

# Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

May 2016



Dear Friends,

Recently I was thinking about the Church and how it has held me from my earliest days. I suppose it began with a sense of belonging. Sunday was the day I went to Church and there were people there who were kind and thoughtful. And they seemed interested in me. Always asking what I wanted to be when I grew up. At that time my horizons were limited to becoming a legend with a sporting institution not far from where I lived but other ideas popped into my head from time to time.

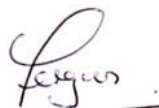
There were the usual misdemeanours with my pals in Sunday School. One teacher told me years later that myself and my pal Eddie nearly drove him to distraction every week. Little did he know that Eddie was destined to be his future son-in-law and that his partner in mischief would be at his side on his wedding day as his Best Man.

There came a day, however, when a teacher at school who led the Scripture Union brought Jesus to life for me and stressed how important it was for everyone to ask Him into their lives. That impressed me and in time made me think of the Church in a different way. It was the place where we learned about Him and His teaching. It was from that place we would go to tell His story, share His love, and bring about change in the world through lives that were changed. The Church wasn't a building or a club or an organisation. It was a dynamic movement of people whose foundation was God's Word, whose energy was the Holy Spirit, whose purpose was God's great plan to renew the earth.

That is the vision that has kept me going through the years. I am sure the same vision was before those who formed Milngavie Parish Church when it was established 175 years ago. So many things have happened since then on a global scale that have challenged faith, not to mention the personal heartaches that individuals have had to endure. So many things have happened that have threatened the unity and peace of the Church. But we are still here, living the vision, telling the story, sharing the love.

The diary of a Free Church minister, Rev Murdoch Campbell, was published recently. As he was nearing the end of his life in 1965 he wrote this:

'There are times when the Church of God looks as if it had perished, but how glorious and astonishing is God's power in giving her an instant resurrection and clothing her with power! In the very hour her enemies rejoice over her decay, powerlessness and death she springs to life, "terrible as an army with banners." (Song of Songs 6: 10)'.  
175 years behind us, an unknown future before us, we stand on this faith.



### **World Mission Stamp Appeal**

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 2015 we raised an amazing £3511 that will be used to support the work of the Church of Scotland HIV programme.



The Appeal which starts in March 2016 is raising money for the Othara Eco-spirituality centre run by our partner the Church of South India. The Church of South India (CSI) recently opened the Othara Eco-spirituality centre, where people can learn about climate change and the importance of conserving the earth God has given us.

This year the Stamp Project will support some of their ecological innovations including the harvesting and re-use of rain water, the establishment of a biogas plant to power the kitchens and the development of a small dairy and chicken farm for native breeds.

Through retreats and conferences, CSI hopes that the knowledge people gain at the centre will inspire them to live sustainably and encourage others in their community to do the same because 'caring for the earth is not only a calling, but a lifestyle.'

With every good wish,

Carol Finlay  
World Mission Stamp Appeal

## **Christian Aid Week 2016**



*Christian Aid Week* is from 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May and as usual we are looking for collectors. A sign-up sheet will be at the back of the church.

If you have never collected before and would like to do so please speak to any member of the committee (Gordon Campbell, Betty Watson, Margaret Bonis, Alex McEwan, Marylyn Taggart) and they will tell you what is involved.

Counters will also be required in the main hall on 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May.



## **Preshal Pound Cards**

Once again we are continuing to sell cards for one pound for the Preshal Trust. These cards, made by myself, are proving very very popular with almost 300 cards being sold already. Each Sunday you will find them outside office window with an honesty box sitting waiting for your money.

The month of May theme will be 'Colourful Words'. so buy a card that has a few simple words on the front that will mean so much to someone, having a birthday, feeling low or who just loves a card to say hello. Check out these cards now and remember if you would like someone's name on it that can be done with 24 hours notice.

Alex McEwan (alexjmcewan@gmail.com)

## 175<sup>th</sup> Celebration

To celebrate the 175th anniversary of the inauguration of a St Paul's church in Milngavie a congregational Lunch is being held on 22nd May after morning service. We are having a three course lunch, provision has been made for vegetarians and those with gluten intolerance. If you have any other dietary needs please see Ann MacLeod. To involve as many of our congregation as possible it would be great if we could have some cakes for the final course. Tray bakes, cakes or shortbread would all be wonderful but nothing that needs buttering please.

The guest preacher at the morning service will be Rev. Dr. David Graham who had two spells as Assistant Minister in St. Paul's and is presently minister of Dirleton linked with Abbey Church of Scotland, North Berwick.

The Moderator of the Presbytery of Dumbarton, Dr Iain Galbraith, will bring greetings from the Presbytery.

### Lunch Club

The lunch Club is back after its Easter break and we are busier than usual serving our church and the wider community every Wednesday at lunch time. We really need another lady to help serve food and clear up afterwards. If you could help every second week from about 11-30 until 2-00 please see Ann MacLeod at church or telephone No. 942 8339 Many thanks



## World Mission

### Goodbye from Kathy Galloway, outgoing Head of Christian Aid



The Church of Scotland has had the pleasure of working closely with Kathy Galloway, the outgoing head of Christian Aid Scotland, over the past 7 years as the two organisations have continued to work in partnership.

Reflecting on her retirement, Kathy Galloway gave thanks to all the support Scottish people have shown Christian Aid saying, 'Age is no barrier to idealism nor youth to effectiveness.'

As we say goodbye to Kathy, we would also like to welcome Sally Foster Fulton who will take over the role of Head of Christian Aid Scotland.

## World Mission Cont.

### Christian Aid Booksale

Saturday 14th May, 10am-4pm;  
Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th May, 10am-3.30pm;  
Thursday 19th May, 10am-7pm;  
Friday 20th May, 10am-3.30pm

St Andrew's and St George's West Church, George Street, Edinburgh

Since its beginnings in 1974, this legendary book sale has raised over £2 million for Christian Aid's work. Expect around 100,000 books of every kind throughout and around the church. Pictures, music, toys and games, antiques and collectables, stamps and postcards, and ephemera will also be available.

### Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees

Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees is a project which seeks to co-ordinate and promote action by faith communities in Scotland to support asylum seekers and refugees. Their newly launched website: <http://www.sfar.org.uk/> has details of campaigns, actions and resources for churches and individuals.



Read a blog by David Bradwell, Refugee Coordinator, on Glasgow allegations of asylum seeker mistreatment on the Joint Public Issues Team website (<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/>)

### 150th Anniversary of the Church of Scotland, Lisbon



On Sunday 10th April the congregation of St Andrews Church, Lisbon celebrated its 150th Anniversary. The Rt Rev Angus Morrison led the service which was attended by representatives of other churches and organisations.

The Scottish Country Dance group who meet in our church hall performed a special dance composed in honour of the Moderator. The congregation gathered in the hall for a finger buffet lunch at which the Moderator cut the cake celebrating the Anniversary.

## Japan Jottings



**Dear Friends,**

Sometimes life takes unexpected twists and turns. We had that experience right at the beginning of April when Calum had a bad fall in a football match which left him with three fractures in his back! He is now complete with corset but out of action for several months. We are grateful for the excellent medical care and physio Calum's club provides and also for the superb medical facilities in Japan.

Generally the boys are settling well into their new schools. Matthew will reach the end of his first year at Law School and return to Japan mid-May. Daniel will graduate in June and is presently looking for internships in his chosen field of human rights law.

You will have seen the news of big earthquakes on the island of Kyushu. It is quite far from where we are but a constant reminder that any time the 'big one' could happen in the Greater Tokyo area. The many aftershocks make life very unsettling for the people in that area.

One of the things we do lots of in OMF is welcome short term teams, often in the summer months. This year is no different and we look forward to welcoming many young people from different parts of the world who come to serve and get a taste of mission for the weeks or months they are here. Sometimes individual churches send teams. Other teams are made up of people from different churches. And some just come on their own, even staying up to a year. One young guy here at the moment is a champion juggler so needless to say he is a big hit with those he comes into contact.

Thank you as always for your generous support for us and the work of OMF in Japan.

*With our love*

*David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair*

## May Edition - Life & Work



### General Assembly 2016

Nine pages of previews, including Assembly reports, timetables, interview with the Moderator-Designate and looking forward to Heart and Soul

### Give, Act and Pray

Marking Christian Aid week, an interview with the new Head of Christian Aid Scotland, the Rev Sally Foster-Fulton

### The Hidden Christians

The author of a new book on Christians who don't go to church tells how it came about

### Circle of Care

How the local community rallied round a terminally-ill minister

### The Changing Seasons

The Rev Alastair Duncan considers the message of Pentecost and the challenges of preaching the Gospel in contemporary Scotland

### Jesus, Makar and Maker

Ron Ferguson reflects on the need for dreamers and poets, as well as practical people, within the Church

### Scotland and the Faithful Few?

Hannah Mary Goodlad argues that there is 'a spiritual hunger' within Scotland

### Little Failings, Big Consequences

The Very Rev Dr James Simpson highlights the dangers of convictions without courtesy

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

**Online** read daily updates from the General Assembly at [www.lifeandwork.org](http://www.lifeandwork.org), follow us on Facebook or Twitter @cofslifeandwork

### Flower Donations - May

Miss E. Izatt,  
Mrs. J. McColgan

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



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Copy date for the June issue is Sunday 22nd May if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 25th May if emailing. Please send to [st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com)

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
<b>1st May</b>		Goodlet McKinnon	M. Ure J. Mill	<b>Team 9</b> I. MacKinnon
<b>8th May</b>		Bates Wallis	A. Begg J. MacLean	<b>Team 10</b> I. Strang (EC)
<b>15th May</b>		Wilson Berry	J. MacIntyre L. Cowie	<b>Team 3</b> M. Ure
<b>22nd May</b>		McCreadie Chapman	E. Easton M. Thoms	<b>Team 4</b> D. Lawson
<b>29th May</b>		Tracey Richell	C. Mackay R. Fraser	<b>Team 5</b> J. Clark