

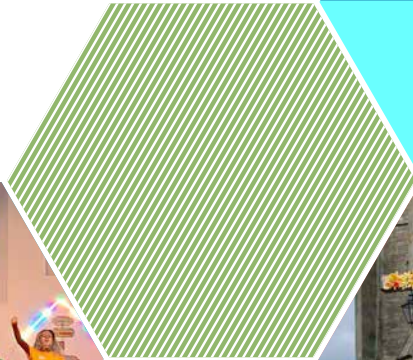
**FREE**

Please take one

# Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

## 2023 in Review

*Following Christ*  
*Spreading the Word*  
*Serving the Community*



573

members and adherents

180

Family Week attenders daily

40

year celebration of Kinross Centre



Roll up to the  
'Big Top'  
holiday club

10000s

of volunteer hours

135

year celebration of  
Kinross Guild

28

Brigade members



8

Farmers  
Markets



5

Youth  
groups

150

knitted Easter flowers



5

House-groups

120+

worship services



## Minister's Message & Session Clerk's Message

This new-format Annual Review gives a flavour of the variety and fullness of our life as a congregation and highlights that there is a place for everyone to participate and to contribute, each according to their God-given abilities. Give thanks with me for the different aspects of the Church's ministry and mission that are recorded in these pages and for the individual experiences and encounters that they represent and take time to reflect on what your own part has been in the year that is past and could be in the future. Let this congregational review prompt you to review your unique place as one of the 'living stones' God is building into the 'spiritual house' that is Kinross Parish Church (1 Peter 2:5). Let us all celebrate the past year and let us each recommit ourselves through the offering of time, talents and money to Christ in the coming year.



**Rev Alan Reid**

**Alan Reid**  
Parish Minister

I hope that everything we do in this active, vibrant fellowship is aimed at fulfilling our mission of **Following Christ, Spreading the Word, Serving the Community**. We wish proactively to fulfil our mission in a way that is relevant and responsive to the needs of our community and to the wider world. We are all on a journey of faith and we need to encourage one another to deepen our understanding of what it means to be a Christian today. This will strengthen us, so that we can better meet the challenges that face us in the changes in our Church community as well as in the wider world. In this brief report it is not possible to include every aspect of our Church family life, but I hope it paints a picture of our worship, mission and outreach. If you have questions we would love to hear from you – please be in touch.



**Jaffrey Weir**

**Jaffrey Weir**  
Session Clerk

## Worship, Prayer and Ministry

*Communal worship and prayer are the bedrock of Church life. A new Discipleship Corner in the sanctuary offers reading material for those looking to deepen their understanding on their faith journey.*

10.30am Sunday worship

7 January Day of Prayer 7am to 7pm

11.15am Wednesday Service at the Kinross Centre

9pm Compline monthly

6pm Sunday prayer time on Zoom

8am Monday monthly meditation

Prayer requests via website

Points for Prayer in weekly notices

Monthly communion celebration

Whether coming together in celebration for Christmas and Easter, a baptism or marriage, or whether to gather to grieve and give thanks for a loved one at a funeral or the annual bereavement service, the Church, led by our Minister, endeavours to respond to the needs of all in the community.

**US-born Rev Austin Wicks and his wife, Alicia, have been with us throughout 2023 while Austin familiarises himself with the Church of Scotland. They have been a significant part of Church family life.**



Austin & Alicia Wicks



Alan MacKay & family

**Alan MacKay had a six-month placement with us as part of his training for full-time ministry and the congregation warmly welcomed Alan and his family.**

## Parish Grouping Moving Forward

Major readjustments of parishes are currently taking place across the whole of Scotland. The four congregations of Cleish, Fossoway, Kinross and Orwell & Portmoak have agreed to enter into a Parish Grouping (which will take in Arngask in due course) and, in the words of the agreement, **“to do separately as congregations only what we cannot do together.”**

We became part of the new enlarged Presbytery of Perth which started in 2023. The Presbytery and the Church of Scotland have now approved the Presbytery Mission Plan which proposes a union of Kinross with Orwell & Portmoak and ultimately envisages a single parish for Kinross-shire, under a team ministry.

There is much to consider as we seek to build His Kingdom in Kinross-shire but worshipping and working together is already underway and we value the strong bonds of friendship that we have with our fellow congregations.

- **1 January Joint Parish Grouping service at Orwell Church**
- **Maundy Thursday Evening Communion at Fossoway Church**
- **Early Morning Easter Service at Loch Leven for all churches**
- **31 December Joint Parish Grouping service at Cleish Church**

Rev Dr Robert Calvert is the Locum Minister at Orwell & Portmoak.

The congregations of Cleish and Fossoway said farewell to Rev Lis Stenhouse at the end of 2023. Rev Beverley Stevenson has been appointed Interim Moderator and Locum Minister.



**Robert & Lesley-Ann  
Calvert**



**Lis Stenhouse**

## Children and Young People

*More than 100 children and young people are engaged with God's message through a variety of initiatives.*



Family Week volunteers

**Stepping Stones** meets on Tuesday mornings, welcoming the under 5s and their carers: an opportunity to support young families. More than 60 people of all ages attended the Teddy Bears' Picnic in June.

**NEW! Dungeons and Dragons**, the table-top role-playing game introduced by Rev Austin Wicks, has proved to be very popular. **"It sends a loud and clear message to our children, even to our adults, that you are welcome at the Church... it is an active invitation to see the house of God as your own home."**

Each day an average of 180 children and young people attended August's **Family Week** to enjoy songs, Bible

stories and crafts. The holiday club could not have happened without the fantastic volunteers from beyond our membership and including Orwell & Portmoak and KYTHE.

The Family Week team also organised special one-off events including the **Good Friday Experience**, the 31 October **Light Party** and **The Big ADVENTure**. There is no charge for any of these so everyone can come along.



Kinross Parish Church gives financial support to **KYTHE**, the local charity undertaking dynamic Christian youth work that aims to ensure every young person in Kinross-shire is given the opportunities they need to reach their potential: its work is transforming young lives.



D&D board



The Family Week teens made this beautiful bench (left).



**"Nothing can separate us from God's love".**

Teddy Bears' Picnic



Fully  
Rely  
On  
God



Junior Church artwork

We welcome young people taking part in the **Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme**, who enjoy placements as varied as Junior Church, Fairtrade, serving refreshments or the AV team.

**1<sup>st</sup> Kinross Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association** offers opportunities for P1 to S6 to develop life skills through a range of activities, experiences and adventures.

Sunday evening's **Crossfire** welcomes P7+ for fun, fellowship and food. A Bible message is woven into activities so that the Good News message feels relevant for today's teens.

During Sunday morning worship, **Junior Church** has its own special time for games, songs, Bible stories and crafts. Afterwards the children share with the congregation what they have been doing.

**NEW! Sunday @ 7** is a short, informal evening service of contemporary worship and bite-sized Bible teaching, aimed at older teens and younger adults.

*All work undertaken with children and adults at risk is underpinned by Safeguarding: our duty is to ensure A Safe Church for All.*

Duke of Edinburgh Award



Brigade Enrolment



Sunday @ 7

Sunday @ 7  
Contemporary worship

Crossfire



## The Church's Week

Throughout the week there are opportunities for worship, discipleship and fellowship. Gatherings take place at the church, our Church Centre on the High Street, in members' homes or on Zoom. Here is a summary of weekly and other regular events.

### SUNDAY

- 0915 Choir
- 1030 Morning Worship
- 1030 Junior Church
- 1130 After-worship Coffee & Fairtrade stall
- 1415 Church family monthly social walks
- 1430 Let's Sing monthly for people with dementia
- 1800 Crossfire P7+ youth group
- 1800 Time for Prayer on Zoom
- 1900 Sunday @ 7 bite-size Bible worship (occasional)

### MONDAY

- 0800 Silent Meditation monthly
- 1000 Church Office open to visitors
- 1345 Bridge and board games
- 1930 Kirk Session quarterly
- 1930 Dungeons & Dragons Adults fortnightly
- 2000 House-group (spring and summer)

### TUESDAY

- 1000 Stepping Stones for the under 5s
- 1430 House-group
- 1900 Guild meetings fortnightly autumn and spring



Church family walk to East Lomond

King's Coronation picnic



Easter Day choir





- 0930 House-group (autumn and winter)
- 1115 Mid-Week Worship at the Kinross (Day) Centre
- 1330 Craft Group
- 1945 Men's House-group
- 2000 Women's House-group

WEDNESDAY



*Guild 135 years*

- 1030 House-group
- 1100 Table Talk chat on Zoom
- 2100 Compline service monthly

THURSDAY



*Table Talk outing to  
Rossie Gardens*

- 1000 Church Office open to visitors
- 1730 Dungeons & Dragons Youth fortnightly
- 1800 Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association

FRIDAY



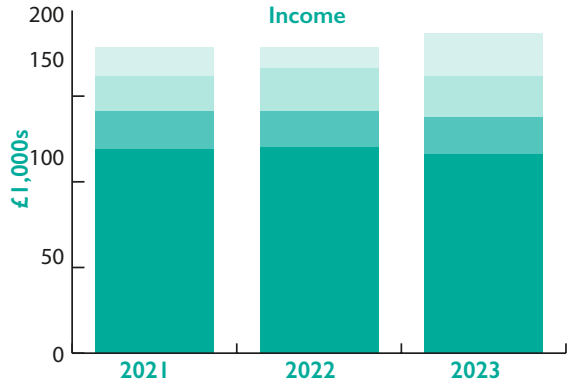
*Church family ceilidh*

- 1000 Farmers' Market stall monthly
- 1100 All Friends Together monthly for adults with learning disabilities

SATURDAY

## Finance Income

We are thankful to have a loyal and generous congregation donating a sustainable level of offerings year on year, despite all the uncertainties of modern living. This giving leads to substantial gift-aid tax recoveries from the Government. And we generate income from letting our premises to a variety of local organisations.



◆ Offerings
 ◆ Tax recovered
 ◆ Premises Lets
 ◆ Other

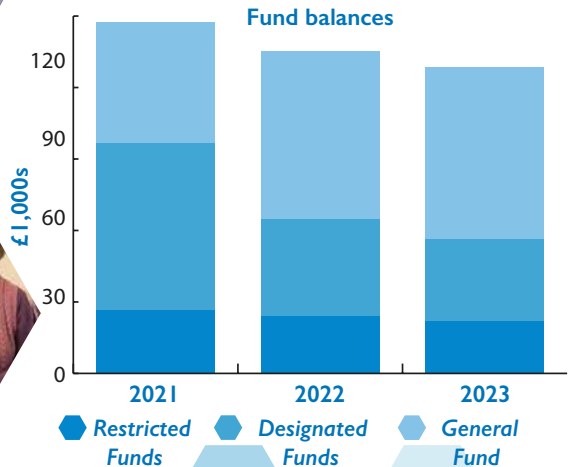
Our contribution to the central funds of the Church of Scotland covers not only our local ministry costs but national and overseas mission, as well as helping congregations who are unable to fund all those costs themselves.

We are managing to keep the church and Church Centre buildings in a good state of repair, and our background support services ensure that the many wheels remain oiled at all times.

Winter Farmers' market



Craft Group



◆ Restricted Funds
 ◆ Designated Funds
 ◆ General Fund

## Finance Expenditure

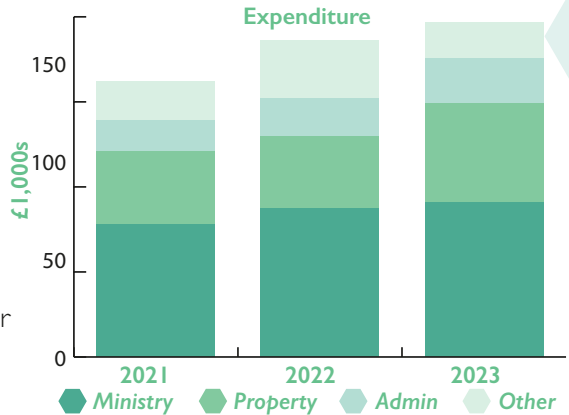
A Christian church has no profit-creating motive, but we have a number of funds to enable the life of Kinross Parish Church to blossom in our community.

Some funds were created for specific purposes, eg to support youth activities or to maintain buildings, and can only be used for those purposes. Our “ordinary” income and expenses all go through the General Fund. It’s here that any annual surplus ends up, but also here that any deficit is paid for.

The total value of our funds is held in ethical Church of Scotland investments, bank deposits and in the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The information here is just a snapshot: the full detail can be found in the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts available via the Church Office or the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

If you would like to make a donation to support the ministry and mission of Kinross Parish Church, please scan this QR code which will take you to our Stewardship page:



## Fellowship and Community

**All Friends Together** welcomes adults with learning disabilities to a monthly celebration of Jesus.

Kinross Parish Church has a gazebo at the monthly **Kinross Farmers' Market**, sharing conversations and information and having fun activities for children.

In June a **defibrillator** was installed beside the church and training given, thanks to St John Scotland.

The weekly **Craft Group** has about 20 members and not only offers fellowship but is also very productive, supporting for example The Mission to Seafarers Scotland with hats, scarves and mitts. This small group raised almost £2,800 this year.

**NEW!** Having run a **Warm Spaces café** over the 2022-23 winter, this has developed into a **Board Games and Bridge** weekly afternoon gathering.

**Food Tidings** are delivered to anyone who might appreciate a home-cooked meal, for example when just out of hospital.



Anyone on their own can enjoy a **Christmas Day meal and entertainment** organised by volunteers at the Church Centre.

As part of our service to the community, the **church and Church Centre are available for hire** to community groups and for concerts etc. "Thank you all for your help in letting us use your fabulous church for the SSAFA concert. We were delighted with the help you gave us at all levels – the venue is so perfect."



Defib training



Christmas Lunch



Board games



**“For it is in giving that we receive”**

**Let's Sing** meets monthly on Sunday afternoons, bringing together anyone who enjoys singing but particularly those with dementia, for a heartwarming combination of singing, a cuppa and chat.

Not everyone can come to a worship service. It is therefore broadcast live on **YouTube** and **Facebook** and available for six months afterwards. A telephone recording and CDs are also available.

Every Sunday the **Flower Team** delivers bouquets or posies to someone at home, perhaps in celebration or in sympathy.

Our Church Centre on the High Street hosted **King Charles III** in September when he visited the Kinross (Day) Centre, where he was welcomed by the Minister and Centre Manager Agnes (Nan) Cook BEM. The Centre celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Quarterly communion offerings for local, national and international charities have raised:

*£850 for CrossReach Daisy Chain Early Years Project*

*£2,360 for ShelterBox*

*£2,080 for Kinross (Day) Centre*

*£2,200 for Salvation Army*

The congregation and community have also supported:



*Remembrance Day PoppyScotland*

*Broke Not Broken local food bank*

*\*Blythswood Christmas Shoe Box Appeal for struggling families in Eastern Europe*

*\*Fun fact: more than 20 of these shoe boxes were donated by the families of Rosemount Nursery, whose children come along to Stepping Stones*



**King Charles III**



**Harvest offering**



**Shoobox appeal**

## Our Global Neighbours

Kinross-shire is a **Fairtrade** community. The Fairtrade team continues to actively encourage us all to make intentional food purchases that ensure global farmers receive fair pay and prices. They offer a stall after Sunday morning worship and at the monthly Farmers' Market, together with the Fairtrade Fortnight focus.

**“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it”.** Kinross Parish Church is part of **Eco Congregation Scotland**, the Christian charity that addresses climate change and conservation. Our initiatives are wide-ranging: growing fruit and veg in the church allotment, putting up bug shelters in the church garden, implementing energy-saving measures and organising community litter picks. The activities are for all ages, encouraging different generations to come together. The team achieved a Silver Eco Congregation award.

This year’s **Christian Aid** focus was The Big Pea Challenge, helping farmers in Malawi plant better seeds, secure a better price for their crops and build happier futures for their children. The church gazebo on the High Street engaged the local community with recipes and activities and highlighted the work of this international relief organisation. The congregation enjoyed a fundraising pea soup lunch. Altogether, £3,725 was raised.



Fairtrade Farmers' market



Bug box



Litter picking



Christian Aid pea soup lunch



Having sent a substantial donation in 2022, a further £1,000 was sent by Kinross Parish Church to support a shelter house in **Csongor, Ukraine**, which is being assisted by our partner Hungarian Reformed Church in Debrecen. The ministry team in Csongor is cooking 70 meals a day for local people.



Csongor food supplies

It was the turn of Kinross Parish Church to host the March **World Day of Prayer** services. This year's focus was Taiwan and a member of the congregation born there shared information and local knowledge.



Csongor shelter house

October's **Tearfund** Big Quiz Night was organised by Loch Leven Church and held in our building. Tearfund's Alan Fraser visited the congregation the following month to talk about the organisation's church and community transformation programme which is having a positive impact worldwide from Burundi to Nepal to South America.



Tearfund quiz

This carved map of Taiwan says **>**  
**“Continue to pray, be thankful for everything.”**

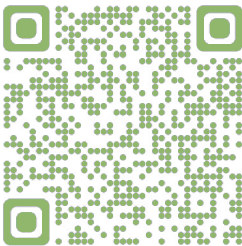
The congregation was involved in the Church of Scotland's **Stamp Appeal 2023**, supporting an agriforestry project in southern Africa.



Kinross Parish Church



To visit our website:



The Church of Scotland



Kinross Church Centre

To sign up to our weekly email please contact our Church Office  
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