St Paul's Milngavie Life Magazine June 2011

Dear Friends,

I am writing just a few days before I attend the General Assembly as a Commissioner so the outcome of some important debates is unknown.

I have tried to work my way through the usual Blue Book of Assembly reports in the last week and have experienced the usual mixture of appreciation, bemusement and concern. Buried in one report is a quotation from a Canadian writer named Dave Barker who, I must confess, I had never heard of. He writes:

'On Friday I did something I haven't done in a while: I went to Church . . . it's one of the few spaces left where a community can exercise a collective pause. It's a place whose (often unacknowledged) purpose is to nurture wisdom. The long pause, the slow draw of breath, these are deep acts of resistance in a world that has speeded up perhaps beyond our control.'

I was fascinated by this lapsed church-goer's appreciation of what he found in the place of worship he attended. First, he found a place where mentally and spiritually he could draw breath in the midst of the pressures of life. Second, he found a place where he could receive 'wisdom'.

That is an image of the Church which I can relate to and, really, it embraces the whole principle of 'the Sabbath'. Yes, I know that it is not necessary that we observe the Sabbath as the Jews of Jesus' day did. But there is no doubt that the Lord's Day, the first day of the week, was special to the first Christians. It was a day for 'the long pause, the slow draw of breath', a day for worship, a day to receive wisdom from God through the reading and preaching of the Scriptures. Furthermore, the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews makes it plain that time and again that 'meeting together' is vital to the spiritual health of individual Christians.

There has never been a time when this 'meeting together' has been more important. It's a sign that our vision of God comes through the life and witness of Jesus Christ. It's a sign that our values do not come from any political or cultural

source but the wisdom of God. But beyond the 'collective pause' we never forget that there is a world which stands in need of renewal and that only the preaching of Christ and the application of his values can advance this.

Whatever happens at this year's Assembly this is a vision we must pursue.

Yours,

Fergus C Buchanan

St Paul's Watercolour Cards.

Owing to public demand I have changed some of the cards available at the back of the church and some of the cards now have " get well soon" and "praying for you" messages.

The get well card has a biblical reading inside saying, James 5 14-15 The Prayer of Faith: "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up."

The Praying for you Card will have the scripture reading Isaiah 41 verse 10
"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

If there are no cards there that you want just ask Alex McEwan and he can have the card delivered to you within 24 hours or it can be picked up from Helen at The Church Office.

MAF Flying for Life | Mission Aviation Fellowship

Sponsored 10k Run
On Saturday 17th September MAF are organising a Sponsored 10k run in Strathclyde Country Park from 12.30pm - 3.30pm. All the money raised will be divided between 5 different charities bringing hope to Africa. If you want to know more about it please visit their website
www.maf-uk.org/runningtherace11

The People's Bible

As most people must be aware by now, it's 400 years since the King James Bible was published.

These days the Bible is freely available in our culture, but not widely read. This summer, the *People's Bible*, a joint venture between the Bible Society in England and Wales and the Scottish Bible Society, will be bringing the Bible back to Britain's high streets. A national tour will take place offering everyone the opportunity to use one of the scribe pods to handwrite a couple of verses and make their mark in history.

The tour begins at Edinburgh Castle on 19th June, the anniversary of James VI & I's birth and will be in

- Glasgow 27th June and 1st July
- Glasgow again from 14th – 19th September.
- Bishopbriggs, Kirkintilloch and Lenzie from 10th – 12th September
- It is hoped to bring the pod to Milngavie on Tuesday 20th September. Look out for more details in the intimation sheets and in September 'Life'

There are opportunities for volunteers to help in scribe pods when the tour comes and the organisers are still looking for suitable public venues (such as shopping centres, football grounds, high streets) so if you have an idea, then get in touch. More at www.thepeoplesbible.org or email info@thepeoplesbible.org

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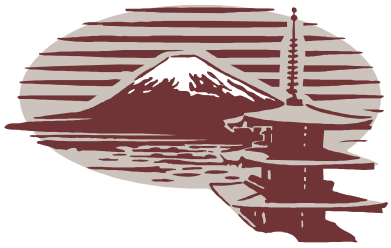
Book Club

This month we have been reading Crow Lake by Mary Lawson. This novel is set in a rural northern community in Canada where time seems to have stood still. This deceptively simple book about the perils of hero worship and family life went to the top of bestseller lists in Canada shortly after its release. The story revolves around a small community and particularly Luke, Matt, Kate and Bo Morrison. Their farm is so isolated that "the road only led south"; there is little work; marriage choices are few and the winters are extremely cold. The only way out is through education and the author takes us through the trials and achievements of the family as they struggle to survive. The book is written by Kate who is the one who eventually earns a university education and a doctorate. The majority of us found this is an easily read book which is well written and if you like family sagas this one is for you.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 21 June 2011 and we are reading The Long Song by Andrea Levy.

Joyce Clark

Japan Jottings



Dear Friends

It's amazing to think we are already almost at the half way point of this year. It seems like we have been on something of a rollercoaster ride over these past few months with one thing after another. There have certainly been tough times but many blessings too.

When we last wrote, we had not yet held our first-ever Easter Festival. We were amazed to have well over 100 coming along, children and adults. The rain which had been forecast all week held off and the sun shone. Since that time we have been having different folks coming along on Sundays too, including one who believed in Jesus on her second time being here. God had been preparing her heart over quite some time and it is a joy for us to have another baby Christian in our fledgling church. Another young guy continues in Bible study and we look forward one day to sharing the news that he too has come to faith in Jesus.

OMF is moving forward with its plans to set up a base in one the areas badly affected by the tsunami. A property has been rented and a couple appointed to this work. They will move there permanently in September but others will be helping up till that point. David is hoping to lead a team in July (Daniel and Matthew may come too as they are back from Hebron then). We do not know what will be involved – there is much practical work to be done but there are also pressing needs for people to receive emotional and spiritual care and support. We wonder whether it might be possible to do something with local children too, perhaps with some sports or just finding ways to give them some fun after the trauma of these past months. We will keep you posted on this.

It was so good to have the live link with St Paul's at the Cherry Blossom Fair last month. Many thanks to all who came that day and contributed to such a tremendous amount for our support. Trust everyone has a great summer.

With our love and thanks
David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair

Flower donations—June

June donations
Mrs A. Barr, Mrs K. Canlin, Mrs W. Douglas, Mrs A. Jones, Miss A. Martin, Mrs. M. Phillips, Mrs M. Reid, Mrs I. Torbet.

Please put donations in Flower rota pigeon hole at back of church or send to Mrs. Wilma Douglas, 34 Braeside Ave. Milngavie G62 6LJ. Phone 956 2630

Find out more at
www.praisegathering.org.uk

These praise events are all about ordinary people, with ordinary voices singing praises to God, and the wide range of musical styles is reflected in the 15-80 age range of the choir members. The content and quality of previous concert programmes has enabled many Christians to invite friends, family and business colleagues into an environment of praise in the certain knowledge that *"God inhabits the praises of His people."* Organisers are aware of many people having been blessed, encouraged and helped through either their involvement in the choir or by attending a concert, for which they give God all the glory.

Lunch Club

The Lunch Club last session is on 15th June and will be closed over the summer until we reopen on September 7th. We have a faithful band of regulars who all enjoy lunch a chat and, if wished, the short service held at 1.15pm. Others enjoy lunch occasionally and everyone is always welcome. At this time of year it is nice to thank the many people who work tirelessly behind the scenes. These include an army of bakers who provide such delicious scones, fruit loaves and cakes that we all enjoy. If you were able to bake occasionally please see Ann MacLeod who will be happy to include you in the rota. We have a grand team of ladies who prepare and serve the lunch and do so with such cheerful, willing, fun. What would we do without the strong men who happily put up and down tables and arrange furniture, they even occasionally help to serve when we are short of ladies? I suspect that there is a lot of football chatter goes on as well. Finally we should thank our ministers and elders who faithfully prepare and take the service each week. If you would like to help even if just occasionally we are always glad of assistance or baking from some of our talented cooks. If you can help please see **Ann MacLeod** either at church or on 942 8339. Many thanks to all who help and perhaps you will be among them next session.

Christian Aid Week 2011

"You aspire to great things? Begin with little ones." St Augustine

This year's Christian aid week collection raised a total of £10,575 with four districts and some late envelopes still to be returned. There is still approx £1100 to be added from Gift Aid.
Many thanks to all the volunteer collectors who had to brave some inclement weather, also everyone who helped with the count and the provision of refreshments.

Gordon Campbell.

World Mission Diary for May

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." Martin Luther King.

Joel Githinji, his wife Agnes and their children Grace and Francis live in Nepal. He is a Church of Scotland Mission Partner and is based at the United Mission to Nepal where he is the integral Mission Advisor for HIV. Joel has asked for prayers for a "New Nepal."

People living with HIV in Nepal face many challenges as most of them are from low caste and can only do very low paying jobs which can not sustain their families. Women whose husbands have passed away bear the extra burden of taking care of children.

The Government of Nepal brought in an HIV/AIDS National Policy-2011. This policy aims to secure the rights of people living with HIV and Aids, such as access to social security, in order to minimise inequality. The policy will try to provide equal opportunity in health education and other social sectors.

Joel has recently returned from Doti District which is a hill district in far-west Nepal and writes in his blog, "Doti has great needs with minimal presence of other working agencies due to lack of basic infrastructure and the nature of the terrain. The challenges include food insufficiency, poor education and lack of access to health care. Caste-based discrimination, negative cultural practices and violence against women are significant problems in Doti."

UMN is partnering with the Nepali Christian Community to encourage churches to have input into building a New Nepal. Local facilitators are now trained to conduct workshops across the country for Church leaders. These leaders are mobilising their congregations to support people living with HIV and Aids to improve their living conditions for instance construction of shelter for the very needy families in Sunsari District and they have already started supporting two families.

Please remember the following points in your prayers for Nepal
1 to encourage local churches and local Christian communities to initiate financial contributions for this new movement
2 In June there is going to be a press conference with local bodies to promote servant leadership pledge from the Christian communities.

Communion Wine
Following considerations of the type of wine being served at Communion services, the Kirk Session agreed that it should be changed from fermented wine to non-fermented wine and the congregation are advised accordingly.

Deputy Session Clerk
At the March meeting of the Kirk Session it was agreed that Mr Graham Mill would replace Mr Allister Clarke as the Deputy Session Clerk. Aliister, who performed this role for eight years, was warmly thanked by the Rev Fergus Buchanan for his committed and dedicated service.

Ian Mackinnon, Session Clerk.

Large print version
Life magazine
We have been made aware that some people are struggling to read to read Life in its current format. If you require a large print version, please ask your delivery person to contact the editor on your behalf (contact details on back page) to request one. We will then include a copy in their bundle for delivery.
Ed

The Chanan Trust
are very grateful for the excellent response of the gifts of foodstuff donated by the members of St. Paul's 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

Guild Outing

The Guild Outing takes places on Tuesday 7th June to New Lanark. Would everyone going please note that the bus will leave Milngavie Station at 12.00 noon and will return at approximately 8.00 p.m.

Jean Scott

The **Rev. David Wilkerson** founding pastor of Times Square Church in Manhattan, NY and author of the bestselling book ***The Cross and the Switchblade*** died in a severe car crash in East Texas on 27th April. He was not wearing a seatbelt. His wife, Gwendolyn, who was, was injured and airlifted to a local hospital with cuts and bruises.

'Brother Dave' as he was known was used by God in 1958 to reach out to gang members in New York City. *The Cross and the Switchblade*, tells the true story of his calling and documents his ministering to youths involved in drugs and gangs. It was adapted into a movie in 1970 starring Pat Boone and Erik Estrada who played the roll of Nicky Cruz, who later became an evangelist himself and wrote the autobiographical *Run Baby Run*.

Wilkerson was the founder of Teen Challenge, an evangelical Christian recovery program that teaches biblical principles to help young adults struggling with addictions, including drug and alcohol.

And in 1987 he founded Times Square Church in an area of Manhattan that was then riddled with X-rated movie houses, strip clubs, prostitution and drugs. Wilkerson opened the church in response to what he described as "the physically destitute and spiritually dead people" he saw among the pimps, runaways and crack dealers who populated the area. Services were initially held in the Town Hall on 43rd Street but in 1989 the church moved to the former Mark Hellinger Theatre, its current location on 51st Street.

He is survived by 4 children and eleven grandchildren.

Words of Comfort and Strength
Start of a new season of Dew Drops

"My teaching, let it fall like a gentle rain,
My words arrive like morning dew,
Like a sprinkling rain on new grass,
Like spring showers on the garden.
For it's God's Name I'm preaching—
Respond to the greatness of our God!"
(Deuteronomy 32 2-4)

From Sunday 4th of June we will begin a new series of Dewdrops called "where to find?"

Over the next few months we will be looking for, and explaining favourite Bible verses and where they can be found.

We will start the series off with a 3 month guide on Words of Comfort and Strength. We will cover topics such as anger, confusion, suffering and many many other topics where the scriptures can be illuminating and helpful.

This first series will take about 16 weeks to cover and it is envisaged that these dewdrops will be visible somewhere around the Church where people can have access to them if and when required.

Of course if you are old friends of the dewdrops you will still be able to pick them up at your usual place at the back of the Church or out at the Baldernock Road door

Alex McEwan

Induction at Temple Anniesland Church

We were delighted to receive the following report from Margaret Maclean, elder at Temple Anniesland:

On Wednesday 11th May Rev Fiona Gardner was inducted to our church at Temple Anniesland, which was a very happy occasion for us all. Fourteen years ago Fiona spent 18 months with us as a probationer so it was good to welcome back "a weel kent face."

The Rev Neil Galbraith, Moderator of Glasgow Presbytery, was in the chair and although in the last year he has conducted many inductions, he obviously enjoys each occasion. He was accompanied by Rev Dr Angus Kerr, Presbytery Clerk, Rev Margaret Whyte and Rev Robert Johnston who all took part in the service.

The opening hymn was, "Let us with a gladsome mind," followed by prayers of adoration and confession, and The Lord's Prayer. Our Scripture readings were from Romans and John's Gospel. We sang "As the deer pants for the water," then Margaret Whyte preached the sermon. She has recently retired and has known Fiona for many years, so she felt very privileged to be preaching at this induction.

Then the formal induction took place, signing of the formula and Fiona was given the right hand of fellowship from members of presbytery. The questions to the congregation, presentation of Symbols of Ministry (Holy Scripture, Baptismal Water & Communion Elements) and the sharing of "The Peace" with each other then followed. One of our former ministers, Robert Johnston, gave the charges to Fiona and the final hymn was "O Jesus I have promised" after which Mr Johnston pronounced the benediction.

We then had a short interval before Rev Colin Renwick, our interim moderator and good friend opened the social part of the evening. Fiona was presented with a stole made by the Palestinian women in Gaza, and Mr Renwick and Rev David Keddie, our locum, received gifts. We went through to the hall where the ladies of the Guild had provided a lovely spread for our refreshment.

Margaret Maclean, T.A. Church.

View from St Paul's perspective

A number of St Paul's members attended Fiona's Induction. She was leaving the parish of Shawlands South after ten years so it was inevitably a time of mixed emotions but there was great encouragement for her in the worship and the support of friends and family.

These occasions are necessarily formal in nature but Rev Neil Galbraith, the Moderator of Glasgow Presbytery, brought his own personal warmth and quirky humour to the occasion and this was much appreciated.

We continue to hold Fiona, Colin and Andrew in our prayers, and since she is now nearer 'home' perhaps it won't be too long before once again we benefit from her ministry in St Paul's.

FCB

The Glasgow Passion
6th October 2011 7.30pm
www.glasgowpassion.co.uk

We featured a some information about the Glasgow Passion in last month's magazine and since then have taken our life in our hands and decided to join up for the production which will take place in Glasgow's George Square in October. We thought readers might like a little flavour of our experience so far

Rehearsals are held in Renfield St Stephen's, Bath St, on a Tuesday night and have been going on since March so the regulars know each other now, but there are new folk like me joining all the time and it's a mixed group spanning all ages.

The first week, after quick introductions, we are thrown in at the deep end to act out a scene. Our group has 3 speaking parts and 4 people so, generously, the others offer me the mime part! After an hour's toil we come back together and watch each group's take on their scene.

The following week we get down to business straight away with scene 2. The setting is a televised election debate and Herod and McKayfus are the main candidates. We are the crowd and variously support/heckle/cheer/boo as the debate proceeds until Jesus interrupts proceedings, emerging from Queen St Station despite elaborate security arrangements taken by Chief Superintendant Pilate to prevent his appearance. I am a Herod supporter and have great fun cheering his criminal justice reforms and giving the Jesus supporters a hard time.

Another group have been looking at a different scene where Jesus has recorded a video to be played after his death and the interviewer gives a moving account of her conversation with him during the filming. This is good contrast to the noise and robust-ness of previous scene.

Casting is being done as the production goes along, although Jesus and some of the other main parts are being played by professional actors. We are asked to say what our ambitions are, so that some of the smaller parts can be finalised soon. Lots of people are looking for speaking parts but I am content to be a non speaking crowd member or stage hand. Apparently there are no sheep or goats in this production! Having just got a copy of the script for the first time, I am enjoying reading it through and placing the scenes we've already looked at in context.

Despite this being well out of my normal comfort zone, it has been fun so far and looks like being an experience to remember. There will be more to report when we come back in September but it's not too late to join in if you are interested – speak to me on a Sunday or get in touch with Suzanne Lofthus through the website or email
cuttingedge21@btopenworld.com
tel: 0131 652 0968.

Rona Dawson

Rotas for the summer

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
10 Jul	M Abbott R Douglas	Berry Wilson	A Begg J McLean	**Team 9** K McInver
17 Jul	M MacLean R Cameron	Chapman McCreadie	J McIntyre M Fewell	**Team 10** Allister Clark
24 Jul	J Ford C Tanner	Reid Lawrie	R Cameron M Thoms	**Team 3** Michael Lang
31 Jul	J Clark S Stenhouse	Sillars Goodlet	C McKay E Izatt	**Team 4** Ian MacCalman
7 Aug	P Barlow C Buchanan	Deuchar Bates	L Cowie C McKinnon	**Team 5** Graham Greig
14 Aug	S Anderson M McDowall	Cockburn MacKinnon	R Raeburn H Ried	**Team 6**
21 Aug	M Conway M Macpherson	Richell Whitelaw	B Watson M Conway	**Team 7**
28 Aug	A Galloway J Townson	Wallis Berry	M Ure R Fraser	**Team 8**
4 Sept	M McIntyre M Spencer	Wilson Chapman	A Begg J MacLean	

Holiday Club

Yes, it's that time of year again and the staff of the Sunday Club are looking for volunteers to help supervise the young people after the Children's Talk while Sunday Club is on holiday. The dates are June 19th - August 14th.

As before, materials such as games, paper, pens, worksheets, DVDs etc. are available though volunteers are welcome to provide their own. Two adults share the duties and the number of children is variable. It usually proves to be a very enjoyable experience for both parties!

If you would like to help, or want to ask for more information, please speak to me in the Large Hall after the morning service, or phone 943 0368. We know that members of the congregation and visitors appreciate this service which we provide for the young people, but it is only possible with the cooperation of willing helpers. Thank you in anticipation!

Eleanor Easton

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

NEW MEMBERS

Joined by Resolution

Mr & Mrs J Flett, 20 Craighead Drive, Milngavie 59

Joined by Certificate

Mrs Marion Taylor, Homebrae House, Milngavie 3a
Mrs Anne McNaughton, 27 Queens Court, Milngavie 49
Mr & Mrs A Miller, Canniesburn Care Home, Bearsden 68

DISJUNCTIONS

Mr E Douglas, 3 Craigdhu Ave., Milngavie 30
Mr & Mrs J Hooper, 7 Ardlui Gardens, Milngavie 63

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Miss Marion Whyte, 51 Campsie Drive, Milngavie now 9
37 Crossvegate, Milngavie 56

Copy date for September Life will be intimated nearer the time.
Please send any items over the summer to rona.dawson@go.uk.com or 123 Garscadden Road, Glasgow, G15 6UQ.
Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Life this year, especially the regulars! Also to Helen Arnold for her patience with me and the team of folders who do a great job.
Thanks too to everyone who has prayed for the mag. Ed

Date	Flower Deliveries	Crèche Rota	Traidcraft Rota	Vestibule Rota
5 Jun	A Galloway J Townson	Goodlet Deuchar	L Cowie C McKinnon	**Team 5** Frances Ireland
12 Jun	M MacIntyre M Spencer	Bates Cockburn	R Raeburn H Ried	**Team 6** Gordon Blackadder
19 Jun	P Dudgeon S Lindsay	No creche	No stall	**Team 2** Marilyn Ure (C)
26 Jun	M Thomson E Izatt	Mackinnon Richell	B Watson M Conway	**Team 7** Malcolm Boyd
3 Jul	A Gibson A MacLeod	Whitelaw Wallis	M Ure R Fraser	**Team 8** Marlyn McKay