

# Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

May 2017



Dear Friends,

The retirement of the Rev Andrew Lees has made the way clear for the linkage of Baldernock Parish Church and Milngavie: St Paul's. This has been part of the Presbytery Plan for some years and follows a pattern for many Church of Scotland parishes. At present, most of the parishes in the Presbytery of Dumbarton are linked with others and more linkages are planned for the future.

The immediate implication for St Paul's and Baldernock is that they will have a shared Ministry of Word and Sacrament. One Minister will have responsibility for the worship and pastoral care of both congregations. The Presbytery Plan allows for assistance on a part-time basis although at the time of writing this is not yet in place.

Before a linkage can be effected there is a procedure that has to be observed. Both Kirk Sessions will have to agree to a Basis of Linking which in turn will be approved by the Presbytery and national committee called the Presbytery Planning Task Group. There will then be separate congregational meetings when both congregations will be asked to give their approval to the Basis of Linking. It is hope that these meetings will take place after morning worship on 11 June 2017. An Edict will be served on the two Sundays prior to the meetings. All being well a service of Linking will take place sometime in August 2017.

We have a hymn which says: 'This is a day of new beginnings' and it is my prayer that this spirit will permeate both congregations as we face the future sharing a Minister but with our own distinctive witness within our parishes. There will be changes for both congregations, not least the times of services on the Lord's Day, but we go forward in the conviction that God has his plan for His people and that His Spirit is working through us to tell the story of His Son and share His love with those in need.

'Christ is alive, and goes before us  
to show and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings -  
our God is making all things new.'

Wishing you all every blessing as we face the challenges of the future,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Lees'.

## Holy Week Services

Thanks to all who contributed to the success of this year's services. The stewards, the refreshments team, the sound engineers as well as Chris Scott, Derek Norval, Hugh McGorm, Aileen McColl and Sandra Angus.

The sum raised in offerings over the week for the Children's Charity *Children in Christ* was £1,902.31. Donations of clothes etc are always welcome and more information about the charity which is based in Romania, is available at the back of the Church.

**Graham Mill, Session Clerk**

## Christian Aid Week 2017



Christian Aid week will be from 14th to the 20th May. As usual we will be looking for collectors. A sign up sheet will be at the back of the church. Please, please give this your full consideration as this year, more than ever, Christian Aid need this week to be a success.

St Paul's have a great reputation for covering the districts allocated in Milngavie and if you have any questions about this event please speak to myself or Gordon Campbell, Marilyn Taggart, Betty Watson or Margaret Bonis.

As usual counters will be required in the large hall from Wednesday 17th May to Friday 19th May

**Alex McEwan, Convener**



## Scottish Bible Society

Thank you to everyone who supported our Bible Sunday Appeal.

The total amount donated was £1,029 - when Gift Aid has been reclaimed this will increase the total to £1,196.50.

**Frances Ireland**

## **David Ferguson**

After a year long struggle with cancer David died on Tuesday 25 April. He was supported by the prayers of many people throughout the world, not least within our own congregation. These prayers continue for Lorna and the family whose witness over the past month has been exceptional. On Palm Sunday Lorna wrote this on Facebook:

'Today is Palm Sunday and I was thinking of this verse: "When the days drew near for him to be received up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem." Jesus knew He was going to Jerusalem to die there but didn't run away, rather He set his face to it. As many of you know, **David** has been told that his latest treatment has not been effective and that there is nothing else he can try that has a chance of success. So it is an encouragement to think of Jesus's example and set our faces towards what is coming, knowing He is with us every step of the way.'

David's funeral service took place in Ichikawa City on Friday 28 April. It is hoped that a Service of Thanksgiving will take place in Scotland organised by OMF whose work for the Kingdom David and Lorna have so faithfully advanced.

## **Thank You**

We would like to pass on our sincere thanks for all the cards, prayers, flowers, letters and phone calls following Jimmy's death.

We have been most comforted by all the support from Fergus, the church family, friends and neighbours. We were truly touched by the attendance at the funeral services and are so pleased to be able to send a very generous cheque to Scottish Mountain Rescue.

**Margaret and Michael White & Jill Wallis**

## **Vine Trust**

Marilyn and Rhona now back home from Peru with the Vine Trust wish to thank the congregation for all their prayers, support and kind wishes for our trip. It was a great experience working with the Peruvian team on the Amazon Hope and bringing medical aid to the tribes along the Amazon river.

## **Guild Summer Outing**

Our Guild Summer Outing takes place on Monday 22nd May when the bus will leave Milngavie Railway Station at 11.00 a.m. prompt to take us to Garrion Bridges Garden Centre for lunch/coffee break. We then travel on to Gretna Village and Outlet where there will be time for shopping before having High Tea at the Gretna Hall Hotel at 5.30 p.m.



Hopefully the sun will be shining for us !

## **World Mission Stamp Appeal**

Dear Friends,

I am writing to thank you for the used stamps which you have kindly sent to raise funds for the World Mission Stamp Appeal. Please thank everybody involved in collecting these stamps for their continued support and hard work. It is through your support that vital funds are able to be raised to help our partners worldwide. In 2016 we raised an amazing £4334 that will be used to support the Othara Eco-spirituality centre run by our partner the Church of South India.

The Appeal which starts in March 2017 is raising money for the Giffen Institute of Theology (GIT) in South Sudan. Our partners, the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS) established GIT in 1974. 75% of PCOSS' ministers are trained at the Institute and it plays a vital role in educating and equipping students for ministry. It has, however, suffered as a result of the violence which has erupted in South Sudan over the past few years.

The Institute has been relocated twice in order to ensure the safety of its staff and students. As such, GIT has now been re-established in Kakuma, a refugee camp in Kenya. Resources were unfortunately lost in the process and the library was, very sadly, burnt to the ground. Money raised from this year's Stamp Appeal will provide GIT with much needed resources, including books for their library.

With every good wish,

**Carol Finlay**

World Mission Stamp Appeal.

St Paul's collection box is situated in the Strathblane Rd entrance.

Than you to all who donated this year.

**Irene Strang**

## Life And Work - May Edition

Life and Work is now available as a digital edition for computer, tablet and smartphone. Subscribe from £11.99 for six months or buy a single issue for £1.99 from [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org)



### **Sowing the Seeds of Peace in South Sudan**

Thomas Baldwin reports on the man-made crisis which has led to famine in the world's newest country – and the peace-building work being led by the Church of Scotland

### **General Assembly 2017**

Interview with the Moderator-Designate

Assembly reports

Business and fringe timetables

Heart and Soul preview

An invitation to visit the historic library collections of New College

### **'Behind Every Number is a Name'**

Ahead of Christian Aid Week, why the work of the charity is more vital than ever

### **Pilgrimage Through Life**

New columnist the Rev Lezley Stewart introduces herself

### **A Place of Renewal**

John R Hume considers the history of Motherwell with a focus on Dalziel St Andrew's Parish Church

### **Life on a Food Parcel**

How a deacon and her husband raised funds for a local foodbank

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

Online visit us at [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org) for regular news and exclusive features, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @cofslifeandwork

Gaelic The Gaelic Supplement for May will be available as a free download from [www.lifeandwork.org/about-us/gaelic-supplement](http://www.lifeandwork.org/about-us/gaelic-supplement) from April 24. If you would like an email notification when it becomes available, please contact us on [magazine@lifeandwork.org](mailto:magazine@lifeandwork.org)

## Book Group



We have been reading *The Little Coffee Shop at Kabul*. Most of the group liked the book and it prompted a wide-ranging discussion on women's rights, both here and in predominantly Muslim countries. The five characters in the book were all different with their own separate problems.

Having read *The Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, we felt that the book could have dealt with the more serious problems of safety and culture conflict. It did seem improbable that a coffee shop would flourish in a war zone with seemingly unhindered access to supplies. That said, the main characters are well drawn and the book is in a lighter vein than some other novels set in Kabul. The characters, although well thought out came over as watered down versions of the people they could have been. One comment was that there were two books here, one a "holiday read" and the other a more serious comment on life in war torn Kabul - and yes it does have a happy ending!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 13 June and we will be reading *A God in Ruins* by Kate Atkinson.

### Joyce Clark

### Noah's Ark

The Mother and Toddler group for 3 years and under meets every Thursday morning between 9.30 and 11.15 am. It is a most successful outreach to the Milngavie Community and for St. Paul's Church. It also meets in the afternoon. More helpers are required for the morning sessions. Help would involve being available once every 4 weeks and supervising the children and their carers. Free coffee and biscuits are supplied! Please speak to Jackie Sillars or phone her on 956 7589.

## Flower Donations ~ May

Ms F Mc Colgan, Mrs J. Mill, Miss F. Dorrall

Please forward donations with your name and address to:

Mrs Marjorie Thoms, 66, Braeside Ave, Milngavie, G62 6NN

or place in the flower guild pigeon hole at the back of the church. Cheques should be made payable to St. Paul's flowers.



## **St Paul's Society One Pound Cards**

Another batch of newly designed cards is now available in the usual place as well as your old favourites. Thanks to everyone who has supported us so far and an amazing 350 cards have been sold since Christmas. We will wait till the end of the year and then divide the card money between various causes supported by St Paul's and our congregation.

**Alex McEwan**

## **World Mission News**

### **Good News from the Bishop Heber College in Tiruchirappalli, India**

Bishop Heber College in Tiruchirappalli, established by the Trichy- Tanjore Diocese of the Church of South India (CSI) has been ranked the nation's fourth best college by the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi.



CSI Synod officials consider this as "an honour to the entire Church of South India", and are "encouraged by the gesture to the historic mission of the church in the field of education, especially among the poor and the marginalised, in South India".

The College caters for the higher educational needs of members of the Church of South India as well as those from other faiths and religions. They will be celebrating their Golden Jubilee this academic year, and have many programmes and activities planned.

### **Day Of Prayer for the Middle East**

We are joining with Christians around the world to pray for peace in the Middle East on the 24th of each month. We pray with and for our sisters and brothers in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory who have called for an ecumenical prayer vigil across the globe on the 24th of every month

# LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY

Copy date for June issue is Sunday 21st May if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 24th if emailing. Please send to [st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com)

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Vestibule Rota
<b>7th May</b>	M. Abbott K. Hagart	Wilson Wallis	<b>Team 10</b> M. Fraser
<b>14th May</b>	M. McLean A. McLeod	Sillars MacKinnon	<b>Team 3</b> R. Fraser (EC)
<b>21st May</b>	J. Ford C. Tanner	Goodlet MacAllister	<b>Team 4</b> I. MacCalman
<b>28th May</b>	C. McKinnon S. Stenhouse	Richell Berry	<b>Team 5</b> F. Ireland