



St Paul's Milngavie Life Magazine May 2012

Dear Friends,

Last night I saw some stunning views of the earth taken by the Apollo 11 astronauts, a blue and white glowing disc hanging in the deep darkness of space. It spoke of life, beauty and potential, belying the stories that are unfolding daily on its surface.

There are people who are anguished at being overweight when there are others who every day do not know if they will eat at all. There are people who are being encouraged to take more exercise when there are others who daily have to walk miles to the nearest fresh water source. There are people who complain of the effects of their governments policies on their bank balance when there are others who cannot be sure that their governments will uphold basic human rights.

Years ago there was a film entitled 'It's A Mad, Mad, Mad World.' I cannot remember much about it but the title is forever fixed in my mind because in so many ways it is true. And yet this is a world that God not only cares about but has plans for. He did not place the earth in the universe and then abandon it. He has shown this to be true in the mission of His Son Jesus. He came to bring in a new era in the history of the earth when there would be an alternative to all those things that devalue human life and alienate people from God. His life, death and resurrection spoke of transformation. People being changed when they realised that sin need not dominate their lives. Communities being changed when those who possessed material and spiritual resources were moved to share. The earth itself being changed when Christ Himself would act decisively against the darkness and create a new Heaven and a new Earth.

Paul describes Jesus as the 'firstfruits' of the New Creation, our Brother in His humanity and yet not touched by the things that limit our lives and bring pain. This is what God has planned for us. Transformed lives fit for a transformed Creation.

The challenge for us is to live these transformed lives now. Jesus spoke of a Kingdom which would be seen in all its fullness at some future time but he called on his followers to live as Kingdom people now. God cares for the earth and its people. He expects nothing less of us.

***Yours in Christ,
Fergus C Buchanan***

St Rollox Community

Outreach continues to reach out to the local community spiritually and with practical assistance. The project continues to require donations of clothing; household items, household textiles; small electrical items; toys and shoes. Donations can be delivered to St Rollox on a Tues or Wed between 10am and 4pm, on a Thurs between 10am & 12.30pm or I am happy to collect items and deliver them.

St Rollox are also seeing more individuals who require assistance as they have been refused asylum, and are unable or unwilling to return to their home countries. None are entitled to any financial support or housing. They are homeless and destitute, and it is estimated that the number will increase. St Rollox is one of the centres involved with food distribution but resources are limited and it is anticipated that demand will increase.

Sharon Barlow
tel. 0141 942 6929

A Common Story

She comes from Zimbabwe. Her story is similar to that of so many others...

They came in the middle of the night with machetes. Her husband was the main target, the pregnant wife and the terrified children could only look on-would they also die like their father? And why? Because he was a Christian and the Government forces would kill whom they chose - there did not have to be a good reason.

She fled in the night to her sister's house in South Africa but it was so close to the border she was frightened that they would find her in their cross border raids.

She agonised over what to do and finally decided to go to England.

She made plans and bought her airline ticket. She arrived in an airport in London, totally dazed and disorientated. Somehow she found herself with a group of people getting on to a coach. When she got off at the other end she was stopped and taken to a police station and treated kindly. She was told she would have to claim Asylum.

She didn't quite understand all the questions that she was being asked; she could only tell her story and hope that someone would believe her. She was told that she was being sent to Glasgow, Scotland. She was given a bus ticket and the address of the hostel where she was to stay. Somehow she found her way from the bus station to the hostel. She made friends there and within a few months gave birth to her baby daughter, who would never know her father.

She was told she would be moved to a flat in Sighthill. She was so thankful on the day that she moved into her new home. New furniture, a fridge and a washing machine! What luxuries! The housing officer was surprised, no-one ever hugged them and said thank you so sincerely, they were more used to complaints.

She continued to be thankful, a place of Sanctuary, a home, an opportunity to study in college, a church to be her spiritual home.

Her sadness remained; her son was killed in South Africa, just as she had feared. Her daughter hides there, unable to afford the flight to the UK.

But she continues to say 'Thank you' and hope...

Flower donations— May

May flower donations:-
Mrs. C. Buchanan, Miss E. Izatt, Mrs.
M. Robertson, Mr. T. Scott

Please put donations in Flower Rota
pigeon hole at the back of the church
or send to Mrs. Wilma Douglas, 34
Braeside Ave, Milngavie G62
6LJ

Phone 956 2630



Chanan Trust Glasgow are very grateful for the excellent response of the gifts of foodstuff donated by the members of St. Pauls church during the period of Lent.

Your kindness allows God's work to continue on the streets of Glasgow. Please continue to pray for this work and for the workers and volunteers who appreciate the prayers and kindness throughout the year.

Norman Barlow

World Mission Prayer Diary— April

This month let us remember the people who work for The World Mission Council. During May they are preparing their report to be delivered at the General Assembly in Edinburgh. This year their report will focus particularly on China.

The stamp project this year will be supporting the Joint Christian Council for Social Services in Lebanon who run an agricultural project for Palestinian refugees. They would like to teach chicken husbandry and the money raised will enable them to convert an old building into a chicken shed.

Let us remember these refugees in our prayers.

We would also remember the boys in the Mount Olivet Home in Jamaica, where the money from last years 's project was sent.

Pregnancy Crisis Centre

I would like to express my thanks to all who helped at the Glasgow pregnancy Crisis Centre Coffee morning in March/

The support was very much appreciated. The sum of over £520 was reached and also a greater awareness of the function of the centre.

Marilyn Ure



Scottish Bible Society

The amount raised on Bible Sunday was £845.50 which will go towards the work of the Society in Scotland and in Peru.

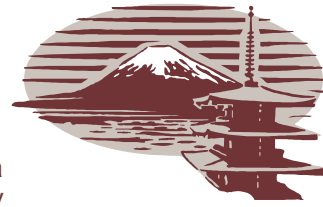
Thank you to everyone who supported this appeal.

Frances Ireland

Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of temptation

Japan Jottings

Dear Friends



Lorna has now been to India and back and had a great time there with the boys. They are busy (hopefully!) preparing for exams which begin during this month. For Daniel these will be his final few weeks at Hebron before he graduates in June and then transitions on to university.

In April we once again held our Easter Festival in Hiragishi. We had a number of games, fun items, and food. There were outdoor activities too so we were glad all the snow had melted and we were blessed with a warm sunny day. We had many children coming who had been to events before and also quite a number of both children and adults coming for the first time. The main section of the event was when one of our OMF colleagues from Brazil shared some hip hop dancing (and we all joined in with some too!) Before that he spoke about why he had come to Japan and told everyone the message of Easter. The next day two of the boys who came to the Easter Festival (and who are Alistair's friends) turned up for our church service too.

Our co-workers the Kochs have now left for a period of home assignment in Germany and we have been joined by a new OMF family, Richard and Catherine East along with their two small children. We look forward to working with them and already they have a number of ideas as to how we can continue to reach out into this area so they can find the way to Jesus.

For the last eight months we have also been covering the role of OMF Director for Hokkaido but thankfully have now been able to pass that on to someone else. That leaves more time and energy to invest in Hiragishi as we go into this fourth year of this new church plant.

Many thanks for your financial and prayer support for us.

With our love

David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair

Spring is sprung, the crocus croaks
In ma tiny windae box,
The yellow daffi hings its heid,
It did indeed,
Why could it not its heiding hing,
And then it would have rhymed with Spring.



To whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life

Heart and Soul 2012

Heart and Soul 2012 is a celebration for the whole Church. All are welcome and the **event is free.**

Heart and Soul 2012 follows the success of Roll Away the Stone which was enjoyed by 5,000 people in May 2011. Heart and Soul is sponsored by the Church of Scotland taking place on **Assembly Sunday 20th May from 1pm – 6pm.**

Events include Battle of the Bands, storytelling, worship and singing, quiet time for reflection and a communion service at St Cuthbert's Church. More information to be found at www.heartandsoul2012.org.uk



St Pauls Book Café- Fergus's Choice

The book choice for the next St Paul's Book Café is 'Simply Jesus' by Tom Wright.

Wright invokes 200 years of Biblical scholarship to show us how we should best retell the story of Jesus today and also to understand who Jesus was and how we should relate to him today.

"Jesus—the Jesus we might discover if we really looked," explains Wright, "is larger, more disturbing, more urgent than we had ever imagined. We have successfully managed to hide behind other questions and to avoid the huge, world-shaking challenge of Jesus's central claim and achievement. As the church faces the many challenges of the twenty-first century, Wright has presented a vision of Jesus that more than meets them.

When? Come along and chat about the book on **Tuesday the 29th of May 2012 at 7.30pm.** buy or order at a price of £6.80 **contact Alex McEwan alexjmcewan@gmail.com or phone/email Helen at the office 956 4405.**



Cherry Blossom Fair Saturday 19th May 10am - 12pm

Once again we are planning to hold our annual Fair to raise money for the Ferguson family. Freshly made pancakes will be available with other home baking to enjoy with your tea and coffee; games and competitions will be on offer for the young folks; there will also be stalls with baking, books and unwanted treasures.

What better way could you spend a Saturday morning? Please come and support the Fergusons!

Words For Life is now available at the usual places around the church and this edition should take you up until 26th May.

In this month's edition is the usual mix of light hearted stories from the internet as well as some proverbs for your daily deliberations. There will also be quotes every other day from the late scholar William Barclay tied in with relevant biblical teaching.

Extra copies will be made available, so look for them at the back of the church near the Strathblane Road door, and out side the office window at the Baldernock Road door. AM

This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me

Jean Sinclair

Jean Sinclair had many challenges to face in the course of her life and yet with her there was always a sense that they would never get the better of her. She was living in the knowledge of her God and trusting in His ways. That was seen in the importance she attached to her attendance at worship here and also in her own personal devotions. During the last week or so of her life conversation was difficult but on one occasion I said to her: 'I'm just going to say a prayer now Jean.' And she said quite distinctly: 'That would be good.' Good to realize the presence of God and to know His comfort and peace.

The faith was part of Jean's life from her earliest days. As she was always keen to remind us, she was born in Ruchill, the daughter of George and Jean Anderson and eventually elder sister to Margaret. The family were members of Ruchill Parish Church and it was there Jean first heard the Gospel and where a life-long interest in the Girl's Brigade was formed, although in her day it was the Girl's Guildry. She eventually became an officer

After school she worked for a time in a bank but then a meeting with David Sinclair set the course for the rest of her life. David was in the motor trade and not long after their marriage they moved to Coventry for a time. Eventually they returned to Scotland and Milngavie became the family home. As a young mother with Derek and Andrew in tow Jean began to make friendships some of which endured right to the end. And she was also quick to become involved in St Paul's where her gifts were more and more appreciated as the

years went on. She sung in the Choir, was involved with Girl's Brigade as Treasurer, was a member of the Guild and in the course of time was ordained as an Elder.

Jean was still a relatively young mother when David was suddenly taken ill and after a short time he passed away. It was a time when all of Jean's natural and spiritual resources had to be called upon, the support of the wider family was much appreciated, and eventually she saw the way forward.

Jean would be the first to say that with all the set-backs there was still much to enjoy in life. She loved music and golf but most of all her family.

As the years went on Jean had a number of health scares, each one leaving her less able to cope on her own. In course of time it became apparent that she needed day to day care and she was admitted to Buchanan House. She was to spend six years there and became one of the best known residents as well as one of the best loved. There were difficult days for her but she was kept going by visits from family and friends.

During this time Jean never went into herself in a morbid way. She was always interested in news of the Church and community and individuals she cared for.

It was sad for us to come to the day of her funeral but we were celebrating a life which was lived in the sound of the Gospel and stood on the greatest promise of all that beyond this life there is completion, renewal and joy in the presence of the Risen Lord. FCB

Church Website

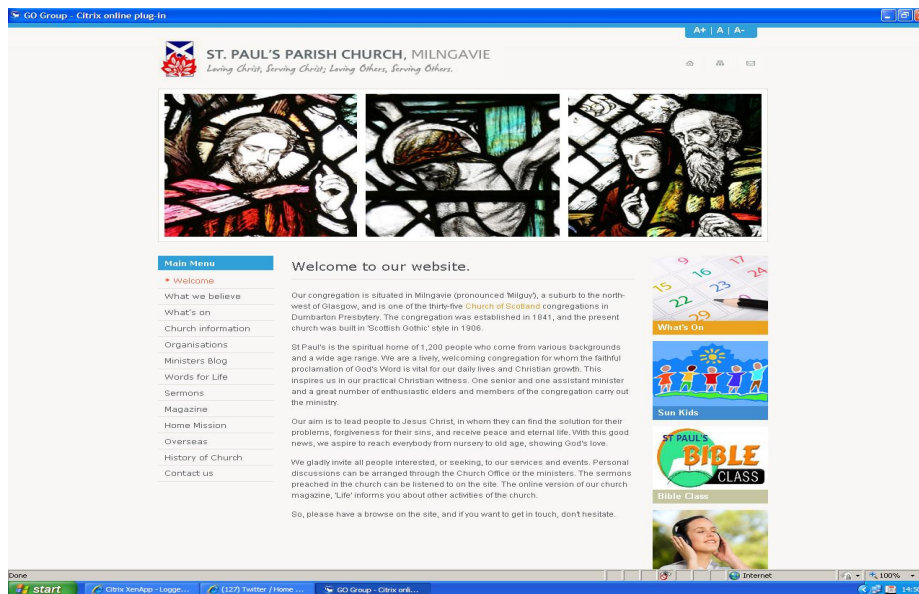
Many readers of Life will have already discovered the new look Church website – but if you haven't, it's still at the same address www.stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk.

We would like to congratulate the team who have put this together over the last year for doing a great job: Thomas James, Stephen Thoms, Peter MacIver, Chris Scott and the Ed. Thanks also to John MacArthur who has continued to update the old website all this time until we could effect the handover.

As you will see each of the church's organisations has a page of its own and we hope that "ownership" of these pages can be handed over to the organisations to keep up to date. Janice MacLean has already posted lots of useful info for the Bible Class and Brigade Blethers are a regular feature on the Girls' Brigade pages. Training is available for anyone who would be interested in taking on this task for their organisation.

Fergus Buchanan has also enthusiastically launched a minister's blog where you can keep up to date with his exploits - and if he ever decides to retire, perhaps he can start a new career as a film/book critic!

The site is still a work in progress, with some archive pages still to be transferred over and there's plenty of scope for your suggestions for new features so please get in touch with one of the team if you have any ideas.



I am the resurrection and the life

King of the Jews

CRUCIFY

Why have you forsaken me?

Yet not my will but yours be done

Again Peter denied it and at that minute the cock crowed

It is finished

Golgotha
Cethsemane

Hosanna

I am the resurrection and the life

St Paul's Church Society Annual Summer Outing - Alloway Parish Church

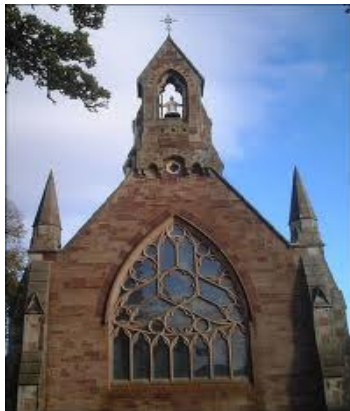
On Saturday 12th May our coach will leave from Milngavie Station at 12.00noon, to visit Alloway Parish Church and Robert Burns Birthplace Museum.

This promises to be a full and really interesting day out; Cost is £31, and £25 for those who have National Trust Membership.

This includes return Coach Travel, Light Lunch, entry to Burns Cottage & Museum and Alloway Parish Church; High Tea, and all gratuities.

For availability, please phone a Committee Member – 956 2164; 956 5712; 584 9993.

Iris Torbet



Brigade Blethers

Incredibly, this will be the last wee Blether for this session. Folks ask why Brigade finishes off in April and the answer is that the all important exams begin in May.

As always my last report is all about the awards which the girls will receive on Thursday 26th but as Life is not published till May only the Editor will know our secrets.

As all of our Explorers are stars it is appropriate that their badges are Bronze, Silver and Gold stars. We always single out the squad which has worked just that little bit harder than the others and this year the girls are Meira Jardine, Alex Parlane, Sophie Perrett and Beth Rushforth.

Juniors work for Circles and Diamonds and their best squad is Jennifer Cockburn, Sarah Dougall, Esther Fletcher and Eden Wilson. Another Junior, Sophie Wallis won the Chaplain's Cup for Best Sunday Attendance; Isla MacKinnon took the shield for Junior Drill; Nicola Berry came first in the spiritual competition for the Anne Faith Memorial Trophy and the Best Junior Over-all this year is Eden Wilson. Few words but lots of hard work! Well done girls!

That brings us to the oldest girls - the Brigaders. These girls really do have "stickability". I have just added up their combined years' of service in the Company and it comes to 95 years. Brigaders don't work in squads

but we keep an eye open for the girls who "go the extra mile". This year we commend Alison Cockburn, Kayleigh Galloway, Alanna McArdle, Nicolle McArdle; Isla Robinson and Megan Reilly. Kayleigh Galloway was the best at Keep-fit in the S1/3 group; Alison Cockburn was best Keep-fit in the S4 + group; Alison Biggart was awarded the Shield for Brigader Drill and the Jennifer MacIntyre Memorial Cup went to Alanna McArdle. Nicolle McArdle was chosen as the Best Over-all S1/3 Brigader and our Best S4+ Brigader was Alanna McArdle.

Alison Cockburn, Alanna McArdle and Alice Robinson all gained their Brigader Brooches this year. This is the highest award a girl can gain within the Company so it is quite an achievement. Last, but not least, Alison Biggart was presented with an award for 13 years' continuous service. Alison gained her Brigader Brooch last year and we are delighted that she has already started her Basic Officer Training along with Sarah Graham and Sandra Kay, two of our auxiliaries. Do I see retirement on the horizon?

This has been a particularly happy year in Brigade and this has been due to the enthusiasm of the girls, the hours of hard work put in by the leaders and the support and prayers we receive from parents and our Church family. Have a wonderful summer

God Bless, Anne Goodlet



Why do you look for the living among the dead?

Christian Aid Week

This year Christian Aid Week is from 13th to 19th May and as usual we are looking for collectors.



Look out for the sign-up sheet which will be at the back of the church. The committee are also looking for new members to join as we have lost a few in recent years.

This is not a huge commitment and if you are interested please contact **Gordon Campbell** 563 0377.



Huge change is taking place in the town of Gbap (pronounced bap), Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world. More than half the population live on less than 80p/€0.95. Ten years of brutal civil war has severely hampered development. With little infrastructure in many areas, it is one of the hungriest places in the world.

Pray with Us

You and your church can be part of a prayer moment for Christian Aid Week that everyone can see. We're asking you to stop, reflect and text the word or phrase that's in your heart to 70788. From 13th May your words will appear on the Christian Aid website prayer page—along with others— as they create a mass prayer moment for Christian Aid Week.

Step 1

Text your prayer to **70788**



Prayers can be up to 10 words long

Step 2

We send you a confirmation text containing a weblink



Prayers are anonymous & texts cost your standard network rate

Step 3

You use the link to visit our amazing prayer visualisation webpage



Step 4

View prayers from people taking part all over the country!



Christian Aid works entirely through local partners – organisations on the ground – who know the needs of the communities in which they work. The Methodist Church of Sierra Leone is one such partner.

It encouraged the community to set up a village development committee that gave the community a channel through which to make their voices heard. Power structures in Sierra Leone .../

My kingdom is not of this world

are complex, and the voices of women and younger adults, in particular, have traditionally been ignored.

At the same time, MCSL also looked at the small town's farming output and set up a food production group. It provided seeds and some basic tools – hoes and farming knives – which were distributed by the committee. It helped the group to cultivate the vast floodplain outside the town. By doing this, they developed a communal rice farm in addition to a cassava plot. The benefits of being properly fed speak for themselves: but the security of being fed has allowed the community to think beyond mere survival.

Helped by MCSL, the people of Gbap lobbied for government funding to improve life in their small town. An agricultural work centre will house machinery with which the people can process their raw produce and command a higher price at market.

Children in Gbap can also now look forward to a brighter future. A new school building is a long overdue replacement for the previous building, which was cramped, termite-ridden and structurally unsafe. It opened this school year, and is complete with latrines and a new kitchen.

Around the world, Christian Aid is giving people the tools to help themselves out of poverty.

The Playgroup and Beyond...

It is sad that the Playgroup is having to close after 40 years, having benefitted many of our children and grandchildren.

When one door closes, however, maybe it is time for a window of opportunity to open. It has been suggested that there could be a demand for some sort of Mother / Father / Grandparent & toddler group to be run in our halls as part of our congregational outreach.



To this end I have been asked by the Kirk Session to ascertain whether there would be support for such a venture. I have arranged therefore to ask any one interested in the idea whether as would be users or helpers to meet after the morning service in the East transept on Sunday 13th May. It would also be helpful to hear by phone if you support this venture or if you would like to be part of it. Is there anybody out there with experience of such a group?

Rosemary Fraser 956 3222 or the Church Office 956 4405

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you.

C H U R C H R E G I S T E R

NEW MEMBERS Joined by Profession

Miss Alison MacLean, 20 Craigash Quadrant	64
Dr Elizabeth Rosbottom, 21 Roselea Drive	8
Miss Rachel Rutherford, 46 Keystone Quad	42

Joined by Resolution

Mrs Elspeth Burns, 9 Ladywood	6
-------------------------------	---

DISJUNCTIONS

Mr & Mrs Alastair Wilkie, 21 Baldernock Road	1
Mr & Mrs I McKay, 77 Falloch Road, Milngavie	63

DEATHS

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

06.4.12 Mr Alexander Buchanan, 7 Shaw Road, Milngavie	
16.4.12 Mrs Ann McNab, 18 Cloberfield Gardens	
18.4.12 Mr Charles Mees, Fairview Court	
22.4.12 Mrs Jane Rennie, 36 Buchanan Street	3

Please note copy date (the last date for submissions) for June Life is Sunday 20th May if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 23rd if emailing. Email to rona.dawson@go.uk.com or ph 944 4198. Please remember that June is the last issue before the break and we usually publish summer rotas and activities in advance so please let the Ed know if you've got something organised.

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
6 May	A Galloway J Townson	Berry Reid	A Begg J MacLean	Team 9 Helen Arnold
13 May	M McIntyre M Spencer	Chapman Wilson	J MacIntyre M Fewell	Team 10 Bill Marshall (EC)
20 May	P Dudgeon S Lindsay	McCreadie Sillars	R Cameron M Thoms	Team 3 Colin Grant
27 May	M Thomson E Izatt	Goodlet McKinnon	C MacKay E Izatt	Team 4 Elizabeth Bragg
3 Jun	A Gibson A MacLeod	Cockburn Deuchar	L Cowie C McKinnon	Team 5 Gordon Fairbrother