

Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

April 2019



Dear Friends,

It is never easy becoming the Interim Moderator of a congregation, but it is always made more difficult when it is to cover sick leave for a colleague, and especially when that colleague is a close friend. I suspect that many of you reading this will already know me, but for those who don't, my name is Ramsay Shields and I am minister at St. Luke's Church. I have always appreciated the cooperation between St. Luke's and St. Paul's over the years. For that reason, it is a privilege to serve you at this time.

David White and I have decided that at the evening services, we shall try and keep a systematic teaching series going, and with that in mind, we have been studying the book of Ruth these last Sunday evenings. It is a lovely book in the Old Testament, indeed a love story where we discover that Ruth, the main character is very much in love with the God of the Bible; the One who is our Lord God and Heavenly Father. At the same time, it is a book that shows us an Old Testament example of a great truth that we discover in the New Testament, when the Apostle Paul writes to the church in Rome that:- "And we know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

It is not only in the book of Ruth that we see an illustration of that truth. Nearer home, many of us have been inspired by the blog that Fergus has been writing while he has been off work. The blog is profound, moving, sensitive, humbling and intelligent (as we might expect from the Rev. Fergus C. Buchanan), and has touched a great many lives, not least among some who are themselves going through the mill.

I commend this blog and would encourage as many are as able, to follow it. It can be found at <https://fcbuchanan.blogspot.com/2019/03/> You will find here that Fergus continues to minister to you, even though he is absent from work for now.

Please join me in praying for a speedy return to health for Fergus, giving thanks too for the Lord's healing gift of modern medicine. Join me too in praying for Gabrielle and all of the manse family at this time, that they would feel upheld, and continue to know the Lord's strength and blessing at this time.

With every best wish,

Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ,
Ramsay B. Shields

Holy Week Services

The Holy Week services will be in St. Paul's Church this year with the theme "**Words from Jesus on the cross**". Once again local ministers will be preaching each evening. The Offerings will be donated to the work of *Glasgow City Mission*.

Monday 15th April – Forgiveness - Luke 23:32-34

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" – Jesus revealed that those who crucified Him were not fully aware of what they were doing. And yet ignorance of divine truth did not mean that they were absolved, so Jesus' prayer of forgiveness as He suffered and was mocked is an expression of the compassion of divine grace.

Tuesday 16th April – Love – John 19:16-27

"Dear woman, here is your son!" – Most of the disciples had fled, except the disciple that Jesus loved (probably John). When Jesus saw him with His mother, He committed His mother into John's care. Jesus was forging a new relationship between John and His mother, illustrating the new family that He was creating.

Wednesday 17th April – Salvation – Luke 23:35-43

"I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise" – Jesus assured the criminals on the cross that when He died, they would be with Him in heaven. This was granted, because even at the hour of his death, the criminal had expressed his faith in Jesus, recognising Him for who He was as his Saviour and Lord.

Thursday 18th April – Separation – Mark 15:33-37

"My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?" – Jesus expressed His sense of abandonment as He was made to bear our sins and experience the Father leave Him for the first time in eternity. He was separated so that we need never face the same, as signified by the tearing of the curtain in the temple.

Friday 19th April (Good Friday) – Victory – John 19:28-37

"It is finished" – Jesus' last words (one Greek one) meant that His suffering was finished, and our salvation was accomplished. The work that His Father had given Him to do (to preach the Kingdom, to work miracles and to make atonement for the sin of His people) was done, accomplished, paid and fulfilled.


There will be a short service in the United Free Church on Saturday 20th April at 9.30am.

The annual Good Friday Walk of Witness through Milngavie will take place on 19th April starting at the clock in the precinct at 11am. Refreshments will be available in the Allander Church afterwards.

The half-hour **Lent Services** on Saturday mornings starting at 9.30am, continue until 13th April. The theme this year is “*Abraham: A Journey Through Lent*”.

All Welcome

At the meeting of Dumbarton Presbytery on 5th March, The Vacancy Procedure Committee appointed the Rev. Ramsay Shields to be Interim Moderator of the Kirk Sessions of Baldernock linked with Milngavie St. Paul's during the absence on sick leave, of the Rev. Fergus Buchanan. Ramsay can be contacted regarding any pastoral requirements, on 0141 577 9171.



tearfund

CELTIC WORSHIP

WITH STEPH MACLEOD

FOUR CONCERTS FEATURING A COLLABORATION WITH STEPH MACLEOD AND SOME OF SCOTLAND'S MOST TALENTED FOLK MUSICIANS, PLAYING WORSHIP MUSIC WITH A CELTIC TWIST.

| | |
|---|---|
| SUNDAY 21ST APRIL Viewfield Baptist Church DUNFERMLINE | TUESDAY 23RD APRIL Drymen Parish Church DRYMEN |
| WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL Community Church EDINBURGH | THURSDAY 25TH APRIL Dumfries Baptist Church DUMFRIES |

DOORS: 7PM START: 7.30PM

Drymen Church warmly invite you to join us on Tuesday 23rd April @ 7.30pm for a Concert by Celtic Worship. All proceeds will go towards the inspiring work of Tearfund. It promises to be a fantastic evening which is not to be missed....

Tickets available on the night - £6

Guild News



At our last meeting in February, Val Brown, Church and Community Action Manager, spoke to us about the work of Christian Aid and we were pleased that representatives from our local and St Paul's committees for Christian Aid were able to join us. Founded in 1945 by British and Irish churches to help refugees following the Second World War, Christian Aid, for over 70 years, has provided humanitarian relief and long-term development support for poor communities worldwide, while highlighting suffering, tackling injustice and championing people's rights as well as informing about, and campaigning against, climate change. Val told us about the work in Lebanon to provide sanitation, house-locks and social places for women to meet safely. She also described the ongoing work towards economic justice where in Bolivia, taxation has lifted people out of poverty. Also in Bolivia, Val mentioned the very successful solar ovens, which was a former Guild Project and which have given women freedom and an increased standing in decision-making within their societies. Val finished her presentation with a detailed glimpse of the Checkpoints in Bethlehem and an insight into the Israel/Palestine Conflict as well as how work is underway, through Christian Aid and other agencies, to *break the silence* and to build peace throughout the communities.

It was lovely to see so many people at our Coffee Morning on 2nd March. Pounds and pennies were spent at the stalls and pounds and ounces were gained eating the delicious home baking! Many thanks to everyone who contributed goods and baking, and to everyone who came along to make the Coffee Morning such a success.

On 4th March, Ann MacLeod gave us a fascinating account of her 2017 trip to India and illustrated her talk with wonderful photographs. Ann was part of a group of 16 travelling from the UK to visit various Traidcraft enterprises in and around the cities of Delhi and Calcutta. The itinerary also included visits to some of India's famous landmarks including the Taj Mahal, the Jewel Temple and the tomb of Mahatma Gandhi. During her time in India, she had the opportunity to visit Traidcraft Exchange shops and workshops to meet the workers and artisans, observing the skill involved in making jewellery, fine intricate needlecraft pictures, colourful leather purses and money boxes. Ann had brought an album to India with photographs of St. Paul's Traidcraft stall and it was lovely to hear that the ladies recognised some of the items they had made. Ann shared stories of the people she met and their appreciation of the jobs provided by Traidcraft. One lady was grateful that she was able to afford to send her three children to school.

Ann encouraged us to continue to support Traidcraft as our partnership does make a difference to so many people who would otherwise struggle to support their families. After the presentation, it was good to see a queue at the Traidcraft stall which Rosemary had arranged, and to see some of the items from Ann's presentation. The tills were 'ringing'!

We were very pleased to welcome back the very talented David Sturgeon on 11th March and once again, we thoroughly enjoyed his singing and stories which focussed on his early musical theatre experiences as well as songs from the good old days!

On 18th March, Stephanie Beglin spoke to us about the valuable service that the Ronald McDonald House provides to over 550 families each year from all across Scotland and also further afield. Established in 1996 at Yorkhill Children's Hospital, the Ronald McDonald House is now based near the Children's Hospital at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital. Its purpose is to enable families to be near their seriously sick children, whilst enjoying a free, high quality home environment with en-suite bedrooms, living and play spaces as well as laundry facilities. The House is open all year round and the average family stay is about 30 days whilst the longest occupancy has been two years. Since opening in 1996, 11,000 families have benefited from staying there. It was clear from Stephanie's presentation and accompanying testimonies from parents, how essential this facility is in helping families to stay close to their sick children.

It costs £660,000 to run the Ronald McDonald House yearly and it is worth noting that it is a small independent Scottish charity. The House receives no government or NHS funding and relies solely on the kindness and generosity of donors and fundraisers to keep the doors of the House open, to provide families with a welcoming 'home away from home'. Stephanie also clarified the status of the Ronald McDonald House, Glasgow by telling us that they are endorsed but not funded by Ronald McDonald House Charities. The name Ronald McDonald House - is retained due to their original licensing agreement. We were all surprised to hear that the Glasgow House does not receive support via the McDonald's fast-food restaurants' collection boxes and sadly, this is a common misunderstanding.

Our final meeting on 25th March was our AGM, followed by Karine Davison who entertained us with Scottish street songs evoking memories of childhood for all of us.

The Guild Summer Outing this year is to Perth on Monday, 3rd June. The bus will leave Milngavie railway station at 11:00am and we will travel to Glogaburn Farm Shop for some shopping and a light lunch/tea/coffee before travelling to Perth where we will have the opportunity to do some further shopping! Following High Tea at the Royal George Hotel, the bus will bring us back to Milngavie railway station around 8:00pm.

We look forward to welcoming you to any or all of our meetings after the summer when we meet up again on Monday nights at 7:30pm in the Large Hall.

Hilary Rutherford

The following will be leading the services at St Paul's (*subject to change*)

| Date | Morning 10am | Evening 7pm |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 7 April | Rev Dr David White | Rev Dr David White |
| 14 April | Rev John Wilson | Rev Ramsay Shields |
| 21 April (Communion) | Rev Dr David White (& pm) | Rev Ramsay Shields |
| 28 April | Rev John Wilson | Rev Ramsay Shields |
| 5 May | Very Rev John Christie | Rev Dr David White |



Scottish Bible Society

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Bible Sunday appeal. The total sum donated was £855 which should be increased by £175 when Gift Aid has been collected. Copies of the Bible Society magazine 'Alive and Active', which gives updates on the work of the Scottish Bible Society, are still available at the back of the church.

Christian Aid

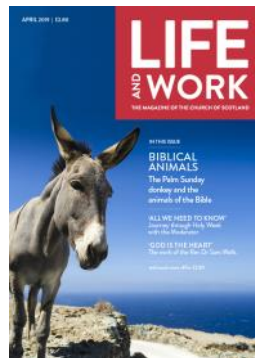


Christian Aid week this year is the 12th to the 18th May so keep an eye open for intimations looking for collectors once again. The Christian Aid Brunch this year was well attended and an astonishing £750 was raised. A huge thank you to; Ann for making the soup, the ladies who helped in and out of the kitchen and to everyone who attended and supported this cause.

Thanks to all.

Alex McEwan

LIFE AND WORK APRIL 2019



Biblical Animals

As the humble donkey takes centre stage on Palm Sunday, Jackie Macadam focuses on the stories of the animals in the Bible.

'All We Need to Know'

Journey through Holy Week with the Moderator of the General Assembly

God is the Heart

Interview with vicar and author the Rev Dr Sam Wells

150 Years of Care

Continuing to celebrate the Church of Scotland's care legacy, Thomas Baldwin hears about the work of The Bungalow, an award-winning home for adults with multiple and profound disabilities

Youth Column

Connor Macfadyen describes his faith journey

Walking Together With the Guild

A new project bridging the generations

Power and Powerlessness

Continuing his series on themes of slavery in the Bible, the Rev Richard Baxter emphasises the importance of grace

Making the Most of Lent

The Very Rev Dr John Chalmers reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness

Plus news, reviews, letters, registers and crosswords

Online visit us at www.lifeandwork.org for regular news and exclusive features, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @cofslifeandwork

Subscribe online from £12, or download a digital copy for £1.99; or speak to your church's Life and Work coordinator.

BreakAway

BreakAway continues to meet on Tuesday afternoons and with the support of our church befrienders our members have enjoyed many hours of fun and fellowship.

Over the past few months we have welcomed a variety of visitors including Jim from Therapets and his beautiful Old English Sheepdog. There have been regular visits from the children of Lullaby Lane Nursery, entertaining us with their songs. Friends presented a display of Scottish Country dancing and we enjoyed some Scottish tunes played on the bagpipes to celebrate St. Andrew's Day.

A Seagull Trust Cruise trip was our first outing in October, the sun shone and everyone enjoyed an afternoon out on the canal. In November, we surprised Doreen and Graham with a Diamond Wedding Anniversary celebration, including 'cutting the Cake'. And...beautiful ceramic stars, gifted by one of our befrienders, were displayed on our tree together with handmade decorations made by members for the Christmas Tree Festival.

Last month our befrienders gathered for an information morning. This was an opportunity to thank everyone for sharing time and talents to care for our members. Angi Inch from Alzheimer Scotland provided a presentation on dementia and our committee displayed BreakAway resources gathered over the past three years.

Thank you to our St. Paul's family for your continuing prayers and support for BreakAway.

G. Buchanan

St Paul's Society £1 Cards

At the AGM of The St. Paul's Society on 9th March we decided that the charities for the coming year should be MYELOMA UK ,THE VINE TRUST and Sally Magnusson's charity PLAYLIST FOR LIFE. The St. Paul's Society can't thank you all enough for your support and generosity with the cards. New Cards are always being introduced and old favourites regularly reappearing. Thanks again

Alex McEwan

Church Of Scotland News

Moderator helps celebrate Glasgow radio station run by young people

The Moderator of the General Assembly has praised the work of a Glasgow-based radio station which is run entirely by young people.



Rt. Rev Susan Brown joined the team of Bolt FM as part of celebrations taking place over two weeks marking 18 years since it was founded. During this time it's hoped more than 250 young people will help to mark the anniversary.

Mrs Brown said: "It has been brilliant to take part in the celebrations marking 18 years of Bolt FM and be interviewed by some of the young people involved. We had some good conversations about the activities of Bolt FM, such as a trip to Zambia last year. I was also impressed at being asked some searching questions whilst live on the radio! I wish Bolt FM every blessing as they continue to engage and enrich the lives of young people in Glasgow."

The radio station was set up to bring groups of young people together from Royston and Blackhill, that due to territorialism couldn't be in the same room.

With gang fighting between the communities eliminated, this project has now expanded to 9 different communities across North Glasgow giving young people a voice.

Mrs Brown was interviewed by young people who took part in a programme linking the station with young people in Ndola, Zambia, through Chifubu United Church of Zambia.

Last year five of the station's budding presenters went to Ndola on a two week trip and put together a short documentary about their time there.

Bolt FM is part of St Paul's Youth Forum in Provanmill, which is designated a priority area by the Church of Scotland because it lies within one of the country's most disadvantaged parishes according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

The ethos of the station is empowering the community by creating "radio for young people by young people."

Over the years Bolt FM has allowed young people to meet and interview public figures such as members of parliament, and to visit the Houses of Parliament.

Book Group



We have been discussing *As the Women Lay Dreaming* by Donald S. Murray. This book deals with the tragedy of the Iolaire, carrying men returning from the First World War, which ran aground in Stornoway harbour. The resulting loss of life was to devastate the island for a generation.

We felt the book was a good example of life on the islands at that time and the characters were authentic. The people were totally human and the story full of emotion. That said, this book was not what we had expected. It was well into the book before the tragedy was mentioned and a couple of us were surprised to discover that this was a work of fiction albeit based on historical fact. We did think however that this book was well worth reading.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 30th April and we will be discussing *The Adventures of a Young Naturalist* by Sir David Attenborough.

Joyce Clark

Thank You

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for the many flowers, cards and prayers from St. Paul's in recent months.
Your kindness and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

Alice Henderson

St. Paul's Church Society

Our outing is on Saturday 18th May when we leave Milngavie Station at 12.30pm to visit Dundonald Parish Church. We hope to meet there with the Rev. Lynsey Brennan if her commitments allow. A local historian will give us a guided tour of the church.

We then drive to Troon to enjoy some free time before going to the Marine Hotel for a 2 course meal with tea/coffee. The cost is £32 and sign up sheets are at the back of the church. Please indicate your choice of starter and main course. Payment will be collected on Sundays 28th April and 5th May in the large hall after the morning service.

Members of the congregation who would like to come on the outing are very welcome to add their names to the sheet.

Marylyn Taggart

Flower Donations - April

Anyone wishing to record their name in Life, in memory of a loved one, should send the donation a month prior to publication of the magazine.



Donation for April: Ms. L. Young

Please send donations to Mrs M Thoms, 66 Braeside Avenue, Milngavie, G62 6NN, or put them in the flower guild pigeon hole at the back of the Church. Cheques should be written to St Paul's Flowers.

BETWEEN THE LINES - STUDY PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Led by the Rev Dr Grant Barclay on behalf of the World Mission Council.

1-11 November 2019

Staying 3 nights in the Scots Hotel, Tiberias, 4 nights in St Andrew's Guest-house, Jerusalem, and 3 nights in Bethlehem, the tour will primarily be of interest to those who are returning after a long absence or who have never been. The cost will be in the region of £1,700 per person in a double room (single supplement £500) and covers flights from Edinburgh, half board accommodation, on-ground transportation, guide, entrance fees, gratuities and insurance. Places are limited; the closing date for applications is 30th April 2019.

For more information contact the World Mission Council:

Tel: 0131 225 5722

Email: wmoutreach@churchofscotland.org.uk

Grant Barclay writes about the tour:

The Holy Land is steeped in history and significance. The people who live there on one hand are world leaders in different fields, but on the other hand are immersed in situations of conflict, injustice and fear. We will visit some of the key sites connected with the Hebrew people, the life and ministry of Jesus, and the early church. As we visit the places and our partner organisations across Israel and Palestine, we will spend time with the people, developing our understanding of the history and the contemporary challenges faced. In doing so, our faith will be informed and energised.

Grant Barclay, Minister at Giffnock: Orchardhill, produced the film 'Between the Lines' after spending six weeks in Israel and Palestine in 2017.

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Copy date for the May issue is Sunday 21st April if using church pigeon hole or Wednesday 24th April if emailing. Please send to:
st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com

| Date | Flower Deliveries | Crèche Rota | Vestibule Rota |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 7th April | J. Ford C. Tanner | Richell Wilson | Team 7 M. Kennedy |
| 14th April | P. Barlow S. Robertson | Tracey MacAllister | Team 8 L. Johnston |
| 21st April | S. Anderson L. Cowie | Wallis MacKinnon | Team 1 C. Inglis (C) |
| 28th April | M. Conway K. Edwards | Sillars Berry | Team 9 I. MacKinnon |