

Prospect

Magazine of Stepps Parish Church



November

2025

Issue 445

Scottish Charity No.
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Welcome to the November

2025 Edition of

Prospect

In this edition, along with our usual features, there is news & updates from our congregation and community.

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Details of the Remembrance Service and events organised over the next two months.

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The feasibility study being carried out to update our church buildings and grounds.

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If you have any ideas for additional features or any changes we can make to Prospect it would be great to hear from you.

Contact Us:

Minister: Currently Vacant

Session Clerk: Alastair Sim

Church Organist / Musician:

Alastair Sim 07821 667272

Website

www.steppsparishchurch.org

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/steppsparishchurch>

Prospect

To submit an item for the December/January Prospect please email the Prospect Editor Anne by Monday 17th November.

anne.bunyan87@googlemail.com

***At the heart of our community
celebrating faith and life to the
full.***





Stepps Parish Church linked with
Garthamlock, Ruchazie & Craigend

Minister: Currently vacant

Locum Minister: Rev Elaine Mckinnon

Email: EMckinnon@churchofscotland.org.uk

Phone: 07780590575

Interim Moderator: Rev Monica Michelin - Salomon

Email: MMichelinSalomon@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Alastair Sim

Email: alastairsim1972@gmail.com

Address:

Stepps Parish Church,
17 Whitehill Ave, Stepps, Glasgow G33 6BL

www.steppsparishchurch.org

Communion Services

(1st Sunday – March, June, September,
December)
10.00am

Contacts:

Hall Lets: Mrs. June Thomson

07909 - 042366

Safeguarding Coordinator:

Mrs. Ailsa Macdonald

07952 - 095380

Sunday Services

Morning Worship 10am

Please continue to follow the website for information about our Services. We look forward to welcoming you with us but for those who are unable to return we will continue to stream our weekly Sunday services on our Stepps Parish Church YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI7mTSz5OI-vW_qMKKjcXAw



Message from our Session Clerk

Hello there and welcome to this month's edition of Prospect.

It seems to have been a very quick month with Halloween and Christmas just round the corner. The nights are 'fair coming in' and the temperature seems to be dropping.

Since we last spoke, the Harvest Sunday Service took place with all the donations of food and groceries being delivered to our friends at the Lodging House Mission. Thank you to everybody who gave to people who are not as fortunate as us.

Elaine, our Locum Minister, is continuing to make a good recovery and we, as her church family, send our love and best wishes to her. Retired ministers Edith and Stewart have continued to help us out by taking some of the services and last week we were led by Ailsa who did a great job. Thank you to them all.

On the 26th of October the Boys Brigade shall be taking the service to celebrate their Founder's Day. All are welcome and rolls and sausage along with refreshments will be served in the hall afterwards.

The following week, our new temporary locum minister, Susan Boland, will be leading us in worship.

The 9th of November is Remembrance Sunday. I will confirm the exact details for that morning in my early morning church Notices nearer the time.

I would like to say a big thank you to everybody who sponsored me to run in the Glasgow Half Marathon at the start of the month. I have raised £630, to date, which is on its way to Friends of Roxburgh House in Aberdeen in memory of my late father Alastair Russell Sim.

In conclusion, I wish you and yours happiness, health and wellbeing during our Autumn season.

Alastair Sim

If you would like to make a sponsorship donation for Alastair's chosen charity you can do so using the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/alastair-sim-3>

2025 – AND BEYOND

AN UPDATE

At a Kirk Session Meeting on the 16th of October, Trustees agreed to commission McLennan Chartered Architects, part of the Morris Spottiswood Group, to carry out an initial Feasibility Study on Church buildings and grounds.

The outcome will be a Report delivered early in 2026 to Trustees and containing comment on fitness for purpose of facilities, suggestions for improvement, permissions required (Local Authority planning/building) and cost estimates.

The Report will be considered by Trustees and Church Members to decide which if any proposals to accept. This will determine the level of funding required and will guide the 2025-AND BEYOND Committee in efforts to raise grant aid from various agencies.

Raising grant funding can be a difficult exercise, made more so by the reluctance of many major funders to support a religious cause. By improving facilities, the Church will be able to provide additional resources and services to assist community integration, and this may influence funders to support any developments. Somewhat like the approach taken by the Chestnut Café to secure funding from the Big Lottery for equipment and outdoor seating.

The next step for the 2025 – AND BEYOND committee is to generate more income. Plans will be revealed shortly.

The committee has discussed methods to encourage non-member participation in our church. Within our community there will surely be a large cohort of new to the area residents who have had a previous attachment to the Church of Scotland. We need to be able to contact them and maintain that contact for the sake of the Church and community. The simplest and most direct method of contact is via social media, whereby interested people can receive regular, brief and free updates on church activities.

Initially this will require an input from existing members who might persuade neighbours, friends etc to receive regular bulletins. If 50 members were to enlist 5 persons, we would have a contact list of 250. Imagine the potential benefits we could gain in terms of volunteers, attendance at church activities, fundraising events and church membership!

More information on this initiative shortly.

Jim Hope



190th GLASGOW COMPANY, THE BOYS' BRIGADE

Time seems to be flying by; it feels as if we've only just started back and we're already thinking about Christmas activities.

Jim and Christine met our Battalion Secretary, Jim McVean, when he stopped at Stepps in the course of his sponsored walk around every church in Glasgow Battalion's area with a BB Company in residence. Bearing in mind that Glasgow Battalion now covers an area stretching from Dumbarton to East Kilbride, that was some achievement. Some Officers from the Company joined other BB members (including Jim McVean, who was still walking) at Glasgow Cathedral to celebrate the 140th anniversary of Glasgow Battalion.

We will again be facilitating the Sunday morning service for Founder's Day and Dedication on the 26th of October and hope you can all join us. We will as usual be offering a roll and sausage and a tea or coffee afterwards.

Over the next few weeks we'll be having Halloween activities, taking part in the national Masterteam quiz night, and attending the Remembrance Sunday commemoration at the cenotaph.

CAN YOU HELP?

Due to our growing numbers, we are in great need of adult help on a Monday night. We expect to expand our numbers even further next year, and will really need help at that point. If anyone would be interested in helping out, either weekly or just occasionally, it would be greatly appreciated. Please get in touch with me if you would like to know more.

Anchor Boys for Boys in P1-P3, and Junior Section for Boys in P4-P6 meet on Mondays from 6.00pm to 7.30pm. Company Section meets on Mondays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm for Boys in Primary 7 and above. New members are always welcome.

Colin Goodall

Captain

colingoodall91@hotmail.com

Tel. 07827032807



Chestnut Cafe

Our October activity has been Digital Security with the help from Primary 7 pupils from St. Joseph's Primary school. The children have been excellent with lots of positive help and patience with a much older generation. A big thank you to all the children.

November's activity will be line dancing.

Chestnut Cafe Staff

Advance Dates from Sunday Club and 125th Anniversary Celebrations

Sunday 7th December Gift Sunday of toys, games and soft toys for F A C E organisation.

Sunday 14th December Gift Sunday of Christmas food, sweets and crackers for Ruchazie Pantry.

Sunday 14th December 2pm to 5pm An all-age Christmas party in the Church Hall. Come along and enjoy games, dancing, jelly and ice cream and lots of fun. Cost is a donation. Come in your Christmas clothes and help us celebrate 125 years of our Church.

Esther Hyndman



Another Date for Your Diary!

Our annual Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday 6th December.

Look out for further details in the next issue of Prospect!



Remembrance Service Arrangements

Our service of worship will be held at 10am as usual on Remembrance Sunday, which this year is on the 9th of November. The service will be slightly shortened to 40 minutes. This is to enable those that want to attend the ecumenical service held at Stepps cenotaph, Cumbernauld Road to do so.

It is the intention to once again hold a short 10 minute service for the community at 10:50am. This will be led by representatives of St Joseph's church, Stepps Parish church, veterans and our local uniformed organisations. Boys' Brigade will be congregating at the cenotaph and not at Stepps church.



Midweek Faith and Fellowship Group

Are you interested in forming a small group with others interested in exploring faith and fellowship mid-week?

We intend to start a midweek group on Thursday evenings from January 2026 onwards for no more than 90 minutes and for this to be an opportunity to question and ponder our faith through a mix of programmes and times of sharing.

To note your interest please contact Ailsa Macdonald on 07952 095 380.

Reminder about Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Ceilidh

Our friends over in Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Carntyne are holding a Ceilidh on Saturday the 29th of November. This event is suitable for all ages.

The Real Fling @Garthamlock.

7:30pm doors open 8pm-9pm Ceilidh 9pm buffet 9:30-11pm Disco

11:00-11:30 mixture of ceilidh and disco to finish the night.

BYOB (Bring your own bottle)

Free event but ticket required. There will be buckets out for a small donation and a charity to donate to will be decided.

For tickets call/message 07393550455.

Brian Stewart

Church Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held on Sunday the 5th of October. The service was led by Edith and Stewart. Esther and the Sunday Club organised the making of harvest baskets by the congregation.

Thanks to all those who decorated the church and delivered our harvest gifts to the Lodging House Mission.





Thanks to Anna Louise for stepping in to play the music for the service whilst Alastair was running the Glasgow half marathon.

Lodging House Mission Christmas Cards 2025 Brochures



Order forms for the 2025 Lodging House Mission Christmas Card Collection can be viewed on the table in the church.

For further information please speak to our Lodging House Mission representative Frank McGovern.

Door Duty

	Welcome at Door	Beadle
Nov 2 nd	C Skinner	S Baker
Nov 9 th	J Thomson	J Burns
Nov 16 th	E Watson	J Thomson
Nov 23 rd	H Baker	L Ashmole
Nov 30 th	J Thomson	S Baker
Dec 7 th	J Hope	J Burns



Tea Rota

Nov 2 nd	E Watson	C Logan
Nov 9 th	L Robertson	H Baker
Nov 16 th	F Maxwell	J Bennie
Nov 23 rd	S Gowans	E Cameron
Nov 30 th	J Bennie	C Logan
Dec 7 th	H Baker	L Robertson



The first person on list please bring milk.

Jessie Young

It is with great sadness that we intimate the death of one of our church members, Jessie Young, who passed away peacefully on Sunday 19th October. Jessie's funeral will be held at 10am in the church and 11am at Daldowie Crematorium on Monday the 3rd of November.

"My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?"

(John 14:2)

Baptism

It was wonderful to celebrate the christening of baby Albert William Fulton Rutherford Dickson on Sunday the 19th of October.

Welcome to our church family!