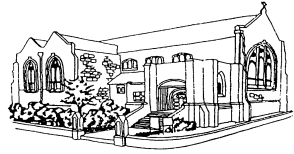


The monthly news from St. Paul's Church Milngavie
www.stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk

Life



June 2005

Dear Friends

It was hoped that our new halls development would have been dedicated at the beginning of June but, as previously intimated, this has not been possible. As with most building projects there have been a number of things which had to be tidied up and there were problems with the new office which required some special attention. Even as I write there is still work going on but everything is set fair for a Dedication Service on 11 September.

Rev. David Munro will preach at the Service and carry out the act of Dedication. As many of you will know Mr Munro is an old friend of the congregation. He was Interim Moderator during the vacancy when Rev. John Peat was translated in 1969 and again in 1983 when Dr. John Paterson was Moderator of the General Assembly. He has always had a keen interest in St. Paul's and throughout my own ministry has been a valued friend and counsellor. He retires as Presbytery Clerk in September and we are grateful that before he takes his ease he will be with us in yet another landmark in the history of St. Paul's.

Hopefully the occasion will give us a much needed spiritual boost for the future. I am fully aware of the frustrations that have come with Project 2006. We have had the inconvenience of the halls being closed for a longer period than was first thought. We have had the added expense of dealing with unforeseen problems. We have had to bide our time while the extensive "snag" list has been tackled. I think the biggest problem, however, is that we have had to watch the whole thing taking shape around us. Other church projects have required congregations to abandon their buildings completely so that when they return there is an immediate sense of completion. We have not been blessed in this way but as things have started to come together in the last month or so I personally have felt a sense of satisfaction with what has been done.

The Kirk Session decided that Project 2006 would not be an elaborate scheme

The Kirk Session decided that Project 2006 would not be an elaborate scheme which would entail unjustifiable expense. We were looking for a practical solution to the problems which confront 21st century buildings and also to make better use of our available space. The Project was cut back because of financial restraints but this is what we have:

- 1 A well- appointed kitchen which even now is greatly appreciated.
- 2 Better disabled access and toilet facilities.
- 3 An office which is better equipped to meet the needs of a congregation our size.
- 4 A new hall which among other things will enable our Sunday School Departments to meet at the same time.
- 5 A new Minister's Room which can be used for small meetings.

There is also the possibility of development of the old vestry and waiting room area which I hope we can take on ourselves using the skills which we have within the congregation.

It is always good to see the end in sight when you have been on a long and difficult journey. Remember, though, that this is merely the end of a project. The building up of the Kingdom of Christ is the Church's continual challenge and that never comes to an end. It will be good to concentrate on that once again and to focus all our energies and resources to that purpose.

I hope you have good summer and that you and yours are kept safe and that the vision of Christ building His Kingdom through us will grow in your heart

Wishing you the peace of Christ,

Fergus C. Buchanan

Congratulations

The members of the Kirk Session at their May monthly meeting warmly expressed their congratulations to the Rev. Fergus Buchanan on being awarded the degree - Master of Theology - from Glasgow University. Mr Buchanan will graduate at a ceremony to take place on 1 July 2005.

Ian Mackinnon

CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISM

'In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit', Matt 28.8

1.5.05 Scott Stuart Dunn, 29 Orchy Crescent, Bearsden 68

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr & Mrs I MacKay, 7 North Dumgoyne Ave., now 58
11 Dalnair Place, Milngavie 66

WEDDINGS

7.5.05 Jillian Ruth Blackadder, 44 Campsie Drive, Milngavie and
Austen Buchan, 23 Northburn Ave., Aberdeen

DEATHS

Jesus said: 'I am the Resurrection and the Life'

3.5.05 Mrs Isabella Bannatyne, Flat 2 65 Peel Street, Glasgow
11.5.05 Mr Duncan McKenzie of 14 Oakburn Avenue 33
11.5.05 Mrs June McClymont, 38 Buchanan Street, Milngavie 3

Rev. Fergus Buchanan will be on holiday from Monday 11 July until Monday 1 August. All pastoral matters during this time should be referred to Rev. George Vidits.
Vestry Hour will be postponed over the summer period from Wednesday 1 June until Wednesday 31 August. Enquiries about Baptisms and Weddings should be referred directly to Mr. Buchanan.

World Prayer diary for June

This month we will pray for the work in Africa

1 Livingstonia Theological College

Almost a year since the College was inaugurated there are 25 students and the class is going from strength to strength. They are being trained in African Traditional religion, church history, Greek, Old and New Testament, pastoral counselling and practical theology.

2 The Church of Scotland fund the Chipimbi Farm College which is able to offer 10 places to students with special needs. The majority of these students find employment and are encouraged to lead their lives with as high a degree of independence as possible.

Pray for all concerned with these Colleges.

CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

Ten members of St. Paul's congregation raised £730 by walking in the Christian Aid annual sponsored walk across the Erskine Bridge. Thanks to all friends and members of their families for sponsorship.

Christian Aid Week.

The committee wishes to thank all the collectors and those who assisted at the counting of the money.

The extra counters this year helped the count go quicker and more efficiently. Thanks also goes to those who again donated so generously

OXFAM - WOOL WANTED

I MAKE BLANKETS FOR Oxfam and would be grateful for any odd bits of wool that anyone would like to donate. I can use any ply and any colour. Please contact me if you can help.

Margaret Maclean —956-4971

General Fund

The offerings for the quarter ended 31st March 2005 were slightly above the required budget of £48,876 per quarter and many thanks to all of the members who have made this possible. However, we are now half way into the second quarter and there has been a marked decrease in the offerings from the beginning of May. This may be an indication that some members are taking early holidays and the situation will redress itself on their return. **Please remember as you go on holiday over the summer months that we as a church have to meet our commitments on a monthly basis throughout the year.**

Christian Giving Review

Many members have been asking me when we are going to action the increase they indicated on the review cards. As far as I am aware, nearly all the intended increases are now in place but individual members have to go to their own bank and arrange the increase to their Standing Order. If you are in any doubt, about what to do, or if you need a Banker's Order Form please do not hesitate to contact Liz Traill or me.

Angus Maclean

Congregational Treasurer

Enquirers' Conference - the next Church of Scotland Enquirers' Conference will be held at the Kelvin Conference Centre, Glasgow, beginning at 6pm on Friday 17 June and running through to 4pm on Saturday 18 June 2005. Overnight accommodation and meals are provided at the Conference Centre for the minimal cost of a £20 booking fee. Further information can be obtained from Mr Ian Mackinnon the Session Clerk.

—what is **CROSSREACH** ?

**REMEMBER THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND'S
BOARD
OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ?**

It's Scotland's largest voluntary social work agency,
making an impact on many lives in Scotland

From 1st June 2005, the Church's social work arm which
employs more than 1500 people and has an annual ex-
penditure of some £43 million, will be known as
CROSSREACH.

The change of name has been well received by staff
members and others involved. Some felt that it was good
that there was a strong Christian element within the new
name, symbolising the outreach of the Christian commu-
nity.

The Rev. David Court, the new convenor of CrossReach
described the rebranding of the organisation as ' a chance
to launch itself anew. This relaunch will provide a per-
fect opportunity to promote the good work that Cross-
Reach does.'

Last word goes to Ian Manson, Director of Social Work,
' Its a big problem that many people don't know the
amount of work that we do. I hope that CrossReach will
give us the vehicle to really take off, to make our work
known, the 'what' and w'why' we do it, so that the

Pentecost / Whit Sunday

On Ascension Day the sequence of events that began at Easter was completed. Christ ascended to His Father in heaven, and now it was the turn of the Holy Spirit to come down to earth (the story is found in Acts 2: 1-8). Pentecost is the feast on which the Church celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit. With His enabling power, the Church was soon off to a flying start, an incredibly dramatic expansion in its earliest, formative period.

So no wonder Pentecost Sunday is a major feast in the Christian year. In fact, in many Christian traditions, Pentecost comes second in importance only to Easter itself. Pentecost is sometimes called 'Whitsun' (literally, 'white Sunday') on account of the tradition of the clergy wearing white robes on this day. White robes would also be worn by candidates for confirmation on Whit Sunday.

The Holy Spirit is of major importance to Christian thought and life. When we read through the book of Acts, we find evidence of his presence everywhere, guiding, encouraging, and empowering the apostles. In more recent times, the rise of the charismatic movement within the worldwide church has led to an increased awareness of the powerful role of the Spirit in each of our Christian lives.

Pentecost falls on the fiftieth day after Easter, when, according to Luke's account, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples in Jerusalem, who were gathered there on Jesus' instructions. ("Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised." Acts 1.4)

Even so, the Holy Spirit's arrival astounded everyone. The disciples certainly did not expect a sound like a mighty rushing wind from heaven, tongues of fire coming to rest on their heads, and the gift of being able to praise God in languages unknown to them.

Luke's description of Pentecost focuses on the impact of the event on people: the disciples were empowered to preach the gospel and to break down the barriers of language separating them and their audiences. Theologically, the coming of the Spirit thus occupies a significant role in the scheme of salvation, in that it can be seen as a reversal of the 'tower of Babel' (Genesis 11. 1-39).

Here are some of the New Testament references to the Gift of the Holy Spirit:

John 14.16-17, 14.25-6, 16.13-15 Acts 1.1-8,2.1-8.

(reprinted from 'Shared Thoughts')

BRIGADE BLETHERS

Well our Company Display has come and gone and the girls were great as usual. I feel that those who got special awards deserve a mention so here goes.

Jilliann Hutt, Lindsay Macleod and Gillian Thomson Made up the best Explorer Squad; Hannah Forbes Was the best P4/5 Junior; Lynsey Bennie was the Best P6/7 Junior; Best Junior Keep Fit was Katie Dougherty and Alison Cockburn got the Chaplain's Cup for best Sunday attendance. In the Brigader Section Jenny Stevens was the best 51/2 girl and Sarah Graham and Lauren Macleod shared the Honours of best 53+.

One sad note this year is that Sandra Macleod has decided to give up as an Officer in the Company. Sandra is always good fun but she is also a hard worker and totally reliable. We will miss her! Thank you all for the support we have received over the session; we do appreciate it. Have a wonderful summer. Anne Goodlet

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL FUN DAY/COFFEE MORNING - 21 MAY 2005

There was more than one winner of 'Weigh the Cake', so we cut it in half!! Well, you know the old phrase 'half a cake is better than none'!

The lucky winners were Linda Cowie and Sheila Harrison. Society has decided to organise a repeat event on Saturday 8th October. Watch out for more details in September's 'Life'.

Thanks to all who 'had a go'

Linda Muirhead, Adventurers Sunday School

MakePovertyHistory alliance- text of Lachie McNeill's address to the congregation on Sunday 10 April 2005 on behalf of the Kirk Session's Overseas Committee

The **MakePovertyHistory** campaign is built on the conviction that if we can change 8 minds in July, we can transform the lives of 800million people.

That transformation is necessary because every 3 seconds a child is dying in the "developing" world because of extreme and wholly avoidable poverty. Expressed in terms of all people it is 1 person every 1¾ seconds. That amounts to the Tsunami death roll every 3 days. 95% of the 38million people in the world presently affected by the HIV virus are in the developing world. Only 1% of those in Africa who could benefit from anti-retroviral drug treatment have access to it.

At our February meeting the Kirk Session expressed its support for the aims of the **MakePovertyHistory** alliance. That support was then recorded in a letter to the Prime Minister. We stated that we would continue to pray that the G8 leaders would be guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit to take the opportunity to meet the alliance's aims in July and that we added our voice to the demand that they should be determined to do so.

MakePovertyHistory is by no means only a Christian or even faith based alliance.

As our minister discussed in a recent sermon, we believe that there is a human longing to see justice prevail in the world because we are made in God's image.

However, the various branches of the Church can seldom have been as united as they are in forming a major force within the alliance and there is a reason for that. A state of affairs that is accurately described as mass murder by inaction can only arise from the human incapacity to meet the standard of the hymn we have just sung—"each other's needs to prefer". That incapacity is surely the very essence of the world's sin.

It certainly results in an intractable mind-set. Thus, the three demands of the alliance are trade justice, debt cancellation and more and better aid. In the area of trade justice, is it really so surprising that rich states' civil servants involved in negotiating trade agreements might simply not contemplate that their political masters might actually envisage the rich states giving without getting even more in return?

But the alliance is **about** changing minds and Jesus Christ orders his Church to believe that the sin of the world **will** be overcome, that justice **will** be achieved, that minds **can** be changed and that lives **can** be transformed. He commands us to pray and to make ourselves available for the working of the Holy Spirit through ourselves and others.

Why then is participation in the **MakePovertyHistory** rally in Edinburgh on Saturday 2 July so important? The rally has been deliberately timed to take place at the weekend before the G8 leaders fly in for the Gleneagles summit. Many of you will remember the great Jubilee 2000 human chain round Birmingham when the summit took place there in 1998. We know

the impact that had on the thinking of the politicians who saw it and it led to significant progress at least in the cancellation of bi-lateral debt. It is crucial that as the G8 leaders fly to Scotland they read in their newspapers that the momentum of peacefully expressed demand for justice for the world's poor has massively increased, not slowed down.

The whole point of the rally is that it will be a family day for people of all ages. It will take place at the Meadows in Edinburgh and as well as the general rally area there will be a faith zone and a children zone. There will be speakers, entertainment and, in the faith zone, the opportunity for prayer. Those traveling from within Scotland are asked to be there by 11am with later staggered times for those coming from further afield.

The Kirk Session has agreed to provide a coach (or, if demand is sufficient, coaches) which will leave Milngavie at around 8.30am (this time now confirmed) and I would presently estimate will leave Edinburgh for the return about 7pm. Sign-up sheets will be available at the back of the Church.

Friends, we often read of great generals having encouraged their soldiers on the eve of great events by the prospect of looking back in later years and saying "I was there". I see no reason why we as Christians should not take great joy in this world and the next in being able to recall that "we were there" when the light of the King of the world was reflected out of our own land into all the nations of the world. Thank you for listening to me.

Lachie McNeill
for the Kirk Session's Overseas

Editorial Footnote

As 'Life' closes down for the summer, my thanks are due as always to Helen Arnold, Church secretary, for her usual helpfulness and patience, and to all contributors.

Morag Thomson

Japan Jottings

Dear Friends

April was a busy month for us here as the new church and school years began. Daniel and Matthew have settled down well with new teachers and new classes; and Calum is also enjoying kindergarten. All three are usually out of the house by 8.10 in the morning and with English work to be fitted in for the older two before they go, the first hour or so each day is fairly chaotic!

We have had an encouraging start to our children's work. The elementary English and the Mums and Pre-School kids' groups are going well. Our monthly Sun Kids has now met twice, each time with 20 or so very lively children (the first time all boys!) The challenge is to have meaningful and effective contact with these local kids – and often their parents too.

Although the summer of 2007 may still seem far away, it is just two years away. That is when we plan to have our next time back in Scotland and we aim to have a Japanese pastor in place by then. Now the church is praying and beginning to make the preparations for this. This is a big step for the church and we need much wisdom and God's leading each step of the way.

Last month we had the opportunity to go to Singapore for a Leadership Training Course at the OMF Headquarters. Lorna's mum bravely came out to look after the four boys – she and they survived! We look forward to having visitors with us in July too, including Lorna's sister's family.

With our love and prayers for you all

David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair

COFFEE MORNING FOR THE FERGUSONS

Thank you to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning on May 21st. We were delighted that at the time of going to press over £600 has been raised, both on the day and afterwards, and our treasurer is still receiving donations! We are sure that the Fergusons will be grateful not only for the money, but also for the interest of many members of St. Paul's in their work in Japan.

India Ministries Fellowship

On April 24, Overseas Sunday, we were joined at the morning service, by Rev Malcolm Duff, Chairman of IMF. A donation of £1000 was presented and over £300 raised at the Lunch, which followed, and will be included in our 2006 donation to the Mission.

We received a letter from Rev Duff:

'I write to thank you and the folk of St. Paul's for the generous donation towards the work of IMF.

It was a great pleasure to be with you for Overseas Sunday, and very humbling to know of your continuing commitment to the Lord's work around the world. In IMF we feel honoured to have you as partners, and I hope that before long it might be possible for St. Paul's people to visit IMF projects in South India.

After 21 years of IMF we are conscious that changes need to be made to cope with the increased opportunities and work load in India. Please pray with us as we try to help our Indian colleagues to face the future with vision and courage'.

With all good wishes in Christ Jesus, *Malcolm Duff*

In the following pages, we are re-printing an article that was issued in December 2004 - 'An Introduction to IMF', which we are sure you will find interesting.

The Overseas Committee are very aware of the need to be supportive of Mission, in both a spiritual and practical sense and the comments made in the letter, highlight this.

Thank you for your real support, through prayer and commitment.

INDIA MINISTRIES FELLOWSHIP- An Introduction

IMF is a small Christian charity which began while some of the present trustees were studying theology at Aberdeen University in the early 1980s. They became friends with an Indian couple, Siga and Nalini Aries, who shared their burden for the millions of Indian children who never get a chance to develop their God-given talents, and are condemned to a life of hardship and poverty. Two of the original trustees had worked in developing countries, and they were concerned to encourage meaningful links between Scottish Christians and Third World churches. IMF began in 1984, and is a registered charity in Scotland. Its aim is to *"sustain, propagate and develop interest in and financial support for children who live in extreme poverty in India by providing the means for their welfare, education and nurture in the Christian faith."* The first project was an orphanage in the town of Thiruthani, Tamil Nadu about 80 km from Chennai (formerly Madras), and at present 50 boys are cared for here by a team of permanent and part time staff, and educated at local schools and colleges. Following this, a project was begun to help girls in the town of Kolar Gold Fields, about 80 km from Bangalore

in the state of Karnataka, and a specially adapted building provides premises for tuition, training and activities for more than 100 girls. They live at home, and sponsorship means that they have not had to leave home to find work. A third project in the slum of Madhavaram, Chennai, works for the uplift of a community dependant on distilling illicit spirits, and around 50 young people and their families receive help with education, health and social awareness. Each project depends on active local committees of volunteers from various churches, who are able to assess and address local needs.

The work of IMF in India continues to expand, with several new projects developing. Perhaps the most significant development has been the Auxiliary Nursing and Midwifery course at which the girls are taught by health professionals who give of their time freely.

This course is based in Kolar Gold Fields, a place which has become something of a ghost town since the gold mines closed several years ago. Another project was the building of a primary school situated in the IMF compound in Thiruthani. It provides a good education at a subsidised rate, so that poor children can get a good start to their schooling. So far 40 children have been enrolled. A similar project has been established at Kolar Gold Fields which caters for 20 children. Of course it is not only the young people who are helped. At Madhavaram {Chennai} 20 senior citizens are taken care of. These individuals have no other source of help or hope.

IMF Scotland is totally dependant on the generosity of supporting individuals and friends, and over the past ten years has been able to send an average of £20,000 annually to India. The Scottish trustees pay all their expenses, including printing and posting newsletters, and can guarantee that every penny donated by supporters (except costs of money transfers) is sent to India.

IMF hope to enable the children to continue in education as far as they are able, and a number have graduated from college and University. One has completed his studies to become a surgeon and one other is doing dentistry. Others have done courses in music, art, car mechanics, using sewing machines, secretarial studies and computing. Some have found useful employment, but we are very keen to explore new possibilities for training and work experience.

Your donation will help sustain and develop this important work. Scottish Charity No. SCO10146

LIFE AND WORK

magazine of the Church of Scotland

Jjune Issue

Scotland's Anti Slavery Battle

The Rev. Iain Whyte traces the key role played by Scotland's ministers in the abolition of slavery

The Church at your door

A review of on-line Christian radio

Has preaching had its day?

Two ministers offer very different perceptions of preaching

'Blessed are the Peacemakers'

How meditation can work within the Kirk

Assembly reports

General Assembly 2005

Profile – Dr. Bashir Maan

Christian hope brings

Ron Ferguson ponders the power of committed Christian individual

———*all that and lots of other articles, letters, reviews and puzzles*

TRAIDCRAFT ROTAS

June 5th. G.Buchanan A.Martin

“ 12th. C.Mackay R.Fraser

“ 19th. Communion

“ 26th B.Frame B.Barr

July 3rd.. B.Watson M.Conway

“ 10th. M.Thomson M.Jenkins

“ 17th. A.Begg J.McLean

“ 24th. S.Rollings J.McIntyre

“ 31st. G.Buchanan A.Martin

Aug. 7th. C.Mackay R.Fraser

“ 14th. S.Dunlop L.Cowie

“ 21st. B.Frame B.Barr

“ 28th. B.Watson M.Conway

Sept. 4th. M.Thomson M.Jenkins



The Traidcraft Coffee morning was a most enjoyable occasion, made especially so by the very informal fashion show.

Many thanks to the 5 older girls from the G.B. & the 2 young ladies from the church choir who willingly (?) gave their time to model the clothes.

£131.30 was donated at the door, & a further £130 worth of fairly traded goods were sold.

This all helps to raise our awareness of the issue of fair trade.

The following is an excerpt from a letter to Rosemary Fraser, organiser of our Traidcraft Stall, from Susan Scott (Fair Trader Sales Manager).

“Thank you for your support, hard work and achievement during the last year. Our records show that your purchases with Traidcraft from April 2004 to March 2006 were £2,273, contributing to Fair Trader sales of £7.2 million”



FLOWER ROTAS-JUNE JULY AUGUST

Donations

MAY Miss J. Paul

JUNE Mrs. Canton Mrs. Barr
Mrs. P. Wright Mrs. Bain
Mrs. N. Henderson Mrs. W. Douglas
Mrs. McColgan Mrs. M. Phillips

JULY Miss F. Ireland Miss E. Traill
Mrs. Rogers Mrs. C. Inglis Mrs. B. Lang
Mrs. E. Easton Mrs. Finlayson
Mrs. C. Inglis

AUGUST Miss C. Davidson
Mr. J. E. Henderson Mrs. M. Daniel
Mrs. Gilman Mrs. M. McNeill
Mrs. J. Webster

SEPTEMBER Mrs. E. Law
Dr. N. Conn Mrs. M. Reid
Mrs. Brown

Deliveries

June 5 Mrs. A. Galloway Mmrs. J. Townson
June 12 Mrs. M. McIntyre Mrs. M. Spencer
June 19 Mrs. P. Dudgeon Mrs. S. Lindsay
June 26 Mrs. M. Phillips Mrs. E. Law

July 3 Mrs. J. Anderson Mrs. A. Gibson
July 10 Mrs. M. Abbott Mrs. T. Douglas
July 17 Mrs. L. Hughes Mrs. R. Buchanan
July 24 Mrs. P. Barlow Mrs. M. McDowell
July 31 Mrs. A. McLean Mrs. J. Ford

Aug. 7 Miss M. McKenzie Mrs. I. Reid
Aug. 14 Mrs. A. McKenzie Mrs. M. Laws
Aug. 21 Mrs. S. Anderson Mrs. K. Edwards
Aug. 28 Mrs. M. Conway Mrs. M. McPherson

Sep. 4 Mrs. A. Galloway Mrs. J. Townson



CRECHE ROTA-JUNE JULY AUGUST

June 5 Kerr, Whitelaw, Baxter, Martin
June 12 MacKinnon, Hughes, MacAuley, Lawrie
June 19 Goodlet, Smith, Cockburn, Fleming
June 26 Buchanan, Richell, McFarlane, Reid
July 3 Bolton, Kerr, Whitelaw
July 10 Baxter, MacKinnon, Hughes
July 17 MacAuley, Lawrie, Goodlet
July 24 Martin, Smith, Cockburn
July 31 Fleming, Buchanan, Richell
Aug 7 McFarlane, Reid, Bolton
Aug 14 Kerr, Whitelaw, Baxter
Aug 21 MacKinnon, Hughes, MacAuley, Lawrie
Aug 28 Goodlet, Martin, Smith, Cockburn
Sep 4 Fleming, Buchanan, Richell, McFarlane

The magazine is published on the first Sunday of every month. Contributions for September's issue should be handed to the Editor or left in the box in the Waiting Room by 22nd August. Editor - Morag Thomson, 36, Roselea Drive (956-2801)