omit to bring home an occasional bunch of flowers or a few chocolates. Your wife will value even a penny bunch of violets for your thought of her.

Don't rush out of the house in such a hurry that you haven't time to kiss your wife 'good-bye'. She will grieve over the omission all day.

Don't ever forget your wife's birthday. Even if she doesn't want the whole world to know her age, she doesn't like YOU to forget.

Don't insist on having the last word. If you know when to drop an argument, you are a wise man.



The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland is encouraging members to join the Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative running from Ascension Day to Pentecost Sunday (Thursday 8 May - Sunday 19 May)

Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

Since it began in May 2016, God has grown TKC from a dream of possibility into a movement which unites more than a million Christians in prayer, in nearly 90% of countries worldwide, across 85 different denominations and traditions- so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Every person, household and church are encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way.

It is our hope and prayer, that those who have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for the world, will hear it for themselves and respond and follow Him.

Specifically, we again invite each and every Christian across the globe to pray that God's Spirit might work in the lives of 5 people who have not responded with their 'Yes' to God's call.

Whether you have joined in 'Thy Kingdom Come' before or not, we invite you to take part and join in.

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."

Archbishop Justin Welby

This year a digital Scottish Prayer Journal will feature different recordings including from Ms Foster-Fulton on the 10th day and from Rev Dr Shaw Paterson, the Moderator Designate, on Pentecost Sunday.

Dr John McPake, Ecumenical Officer of the Church of Scotland, said: "In 2024, the first Scottish edition of the Prayer Journal brings together voices from across the Church in this country and it is my privilege to commend it to you."

[Visit the Thy Kingdom Come website](#) for more details,

SERVICE of REMEMBRANCE and THANKSGIVING



A special time to remember and give thanks for loved ones who have passed away will be held in Clackmannan Parish Church on Wednesday 1st May 2024, at 7.00 pm.

All those grieving a loss of any kind will be welcome.

Refreshments will be served after the service and there will be an opportunity to talk with the minister or a member of the Pastoral Care Team.

COMMUNION AND ISSUE OF CARDS

Just a reminder that Communion Cards are no longer being issued before every communion. Dates of communion can be found in The Window and on the church website—www.clackmannankirk.org.uk.

**Communion services will be held on 9TH JUNE 2024
at 11.30 am and 3 pm.**