

Issue No. 56



Winter 2025

Clarkston Church Record

The newsletter from
Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland



Our Mission

We, the people of Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church, seek to celebrate God's presence and love through prayer, worship, fellowship and service in the life of our Church, our community and in the wider world.

In this issue.....

Ministerial Matters

News from the Rainbows and the Boys Brigade

Advent and Christmas Church services information

Church Weekly Calendar

- Sun Morning Worship, at 11:00am
Crèche during morning worship,
for babies & children aged 0 - 3
years
After church tea/coffee, in the
Church Hall
12:00 noon
- Tue Church Board & Session
Meetings
7:00pm - 9:00pm,
2nd Tuesday (Sept-June)
"Messy Church"
9th December
- Thurs Property Maintenance Group
a.k.a "Land Army"
10:00am - 12:00noon
Community Cafe
11:00pm - 2:00pm (Oct - Mar)
Carpet Bowling Group
2:00pm - 4:00pm (Oct - Apr)
Boys Brigade Junior Section
7:00pm - 8.30pm
- Fri Boys Brigade Anchor Boys
6.00pm - 7.00pm
Boys Brigade Company Section
7.30pm - 10.00pm

For more details on any of the above
activities, please contact the Session
Clerk (details on the back page), or see
the church website,

www.airdrieclarkstonparishchurch.org.uk

or follow us on Facebook at
"Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church"



Newsletter Dates

Next Edition Spring

Publish Date 15th Mar 2026 (TBC)

Congregational Register

Baptisms

"Let the children come to me"

Sunday 19th October 2025

Walter Graeme Thomas Haugh

Sunday 2nd November 2025

Fraser Campbell Crawford

Funerals

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"

With sadness we record the death of the following church
members.

Kathleen Van Nuill

Funeral held at Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church
followed by burial at New Monkland Cemetery
on 15th October 2025

Archie Gillespie

Funeral held at Holytown Crematorium
on 13th November 2025

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends

Church services during Advent and Christmas

Sunday 7 th December	11:00am	Café Church service in the Church hall to rededicate the newly renovated hall
Sunday 14 th December	11:00am	Nativity Service, led by our Messy Church
Sunday 21 st December	11:00am	Sunday Worship
Sunday 21 st December	6:30pm	Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday 24 th December	11:30pm	Watchnight service
Sunday 28 th December	11:00am	Sunday morning worship with Lessons and Carols

Freewill offering envelopes

Congregation members who
make a donation through the
freewill offering envelopes
every Sunday may note that

they have been allocated a
new number for 2026.

Betty Kennedy

Ministerial Matters

Grace, mercy, and peace to you, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Dear friends,

I wonder if you have enjoyed the change of seasons as we have moved from the end of the summer months into Autumn. This year I have been in complete awe of the autumnal colours on the leaves of the trees. In particular, I have greatly enjoyed the colour of the cherry blossom trees - of the orange pink colour of their leaves contrasted by the dark bark of the tree trunk. There have been wonderful light displays in the sky as the sun has pierced through the heavy thick, dark clouds of rain. I have enjoyed seeing the sun rise and set – a consolation for the fewer hours of daylight that we now have at this time of the year.

As the seasons change, it occurred to me that this wonderful feast for the eyes is a natural sign of the spiritual life. The jaunty colours of the autumn leaves mean a dying of the leaf. Gradually they have fallen and now the trees are bare. But we know that the trees will not always be bare, because spring will soon be on the way.

This natural process is a beautiful image of the spiritual

life. In the spiritual life, death always gives way to new life. There is no better example of this than in the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus came to die in order to win for us eternal life, so that when we die to this earthly life we rise in glory in our eternal home. The dark empty tomb gave way to a beautiful garden on a warm spring morning.

The turning point in Winter is of course Christmas – when the world turns towards spring. C.S Lewis once described hell as a place that is “always winter, but never Christmas.” At Christmas we remember that Jesus came into the world to set us free from darkness and death. He has promised to abide with us even to the end of the age.

This means that when situations seem bleak and dark, we remain a people of hope. The light of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ is with us – and the darkness will never extinguish his light. As the Psalmist writes in psalm 23 -

‘even though I walk in the shadow of death’

the lord is always our shepherd leading and guiding us. We were not made for darkness or death but for life in all its abundance.

The Church of Scotland seems to be going through its own

seasonal change. We have been in a time of autumn and winter for some time – but soon spring will be on the way, and it is our hope that we will see the first green shoots of new life across the Kirk. We continue to work towards the implementation of the presbytery’s mission plan which will eventually see Cairnlea, Calderbank, Chapelhall and Clarkston unite together. But this is likely to take some time – and so in the meantime, Clarkston Church is very much open and full of life – whether that be in our Sunday Worship, our warm space café, our Messy Church, or in the many acts of service and kindness shown by our members.

I am especially grateful to all of those who have worked so hard to renovate the hall to make it a base for mission in the Clarkston community. We will have an opportunity to celebrate this work, to say thank you to all involved, and to dedicate the renovated hall to God’s glory at a special café-style service in the hall on Sunday 7th December.

When it comes, I hope you have a wonderful Christmas.

With love,
Hanna

New! Children’s Dance classes in the Church Hall

On a Saturday morning there are dance classes for children held in our church halls, led by a fully qualified dance teacher. The class type includes Lyrical, Jazz, Tap, Hip hop, Commercial and Ballet. If another type of

dance is requested then it could be made available as well.

The timetable is as follows:-
Classes for age 2 - 4 begin at 9:30am until 10:15am.
Classes for age 5 - 7 begin at 10:30am until 11:15am.

Hopefully there will also be interest from age 8 plus too.

If you have children of the above ages then bring them along and enjoy the fun.

Betty Kennedy

Organisations News



2nd Airdrie Rainbows

On Saturday 13th September some of the Rainbows and their Leaders attended a special GirlGuiding event named Roar and Explore at Blair Drummond Safari Park.

On arrival at Blair Drummond a

coach took us around the park to see some of the animals including monkeys, lions, tigers, elephants, rhinoceros, and a whole lot more. At one point our Rainbows spotted a monkey on the roof of the coach in front, which amused them all.

After the coach tour we went to see the prehistoric animals which were very life like and made a lot of noise too!

In the afternoon we watched a bird of prey display which was

enjoyed by all.

After visiting more animals and attractions we decided that we all deserved an ice cream cone with a chocolate flake.....it was good!! It was soon time to get back on the coach for the journey home after a great day out Roaring and Exploring the Safari Park.

Margaret MacFall

Unit Leader

2nd Airdrie Rainbows



3rd Airdrie Boys Brigade

The three sections of the company were at our church on 21st September for our annual dedication service and then at Airdrie Jackson church on the

5th October for our founders day parade.

The Anchor boys continue on Friday nights with their usual fun and games and lots of crafts which they enjoy. On the 23rd October the boys had their Halloween party with lots of fancy dress and fun.

The Junior section and Company section are both practicing for competitions starting with the Top team quiz then PT; we are hoping for good results in all four competitions.

Archie Easton

Captain

3rd Airdrie Boys Brigade

“Party Time”

Our church halls have recently undergone extensive renovation and re-decoration and are now open again for hall lets which means party time for all.

Baptism parties can be accommodated on a Sunday,

whilst all other parties can take place on a Saturday in the large hall at any time up to a 5:00pm finish. Bouncy castles, soft play, face painting, magicians, entertainers and clowns can all be accommodated.

Speak to me at church on a Sunday if you would like more information.

Betty Kennedy

Church Contacts

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Property Convenor: Position vacant

Treasurer: Mrs K. Harrison

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The next issue of this newsletter will be the Spring edition, which is scheduled for publication in March 2026.

Clarkston Church Record is published by Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland, Forrest Street, Airdrie, ML6 7BE quarterly in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter