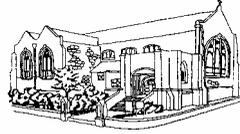


The monthly news from St. Paul's Church Milngavie
www.stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk

Life

May 2006



Dear Friends,

There are times in our Christian journey when moments of assurance come to us. It may be that we are going through troubled times and a sense of God's peace enters our souls. It may be that we are struggling with some aspect of our faith and eventually things become more clear to us. It may be that we are generally dissatisfied with the way our lives are going and then by God's grace we find new purpose and direction.

I'm not sure that any of the above applied to me in the months leading up to Easter but I certainly did feel a great sense of God's presence and grace on Easter Sunday. It's a mysterious thing. Some people think that techniques can be employed to realise the presence of God but my experience is that His blessings come in His time and without any human forcing.

What was it about Easter Sunday? I am really not sure. It just seemed that everything came together to proclaim Jesus as our Saviour and Lord. But I am convinced that where a people are gathered beneath the Word in expectation of God's blessing then it will come. That is why our gatherings on the Lord's Day are essential to our growth as Christian disciples.

Another aspect of Christian fellowship which we have enjoyed over the years is the fellowship of the table, sharing a meal together after worship. This opportunity will be open to us once again after the Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday 14 May. I hope as many as possible will be able to attend with our guests to continue our Centenary celebrations.

This is our special celebration for the Centenary of our building. We will be joined by our former Minister the Very Reverend John Paterson and his wife Jill along with former Assistant Ministers, members from other Milngavie Churches, Jo Swinson M.P., Provost Pat Steel and Mr Noel Glen, Moderator of the Presbytery of Dumbarton.

Reverend Kenneth MacDonald will dedicate the new stained glass windows.

It is hoped that as many as possible will join us for the Family Lunch after the Service.



CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISM

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

Ruth Mhairi Maclver, 7 Lynn Drive, Milngavie

NEW MEMBERS

Joined by Certificate

Mrs Christina Young, 127 Mugdock Road, Milngavie 15

Disjunction

Mrs Margaret McIntosh, 43 Russell Drive, Bearsden 69

Change of Address

Mr & Mrs David Clayton, 161 Mugdock Road, now 15
Strathgarry, 31 Craigmillar Ave., Milngavie 6

Deaths

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

2.3.06 Mr Bain, 9 Homebrae House, Milngavie 3a

22.3.06 Mrs May Wernham, 29 Keystone Road, Milngavie 51

10.4.06 Mrs Morag Taylor, Lynn Drive, Milngavie 11

World Mission Prayer Diary for May

This month we would remember in our prayers the General Assembly which opens on Saturday 21st May. We would pray for all the delegates and visitors from abroad who will be attending it. They will be welcomed on Sunday evening. There will be delegates from The Church of Bangladesh, The Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana and the CCAP Synod of Nichoma. The report from The World Mission Council will be taken on the Saturday evening and we would pray that the work of this council will be blessed as they focus on their new remit in encouraging individual congregations in Scotland to make links with the Church in other countries.

Saturday 17th June, 2006
Dean Castle Country Park
Kilmarnock

Tickets: Adults £5.00

Children £2.50

For Children:

Pets Corner : Adventure Playground : Ranger Walks

For Adults:

**Optional tour of Dean Castle – no charge : Woodland and River
Walks : Tea Room : Picnic Areas**

Due to Environmental Health restrictions please bring your own picnic.

For your enjoyment good old fashioned games will be organised!!!

**BUSES WILL LEAVE THE RAILWAY STATION CAR
PARK AT 10.00 A.M. RETURNING APPROX. 5.00 P.M.**

**Please complete booking form and place in the box at the back of the
Church by 21ST May or hand it to Liz Traill (956-1479) or Jean Scott
(956-5251) who will answer any queries you may have regarding the
Picnic**

Name

Tel. No.

No. of adult tickets required

No. of child tickets required



Brigade Blethers

Last time we had a wee blether I told you that we were ready to go off to Auchengillan. Well that has been and gone and a good time was had by most of us. The weather was kind, the food and fun was great as usual and the lady with the samba drums was brilliant!

Then we had a couple of weeks off to celebrate Easter and eat some chocolate eggs and we are now in the throes of putting the display together ! All I can say is that it will (I am sure) be all right on the night. See you next month.
Anne Goodlet

BOOK CLUB

Our book this month was *Small Island* by Andrea Levy. Basically dealing with racism in Britain after the Second World War, the book takes us to London just after the blitz when Jamaicans were coming to Britain in search of work and a better life. Many of them had served in the forces and were well educated. We follow the fortunes of Gilbert, Hortense his wife, Queenie his landlady and Queenie's husband Bernard. The narrative is written from each of the main characters' perspectives and although this does mean you are revisiting the storyline on more than one occasion, it does give a different slant on events as they unfold. Highly recommended by almost all of the group, one member even remembers the actual events taking place and seeing smiling black faces driving the buses for the first time. The book offers a sharp observation on the culture prevailing in the early 1950s and has an unexpected twist at the end. Very readable and highly recommended.

Our next meeting is on 21 June when the book will be *Labyrinth* by Kate Mosse. If you would like to join us please phone Helen in the Church Office for the venue.

CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

Thanks to all who supported the annual Lenten Lunch. The event raised £430.

CHRISTIAN AID door to door collection 14th. -20th. MAY

Collectors are still required

If you can help with the count on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday
I.e. 17th/18th/19th, please get in touch with Gordon Campbell

MILNGAVIE WEEK

Donations of books for the Christian Aid bookstall would be much appreciated.

Below is a letter sent by our Session Clerk in response to a gift from St. Luke's on the occasion of our Centenary

Rev. R B Shields 70 Hunter Road Milngavie G627BY

6 April 2006

I write on behalf of the members of the Kirk Session and Congregation of St. Paul's Parish Church to warmly thank the congregation of St. Luke's for their best wishes on our Centenary Year and thoughtful gift through Oxfam Unwrapped which has trained a mid-wife in Nicaragua and is helping to give a lot more babies a better start in life.

As we at St. Paul's reflect on 100 years of Christian service and outreach to the local community and further afield, your gift is especially pleasing to our congregation as it provides support to those in need and who are so much less fortunate in their lives than we are.

The congregation of St. Paul's very much appreciates its friendship and fellowship with the congregation of St. Luke's and we look forward to this continuing and even being enhanced in the years ahead.

With kindest regards and every blessing.

Ian Mackinnon Session Clerk

LIFE AND WORK

MAY ISSUE

Beyond the Walls Church without Walls, the movement to re-energise the local Kirk - is five years old this month. The Rev Peter Neilson, one of the leading architects of the repmi, reflects on its impact and progress.

Making a Difference Lorna Hill meets the Moderator-Designate, the Rev Alan McDonald and hears of his passion for social justice - and the Beatles!

A Hidden Inheritance John R Hume, Convener of the Church of Scotland's Committee on Church Art and Architecture highlights the importance of church furnishings.

Human Trafficking A report on the recent conference organised by the Kirk's World Mission Council and the Guild, which highlighted "Today's slavery and our response".

Netherbow re-opening After an 18-month closure and a £3.5million rebuild, the Scottish Storytelling Centre housed at the Kirk's Netherbow Centre in Edinburgh's Royal Mile, reopens this month. Lynne McNeil offers a preview of the new facilities.

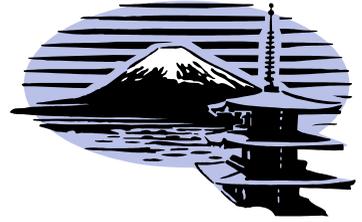
Assembly 2006 A preview of some of the reports to come before this year's General Assembly, along with a draft timetable for Assembly business and a list of some fringe events.

Healing In the fourth part of an analysis of the healing ministry, the Rev Tom Cuthell highlights the importance of listening.

A Place of Vision Alan Taylor reflects on the life and faith of Orcadian writer and poet George Mackay Brown.

AND MORE... finance, readers' letters, news, reviews, comment and competitions . . .all for £1.60

Japan Jottings



Dear Friends

Here in Otaru the snow is gradually disappearing and colour is beginning to appear again. Spring is a time when the Japanese welcome the cherry blossom – they should appear here some time around the second week of May. We hope to send you a family photo under the blossom in time for the Cherry Blossom Fair later this month.

We had a wonderful Easter weekend. On the Saturday we had our first Sun Kids of the new church year and it was great to see 25 kids there. They all listened well as we shared with them the message of the cross and resurrection – and then we had fun doing various Easter activities together. The next day we had many visitors at our Easter worship – our church is rarely so full! We pray that the worship and what was said will leave a lasting impression on many that in time will see new believers added to God's kingdom in Japan.

As we write this, Lorna's parents have just arrived and we are looking forward to spending time together. The first week of May in Japan is called the Golden Week holiday so we plan to go to a hot spring resort at that time.

Please do keep praying for our church as many are suffering in different ways. In the midst of it all though, there was good news in that one member's husband (in his 40s but terminally ill with cancer) came to believe in Jesus and was baptised in his hospital room. That was an encouragement to all of us - the Lord is indeed risen and at work in this land!

*With our love and prayers for you all
David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair*

**** See notice of 'Cherry Blossom Day' on Page 9****



CHERRY BLOSSOM FAJR -

SATURDAY MAY 20th 10.00 till 12.00

*A Fair to raise Funds for the Ferguson Family in Japan.
This is for the whole congregation - teas and coffees with homebaking;
stalls with baking, unwanted treasures, books and CDs;
crafts and activities for the children.*

This is a chance to find out more about our missionary family and to support them!

PLEASE TRY TO COME AND BRING OTHERS!

Friendship House



The House as an ecumenical centre of outreach in the community has now been open for 21 years. All the Milngavie Churches are involved & more recently Baldernock Church has been added to the participating number. The aim of the House is to provide a place of friendship & fellowship where people can meet, enjoy a refreshing cuppa & perhaps a small bite to eat, & also chat to 'befrienders' It is also a place where those who wish can enjoy a short service of worship each day, or anyone in particular need can have counselling arranged for them. It would be lovely if everyone in the congregation could visit at some time, & to this end there will be an OPEN DAY on Sat. June 3rd. when there will be complimentary tea or coffee & biscuits. Please come along & enjoy the hospitality of the house.

THE GUILD

The Guild has come to the end of another successful season. We had a most interesting talk and video from Mrs. Lucy Millar on her investiture at Buckingham Palace, when she received the MBE from HM the Queen for her 50 years of service in the Girls' Brigade. Our Coffee Morning on 1st. April was very successful with a total of £798 being raised. Our thanks go to all who supported the event, either by their presence or by donations

The **AGM** brought our session to a close. After the business of the evening was concluded, we were entertained by Mrs. Jessie Cameron with a selection of lovely songs.

The Office Bearers and Committee for 2006/2007 are:-

President Mrs Jean Scott
Vice President Mrs. M. Shearlaw
Joint Secretaries Mrs.B. Thomas Mrs.E. Williams
Asst. Secretary Mrs. M. Pollock
Treasurer Mrs.H. Seeth
Project Partner Miss Aileen Martin
Tea Convenors Mrs. M. Donaldson Miss M. Thomson
Visitors to the Sick Mrs. H. Kelly
and Housebound Mrs. G. Morrison

Committee :- Mrs. S. Dunlop Mrs. J. Gow Miss E. Izatt
Mrs. M. Stirling Mrs. I. More Mrs.I. Batey

The annual outing will be to Ayr on Tuesday 6th June, followed by High Tea at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel.

The bus leaves Milngavie Station Car Park at 12.30p.m. returning at 8p.m.

We wish everyone a pleasant summer and look forward to seeing old and new members at the first meeting in October.

Below are extracts from a letter received by Rosemary Fraser from Traidcraft Headquarters

Dear Rosemary

Thank you for another year of record breaking sales!

I want to personally thank you, along with everyone here at Traidcraft, for your support, hard work and achievement during the last year. Our records show that your purchases with -"Traidcraft-from-April-2005--March~2006 were -£2709.08 and your personnel credit limit is £700.

Sales Breakdown.

- Fair Trader sales were £8.465 million up from £7.3 million the previous year.
- Mail Order business achieved £2.5 million in sales - an increase of 25% on last year.
- Retail sales were £2.4 million from 347 shops.
- Food and craft wholesale accounted for almost £3 million.
- Total company sales were £16.46 million.* · Food and beverage sales accounted for £11.5 million of the total. Cards, tissues and paper £2.7 million, Fashion Gifts and Home sales £2.2 million * Figures are not audited and do not include commission from Rivington's for sales through supermarkets.

Highlights from the year · 1143 Fair Traders joined this year generating £918k worth of sales.

- Traidcraft Policy Unit attended the World Trade Organisation.
- Traidcraft offices were established in Kenya and Bangladesh.
- Best Social Accounts for the 4th year in a row.
- 5686 active Fair Traders compared to 4264 last year.
- MakePovertyHistory campaign.

Our vision statement for the next five years is 'A world freed from the scandal of poverty

Thank you for everything you do and continue to do for Traidcraft

Yours sincerely ,
Susan Scott

Fair Trader Sales Manager



FLOWER ROTAS-MAY

DONATIONS

Mrs. Gardner
Mrs. Kydd
Mrs. M. Robertson
Mrs. I. Torbet
Mrs. Walters
Mrs. Gibson
Mrs. Mc Caughie

DELIVERIES

May 7 Mrs. I Torbet Mrs. P Barlow
May 14 Mrs. S. Anderson Mrs. K. Edwards
May 21 Mrs. M. Conway Mrs. M. McPherson
May 28 Mrs. A. Galloway Mrs. J. Townson
June 4 Mrs. M. McIntyre Mrs. M. Spencer



CRECHE ROTA- MAY

7 May Richell, McFarlane, Whitelaw
14 May Martin, Kerr, Moffat
21 May Wilson, Baxter, MacKinnon
28 May Reid, Bolton, J Deuchar
4 June Hughes, Sillars, MacAulay

TRAIIDCRAFT

*May 7th. M Thomson M Ure
May 14th. A Begg J MacLean
May 21st. J MacIntyre M Fewell
May 28th. G Buchanan A Martin
June 4th. C Mackay R Fraser
June 11th. S Dunlop L Cowie*

The magazine is published on the first Sunday of every month. Contributions for the JUNE issue should be handed to the Editor or left in the box in the Waiting Room by 22nd. May Editor- Morag Thomson, 36, Roselea Drive (956-2801) e mail mthomson@beeb.net