

Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

September 2016



Dear Friends,

I hope you have all had a refreshing Summer!

Once again it has been a Summer of sport which included the European football championship and the Olympic Games. It may have gone unnoticed, however, that there was a 50th Anniversary commemoration of England's 1966 World Cup win. It took place at the Wembley Arena with readings, archive film, interviews and music. Many well-known personalities were involved to invoke the atmosphere of the time.

You wouldn't claim that Chris Farlowe is a household name today but he was top of the charts in 1966 with a song called 'Out Of Time'. Listening to it again I realised what an unusual song it was for that particular time. You could describe it as a denunciation of someone who has been unfaithful in a relationship. She wants to return to the man she has jilted but his response is to say that his life has moved on and now there is no room for her.

It's a million miles away from the attitude of God to those who are unfaithful to him. All through the Bible we have this image of the believer's relationship to God being like that of a husband and wife. Israel's frequent descent into idolatry is often described as spiritual adultery and prophets like Hosea are raised up to give voice to God's anguish at their desertion. Hosea was well qualified for the task since he had endured the unfaithfulness of his wife. Read his book and get in touch with God's longing to have His people return to Him. Yes there is denunciation but there is also the assurance that the door is open for a return. The Lord says: 'How can I give you up Ephraim?' (Hosea 11: 8)

This image of a God longing for the return of his beloved is carried on in the ministry of Jesus. As the shepherd seeks out the lost sheep, as the woman searches for her lost coin, as the Father longs for the return of his lost son, so God is reaching out to those who in some way could be described as 'lost'. We are never so far away that we can never be brought home. Another prophet who knew hard times once said of God: 'Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.' (Lamentations 3: 22)

It's my prayer that as we go forward in our witness we will be constantly refreshed and renewed by this love that never fails.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to be 'Ferguson'.

Sun Kids



The monthly meeting of Sun Kids began on September 3rd with crafts, games, food and time to learn from the Bible.

There will be a meeting on the first Saturday of every month until June 2017. We always begin at 4.30pm and finish at 6.30pm. All primary school children are welcome. We have Galaxy Kids for P6 and P7.

There is a need for adult helpers so if you think you can contribute in any way please contact:

Sue Rollings srollings242@gmail.com, (956 7298 or

Janice MacLean janice.maclean2@ntlworld.com, (570 1329

Badminton Club

The Club meets in the Large Hall on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm. The new season starts on the 6th of September and new members will be made very welcome so come along for fun, exercise and fellowship.



Marjory-Anne Kennedy

Harvest Thanksgiving

This year Harvest Thanksgiving will take place on Sunday 18th September. Donations can be delivered to the church on Saturday 17th September between 10am and 12 o'clock or on Harvest Thanksgiving morning. As usual donations of flowers, plants and posies will be delivered by elders to the elderly, housebound and sick members of our congregation and food items will be delivered to the Lodging House Mission and Salvation Army.

Any donations are most welcome. Fresh vegetables, fruit, tinned goods, dried goods such as rice, pasta and soup mixes are always welcomed by the Lodging House Mission and Salvation Army.

Envelopes will be available in the pews for those members wishing to contribute to the work of Glasgow City Mission

Thank you

Elizabeth McEwan

Harvest Thanksgiving Convener

Christian Aid Thank You



I am delighted to confirm receipt of £11,820.00 arising from fundraising by Milngavie CA Group this Christian Aid Week.

Once again, our vital network of supporting churches and groups has carried out the single biggest act of Christian witness in Scotland, and in doing so has raised awareness of poverty, and the churches' concern for it, amongst hundreds of thousands of people across Scotland.

As the new Head of Christian Aid in Scotland, I was inspired and humbled by the outpouring of commitment, creativity, concern in action and love shown by our supporters. True partnerships can be transformational—thank you for helping us change the world! We are one global neighbourhood, and with your help, we reach out to all who share our planet home.

This year our 'love every neighbour' theme ran across all our resources. We encouraged supporters to help our global neighbours like Morsheda by joining with their local neighbours - whether that was by going door-to-door or by inviting the community in for a Big Brekkie or a church service. The stories of Morsheda and the other people from Bangladesh demonstrate the impact that the money raised in Christian Aid Week has. By supporting Christian Aid Week this year you help to ensure the continuing transformation of the lives of more of our neighbours in the 40 countries around the world in which Christian Aid works.

I anticipate that Christian Aid Week this year will once again raise over £1.5m in Scotland through the many fundraising activities and sponsored events in homes, workplaces, schools, churches and communities across the country. On behalf of the Christian Aid team here in Scotland, our partners and the communities in the developing world that we seek to support, thank you, and all who joined with you, for helping make Christian Aid Week such a success once more.

With best wishes,
The Rev Sally Foster-Fulton

Men's Association

Our programme of meetings for 2016/17 restarts on Tuesday 4th of October when Ramsay Vallance will give a presentation entitled "A West Highland Odyssey". This will be followed by a talk by William Black on "Images of Old Glasgow" on Tuesday 18th October.

A very warm welcome is extended to all members of the congregation and friends to join us at any or all of our meetings throughout the session.

Guild News

Birthday Tea

On 13th June, Guild members met for a special event- a tea in honour of Her Majesty the Queen's 90th. Birthday. Not to be outdone by the celebrations in London, the hall was decked out with bunting, tables suitably decorated in red, white and blue, and a tea to fit any queen, including our 'stand in' was served.

'Her Majesty' was welcomed by our joint presidents with a bouquet, and a loyal toast from one of our members. After tea we enjoyed a sing-song of popular items pertaining to the Queen's lifetime. Members were finally presented with a copy of the Bible Society's publication 'The Servant Queen', which tells of the importance to Her Majesty of her Christian faith.

October 3rd sees the start of our 2016/2017 programme. As usual new members are welcome to join our company. The programme for October is as follows:-

Monday 3 rd .	Yvonne Waring with memories of Joyce Grenfell
Sunday 9 th .	Dedication Service
Mon. 10 th .	Valerie Kinghorn Japanese Reflections
Mon. 17 th .	Hilary Wildman Waitrose
Mon. 24 th .	Douglas and Stuart Annan Commonwealth Games
Mon. 31 st .	Valerie Paterson Travel Gone Wrong

Lunch Club

The lunch club starts again on 7th September from 12-00 to 1-00 and all are very welcome for a lunch of homemade soup, a variety of rolls and delicious home baking. We had a very successful time last year and thanks to the generous gifts of home baking we made a profit which we shared, with half going to St Paul's and other donations going to Tear Fund, and to finance children going to camps run by Scripture Union and Blythswood Trust. A big thanks to everyone who helps the Lunch Club in so many ways.



Unfortunately some of our stalwart helpers have had to retire and we are desperately short of at least one lady to help prepare and serve food. If you can help please speak to **Ann MacLeod** at church or tel. 0141 942 8339.

Book Club



Our book this month is *The Ocean at the End of the Lane* by Neil Gaiman. The subject of the book is childhood and memory and charts the return of one man to his childhood home. The author says it is also a book about magic and the power of stories.

Coming under the heading of “fantasy novel” some of the group thought it would better be described as supernatural rather than fantasy. It will be easily read but will remain with you after you have finished it. Adults will view the narrative from a different perspective but as the author himself says “Adults follow paths and children explore”. We thought this book was definitely for teenage readers rather than adults and almost certainly in the fantasy genre.

Our next book is *Entry Island* by Peter May and we are meeting on Tuesday 13 September.

Joyce Clark

Thank You

I would like to thank the many St. Paul's friends who have been in touch with me during the last six months of my illness. The prayers, letters, cards, phone calls and visits have all been much appreciated and helped greatly in my recovery. Special thanks to Fergus for visiting me in hospital and for arranging to have the church flowers delivered to me on a few occasions. I am making good progress and looking forward to being back in St. Paul's before too long.

Judith Townson

Walk for the Word

The annual ‘Walk for the Word’ sponsored walk to raise funds for Bible Society projects will take place on Saturday October 8th at 10am in Mugdock Country Park, meeting at the Visitor Centre Car Park. Sponsorship forms are available at the back of the church. If you would like to come for the walk, but would prefer not to be sponsored, please feel free to join us for the fresh air and fellowship.



The money raised from the walk will go towards Bible Society projects around the world as well as here in Scotland.



Dear Friends,

No doubt many of you have been enjoying the recent Rio Olympics followed by the Paralympics. It is always interesting to watch how the media covers sport when you live in a different country and culture.

Here in Japan there was much focus on Japanese athletes, with constant replays of those who had won medals. And of course the TV interview which more often than not happened immediately after the event had finished. Listening to these interviews helps you gain much insight into the culture and worldview. There is much more sense here of responsibility to others – not just family, coaches and supporters, but even to the country itself. There is a deep sense of having let others down if the athlete does not succeed in winning the expected gold medal. We have watched many pain-filled and tearful interviews in recent weeks but some too where the winners (whatever the colour of their medal) were clearly full of joy with their achievement.

And so the next stop for the Olympics is Tokyo. The Prime Minister made his appearance as Super Mario at the Closing Ceremony and now it's all systems go for Tokyo 2020. We have a number of missionaries from OMF who are already involved in preparations for the Olympics, looking for ways in which Christians can be of service and also for outreach opportunities. Although we are still four years away, now is the time to be dreaming, praying and planning for these opportunities.

Thank you for your prayers and concern for us as a family. By the time you read this, David should have had his third cycle of eight chemotherapy sessions. We will send out regular updates as and when there is more news and there will always be something in our monthly prayer letter along with other family and ministry news. Thank you too for the generous financial support we receive from the church which is always much appreciated.

With our love

David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair

World Mission

Climate Change Changes Lives: World Mission Care for Creation Conference

On 1 October the Church of Scotland and Christian Aid invite you to Bridge of Allan Church to explore how Climate change changes lives.

Speakers from around the world will be sharing the impact of climate change on the lives of communities across the continents and all participants will join workshops to explore how we can respond in Scotland.

Speakers will include:

Cecilia Cordova from Bolivia
Charles Agboklu from Ghana
Jacqueline Spence from Jamaica
Mohamed Adow, Climate Advisor to Christian Aid
John Chalmers, Principal Clerk

Numbers are limited so please register by email:
nskinner@churchofscotland.org.uk

This conference is organised by the World Mission Council of the Church of Scotland in partnership with international partners, Christian Aid, The Guild and Eco-Congregation Scotland.



Flower Donations - September

Mrs J Getty Mrs M McNeill
Mrs M Taggar Mrs M Reid
Miss E M Watson



Thank you for your regular donations. Please put donations in the Flower Rota pigeon hole at the back of the church, or send to:-

Mrs Marjorie Thoms, 66 Braeside Ave, Milngavie G62 6NN Tel 956 5372.

Message for the flower arranging team:

It has been brought to my notice that there are a few issues to be discussed. Please forward them to me on paper prior to a meeting in the Church after the morning service on 23rd October.

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Copy date for the October issue is Sunday 18th September if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 21st September if emailing. Please send to st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
4th Sept	G. Chishom A. Shiels	Bates Berry	A. Begg J. MacLean	Team 10 B. Marshall
11th Sept	P. Dudgeon A. Gillies	Wilson McCreadie	J. MacIntyre L. Cowie	Team 3 R. Gow (EC)
18th Sept	F. Ireland N. Caldwell	Tracey MacKinnon	E. Easton M. Thoms	Team 4 P. Knaggs
25th Sept	M. Abbott K. Hagart	Chapman Richell	C. MacKay R. Fraser	Team 5 G. Fairbrother