

# King's View

*Magazine, No. 946*

*December 2025/January 2026*

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



Peace

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.  
John 14:27

The magazine team wish  
all our readers a very  
Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

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Please note, all personal data, including addresses and telephone numbers, is not listed in the magazine. This ensures we are following General Data Protection Legislation. Do be reassured that you can contact any of the above people via email at [office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk) or by telephoning the church on 0141 636 8688.

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 2026 ISSUE SHOULD BE EMAILED TO [office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk) NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE MORNING SERVICE, SUNDAY 18TH JANUARY 2026 ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DEADLINE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE APRIL/MAY 2026 ISSUE.**

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

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

## **CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER**

### **Admission by Resolution of the Kirk Session**

19 Nov Margaret Orr

### **Disjunction by Certificate of Transfer**

2 Nov Alison Docherty

### **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

“Suffer the Little Children to Come Unto Me”

5 Oct Rowan Matthews

26 Oct Thomas and Pennie McMurray

### **AT REST**

“I am the Resurrection and the Life”

30 Sept Ellen Thomson

24 Oct Robert (Bob) Pitman

23 Nov Margaret (Peggy) Smith

29 Nov John McCabe

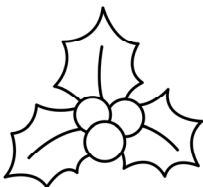
### ***Prayer Focus***

Father God, we are at the beginning of our Christian year. We thank you for all of our answered prayers and for your healing of many on our prayer list. We thank you for the recent members joining our church by profession of faith and for the dedicated members who received long service certificates. We also give thanks for our new caretaker. We pray that he is welcomed into our Church. Advent has begun and we rejoice in the birth of our saviour. We know how excited our children are Lord. We remember at this time, all those who are struggling. We think of those who are cold, facing hunger or loneliness.

Keep us all safe this Christmas time and beyond, and as we go forward into a new year we welcome all things new.

*Hear our Prayer, Amen. [gaerataylor@btinternet.com](mailto:gaerataylor@btinternet.com)*

### **FLOWER FUND**



Thanks are due to all who contribute to the flower fund, beautifying our worship week by week.

## **Message 'fae' the Manse**

Hello friends

As the nights are well and truly getting darker earlier, and the temperature has dropped several degrees, we know that we are leaving autumn and to coin a certain popular TV series, 'winter is coming'. As we go about our business and shopping at this time of year, there's a familiar anticipation that spreads through our community. It's not just winter that is coming, but Christmas is coming too.

With all its warmth, traditions, and sparkle, it beckons us hopefully not just to celebrate, and possibly to eat too much, but to reflect on deeper meanings, on love, hope, and togetherness. At the heart of Christmas is a message of light entering into darkness. The story of the birth of Jesus, celebrated for over two millennia, reminds us that even in the coldest, darkest times, hope can be born anew.

Whether it's the candles we place on our tables or on our windows sills, the lights on our trees, or the street decorations hanging from lampposts along Rutherglen main street that shine in the darkness as we do our shopping, all speak to this truth: that light prevails, and with it comes peace.

We all have our own Christmas customs, whether that might be singing Christmas carols, decorating the church or our homes, or maybe sharing mince pies with neighbours. These customs are not only sources of enjoyment, but also acts of remembrance. They root us in our history and faith, connecting us with generations past and those yet to come.

So, this year, why not start a new tradition? Perhaps a moment of quiet prayer on Christmas Eve, or reaching out to someone in need, either someone you know or supporting a charity that provide a traditional Christmas meal for the lonely and homeless.

Because whilst Christmas is a time when we give and receive gifts, perhaps this year more than the gifts we exchange wrapped in Santa or reindeer paper, the greatest gift we can give and receive this season is the gift of ourselves.

The simple acts of kindness, a knock on a lonely neighbour's door, an invitation to Christmas lunch, or a heartfelt card can make the spirit of Christmas real. In King's Park, we are blessed to belong to a community where such gestures are abundant, reflecting the love that Christ first showed us.

Of course Christmas also means that one year is drawing to a close and another one is about to begin, so Christmas also invites us to look ahead with hope. The challenges of the world can feel overwhelming, but the Christmas message reassures us that we are not alone. So this Christmas let every one of us carry the peace and goodwill of this season into the coming year, supporting one another in faith and friendship.

So may I take this opportunity to wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from me, Fiona, Blair, Alisdair and Grace. And of course Oscar and Lola! And I leave you with this short prayer:

*May the joy of Christ's birth fill your heart and home this season. May you find moments of quiet wonder, opportunities to serve, and the comfort of community. Amen.*

*Your friend in Christ, Stuart*

**CONGREGATIONAL FINANCE**  
*"We Give Thee But Thine Own"*  
**FINANCE REPORT - 2025**

	<b><u>SEPT</u></b>	<b><u>OCT</u></b>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b>£</b>	
Offerings & Donations	9,522	8,395
Gift Weekend	-	8,550
Gift Aid Income	-	3,276
Hall Hire Income	890	912
Rental income	611	611
Fundraising	-	500
Charitable collections	359	692
Other regular Monthly Income	1,343	1,088
<b>Total Month's Income</b>	<b>12,725</b> <b>=====</b>	<b>24,024</b> <b>=====</b>
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>		
Regular Running Costs	16,037	13,560
Charitable Donations	348	708
Property maintenance & repairs	68	80
<b>Total Month's Payments</b>	<b>16,453</b> <b>=====</b>	<b>14,348</b> <b>=====</b>
<b>Monthly Receipts vs Payments Surplus</b>	<b>-3,728</b>	<b>9,676</b>

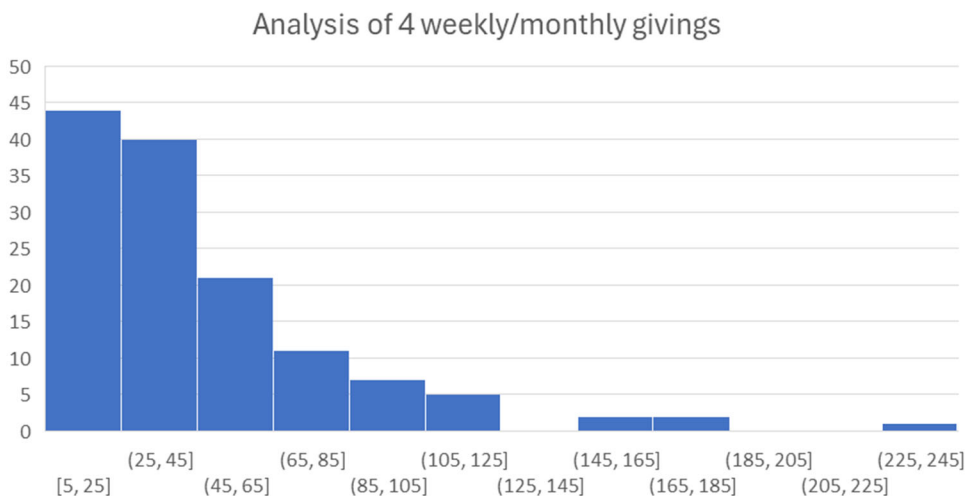
**Highlights over last two months**

Income: In October, to date, the Gift Weekend has raised £8,550

**Expenditure**

Delayed increased tariff energy bills are now being paid. Increased level of contributions to Giving to Grow (Church of Scotland) are being made.

**CHURCH BANK DETAILS FOR REGULAR FREEWILL  
 OFFERINGS OR ONE-OFF DONATIONS :  
 KINGS PARK CHURCH  
 SORT CODE: 82-63-31  
 ACCOUNT NUMBER: 50335056**



The graph above shows how many of the congregation (vertical scale) give within each amount range (horizontal scale) over the first half of this tax year.

133 regular Monthly Standing Orders and a 4-week average of FWO envelopes are included. For example, the second bar shows 40 donations (monthly or 4-weekly) which were more than £25 up to £45 at most.

Note that single donations are often made by couples. Remember, a donation of £20 a month, is only £5 a week! While we appreciate that, financially, because of inflation, times are not as good for us as they might have been in the past. It is the same for our church.

Our fuel bills have rocketed over the last 15 years and other expenses continue to increase. If you haven't recently increased your regular giving, we would encourage you to think about doing so.

*The Finance Committee*

**Robert 'Bob' Pitman**  
**19 September 1935 - 24 October 2025**

Bob was born on 19th September 1935 in Larkhall. He was an older brother to sister Helen and brother Jim. When Bob was 6 months old the family moved to Ruchill where Bob eventually attended Dunard Street Primary School, then Eastpark Junior Secondary School, and left at the age of 15 with a third year leaving certificate. In January 1951, Bob began full-time work at North British Locomotive Works where he served his apprenticeship as a tool maker. The same year, he joined the 51st Glasgow Boys' Brigade Company, he went on to become a BB officer and leader of the Life Boys. He joined the Methodist Church in Maryhill Road in 1953 after attending Sunday School and Youth Fellowship.

In December 1956, Bob was called up to do his National Service in the Royal Air Force, where he served for 2 years as an Air Defence Operator. After leaving the RAF, Bob returned to North British Locomotives where in God's providence he met a young lady, Nan, who was working as a clerkess in the North British Locomotives offices. Eventually, drumming up courage, Bob asked Nan out on a date and eighteen months after that first date they were married on 14th July 1961. Bob and Nan were blessed with two sons, Kenneth, born in 1963 and Martin, born in 1970. Family have always been important to Bob and Nan and so the year 2000 was a very important year for them when Martin married his wife Vicky and Kenny married his wife Sonia. Bob and Nan's family increased over the years as they were blessed with 5 Grandchildren. Having enjoyed being doting grandparents, watching with pride as the children blossomed into fine young adults.

Bob's faith had grown and developed, having a particular gift with young people, he started a midweek club where children learned about the Christian faith. He also served as leader of the Junior Section of the Boys' Brigade and in 1981 Bob, with God's guiding hand, came into the lives of the people of King's Park Church, as the new full time Church Officer. He began his duties here in the November of that year and gave 19 years of faithful service until he reached retirement in 2000. During that time, Bob, Nan and family stayed in the Church Officer's house in Kingsbridge Drive, and after retirement, Bob and Nan moved to Calder Street, Govanhill, enjoying 25 years there. Bob was much loved and respected by all of us here at King's Park Church. For Sunday worship he was always immaculately dressed and looked upon it as his privilege to carry the Bible into the sanctuary for morning and evening worship.



During the week, Bob had the gift of getting on well with many members of the congregation with whom he came in contact. For Bob, being Church Officer was much more than just a job. The long and dedicated service that Bob gave this church, here at King's Park, continued after he retired. In March 2001, Bob was ordained as an elder and served his district for over 20 years. During this time he was an active member of the church choir, and was the choir's Treasurer. He also acted as Treasurer for many years for the Pathfinders. He was the Church Registrar and Roll-keeper for many years, as well as joining the carpet bowling club where he also become Treasurer, as well as chairman. Bob was meticulous, giving great attention to detail in everything he did. Membership rolls, organisations' finances—all of them were in safe hands. In 2021, Bob joined Overtoun Park Bowling Club and enjoyed playing outdoor bowls there until 2019. Bob enjoyed dancing in retirement and he and Nan regularly attended a Modern Sequence Dance class on a Friday evening. After moving to Calder Street, Bob also became a member of the Local Tenants' Committee and served for two years as Chairman.

For several years, Croftfoot church had an adult fellowship which met on Sunday evening and Bob and Nan appreciated the Christian teaching at this fellowship, where long lasting friendships were made.

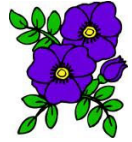
Bob's strong faith and trust in God sustained him through the last months of his life. He was restricted in the house, had short stays in hospital and depended more and more on oxygen, with Nan, his devoted wife and soulmate, always by his side. Bob was grateful to God for granting him a long, happy and fulfilling life and on 19th September he quietly celebrated his 90th birthday. There was an open door at home where many friends visited throughout the day. Bob received more than sixty birthday cards, in itself an eloquent testimony to the affection and esteem in which Bob was held by everyone who knew him.

Bob's passing from this life into God's nearer presence was peaceful. He was tired and knew that his days on earth were drawing to a close. Bob was in no pain, and Nan, as in life, was by his side when he passed away peacefully on Friday 24th October.

Well done Bob, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord.

May the Lord Bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and give you peace. *Amen.*

## Thank you...



Thanks to everybody in the Church for the good wishes and the beautiful flowers. I have been made to feel very welcome which has allowed me to feel I'm a real member of a Church! Thanks again, *Margaret Orr*

Thank you to all at King's Park Church in gratitude of your harvest donations and faithful support of the work of The Lodging House Mission. *The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor, Proverbs 22:9 The Lodging House Mission*

Thank you for the lovely flowers I received from the Church on Harvest Sunday, most unexpected. Thank you again. *Jeanette McLaughlin*

*Thank you so much for the lovely Harvest Flowers, much appreciated and totally unexpected, thanks again. Flo*

On behalf of the congregation of Cumbernauld Trinity Parish Church, I would like to thank the congregation of King's Park Church for the very kind donation, in respect of our beloved St Mungo's building. Many of the congregation are still coming to terms with the loss but we are so grateful for all the messages of support and for this very kind donation.  
*Morag Rusk, Session Clerk, Cumbernauld Trinity Parish Church*

Thank you to everyone who visited and supported me during my recent time in hospital. I am now recuperating at home. Sorry I am not able to send you Christmas cards this year, but I wish all of you a very happy Christmas.  
Thanks again, *Tom Connor*

## A BIG THANK YOU!

Thank you very much to everyone who donated to the recent Gift Weekend. It looks as if the total will be around **£11,000**. Well done all. If anyone hasn't contributed yet, and would like to, you can still do so by paying directly into the church's bank account, details on page 6 of this magazine. Alternatively your donation can be put in an envelope marked Gift Weekend and handed in at the church or put in the offering bag at any service.  
Thank you again to you all.

Friends,

We are all aware how important hymns are within worship. Do you have a favourite hymn which you would like to sing on Sunday morning? Would you like to share why you like it with the congregation? There will be forms at the doors in the coming weeks for you to share your favourite hymns with us and we will be having a service with the Congregation's favourite hymns in due course.

Do you play an instrument? Would you like to add to the worship on an occasional Sunday morning? If so, please come and speak to me on any Sunday morning.

*Jonathan Buchan, Organist*

### **King's Park Church recycling – a reminder**

Around this time last year, the Kirk Session agreed that, rather than participating in Glasgow City Council's recycling scheme, at a cost in excess of £200 per year, we would try to recycle the relevant materials in our own domestic recycling bins, according to the rules that apply within the council area we live.

Members are encouraged to seek access to the basement (ask an office bearer, or anyone on duty in the halls) and take a bag of cans/plastic/cardboard etc home to put in your own appropriately coloured bins. Alternatively, members can also volunteer to take bagged general waste & recycling materials to Polmadie.

In addition, regarding uncrushed drink cans and plastic bottles, you may wish to take advantage of the Lidl Win Win Recycling Scheme currently operating and donate any financial reward achieved to the church in some way. More information on the Lidl scheme can be found at

<https://www.lidl.co.uk/c/return-scheme/s10030877> ([Return Scheme](#))

## SEASON OF REMEMBRANCE 2025

Our season started with Stuart's very meaningful dedication of the Garden of Remembrance on Sunday 2nd November, aided by members of King's Park Brass. The garden remained open for the rest of that week, allowing anyone, who wished, to plant a little cross, as a symbol of their own personal memory, within the rope border.

In preparation for Remembrance Sunday and the church being open on the 11th day of the 11th month, the sanctuary was beautifully decorated, inside and out, thanks to Kristine & Cath – knitted poppies adorned the stone pillars, beautiful floral displays on the communion table and font, the wooden cross, appropriately adorned in poppies, a black drape and a white lily, and our banner, originally created for the Centenary of the First World War Armistice, again hung below the church's war memorial, at the south transept.

On Remembrance Day itself, the church opened its doors for a time of silent reflection, focussing on a short service of remembrance including the traditional 2 minutes silence at the 11th hour. Thanks to Stuart for leading worship, and to Gaera for organising. We say thanks once more to Cath and 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 time, looking back. The number of poppies grows year on year as we need to remember those affected in more recent conflicts.

We say thanks to those who took part in this year's Act of Remembrance during worship on Sunday 9th November. To John, for his words, and to piper, drummer, and trumpeter, for lament, roll and calls respectively. In addition, we say thank you to the AV team for their sensitive choice and management of sound and image live streamed to those watching at home.

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

## THE 'KINGS PARK STAR' APPEAL

The annual Star Appeal will start on the first Sunday of Advent, the 29th of November. The box for donations will be at the front doors of the Church and all donations will go this year to **.Home Start Glasgow North and North Lanarkshire** ([Home - Home-Start Glasgow North & North Lanarkshire](#) ) They support Glasgow families with young children who are facing difficulties. Anything you can give at this time will be gratefully received.

## GIFTS FOR JESUS

Again, we are asking for your 'Gifts for Jesus' on either 7th, 14th or 21st December to be placed under the tree in the sanctuary. We are happy for the usual donations that have been gifted in the past. If you are looking for ideas, how about some paper, envelopes, hand soap, bleach, cloths, scourers, kitchen and bathroom sprays, AA batteries, second class stamps, black bin bags and 200mm or larger cable ties. As always, thank you for thinking of the Church while you are out Christmas shopping. It's much appreciated and reduces our Church's annual expenses.

We are aware that at this time of year, asking our congregation to give more and more can be a burden, so please only give what you can and do not feel under any obligation to contribute to everything. We continue to be a giving and caring church and of course cannot do that without the wonderful generosity of you, our church family and friends.

## LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

A legacy is more than a financial gift - it is a testament to what mattered most in life. When we include the church in our Will, we make a statement of faith, hope and love. We help ensure that the worship, witness and care that have shaped our lives continue for generations to come.

Leaving a gift in your Will to the church is one of the most meaningful and lasting ways to support its mission, if you would like to discuss this further please do reach out to anyone on our finance committee, the minister or our Session Clerk. More information about leaving a legacy to the church can be found here [Leaving a lasting legacy | The Church of Scotland](#)

## Kirk Session News

### Friends

As I write this I am taking stock of the year gone by, my first full year in post as your Session Clerk. What a year it has been and how quickly it has flown by! As I now also take some time to sit down and write our annual report in preparation for the Annual Inspection of Records I am thinking about all the wonderful things that have happened at King's Park Church in 2025, some of them familiar events and some new. I am reflecting on fundraising events, school services, coffee mornings, brass band concerts, prayer walks, ceilidhs, the list is endless and of course all the highlights of 7 baptisms, 9 new members professing their faith, our wonderful Holy Week reflection, our successful local church review visit, our recent celebration of long service and our recent successful gift weekend. It really has been such a wonderful and busy year here at King's Park.

The Kirk Session have had a busy couple of months discussing regulations around the new charity law in Scotland and what impact that has on us as general trustees. We are working our way through all the legalities of selling our flat in Kingsbridge Drive, as well as responding to the Local Church Review report. Over and above that, we are taking care of all the regular business of finance, health and safety, staffing, safeguarding and property to name but a few.

You will know by now that we have successfully recruited a new Caretaker, Pat Gaffney, who took up his post a couple of weeks ago and is settling in well. Please do take the time to introduce yourself and welcome him to King's Park.

So, as we head into the busyness of Advent and Christmas we are taking a break from session business in December and will reconvene in January, but I hope this gives you a snapshot of what we've been up to.

May I take this opportunity now, on behalf of the whole Kirk Session, to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

Ever yours,  
*Lynda, Session Clerk*

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **DECEMBER**

Sun 7th	11am	Morning Worship - Gift Sunday
Sun 14th	11am	Morning Worship including the Sacrament of Holy Communion
Tue 16th	9.45am	Bankhead Primary School Service
Tue 16th	7.30pm	King's Park Brass Christmas Concert
Thur 18th	10.30am	King's Park Primary School Service
Sun 21st	11am	Morning Worship, including the Nativity story and Christingle
Wed 24th	7pm	Christmas Eve Family Service (refreshments from 6.30pm)
Wed 24th	11.30pm	Watchnight Service (refreshments from 11.15pm)
Thur 25th	10.30am	Christmas Message from the Manse <b>(streamed only)</b>
Sun 28th	11am	Morning Worship with Lessons and Carols

### **JANUARY**

Sun 4th	11am	Morning Worship
Sun 11th	11am	Morning Worship
Sun 18th	11am	Morning Worship
Sun 18th	6.30pm	Remembering Together Memorial Service
Sun 25th	11am	Morning Worship

### **FEBRUARY**

Sun 1st	11am	Morning Worship, Sunday School Fundraiser after Morning service
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## HUGE THANKS AND FAREWELL TO THE OLD ....

A huge thank you to everyone who helped and supported our recent Christmas Bazaar. To everyone who helped set everything up, to the stall holders and to everyone who came along on the day to support our Church. It was a great day with £2750 raised so far.

Thank you again, have a wonderful Christmas,  
*Norah and Jonathan Buchan, Bazaar Convenors*

Our wonderful Bazaar Convenors, Norah and Jonathan Buchan and their equally wonderful supporter, Lynn Adamson have been organising the Christmas Bazaar here at King's Park Church for 20 years, and this year was the final year of the Bazaar as we know it. We are looking forward to a new format next year, more details will follow throughout the year, however please note that in future we will not be accepting anything for the stalls as we knew them, e.g. bric a brac, toys, books, DVDs, CDs etc.

We are excited about what the future will look like, but in the meantime we want to thank Norah, Jonathan and Lynn for their years of dedication and commitment to the Bazaar and look forward to supporting them in their future Christmas ventures!

*Lynda*

