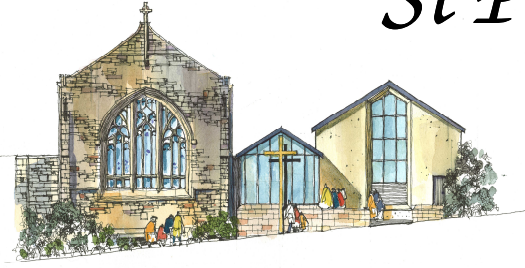


St Paul's Milngavie



Life Magazine

June 2008

Dear Friends,

Many years ago I heard someone say: 'Be careful what you pray for, you might just get an answer'. I found this puzzling at the time because one of the big issues we have with prayer is that so often our prayers do not seem to be answered so why should we be wary of having particular prayers answered?

The point is that sometimes answered prayer will demand something of us. For instance, if I pray to be more patient God might just respond by giving me a set of irritating circumstances to deal with. If you like, opportunities to exercise patience. Or perhaps I am aware that I need to be more tolerant in my personal relationships. What better way to develop this than coming up against some difficult people? Again, God saying: 'Here is your chance!'

We can take this to another level. If something in the life of the Church concerns me, for instance, the lack of young people, then it is certainly not enough just to sound off about it or even just to pray about it. I have to recognise that in some way I must be part of the answer to the problem. Prayer is not just about asking God to do things. It is about recognising that God works through people to build His Kingdom and that means me and you. We pray not just to receive but to receive grace to give.

The singer Michael Jackson is a troubled man in many ways but he has a song called *The Man In The Mirror* in which he expresses his great desire for change in the world but realises that he has to start with 'the man in the mirror'.

It is the same with prayer. As we express our concerns to God, are we prepared to be part of the answer? Dangerous stuff that prayer.

Lodging House Mission

Some notes from the Lodging House Mission AGM, Monday 21st April...

Relocation of hostel dwellers as a result of hostel closure has had mixed success. Small flats have suited some, but others have been unable to cope resulting in more rough sleepers. Meetings are ongoing to discuss this.

Loneliness is one of the main problems so the LHM is crucial in providing friendship and advice in familiar surroundings with familiar people. Befrienders are always needed.

Pauline, the education worker, described the many learning and recreational activities available. Over 170 visitors have signed up for something, 30 are in further education, 15 in paid work and 8 are taking part in voluntary activities. More are coming into contact with the "outside" community as a result of college tutors visiting the LHM. Commitment to a structured programme helps a great deal with drug rehabilitation and establishing a less chaotic life style. It is planned to hold two courses in creative writing and music and there will be a construction module on health and safety, a legal requirement in some work situations.

Anne, the chaplain, reminded us that the LHM had been a place of prayer and worship for 100 years. A service is held every Sunday at 6pm with a congregation of 20 - 25 mostly men who don't follow usual church etiquette as they are quite likely to interrupt the sermon with a disagreement or a question! Prayers and bible studies are held Tues, Wed, Thurs but visitors can request prayer time on other occasions. There are residential retreats such as one to Iona at Easter. It is an opportunity for worship, prayer and fun - a holiday from the tense life of homelessness.

The annual running costs of the LHM is almost £500,000. Financial help from the Lottery, Learn Direct and European Social Fund will finish this year. Plans are underway for fundraising and celebrations for the Centenary of the LHM in 2009, including a golf day - more to follow. In the meantime please remember the meal vouchers at the back of the church. These can be handed to people begging in the street. Voluntary help is always welcome and the annual sponsored Bike Ride is now an established fund raiser so pass on the date to likely participants - Saturday June 14th. For more information contact the Lodging House Mission :

Tel: 0141 552 0285

Email: enquiries@lhm-glasgow.org.uk
www.lhm-glasgow.org.uk

Ann Begg

Congregational Rep to the LHM



Dear Friends

Perhaps this should be renamed Milngavie Musings for the year we're back. In fact, as we are now here we will not continue with a Japan Jottings in Life for the moment, but wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you not only for the support we have received over the past years, but also for the warm welcome back to Milngavie and to St Paul's.

We are very happy in our new home – it's spacious, quiet, furnished and there's lots of space for the boys to play outside. There are St Paul's folks in our street and a number of other friends nearby. We were thrilled to have many cards waiting for us when we moved in along with a substantial gift from the church and a fridge filled with food! Many greeted us warmly on our first Sunday back and we have enjoyed catching up with folks we know and getting to know some new people over these past weeks. It was a special joy for us to be able to share a little during the Family Service last month and we will have more opportunities to speak about our work in Japan in September.

Our first Sunday back just happened to be Overseas Sunday and it was great to be there and hear of the needs and opportunities in Peru – different in so many ways to Japan, but at the core exactly the same: a people who need to hear the gospel and know the love of Jesus.

We look forward to meeting with many of you during our year back. We will not always be in St Paul's on a Sunday because of speaking engagements in different places but we are usually around during the week and would love to have you round for coffee and a chat.

The two older boys will be back from India on 20th June and we are very much looking forward to that.

***Thank you for all your support for us.
David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair***

Stewardship Questionnaire

Enclosed with the magazine is a questionnaire which we would like each member to complete and return. Extra copies are available as we would like a response from each member of the congregation rather than each household. The completed forms can be placed in the box at the back of the Church, returned to the Church Office or given to your Elder during the June Communion visit.

Many people give generously of their time and talents to the work of St Paul's however there is much to be done and more that could be done. Whatever your talents, whatever time you have the Church can put your skills to good use but only if we know about it! The questionnaires will form a data base which will be used over the next few years to match people and skills with situations as they arise. By offering your time and skills through the questionnaire you are committing to nothing, you would be approached and asked before action is taken.

Please give the questions prayerful consideration.

Finance is an important part of giving and I would ask each member to review their financial giving at this time.

- Have you considered Gift Aid, giving by Standing Order or weekly envelopes?
- Have you reviewed the amount you give to the work of the Church?

Finally, as summer approaches, remember the work of the Church continues throughout the year and a steady income flow is vital to meet committed expenditure. Please keep you offerings up to date particularly over the next few months.

Graham Mill
Stewardship Convener

KIMO PERU PROJECT WORK TEAM SUMMER 2009

As you know, we plan to send a work team next summer to help in the building of "our" boys' home in the Andes. You do not need to have vast experience of the construction industry, or even to be a DIY expert, to be welcome to come with us! Experts will tell us what to do and the main requirement is that we should be willing to "muck in". The Vine Trust advise us that the normal age-range of team members is 18 to 70, and it seems likely that we will leave at the end of June.

In order that we can have air tickets at a competitive price it would be good to have numbers as soon as possible. If you are interested in joining the work team, or would like to find out some more about it, please come to a short meeting after the Morning Service on 15th June in the East Transept. If you would like to be at the meeting but are unable to attend please contact me for further information on 943 0368.

Eleanor Easton

World Mission Prayer Diary for June

Colin Renwick, Convener of the World Mission Council, has called for churches in Scotland to pray for all those affected by the earthquake in China.

The Amity Foundation, a Chinese Christian initiated NGO based in Nanjing, had a member of staff in Chengdu within 5 hours of the quake. It will be his job, along with local partners and other Chinese NGO's, to co-ordinate immediate and on-going relief work. The Scottish Churches' China Group, of which the Church of Scotland is a member, is a long time partner of The Amity Foundation and will continue to work closely with them during this difficult time.

The coordinating office of the Geneva-based Action by Churches Together (ACT) International response group said it had received quake information from China's Amity Foundation, the only member of ACT International working extensively in China. Amity reported that communications and transport links were destroyed by the quake, making access to affected areas very difficult. Amity has deployed staff to Chengdu, 159 kilometres from the quake's centre.

We would pray for all who have lost family friends and their homes and the staff of The Amity Foundation as they seek to respond to the needs of the survivors.

Plant Sale – in aid of Leukaemia Research

Very many thanks to the large number of St Paul's members who participated in making the plant sale the success it was on the 17th May. The wide interest this event attracted initially from providing flower pots through to attending the sale in such numbers was most encouraging to my family and myself.

On the day the income, based on the value of the plants on sale, was disproportionate through the generosity of everyone who attended. The generosity before the sale continued after the sale from those members who were not in attendance on the day.

The total sum raised was £1428.10 for which I thank you all. Finally, a big thank you to the lady (some refer to her as 'the girl') who made her greenhouse available to me. She went the extra mile in her enthusiasm by selling over a hundred pounds worth of plants from her greenhouse before the sale. A real team effort by her and my helpers on the day

Bill Law



“EMMS Bike Ride 2008” A Pilgrimage on Two Wheels!

The 17th EMMS Bike Ride for the Nazareth Hospital 1-9 November 2008

Members will be aware that over the last two years our Minister has taken up cycling and this year he has the opportunity to put all those hours on the road to good use.

For seventeen years the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society has been raising money for the Nazareth Hospital through a sponsored bike ride across Israel.

The Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society (EMMS) was set up in 1841 and established a witness in Nazareth in 1861. This has developed over the years until today the hospital has 134 beds and 400 health care and support staff. It deals with 26,000 in-patients each year, 51,000 out-patients, 2,000 births and 2,500 renal dialysis sessions.



The hospital serves a catchment area of nearly 150,000 people and is the second largest employer in the town. Nazareth itself has a population of 60,000 Arabs (70% Muslim, 30% Christian) and a growing population of around 60,000 Jews.

In the 21st Century the Nazareth Hospital is still developing, adapting to the needs of the community it serves. It aims to be a hospital at the heart of the life of its diverse community, continuing to have a strong Christian identity as it witnesses to the Christian faith through its ministry of reconciliation between peoples. Its services are open to people of all faiths and none.

This year's EMMS Bike Ride 2008 for the Nazareth Hospital is a specially challenging route and promises to be as exciting as previous routes with some magnificent scenery, some good off-road cycling and wonderful fellowship. Previous bike rides have grossed over £1.8 million for the Nazareth Hospital in Galilee. This year's bike ride aims to gross a further £100,000 for the essential work of the Hospital.

30 riders from around the world will tackle this cycling challenge through the Negev Desert, from the coast of the Dead Sea, over the Ramon Crater — a natural phenomenon with fossils dating back 180 million years, and on to Eilat on the shores of the Red Sea. They'll encounter people of the Holy Land of yesterday and of today, and visit sites from the Old and New Testament.

The route covers a distance of 220 miles (350 km), much of it on hilly, off-road tracks. It calls for some dedicated training!

Rotas for the Summer



Traidcraft

July 6th M Thomson M Ure
July 13th A Begg J MacLean
July 20th J McIntyre M Fewell
July 27th G Buchanan A Martin

Aug.3rd. C Mackay R Fraser
Aug.10th L Cowie C McKinnon
Aug.17th B Barr H Reid
Aug.24th B Watson M Conway
Aug.31st M Thomson M Ure

Sept.7th. A Begg J MacLean

Flower Deliveries

July 6th M McLean, R Cameron
July 13th J Ford, C Tanner
July 20th J Clark, M Taggart
July 27th P Barlow

Aug 3rd S Anderson, R Fraser
Aug 10th M Conway, M McPherson
Aug 17th A Galloway, J Townson
Aug 24th M McIntyre, M Spencer
Aug 31st P Dudgeon, S Lindsay

Sept 7th M Thomson, E Izzatt

Vestibule

July 6th	8	Leslie Johnston
July 13th	9	John Macpherson
July 20th	10	Sheila Harrison
July 27th	3	Linda Muirhead
Aug. 3rd	4	Ian MacCalman
Aug. 10th	5	Margaret McDowell
Aug. 17th	6	Elizabeth Watson
Aug. 24th	7	Scott Adair
Aug. 31st	8	Robert Rutherford
Sept. 7th	9	Duncan Kelly

Creche

6th July	Sillars	K Deuchar	Goodlet
13th July	Cockburn	Richell	McKinnon
20th July	Martin	Whitelaw	Wallis
27th July	Berry	Baxter	Smith
3rd Aug	Wilson	MacAuley	Reid
10th Aug	Bolton	J Deuchar	Lawrie
17th Aug	Cockburn	K Deuchar	Goodlet
24th Aug	Sillars	Richell	McKinnon
31st Aug	Martin	Whitelaw	Wallis
7th Sept	Berry	Baxter	Smith

Flower Donations – June & July

Mrs Canlin, Mrs Barr, Mrs Bain, Mrs M Phillips, Mrs N Henderson, Mrs W Douglas, Mrs McColgan, Mrs J Getty, Mrs M Reid.

Ms F Ireland, Miss L Traill, Mrs C Inglis, Mrs E Easton, Mrs Finlayson.





Previous bike rides have grossed over £1.8 million for the Nazareth Hospital in Galilee.

In between training sessions, each rider will work hard at raising at least £2,200 in sponsorship for the Nazareth Hospital, with help from family, friends and colleagues, and from churches and businesses.

Riders are volunteering for EMMS Bike Ride 2008 for the Nazareth Hospital from all over the UK, USA and Europe. Along the way there will be a visit to the town of Nazareth to see the work of the Nazareth Hospital. The Bike Ride experience starts at the shores of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth, and passes Qumran, site of the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls. The cycle ride then heads south to Mitzpe Ramon, through the wilderness of Zin, where the tribes of Israel wandered three thousand years ago. Travelling through Old Testament country the sites of ancient cities and battles are encountered. The Bike Ride finishes on the shores of the Red Sea.

Sponsorship from the Bike Ride will be directed towards supporting the Nazareth Hospital, which serves all the peoples of the lower Galilee, regardless of race or religion.

If you would like to sponsor our Minister, envelopes will be available in the church from now until his departure for Israel at the beginning of November.

There will be a bookstall with some recommended books from friends in St. Paul's congregation, for three weeks. From and including Sunday June 15th. 22nd and 29th.. There will be NO 10% discount on this occasion for buyers but 10% of sales will be given to "The VineTrust".



The editor is delighted to report that our current office equipment has been found capable of reproducing pictures after all and we trust that this enhances your enjoyment of the magazine. Those who don't have web access can finally see what you've been missing!

Erskine Bridge Walk for Christian Aid

Just to let you know: on Saturday 26th April I walked the Erskine Bridge for Christian Aid. In true Olympic style: time taken north to south 26mins, south to north 24mins. This includes time taken for photographs as proof of my achievement, also the prevailing wind did assist me on the return leg!

The sum raised for Christian Aid was £563 which is pure dead brilliant!

I am really overwhelmed with this fantastic response and greatly appreciate the donations I have received.

I would just like to say a very big thank you to all of you who contributed.

Nearly forgot – the leg held up fine and I have no blisters!

Liz Traill.

Christian Aid News.

No final figure yet but Christian Aid Week will have raised about £12,000 before Gift Aid tax recovery is added.

A big thank you once again to all the collectors and those who helped at the count.

This year the Milngavie committee had a couple of new ventures, the Spring Tea in the Fraser Centre which raised £300 and the Reservoir Ramble sponsored walk for children which raised £400.

It is hoped to repeat these in 2009.



Vine Trust Kimo Peru Project

Thank you for the donation of £2,500 towards the construction of Union Biblica del Peru's Street Children's Centre in Kimo, Peru. We are delighted by your commitment to this project and the significant difference that it will make to so many children in Peru.

As you may be aware the work of the Trust is rapidly progressing. If you would like to keep up to date with all that's going on, you can access our website at

www.vinetrust.org

On behalf of the Vine Trust and the children and staff of the SU Street Children's Project in Peru many thanks indeed for your donation.

Gavin Forrest
Finance Officer

CHURCH REGISTER

BAPTISM

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

Joshua Sutherland Finch, 71 Maxwell Ave., Westerton

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr & Mrs David Ferguson now at 23 Drumbeg Terrace, Milngavie G62 59

DEATHS

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

31.3.08 Mrs Murray, 44 West Chapleton Ave., Bearsden

10.4.08 Mr Edward Sommerville, 64 Dougalston Gardens South, Milngavie

18.4.08 Mr John Shaw, Homebrae House, Milngavie

22.4.08 Mr Norman Thompson, 57 Keystone Quad., Milngavie

23.4.08 Mrs Jean McMillan, 13 Park Ave., Milngavie 17

9.5.08 Mr John Lindsay, Clober Farm Cottage, Clober Farm Lane 58

15.5.08 Mr Hamish Tait, 41 Strathblane Road, Milngavie

This is the last edition before the summer recess, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the faithful contributors. Life will reappear in September, copy date will be Sunday 24th August if using the church pigeon hole and definitely no later than Tues 26th if emailing as this is always a very busy issue. A reminder will go into the intimations.

Rona.dawson@go.uk.com

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
1 Jun	P Dudgeon S Lindsay	Cockburn Richell McKinnon	C MacKay R Fraser	Team 4 Stephen Thoms
8 Jun	M Thomson E Izatt	Martin, Whitelaw, Wallis	L Cowie K McKinnon	Team 5 Iris Torbet
15 Jun	A Gibson A MacLeod	Berry, Baxter, Smith	No stall	Team 2 Karen McDonald (c)
22 Jun	M Abbott T Douglas	Wilson, McAuley, Reid	B Watson M Conway	Team 6 Joyce Clark
29 Jun	L Hughes R Buchanan	Boltn, J Deuchar, Lawrie	M Thomson M Ure	Team 7 Ross Deuchar