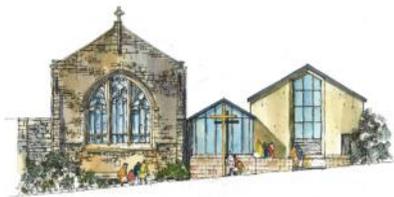


Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

September 2015



Dear Friends,

I once heard the American 'humourist' Joe Queenan commenting on funerals in his own country:

'Funerals have become a cabaret. There is no recognition that someone has died. Eight or nine friends get up and tell jokes and talk about your golf game.'

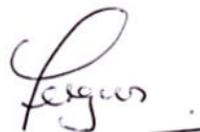
I've never actually attended a funeral like that but I think I know what he means. No one wants a funeral to be unduly morbid and a burden to those who attend but neither should it swing too much in the other direction. Someone has died and that has had painful consequences in a family and in a circle of friendship. That should be recognised. I am grateful, however, that as a Christian pastor I can hold alongside that the hope that Jesus' resurrection has brought to the world. No matter how often I recite these words of Jesus they are always powerfully felt:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you."

It was encouraging to hear that this hope was emphasized in the recent funeral of Cilla Black. Yes there were the funny stories that you might expect but there was also a powerful witness from Sir Cliff Richard. A troubled man these days but he shared his own faith and with great conviction sang a song of Christian hope. I had never heard it before but it speaks of God's faithfulness to his people through all the dark experiences of life and through death itself:

'I see your wounded hands, I touch your side
With thorns upon your brow you bled and died
But there's an empty tomb, and love for all who come
And give their hearts to You, the faithful One.'

I often reflect on the great privilege of conducting funerals for people who were greatly loved by those who were closest to them, but even more being able to bring to their moment of heartache the promises of Jesus that can never fail. I cannot think of anything better than standing in the tradition of the earliest believers who regarded themselves as 'witnesses to the Resurrection.'



Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
6th Sept	A. Gibson A. McLeod	Tracey	A. Begg J. MacLean	Team 10 E. Traill
13th Sept	M. Abbott K. Hagart	McCreadie	J. MacIntyre M. Fewell	Team 3 E. McEwan (EC)
20th Sept	M. McLean R. Cameron	Berry	E. Easton M. Thoms	Team 4 S. Thoms
27th Sept	J. Ford C. Tanner	Richell	C. MacKay R. Fraser	Team 5 R. Vallance

Lunch Club

September is here and the Lunch Club restarts on Wednesday the 2nd at 12 pm. The Lunch Club has been on the go for many years providing a break and companionship for many as they enjoy a lovely lunch. We also manage to give donations to various local and national charities. This is due to the generosity of our clients and bakers and a big thanks is due to all who help. This year we have a slight problem as we need one lady and one gentleman to help once a fortnight from 11-30 until 2-00. We are also short of bakers to make scones, tray bakes or fruit loaves about three times a year. If you can help in any way please speak to Ann MacLeod 942 8339 or Gordon Campbell 563 0377.



But best of all come along and enjoy lunch at the Lunch Club!

Brigade Blethers

It is good to be back to Brigade again after our long break. We already have a draft badgework programme planned for the girls. That word "badgework" is a bit off-putting but as always it means dancing, games, craft, parties and a couple of trips so we should call it a Fun Programme. We are hoping that all of our regular members have come back but we still have places for new folks. You can start at P1 stage and go right on to S6 and quite a number of our girls do just that. So if you would like to learn more, why not come along one night and see for yourself. We are here in the large hall every Thursday from 6.30pm. Just follow the noise!



Anne Goodlet

Men's Association

Our programme of talks and presentations restarts on Tuesday 1st October.



The committee members have organised what we believe will be a very interesting, informative and entertaining programme for the coming session.

Our opening meeting on Tuesday 1st. October will be a talk entitled the "Summerlee Experience" which will be given by Justin Parkes the curator, Industrial History at the Coatbridge museum. This will be followed by a visit to the Summerlee Experience on Tuesday 27th. October. On Tuesday 20th. October, Ross Deuchar will be giving us a presentation entitled " Glasgow and American Gangs : Problems and Solutions". Our Association meets fortnightly at 7pm in the Centenary Hall. We look forward to welcoming members, friends and members of the congregation to our meetings.

Could I also take this opportunity to remind everyone that our annual Coffee Morning will be held on the morning of Saturday, 24th. October. Now is the time to be tidying out all those unwanted gifts, bric a brac, books, toys etc to donate to the stalls!

Ken MacIver

Book Club



During June we have been reading *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson. Our group was split on this book – some people loved the style, the phraseology and thought it was beautifully written. Some people found it boring and monotonous and very repetitive. We all agreed that the characterisation was good and that it took some of us back to our own memories of childhood.

This American writer's first novel, *Housekeeping*, was published in 1981 and now 24 years later we have this second novel. Her first book was about girls and women and this one is about fathers and sons. John Ames, a preacher in his mid-70s, is writing letters to his only child now aged six so that when his son reaches adulthood he will have this posthumous record of everyday life, and his own stories of his pacifist father and abolitionist grandfather. The message of the book is a profound one – joy that Ames has a son and sorrow that he will not live to see that son grow into adulthood.

Perhaps this book should be read more than once in order to grasp the slow-moving characterisation and the occasional nuggets of thought-provoking prose.

Over the summer we have been reading *The Marrying of Chani Kaufman* by Eve Harris. On the whole our group enjoyed reading this book. The story revolves round a young couple who, although they have only met each other four times, are about to be married. The year is 2008 and the families involved are part of an Ultra-Orthodox Jewish Community with strict ideas about behaviour and obedience to parents and family.

Chani is nineteen and sees marriage as a means of escaping from these family strictures. The groom, Bruach Levy, is obedient and religious and makes his wealthy family proud until he announces that he wants to marry a girl whom his interfering Mother does not think is good enough for him.

As the story progresses we are introduced to some strong well drawn characters such as Rabbis, Matchmakers, and Mikvehs all of whom have their own problems to face but are determined to make Chani and Bruach aware of how the rules of their Faith and Family must be followed.

Some of these rules, especially those concerning women, came as real eye openers to our group and we wondered what the outcome would be if they were applied to our own young people in the contemporary world we live in.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 29 September when we will be reviewing *The Kashmir Shawl* written by Rosie Thomas.

Joyce Clark/ Anne Goodlet

Christian Aid 2015 - Thank You



I am delighted to confirm receipt of £12,232.00 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.

I anticipate that Christian Aid Week this year will once again raise over £1.5m in Scotland through house-to-house and street collections, collections in churches, and through fundraising and sponsored events in homes, workplaces, schools, churches and communities across the country.

Thank you for the part you played in making Christian Aid Week such a success once more.

I hope you were inspired by Loko's story, and the stories of the other people from Ethiopia who featured in this year's Christian Aid Week appeal materials. These stories demonstrate the impact that the money raised in Christian Aid Week has. By supporting Christian Aid Week this year you have ensured a transformation in the lives of many people like Loko.

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 to ensure the success of Christian Aid Week this year.

With best wishes,

Kathy Galloway

Head of Christian Aid Scotland

“The Bible is the story of two gardens: Eden and Gethsemane. In the first, Adam took a fall. In the second, Jesus took a stand. In the first, God sought Adam. In the second, Jesus sought God. In Eden, Adam hid from God. In Gethsemane, Jesus emerged from the tomb. In Eden, Satan led Adam to a tree that led to his death. From Gethsemane, Jesus went to a tree that led to our life.”

Max Lucado

Harvest



This year Harvest Thanksgiving will take place on Sunday 20th September. Donations can be delivered to the church on Saturday 19th 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 The Church of Scotland World Mission Project - A Place at the Table.

Thank you,

Elizabeth McEwan

Harvest Thanksgiving Convener

A Place At The Table

This Project is being run by the Church of Scotland World Mission and it is to help Syrian refugees as they struggle to feed their families, it's as easy as setting "A Place at the Table".

Since 2011, the war in Syria has been raging, leading to the displacement of around 6 million people, 4 million of whom have remained in Syria living as refugees in their own country. Two million have fled to neighbouring countries, with some returning to Syria because the conditions in the Refugee Camps are so awful.

World Mission are asking us to consider setting an extra place at our table and giving the money you would have spent on that extra meal to help those in Syria. By setting "A Place at the Table" you can feed up to 5 people for a month. Please give what you can to help our brothers and sisters who are living in a tragedy beyond our imagination.

September Edition - Life & Work



'By His Wounds We Have Been Healed'

Jackie Macadam explores the various facets of Christian healing

A New Chapter for 'Livingstone's Hospital'

Jane Davidson tells how a family pilgrimage led to partnership between Scotland and a Zambian hospital with links to the famous explorer

The Early Birds

The Rev Dr Iain Barclay reports on a ministry to the homeless 'down under'.

Reconnecting With the Past

How an ancient well dedicated to a Celtic saint was rediscovered

Relaying the Message

Pictures from Eco-congregation Scotland's Climate Justice Baton Relay around Scotland.

The Heart of the Matter

The Rt Rev Angus Morrison says that a Christian life must involve head, hand and heart

The Navigator's Church

John R Hume recommends a visit to a church associated with an early Irish missionary

Taming the Tongue

The Rev Dr Martin Fair continues his series on the book of James

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords – all for just £2.20

Online visit us at www.lifeandwork.org for regular news and exclusive features, or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Flower Donations - August/September

Mrs J. Getty,
Mrs. M. Mcneil,
Mrs. M. Taggart,
Miss E. Watson



Please put donations in the Flower Rota pigeon hole at the back of the church or send to: Mrs Wilma Douglas, 34 Braeside Ave., Milngavie G62 6LJ

Tel 956 2630



Dear Friends

A few years ago, someone innocently asked the following question – ‘So is life now back to normal again?’ The answer went like this – ‘No. Our lives just go in cycles of abnormality’. We seem to have been going through a number of different combinations of being together and apart over past weeks.

We did enjoy around a week early in summer when all six of us were in the same place at the same time. That was a fun time together. Now we are settling down into what will be the new pattern – for a while anyway!

Daniel and Matthew are in Scotland, with Daniel going into his final year and Matthew starting at Glasgow University Law School. Calum is in the final year of his Junior High School which means lots of work pressure with exams coming up early next year which will determine which High School he can get into. He also manages to fit in a bit of cram school to help with some subjects as well as a full football schedule. Alistair is also in his final year at the local elementary school and we are still not sure what his schooling will be from next year. Certainly there will be more changes awaiting us then.

This is a month that involves a lot of travelling as both of us visit Hokkaido at different times to visit people and take part in different OMF activities. David also has the usual trip to Singapore at this time of year for important OMF International meetings. We are at the moment taking time to pray and reflect concerning OMF’s role here in Japan and how we should serve here alongside the Japanese church. The church continues to be small and we are looking to have the right focus so that we can work well with Japanese pastors and Christians to reach the many unreached Japanese people with the gospel.

Many thanks for your support for us here, both financial and prayerful.

With our love

David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair

Badminton Club

The Club meets in the Large Hall on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm. The new season starts on the 1st of September and new members will be made very welcome so come along for fun, exercise and fellowship.

Marjory-Anne Kennedy

Secretary



The Guild

The new session of the Guild begins on Monday 5th October at 7.30 p.m. in the Large Hall. Our new 3 year Strategy is “Be Bold Be Strong” and our Theme for 2015/16 is “Go in Peace”. We have quite a varied syllabus organised and it would be great to see new members join us. Here’s a list of our guests for the first month.



5 th Oct.	Fine Fettle Music Group
12 th	Japanese Reflections : Mrs. Valerie Kinghorn
19 th	Old Maryhill : Mr. William Black
26 th	Breaking the Cycle of Poverty in Britain : Dr. C. Donaldson

We have no meeting on Monday 2nd November as we will be visiting St. Luke's Guild on Tuesday 3rd November.

If you would like to know more about our Guild Meetings please speak to Jean Scott or Marion Shearlaw.

World Mission

World Mission Resources Day 12 September

Do you want to learn more about our partners around the world? Are you interested in finding out new ways to get involved with the world church? Join us in Bridge of Allan Parish Church on 12 September for a World Mission Resources Day. There will be guest speakers, workshops and a resource area. You will go away knowing more about our partners, the World Mission Council and how you, your congregation, your Guild and your Church might want to be involved. Register with Audrey Grahame: agrahame@churchofscotland.org.uk
0131 225 5722



World Week of Peace for Palestine and Israel 20-26 September

Take part in the annual World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel 2015 this 20-26 September.

The theme for the week this year is 'God has broken down the dividing walls'. Resources have been developed by an ecumenical church group in the UK, including the Church of Scotland, to enable you and your church to hold your own event to educate your community and to pray for a peace settlement that ends the illegal occupation of Palestine and secures the legitimate rights and future of both peoples.



ACTS Anti-Human Trafficking Conference 17 October 2015

17 October, 10-4.30pm

St George's Tron, Glasgow FREE

Human trafficking is the fastest means by which people are enslaved and is the second largest source of illegal income in the world. It affects almost every country in the world including Scotland.



Come along to the ACTS Anti-Human Trafficking Conference to learn more about human trafficking and find out how you can help make a difference. There will be speakers from our partner churches in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Europe among others.

Please register with Miriam Weibye: miriamweibye@acts-scotland.org

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 10th 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 the work of the Bible Society in Rwanda which is trying to ensure that the Word of God is placed at the heart of the nation as it rebuilds itself 20 years after the genocide of 1994.

Copy date for the October issue is Sunday 20th September if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 23rd September if emailing. Please send to:
st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com