

Life At St. Paul's Milngavie February 2023



Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you well. I know that Spring is on the way when I can pick a small bunch of snowdrops to give to my friend for her birthday on 7th February. Going out into the garden the other day I was delighted to find that the snowdrops were pushing their way up through the ground, their little white heads just beginning to bend over... "The Maids of February." If the weather keeps as mild as it has been lately, I am sure that I will be able to pick a small bunch for Linda's birthday. They are her favourite flowers! Not to be outdone by the snowdrops, I noticed that the purple crocus and the Tete a Tete daffodils are pushing through too.

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday which is on 22nd February this year. Lent takes us on a journey – a journey with Jesus, the journey from the days of temptation in the desert; to the cleansing of the temple; to the triumphant entry into Jerusalem; to the Garden of Gethsemane and finally to the cross of Calvary.

It has been said that there are three elements that are almost always part of Lent: prayer, giving something up and giving something back. We will perhaps do one or all of these.

No matter what we do during the Season of Lent, we travel knowing that "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning". Words of wisdom from the Book of Lamentations.

As the days grow a little longer and Spring begins to show herself, I hope you feel the love of the Lord every new day.

Blessings to you and yours,

Barbara

Future Services

05 February
12 February
19 February
26 February
5 March

Morning

Lorna Ferguson
Rev John Campbell
Bobb McKinnon
Rev Tina Kemp
Rev Barbara O' Donnell

Evening

Robin Easton
Rev Paul Read
Rev Paul Read
Stephen Thoms
The Guild

Presbytery Plan

Presbytery has cancelled the additional conference session, on Saturday 4th February, 2023, which was to consider any revisions to the draft plan and to approve a final plan.

Representatives of the Presbytery Planning Committee will now hold a series of separate meetings with the Kirk Sessions of the churches of Bearsden, Milngavie and Clydebank to talk about the proposals as they currently stand and to hear the views of the Kirk Sessions.

Presbytery proposed to issue a revised draft plan on 1st March and to hold a meeting on the 18th March which will be a special meeting of presbytery where only Presbytery Planning matters will be considered.

Graham Mill

Session Clerk

Lent

The Saturday morning half-hour Services, starting at 9.30am, will be held from 11th March to 1st April.

Holy Week

The holy Week services will be held in the Allander Evangelical Church from Monday 3rd April to Friday 7th April. The speaker will be Sandy Roger. More details next month.

The Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation will take place in March, 2023. At this meeting the Accounts for year ended 31st December, 2022 will be received and members will be elected to the Congregational Board. There are a number of vacancies on the Board and if you or any member you know, would like to serve in this way please contact Lachie McNeill, Clerk to the Board, for further information.

Flower Donations - January



Thank you for the Flower Donations given in Memory for the month of January

Mrs R McGowan.

Please address donations to Treasurer, Mrs Barbara Lawson and clearly mark "For The Flower Fund". Donations can be left in the Flower Guild pigeon hole at the back of the Church, or in the offering plate marked for The Flower Fund



Congratulations to:

Donald Martin who celebrated his 100th birthday on Sunday 29th January.

Derek Norval, BEM, Dip.Mus.Ed, RSAM, LRAM, LTCL, ALCM on 60 years as a church organist (not all in St Paul's).

Thank You

I would like to thank my friends at St Paul's for all the lovely visits, flowers, cards, letters and phone calls I have received since Eric's death. They have brought me so much comfort.
God Bless

Anne Goodlet

'Lorna and I would like to thank the congregation for the gift of flowers and for the many kind messages and offers of help and prayer during my recent influenza illness. Although Lorna also caught the infection fortunately, she was less severely affected.

Roy Sutherland

Guild News



Our New Year got off to a wonderful start with our postponed Christmas Lunch. Because of snowy conditions the original date was postponed to January 9th, the day of our first meeting. This proved to be very successful and, apart from enjoying the excellent lunch and very moving talk, members enjoyed being in the Large Hall. Our speaker from CHAS is one of several volunteers who work for the organisation, and she recounted some of her experiences helping families facing the most difficult of situations.

The following week we had a stimulating and very informative presentation from Professor Gordon Dutton, an eye specialist, who described some of the common sight problems of the older generation, always enlivened by helpful illustrations and practical demonstrations. On January 23rd, two days short of Burns Night, our speaker, Jim Russell, well known to many, gave a fascinating talk about the life and times of Burns which included many references to contemporary people and issues, as well as little-known facts about the Bard and his family. Our final talk in January will be from Val Brown who will describe life and work in Israel and Palestine.

On February 6th the subject of Chris Barlas, the assistant minister at New Kilpatrick Church, will be 'My Story'. On the 13th Iain White will make a welcome return and his presentation will be about The Netherlands.

On the 20th Carol Boyd will set our pulses racing with Chairobics! On February 27th Brian Atkinson, a member of Baldernock Church, will talk about Glasgow's Green Places.

We want to give advance notice of our Coffee Morning on Saturday March 18th and we encourage you all to note the date in your diaries. Our last Coffee Morning was a significant event just before lockdown, so we hope that this will be just as memorable, but for different reasons. Everyone is welcome at all our events.

St. Pauls' Church Holiday Fellowship

12th-16th June, 2023. Harrogate and glorious Yorkshire.

A warm welcome and thank you to all 42 who are travelling with us. Applications have now closed. There are no further single rooms available, and doubles/twins now cost an extra £25 per night. Deposits have now been paid to the company.

Anne Ritchie

Organiser

Men's Association

The Association will be meeting in the Jubilee Hall during February, getting together for tea/coffee plus a home made nibble from 7.15pm till 7.30pm and then the speaker.

The first meeting is on Tuesday 7th February when the speaker is Stuart Whitelaw who will be speaking about "Dreams or Dramas in the Cockpit." As you may realise, Stuart is an airline pilot and is married to Nimmi, one of our Elders. The second meeting is on Tuesday 21st February when our guest is Bill Kean from Clydebank who will be doing "A Photographic Presentation."

As usual, the meetings are open to all in the Congregation and everyone will be made very welcome.

CrossReach News

The latest edition of CrossReach News is now on the stands.

Please take a copy and update yourself on the various projects in which the Kirk's Social Care Council is involved. These include help for those made vulnerable by homelessness, dementia or learning difficulties. Read about the prison visitor centres at Perth and Polmont and the Moderator's round of visits to various locations.

ABBNEYFIELD BEARSDEN

Some of our congregation have in the past moved to Abbeyfield Bearsden, a charity in Grange Road, which is a home-from-home in a lovely Bearsden villa, providing sheltered accommodation with like-minded people aged 60 plus.

They are now looking for a part-time cook on Fridays and Saturdays 9-2 and 4-7 and on Sundays 10-3. Pay is £11.90 an hour. The time could be divided to suit more than one person.

I wondered if any of the congregation knew of someone suitable for the post. The charity was started in the 19th century to combat loneliness at home and is based on Christian principles.

If you know of anyone, please contact me at anrit521@gmail.com

World Mission News

The World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) is accepting applications for its internship programme. This opportunity will give highly qualified young people an opportunity to gain valuable experience working with an international ecumenical organisation.

The internship will run for 12 months, based in the WCRC offices in Hannover, Germany, beginning in June or September 2023. Applications must be in by Friday 10th February.

The programme is open to English-speaking individuals of WCRC member churches who are aged 30 or younger, including ministers, seminarians, or Christian professionals with an interest in working for their churches or the ecumenical movement at any level. The internship will offer a chance to gain experience working in areas such as advocacy, justice (including economic, climate, gender and racial justice), communications, ecumenical engagement, mission and theology.

Find out more at: <http://wrc.ch/news>

Jim McQueen

On 27th December in 1939 Jim came into the world. His school days passed – doing very well at Coatbridge High School – he went on to study at Glasgow University gaining an Honours Degree in Physics.

Jim's career started at Barr and Stroud in Research and Development. Teacher training called and Jim went to Greenock High School to teach Physics. He then moved to Lochaber High School as Department Head. From 1972 until his retirement Jim taught at Lenzie Academy. Teaching was in his blood – he worked for the Exam Board marking and then setting the examination questions.

He enjoyed going out to schools to assess the 6th year study projects. Students were important to Jim – he also enjoyed helping out at the Christmas Dances!

Jim met Pat at the Albert Ballroom in Glasgow in January 1968. They married on 7th July 1970, settled in Fort William and were delighted to welcome Alastair into the world in 1976.

Moving to Milton of Campsie Jim became an elder in the parish church. Four years later he transferred to St Paul's, where he served as Free Will Offering Convener from 1996 to 2016 and for many years could be seen at the sound desk on a Sunday morning. As well as a member of the Kirk Session, Jim was a member of the Congregational Board for many years.

Jim had several hobbies. He kept tropical fish from an early age and was a member of the Glasgow Astronomical Society. Jim enjoyed ballroom dancing, sailing, especially on Loch Ard, and photography.

He loved the West Coast of Scotland especially around the Crinan canal and the stretch around Cairnbaan. He was very interested in the history of the standing stones and the wildlife in the area.

Jim wasn't sporty, he couldn't kick a ball, but he could swim a mile two or three times a week at the Allander Centre and even had a gym membership.

He was passionate about maths and was one of those people who read instructions thoroughly before proceeding with any project.

He didn't do spontaneous – he did research.

In some ways Jim was a quiet man, with a quiet sense of humour. He was always on hand to answer Alastair's questions about electronics and was very proud when Alastair graduated as a Mechanical Engineer in 1998.

His science background meant that Jim paid attention to detail – he could always be relied upon to finish a project once he had started it.

Jim had many facets to his life – a diamond of a man. His life was a life well lived, a full life with a focus on his family and His church. Jim was a man of deep faith.

The world is a lesser place with his passing.

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Copy Date

Copy date for the March edition is Wednesday **22nd** February

Please send any articles to st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com

Date	Flower Deliveries
5th February	S. Anderson A. Gillies
12th February	P. Barlow S. Robertson
19th February	M. Conway K. Edwards
26th February	A. Galloway L. Cowie