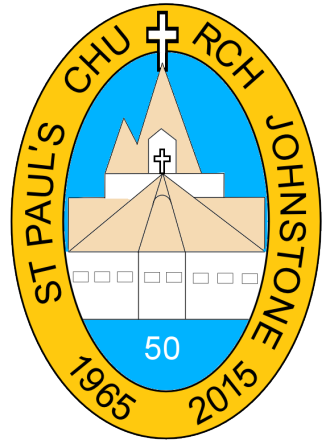




# ST. PAUL'S HERALD

CONGREGATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, JOHNSTONE



## Christmas 2023

Dear Friends,

Ever since the Day of Pentecost the worldwide church has been in a state of constant change. As generations have come and gone, new interpretations and understandings become relevant for the current days, helping generations of new believers to come to know the risen Christ for themselves.

In recent times, churches in our Presbytery have been grappling with the new Presbytery Mission Plan, and Johnstone has not been unaffected by this. It raises questions about what "being church" will look like in the years to come. In August you also saw the retirement of your minister Alistair, and I now have the pleasure of being your Interim Moderator and doing what I can to help you during this further period of change.

Whatever the future may hold for Christendom in Johnstone, we know that God will always be with us whenever and wherever we faithfully worship him.

Over the next months we will explore together the directions that God may have for us as a congregation. We will explore how partnerships and working together with others could happen. Above all we will walk with faith, supporting and encouraging one another, and hopefully enjoying the journey that we share with Jesus and with one another.

If there is any way in which I can help, please do not hesitate to be in contact with me.

Every blessing

Philip Wallace



## CHURCH FLOWERS

Many thanks to all who help to fill the flower list week by week. Your generous donations bring joy to those who receive the arrangements and let them know that we are thinking about them in their time of need.

Thanks to Nan for helping arrange the flowers and to Margaret who delivers them most Sunday afternoons.

The flower list for 2024 will be in the vestibule from the beginning of December.

Anne Brown



## Saturday Sunshine Club

The Sunshine Club met on Saturday 21 October at our usual time 4pm to 6pm. A good number of children attended. All had a marvellous time with craft projects, games and of course the fellowship of coming together for food. Macaroni cheese and garlic bread was the main event with of course a delicious pudding to follow. Enjoyed by children and helpers alike.



The next dates for your diary are: 18 November & 9 December.

The photos show the children enjoying their crafts, play and dinner. One photo also shows the newest recruit to the kitchen staff.



Look forward to seeing you all next time.



## TEAR FUND

tearfund

Thank you to all who save their "small change" for Tear Fund. So far this year I have sent them £200, maybe a bit less than previous years because we are not using cash as much now.

I received a letter from Tear Fund recently thanking us for helping them for the last 39 years. How time flies !!



Please keep up the good work you have been doing for such a long time.

Anne Brown

*(Photo from Tearfund website)*

## CHURCH REGISTER



Mrs. Margaret Millar, 17 Ladeside Drive, Johnstone.

Date of Death : Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. Date of Funeral : Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Mrs. Brenda Sutherland, Burnlea Nursing Care home, Largs

Date of Death: Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023. Date of Funeral: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Mr. Peter Smolarek, 20 Russell Street, Johnstone.

Date of Death : Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Date of Funeral : Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Mrs. Margaret Woodburn, 24a Polson Drive, Johnstone.

Date of Death : Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Date of Funeral : Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Mrs. Margaret Gavin, 3 Plover Place, Spateston, Johnstone.

Date of Death : Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023. Date of Funeral : Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Mrs. Pauline Milroy, 11 Ramsay Place, Johnstone.

Date of Death : Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. Date of Funeral : Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Mr. Walter Rosendale, formerly of 12 Don Place, Corseford, latterly of Ranfurly Care Home, Quarrelton Road, Johnstone.

Date of Death: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 Date of funeral: Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023



## WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

### ACCORDION EVENING



We welcomed to St. Paul's for the first time on Friday 22nd September, "The Jimmy Blair Accordion Orchestra."

They played a wonderful variety of music, from traditional Scottish to modern, country and sing along.

We had approximately 70 people attend and we sang and danced the night away.



Everyone including the orchestra had a wonderful evening. The orchestra fully appreciated the enthusiasm of the audience and at the end of the evening said how much they enjoyed playing for us and hoped we would invite them back, which of course we will!

Thank you to everyone for coming along and making this such a successful evening, and as always a big thank you to our wonderful bakers!



The Ways and Means Committee (and faithful volunteers.)



## BEETLE DRIVE

On Friday 20th October, we once again had our Beetle Drive.

With just under 50 people attending this was as usual, fast, funny and noisy.

This is always a good evening and as you move round the tables it means you get to know new people. Then of course there is always a light supper of sandwiches and home baking finish the night off.



Thank you to all who attended and contributed in any way to make this such a successful evening.

The Ways and Means Committee  
(and faithful volunteers)



### Annual Christmas Fayre

Our annual Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday 2nd December in the Masonic Hall from 10am until 12 noon.

Please support us in this venture, it is always a very successful event with various stalls and if course home baking is served with tea or coffee.

Look out for further information in the pew leaflet.

Thank you for your support.

Ways and Means Committee and faithful volunteers.

*Photos from Christmas Fayre 2022*



## 1st JOHNSTONE GIRLS' BRIGADE

We have officially kicked off our 2023/24 session with an incredible 20 girls attending most weeks, which is great. This year our topic is Special Events around the world, including: Harvest, Diwali, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas and wedding traditions across the globe. Amongst busy badge work weeks, we also have a few parties to look forward to.



Finally, a HUGE thankyou to all who supported our Chocolate Night in September, it was a brilliant success raising £309.40.

This money really helps towards our weekly snacks and crafts. THANK YOU.

We look forward to sharing more news with you in 2024.



We had our fancy dress party on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October, with lots of fun costumes. We also attended the local pantomime on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November (oh yes we did).

Our final party of the year will be our Christmas party on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, we may even have a very special guest.



## Jean Hope's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Jean celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 5<sup>th</sup> September. She had a delicious lunch at Callans Café with her close friends. The ladies had a wonderful time with much laughter and chat. Jean thoroughly enjoyed the luncheon and celebration for her milestone birthday.



## Afternoon Tea

We had another successful afternoon tea which was held on Tuesday 10 October. Our Speaker was Betty Usher who delighted us with tales of her childhood interspersed with poetry. Everyone could relate to what Betty was saying. The afternoon was full of chatter, scrumptious home baking, laughter and reminiscing. Very much enjoyed by all.



Dates for your diary: **Tuesday 18 November & Tuesday 9 December.**

Look forward to seeing you then.

Jean Shanks

## *St. Paul's Junior Drama*



Since starting back in September we have a fantastic group of boys and girls come along every Wednesday night. We have been playing some drama games getting to know our stage directions and of course rehearsing for our nativity each week. We also had a Halloween party in October where all the young people and leaders dressed up and took part in games, apple bobbing and of course some food and lots of sweets.

We are well into our rehearsals for this year's nativity "Shine", which will include some well known faces from our congregation. Shine has a modern twist on the nativity with some lively songs and even a girl band. The young people are enjoying our rehearsal times.

We are sure you will all enjoy our nativity this year which will be performed during the church service on Sunday 17th December.

### **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

Interim Moderator	Rev Phillip Wallace	0141 570 3502
	1 Alexandra Drive	
	Renfrew	
Session Clerk	Elizabeth Alexander	
	24 Spey Place	
	Johnstone	01505 705390

This newsletter is for all of St Paul's congregation. If you have any thing that you would like to share, like family celebrations, news, photos from past events in the church or other items If interest, please email or phone the editor. Thank you.

Website and Facebook



St Paul's Church Johnstone



[www.johnstonestpauls.org](http://www.johnstonestpauls.org)