

PARKVIEW QUARTERLY

WINTER 2025

FROM THE MANSE

Hello everyone. This year has been one of many changes. As elders have retired, we don't have elders to deliver newsletters or come and chat to you.

Avril Yorston has volunteered as a Pastoral Assistant and we are grateful for Avril's input. If you are in need of a pastoral visit, please let me know, via the website, or a friend, and a visit can be arranged with the pastoral team.

My job has changed immensely, and so I don't carry out the same number of home visits, due to all the planning and number of meetings and tasks to perform, but if you know anyone who would like Home Communion or is in hospital, please let me know.

Our communication has been on a Sunday or via "Round the Table," apart from a letter, asking you if we can keep your details, and we are grateful to those of you who have replied. Therefore, this will be our first newsletter as Parkview Congregation and will be on hard copy for those in church, on Facebook, or the new website for those who wish to access it. Please let folks know about the new website - Parkviewparishchurch.org

When you receive this email, Bethany Pringle (Probationer) will have returned from maternity leave and we wish Bethany well on her return. In addition, we will be entering the Advent season, and so please be aware of my on-going prayers for you all and remember Isaiah's words about Jesus - the "wonderful counsellor, the Prince of Peace," will be with us.

***Season's Greeting,
Alison.***



KIRK SESSION GROUPS

MINISTER

Rev Alison A Meikle BD.

Tel: 07761101476

ameikle@churchofscotland.org.uk

CHURCH TREASURER

Mrs Kirsty Nicolson.

SAFEGUARDING COORDINATOR

Mrs Kirsty Nicolson.

CHURCH ORGANIST

Mr Brian Millar.

FACEBOOK

Parkviewparishchurch.org

CHARITY NUMBER: SCO13114

SESSION CLERK

John Russell.

Tel: 07485173436

russell@5298@sky.com

CHURCH ROLL-KEEPER

Mrs Mary Fullerton.

Tel: 01324 486952

PROPERTY CONVENOR

Mrs Liz Urbanczyk.

HEALTH & SAFETY

ADMINISTRATOR

Mr E. Colliar.

PASTORAL CARE REPORT

Psalm 23 The Lord's My Shepherd.

Did you know the word Pastoral comes from the Latin word for shepherd?

Jesus used parables, stories with meanings, to tell us important information in a way in which we would remember. One of themes was that of a shepherd looking after his flock. Jesus tells us about the lost sheep in both Mathew and Luke's gospel when the shepherd searches for his one lost sheep from his flock of 100. Jesus is telling us how important each one of us is.

Within Parkview Church we have a Pastoral Care team who visit our church family. We visit those who are in a time of need following ill health, bereavement, time of crisis. Additionally, we visit those who are unable to come to church for various reasons and for whom a visit will bring companionship and friendship. Volunteers have attended a training session and support is always available for them.

Do you know someone who would benefit from a visit? Would you like to join with us and visit too? Please just speak to one of the group members: Janice Gray, Eileen Sharp, Caroline Thom, Avril Yorston. contd.

Contact details below:

Eileen Sharp

07973172063

eileensharp64@gmail.com

We have a prayer group which is coordinated very well by Jean Jackson. If you would like prayer for yourself or for someone we know please just get in touch with:-

Jean Jackson

07751788655.

There are prayer request cards available in the church each Sunday for those in need of prayer.

"Entered into Eternal Life."

February	Mr. David Cunningham, York Drive, Falkirk. Mr. Robert Poole, Fintry Road, Grangemouth. Mr. David Robertson, Orchard Street, Grangemouth. Mrs. Sybil Finlayson, Crichton Drive, Grangemouth. Mrs. Jessie Paterson, Palmer Court, Grangemouth.
March	Mr. Wilson Anderson, Bute Place, Grangemouth.
June	Mrs. Jean Bell, Formerly Abbots Road, Grangemouth. Mrs. Catherine Stirling, Waverley Crescent, Grangemouth.
July	Mr. Robert Grenfell, Hanover Grange, Grangemouth. Mr. L. Andrews, Lawers Crescent, Polmont. Mrs. Nan Myles, Dorrator Court, Camelon. Mr. Duncan Nicolson, Wallace Street, Grangemouth.
August	Mrs. Liz Jackson, St. Margaret's Care Home, Polmont. Mr. Jack Dougall, Haining Place, Grangemouth.
September	Mrs. Margaret Kerr, Rodney Street, Grangemouth. Mrs. Margaret Dickson, South Marshall Street, Grangemouth. Mrs. Marion Brown, Burnbank Road, Grangemouth.
October	Miss Emma Queen, Bank Street, Grangemouth. Mrs. Janetta Robertson, Oswald Avenue, Grangemouth.
November	Mr. John McKinney, St. John's Way, Bo'ness. Mrs. Margaret Robertson, Elizabeth Avenue, Grangemouth. Mr. Sandy Charleston, Lomond Crescent, Larbert.

We uphold all families in our prayers.

FINANCE INFORMATION TO 1 NOVEMBER 2025

Income

Direct Debits/Standing Orders/Free Will Offerings and Open Plate

It's difficult to pull together a comparison with last year's figures so here's what we have for this year.

Jan	£7,212	Apr	£8,341	July	£7,524	Oct	£7,924
Feb	£6,883	May	£6,868	Aug	£6,975		
Mar	£7,439	Jun	£7,421	Sept	£8,238		

Our investments with the church of Scotland Investment trust (COSIT) continue to do well and we have participated in collections for Christian Aid week and Poppy Scotland.

We also reviewed and increased our letting charges in line with advice from 121 George Street. There has been little adverse effect on people wishing to use our facilities.

The Abbotsgrange manse was sold in June and after expenses c £221,536 was left for us to invest in COSIT for fabric purposes. We have invested £175,000 and retained the balance for future fabric work on the sanctuary and halls.

Several fundraisers have taken place this year and items from the church building have been sold which have added well over £5000 to our income.

Expenditure

We continue to meet all our expenditure which includes:

- Giving to Grow - £6,936 per month until November
- Insurance costs £672.62
- Church Cleaning - Costs average at £260 per month.
- Church utilities – Cost for October were £318.63 electricity and £625.59 gas. These are likely to increase as the weather continues to get colder
- Bell Tower refurbishment c£60,000 (funds raised by cashing in COSIT investments).

As at 31 October 2025, we held the following in the bank:

- Bank of Scotland £24,060.36
- Royal Bank of Scotland £43,878.85
- Virgin Money £17,497.58

Kirsty Nicolson
Church Treasurer

PARKVIEW PROPERTY TEAM

I thought I would let everyone know how things are going with the Property Team at Parkview.

It has been a busy few months and during that time, you will have noticed that the Bell Tower was completely surrounded by scaffolding as we prepared for the necessary masonry repairs to the Tower.

As you can imagine this was a huge undertaking and was not without its difficulties as more work was uncovered than was first anticipated.

I'm sure you will all agree that the end result is quite spectacular and it is so good to have the scaffolding down and be able to access the Church by the front door so that we can all worship together.

The team has also been busy painting doors and hallways to brighten up the property.

Another job completed was removing pews to make a useable space for some of our organisations as a United congregation. What a surprise to see so much space being created.

This is the first of future changes that will take place to make Parkview a welcoming space as we worship together and serve our community.

There are many tasks that need to be completed. Have you ever thought that you might have a skill that you might be able to use so that we can complete our list of jobs? If so, please get in touch as you would be made very welcome.

Liz Urbanczyk
Property Convenor

FOOD BANK

We are collecting for the food bank and food donations can be left at the back of the church. Thank you.

MISSION GROUP REPORT

The Church of Scotland seeks to inspire the people of Scotland and beyond with the Good News of Jesus Christ through enthusiastic worshipping, witnessing, nurturing and serving communities.

The Church of Scotland agreed this ambitious statement during the General Assembly of 2020.

Parkview Church Mission Group was established in January this year following the union and at its first meeting in March the group considered how it might make a start to accomplishing this bold vision and identified some steps that could be taken within our parish. We agreed we should focus on (1) the young people who are already using our facilities through membership of our youth organisations and (2) an area of our community that we have neglected somewhat – the Old Town.

Members of the Mission Group attended both the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade Parents Night in May to show our interest in and support of all that they do. We have organised social events in the Church Hall for the children and young people in our community and these have been reasonably well attended and enjoyed by those who came.

During the summer we started holding Café Church evening services at Dalgrain Community Hall in the Old Town. Publicity ahead of the first two services included a leaflet drop to all households in the Old Town. These services have been well supported by members of the congregation, but we have been disappointed by the response from Old Town residents. This is something we need to review for the future.

Looking forward to 2026 the Mission Group will look at how we might make an application for assistance from the Church's Seeds for Growth Scheme which supports projects aimed at church growth, reaching out to people who do not belong to an existing church, e.g.,

- Developing mission through new church communities
- Developing and nurturing faith in those under the age of 40
- Fostering discipleship and revitalisation within established congregations, with the aim of growing the existing congregation or developing a new worshipping community.

John Thomson
Mission Group Leader

DIARY DATES

December 2025

Tue	2nd	Good 2 Talk. 2pm.
Sun	7th	Sacrament of Holy Communion for Advent. 10.30am.
	"	Memorial Service. 2pm.
Tue	9th	Prayer Group. 2pm.
Sun	14th	Morning Worship. 10.30am.
	"	Parkview Choir Concert. 3pm. "I Have a Dream".
Mon	15th	Cooperation Brass Band Concert. 7.30pm.
Fri	19th	Christingle Service. 7pm.
Sat	20th	Coffee and Carols. 10.30am - 12 noon.
Sun	21st	Nativity Service. (Morning Worship). 10.30am.
Wed	24th	Lantern Service. 6 pm.
	"	Watchnight Service. 11.30pm.
	"	Late Night Service in St. Mary's. 11.15pm.
Thur	25th	Christmas Day Service in KHR. 10am.
Sun	28 th	Morning Worship. 10.30am.

WHAT'S ON AT PARKVIEW

ORGANISATIONS:

Day	Name	Time
Monday	Yoga	6.30 - 7.30 pm.
Tuesdays	Stitchers	2pm.(fortnightly)
"	Girls Brigade	From 6pm.
Wednesday	Church Gardens	am.
"	Bible Study	10.30am. (fortnightly)
"	Coffee Club	2 - 4pm.
"	Guild	2pm.
Thursday	Friendship Group	2pm (resumes Jan'26)
"	Choir Practice	7 - 9.15pm.
—		
Friday	Baby/Toddlers	9.15am.
"	Boys' Brigade	From 6pm.
Saturday	Flower Rota	am/pm.
Sunday	Service	10.30am.
"	Sunday School	10.30am.
"	Tea/Coffee	11.30am.
Monthly	Café Church	
Meetings	Hanover Grange	



We wish you a very Peaceful and meaningful Christmas

