

# Life At St. Paul's Milngavie September 2023



Dear Friends,

It was last September that I received a call from the Presbytery Clerk to ask me if I would consider becoming the Interim Moderator here at St Paul's. I had just retired in April 2022 and was not sure if I wanted to take on a new role! I cannot believe that it is almost a year since that phone call and I am delighted that I took this opportunity. I have enjoyed being here at St Paul's and up at Baldernock – your welcome and support during the past months has been greatly appreciated.

During a vacancy it can be very easy to become a little despondent but I am glad to say that this has not been the case. The life and work of the church has continued during this time and we now look forward to beginning the task of calling a minister. First in this process was to complete the Electoral Register of the congregation. This has been completed and will be finalised at the Kirk Session on 6th September 2023. We now look forward to working with the Vacancy Procedure Committee in the next steps of 'the call'.

During the next few months there will be a considerable number of meetings along with much planning and we look forward to all of this, anticipating the end result. Both the Old and the New Testaments have a great deal to say about planning. The writer of the Book of Proverbs said, "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established" (Proverbs 16:3). It was also written, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord established his steps" (Proverbs 16:9). Jesus said in the Gospel according to Luke, "For which of you desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?" (Luke 14:28). These words of wisdom we take with us into our meetings and planning.

As the autumn approaches we look forward to a new season. I have always loved autumn. There is something very nostalgic about this season. Walks through the woods with the leaves rustling under foot, the brambles that you can eat as you pass along on your way, the planting of the spring bulbs, the drawing in of the nights and the lighting of the fire. Autumn has a way of enfolding you into its arms. Harvest Sunday will be on 17th September when we give thanks for the abundance of God's gifts to us. Celebrating Harvest allows us to share with others God's love and His grace.

May you all enjoy the beauty of autumn – take some time to stand a while under a tree and just watch as the leaves fall with the wind, knowing that God stands with you.

With every blessing to you and yours

**Barbara**

Future Services	Morning	Evening
3rd Sep	Robin Easton	Julian Pombo
10rd Sep	Bobb Mackinnon	Rev Paul Read
17th Sep	Harvest- Sunday Club	Grace Rogerson
24th Sep	Rev John Cambell	Rev Howel Jones
1st Oct	Robin Easton	TBC
8th Oct	Communion	TBC

## Thank You

**Margaret and family** would like to thank the members who kindly attended Donald Martin's funeral on Thursday 27th July. It was very much appreciated.

The collection raised £300.00 for Cancer Research UK and has been split between Children's Cancer and Pancreatic Cancer

Warmest thanks for for the very kind gift made to me on Sunday 25th June, on my stepping down from the preaching rota. Grateful thanks too for the really lovely bouquet presented to Evelyn.

At this very significant juncture in the congregation's history, may the grace, mercy and peace of the Lord be with you all

**Ken and Evelyn MacDonald**

## Guild News

The Guild meets in the Large Hall each Monday at 2pm from October to March. The new session begins on 2nd October when we will be entertained by the Westertones.

On 9th October our Speaker will be Jackie Crawford who leads a group providing baby boxes for Ukraine. Jackie is a previous recipient of Lorraine's Woman of the Year award. Members are asked, if possible, to bring along items such as baby toiletries, knitting, new clothes etc. to be given to Jackie (thank you).

Topics for the remainder of the month will be Fire Safety and Women's Aid.

As usual there will be time for a cuppa and a chat at the end of each meeting. Everyone will be most welcome.

**Elizabeth McEwan**  
President

## Harvest Thanksgiving

The Harvest Thanksgiving service will take place on 17th September. Donations can be delivered to the Church on Saturday 16th between 10am and 11.30am or on the Sunday morning. As usual, plants and posies will be delivered by district elders and the pastoral care team to the elderly, sick, housebound and care home residents in the congregation. The Sunday club will produce Harvest cards to be delivered with these gifts.

Food items will be delivered, as in previous years, to the Wallace of Campsie Lifehouse Salvation Army Project. This project provides food for men living in hostel accommodation with access to limited cooking facilities. Individual sized portions are especially welcome as well as tea, coffee and little treats (especially chocolate biscuits).

Other food items will be donated to Dalmuir Barclay Church Community Pantry and drop-in Cafe who will be happy to receive any type of donations.

Financial donations will be sent to St. Rollox Church Community Outreach Project working with Refugees, Asylum Seekers and local residents.

**Elizabeth McEwan**

**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** will be celebrated on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October during the morning service led by the Rev. Barbara O'Donnell. 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.

## Presbytery

The Clyde Presbytery Mission Plan was adopted at the end of June.

Presbytery have appointed their Vacancy Procedure Committee and an initial meeting with the Kirk Session has been arranged on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August.

## Manse

The Kirk Session and Congregational Board agreed to sell the property at 8 Buchanan Street and replace it with a more modern manse which would be easier to maintain and heat. An acceptable offer was received and accepted.

## Badminton Club

Club nights resume on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September in the large hall. Matches start from 7.30pm and 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.

## Safeguarding

In order to update the Safeguarding Congressional Register it is necessary for any member of the Congregation no longer actively volunteering in any Church organisations to complete a removal form.

Any member of the Congregation wishing to undertake voluntary work in any Church organisations please note that all such positions must firstly be verified by the Kirk Session before the appointment and the P.V.G. registration process can commence. This registration process is now completed on-line.

For further information on both matters please contact **Elizabeth McEwan**.

## Japan Jottings

I hope you have enjoyed your summer. As a Scot, I feel I really shouldn't complain about hot, sunny weather, but this year's summer in Tokyo has been, and continues to be, extremely hot and humid. At times it feels like living in a sauna!

Calum is now back in Scotland, getting used to cooler weather and seeing if he can sign with a football club. At the moment he is staying with Matthew in Edinburgh. The last time he lived in Scotland was 15 years ago when he was 8 years old, so there is a lot for him to get used to.

September is looking like it will be a full but exciting month. At the beginning of the month, we welcome some more new workers. Then from 19-22<sup>nd</sup>, 1,000 pastors, Japanese Christians and missionaries will gather for the 7<sup>th</sup> Japan Congress on Evangelism. I am attending and also facilitating a workshop on prayer with another missionary. We hope that through our workshop, God would give Japanese churches a vision to pray for the nation of Japan and ideas for creative ways to do that. We also hope that the Congress as a whole will be a catalyst for more evangelism in Japan.

Then on the 26<sup>th</sup>, my church is starting a new Mums and Baby outreach. The pastor's wife took a course in baby massage and wants to use that to bless new mums and babies living in the area. I will be sharing some simple English action songs and possibly also a bit of my story. It is hard to find places to advertise this sort of event, so please pray that new Mums will find out about it and sign up to come along. We hope we will be able to run it monthly.

Thank you so much for your partnership in the gospel. I pray for you all at St Paul's and trust that God will bless you too in the work of the gospel in Milngavie.

**With love from Lorna and Alistair**

## Roll

The proposed Electoral Register has now been prepared. If you believe that your name should be on the Register, you can ask for confirmation that it has been included immediately after this service or from the Session Clerk, Graham Mill. If your name is not on the proposed Electoral Register, and you believe it should be, you should inform the Session Clerk in writing before the Kirk Session meets to finalise the register on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.

## Youth At St. Paul's

Our youth activities started back on 27<sup>th</sup> August.

Our Sunday morning activities take place in the halls during the second part of the morning church service.

Junior Sunday Club – Preschool to P1  
Senior Sunday Club – P2 to P6/P7  
Bible Class – P7/S1 and Up.

These activities aim to provide the young people with Christian teaching in an age appropriate and accessible way. We have a dedicated team of wonderful leaders who take this forward.

We also have Sunkids on one Saturday each month, the next being on 16<sup>th</sup> September. This is a fun activity, with crafts and games based around a Bible story, for P1 to P5 and runs from 4.15pm – 6pm in the large hall. All are welcome.

There is also The Ark which is a chill club for S1 and up, which runs one Saturday of the month from 7.30pm – 10pm the next being on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and then 21<sup>st</sup> October. Again, all are welcome.

We would love to have more young people join us, please pass on details of our activities to anyone you think may be interested.

Should you require any further info, please contact [st.pauls@btconnect.com](mailto:st.pauls@btconnect.com) for the attention of Youth at St Pauls.

Many thanks  
**Janice MacLean**

## Church Choir

Practices for the Church Choir resume on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September in the church from 7.45pm until 9.15pm. We need new members and anyone interested (or if you know of anyone who might be interested) will be made most welcome. Singers are needed in all sections of the choir but especially in the soprano, alto and tenor 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 (preferably in tune) and you would like to help us lead the musical praise on a Sunday morning, please come along. Further details from the Choirmaster, Derek Norval (07814389262), or from members of the choir.

## BreakAway – Starting up again on Tuesday 5th September 2023

BreakAway was started up in 2016 to provide a warm and friendly environment for people with a diagnosis of Dementia. When we started up again in 2022, after the pandemic, we opened up our sessions to people who not only have a diagnosis of dementia but those who have memory loss.

Our sessions are held on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30pm - 3.30pm and we provide a warm and friendly environment as well as various activities and our wonderful home baking which is enjoyed by all.

- If you want to know more about BreakAway or are thinking that you would like to become a Befriender, please speak to Linda Muirhead. Please note: before anyone can become a Befriender, you will be required to go through the PVG process.
- If there is anyone you know who would benefit from coming along to BreakAway, please speak to Robert Rutherford or Peggy Barlow.

## Flower Donations



Thank you for the Flower Donations given in Memory for the following months:

June - M. Reid

July - F. Ireland, J. Pirie, V. McGuinness, Anon

Aug - Anon

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.

KEEP THE DATE!  
2024 ST PAUL'S HOLIDAY FELLOWSHIP  
22-26 JULY, 2024

Next year we are going North to another of Strathmore Travel's hotels, The Ben Wyvis in Strathpeffer. We already have an exciting, varied and unusual programme in the process of being organised. Further details and price coming soon.

**Anne Ritchie**  
Group leader

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## Copy Date

Copy date for the October edition is Monday **25th** September

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

Date	Flower Deliveries
3rd September	P. Barlow S. Robertson
10th September	M. Conway K. Edwards
17th September	A. Galloway F. Ireland
24th September	A. McNellan K. Hagart