

King's View

Magazine, No. 949

June/July 2026

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



Dear Raymond,
Servant of God's grace,
A faithful guide in this
dear place,
with a caring heart and a
listening ear,
you've shared Christ's
love, year after year.
In every step, in all that
you've done,
You've walked the path
our Lord has shown,
and as you rest, from
labours true,
God's richest blessings go
with you.

*"Well done, good and
faithful servant."*

Matthew 25:23

*Happy Retirement from all
your friends at King's Park
Church.*

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

"1930-2026 - 96 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 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026 ISSUE SHOULD BE EMAILED TO office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE MORNING SERVICE, SUNDAY 19TH JULY 2026. ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DEADLINE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 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.

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THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

“Suffer the Little Children to Come Unto Me”

19 April George Graham

AT REST

“I am the Resurrection and the Life”

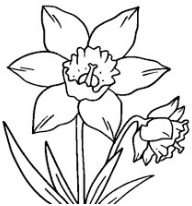
24th March Marion Colquhoun

Prayer Focus

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for our friends and neighbours who look after us without being asked. They help us in the good and bad times. They listen and do not judge; a smile, a hug, encouraging us, not looking for thanks. Help us to be like Jesus. We pray that those random acts of kindness will make all the difference in peoples' lives. In these uncertain times, the government and our church are going through many changes. Guide us in our prayers and decisions. We give thanks for all the work that Raymond dedicated to us, spending more time with us than we can count. Pastoral Care is not a nine to five job and his care of grieving families went beyond their need to be comforted. Pray for those who will take over pastoral care in the future. Our church is a hive of activity; this includes maintaining our buildings, and we give thanks for the many hands that make light work. Hear our Prayers. Amen. gaerataylor@btinternet.com

Summer Church

This July, just as we did last year, we will be moving to a slightly different form of worship. Services will be in a cafe church style and will have all the usual elements of a worship service but the style and set up will be more informal. This time round, there will also be different people involved in each service so you will hear a blend of voices throughout the month. So I look forward to us continuing on our faith journeys together over the summer and if you are away through July, I pray that you enjoy your time away and get the chance to relax and recharge your batteries. *Stuart*



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 I write this, I have just returned from being off on annual leave and before that, attending the General Assembly as a commissioner this. As always, at this year's assembly, there were a number of important reports to read, convenor speeches to listen to and deliverances to be discussed and voted on. As with previous years, it was felt that the business contained within this year's Blue Book would be absolutely critical in shaping the church across Scotland going forward, perhaps even more so, given what had been passed in previous assemblies.

This proved to be the case and to give a flavour of what was discussed, over the next two to three years we will see changes as to where and for how long potential ministers will be trained; how congregations will contribute financially to the cost of local and national ministry; how congregations will be encouraged to become more financially stable, and how the capability and competency of ministers will be assessed and measured.

All of these measures, and many more that were discussed at the assembly, are an attempt to make the church more financially sustainable and better shaped and placed for mission and outreach, and part of how it is hoped this will happen came in the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team (FAPLT) report, where we are all being encouraged to be more confident about how we share the gospel with those around us.

How do we do that? By strengthening our personal faith and confidence of who we are in Christ. That as individuals and as congregations we are to continue on our God-given vision and dream of a renewed future. That we are to continue to serve our communities, that our eyes would be opened to the needs around us, and how each of us can help meet them. We are to reduce fear of the future and call faith to rise and we are to help shift from a "managing decline" mindset to a "preparing for growth" mindset. At the heart of this work stands the promise of Jesus: "I will build my church", and there was a real belief that He intends to do this through the Church of Scotland, across our nation and wherever we are present.

And you, my friend, are part of that Church of Scotland, so I would ask this of you - PRAY - that is something we can all do. Please do start praying, specifically for the points mentioned above and that they will come to fruition in your life, in the lives of those around you, and ultimately across the whole of the Church of Scotland.

Your friend in Christ, Stuart

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCE
"We Give Thee But Thine Own"
FINANCE REPORT - 2026

	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>APRIL</u>
<u>INCOME</u>	£	
Offerings & Donations	7,701	7,434
Gift Aid Income	2,486	5,220
Hall Hire Income	2,290	945
Rental income	611	611
Fundraising	10	-
Magazine subscriptions	10	60
Charitable collections	493	1,951
Other regular Monthly Income	2,178	240
Total Month's Income	15,779	16,461
	=====	=====
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Regular Running Costs	17,725	14,036
Charitable Donations	592	1,255
Property maintenance & repairs	862	393
Total Month's Payments	19,179	15,684
	=====	=====
Monthly Receipts vs Payments Surplus	-3,400	777

**CHURCH BANK DETAILS FOR REGULAR FREEWILL OFFERINGS OR
ONE-OFF DONATIONS :**
KINGS PARK CHURCH - SORT CODE: 82-63-31 A/C NO: 50335056

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Why not consider offering 2 hours of your time to a worthwhile cause - having our Church's halls open for the community to use for special occasions. These usually occur on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon but sometimes midweek. You are there to welcome and to check the CCTV in the office. The event organiser is responsible for everything else. And, you won't be doing this on your own, someone else will be with you. If interested, please contact either the Church email or speak directly to any of the Halls Allocation team - Eunice Black, Norah Buchan or Linda Morton.
Thank you

Marion Colquhoun

10.05.35 - 24.03.26

Marion Ferguson Colquhoun was born to proud parents, Janet and John. She was born in her grandparents' home in Glasgow and was later baptised in Candlish Memorial Church on Cathcart Road in June of that same year - a church that, sadly, has since been demolished.

The family moved to King's Park when Marion was around one year old, and this would become a place filled with a lifetime of memories as Marion remained there for some 60 years, until her retirement in 1997.

During those early years, Marion and her parents continued to attend Candlish Memorial Church. Her father, John, served as Treasurer for a number of years, while Janet was actively involved in the Guild, and Marion attended Sunday School. In 1948, the family became part of our church here in King's Park, where Marion had already been attending the Band of Hope, as well as Sunday School and the Brownies.

In 1954, Marion formally joined King's Park Church by profession of faith and her commitment continued to grow as she later became a teacher with both the Primary and Junior Sunday Schools.

Sadly, in 1960, Marion's father passed away at the age of just 52 and this was a loss that affected Marion deeply as they shared a particularly close bond. Further sadness followed in 1981 when her mother died, another very difficult time in Marion's life. In 1964, Marion became a member of the Choir, reflecting her lifelong love of music. Later, in the 1980s, she joined the Literary and Debating Society, where she became an active committee member, before being appointed secretary in 1987 - a role she carried out with pride for nine years.

Marion's working life began in 1951, with her first position with The British Oxygen Company where she started as an Office Junior before progressing to Clerks in the Credit Control Department. During this time, she showed great determination in developing her skills, attending night classes in shorthand and typing. She then moved on to the Glasgow showroom of Shanks and Company where she spent 14 years working as a shorthand typist, later becoming Secretary to the Branch Manager. Marion's third and final role was with Gilbert Ash Scotland Limited, building contractors, where she dedicated 29 years of service. Over that time, she held a number of positions, eventually becoming Secretary to the Chief Executive - a role she held until her retirement in 1997.

Marion was someone who took great pride in being an active and valued member of her community. In 1997, she was ordained as an Elder here at King's Park, a role she considered a true privilege. She devoted herself to supporting and visiting the members within her district and found great joy in organising coffee mornings and gatherings that brought people together in fellowship. She even sponsored four bricks when our new church halls were built - a small but meaningful gesture that reflected her generosity and commitment.

Over the years, Marion enjoyed many holidays with her parents. In later years, she cherished time spent travelling with her cousin Janet, venturing both near and far, including a particularly memorable trip to Australia.

Marion enjoyed good health for much of her life, but in 2020 the difficult decision was made for her to move into care. Following further challenges with her health, the family made the decision to move her closer to them in Dumfries, where she took up residence in Lochduhar Care Home. This proved to be a very positive step, allowing her family to visit more often. She was cared for with great compassion and her family remain deeply grateful for the kindness she received there. Marion passed away peacefully, free from pain and suffering. She was born on a Sunday - the Sabbath - and there is something quietly fitting in that, as faith remained a guiding presence throughout her life. She was a proud and dignified lady, someone who found joy in the company of others, she carried herself with grace, faced life's challenges with resilience and remained deeply rooted in the things that mattered most to her - her church, her friendships and her family.

May the Lord bless her,
May the Lord keep her,
May the Lord make His face to shine upon her.

Amen, and thanks be to God.

Thank you...

I would like to thank Raymond for his pastoral care of John during his life and the comforting funeral service he conducted. I also must thank everyone at the church for the power of their prayer, as it was that that kept me strong and continues to do so. I thank you all. *God Bless, Margaret Williamson*



I would like to thank everyone for attending the Songs of Praise Service celebrating my 30 years as an Organist. I was overwhelmed to see over 100 in the congregation and to have a choir of over 25 voices, which made the evening for me. We had former ministers in the congregation as well as folks from my two previous congregations and beyond - someone even travelled from Kelso. Thanks, too, for the beautiful gifts received. I would also like to thank all those who contributed to the Retiral Collection for 'My Name's 5 Doddie' Foundation which raised £496.01. *Jonathan Buchan*

A very big 'Thank You' to everyone who has supported the Church of Scotland Used Stamps Appeal throughout the years. This charity has been going for the past 50 years, and came to an end in February 2026, with the final appeal supporting the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza. In the past, it has helped partners in South Sudan, Greece, Ukraine, and also the Mount Olivet Boys' School in Jamaica. If you would still like to save your used stamps for charity, the following organisations, such as RNIB, CANCER, OXFAM and the RSPCA will accept them. Thanks again, and best wishes to you all
Elizabeth Gillespie

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2026 - UPDATE

The King's Park church family and friends have been busy again this year, raising money for Christian Aid. You will recall that this year, the Kirk Session again agreed that we would not deliver CA envelopes to the homes in our parish, but instead concentrate on our own church family and friends. We were fortunate to have a number of Christian Aid focussed events taking place during Christian Aid Week. Millie & Aileen's Tuesday Coffee morning raised a very generous £110 and our Soup & Roll Sunday lunch at the start of the week was well supported and added the sum of £182.10 to the CAW coffers. Special thanks go to Millie & Aileen, the soup & roll team, and to those, young and old, who shared in worship at the Sunday launch service, introducing Fridah and Belinda from Kenya to us all. Full details of the total amount gathered for this year's Christian Aid Week will be confirmed in the August/September edition of the magazine.

KING'S PARK BRASS

Mark your calendars! The King's Park Brass annual summer concert is coming to the church on **Tuesday 23rd June at 7:30pm.**

This year's event promises a fantastic evening of music, featuring performances from both the Senior and Youth Bands. The Senior Band has a wonderful programme lined up, including epic movie themes from Pirates of the Caribbean and Lord of the Rings, alongside a lively medley of Tom Jones classics.

We are also looking forward to two special features: a trombone solo of Londonderry Air by Sarah McNally, and a cornet and soprano cornet duet of For Good (from Wicked) performed by Ross Penrose and Grant Anderson. A major highlight of the evening will be the Senior and Youth Bands joining forces for a special medley of songs from Grease!

Entry is **£6 on the door** (children are free). We hope to see you there for a evening of great music.

Looking forward towards the end of the year, the band's concert at Rutherglen Town Hall on Friday 20th November will celebrate 900 years of the Royal Burgh of Rutherglen. Watch this space for more details.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

Sat 6th	10am	Tea & Plant Sale
Sun 7th	11am	Morning worship
Sat 13th	10am	Men's Breakfast Club
Sun 14th	11am	Morning worship with the Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sun 21st	11am	Morning worship
Tue 23rd	7.30pm	King's Park Brass Summer Concert
Wed 24th	7pm	Kirk Session
Sun 28th	11am	Morning worship
	6.30pm	Evening Service

JULY

Sat 4th	10am	Men's Breakfast Club
Sun 5th	11am	Morning worship - Summer Church
Sun 12th	11am	Morning worship - Summer Church
Sun 19th	11am	Morning worship - Summer Church
Sun 26th	11am	Morning worship - Summer Church
	6.30pm	Evening Service

Only £3.84 a week - so read on!

I am no longer a member of the Session and do not belong to any Committee. What I am about to say is as a member of the Congregation. I am more than devoted to this Church, having been a member for 56 years, but I have recently studied the content of the Annual Report and Accounts and I am very concerned with the financial position of the Church.

In 2024, the deficit amounted to £41,684 and in 2025 it was £28,763. I have been informed by David Wilson that the deficit for 2026 will probably be less, due to certain circumstances, but only in the short term, and that we will soon be experiencing further deficits. I would also point out that our reserves are low or, more accurately next to nothing. Fundraising and appeals have undoubtedly assisted to lower the deficit, but are not solving the situation and our thanks must go to Margaret Mills and her team for their efforts.

So, King's Park Church has a problem. We all have problems in our lives and how we deal with them is of the utmost importance. Personally I have learned over the years that the best way of dealing with problems is to break them down into manageable parts and take time to study each part. Whilst the 2026 deficit will be of a lesser figure we should look to resolve our financial problem immediately and change our mindset. There is no use in constantly commenting on the problem rather than than solution. I therefore have a suggestion.

The latest deficit defined within the accounts amounted to £28,763 and for discussion let us round it off and say £30,000. We must endeavour to increase the income to at least equate with the expenditure. We now have an opportunity to do so. Take the £30,000, which seems a very high sum, and divide it by 52 weeks and it becomes £576 per week – it does not sound quite as bad. We have 390 members on the roll but regretfully, and unbelievably, some do not contribute – another matter that requires to be addressed. If we have at least 150 members who are committed (and of course this figure could be more) but for the time being, if we take the £576 weekly deficit and divide it by 150, the deficit can be eradicated by a weekly increase of £3.84 per head. This would mean that we would not be dealing with such a massive problem.

So, if each member increases their giving by this figure and whilst the 2026 deficit will be less, this will increase the income to equate or exceed the expenditure. The time will soon approach when the deferred situation with Croftfoot Church will arise and we should be well prepared to be the most vibrant and viable Church of the two. If we believe in something, and I am of the opinion that we all do in this Church, then we have to invest in it. I would therefore urge you all to consider the situation and take appropriate action – action being the most important word within this suggestion.

Ian Christie

Special thanks..

Well, the 19th of April was certainly quite a morning. Having shared in our first grandson George's baptism – over from Australia with mum and dad, Jade and John, and knowing that Jess and James are expecting our next grandchild in October, I was more than a little bit overwhelmed when also experiencing such a warm and generous celebration of my retirement from you all.

I really can't believe it was sixteen years ago, having served for some time on a part time scale helping on the pastoral side of things, no-one was more surprised than me to be offered the post of Pastoral Assistant - and it certainly was a daunting thought to follow Cathie Shearer – a small lady, but with huge shoes to fill. Especially on a full-time basis – at the suggestion of the formidable Jim Buchan, if my memory serves me correctly, although, as someone once said, "recollections may vary" and sadly the sederunt book at that time seems to have been mislaid! I had thought of highlighting a few events during my time as Pastoral Assistant, but really there have been so many, it wouldn't seem right to single out any one of them.

I have enjoyed the support of many people throughout that time. From our former minister Sandra, who, especially in the early years, was always on hand with advice and support, and later in the vacancy, the various interim moderators, including David Easton and Ian Galloway and of course our, now not so new minister, Stuart, whose support and friendship, and whose kind words on the day, have meant so much to me. And of course, to the Kirk Session, along with the various session clerks, and again I could well be wrong but, as I remember, initially Rosemary, then Aileen, Alan, John and Eunice and more recently Lynda who thankfully is well on the road to recovery from her recent illness, and whose kind words at my presentation were very much appreciated, all of whose patience has been sorely tested, thank you.

In so many ways, from the members of what has been, and will continue to be, a very special congregation to me, with their words of encouragement, and their patience in the face of, let's be honest, some pretty woeful attempts at humour on my part. I may no longer be the Pastoral Assistant, but I'll still be around as an elder and I hope, as a friend - and sadly, so will the jokes!

Thank you to all those who joined with me on the day and to those who, provided such wonderful hospitality. Apologies if I didn't manage to get round everyone at the time. Thank you, too, to everyone for your generous gift and the photograph of the church and the various groups and activities it has been my privilege to be involved with.

Thanks to everyone for your support and encouragement over the last 16 sometimes turbulent, but always special, years. And, as we look to the future, may we each know God's richest blessing as we move forward together.

Love, Raymond. (former Pastoral Assistant.)

Kirk Session News

Friends

Over the past few months, the Kirk Session has continued to be busy with the day-to-day life and work of the Church, alongside taking time to reflect prayerfully on where God may be leading us in the years ahead. Since my last update, we have held a very successful conference where we considered where we are as a Session, as a Church family, and as a congregation seeking to reach out into our community. There was a great sense of encouragement throughout the discussions, and much thoughtful work has already taken place to help lay the “stepping stones” for the next few years of ministry and mission. Some of the ideas and priorities discussed will help shape the Action Plan that we will submit to Presbytery later in the year, but more on that over the next few months. In April, our Safeguarding Panel, Gordon Wilson and Nikki Kidd, met with the Session. We are very grateful for the experience, care, and wisdom they bring to us, as they continue to support preventative safeguarding measures, provide guidance, and assist with safeguarding processes and documentation. We are also delighted that our Caretaker, Pat Gaffney, has settled so well into his role. Following a successful trial period, the Session was pleased to confirm Pat in a permanent position, and we thank him for all he is already doing in the life of the Church.

As many of you will know, our financial challenges continue. On a personal note, I was extremely grateful to Ian Christie for speaking so honestly and eloquently at our recent Annual General Meeting. A copy of his report appears elsewhere in this magazine, and I would encourage everyone to take the time to read and reflect on it carefully, particularly as we think about our own giving and how we can continue to support and care for the Church we all value so deeply.

Finally, thank you to everyone who helped celebrate Raymond’s retirement. Many people have asked about the gifts that were presented to him, and, thanks to your generosity, we were able to give Raymond £1,170 and a framed picture of the church surround by photographs capturing many memories from his years among us (a picture of this can be found on the front cover of this magazine). It was a wonderful expression of the love and appreciation felt throughout the congregation to mark this special occasion.

Following Raymond’s retirement, the Session has also been giving careful consideration to our future Pastoral Care provision. Good progress is being made, and we are encouraged that plans are coming together to ensure a Pastoral Care Team is in place and ready for the beginning of the new session - again more news of this over the next few months.

Until then, wishing you all a restful, and hopefully warm! summer.

Ever yours, *Lynda, Session Clerk*