

Prospect

Magazine of Stepps Parish Church



September

2026

Issue 453

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Welcome to the September

2026 Edition of

Prospect

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

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Times for Midweek Worship Starting in October

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September Visits to Each Household

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Information on our September Services and Themes

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Note that the Communion Service will now be held on the 2nd Sunday of September

Sunday Services
Morning Worship 10am



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



**Stepps Parish Church linked with
Garthamlock, Ruchazie & Craigend**

Make Contact With Us:

Minister: Robbie Hamilton

Email: rhamilton@churchofscotland.org.uk

Phone: 07934 664 197

Session Clerk/Church Organist/Musician: Alastair Sim

Email: alastairsim1972@gmail.com

Phone: 07821 667272

Our Website:

www.steppsparishchurch.org

Follow us on Facebook:

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

Prospect

To submit an item for the October Prospect please email the Prospect Editor Anne by **Monday 19th September.**

Our Address:

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

Our Email Address

www.steppsparishchurch.org

Communion Services

These will now be held on the **2nd Sunday** of March, June, September and December at our usual time of 10.00am

Church Contacts:

Hall Lets: Mrs. June Thomson

07909 - 042366

Safeguarding Coordinator:

Mrs. Ailsa Macdonald

07952 - 095380

Please continue to follow our website for further information about our Services. We look forward to welcoming you with us on a Sunday morning but for those who are unable to join us in person, we continue to stream our weekly Sunday services on our Stepps Parish Church YouTube channel

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

Dear friends

At the beginning of October we will be welcoming Adam, a student training for the ministry who will be with us until Easter Sunday. I have enjoyed working with a whole succession of students over the years as well as being involved in the national students' training committee in its various forms. At the end of the placement, I have given them all the same gift – a notebook. I have a fascination for notebooks and pens. In fact, no matter where I go, I seek out a stationary shop for a good old browse. But this is not the reason I give such a gift or why I always have a notebook with me wherever I go be it through work or even on holiday.



I love people watching and am always keen to take in what is happening around me. In all sorts of situations ideas come to mind - a story I might hear on my rounds, a clip I might see on the net, an experience or event I come across. These very often are seeds growing into ideas for children's talks, sermons and other material I might be preparing. Perhaps my mind is just always so active, but I am always searching for ideas and inspiration and that is why I encourage those going into ministry to do the same. Very often there is something profound when it comes to these gems of ideas when God breaks through and offers some insight or revelation that both inspires and, at times, challenges me.

"Travels with your Minister!" is a series of thoughts written during various travels and I want to share some of them with you over the next few months. We are all on a journey together, travelling not just physically but emotionally and spiritually. This journey starts with worship on a Sunday morning which I want to encourage you all in, may we make it a priority this coming session and beyond. Duncan Forrest, Professor Emeritus of Practical Theology at Edinburgh, wrote a book about worship and liturgy entitled *Encounter with God* and my prayer is that as we journey together in our worship, work and witness we might encounter God in that worship and in each other. That encounter with God in a Sunday morning in worship and fellowship is central to who we are and what we are about as a people called to serve God and his people, called to reach out with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

And, back to the notebook and the insights, our encounter with God, when our lives are rooted in him and our minds focused on him, will continue as our worship continues beyond the Benediction at the end. God goes with us, but we don't take him with us because he goes before us as well. We can see and know and encounter God in many experiences and often in the most unexpected places as well as through the most unexpected of people.

Let us continue in our partnership and allow that partnership to develop and be deepened by making worship a priority in our lives and allowing the whole of lives to be worship.

Your friend and minister

Robbie

SUMMER BRUNCHES

The Summer Brunches were a success and, as well as welcoming familiar faces, we welcomed and made new friends in both communities. A big thank you to everyone who helped in the planning and at the brunches itself. A large part of the success was down to them and their willingness to help with the setting up, at the door offering a welcome, in the kitchen and hands on with the crafts and the games.

Watch this space for future events!

RAH

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Morning Worship

Sunday, 6 th September	Walking in Moses' Sandals: One step at a time		
	10.00 a.m.	Stepps	Morning Worship
	11.30 a.m.	GRAC	Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday, 13 th September	Walking in Moses' Sandals: Get ready for God		
	10.00 a.m.	Stepps	Sacrament of Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m.	GRAC	Morning Worship
Sunday, 20 th September	Walking in Moses' Sandals: Enough!		
	10.00 a.m.	Stepps	Morning Worship
	Walking Together: Partnership Matters		
Sunday, 27 th September	11.30 a.m.	GRAC	A Celebration of Community
	10.00 a.m.	Stepps	Morning Worship
	11.30 a.m.	GRAC	Morning Worship

GRAC – Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend

Midweek Worship – Thought-filled Thursdays

In October I will be starting a midweek service and this will be an opportunity to join together on a weekly basis to pause for praise, prayer and reflection and the pattern will be as follows –

First and Second Thursday at 12 noon

the Quiet Room in Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Parish Church

Second and Fourth Thursday at 1 p.m.

the Side Chapel in Stepps Parish Church

The different time fits in with other activities taking place on these days.

DATA CLEANSE

Periodically any company, organisation or charity is duty bound under civil law to do what is called a “data cleanse” which is an opportunity to make sure that the information held about individuals – name, address, telephone number, email address is accurate. The Kirk Session has just updated policies around this and data protection and are following this up with a visit to each household to make sure that the information we have is accurate.

It is also an opportunity to catch up with you and hear what has been happening to offer support and see how you can be involved in the life of the church.

Arrangements are under way and we hope to be seeing you during the month of September.

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTER

Funerals

29th July Christine McLaren

7th August Anne McLaren

7th August Sandy Wright

20th August Robert Cartledge

28th August Esther Nicoll

Message from our Session Clerk



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

I hope you all had a good summer and hopefully had some quality time with family and friends. We were very lucky this year weather wise as it was one of the hottest summers on record. As is often the case, during a summer holiday it passed very quickly.

The life of the church was also busy over the summer with various fun days including two 'Summer Brunch' days which proved to be very successful with our young people.

I am looking forward to the Autumn and Winter Season in our church and hope to catch up with you at one of our services.

As always, I wish you and yours happiness, health and wellbeing.

Alastair Sim



190th GLASGOW COMPANY, THE BOYS' BRIGADE

We're about to start Session 2026-27 and we're looking forward to another packed year.

Welcome to two new members of the Company Staff, Laura Presley and Ben Herriot. They're both a great asset to the Company and we're delighted to have them.

There will be an information night for parents, including new joiners, on **Monday 31st August starting at 7.00pm.**

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 this 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.

RECRUITS WELCOME!

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. **WE ARE PARTICULARLY KEEN TO SEE MORE BOYS IN THE ANCHOR BOYS!** Please spread the word around local primary schools (Stepps, Avenue End and Sunnyside).

Please note these times are to be confirmed, please contact me to enquire.

Colin Goodall

Captain

colingoodall91@hotmail.com

Tel. 07827032807

Chestnut Café



Chestnut
Café

After our summer break, the Chestnut Cafe will open its doors once again to our "guests" and line-dancers for tea, coffee, fruit loaf, cakes, soup, sandwiches, toasties and more importantly friendship, fun and laughter on **Thursday 3rd September**.

During the holidays Esther and Ian have been busy co-ordinating and arranging for a couple of members from Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend to paint and freshen up our kitchen which certainly needed a new look. A big Thank You to everyone involved. It looks amazing.

Some of our line-dancers made a much welcomed return visit to Birdston Nursing Home in Kirkintilloch. They entertained the residents and staff alike with line-dancing to the music of the 60s. There were lots of happy smiling faces as they joined in singing the old songs, non more so than our friend Sheila whose face lit up when she saw the ladies and especially seeing Gary. She just wanted to keep him there.

Another big Thank You to you all for bringing so much joy into their lives if only for a few hours. They can't wait to welcome you back.

Robbie has invited the Moderator of the Church of Scotland to the cafe on the 3rd Sept for Lunch after a Dedication Service at Garthamlock. We know everyone will make him feel welcome as he gets a flavour of how life and fellowship is shared among the community and beyond.

Can't wait to see you all again.

The Chestnut Cafe Staff

Sunday Club

The Sunday Club welcomed our young people back on Sunday 16th of August after the summer break. It was lovely to catch up with them and hear about their travels and everything they had enjoyed over the summer.

The Sunday Club meets in the church halls on Sunday mornings at 9.50am. We begin in church for the first part of the service, then move to the halls to find out more about Bible stories, participate in games and make crafts.

Children and young people aged 3 and over are warmly welcome to join us on Sunday mornings to join in the fun.

Anne, Esther and Linda

Door Duty



	Welcome at Door	Welcome at Door	Beadle
September 6th	C Skinner	J Thomson	S Baker
September 13th	S Gowans	L Ashmole	J Burns
September 20th	H Baker	J Bennie	C Skinner
September 27th	M Inglis	J Hope	J Thomson
October 4th	E Watson	R McGovern	L Ashmole

Tea Rota

September 6th	J Bennie	S Gowans
September 13th	L Robertson	E Henderson
September 20th	F Maxwell	C Logan
September 27th	E Watson	H Baker
October 4th	C Skinner	L Robertson



First person on rota please bring milk.

June Thomson