



## **ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

### **FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER**

17<sup>th</sup> January, 2022

#### **Sunday Sermon 1 Peter 2: 1 - 8**

Writing to challenge and encourage the believers facing adverse circumstances in his day, Peter focuses on the issue of a Sure Foundation. And so, over the last two Sundays, John has posed the question: What is our foundation.

The gospel is unequivocal in declaring that Jesus Christ is the sure – and only – foundation. God set Him there and He undertook to die for our sins and be raised again to empower new life. He is the Cornerstone. There is none other.

A Christian is someone who trusts in that Christ and seeks to live in full commitment to Him. Subsequent assurance comes through understanding the primacy of Christ in God's world and seeing the purpose of God in Christ in God's work.

It also means trusting in Christ through God's word and in God's way.

That deliberate trust means that Jesus directs our lives towards God. It means that being a Christian entails living for God in a way that is pleasing to him. He is our Shepherd, guiding, correcting, and providing.

It also means that Jesus delivers us from any shame, for "whoever believes in him will never be put to shame." That is not true of those who reject him.

And, when we trust in Jesus, we can confidently depend on God to help us in our daily walk. As Paul was to say: "the life I now live, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me." It is "Christ in you, the hope of glory".

#### **Passion for Life**

There was a good number from several churches gathered on Saturday morning for the preparation session for A Passion for Life. Videos were shown followed by discussion and prayer. These preparation sessions will be held each month, - the next one is Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> February from 10am to 12 noon, - where we can join with folk from the other participating churches in preparation for what lies ahead. It is a good opportunity to work together for the extension of His kingdom.

#### **Bible Study**

Alongside those training sessions we will continue with our Bible Study series going through the Book of Deuteronomy. Homework for Thursday is Chapters 1 – 4.

#### **Mission of the Month**

We have received a letter from Margo Uprichard acknowledging last month's Mission of the Month contribution.

*Dear friends, I must express my sincere and heartfelt thanks on behalf of all the families supported by The Space for the generous and thoughtful donations provided by Allander Evangelical Church during the Christmas season. The toiletries, clothing, bedding, and other items will be of great practical help to those with no ability to pay and will also support the operation of the project shop which allows people to buy items at prices they can afford. People are afforded a great deal of dignity when they are able to choose what they would like and are enabled to be able to pay their way.*

*I am also delighted to report that the total offering received was £1345 and this will be used to employ local Roma women in sessional work to support the delivery of services. This is 'supported employment' as we have learned that people are not 'work ready' and while they learn to read and write, practical work experience is the best way forward.*

*When times improve, please be assured of a warm welcome as I would like to invite you to the project to see our work and meet some of the team and beneficiaries.*

*With every blessing and the peace of Christ, (Isaiah 56: 11) Margo*

### **SU Day of Prayer**

SU Scotland is setting aside Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January as a Day of Prayer for its activities as they continue to find ways of keeping in touch with young people and extend the work despite the crippling effects of the Covid restrictions. Further details on the SU website:

[www.suscotland.org.uk/dop](http://www.suscotland.org.uk/dop)

### **People and Prayer:**

Several of our folk are going through difficult times and would appreciate prayer. We think especially of David Wilson and Morag, Janice Allan, Margaret Stewart, Nessie Duffus, Christine Harvey, Ian Baird, Jim McKellar and Joyce Kyle. And others.

Simon and Hannah Snodgrass – with baby Edith - visited us on Sunday evening and

### **Finally,**

We are just only seventeen days into 2022 and promises made this year will already have been broken, causing harm and hurt to people. Such is life.

Jesus made many promises during his ministry, such as: John 6 v 37, Rev 3v20, Math 4v19, Luke 6v47, Math 11v28, John 14 v16, and John 14v3. These and many more he has made he will keep to the very end of time.

Jesus also promised "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." And so we know that whatever happens in the future, He is quite certain to be there.

Jim Gourley

value prayer as they contemplate returning to lead Hashtag. And Delyth Henderson (Howel and Ann's daughter) was here over New Year and wishes to thank all those who have prayed for her during the radio therapy treatment.

Inga still needs prayer for better health but she and the team rejoice that 40% of the NT is now translated into Mixtec. In addition she is working with the St Andrew's translators each week and also conducting seminars and teaching courses for a wider group of specialists. Some workload!

Flora MacInnes celebrated a significant birthday last Wednesday. Well done, Flora, and thank you for all that you do.

Andrew Macleod flew back to the US on Wednesday to resume his studies. Gillian Sutherland's return to Singapore has been delayed because of Covid isolation. Our prayers go with them.

### **Allander Activities**

Activism has always been a distinguishing feature of Evangelical Churches. Allander is no exception. In addition to its public worship services there is a range of regular activities aimed at reaching out and sharing the gospel message. It's good to be reminded of them, who is involved and what they do. A number of these ventures will be featured in coming issues.