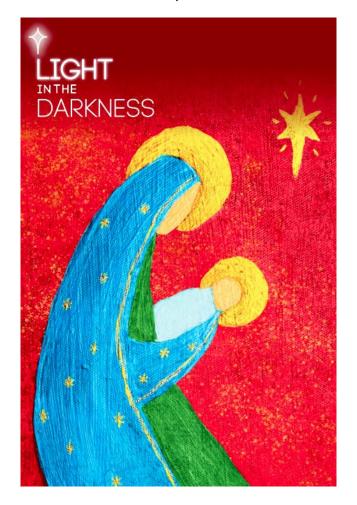
King's View

Magazine, No. 921

December 2021/January 2022

King's Park Church of Scotland, Glasgow. 242 Castlemilk Road, GLASGOW G44 4LB



Mission Statement: King's Park Church sharing God's love by reaching out to others.

"1930-2022 - 92 Years of Spiritual Service"

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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Please remember to inform the Church if you are changing your address. It's vital that our records are kept as up to date as possible. Thank you in advance.

INTIMATIONS FOR THE FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022 ISSUE SHOULD BE EMAILED TO office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE MORNING SERVICE, SUNDAY 23RD JANUARY 2022. ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DEADLINE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE APRIL/MAY 2022 ISSUE.

Caveat: This magazine is published on our website. Please note if you are submitting an article and wish something not to appear online, please indicate this on submission.

IF YOU NEED THE CHURCH PLEASE CONTACT:

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King's Park Church of Scotland, Glasgow is a Registered Charity with Scotlish Charity Number: SC017040.

AT REST "I am the Resurrection and the Life"

18 Sept Kimberly Murphy, Kingsbridge Drive

4 Oct Matt Moffat, Kingsacre Road 5 Nov Donnie Sutherland, Briscow, Lans

16 Nov Ian McPhail, Firwood Drive

In view of the current uncertainty regarding the levels of Covid infection, and any future restrictions, our service of remembrance, which usually takes place in December, has now been postponed. A fitting memorial to remember and celebrate the lives of all those who were lost in these difficult days will take place when the time is right.

Meantime, please let me know the names you would like remembered. Raymond

Prayer Focus..

Dear Lord, we come to serve the King of Kings, your Son, born in a stable. Be with us on our journey through Advent to Christmas Day - "Jesus is the reason for the season". We remember all who have lost a loved one and hope they will find comfort at this time. We pray for warm homes and time with friends and family. We give thanks for gifts given and received. Remember those who do not have food to eat or a roof over their heads. Please keep our children safe, we pray they find comfort and love with their family and we pray especially for families whose children are missing. We hope for joy, love and laughter in the new year. We continue to pray that we can call a new Minister; let us not lose heart; keep us faithful in our worship as we continue to share our services online. The new year brings hope, allowing us at King's Park to spread your love by reaching out to others. Let the Holy Spirit inspire us in new ways and feed us through your Grace so we can come closer to you in all we do. Hear our Prayer. Amen gaerataylor@btinternet.com

Dear Friends

"Chocolate firm removes "advent" from its Christmas offerings" ran the headline in a recent article. Apparently this makes them more inclusive, but kind of misses the point somehow.

I'm old enough to remember when Christmas Day wasn't even an official holiday in Scotland, (although despite what some of the children in the primary schools think, not actually old enough to remember the first one), but now it seems as though, for many people, Christmas Day, with family time and presents, and in our house, the inevitable quiz time, where there is often little sign of "peace on earth" – all of which we enjoy, is what it's all about.

As I write this letter, like so many others, I'm already looking forward to the beginning of advent – for many their favourite season of the Christian calendar. Traditionally, it is a time of preparation and of hope and joy within the darkest depths of winter.

In recent times, the spectre of COVID has cast its long shadow over the festivities, although the easing of restrictions has meant that the sanctuary, which was closed for so long, is open once again and our growing numbers are able to sing their praises, albeit behind the ever present facemasks, while our online services – and now our live streaming – have allowed many more to join together in worship week by week.

The uncertainty of these past two years of vacancy, and the challenges of the future, with the planned reforms of Presbyteries, including the suspension of Presbytery Plans and the proposed reduction in the number of ministries throughout the Church, have not been easy for any of us.

Things could certainly be better. But as we come through advent and look forward to the coming of Christ, let's not forget, as our past Locum, and dear friend David, reminded us in his Christmas message last year: "When God came among us in Christ, he entered our world at a time when life was tough, and in a place where the conflict was harsh and bitter"

Throughout advent, Sunday by Sunday, as we retell the story of that first Christmas, and the trials and challenges faced by that tiny baby and that ordinary – and yet extraordinary – family, we will light the candles of:

Peace – the peace of which the angels sang. The Peace that only Jesus can bring.

Hope – the hope that comes from knowing that, without God in our lives, we have nothing to hope for; but with God in our lives, we have nothing to fear.

Love – the unconditional love of God who sent his only son to live, to love, and to die for us.

Joy - the joy that can be yours, as the old time chorus reminds us we look to place Jesus first, Yourself last, and Others in between.

Life wasn't straightforward at that first Christmas. Life isn't straightforward now. Just as Jesus brought change then, so following him today makes change inevitable for us all.

Just as God's plans were fulfilled in Jesus, trusting in God, may his plans be fulfilled in us and in his church in the days to come. May we each have a wonderful Christmas filled with wonderful gifts – the gifts of Peace, Hope, Love and Joy.

Raymond, Pastoral Assistant

CHRISTMAS 'COFFEE AND MINCE PIE MORNING'

As our annual Christmas Bazaar is again cancelled due to the continuing COVID restrictions, we would like to invite you to a Coffee and Mince Pie morning on Saturday 11th December from 10am until 12 noon in the large hall. Do come along, meet old and new friends and perhaps join us for the first time in a while. All COVID rules are in place, so please do not attend if you are feeling unwell. Wear a mask on entry and when you are not at your table and, as legally required, we will gather names and contact details of all who attend and keep an eye on the numbers in the hall at any one time. Entry via the south gate and exit via the north door. We would love to welcome you back into our halls and look forward to seeing you. Entry by donation.

Norah & Jonathan

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCE "We Give Thee But Thine Own" FINANCE REPORT - 2021

	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>
INCOME	£	
Offerings & Donations Gift Aid Income Legacy donation HMRC Furlough salary contribution Hall Hire Incomes Rental Income Charitable collections Other regular Monthly Income	8,981 4,795 4,000 284 - 637 539	6,878 3,925 - 135 1,034 480 357
Total Month's Income	19,236	12,809
EXPENDITURE Regular Monthly Costs Charitable Donations Fabric maintenance & repairs	13,834 345 207	10,521 390 1,000
Total Month's Payments	14,386 ====	11,911 =====
Monthly Income vs Expenditure	4,850	898

Comments

Sept - Surplus of receipts after payments made was £4,850. Unrestricted funds had a surplus of £4,418, restricted funds had a surplus of £432.

Oct - Surplus of receipts after payment made was £898. Unrestricted funds had a surplus of £925, restricted funds had a deficit of £27.



FLOWER FUND

Thanks are due to all who contribute to the flower fund.

KIRK SESSION UPDATE

All members of our congregation continue to be in our thoughts and prayers as we make our way through the pandemic. By the time you read this, King's Park Church will have made submission to the Presbytery seeking to remain an "exceptional case" and therefore be permitted to call a minister, under reviewable tenure. If the vote at Presbytery upholds this, then Presbytery will take our case back to the Faith Nurture Forum at 121 - the body that will determine whether we get to call a minister at this time.

We now have a locum in place for December and January. His name is Rev. Dr. Graham McGeoch, who is currently lecturing in Brazil. The plan is that he will commence pastoral duties on 2nd December, and lead Sunday worship from 19th December. You may remember Graham from a short time he spent with us helping with the pastoral care following on from the much loved Cathie Shearer and prior to the appointment of Raymond as Pastoral Assistant. Until Graham begins leading worship, our pulpit supply on December 5th and 12th will be Rev. Esther Ninian

We received a thank you card and a letter from the Lodging House Mission thanking us for our harvest donations of foodstuffs. The letter states, "Be assured that your donations will help replenish our food store and enable us to continue to provide hot meals throughout the coming winter months". These thank you notes will be placed on the notice board in the church vestibule. The total of financial donations for the Lodging House Mission is £610 and a big thank you to everyone who contributed to this appeal, which was organised in connection with the Church of Scotland's National Giving Day.

Eunice and John Black, Joint Session Clerks

SUNDAY SCHOOL GIFT SUNDAY - 5 December 2021

Rather than requesting toys etc to pass to our friends at Church House, we want to provide them with financial support for Christmas to help them buy selection boxes for the younger boys and girls and gift cards for the older children. To this end, there will be retiring offering after the services on Sunday 5th and 12th December. All donations will be gratefully received.

CAN YOU HELP?

As we move back to some sort of normality in church and we look to new ways of worship, including live streaming, we are currently reviewing ways of developing the audio visual (AV) system, and we're looking for your help.

Over the years, some errors have arisen with on screen spelling, or maybe "wrong" versions of hymns etc. and while we do our best to eliminate these as we go forward, inevitably the odd one will slip through. Please feel free to let us know if you spot anything and we'll look to correct it.

We'd also like to hear about any difficulties with the sound system. With a current team of only three, we are still looking for volunteers to help operate the sound desk on Sundays (don't worry that doesn't include preparing the slides, or finding those mistakes), so if you'd like to join the team, just get in touch. *Thanks. Raymond (07753808968)*

Thank You...

May I pass on my sincere thanks to the congregation for the expressions of good wishes, thanks, and appreciation, I have received on standing down as locum in Kings Park, not to mention the generous cheque presented to me on my last Sunday, all of which have touched me deeply. As a new routine in my life begins, I take with me good memories of the times we have shared with one another. May the way forward for you as a congregation soon become plain, and may God bless you all. *Yours, David Easton*

I would like to thank the Church for the beautiful flowers which I received from Harvest Sunday. The flowers were lovely and brightened up a dull day. *Many thanks, Doris Hume*

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers I received from the Church for Harvest Thanksgiving week. They were very much appreciated. *Pat Smith*

LINE-DANCING CLASS

We have a small group of dancers at beginner level meeting in the large hall each Tuesday from 12.30pm to 1.30pm and would welcome anyone interested in joining us for an hour of easy dance exercise to a diverse variety of music which can help lift your mood from stresses and anxieties. There are many health benefits to line dancing; great fun and exercise; great benefit to the brain; when you dance you release the "feel good" hormone known as serotonin; improves physical and mental wellbeing; improves your balance and coordination; improves the cognitive function of the brain; improves self-confidence; improves cardiovascular and bone health; reduces stress levels in the brain and body; reduces the risk of depression; reduces risk of dementia and Alzheimer's; you meet friends; combats loneliness; slows the aging process what more can I say other than just give it a go, you won't regret it!

If you would like any further information about the Line Dancing Class please don't hesitate to speak to me any Sunday morning at Church or pop into the class any Tuesday for a demonstration and/or trial run. I will be more than happy to assist you on your dance journey.

Elizabeth Scott

CHRISTMAS STAR APPEAL

As restrictions ease and we are able to attend Church again, we have launched our Christmas Star Appeal, this year for Christian Aid. We have a real connection with Christian Aid here at Kings Park and have not been able to donate in the ways we would have done over the last 20 months. Among other things, Christian Aid is at the forefront of supporting climate change and third world COVID vaccination programmes, and we therefore felt these things would particularly resonate with us all, this Christmas time.

You do not need to write your name on any list this year and there will be no Christmas Card produced but it would be nice to gradually get ourselves back up and running in our fundraising efforts! So the usual appeal box will be at the front door of the church all the way through advent until Christmas Day and all donations will be gratefully received. The Social and Fundraising Committee, (like the rest of the world!) has been restricted in organizing events for such a long time, but we hope, as we move into 2022, and following all Church of Scotland and Scottish Government advice, that a real sense of community is re-discovered amongst us all.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Lynda Young on behalf of the Social & Fundraising Committee

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Restrictions have now been lifted to allow us to accommodate an increased number of worshippers, therefore you do not need to book ahead of attending Church on a Sunday morning. We will keep you updated on our website and all of our social media platforms if plans change in any way. In the meantime, our online services continue on our Facebook and YouTube channels.

December

December	• =
Sun 5th	11am Morning Worship, second Sunday in advent,
	including Gift Sunday
Sat 11th	10am til 12 noon, coffee and mince pie in Large Hall
Sun 12th	11am Morning Worship, Sacrament of Communion
Sun 19th	11am Morning Worship with Nativity
Fri 24th	7pm Family Service
	11.30pm Watchnight Service
Sat 25th	11am short Christmas Day Service
Sun 26th	11am Morning Worship

January

Sun 2nd	11am Morning Worship
Sun 9th	11am Morning Worship
Sun 16th	11am Morning Worship
Sun 23rd	11am Morning Worship
Sun 30th	11am Morning Worship

February

Sun 6th 11am Morning Worship with the Sunday School fundraiser tea and coffee event after the service

As restrictions have eased, and we are allowed more access to our church halls, a number of groups and organisations have started back. The most up to date details can be found on our website. www.kingsparkchurch.co.uk

This magazine, and any subsequent updates, will be sent by email, if we have your email address, or, it will be posted if we don't. If you would like to be kept up to date via email, please advise us at - office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk Regular updates can also been found on our website here: www.kingsparkchurch.co.uk You can also follow us on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram

SEASON OF REMEMBRANCE 2021

Our season started with Raymond's very meaningful dedication of the Garden of Remembrance on Sunday 7th November, aided by members of King's Park Brass. The garden remained open and available until the 20th, allowing anyone who wished, to plant a little cross, as a symbol of their own personal memory, within the rope border.

In preparation for the church being open on the 11th day of the 11th month, the sanctuary was beautifully decorated – knitted poppies adorned the stone pillars, a single poppy rested on the bible displayed on the communion table, and our banner, originally created for the Centenary of the First World War Armistice, was again draped below the church's war memorial, at the south transept.

On Remembrance Day itself, the church opened its doors for a time of silent contemplation, focussing on a short service of remembrance including the traditional 2 minutes silence at the 11th hour. Thanks to Raymond for leading worship, and to Gaera for organising.

We say thanks once more to Cath & Faye, for their creation of the much-admired banner and for originally encouraging our church knitters in the production of the much-used and versatile poppies, again both taking their place in this important event - looking back. To those who took part in this year's live Remembrance Sunday service, led reverently and knowledgeably by Rev Tom Nelson. Representatives of the congregation, Margaret & Robert, and Guides, Eva and Jennifer for laying wreaths at the communion table; colour party, Neil and Scott; Raymond, for his words, piper Neil, drummer Aeneas, and trumpeter Alan, for lament, roll and calls respectively.

We give grateful thanks to God for the opportunity to remember, year by year, those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

Due to continuing restrictions, the usual Sunday School bring and buy sale will look slightly different this year, it will take the form of tea and coffee after the service on Sunday 6th February 2022. Please do come along and support the children in their fundraising efforts for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity, which is very close to their hearts.

Pathfinders BRING A FRIEND

If you're a boy in P1-3, we'd like to invite you to join the Pathfinders at King's Park Church.

We meet every Monday evening. We play games and other activities, do arts and crafts, and sometimes go on trips. You can make new friends and learn from our fun Bible stories too.



For more information email pathfinders@kingsparkchurch.co.uk. Or fill out our consent form at https://bit.ly/kppathfinders and come along on Monday.

MONDAYS | 6:30-7:30PM BOYS IN P1-3







King's Park Church of Scotland | 242 Castlemilk Road Registered as a Charity in Scotland SC017040