

# Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

September 2024



Dear Friends,

I'm delighted to be here finally as your new minister and what a joy the Induction service was! The Spirit of the living God was tangible and folks that wouldn't normally come to church were moved by the depth of the worship and the sense of anticipation in the sanctuary. A big thank you again for everyone that made this event happen. Thank you also for the caring and considerate welcome that has been given to both myself and to the manse family. This thanks extends to Rev Barbara O'Donnell who has guided and supported me well through the nomination process to the Induction.

At present, I don't have the opportunity to stay after the service for tea and coffee but please do get in touch with me if I can support you or someone you know, pastorally or spiritually. Please don't hold back if you have something with which you need support. I'm happy to be phoned or e-mailed and there is also the opportunity to pop-in and see me during the two weekly vestry slots. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all!

A sentence from the Bible that I have been meditating on this week comes from the book Isaiah where God announces:  
**'I am doing a new thing...do you not perceive it?'**

Well, the answer to this question is: 'Yes God, I do perceive it!' I was very much guided to respond to the call to become your next new minister because I felt God leading the way.

I felt God stir up inside me a sense of anticipation, excitement, and joy that His Holy Spirit was again moving over this church and Baldernock. With this comes an image of people being spiritually pulled into church because they want to encounter the presence of the living God for themselves. We eat daily to receive physical nourishment and yet many are starving spiritually and going through life with the lights out — God is going to show people just how hungry they are for Him — and God will use us to achieve this.

As a people of God, I hope we will have the courage, commitment, and faith to partner with God in His plans and purposes for our Parish. Over the next couple of weeks and months as a church we will be seeking the presence of God asking Him for revelation about the next chapter for St. Paul's.

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In this process, we will also be giving thanks for the ministries and out-reach activities/events that have successfully served this church and community in years gone-by. And with this we will respectfully remember the many faithful people of God (past and present) that have kept this church being an active, living community of grace for so many years.

When we acknowledge that 'God is doing a new thing' it does not mean what we did in the past was wrong but that in the passing of the seasons there needs to be a birthing of something fresh that speaks to the new generation of life in Jesus' name.

As mentioned in the passage from Isaiah, it can be all too easy to catch our minds dwelling on the 'former things' and the way things used to be. However, we know this way of thinking can cause us to become stagnant, stayed in the past or too full of woe. Instead, God gives us an alternative: we can see that God is doing a 'new thing' and wants to breathe life back into His people and Church and this renewed joy naturally spills out onto others.

It takes courage to say goodbye to something that is now out of season, but in the stepping away (letting go) we are making room for God to do something else.

As children of God, we should always be moving in tandem with our heavenly Father, growing in our love for Him but also growing in our desire to bring other people into the Kingdom of God. How we do this, will change with the seasons; but always anchored from His Holy Word. God loves all His children and wants to use us to reach those that haven't yet surrendered their heart to Jesus. This will always be the mission of God's people.

A question we will explore in more depth at our church mission conference, after worship on Sunday 20th October (save this date – lunch is provided(!) and there will be more information on the conference in the forthcoming weeks), is this:

**What 'new things' do you hope for, for your church and community?**

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Isaiah 43: 16- 21

16 This is what the Lord says —  
he who made a way through the sea,  
a path through the mighty waters,  
17 who drew out the chariots and horses,  
the army and reinforcements together,

and they lay there, never to rise again,  
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:

18 Forget the former things;  
do not dwell on the past.

19 See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland.

20 The wild animals honour me,  
the jackals and the owls,  
because I provide water in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland,  
to give drink to my people, my chosen,

21 the people I formed for myself  
that they may proclaim my praise.

And finally, please don't think you are too old for this 'new thing'!

Partnering with the living God is for people of all ages and stages and God can and will use all of us no matter who we are. And something we can all do now is to pray— to pray for your church (and Baldernock) and our community.

Please pray also for myself, as your new minister (and the manse family) that God will guide and direct me to honour Him in my service to you.

Keep in touch,  
Lynsey x

E-mail: [LBrennan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:LBrennan@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Manse Telephone No: 0141 588 6023



## **Harvest Thanksgiving**

The Harvest Thanksgiving service will take place  
on Sunday 22nd September.

Donations can be delivered to the Church  
between  
10:00 - 11.30am on Saturday 21st  
or on the Sunday morning.

**Pew Posies:** If you are able to assist in the making of pew  
posies please come along to the Jubilee Hall on  
Friday 20th September at 10am  
... and bring a pair of scissors!

Food items will be donated to The Salvation Army Wallace of Campsie  
Lifeshouse which is a hostel for single men. The men have access to  
individual cooking facilities so easy cook items and tinned goods are  
ideal. Tea, coffee, chocolate biscuits and treats are always welcome too.

Other food donations will be given to West Dunbartonshire Community  
Foodshare based in Clydebank.

Money donations will go to the Trussell Trust - East Dunbartonshire which  
covers Milngavie, Bishopbriggs, Kirkintilloch & Lennoxton. The Trussell  
Trust supports a nationwide network of foodbanks and provides  
emergency food and support to those locked in poverty and campaign for  
change to end the need for foodbanks in the UK. There are more than  
1,300 foodbank centres in the network providing food and support to  
people who have been referred by advice agencies such as GPs, Social  
Work Services and schools to help resolve the crisis they face.

**Elizabeth McEwan**

## Induction

Thank you to all who were involved in the service  
on Tuesday 13th August.

Too many to mention individually but you know who you are.  
Your contribution large or small, made it a service to remember.

**Graham Mill, Session Clerk**



The monthly breakfasts have been reintroduced starting at 8am  
and will take place as follows:

Saturday 28 September – Allander

Saturday 26 October – United Free

Saturday 30 November – St .Paul's

All welcome to join this time of prayer and reflection.

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper



The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be  
celebrated on Sunday, 6 October during the  
morning service lead by the Rev Lynsey Brennan.

The white linen cloths will be on alternate pews and  
we would ask you to sit only in these pews. This will  
allow an elder to serve you with bread and wine from  
the pew in front. There will be stewards to assist you and we hope that this  
will not distract from the meaning of the celebration.

District Elders will not be distributing cards for this service.

# DOORS OPEN DAYS 2024

St.Paul's will be taking part in the  
East Dunbartonshire Doors Open Days  
on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September.  
Open Saturday 10am – 4pm and 12pm – 4 pm on Sunday.

Refreshments will be available in the hall  
with some musical items in the church throughout the weekend.

If you can help with stewarding or in the tearoom  
please contact the Church Office.

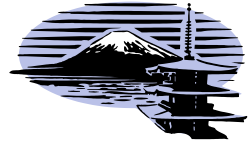
## Coffee Mornings

There will be a coffee morning in the Large Hall  
on the 1st Saturday of each month from 10am - 12 noon.

Saturday 7th September - Doors Open Day  
Saturday 5th October - tbc  
Saturday 2nd November - The Men's Association  
Saturday 7th December - Christmas

All welcome to join us  
for a time of  
fellowship.





Dear Friends

*The best laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft a-gley*

So wrote Robert Burns some 240 years ago in his famous poem, 'To a Mouse'. I am sure that many of us can relate to this statement. I certainly can at the moment. I am not a planner by nature. Whilst I like to have a general idea in my mind of how things could work out, I prefer to leave the detailed planning until much closer to the time, in case anything changes. This sometimes drives people I work with a little round the bend, and is definitely not a good fit with Japanese culture which likes having every detail finalised well in advance.

I made an exception to my usual practice with the plan to hand over my leadership role. My successor was appointed at the end of last year. I then started some informal training before she went on a 6-month Home Assignment. She was due to return to Japan in August and we had a detailed plan of how to hand over my role in September and October. However, in June we suddenly heard that she is delayed in coming back to Japan, and can no longer take on my role. After various discussions and prayer, we have approached someone else who is willing to take on the role, but they can't start until next year. So now I am trying to work out some sort of interim solution involving a variety of people taking on different parts of my role, scrambling a little since there is not much time left. I must admit that there are times when I have thought, "This is why it's not worth planning things in advance" and a feeling of vindication that my usual way of operating does indeed have its advantages! I am reminded of the verse in Proverbs that, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps" (16:9). There is nothing wrong with planning, but we do not know what will happen tomorrow, let alone next month or next year. God, however, does. He knows what is coming round the corner for us, either personally, as a family, or as a church. We see many times in the Bible when people were making their own plans, but God actually had a different course mapped out. The key question when things don't work out as we have planned is whether we will trust that God is the one establishing our steps. That, as Paul writes to the Ephesians, "...we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (2:10).

May God be the one to establish all of our steps and show us the good works which he has prepared for us to do.

With love and prayers from Lorna and Alistair

**Do you know anything about there being a  
British Restaurant in St. Paul's, Milngavie  
during The Second World War?**

Sarah Paton has been in touch with us recently looking for some help!

Sarah is currently part of a research team looking into the wartime British Restaurant which was a programme set up during The Second World War to ensure everyone had access to affordable and nutritious meals.

In looking though archives, Sarah has discovered that there was definitely a British Restaurant in Milngavie, but the only lead she can find to its location is an article which mentions St. Paul's.

The British Restaurant in Milngavie would have been set up fairly close to the start of The Second World War, and certainly before 1942.

This article (apologies for poor print quality) is taken from the *Milngavie and Bearsden Herald*, believe to be printed in 1943.

The article is a bit confusing because it never fully states that St. Paul's was used as a British Restaurant. It may have been used as a rest centre or an information centre rather than as a British Restaurant.

It would have made sense for St. Paul's to be the location of a British Restaurant as buildings like churches were often used. Perhaps it was made one after this point, as the paper implies the intention of that.

If you can shed any light on this, please get in touch with me and I can collate information to forward to Sarah.

**Hilary Rutherford**

Church Office: [st.pauls@btconnect.com](mailto:st.pauls@btconnect.com) 0141 956 4405

## PARISH CHURCH HALL AS INFORMATION CENTRE.

The Town Clerk, reporting on the question of emergency relief organisation, said the County Council, through the agency of the Public Assistance Officer at Hillfoot, were negotiating some details for a new scheme which were, apparently, being kept from the Town Council, and, in view of the services which the Council had already rendered in the emergency last March, they felt that they were entitled to be kept informed as to the new arrangements that were being made. It appeared that some mistake had been made in Edinburgh, where the Parish Church Hall had been registered as a Parish Church Hall and also as St. Paul's Church Hall, one of which had been designated as a British Restaurant and also as a Rest Centre. They were only entered for one purpose, and it was earmarked as a Rest Centre.

## Badminton Club

Club nights resume  
on Tuesday 3rd September in the Large Hall.  
Matches start from 7.30pm



We try to cater for a wide range of playing abilities.  
New members will be most welcome so do come along and  
give it a try .... even if it's been years since you last held a  
badminton racket!

## Lunch Club



Come join us at the Lunch Club on 4th September when  
we will be serving Golden Vegetable Soup, along with  
other delights.

All are welcome at the Lunch Club from 12:00 - 1:00 most Wednesdays.

We have many volunteers in St. Paul's but the Lunch Club is in need of  
more help both ladies and gents. If you can help please let me know.

**Ann MacLeod** (07803934688)

## Book Club

This time we decided to widen the scope of the book choice and this  
month's discussion is centred on any book by Louise Penny. She has  
written 19 books so there were plenty to choose from! The library, as  
usual, was extremely accommodating and held 10 of them for us.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 8 October when we will be discussing  
*The Devotion of Suspect X* by Keigo Higashino which is advertised as  
the Japanese thriller phenomenon.

If you would like to join us please  
contact the Church office for more  
details.

**Joyce Clark**



## Church Choir

Practices for the Church Choir resume on Thursday 19th September in the Church from 7.45pm until 9.15pm.

New members will be made most welcome, especially at this time with so many new things happening in our church.

Singers are needed in all sections of the choir but especially in the soprano and alto sections. We have a healthy number of members who will always be pleased to encourage any volunteers and help them to get used to the wide range of music we learn.

There is no audition!

If you enjoy singing and you would like to help us lead the musical praise on Sunday mornings, please come along.

Further details from the Choirmaster, **Derek Norval** (07814 389262) or from members of the choir.



## Praise Band

We are planning to re-introduce a Praise Band into some of our services. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in taking part, please contact **Derek Norval** (07814 389262).

Music will be provided with parts written out to suit individual players.

## New Kitchen and Logo Mugs

Many of you will know we have had a lovely kitchen installed over the summer. Why don't you come and join us for a coffee /tea after the morning service where you can see our new kitchen?

You'll also be able to drink from our new St Paul's logo mugs which are made from very nice fine bone china!

Already many of you have asked if they will be for sale. We are delighted to say that the mugs will be available for sale in the Large Hall after the Sunday services and will also be available at our forthcoming Coffee Mornings. They are priced at £5 each which is a bargain for such a beautiful mug. The mug would make a great birthday present or a precious memento for anyone with St. Paul's connections.

Please contact **Jackie Pirie** (07831 835 942)  
if you require more information.



## Guild News

The new Guild session begins on  
Monday, 7th October with a musical afternoon  
led by David Sturgeon.

As usual we have a busy and interesting syllabus planned.

Plans are also underway for the 125th Anniversary of the Guild in St. Paul's in 2025.

Everyone is most welcome to join us on a Monday afternoon at 2pm in the Large Hall for fellowship and of course a cuppa.

Details of speakers can be found in the weekly intimations.

**Elizabeth McEwan**



**Congratulations**

**to**

**Sheila and Roy Prentice**

**on their**

**Diamond Wedding Anniversary (4th September)**



**The happy couple were married  
in the Glasgow University Chapel  
&  
enjoyed their wedding reception  
at the Grosvenor Hotel, Gordon Street.**

**Thank you**

Ian Dunlop & family would like to record their sincere thanks to everyone in the congregation of St. Paul's Church involved in Shirley's funeral arrangements and to the wider congregation for their cards and messages of support. A special thanks to Rev. Barbara O'Donnell for her caring and sensitive services at the crematorium and the church.

The logo features the word "Walk" in a large, bold, orange font, with "for Bibles" in a smaller, dark blue font below it. To the left of the text is a vertical bar with a color gradient from yellow at the top to dark blue at the bottom.

# Walk for Bibles



Join us for the first ever Scottish Bible Society Walk for Bibles, as we take part in the **Edinburgh Kiltwalk on 15th September 2024**. There are three Kiltwalk walking lengths:

- Mighty Stride 21 miles (£20 Entry Fee)
- Big Stroll 11 miles (£20 Entry Fee)
- Wee Wander 5 miles (£12.50 Entry Fee for Adults, £6.50 for Children)

There's an opportunity for everyone of all ages to Walk for Bibles.  
(Children must be accompanied by an adult).

Signing up is easy:

1. Register for the [Edinburgh Kiltwalk](#) and pay your entry fee.
2. Let us know that you are join us for the Kiltwalk!
3. Sign up for a [Justgiving page](#). You can then link your Justgiving page to the main SBS Walk for Bibles fundraising page. Go to the SBS fundraising page ([Justgiving/walkforbibles2024](#)) and click the 'start fundraising' tab.

As easy as that!

# CHURCH REGISTER

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## Flower Donations

Thank you for the Flower Donations given in Memory:  
Mrs V. McGuiness



Please address donations to:

Treasurer, Mrs Barbara Lawson & 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".

## Copy Date

The copy date for the October issue is  
**Wednesday, 25 September**

Please send any articles to  
[st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com)