



Everyone Welcome

**King's Park
Church of Scotland**

'sharing God's love by reaching out to others'

Morning Worship 11.00am

Celebration of Communion
2nd Sunday of March, June, September and December
11.00am

www.kingsparkchurch.co.uk Tel No: 0141 636 8688



Parish Profile

KING'S PARK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW
REGISTERED CHARITY WITH SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER: SC017040

Contents

Welcome	3
Our Church	4
• History	4
• Today	5
Mission	6
• Mission Context	6
Worship Life	8
• Pattern of Sunday Worship	8
• Online Worship	8
• Special Services	9
• Fellowship throughout the week	9
• Local Church Review	10
• Kirk Session	11
• Our Worship in Numbers	11
Pastoral Care	12
• Pastoral Support	12
• Prayer Elder	12
Community	13
Christian Education	14
• Youth Work	14
• Adult Work	14
• Community Youth Work	15
Ecumenical Context	15
World Church	16
Stewardship and Finance	17
Staffing	17
Property	18
• The Church and Halls	18
• Other Property	18
• The Manse	19
More Information	20
• Web Links	20
• Interim Moderator	20

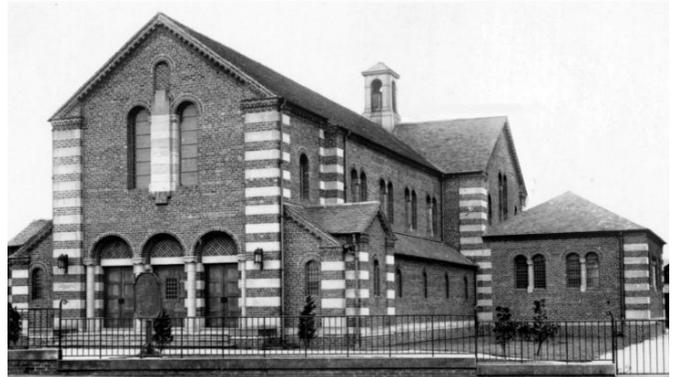
Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction.



Our Church

History

The charge of King's Park was formed in 1930. In May of that year the church (our original wooden hall – now gone!) was opened and by June 1930, there were 157 members in the church family. In 1931 the foundation stone was laid for the 'new' church and the building, as it is now, was dedicated in February 1932 and subsequently, in 1933, the church achieved 'full status.'



The new church in the area continued to grow through the years to a peak in membership in 1960 of 3,456! Prior to that, to be able to accommodate the active and growing church and community organisations, a new suite of halls was added and dedicated in 1952 with a further more modern suite of accessible halls dedicated in 1997. This has allowed King's Park Church to commit fully to serving the local community with many people using our halls on a daily basis.

In its short history King's Park Church has been blessed with the service of five ministers along with a succession of assistants and associates, all to the glory of God. We recently enjoyed our 90th anniversary – a year of celebration and thanksgiving.



Today



Due to presbytery planning and the recent lockdown restrictions, we have been without a minister for a number of years; however, during that time we have continued to flourish as a congregation and have ensured that there has been no detriment to the ongoing life and mission of our church.

We continue to be challenged by the national concerns of the need for revival in the Church of Scotland, however, we are working hard to reach out and build relationships with our local community. During the recent pandemic, we introduced online worship, including live streaming of services, opening our doors to a wider audience.

We are a mainstream church, with a devoted congregation, very involved in worship, prayer and fellowship. King's Park is at the centre of the community, where we are seen as the heart of christian life. We very much look forward to having a spiritual leader who will take us on the next stage of our journey as we seek to become even more inclusive and welcoming.



Mission

Since the early 2010s, the Mission of King's Park Church has been *Sharing God's Love, by Reaching out to Others*.

Our Mission Statement reflects the way the church engages with the community and its members. There are a variety of social groups which are open to anyone from the community and the halls are used extensively by youth organisations and community groups.



Sharing God's Love, by Reaching out to Others

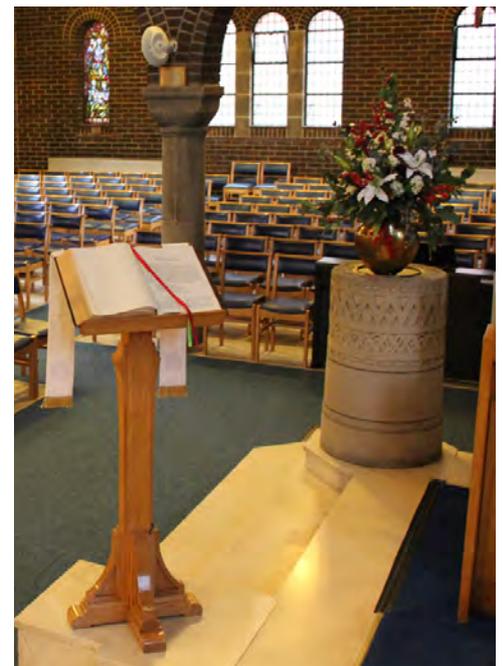
Mission Context

Along with every other parish church, we have had to engage with the five marks for mission in the course of negotiating our way through the planning process. Our reflections are outlined below:

Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

What are we doing?

- Providing in-person worship in sanctuary and online services
- Regular consideration given to style, content and effectiveness of worship
- Sunday School/Messy Church
- Banners outside church building – further opportunities for witness and Christian welcome; Wayside Pulpit posters, wooden cross outside during Holy Week, Garden of Remembrance;
- School chaplaincy/Scripture Union (in conjunction with Reachout Trust)
- Considering how best to reach out to all groups using our halls
- Website info/Facebook - daily bible verse
- Worship and IT teams supporting locum in all worship mediums
- Weekly Prayer meetings
- Parish wide delivery of Christmas & Easter cards



Teach, Baptise and nurture new believers

What are we doing?

- Cod Tock (weekly bible study group)
- Baptisms – congregation’s promise to help in the Christian upbringing
- Communicant classes
- Welcome Pack – particularly for new members
- Sunday School/Messy Church/BB etc – nurturing younger “new believers”
- Encouraging participation in church life (groups/worship) wherever/whenever possible
- Online ministry expansion from zero to live streaming worship
- Scripture Union in schools

Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

What are we doing?

- Review of accommodation e.g. LED lighting systems throughout church and halls/introduction of recycling bins and litter pick around the parish
- Continued development to become an Eco congregation
- Establishment of sensory garden plus planting of flowers and siting of bug boxes to encourage insects
- Proposed support of Climate Sunday
- Bi-monthly church magazine now online – saving paper and ink
- No printed orders of service - saving paper and ink

Respond to human need by loving service

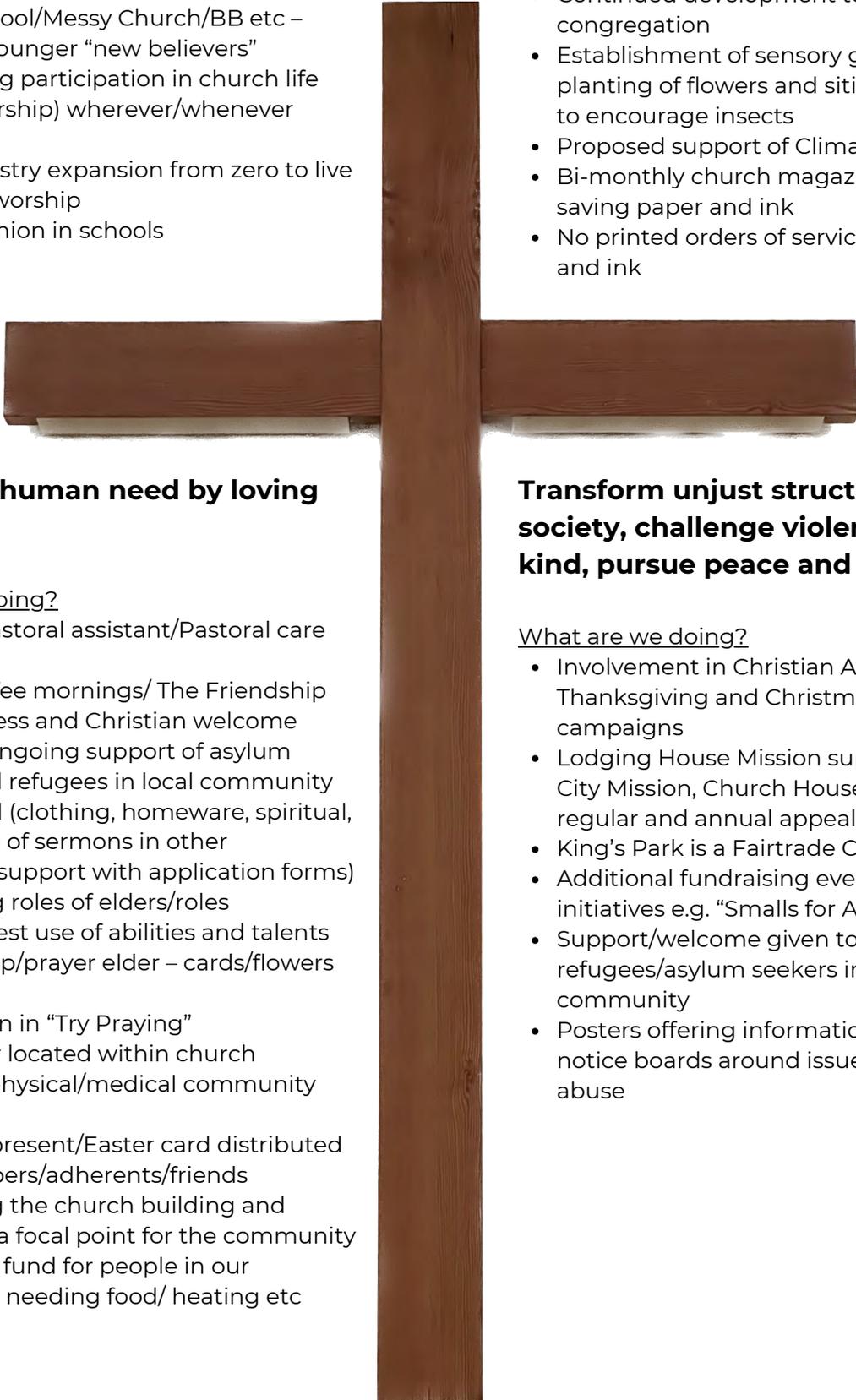
What are we doing?

- Full time pastoral assistant/Pastoral care team
- Weekly coffee mornings/ The Friendship Club – witness and Christian welcome
- Welcome/ongoing support of asylum seekers and refugees in local community and beyond (clothing, homeware, spiritual, preparation of sermons in other languages, support with application forms)
- Considering roles of elders/roles generally/best use of abilities and talents
- Prayer group/prayer elder – cards/flowers distributed
- Participation in “Try Praying”
- Defibrillator located within church grounds – physical/medical community need
- Christmas present/Easter card distributed to all members/adherents/friends
- Maintaining the church building and gardens as a focal point for the community
- Benevolent fund for people in our community needing food/ heating etc

Transform unjust structures of society, challenge violence of every kind, pursue peace and reconciliation

What are we doing?

- Involvement in Christian Aid Week, Harvest Thanksgiving and Christmas fundraising campaigns
- Lodging House Mission support/Glasgow City Mission, Church House and other regular and annual appeals
- King’s Park is a Fairtrade Church
- Additional fundraising events/encouraging initiatives e.g. “Smalls for All”
- Support/welcome given to a number of refugees/asylum seekers in local community
- Posters offering information on internal notice boards around issues such as sexual abuse



Worship Life

Pattern of Sunday Worship

Worship takes place weekly at 11am on a Sunday morning, all children are welcome. Holy Communion is celebrated four times per year, again, with all children made welcome. Worship is shaped by glorifying God through praise, prayer and the preaching of the Word. Our minister is supported by an active worship group, pastoral assistant and youth leaders, with approximately 80-100 in the congregation weekly. We have an employed organist playing our church organ and piano, enhancing our service with music. Our service is live streamed via Facebook and shared on YouTube.

- All age worship adapting to the changing needs of the congregation.
- Sunday School.
- Blended modern and traditional hymns/songs organ led.
- Service live streamed from three cameras around the sanctuary.
- PowerPoint, videos etc. are used via screens/monitors.
- Lay participation in leading worship.
- A warm welcoming atmosphere, leading to a feeling of togetherness and inclusion during worship.



Online Worship

During the global pandemic, weekly worship moved to pre-recorded services available on Facebook and YouTube on a Sunday morning. This has evolved into live streaming all services using modern audio visual and IT equipment, ensuring that everyone can participate in worship from home.

Special Services

- Advent and Christmas Services, including primary schools and family watchnight
- Annual Memorial Service - Remembering Loved Ones
- Brownie and Guide Thinking Day
- Annual Dedication of our church
- Holy Week and Easter
- Celebration of Youth
- School year end services
- Harvest Thanksgiving
- Remembrance Sunday
- Quarterly Messy Church
- Joint services with our neighbours at Croftfoot



Fellowship throughout the week

Church is about people, some 400 of us, the majority of whom are actively involved in the many and varied activities that go on in and around our church every day. We are a friendly congregation offering a broad ministry that provides a healthy balance of spiritual and social activities throughout the week from Prayer Group and God Tock bible study to the Friendship Club and uniformed organisations.



Local Church Review

During our most recent local church review we identified a need to move from a maintenance church to one that focuses on mission – growing disciples especially in the 25-40 age group. We also sought to work more collaboratively with Croftfoot Parish Church. The priorities of Worship, Community, Mission and Belonging remain important for us as a church and, whilst we have started on the journey, we look forward to working with our new minister to achieve these.

New/different musical input

Flexible use of sanctuary

Serving

Worship

Other locations

New ways of worshipping

Services on different days

Encouraging participation

Inviting

Community

Structured training

Giving

Learning

Become an eco congregation

Make time

Mission

Loving service

Set targets

Reach out to parish

Presbytery news

Engage with 121

Belonging

Magazine

Website

Social Media



Kirk Session

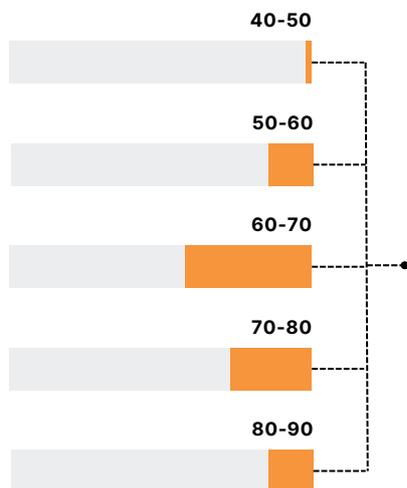
The Kirk Session meets on a regular monthly basis to ensure our mission statement is being upheld. Elders were last ordained/admitted to the Kirk Session in March 2016. The church formally received approval to move to a Unitary Constitution on 26th June 2022.

Since our recent transition to a unitary constitution, our four main groupings are:

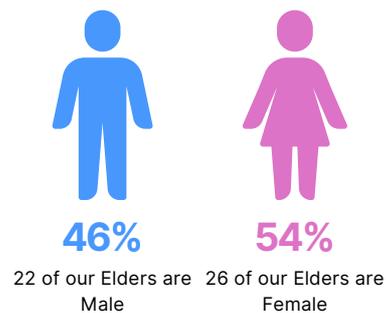
- Mission and Outreach
- Administration
- Finance and Fabric
- Pastoral and Worship

There are 48 elders in the Kirk Session

Age Profile



Gender Mix



Our Worship in Numbers

We are a very active church, welcoming new members by profession of faith, certificate of transference and resolution of the Kirk Session. We have seen around 20 new communicants join our church family in the last five years. As well as new members, we have a number of people participating in worship and weekly activities who are involved in our fellowship.

Communion Roll

We have 400 members on our Communion Roll with an average of 80-100 people attending Sunday worship. Our live streamed service reaches out to a large number of people who worship from home.

Baptisms

We have celebrated 13 baptisms during the last 5 years.

Funerals

There have been 138 funerals during the last 5 years, averaging 28 per year. Of these, 90 were members or their spouses and 48 were Parish funerals.

Pastoral Care

We currently have a full time, paid pastoral assistant who supports many of our pastoral needs at King's Park. The minister and pastoral assistant met regularly to discuss pastoral issues and identify where support and visits were necessary. Be it to sheltered accommodation, care or nursing home, hospital or private home, our pastoral assistant is very much out there, spearheading our pastoral responsibilities to church family, parish and beyond.

We have an active prayer group, as well as a weekly Friendship Club. Many of our elders support the pastoral needs of those in their districts, and with the assistance of dedicated volunteers, ensure that our congregation is well cared for.

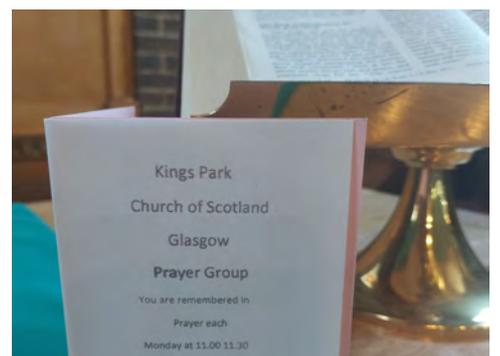
Pastoral Support

Our building is available seven days a week, and we continue to seek opportunities to reach out and make space for enabling support across the local community.



Prayer Elder

We believe that life should start with prayer as its foundation. We have a prayer elder leading the weekly Prayer Group. Anyone who needs prayer or support can be added to the prayer list, with prayer cards being sent to those who need them. The Prayer Group also supports national and world wide issues when needed, with special meetings to explore the power of healing prayer and developing prayer life in our church.



Community

We are a busy church at the heart of our community. We recognise that the area of King's Park has undergone significant changes over the past 5 years. The area is now increasingly multi-racial; there are a significant number of retired and unemployed people living in the area.

The church supports asylum seekers and refugee families in their time of need. The Friendship Club was set up to support fellowship in the community, especially amongst the elderly.

We work closely with Croftfoot Parish Church, supporting 'The Pantry' (a local food project, based in Croftfoot Church) spiritually in our prayers, but also practically, by providing food and financial aid on a regular basis.

In response to the recent cost of living challenges, we set up a 'Warm Space' throughout the winter months for anyone in our community to gather in fellowship over a warm lunch.



Our Community in Numbers:

If King's Park was a village of 100 people...

- 8 would be in primary school; 5 would be in secondary school
- 28 would be aged between 25-44
- 13 would be aged 65 or over
- 76 would be of working age (16-74)
- 85 would describe themselves as 'White-Scottish'
- 4 would describe their health as bad or very bad
- 10 would be providing unpaid care
- **27 would say they belong to the Church of Scotland**

If King's Park was a village of 100 households...

- 28 would consist of one person, 11 of whom are aged 65 or over
- 32 would have dependent children
- 19 would be in rented accommodation
- 71 would have access to at least one car or van
- 8 would speak a language other than English in their home

SOURCE: CHURCH OF SCOTLAND STATISTICS FOR MISSION, CENSUS 2011





Community Craft Cafe

Our weekly community craft cafe is open to all, it's a 'crafty' place to meet for fellowship over a cup of tea! Whether experienced or not, everyone is encouraged to join in. The craft cafe are regularly called upon to help produce materials for worship, including our remembrance banner and recent back drops for Holy Week, as well as practical things like our sound desk cover and supplies for our annual Christmas Bazaar.

Christian Education

Youth Work

Our main work with children and young people is through Sunday School, Messy Church, and in the schools working with Scripture Union and the Reachout Trust.

We have a number of longstanding uniformed organisations working with our children and young people to spread the Good News. These include: Pathfinders; Brownies; Guides; Boys' Brigade.

Adult Work

God Tock is a weekly bible study which nurtures a growth in discipleship with some of those involved in the group now using their gifts and skills to serve the church.



Community Youth Work

Like many other churches, a significant challenge for King's Park is the decreasing number of children and young people involved in the worshipping life of the church.

We are helping to address this issue by working with the Cambuslang and Rutherglen Reachout Trust, in association with Scripture Union Scotland. This partnership is seeking to engage with young people, where they are, helping to increase their understanding of the Christian Faith, and facilitating those willing to put their faith into action. With Reachout Trust's assistance, our pastoral assistant and youth volunteers are doing positive work with Bankhead and King's Park Primary Schools.

In addition we have a popular Toddlers Group, a newly established Karate Club and the King's Park Brass beginner and junior sections all regularly using our extensive suite of accessible halls.



Ecumenical Context

The last presbytery plan saw King's Park in a parish grouping with Croftfoot and Toryglen Parish Churches. The new mission plan ensures our relationship with Croftfoot Parish continues, as we work towards a full union in due course.



We also enjoy informal links with Croftfoot UF Church and our immediate neighbours St Oswald's Episcopal Church. This includes pulpit exchanges, joint services and social gatherings. As well as those already mentioned, we share the telling of the Good News with our friends at Christ the King Roman Catholic Church and King's Park Baptist Church.

One joint event is the annual Easter Walk of Witness, visiting, witnessing and worshipping together outside each church building.



World Church



We enjoy links with Missionary Partners and support the Saidiana Kenyan Women's Project. We are a Fairtrade Church and are keen to establish King's Park as an eco-congregation.

Over many years, King's Park has been physically and prayerfully supportive of Christian Aid. Be it bridge walks, kilt walks, the annual ultra-competitive family quizzes, or the volunteer-intensive demands of Christian Aid Week, we are blessed by being able to spread out the opportunity to support Christian Aid to those who live in the parish. Over the last ten years King's Park has raised just over £30,000, specifically during Christian Aid Week and associated ventures.

After the 'gap years' of Covid, when we moved to JustGiving and online donations, we're back with a vengeance and to combat the reticence of people now to answer their doors as readily as in the old days, the Kirk Session agreed to mount a delivery-only process to get Christian Aid envelopes through every letterbox in the parish. Part fundraising, part missional, this was a new outreach for us, one which we will repeat and grow in future years.



Stewardship and Finance

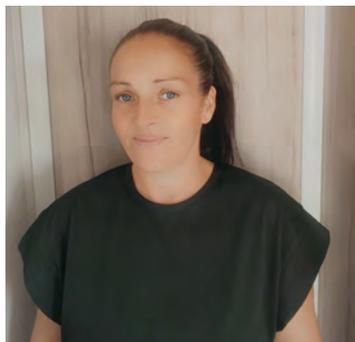
The Finance and Fabric sub-committee, under the Kirk Session's new Unitary Constitution is seeking to improve the financial position of the congregation by various methods. We are blessed to receive consistent income. However, like other churches facing the pressures created by increasing costs and inflation, we are experiencing growing overheads. Under our annual stewardship programme we are re-focusing on finance as we recover from the effects of the global pandemic.

During 2022 our Ministries and Mission Contribution was £65,699. Our Giving to Grow Contribution for 2023 is £64,467.

Staffing

Our church currently employs four members of staff: part time caretaker, cleaner and organist; and full time pastoral assistant. All of these posts ensure our church and congregation are well served.

As well as paid members of staff, there is a large group of skilled volunteers throughout our church, ensuring the minister and the church as a whole are supported.

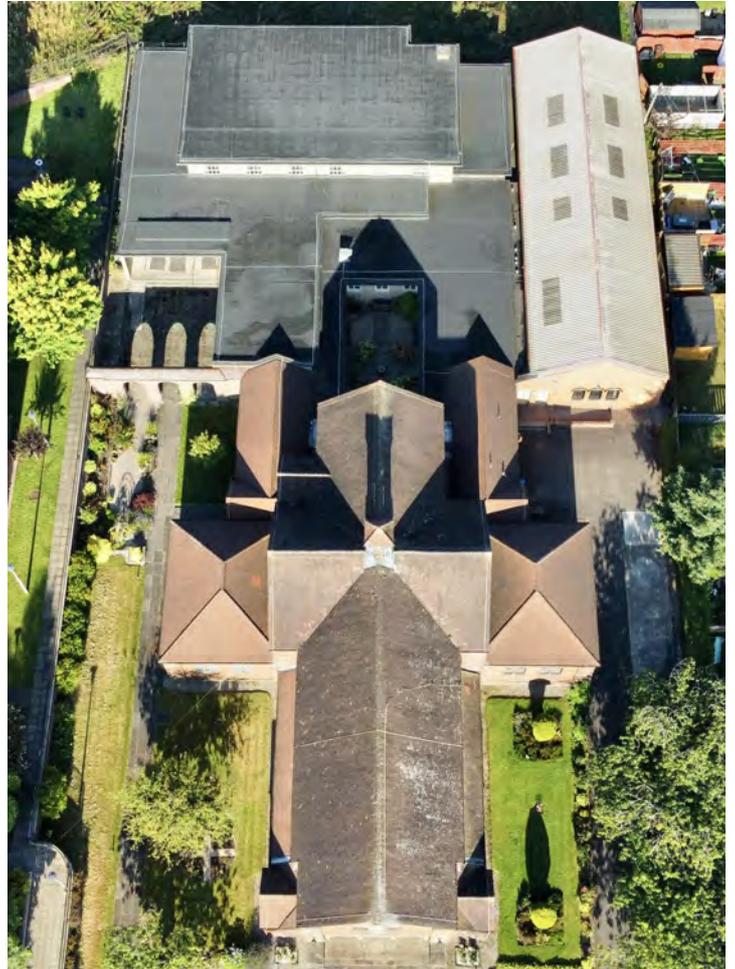


Property

The Church and Halls

The sanctuary is in the shape of a cross, with the horizontal 'arms' of the cross forming transepts capable of separation from the main body of the church. These are currently repurposed for smaller worship services and fellowship.

We have a large suite of accessible accommodation, including four large halls, available for organisational use and external letting. We have two working kitchens as well as a general office, lounge and vestry. Our halls and property convenors, working together, ensure that all of our accommodation is well maintained and capable of beneficial use by church and community groups alike.



Other Property

The church holds title to another dwelling house, formerly occupied by the church officer, just around the corner at 164 Kingsbridge Drive. This ground floor flat is currently commercially let with all arrangements managed externally.

There are no major issues outstanding with regard to our properties.



The Manse

King's Park manse is situated, just outside the parish boundary, at 1101 Aikenhead Road. It is a two-storey semi-detached villa, built around 1931, in a southwest facing plot, fronting Aikenhead Road, one of the main arterial routes in and out of the city centre. There are a variety of local shops in the immediate vicinity, and local schools, at nursery, primary and secondary levels are nearby.

The Manse stands in a fairly large level plot. Aikenhead Road, to the front, is busy, but there is no sense that the property is overlooked, and the rear garden is large and relatively private. A double slabbed driveway and associated gravel area can accommodate two cars.

The internal layout of the manse is spacious, with all rooms accessed from the lower and upper halls. Accommodation at ground floor comprises lounge to the front, family/dining room and kitchen overlooking the rear garden and toilet/cloakroom next to the main entrance. Upstairs there are four bedrooms of varying sizes, a small room above the integral garage, ideal as an office, and the family bathroom, with bath and shower cubicle. There are double glazed windows in all rooms and heating throughout from a gas fired combi boiler located in the garage.



More Information

Web Links



Our Website



YouTube



Parish Statistics



Facebook

Contact Us

For further information or to discuss our vacancy in more detail please contact Lynda Young, Clerk to the Nominating Committee, by emailing vacancy@kingsparkchurch.co.uk.

Informal enquiries may be made to Rev Ian Galloway, Interim Moderator, by calling 07514 581 865 or emailing igalloway@churchofscotland.org.uk.



KING'S PARK CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, GLASGOW

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REGISTERED CHARITY WITH SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER: SC017040

PARISH PROFILE - AUGUST 2023

