



## Christmas and Advent Worship at St. Paul's



Saturday 1st	9.30am	<b>Advent Service: 1 Corinthians 13:1</b> Theme: 'Loving Speech'
Saturday 1st	10.00am	<b>Christmas Tree Festival Commences</b>
Sunday 2nd	10.00am 7.00pm	Morning Worship Evening Worship
Friday 7th	4.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival Ends
Saturday 8th	9.30am	<b>Advent Service: 1 Corinthians 13:2</b> Theme: 'Loving Power'
Sunday 9th	10.00am 7.00pm	Morning Worship Evening Worship with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Saturday 15th	9.30am	<b>Advent Service: 1 Corinthians 13:3</b> Theme: 'Loving Sacrifice'
Sunday 16th	10.00am 7.00pm	Christmas Family Gift Service Evening Worship
Saturday 22nd	9.30am	<b>Advent Service: 1 Corinthians 13:13</b> Theme: 'The Greatest'
Sunday 23rd	10.00am 7.00pm	<b>Family Worship followed by Coffee &amp; Mince Pies</b>  Christmas Readings and Music
Monday 24th	7.00pm 11.30pm	Christmas Eve Family Carol Service Watchnight Service
Tuesday 25th	11.00am	<b>Christmas Day Service at St. Paul's</b>
Sunday 30th	10.00am 7.00pm	Morning Worship Evening Worship

# Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

December 2018



Dear Friends,

It is with a very heavy heart that I will soon be leaving my St Paul's family. My last Sunday is the 25<sup>th</sup> of November. Many of you will know I've been the probationary minister in the church since September 2017 and this has been an incredibly blessed period in my life. I've loved every minute of my time with you and leave with so many happy memories and new friends. However, after completing my training, I felt a call to apply to Dundonald Parish Church in South Ayrshire, to become their new minister of Word and Sacrament.

It would have been an absolute joy and pleasure to stay on with my ministry to you at St Paul's, Baldernock and the wider community of Milngavie but with all aspects of life we need to honour God in the process. Latterly I felt that staying would have been the easy and comfortable option and not where God was leading. Currently there are roughly 230 vacant charges within the Church of Scotland and as a, soon to be ordained minister, I felt that it was right to take up a charge of my own.

God has led us to a church that has a heart for its community and is Jesus-centred in its approach to worship and mission. St Paul's has fuelled me with so much love, joy and encouragement and many ideas for future mission and ministry. I therefore go into my first church in a wonderful place of hope and excitement.

I would appreciate your prayers in the following weeks, as this transition will not be easy for the family. The boys will each be starting a new school/nursery in January 2019 and we are praying for a smooth transition. We also need to sell our home, which has been a place of comfort, light and much blessing. However, God has reminded me that we must "Hold lightly to the Things of This World (1 Corinthians 7:29-31) and to place our trust in Him. So in faith, we take a massive leap with this move into ministry but we are not taking this leap on our own, as we know that God who calls us into every circumstance of life is fully with us and will equip us to serve for his glory.

It is going to be particularly hard for me to leave Fergus; we have built-up a wonderful working relationship and friendship and I will miss him dearly. You are blessed with one faithful minister and I hope and pray I too can honour God in my ministry.

Please don't be a stranger and do keep in touch; come for a visit to Dundonald and I will return to my St Paul's family when I can.

Many Blessings,

Lynsey Brennan

### **Church of Scotland Used Stamp Appeal**

As Christmas draws near please remember to collect all stamps from cards and parcels. There is a collection box in the Strathblane Road porch along with details of the charity that is being supported by World Mission this year. The collection box is there all year round so please remember this is not only at Christmas.

**Irene Strang**

### **Coffee and Mince Pies**



Our annual Coffee and Mince Pies event will be held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December in the Large Hall after the morning service. This year we will be supporting two charities – The Way Ahead Group and the Bearsden Macular Support Group. Do come and join us for festive fare and fellowship.

As usual, donations of mince pies or shortbread will be most welcome.

**Frances Ireland and Liz Traill.**

#### **The Way Ahead Group.**

The way Ahead Group meets in Killermont Parish Church and provides exercise and stimulation to stroke sufferers as well as support and encouragement to them and their carers.

#### **Bearsden Macular Support Group**

This relatively new group is an offshoot of the Macular Society. Macular Disease is the commonest cause of blindness in the UK and the group aims to support anyone in the local area affected by this condition.

# CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

(Association of Milngavie Churches)

in ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MILNGAVIE

1st -7th December

10am -4pm

(Sunday 1pm -4pm)

## **REFRESHMENTS and MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT**

All donations to Milngavie Youth Centre;  
Glasgow Street Pastors  
East Dunbartonshire Women's Aid Project



## 2018 Christmas Tree Festival –Music Programme

### **Sat. 1st December**

- 10.15 am St. Paul's Church Choir
- 10.50 am Members of Milngavie Pipe Band
- 12.00 pm Group from Milngavie Choir
- 2.00 pm Flute Phonics
- 3.15 pm Dynamic Melodies

### **Sun. 2nd December**

- 1.00 pm Loch Lomond Ukulele Orchestra
- 2.00 pm Allander Jazz Band

### **Mon. 3rd December**

- 10.15 pm Maxholme Nursery -Singing
- 11.30 pm Hugh Macdonald -Organ
- 2.00 pm Rachel Rutherford -Clarsach
- 3.00 pm Douglas Muirhead–Guitar & Singing

### **Tues. 4th December**

- 11.30 am Douglas Orr & Tommy Evans  
Piano & Double Bass Jazz Duo
- 2.00 pm Lullaby Lane Nursery –Singing
- 2.15 pm Andrea Brogan & Esther McColl  
Violin & Piano
- 3.15 pm David Crooks & Pupils –Classical Guitar

### **Wed. 5th December**

- 10.15 am Lullaby Lane Nursery –Singing
- 11.30 am Derek Norval-Organ
- 2.00 pm Jordanhill Handbell Ringers
- 3.15 pm Karine Davison –Glasgow Street Songs

### **Thurs. 6th December**

- 10.00 am New Kilpatrick Ceilidh Band
- 10.45 am Noah's Ark Toddler Group -Singing
- 11.15 am New Kilpatrick Ceilidh Band
- 1.45 pm Christine Furnish –Organ

### **Fri. 7th December**

- 10.15 am Lullaby Lane Nursery –Singing
- 11.00 pm David Turner –Piano
- 2.00 pm Rachel Forbes & Esther McColl Flute & Piano
- 3.15 pm Karine Davison –Glasgow Street Songs

## Guild News



On 29th October, our Guild members went on a virtual trip to the US with Sheila & David Hart as our guides. We were treated to some remarkable sights of beautiful architecture, stunning period hotels, wonderful landscapes and a glimpse of the interior of the iconic Queen Mary, courtesy of their excellent presentation and slides. Through their fascinating travelogue of their 23-day journey from the East to the West of the US, using only trains, ferries and buses, Sheila and David certainly brought their experiences to life for us and they are to be admired for their stamina and the extensive planning that had gone into making such an epic journey. From the comfort of the Large Hall, we were all exhausted listening to their adventures!

At our first meeting in November, Miss Morag Reid told us the moving account of the remarkable courage and personal sacrifice of Jane Haining who was a matron in a Scottish-run mission for girls in Budapest during the Second World War. Although Jane could have returned to Scotland and to safety, she chose to stay and risk her life to help the children. Refusing to leave the Jewish girls under her charge, Jane said *If these children need me in the days of sunshine, how much more do they need me in the days of darkness?* Jane was arrested by the Gestapo and died in Auschwitz in 1944. Her Christian faith and her mission to help those children are commemorated in the stained glass windows *Service* and *Sacrifice* which can be found in Queen's Park Govanhill Parish Church and for the last 28 years, strong links have been maintained with this church through organised visits of children from Budapest to Scotland. In 1997, Jane Haining was recognised as Righteous Among the Nations in, Yad Vashem, The World Holocaust Remembrance Centre.

We were all in fine voice at our afternoon tea on Monday, 12th November where we enjoyed a wonderful spread and then a lively singalong with our very own and extremely talented David Turner who led us in songs, old and new. Thanks to everyone who made this afternoon such a pleasure and thanks especially to David for giving up his afternoon to be with us.

Our meeting on 19th November focussed on the Guild theme – *Seeking the Way* when Lynsey Brennan spoke to us. We were grateful to Lynsey for coming to our meeting, especially when she is preparing to get ready to move to Dundonald Parish Church and our thoughts, prayers and good wishes go to her and her family as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.

At our last meeting in November, our topic will be *Playlist for Life* which is a UK music and dementia charity. It will be very interesting to learn how using music, which has been part of a person's life, can help to maintain connections to memories and to loved ones.

Our programme for December is as follows:

3rd December: Finance Meeting (....& Surprise!)

7th December (Friday): Christmas Lunch @ Milngavie Bowling Club

10th December: Presbyterial Council Carol Service, St Paul's Church at 7:30pm.

Our first meeting of the New Year takes place on Monday, 7th January when Robin Easton will be speaking to us about Street Pastors.

We look forward to welcoming you to any or all of our meetings!

## Gardening Thank You



It is that time again when we put away the garden tools and gloves and take a well earned rest. Although we had a great summer, after the heavy snow, it brought its own problems, as the garden needed to be constantly watered. We have had some very nice comments about how well the garden has looked over the years. There are some photographs in the large hall, for the people who do not see the garden at the front of the church, as they use the Baldernock Road entrance. Please take a moment to look at the photographs.

I would like to sincerely thank all the garden team for their efforts in keeping the garden looking colourful and tidy. I would also like to thank Hugh for his continued efforts in cutting the grass and especially keeping the hedge in such good order .

**Shiela Dickson**

**Garden Convenor**

### Flower Donations - December

Anyone wishing to record their name in Life, in memory of a loved one, should send the donation a month prior to publication of the magazine.



Mrs A Easton, Mrs H Kelly

Please send donations to Mrs M Thoms, 66 Braeside Avenue, Milngavie, G62 6NN, or put them in the flower guild pigeon hole at the back of the Church. Cheques should be written to St Paul's Flowers.

## Noah's Ark



Noah's Ark is a Group run by volunteers within St. Paul's for toddlers under the age of three whom come accompanied by their Mums, Dads, Grans, Grandpas or Carers and is held every Thursday during school term time from 9.30 till 11.15 in the morning and from 1.00 till 2.30 in the afternoons. The volunteers help, either in the kitchen preparing snacks for the children and tea/coffee for the adults, or by chatting to the adults to make the experience for them as welcoming as possible. One recent Mum said how wonderful it had been to speak with one of our volunteers – "it was just like talking to my Gran".

Volunteers are on a rota and are only required once every four weeks or thereabouts and swaps are allowed! If you would like to help, please drop in any Thursday or speak to Jackie Sillars at Church or phone 0141 956 7589

There are 60 children registered for the morning session and the average attendance is 35. There are 20 registered for the afternoon with between 10 and 12 attending. It is certainly quieter in the afternoon! What a marvellous outreach for St. Paul's.

We charge £1 per child to cover the cost of the tea, coffee, juice and snacks. As a result we have raised funds which have allowed us to make a payment to the Church of £300 to help defray the costs of the heating and lighting which we use.

Also, we made a donation of £200 to CrossReach Daisy Chain Early Years Project which aims to help the children and families of Govanhill thrive. This was established in 2011 and they create and provide a range of activities in response to the needs of families and the community.

We made another donation to Glasgow City Mission Child and Family Centre for vulnerable families in Govan of the same amount of £200.

Letters from both charities are on the following page.

Noah's Ark felt it was important to help the two organisations who help children less fortunate than the children who attend Noah's Ark.

Please remember us in your prayers and support us if you are able.



Dear Christopher,

Thank you once again for the donation of £200 that you have made to Daisy Chain Early Years Project; your generosity, as always, is very much appreciated. Best wishes to you, the committee of Noah's Ark and all those who attend this outreach group,

Kind regards,  
Caroline  
p.p. Kenny Fulton

Mrs Caroline Kerr, Administrator  
Daisy Chain Early Years Project

Dear Christopher,

Thank you to everyone at St. Paul's Parish Church Noah's Ark for your continued support of our Child & Family Centre. We are delighted to receive a generous £200 from you this week to help further the work of the Centre.

Your ongoing support is helping us be there for scores of vulnerable families in Govan, giving kids the best start in life and equipping their parents with skills and confidence to be the best that they can be.

Last week we had another fantastic holiday club. The holidays can be a particularly difficult time for our families with additional financial pressures especially for those whose children receive free school meals; entertaining children is also expensive.

In total, 174 kids came along and enjoyed games, crafts, outings and healthy meals. "Thank you for the city mission club. It was a real life save over the October week" said one parent while another said "The service is brilliant. Thanks to the Glasgow City Mission staff. The kids loved it over the whole time, and having breakfast and lunch with a big family indeed the club has become our second home. Greatly appreciated."

Thank you once again for all your continued support.

Every blessing,

Graham Steven, Marketing & Fundraising Manager

## Thank You

THANK YOU!!!

My grateful thanks to the many friends, fellow Elders and my local District in St. Paul's for the amazing amount of cards, letters and prayers which were so welcome and so sustaining during my illness.

A special thank you to all those who supported me in arranging trips out by car – these were also very gratefully received and enjoyed.

I cannot measure the 'TLC'; the wonderful care and support received throughout from St. Paul's Clergy – Fergus, Lynsey and David. May our 'Great Big God' hold each of you in his hands.

Once again, my sincere and grateful thanks to all,

Wishing you a very blessed Christmas,

**Iris Torbet**

Please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation for cards and telephone calls received after my recent fall.

Thank you also for cards and gifts on the occasion of my birthday.

**Margaret Laws**

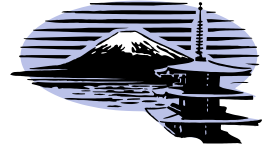
## World Mission

### Scots missionary Mary Slessor bust unveiled

The bust of a Presbyterian missionary considered by many as one of the most inspirational, compassionate and determined Scots who ever lived, has been unveiled. Mary Slessor (1848-1915) will be immortalised as a figurehead in the Hall of Heroes at the National Wallace Monument near Stirling following a public vote. Ms Slessor was inspired by the legendary explorer, Dr David Livingstone, to work as a Presbyterian missionary in Calabar, Nigeria in Western Africa in 1876.



Jennie Chinembiri, Africa and Caribbean Secretary of the World Mission Council of the Church of Scotland, and Jessie Fubara Manuel of the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria attended the ceremony.



### Dear Friends,

“Meree Koorisoomasoo” – this is the greeting in Japanese that you will hear as Christmas approaches. There is no Japanese word for Christmas, so they adopted the English greeting “Merry Christmas”, and put it into Japanese syllables.

Even though Japanese culture has adopted Christmas into its calendar, it feels quite different from celebrating Christmas in Scotland. The only public holiday is the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December for the Emperor’s birthday, so people may celebrate then or on the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup>. The most typical celebration would be a family meal with Kentucky Fried Chicken and a sponge cake covered with cream and strawberries.

In Japan, many households do not have a large oven and so roasting a whole bird or ham is not common. The marketing idea “Kentucky for Christmas”, selling party barrels of chicken as a substitute for turkey, was introduced nationally in 1974. Since then it has become so popular that KFC has become synonymous with Christmas.

However, Christmas is also the time of year when a Japanese person is more likely to visit a church or Christian event if invited by a friend or relative. Our church has a children’s party on the 16<sup>th</sup> for local children in the community and then a Christmas service on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

December is also the end of the football season in Japan. This means that Calum will leave the team he has played with for the last 6 years. Alistair is moving up to the youth level (Under 18) but many of his teammates are leaving. They practise together at least 5 times a week so their teammates have become good friends and it will be sad to say goodbye. In Japan, saying goodbye properly is something which is valued, so each of the boys will have a “graduation” event with parents, coaches and supporters. It is also a chance to thank them for all of their hard work over the years.

We are thankful to all of you for all your prayers and support over the years. Happy Christmas!

*Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair*

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Copy date for the January issue is Sunday 23rd December if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 26th December if emailing. Please send to [st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com)

The editor would like to thank all who have contributed this year.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Vestibule Rota
<b>2nd Dec</b>	J. Ford C. Tanner	Tracey MacKinnon	<b>Team 6</b> R. Easton
<b>9th Dec</b>	P. Barlow S. Robertson	Chapman Berry	<b>Team 7</b> I. Russell (EC)
<b>16th Dec</b>	S. Anderson L. Cowie	Sillars Richell	<b>Team 8</b> J. Pirie
<b>23rd Dec</b>	M. Conway K. Edwards	No Crèche	<b>Team 9</b> N. Cattanach
<b>30th Dec</b>	A. Galloway M. Thomson	No Crèche	<b>Team 10</b> D. Muirhead