

Life at St. Paul's Milngavie

May 2020



Dear Friends,

I hope that this letter finds everyone keeping well and safe in these extremely difficult times. I have continued to make contingencies for the coming Sundays and the “closed door” church services continue to be organised for the coming weeks. We shall continue to record two services every Sunday for people to access on both the St Luke's and the St Paul's websites. These recorded services which will now include a children's address, will be structured as follows:-

Call to worship

Opening Prayer – Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving

Children's Address

Bible Reading

Sermon

Closing Prayer – Intercession

Benediction.

The sermons continue to be full sermons as we have on Sundays. As I have said before, I believe that it is essential that our people are provided with Bible teaching at this time. On the St Luke's website, I will continue our series on the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew's Gospel; and on the St Paul's website, the Rev John Wilson preaches a series on the book of Joshua, and I continue to be grateful to John for his support and help at this time.

These online services can be accessed using the following links:-

www.stlukemilngavie.co.uk

www.stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk

I would encourage all of our members to engage with the preaching of God's Word online as we continue to expound it week by week.

Continued overleaf...

These days of Covid-19 lockdown have seen an explosion in the use of social media by churches, and we are no exception. The services are being streamed on both the St Paul's and St Luke's YouTube channels, and a lot of helpful material is being posted on both congregations' Facebook pages. I would particularly commend the "Words for Life" being produced by Alex McEwan, and the article of the Psalms by the Rev Stafford Carson, the Principal of Union College in Belfast. In this article, he describes the Psalms as "the Bible's own devotional book for times of crisis and anxiety", and quotes one American writer who described the Psalms as "the 800lb gorilla of evangelical worship". Stafford Carson also quotes the reformer Martin Luther as saying that:- "In whatever situation he may be", the Christian will find "in that situation Psalms and words to fit his case." Indeed, he or she will find words better than their own "so that he could not put it better himself or find or wish for anything better." To that end, I have been posting some reflections on some selected Psalms on Tuesday evenings, and these can be accessed on both Facebook pages.

Another very helpful article has been written specifically about Covid-19 by the Rev Prof Donald MacLeod, and entitled:- "Can any words help?" I commend this article to everyone. It has been written with great pastoral sensitivity and encourages us, as believing children of God, to ask questions of eternal significance at this time.

On both Facebook pages, there are links to our own minister's blogs where Fergus writes with candour and sensitivity about his own situation at this time.

The Facebook pages can be accessed using the following links:-

St Paul's - <https://www.facebook.com/St-Pauls-Church-Milngavie-624985284375377/>

St Luke's - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/363902944035746/>

Let us all praise God for the good use being made of technology at this time, and pray that it continues to be used for the glory of God, and to honour His name.

Please stay safe at this time. Should you require any practical assistance, for example the collection of shopping or medication, you can get in touch with either myself, the Session Clerk Graham Mill, or your district elder.

With every blessing,

Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ,

Ramsay B. Shields

Christian Aid Week 10th to 16th May 2020

Christian Aid Week this year will take place in a different format, because of the restrictions placed on us by efforts to contain the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. It is impossible to hold the usual house-to-house collection but different ways have been set up to allow you to contribute to the essential work carried out by Christian Aid to support people living in the poorest areas of the world.

There are several ways by which you can donate to support the work of Christian Aid.

1. By internet. Go to www.caweek.org
2. By telephone. Call 020 7523 2269
3. By text. Text GIVE to 70040 to donate £5
4. By post. Send a cheque to Christian Aid, 35 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RL. Please note that cheques will take longer to process than usual, again because of changes to working arrangements caused by the coronavirus lockdown.

Please note that you can continue to donate to Christian Aid after the end of Christian Aid Week. Please also consider Gift Aid when making your donation – if you are a UK taxpayer this will add 25% to the value of your donation, at no cost to yourself. We would be grateful if you could share these details with anyone you know who would be interested. More information can be found on the Christian Aid website at www.christianaid.org.uk

Alex McEwan

Note from the Editor

Many thanks to Derek Norval, Brian Adair and Janice MacLean for their quiz contributions in this month's magazine!

Copy Date

The copy date for the June issue is Wednesday 27th May via email.

Please send any articles to st.paulslifemagazine@gmail.com

Cards, Cards, Cards!

Obviously we are not selling cards through the church because of the current lockdown, but a few people have asked me to make cards for their district or their neighbours. With this in mind I have made quite a big stock of pearlescent cards, various colours and with various images on the front, with flowers or a cross or a dove etc. Some of them have scripture but some of them have not. If you need these, I would get a set of five to you, for the price of £2.50, the money going to The Beatson to tie in with the St. Paul's Society. Please note at this point in time the money is not required. We can deal with that when things get back to normal but I thought that people might appreciate being able to send these cards as well as the people who receive them.

Contact me on
01413840274 or alexjmcewan@gmail.com

I can send you images of the cards by email to let you know what is available.

Thanks,
Alex McEwan

Quiz Time at St Paul's

During this extremely difficult time for everyone, with "lockdown" preventing socialising, the Adair family, joined by Jackie Pirie and Tricia Knaggs and their families, joined in a virtual quiz night using Zoom. This facility allowed seven different locations to link up together and have fun and laughter and enjoy each other's company albeit not in each other's company. No breaking the law, then!

One of the rounds of the quiz was called "Dingbats" (don't ask me why!) and I've attached 12 of these for members of the congregation to try for themselves. You need to look at what you see and find the meaning of the dingbat. To help you understand, let's take number 2. We see the word "cod" which is a fish. We see H₂O which is the chemical symbol for water. Now we see that cod is out of the chemical symbol so the answer is " like a fish out of water " Get it! Need to think carefully and say out loud what you see, to get the answer. I've given the Editor of the magazine the answers which I think she will hide somewhere in the magazine!

As families, we all wish you all to stay safe and take care.

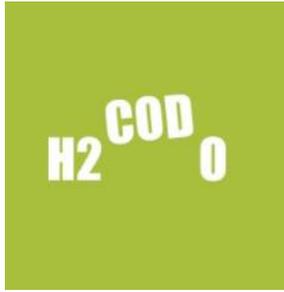
With blessings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Brian Adair

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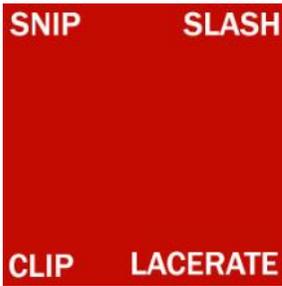
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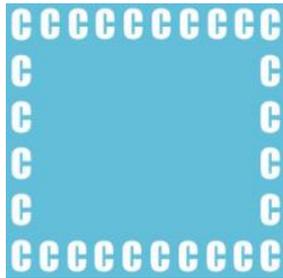
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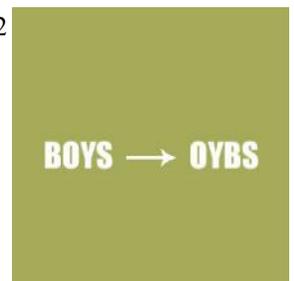
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11



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Breakfast on the Beach

John 21: 1-19



Later, Jesus showed himself to his followers by Lake Galilee. This is how it happened: Some of the followers were together. They were Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the two sons of Zebedee, and two other followers. Simon Peter said, "I am going out to fish." the other followers said, "We will go with you." So, they went out and got into the boat. They fished that night but caught nothing.

Early the next morning Jesus stood on the shore. But the followers did not know that it was Jesus. Then he said to them, "Friends, have you caught any fish?" they answered, "No." He said, "Throw your net into the water on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So, they did this. They caught so many fish that they could not pull the net back into the boat.

The follower whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Peter heard him say this, he wrapped his coat around himself

Then he jumped into the water. The other followers went to shore in the boat, dragging the net full of fish. They were not very far from shore, only about 100 yards. When the followers stepped out of the boat and onto the shore, they saw a fire of hot coals. There were fish on the fire, and there was bread. Then Jesus said, "Bring some of the fish that you caught." Simon Peter went into the boat and pulled the net to the shore. It was full of big fish. There were 153. Even though there were so many, the net did not tear. Jesus said to them, "Come and eat." None of the followers dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them. He also gave them the fish. This was now the third time Jesus showed himself to his followers after he was raised from death.

Jesus Talks to Peter

When they finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John do you love me more than these?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my lambs."

Again, Jesus said, "Simon son of John do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

A third time he said, "Simon son of John do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" Peter said, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you!" He said to him, "Take care of my sheep."

I tell you the truth. When you were younger, you tied your own belt and went where you wanted. But when you are old, you will put out your hands and someone else will tie them. They will take you where you don't want to go." (Jesus said this to show how Peter would die to give glory to God.) Then Jesus said to Peter, "Follow me!"



Quiz

1) Perhaps a week after His resurrection, Jesus appeared again to some of His disciples while they were fishing in the Sea of Tiberias (also known as the Sea of Galilee.)

True or False? The disciples recognized Jesus immediately as he stood on the beach.

- True
- False

2) What advice did Jesus give the disciples for catching fish?

- "Cast the net between the boats."
- "Cast the net on the right side of the boat."
- "Cast your lines into the deeper water."
- "Follow your hearts."

3) How many fish did they catch?

- A hundred fifty-three
- Forty
- Four score and seven
- Six hundred sixty-six

4) What did Jesus do for the disciples as soon as they landed the fish?

- He washed their feet.
- He gave them the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- He touched the net and repaired the tear in it.
- He fed them breakfast.

5) Jesus said to Peter, "Feed my Lambs." What did He mean by that?

- Do many works of charity to show God's love.
- Be a protector of all God's creatures.
- Be a leader of Christian believers.
- Take care of Jesus' Mother, Mary.

Dingbats answers

1. Third Degree
2. Like a Fish out of Water
3. No Holds Barred
4. Cut Corners
5. Unfinished Business
6. Misunderstanding
7. High Five
8. Seaside
9. Knock on wood
10. Mixed emotions
11. Handsome
12. Altar Boys

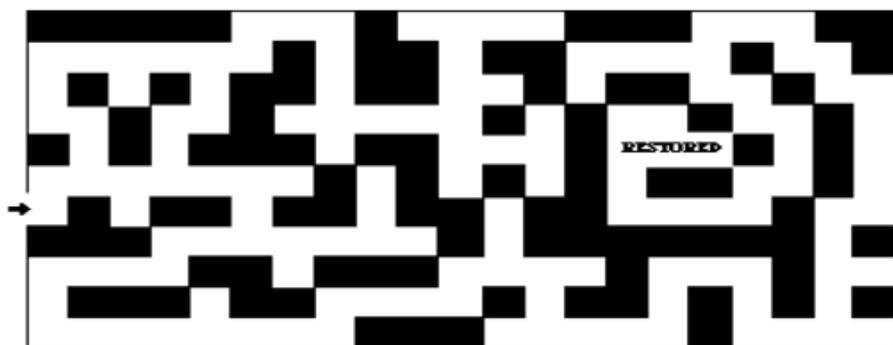
Breakfast on the beach Word Search
and Maze

K	P	E	E	H	S	V	J	G	W	Y	G	O	B	B
N	Q	E	T	S	T	M	J	L	J	P	Z	F	B	H
O	J	J	A	B	F	A	E	O	W	E	J	L	B	S
W	B	Z	N	M	A	Z	A	V	B	O	S	L	M	I
Q	B	T	S	A	F	K	A	E	R	B	L	U	D	W
I	R	Z	R	L	Y	S	W	E	M	Y	P	L	S	A
F	B	K	P	Q	Y	H	L	U	W	B	N	M	O	C
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D	E	T	Q	I	F	B	E	D	B	R	F	F	V	J
W	F	D	R	I	G	T	B	W	F	C	I	P	R	U
Z	J	I	D	L	V	S	P	Y	I	G	R	G	C	E
S	I	M	O	N	P	E	T	E	R	R	O	K	M	R
K	T	O	J	S	B	V	J	P	B	G	L	B	L	O
K	D	R	O	L	S	O	H	Z	G	N	G	U	B	M

BREAKFAST
FEED
FOLLOW
GIRD
GLORIFY
JESUS

KNOW
LAMBS
LORD
LOVE
MORE

SHEEP
SIMON PETER
SON OF JONAH
TEND
WISH



News from the Courts

Decision making during COVID-19 restrictions

As all meetings have been cancelled for the time being, the Kirk Session has agreed to delegate to a committee comprising the moderator, the session clerk and three elders (a quorum being three) the power to act in the name of the Kirk Session in respect of such matters which, in the opinion of the committee, either (1) require urgent action; or, (2) are uncontentious and may be dealt with in the interests of expediency.

Likewise the Congregational Board has agreed to delegate to a committee comprising the chairman, the clerk to the board and three elected board members (a quorum being three) the power to act in the name of the Congregational Board in respect of such matters which, in the opinion of the committee, either (1) require urgent action; or, (2) are uncontentious and may be dealt with in the interests of expediency.

In both cases the respective Court will be kept informed of any action taken and any decisions will be ratified by the respective Court at the earliest opportunity.

Finance

The majority of our members contribute by Standing Order with Gift Aid and are thanked for their continued support. The Freewill Offering envelopes for 2020/2021 were to be distributed this month but due to the restrictions this was not possible. You are encouraged to continue to contribute financially to the Church and if you want details of how to give by Standing Order please contact the Treasurer, Mr Chris Scott treasurer@stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk .

We are aware of the additional pressure on charities at this time with reduced donations and increased demand. Many members regularly contribute financially to those in need. However we know others are concerned at how to give online safely. The Treasurer Mr Chris Scott is willing to assist with any financial donations in particular to the Trussell Trust (local food banks), The Preshal Trust, Glasgow City Mission, Lodging House Mission etc. Please contact Chris for more information.

Staff

While Hugh McCorm continues to inspect the Church buildings the rest of our employees are on furlough with full pay and the Office is closed.

REMEMBER as Ramsay said in his letter if you require help or support please contact your district elder or the session clerk.

Correspondence

Dear Graham,

Thank you so much for the thoughtfully sent Easter card which I received this morning. Understandably because of the present situation, we have received just a few this year, so yours was all the more welcome. As I've said on numerous occasions, St Paul's has a special place in our hearts. Each time we pass the church on our regular shopping trips, we make mention of the congregation and especially Fergus and Gabrielle and their family, for whom we pray consistently. If you are in touch with the congregation digitally, if it is possible, please pass on our thoughts and good wishes, with the hope that we might be able to visit St. Paul's when this crisis is over, sooner rather than later.

Janie joins me in wishing you, your family and the congregation, every blessing for Easter.

Rev John Campbell

Dear Graham,

I hope all is well with you and yours.

Thought that I'd drop you this email to say many thanks for the Easter card and its thought-filled greeting. Much appreciated.

With continuing prayers and thoughts for all associated with St Paul's
Shalom

Very Rev John C Christie

Clerk to the Presbytery of Dumbarton

Hymn Titles Quiz

In the table below is a list of 24 hymns each with a 4 word title. The first word in each title is given in column 1. The remaining 3 words of each title are mixed up – they're not in a horizontal line! Try to find four words that make up a hymn title by choosing one word from each of columns 2, 3 and 4.

Answers will be revealed in next Month's magazine!

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
1	Away	All	A	Am
2	Be	As	A	Art
3	Blessed	Be	A	Came
4	Faith	Be	Anchor	Cross
5	From	Child	And	Faithfulness
6	For	Church's	Bleak	Fathers
7	Go	Firm	Holy	Foundation
8	Great	Forth	I	Foundation
9	How	Great	I	Glory
10	How	Heaven	Infant	Hold
11	In	Holy	Is	King
12	Infant	In	My	Lowly
13	Just	Is	One	Manger
14	Joy	Night	Our	Midwinter
15	O	Of	Rugged	Morning
16	Silent	Old	The	Name
17	See	Shall	The	Night
18	The	Sing	The	Praise
19	The	The	The	Saints
20	Thine	Thou	The	Send
21	Will	To	The	Tell
22	We	What	Thou	This
23	What	Worship	Thy	Vision
24	Whom	Your	You	World