

thegoodneighbour

NOVEMBER 2025



LEST WE FORGET



Parish Register

DEATHS

18th September 2025
2nd October 2025

Mrs Barbara Crawford, formerly of Clarkston
Mr Stuart Young of Clarkston

PULPIT DIARY

Sunday 2nd November	10.30am	Sacrament of Holy Communion with Sunday Club
Sunday 9th November	10.30am	Remembrance Sunday with Sunday Club
Sunday 16th November	10.30am	Worship with Sunday Club
Sunday 23rd November	10.30am	Worship with Sunday Club
Sunday 30th November	10.30am	Worship with Sunday Club (first Sunday of Advent)

ELDERS' DISTRICTS REVIEW

Many thanks to all the members who have replied to the church office in response to the Elders' District Review letters and emails.

We have discovered that the email addresses we held for a number of members was out of date, so these have been updated where possible. Any members who have not yet received or replied to the letter/email regarding visits, or if any members you know have not received the letter or email, **please contact the church office as soon as possible.**

Helen Howard
Session Clerk

FLOWER LISTS FOR NOVEMBER

	Communion Table	Windowsills
2nd November	Jim Harvey	
9th November	Marie Forster	
16th November	Elizabeth Cross	Moira McAldine
23rd November	Greenbank Guild	
30th November	Muriel Beaton	

The sheets for 2025 flower lists are on the windowsills in the transept. You can put your name down to put flowers on windowsills in November or December in Church. A member of the flower committee will contact you during the week prior to your date. With thanks,
Elizabeth Cross



POPPY SCOTLAND'S LIGHT UP RED CAMPAIGN



To raise awareness of the Scottish Poppy Appeal across the country, and to show support for our Armed Forces, almost 200 landmarks all over Scotland take part– including bridges, lighthouses, theatres, war memorials, public buildings, businesses and private homes . . . lighting up red.

Greenbank is now lighting up red every night till 11th November.

For more information on the appeal, visit the [Poppy Scotland website](https://www.poppy.org.uk/).



November 2025

Dear friends,

Jesus said to them, "Pay Caesar what is due to Caesar, and pay God what is due to God".

It is a feature of our society today that faith is seen by many as being a personal matter – something which is about individual choice, private and personal. Faith is not viewed as relevant to our public affairs, to our relationship with the natural world, or to our collective life as part of community, society, nation or wider humanity. In fact, matters of faith are very often assumed to belong only to the realm of individual spirituality. Christians are urged to keep their faith to themselves and not bring it into public discussion about such things as public policy, economics, national security, foreign affairs and other everyday realities. It is as if politics and faith are seen as belonging each to a separate realm, mutually exclusive, even set against one another in an either/or.

As Christians we believe that the Christ who was arrested, and who was crucified, also rose again to new life and is with us now. If this is defining of who we are, then it must also shape our politics. This means that ours must be a politics of hope. As Christians we find in the gospels God's love for the poor, and we remember the words of Jesus: "The Lord's Spirit has come to me, to tell me that he has chosen me to tell the good news to the poor. The Lord has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners, to give sight to the blind, to free everyone who suffers, and to say, 'This is the year that the Lord has chosen.'"

The people who flocked to hear Jesus speak, and those who became the early church, our ancestors down the centuries, heard the gospel and responded. Like them we too are called to hear the gospel and respond. The call to love God and to love others is not an either/or.

My friends, be assured that in the journey you are on together as a congregation God is with you. You already have all you need to build upon the good work you do.

With love and blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev Ruth Halley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Rev Ruth Halley (Locum Minister)



Taken in Australia, March 2025

Prayer Diary

"Jack Frost was in the garden;
I saw him there at dawn;
He was dancing round the bushes
And prancing on the lawn.
He had a cloak of silver,
A hat all shimm'ring white,
A wand of glittering star-dust,
And shoes of sunbeam light."

("Jack Frost in the Garden" – John P. Smeeton)

The days are shorter and shorter, and there's no doing without the heating now. The shops started displaying their Christmas wares at the same time as their Halloween ones. And everyone's looking out their scarves and gloves.

That's our reality. Continue to pray for everyone living in a war zone. Ask that there is a lasting peace in Gaza; that all the work done to bring the two sides to this point can be built on and made stronger. Pray that an end to conflict can be found in Russia and Ukraine and in all other regions which no longer grab the headlines.

Give thanks for the children that come to the Sunday Club, and ask that their numbers, and ours, will grow. Give thanks also for the service of Reverends Ruth Halley and John McPake (plus Bunny of course) in leading our congregation whilst we don't have a minister of our own.

Pray for all the people that find themselves having to use the facilities at the Lodging House Mission, and foodbanks all around the city; and for everyone sleeping rough on the streets. We would all prefer that these resources weren't needed at all, but give thanks for everyone who volunteers, and for everyone who generously donates what they can.

Ask that people are considerate of others with different beliefs and lifestyles. It is our differences that make the world interesting. Harmony is a blend of different notes.

*"Tell them not to speak evil of anyone, but to be peaceful and friendly, and always
to show a gentle attitude towards everyone."*

(Titus 3:2)

Gillian Foy
Prayer Promoter

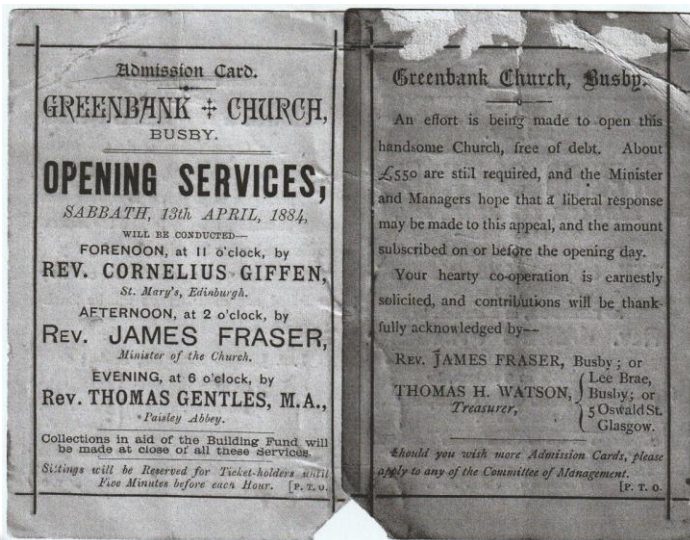
PRAYER REQUESTS

If you need prayer for yourself, a loved one or a friend, requests can be sent to the Prayer Promoter, Gillian Foy, via the church office at office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk. Those for whom prayers are requested will be prayed for throughout the following month by members of the Prayer Group. Anyone who would like a copy of the prayer list, in order to pray for those on it, should contact Gillian.

NEW BIBLE GROUP

The first meeting of the new bible group took place on 7th October and, although the group was small, it was very worthwhile. The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 5th November at 7.00pm till 8.15pm in the manse**. For this second meeting, we are looking at and discussing "the fruits of the Spirit" with the focus on JOY, with all most welcome to attend. There will be tea/coffee, and please bring a bible.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST



These admission tickets were issued for the opening service of Greenbank Church in 1884.

The £550 mentioned on the reverse would today be the equivalent of approximately £87,340.

OFFERING INCOME

Dear Friends,

I wish to thank all those who continue to support the church, whether by standing order, direct payment into our bank account, weekly freewill offering or putting money in the offering bag each Sunday. Offering income is essential to the work of the church and any increases in offering income to Greenbank are always welcome. You may also, or instead, make a contribution to the Greenbank's Restricted Fabric Fund.

I recognise that some of us may not be able to increase their offering which makes it all the more important for those who can, to do so. For those unable to come to church for whatever reason, but still wish to contribute financially, you may contribute by any of the above methods.

For a standing order form, or details of the church's bank account to make a direct payment, please email the office or write to me at the office address and I will be happy to assist. You may also post a cheque and/or your freewill offering contribution to the church office. Thank you all for your continuing support.

Alistair Smith, Treasurer

LEGACY FUND

Thank you again to all those who continue to contribute to our Legacy Fund.

Pledges can be, and have been, made for any amount of money you can afford, and spread over a few years by standing order if that suits you better. Alternatively, a one-off payment by bank transfer or cheque can be made, and you can also donate to the project online by logging on to our church website, following the link to the Legacy Project and clicking the red "Donate Online" button. Spare pledge and bank standing order forms are available from myself or the Church Administrator, should you require any.

Please remember that **every donation**, of whatever size, is both needed and warmly welcome.

Alistair Smith, Treasurer



HALL HIRE

Greenbank Church Halls will not be available to hire for children's parties until the new halls are built.

Young People's Page

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

Christmas in Church begins with the first Sunday in Advent. Advent means "coming" and what we look forward to is Christmas to celebrate when Jesus came into the world. Advent starts four Sundays before Christmas Day so begins in November. This year it is Sunday 23rd November.

We celebrate Christmas in all sorts of ways – trees, decorations, letters to Santa, presents and carols but for those who love an early dose of Christmas cheer here's a new one to try - Stir-Up Sunday. It is an old tradition where families gather to make their Christmas pudding. The idea is to give the pudding a good stir and make a wish for the festive season ahead.



Christmas pudding might not be everyone's favourite treat (it's a bit heavy to eat after a Christmas dinner). It's about coming together, having fun and maybe wishing that all children have families who love them, a nice home to live in and enough food.

It takes a lot of ingredients and time to make a proper Christmas pudding so check out the recipe on the next page for an easier one you might like better and can help to make.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



Anti-Bullying Week is usually held in the third week in November each year. The Anti-Bullying Alliance was begun twenty-one years ago by people and groups who were worried about how bullying affected people, particularly children.

Bullying can happen anywhere eg in schools, work and online and it is often very hard for people who are bullied to do something about it. What the Alliance does is make people aware of what bullying looks like, gives advice on ways everyone can help to stop it happening and how to support people who are bullied.

In church we often hear about kindness as a way of being the sort of people that Jesus would want us to be. That means we shouldn't bully other boys and girls or just join in because everyone else is doing it. Standing up to bullies is not easy and means being brave but not being a bully in the first place is really, really important.

FIND THE WORDS ABOUT BULLYING

P N L E X C L U D E
Y O A Y I M O H L Z
L S T E L S T E L L
E R M S T L F S T Y
N P W A Z R U R M C
O P L N I U U B Y H
L K Y E P H V B E J
B X N S Y P E L V V
M D E B L R P U F T
U T T E A C H E R U

BULLY
CYBER
EXCLUDE
FRIEND
HELP
HURT
LONELY
STOP
TALK
TEACHER
TELL
UPSET

ODD SOCK DAY



Odd Sock Day 2025 is taking place on Monday 10th November. Odd Sock Day was the idea of CBBC star Andy Day and his band, Andy and the Odd Socks to support anti-bullying week. So wear odd socks to show you stand up against bullies!

Hi Everyone,

It is getting colder now, and we will hopefully be seeing some cold fresh mornings. Remember once the leaves are off the trees to put some food out for the birds!

Remember to wrap up warm when playing outside.

Hope you all enjoyed Halloween and you probably have so many sweeties that you have enough for next year too!!

We continue to work though some exciting stories from the bible, songs and crafts.

Sunday Club Team

Dates for November are:

Sunday 2nd November – Communion – Sunday Club will join congregation to celebrate communion

Sunday 9th November – Sunday Club meet in church and move to the manse

Sunday 16th November – Sunday Club meet in church and move to the manse

Sunday 23rd November – Sunday Club meet in church and move to the manse

Sunday 30th November – Sunday Club meet in church and move to the manse

CHOCOLATE RICE KRISPIE CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS

This is for family to make or at least with a grown up. Everyone should have a stir and make a wish. You could do the measuring of the ingredients and help with the mixing. A grown up should do the melting. They will keep for a week so there's no need to wait for Christmas.

Ingredients

50g butter	150g milk chocolate
1 tablespoon golden syrup	180g marshmallows
100g Rice Krispies	50-100g white chocolate
Chopped dried fruit eg raisins, cranberries	



1. Place the butter and milk chocolate in a pan, slowly stirring to make the mixture smooth.
2. Add the marshmallows, stirring again to make sure they are all melted in.
3. Add the dried fruit if you want it. Not too much or there may not be enough chocolate sauce.
4. Put the Rice Krispies in a bowl along with the dried fruit and mix them carefully so as not to crush the Krispies.
5. Pour the chocolate mixture over them and use a wooden spoon to stir everything together. Don't forget to make a wish!
6. Spoon the mixture out and make ball shapes like a Christmas pudding. Make the bottom a little flat so they won't roll over. (If the mixture is sticky, wet your hands.) You can choose how big you want your puddings to be, but fairy cake size is good.
7. Put the puddings on a tray and leave them to set. (Or if you can't wait, put them in the fridge for 30 minutes.)
8. To decorate, melt the white chocolate and pour a little over each pudding.
9. Draw and colour in some holly leaves and place two on top of the white chocolate.

What's On

CHURCH CHOIR – NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Church choir rehearsals for this year's Nine Lessons and Carols service will begin on Thursday 30th October at 8.15pm in the church. The service will take place on Sunday 14th December at 10.30am and we warmly invite anyone who wishes to join the choir for this service to come along to a rehearsal or to speak with Peter or a member of the choir for more information.

THE GUILD

The first meeting of the new session took place in the manse. The Guild enjoyed a pleasant afternoon with Rev Ruth Halley leading our service of re-dedication. It was good to be back together again to enjoy a cup of tea and to catch up on everyone's news. Although space is a bit limited in the manse, we will still be delighted to welcome new members. Our programme for November is as follows:

5th November	<i>Sicily</i> : Rev Ruaridh McLean
12th November	<i>Even More Nostalgia</i> : Kevin Smith
19th November	<i>Glasgow's Tobacco Lords and the Slave Trade</i> : Craig Mains
26th November	<i>They All Wore Blue: The Women's Auxiliary Air Force</i> : Roy Johnstone

Enid Dron
Secretary

SATURDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB

We are continuing to look at David Gibson's book, "*The Lord of Psalm 23*". We are reading the introduction to part 3, "*The Guest and the Host*", and chapter 7, "*How He Welcomes*". Our next meeting is on Saturday 1st November in the manse at 9.45am for tea/coffee and a biscuit, starting our discussion at 10.00am for an hour. We are a friendly group and new members will be made most welcome, so why not come along and give us a try. For more information contact the church office.

TIME OUT

We enjoyed a Games night in the Manse in October along with a quiz night. November's syllabus includes a rescheduled talk on "Walks of Glasgow" on the 13th. We get into the mood for Christmas on the 27th when we have a craft evening; always a fun night. We always welcome new members, please come along.

Elaine Carr, Chairperson

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Clarkston Community Choir are back with weekly rehearsals on a Wednesday evening from 7.30pm-9.30pm in Busby Parish Church halls. They are rehearsing for a busy season of concerts in December, with performances at Langside and Broom churches, as well as Princes Square (raising money for Maggie's) and their big charity concert finale, complete with 13-piece orchestra, at Greenbank Parish Church on 19th December. The group is very friendly and welcoming, open to anyone with an interest in singing – and with no auditions or previous musical/music reading experience required! For more info, just come along to a rehearsal on a Wednesday night and ask for our treasurer Margaret Watson or conductor Richard Scholfield, or get in touch with us at: clarkstoncommunitychoir@gmail.com.

GLASGOW SOUTH CONCERT SERIES

The Series features monthly concerts in their new home at the beautiful sanctuary in Queen's Park Govanhill Parish Church, Strathbungo. The series' showcases the best of Scotland's chamber music, with a huge variety of instrumentalists and musical styles on offer throughout the year. Concerts in the 2025/2026 season take place 1.00pm-2.00pm on Saturdays from September 2025 to May 2026, with full details available on the series' Instagram or Facebook pages. For more information, find us on socials or to join our mailing list by contacting glasgowsouthconcertseries@gmail.com.

BUSHIDO KARATE CLUB

Our club had an amazing day at Bushido Karate Associations Kumite (fighting) competition. Our club came home with the most medals with 14 GOLD, 14 SILVER and 13 BRONZE.



Grace, Isla, Sorcha, Robyn & Harper



On the day our students performed amazingly and even in most bouts if we did not take a medal position we narrowly missed out. Our Club is the largest in the Association and our success is down to our amazing students and coaches.

In October we had "Women and girls in Sport Week" and our Black Belts, Michelle and Debbie, took 4 classes of 59 girls in Barrhead giving them a taster session in Karate – the feedback was amazing. We salute all the amazing women and girls at Bushido Greenbank.



Fiona, Helen & Iona



Debbie & Michelle



Aimee, Marianne & Sara

Our students continue to work towards the Senior Black Belt grading at the end of November.

Best wishes,
John Elliot



News and Updates

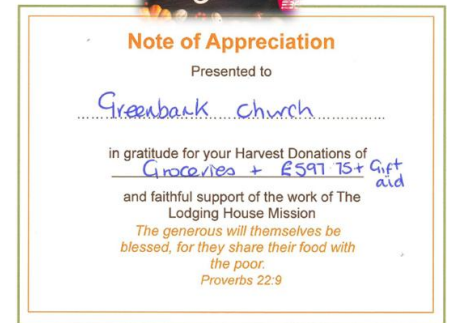


DONATIONS for the LHM can be put on the trolley in the church vestibule on Sunday mornings and in the box in the manse hallway during office hours. **At the moment biscuits, UHT milk, diluting juice, tinned custard/rice pudding, tinned peas and sugar are particularly requested.**

Envelopes are also available for donations of money. Please complete your details on the envelope (so that Gift Aid can be claimed if relevant and your donation can be

acknowledged) and either hand to me or place in an offering bag during the service. Please do not leave these envelopes on the trolley or in the box. Donations can also be made online at www.lhm360.org/donate. All donations are very much appreciated.

Harvest Thanksgiving: Very many thanks to all those who supported the Harvest Appeal so generously. A packed car of food donations was taken to the LHM as well as a beautiful bouquet of flowers. £691.50 including £93.75 in Gift Aid was also collected at the retiring offering. Your gifts of food and money at this time are greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Elizabeth Cross, Carol Schofield and Alison Allan for decorating the church so beautifully.



Volunteering To Help Greenbank Help LHM: Would you like to join the rota to deliver the donated items to the LHM on a suitable day for you during the week? A new rota will begin in January. If you would like to help, please speak to me at church or phone me on 571-2676.

Christmas Cards: will be on sale on Sundays after the church service starting on 9 November until 7 December. There are eight designs again this year and each pack of 10 cards costs £4.50. Money wallets costing £1 are also on sale. Please see the leaflet displayed in the front rooms of the manse.

Demand for the LHM services: continues to grow. In September 2025 3816 meals were served compared with 3509 in the same month last year. For the period January-September 2024 27,888 meals were served and for the same period this year it had risen to 32,375.

Liz Smith
LHM Representative

GNE FOODBANK

GNE FOODBANK is expanding a little. Along with partner centres operating in Bridgeton, Parkead, Shettleston, Riddrie and Easterhouse, to cover every day somewhere either morning or afternoon a new outreach has opened in "The Story" café in Main Street, Bridgeton. This is on a Monday evening to give more cover and inclusion in the east end of Glasgow. For all of this to run successfully the foodbank is always looking for donations.

Alex Howie
GNE Foodbank Coordinator

LHM SERVICE TO MARK HOMELESS DAY

World Homeless Day is marked internationally on 10th October each year. Lodging House Mission marked Homeless Day with a special service on Thursday 9th October, when Rt Rev Rosie Frew, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, participated in the service. The service took place upstairs at 7pm at LHM, 35 East Campbell Street. There was a beautiful harvest display (pictured). It was a lovely service, attended by over 50 people.

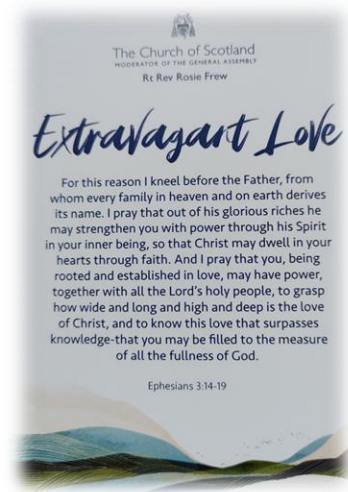
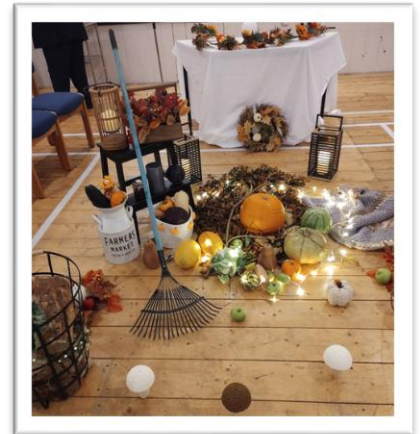
Rev Roger Sturrock, director of LHM, welcomed everyone and introduced Rev Louis Reddick, LHM board member, who led the worship.

Rev Reddick took the opportunity to thank the churches for their harvest donations.

We sang "Be still for the presence of the Lord". Robert Hind led us in prayer. We sang "Christ be our Light" and then the LHM Mission Voices choir sang "Love Shine a Light".

LHM Operations Manager June MacLeod introduced a video highlighting LHM activities and their benefits, and spoke of how people feel valued when they feel included. She explained that LHM gives people Life, Hope, and Meaning.

There were two bible readings, Luke 15, v 1 - 10, and Ephesians 3, v 14 - 19, read by Amanda and Callum.



Rt Rev Rosie Frew brought the greetings of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and presented a reflection. She spoke of the cost, worth, and value of a human life, and stressed that every single one of us is valued by God. She explained that the theme for her moderatorial year is Extravagant Love. She challenged us to be extravagant with our love, and to think big! She thanked LHM for the hospitality she had experienced throughout the whole day which she had spent there, and said that she had witnessed love in action.

The Moderator then led us in prayer. We sang "For everyone born a place at the table", and worship was closed with a benediction, when we were reminded of the length, height, width and depth of God's love for us.

The Moderator presented LHM with a gift of a framed text of Ephesians 3: 14-19, which is the inspiration for her theme of Extravagant Love. A postcard sized version is pictured and the postcard will be displayed in the Manse hallway.

Rev Reddick gave a vote of thanks, and a presentation was made to Rt Rev Rosie Frew.

Following the close of the service, Rev George MacKay, Moderator of Glasgow Presbytery, brought greetings from Presbytery. He presented a well-deserved award to Angela, a highly respected and invaluable support worker at LHM, in recognition of her vital contributions.

Grace was said before we enjoyed the hospitality which is so characteristic of LHM.

Alison Allan

POSTAGE STAMPS

I am excited to report that the amount of money raised to support the planting of trees in a variety of projects in Milawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe has raised £18,000. Each of these projects lasts for 2 years. This one entitled "Firmly Planted: Agroforestry for Sustainability" ended in December 2024. The £18,000 has contributed towards materials and much needed employment. It was raised by donations of stamps from the combined churches of Scotland. Thank you everyone for taking the time to save your stamps from letters, post cards and parcels. Keep saving!

Stamp Appeal 2025-2026 was intimated in a Spring edition of Good Neighbour - update soon. The release date for a new design of Christmas stamps is 4th November.

Elizabeth McKenzie

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FENCING											

If you know of anyone who might like to place an advert in Good Neighbour, which is distributed to over 600 people in Clarkston and the surrounding areas, please contact our church office on 0141 644 1841.

ARTICLES FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF GOOD NEIGHBOUR
 should be submitted to the Church Office: office@greenbankglasgow.org.uk
 and the Editor, Jill Liddell: liddell.jill@gmail.com, **by Sunday 16th November 2025** please.

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