King's View

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December 2024/January 2025

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.

"1930-2024 - 94 Years of Spiritual Service"

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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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 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 2025 ISSUE SHOULD BE EMAILED TO office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk NO LATER THAN THE END OF THE MORNING SERVICE, SUNDAY 19th JANUARY 2025. ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DEADLINE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE APRIL/MAY 2025 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.

THE HOLY RITE OF MATRIMONY "Whom God Hath Joined Together"

5th October Lois Thorpe and Martin Barron

AT REST

"I am the Resurrection and the Life"

7th October Margaret Johnston
28th October Lachlan Hardie
13th November Elma Wilson
21st November Andrew Ireland

Prayer Focus...

Dear Lord, we glorify and praise you, our Saviour is born! As we share this through Advent, help us to remember that Jesus is the reason for the season. In our busyness, we need to stop and think of others and be thankful that we have so much. We pray for everyone who has lost everything due to war or weather or struggles with cost of living. We continue to pray for world peace; many countries see a new government that is making changes affecting everyone, not just at home but elsewhere. As the New Year dawns, let our resolution be to look after our neighbours. Don't cross the road rather than say "hello"; take time to listen when someone shares their problem. You may have the solution or be the answer to their prayer. We pray that sharing God's love by reaching out to others may be the lifeline those others desperately need. Lord, we pray for a better tomorrow - a new beginning! Help us to be a change for good. Hear our prayer. Amen

From the Prayer Group

Our prayer list continues to grow. When you put a Christian name on the list, please take a card for them. There are lists at the front door of the church and the halls, I wish to thank you all for your support over the years, and to everyone who has helped with the remembrance services and to all who decorated the gardens and church. Do look on Facebook to see their wonderful work. <code>gaerataylor@btinternet.com</code>



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

Well, looking out of our windows today, several seasonal songs spring to mind such as 'Snow is Falling, all Around' or the perennial classic 'I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas'. However, as I look around, I don't need to do a lot of dreaming, as there are several inches of snow outside, thanks to Storm Bert, and a glance at the calendar tells us that the season of Advent is only a few days away and with it, Christmas is fast approaching.

The lead up to Christmas is a time of preparation and anticipation, and I'm not just talking about putting the decorations up or thinking about what gifts we may give or receive, although these are fun. It is, of course, a time for us to prepare to celebrate the most important birth in the history of humankind.

Just how do we prepare for such a world and life changing event? During Lent, we often give something up, or take something up to help us concentrate on the sacrifice that Jesus made for all of us, and to help us focus on our relationship with God and one another. But, do we do the same in anticipation of His birth? Perhaps you already do this, which is fantastic, but if you don't, then why not try doing it during this Advent?

We also know that Christmas is not always a time of celebration for everyone, so please keep in mind and in your prayers those for whom this Christmas will be challenging. Those who may be spending their first Christmas without a loved one, or those whose family have turned their backs on them, or those who have no place to call home.

So, perhaps this Advent, you may wish to support someone for whom Christmas is not a time to look forward to. Just how you might do that, I will leave with you to think about, and if you want to, but aren't sure how to, then pray and ask God how you might do this.

I also pray that you too will sense God's blessing through Advent, Christmas and beyond; His peace, His love, His grace and favour. And wherever you celebrate Christmas this year, God is there with you, caring and supporting you.

So, it just leaves me to wish you and yours a very Happy Christmas, and as we move into 2025, a prosperous New Year

God bless Stuart and family

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCE

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"
FINANCE REPORT - 2024

	<u>SEPT</u>	<u> </u>
INCOME	£	
Offerings & Donations	7,411	14,724
Gift Aid Income	-	3,322
Hall Hire Income	725	610
Rental income	517	517
Magazine subscriptions	-	7
Charitable collections	480	321
Other regular Monthly Income	963	481
Total Month's Income	10,096 ====	19,982 =====
Total Month's Income EXPENDITURE	•	•
	•	•
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	====	=====
EXPENDITURE Regular Running Costs	13,221	13,418
EXPENDITURE Regular Running Costs Charitable Donations	13,221 505	13,418 130

Dr Hellen Conn who celebrated her 90th birthday on 4th November 2024 We wish her every Blessing! from all her friends at King's Park.

KING'S PARK BRASS - FINAL UPDATE 2024

Christmastime is here again and, as usual, the band, in all shapes and sizes, will be out and about, bringing that traditional "brass-bandy" good cheer to all. We're accompanying carols in the Grow 73 Community Garden in Overtoun Park, between 6.00 and 7.00pm on the 20th – do come along for a singsong! We're also at Tesco, Burnside on the 8th December, Waitrose, Newton Mearns on the 14th, and at Asda, Toryglen on the 22nd and on Christmas Eve (say hello, if you see us!), but, of course, the highlight of our celebrations will be our annual Christmas concert in the church on Tuesday 17th December at 7.30pm. Please come and join us.

Thanks for the support given at our "Big Brassy Bake Off" last month. With your help, we raised some much-needed cash to keep the organisation going from strength to strength. Finally, we take this opportunity to wish all our friends and supporters in King's Park and beyond, a very happy Christmas and a Guid New Year. See you in 2025!

THE 'KINGS PARK STAR' APPEAL

The annual Star Appeal will start on the first Sunday of Advent, the1st of December. The box for donations will be at the front doors of the Church and all donations will go this year to Crisis Scotland. They provide direct support for people experiencing homelessness and influence policy to help end homelessness in Scotland. 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 8th, 15th or 22nd December to be placed under the tree in the sanctuary. We are happy for the usual donations that have been gifted in the past, however this year we do not need hand soap and black bags. If you are looking for ideas, we are short on bleach, cloths, scourers, kitchen and bathroom sprays, AA batteries and second class stamps. 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.

SEASON OF REMEMBRANCE 2024

Our season started with Stuart's very meaningful dedication of the Garden of Remembrance on Sunday 3rd 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, 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 & 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 10th November. To John, for his words, and to piper Neil, drummer Aeneas, and trumpeter Graeme, 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.

Thank you...

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in, or contributed to all, or any, of the events throughout our recent Gift Weekend. To date, we have raised a staggering £12,742 which will be put towards very much needed church funds. We are well aware of rising heating bills and the cost of living to name but a few, and so it has been truly remarkable that our wonderful church family have given so generously. We are truly grateful. The Finance Committee

'Thank you' just doesn't seem adequate enough to express my heartfelt feelings to you all throughout my recent illness and long, gruelling 10 week stay in hospital. However, thank you and prayers are all I have to give. Special thanks to Stuart and Raymond for your many wonderful and encouraging visits and desperately needed prayers; to the prayer group for your weekly prayers and card, and to our Prayer Elder, Gaera, for her personal messages to me which really did get me through some dark days. To the Thursday Friendship Club for the beautiful flowers and to the church family in general for the special Church flowers I received on Remembrance Sunday, thank you. Thanks also to everyone who sent me cards, get well wishes, flowers and prayers and to those who visited me in hospital and who continue to visit me at home whilst I recuperate. Those visits, wishes and prayers have meant the world to me and every one of them helped me on the road to recovery. To Hilary and Jill, who stepped into many of my 'Church Admin' roles, I am humbled by your unwavering support and grateful for your skill! And of course, to John and Eunice, who graciously carried on in their role as Session Clerk, just when they thought they had seen the light at the end of the tunnel(!) thank you to you both. Please know that I have kept the Church and all of you in my prayers, and will continue to do so as I slowly. with your support, step into my role as Session Clerk. I am truly blessed to belong to this King's Park family, who wrapped me in their arms when I needed it most and loved me back to life. With sincere blessings, Lynda

Thank you so much for the thanksgiving flowers, they were beautiful. I came home from visiting lan and got a lovely surprise on my doorstep, Thank you again, Nancy Hilley

My sincere thanks to the Session and the Congregation of King's Park Church for the beautiful flowers and card, which were delivered to me by Eunice Black, Session Clerk, on the occasion of my 90th birthday. This kind and thoughtful gesture was very much appreciated. *Hellen Conn*

KING'S PARK POSADA

By the time you're reading this, Mary, Joseph and the wee donkey will have embarked on their Advent journey. They've rested for a whole year and now they're ready for their time in King's Park, sharing Advent, the 'waiting time' with church family and friends and our neighbours in the community. The threesome plan to spend some time with all those who use our halls; they'll visit King's Park and Bankhead schools to share their journey with our friends there. You might see them in one or two of the neighbourhood shops, cafes, restaurants, hairdressers, or even in the Mews – keep your eyes peeled!

You can, of course, if you wish, enjoy an overnight visit from Mary, Joseph and the wee donkey in your home during Advent. All we'd ask you to do when they're visiting, is to take a photograph and send it to us, and write down, in the Posada journal, some thoughts about your time with the travellers. There are still plenty of dates free – just follow the directions below.

Email: office@kingsparkchurch.co.uk or call/text Alan Pratt on 07776 328914 to leave contact details and any dates during Advent when you can host a visit from the holy couple + donkey. A few dates would be good, so you won't miss out, but don't include Christmas Eve, cos Mary will be busy!





KING'S PARK CHURCH—RECYCLING

The Kirk Session has agreed that, rather than participating in Glasgow City Council's recycling scheme, at a cost in excess of £200 per year, we will be trying to recycling 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, regarding <u>uncrushed</u> 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

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

One of our very special Elders, Dr Hellen Conn recently celebrated her 90th birthday where a number of her church friends attended a get together to mark the occasion. Here she is blowing out her candles!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 1st	11am	Morning Worship - Gift Sunday
Sun 8th	11am	Morning Worship - Sacrament of Holy Communion
		and the Sacrament of Baptism
Sun 15th	11am	Morning Worship - Lessons and Carols
Sun 15th	7pm	Carols Around the Christmas Tree

Tue 17th 10.30am King's Park Primary School Service
Tue 17th 7.30pm King's Park Brass Christmas Concert
Thur 19th 10.30am Bankhead Primary School Service

Sat 21st 4-6pm Messy Christmas

Sun 22nd 11am Morning Worship, including the Nativity story

Tue 24th 7pm Christmas Eve Family Service (refreshments from

6.30pm)

Tue 24th 11.30pm Watchnight Service (refreshments from 11.15pm)

Wed 25th 11am Christmas Day Family Service

Sun 29th 11am Morning Worship

JANUARY

DECEMBER

Sun 5th	11am	Morning Worship
Sun 12th	11am	Morning Worship
Sun 19th	11am	Morning Worship
Sun 26th	11am	Morning Worship

FEBRUARY

Sun 2nd 11am Morning Worship, Sunday School Fundraiser after

Morning service

COMMUNITY CAROLS

We will be joining our friends from St Oswald's and Hamptons Coffee Shop for community carol signing at 4.15pm on Saturday 21st December outside Hamptons Coffee Shop (Kingsheath Drive). There may even be a visit from Santa and some hot chocolate! Please do come along and enjoy the community spirit at this special time of year.

