



St Paul's Milngavie

Life Magazine
February 2009

Dear Friends,

Everyone else is writing about him so I might as well add my pebble to the mountain. Barack Obama. It really is incredible that a black man is the President of the United States of America.

By the way, I can't get used to that term "African-American." When I was coming to political and social awareness in the 1970s "black" was anything but a pejorative or demeaning term. We heard about "Black Power;" there were slogans like "Black Is Beautiful;" there were songs with titles like "Young, Gifted and Black." So, I am sorry but it will take a while for me to be convinced that "African-American" adds anything to the dignity and moral stature of people like Martin Luther King, one of my heroes.

But back to Barack Obama. I admit to being sceptical at first. I suppose I thought this was yet another politician who was evidence of the triumph of style over substance. Now I am not so sure. He was able to send people into raptures when he spoke of "change" and "hope" and I was never sure what he meant by either of these words. But he seems to realise that the monumental expectations he has aroused among many people will not be realised unless he has behind him a people who are prepared to work to realise his dream for America and the world.

We will have to wait and see how many people will join him on this challenging road that he has chosen to travel. But whatever happens, I will always be grateful to him for bringing back to the fore the power of the spoken word. One of Hilary Clinton's worst moves in her campaign for the Democratic nomination was to dismiss Obama as nothing but a talker and a wordsmith. His response was to insist that words were in fact deeds and that at critical moments in American history words have turned the tide from despair and helplessness to hope and resolution. He challenged Hilary Clinton to dismiss the speeches of Jefferson, Lincoln, Roosevelt, Kennedy and King as "just words."

Thanks for that President Obama! Many a tired preacher will feel encouraged by that faith in what the spoken word can achieve. But why should we need that from a politician?

We are dealing with the word of God which has the power to create faith, strengthen faith, tear down the citadels of falsehood, comfort the disturbed and disturb the comfortable and make people fit for heaven.

It takes my breath away when I put it down like that. But if you believe that too then together we have locked on to the living Word which will really bring change and hope to the world.

Music in Hospitals is a registered charity which operates throughout the United Kingdom. Its aim is to enable people of all ages in hospitals, hospices, care homes and day care centres to enjoy the therapeutic benefit of high quality live music. Over 5,000 concerts are provided annually by talented professional musicians, carefully selected at audition as much for their sensitivity and skills in communication as for their musical prowess.

The work in Scotland is administered from an office in Edinburgh, established in 1980. Since then well over 33,000 concerts have been arranged north of the border, 1,680 last year alone.

Baritone Mark Donnelly, who is presenting the concert at St Paul's Church on Monday 16 March, has in past years performed in over 250 hospital concerts as well as helping to raise funds for Music in Hospitals on many occasions.

Image courtesy of The Herald & Evening Times picture archive
Gartnavel Royal Hospital, Glasgow



One of the patients had been agitated all morning, wanting to go home, but once the concert had started he sat enjoying every minute.

Soprano Shuna Sendall enjoys a singalong with a patient at Glasgow's Southern General Hospital

To find out more, make a donation, or become a Friend of Music in Hospitals

telephone: 0131 556 5848 or email: info@musicinhospitalsscotland.org.uk

visit our website: www.musicinhospitalsscotland.org.uk

write to: Music in Hospitals, 10 Forth Street, Edinburgh EH1 3LD

Book Group



Over the holidays the group read "A Dark Enchantment" by Roland Vernon. Although the author has written several biographies this was his first novel, and it gained him the Daily Mail First Novel Award.

Set in Greece in the 1860's this is a tale of adventure and intrigue and the story is woven round a set of very diverse, but well drawn characters.

However, the book received "mixed reviews" from our book group. Some felt that although the characters and sub plots were interesting there were just too many of them and the central plot became confused. Others thoroughly enjoyed the whole book which had a real twist in the tale. Well worth a read!

We meet again in March and the book to be read is "The Pure Land" by Alan Spence.

Why not read this book, contact the Church office for the where and when and come along and join us.

Anne Goodlet



Bible Sunday

Bible Sunday will be held on Sunday 22nd February 2009 in St. Paul's Church.

There will be an opportunity to give to the Scottish Bible Society. This year money will go towards translating the Bible into the languages of Yao and Lomwe, (spoken in Malawi and Mozambique), and providing "Talking Bibles" as well as preparing Study Notes for the Chichewa Bible.

The Chichewa Bible has been available since 1922 when it was produced with the help of Scottish missionaries. Chichewa is the national language of Malawi and is spoken by a least half of the 15 million population.

42% of Malawians cannot read. Thus the need for the "Talking Bible" which provides an audio recording of Scripture. The Study Notes will be available to lay people and trained clergy, especially those in rural areas who have no access to reference material.



The Preshal Trust

Scottish Charity No. SC033632

I will restore to you the years the locusts have eaten (Joel 2:25)

The Guild is hosting a fund raising concert on the **16th March, 2009** with Mark Donnelly and Friends, which will be a memorable evening for all. The proceeds from this concert will be going to Music in Hospitals and the Preshal Trust. Detail of both charities appear in this issue. Tickets will be on sale through Committee Members from the middle of February, and will be notified in the weekly intimations.

Preshal, the Gaelic for “precious,” and that is how we feel about everyone who comes through our doors, is a recognised Scottish charity.

In a friendly, caring loving and supportive way Preshal seeks to tackle head-on the problem of social exclusion in the Linthouse area of Glasgow. This problem is manifested in poverty, alcohol and drug addiction, low literacy and numeracy levels, depression and low self-esteem. The Trust, working with other agencies, provides a wide range of social, recreational and educational activities which enable these issues to be dealt with effectively. We adopt a holistic approach whereby we seek to cater for the whole person, including meeting individual physical, mental and – as a Christian-rooted organisation – spiritual needs.

The Trust's premises are open six days a week including Sunday when the Preshal Fellowship meets and, as of April, we are open one evening a week for youth work. Each day there is a varied programme of activities (always beginning with tea and toast) and in any one week folk engage in pastimes such as art and craft work, including card and model making, photography, board and table games, cooking, keep-fit, bowls, golf, fishing and in literacy, numeracy and IT classes.

We also encourage our people to socialise and build relationships and activities such as the twice weekly lunch club, regular outings in the minibus and karaoke assist this process.

How can you help the work of Preshal?

By praying, by volunteering – especially for the youth work, by providing non-perishable groceries and financially through donations. More information from Marion Shearlaw or Morag Mackenzie.

We are grateful to Graham for taking time to do the following interview and keep members up to date with the Stewardship Committee's activities.

Graham,

You're the convener of the church's stewardship committee. Could you quickly remind us what the remit of the committee is, and how you see your role as convener?

The Stewardship Committee is one of four Kirk Session standing committees that are required to consider matters referred by the Kirk Session and bring Stewardship matters to the attention of the Session. The remit of the Committee is to teach, promote and encourage Christian stewardship in the local parish. The Committee consists of twelve elders and meets as required.

As Convener I chair the meetings and act as the link with the Kirk Session. I also receive information from the Stewardship and Finance Committee of the Church of Scotland which keeps us aware of what's happening in the national church.

Stewardship and giving is not just about money is it? It's pretty central to the Christian lifestyle, could you say a bit more about what stewardship involves for us as a congregation in St Paul's? (Both in theory and practically).

The remit of the committee is delivered by encouraging Christian giving of time, talent, money and in recent years consideration of God's creation has been added as our lives are increasingly influenced by environmental issues.

During the summer the stewardship committee issued a questionnaire asking people about their current and future contribution to church life. Can you remind us what the purpose of that was?

Many people give generously of their time and talents to the work of St Paul's however there is much to be done and more that could be done. Whatever your talents, whatever time you have, the Church can put your skills to good use but only if we know about it!

The questionnaire enabled a database to be established which is being used to match the various needs of the congregation with the talent available on a regular or occasional basis. As the needs, talents and circumstances of the Church and members is constantly changing the database needs to be kept up to date. If your circumstances have changed, particularly if you can now offer time, please contact me through the church office.

So what happens next? Presumably you have a vision for St Paul's going forward as a giving community – could you tell us more about that and what outcomes you are expecting?

As stated earlier the remit of the committee is to teach, promote and encourage Christian stewardship in the local parish. St Paul's is already very active in many aspects of life in the local community of Milngavie and in many aspects of Christian life throughout the world. As we start a New Year it is important that each individual examines their commitment to the advancement of Christ's kingdom. The congregation cannot exist without money and it is vital that as personal circumstances change, we review what we give and the method of giving. Where appropriate the preferred method of giving is by monthly standing order with Gift Aid and if you have any questions regarding giving please contact the Congregational Treasurer in confidence.

I have been encouraged in recent years by the centenary celebrations and the Kimo Peru project both of which have involved the congregation and have reached out into the community maintaining the high profile of St Paul's. The challenge is to encourage more members to become actively involved in attending worship, to reach out to those without a church connection in the community as well as continuing and if possible expanding, the work of the church in St Paul's and the community.

We have all been blessed by God in different ways: are we using our time, talents and money as God would wish and are we looking after His creation? Time for reflection and prayer.

Graham Mill

The Guild



We commenced the second half of our session with a very interesting talk on the King's Theatre by Mrs Anne Harvey. She showed slides of the King's past and present and let us into some trade secrets, even bringing along some costumes which our members enjoyed seeing – and even wearing! A very entertaining evening.

On 12th January we had a visit from May Nicholson of the Preshal Trust. She told of the work of the trust and its efforts to assist those not as fortunate as ourselves. (You can read more about that elsewhere in this edition.)

On 19th January we had Eleanor Easton who talked about her visit to Peru and on 26th Jan a Scottish night with Hector Cruickshank and friends.

Our programme for Feb is as follows:

2nd – Dutch Bulbfields, Mr Douglas Keith

9th – Wiltshire Farm Foods, Liz Barry and Sandra Hislop

16th – Bible Study led by Rev Kenneth Macdonald

23rd – Decoupage demonstration, Nan Middleton.

Isabel Lyle

Child Protection

All people who currently help with children and young people's work in the congregation should by now have received an invitation to attend the Child Protection training course to be held on **Monday 16 February 2009** in the Jubilee Hall.

If you have not received your invitation or would be interested in attending, perhaps with a view to help in this area of church work in the future, please contact Douglas Martin on 942 7184 for more information.

The event will begin at 6.45 pm for 7.00 pm and finish no later than 10.00 pm.

Please note that numbers are strictly limited to 30 attendees.

Douglas Martin
Child Protection Co-ordinator

Church Visitors and W.F.O. Envelopes - Advance Notice

The new W.F.O. envelopes for the coming year will be available at the back of the Church on Sunday 1st March and the W.F.O treasurer would be grateful if the Church Visitors, as in previous years, would deliver them along with Life.

James McQueen

Sun Kids & Jump 7

A date for your diary – the next Sun Kids and Jump will be held on **Saturday 7 March 2009** from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm in the church halls at St Paul's.

More details to follow in the March Life and in the church intimations.

If you would like to help with this important children's work, then please contact Ross Deuchar on 955 0429 for more details. We need people who can help with games, crafts, food preparation among many other areas.



Life and Work Annual Subscriptions

Please note that subscriptions for 'Life and Work' received during 2008 are now due. The cost for 12 issues during the year is £15.60 – a reduction of 30 pence per issue on the cover price of the magazine. It would be appreciated if the money could be given to Church Visitors by the end of March, if possible. If paying by cheque please make it payable to St. Paul's Parish Church.

Frances Ireland

Kimo Board Game Marathon

Fri 13 March to Sat 14 March 2009

Your opportunity to play your favourite board games 8.00pm to 8.00pm and raise money for Kimo.

Get sponsored to keep the games going round the clock – sponsor forms and more information from Douglas Martin on 942 7184.

Come along for 1 hour or 24.

Volunteers needed to help with catering for the hungry (and very tired) gamers!

Sunday Morning Coffee

We would like to thank the congregation for joining us for fellowship after the morning service. We are delighted to let you know we were able to give £1100 to the Kimo Peru Project.

This would not be possible without the help of our trusty tea makers and we would like to thank them for their help during 2008.

We hope you all continue to enjoy this time of fellowship and we look forward to seeing you in 2009.

Many thanks once again.

Margaret and Margaret



Coffee and Mince Pies

Thank you to everyone who supported the Coffee and Mince Pies event on 21st December. Thank you also to the musicians who contributed to the festive atmosphere. The sum of £387.87 was raised for The Way Ahead Stroke Group.

The following letter of thanks has been received:-

Dear Frances

On behalf of The Way Ahead Stroke Group, I thank you, and all those from St. Paul's Church, who contributed so generously and gave us a magnificent sum for the Stroke Club. Donations such as these go towards ensuring that we keep our two professional physiotherapists, which is of great benefit to our members. Also, donations are used to help out with outings, much appreciated by our 24 members. Should any of you wish to come along to see what we do on Stroke Club days, we meet every Thursday from 1.15pm – 3.45pm in Killermont Parish Church Halls, Rannoch Drive, Bearsden, and we would be delighted if you would like to join us for afternoon tea, a highlight of our afternoons.

Looking forward to seeing you sometime and again many thanks for choosing us as the local charity .

Good wishes for 2009,

Anne Wightman

We had our usual visit to the Pantomime on 8 January, and as always everyone had a great time. Well - all except for the oldest girls - they were too busy studying for prelim exams. Young folk are under so much pressure these days and I feel they don't get enough credit for what they do. We missed you girls, but well done for getting your priorities right.

Some of our juniors entered the Glasgow collage competition and collected a certificate for 3rd place. Good for you Alexandra, Anna and Gillian.

We have a busy time ahead of us with the Jumble sale, keep-fit competitions and the weekend away to Auchengillan. All good things to look forward to and we are already thinking about ideas for display items.

We are keeping our bookstall running to the end of the session and so far we have raised a good sum for the Kimo Peru Project. However we still have a lot of good books left so please come and visit us in the big hall after church.

Girls' Brigade headquarters are raising money to rebuild the camphouse at Guay and they have put out an appeal for old coins, postcards and jewellery (old, new or broken) If you come across any bits and pieces when you are having a clear out just pass them to one of the leaders and we will make sure they get to headquarters.

See you next month.

Anne Goodlet



The Funeral of Mrs Jean Renfrew formerly of 4 Clober Road, took place on Monday 19 January in York.

Dear Friends



As you read this, we will have moved into our last full month back in Scotland. Time really has just flown past over these past weeks. There is lots to fit in over these coming weeks – as well as church meetings, we will fit in time with family and friends, not forgetting all the packing up, farewells and bureaucracy associated with that.

Daniel and Matthew head back to Hebron School in India on 3rd February to begin the second term there. Matthew has had first term back here so do pray that he would settle well, both into school and dorm life. Calum and Alistair continue at Clober Primary School until the middle of March.

This month we will be able to share more with the church regarding the work to which we will return in March. After the morning service on 8th February, we will give a short presentation in the Large Hall. Please do come to find out more. We will also have times of participation in services this month too.

As we have shared with some before, we will be leading up a team starting a new church from scratch in an area of Sapporo, the largest city in the northern island of Hokkaido. At the moment there is a blank sheet of paper, though we have already been thinking and praying about this new venture. It's both exciting and scary as we look forward to living in that area, gradually getting to know the people and seeing what God will do in the months and years to come.

As we head back to Japan, there is uncertainty and anxiety there too as the economic downturn bites. But perhaps that will mean more are open to the gospel and seeking some meaning to life. Pray on for Japan!

*With our love and thanks. for all your support
David, Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair*

Flower Donations ~ February

Mrs J Wilson, Mrs E Farmer, Mrs J Ferguson,
Mrs T Hamilton, Mrs Knaggs, Mrs Adair, Mrs Pirie

As always contact Wilma Douglas on 0141 956 2630



Dew Drops

Dew drops for the month of February will be based on the book of Exodus. Paper copies will be found outside the church office in the Baldernock Road vestibule as well as on the table at the back of the church next to the Strathblane Road door and continue to be on the Church's web page. If anyone would like to contribute to the dew drops please contact Alex McEwan 956 5712. If any of the congregation have any suggestions for future topics please feel free to contact me.

World Day of Prayer

Allander Evangelical Church
Fri 6th March
10.30am

The world day of prayer Scottish Committee and the Christian women of Papua New Guinea invite you to share in prayer and worship with people from all over the world.

Speaker Rev Kenneth Macdonald

"In Christ there are many members, yet one body."

World Mission

Lord, we pray for all those providing help.

We especially pray for Christian Aid's partners; The Palestinian Medical Relief Societies working in Gaza's hospitals, providing urgent medical support and for the Near East Council of Churches who have turned their healthcare clinics into emergency first aid posts.

Guide and protect all who offer humanitarian support at this time.

We remember especially the Laing family as they begin work as Mission Partners in Jerusalem;

Lord, give wisdom to the international community

That they will use all channels available to re-establish dialogue between all parties to end the conflict and work towards lasting peace

The Family of St Paul's:

I have been very aware of the support and care extended to me over the years, months and certainly over these last weeks as Tom's life was slowly coming to an end. This care and support - not always expressed in words - but it was always there. It is a very great privilege to be part of this large family - St Paul's Church.

Thank you

Rachel Douglas.

CHURCH REGISTER

NEW MEMBERS

JOINED BY RESOLUTION

Mrs Mairi McCreadie, 129 Mugdock Road, Milngavie 15

JOINED BY PROFESSION

Mr Paul McCreadie, 129 Mugdock Road, Milngavie 15

Mr Daniel Ferguson, 23 Drumbeg Terrace, Milngavie 59

Miss Alison Getty, Southmains Farm, Milngavie 32

Mrs Sandie Pow, 5 Beech Ave., Bearsden 43

BAPTISMS

'In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit', Matt 28.8

Andrew Charles Ross Cattanach, 11 Campbell Ave., Milngavie

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs Margaret Fraser, 27 Burnside Court, Bearsden now 62

DEATHS

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

22 December 08 Mrs Jean I Scott, 10 Mossspark Ave., Milngavie 15

5 January 09 Mrs Elizabeth Webster, 69 Craighdu Road, Milngavie 32

7 January 09 Dr Thomas Douglas, Buchanan House, Bearsden 29

Copy date for March issue is Sun 15th Feb if using church pigeon hole or Thu 19th if emailing to rona.dawson@go.uk.com Posted articles to 123 Garscadden Rd, Old Drumchapel, G15 6UQ please. 0141 944 4198

| Date | Flower Deliveries | Crèche Rota | Traidcraft Rota | Vestibule Rota |
|--------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 8 Feb | M Conway M Macpherson | Bolton, J Deuchar, Sillars | L Cowie C McKinnon | Team 5 Gordon Fairbrother (EC) |
| 15 Feb | A Galloway M Townson | Lawrie, K Deuchar, Goodlet | B Barr H Reid | Team 6 Shirley Dunlop |
| 22 Feb | M McIntyre M Spencer | Bates, Cockburn, Richell | B Watson M Conway | Team 7 Jim More |
| 1 Mar | P Dudgeon S Lindsay | Mackinnon, Whitelaw, Wallis | M Thomson M Ure | Team 8 Grace Rogerson |
| 8 Mar | M Thomson E Izatt | Berry, Wilson, Chapman | | Team 9 M Thomson (EC) |