



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

11th, October 2021

David Jack

It was with sadness and a sense of relief that we learned of the passing of David Jack on Sunday afternoon, (after last week's



Newsletter had been issued). Relief that he is now free of the great pain and weakness he was enduring, and sadness at the loss of a great man.

David was a man of immense physical and spiritual stature. Well-built, and spiritually mature, he stood as a giant in our midst.

He was a member of Allander for nearly 40 years – 30 of them as an Elder - during which time he played a major part, both in routine activities and in significant developments over the years. He was heavily involved with the Sunday School in its earlier days, especially when there was an influx of local children. He was a frequent contributor in ministry at the services and took a leading role in the forming and conducting of house group Bible Studies. His expertise and experience enabled him to take charge of the business affairs of the church and only recently steered the church through the complex arrangements with the Charity Commission of becoming a SCIO. He was Treasurer and handled the finances meticulously. His was the technical know-how that made sure we had Zoom access and usage during the pandemic. As senior Elder he played a key part in the overall leadership of the church.

Apart from any office or role he might have held, David was warmly appreciated for his warmth and care for people. He was always approachable, pastorally interested in people's welfare and always encouraging initiative and responsibility. He was no respecter of persons and was a good shepherd.

Outside of Allander, his contributions were no less significant.

Locally, he served with the Milngavie Churches in their various activities, He was very much a 'father figure' at Friendship House, managing its affairs as well as befriending its people.

He was a Trustee and very active helper in the work of Children for Christ, a Christian missionary organisation working in Romania to share the gospel with children and young people, expending considerable energy in collecting relief materials and arranging its transportation.

He was also a key figure in arranging and leading holidays with SUpErB Choice proving to be an excellent host and dealing with not a few potentially serious emergency situations.

The apostle Paul wrote to some of his companions, saying, we *"thank God for every remembrance of you."* We, in expressing our appreciation of David, would echo those same words and believe that his *"labour is not in vain in the Lord"*

The funeral will be on Friday, 15th October at Langfaulds Cemetery at 11am with a Thanksgiving Service in Allander at 12 noon.

Sunday Sermon 1 Peter 1: 1-12

Introducing a new series based on 1 Peter, John titled this one: Hope for Hard Times.

Peter, the author of this letter, was no stranger to the hardships and pitfalls of being a follower of Jesus throughout his discipleship and subsequent ministry in the early church. By now, the situation had become much more difficult, especially with Nero's open and cruel persecution of all Christians.

It was to equip these believers that Peter wrote this letter in order to help them to endure this hardship and to find a victorious way through the adversity.

He starts by getting them to **recognise their dual identity**. They were citizens of that particular world with all its godlessness. But, they were also a chosen people, born again to a new existence and in that sense, '*citizens of heaven*' because of the death and victorious resurrection of Jesus. They were essential members of God's '*holy nation*'.

As members of that new community of faith they were sustained by **the reality of eternal security**. In spite of the temporary hardships they were called to encounter and endure, they were assured of being sustained by the power of God. Such hardship strengthened their faith and made the One they trusted in more and more precious to them.

Is it our desire, to be equally trusting and to enjoy His eternal assurance?

Finally

I have heard it said that a man may have great faith. But, to have great faith we must have an object: we must have faith in something or someone. For the Christian, there is only one object to give us great faith in and that is the living God. Today people in the world are placing faith not in God but in all kind of things that will not fulfil the longing of their lives. Let us all ensure that we place our faith in God at all times as he is the one who will protect guide and keep us until the end of our journey here on earth and then take us to be with him.

Jim Gourley

Mission of the Month

£500 was sent to Hope for Glasgow from last month's contributions.

This month's Mission of the Month is Blythswood Care and their Shoe Box Appeal. A leaflet is available with advice on filling boxes (and some alternative suggestions). Completed boxes should be brought to the church no later than Sunday 31st October, ready for collection by the Blythswood lorry.

Financial donations can also be given, either through the M o M offering box in the church or through Ian Baird, as treasurer.

Bible Study

Last week's section from Chapters 10 – 17 left us with more useful material than we could do justice to. So, we will cover the same ground this week but focus on the lessons that emerge from these incidents, starting with Chapter 10, and following. Come, ready to share your insights.

Sunday Speakers

On Sunday the 17th October Alex Bedford will be speaking at both services and on the 24th Simon Turner (Pastor Kilsyth Community Church) also at both services. We look forward to welcoming them both once again to Allander.

Pray for

Liz Baxter. Mary Atwell, the Jack family