



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

18<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

#### Sermon: John 11: 1 - 16

Alex Bedford, our speaker yesterday, gave an interesting children's talk about 'Old Teddy', his daughter's childhood comfort toy which had been lost and found again to her great joy. That reflects the joy when lost people turn back to the Lord.

In a different sense, Lazarus was 'lost' through death, much to the sorrow of the sisters and friends. However, with their approach to Jesus and His visiting the scene, there was much anticipation as to what he would do and say.

Two truths emerge from this passage.

On the one hand they discovered that God's plans are much greater than any of them thought. While they were expecting immediate resolution, Jesus deliberately delayed because, it turns out that he wanted them to learn to believe. He knew what would happen but they needed to come into the good of that.

Secondly, they learned – as we can also learn – that Jesus invaded this planet in order to reverse the effect of death. He did this by facing death, and all that it could marshal, on the Cross. He was determined to return from Bethany to Jerusalem and what he knew awaited him there because he knew that it would be the ultimate victory.

#### New Zoom Details.

The church now has a new Zoom account.

Meeting ID is: **851 6446 7898**

Passcode: **080856**

Applies to all church meetings

#### David Jack funeral

Following internment at Langfaulds Cemetery, a large crowd gathered in the church for David Jack's funeral where glowing tributes were paid to him, echoed in wonderful singing of his favourite hymns. Many thanks to all the people who worked so hard in arranging the building and providing the purvey.

#### Reflection on Mid-week activities

Following a mini-break over the October Week the regular midweek activities continue with Toddler Time on Tuesday mornings, the Drop-In Café on Wednesday mornings and #One2Seven on Wednesday evening. And, this week, the Ladies Meeting on Thursday afternoon. There have been encouragements in each of these with positive comments, offers of help and a sense of mission.

We remember Hannah Snodgrass and Simon with their new baby due soon.

Not taking a break, the prayer times have continued with real commitment as prayers are made for these ventures, those wider afield and especially for the many in the Fellowship needing "*the help that comes from God*" at this time.

#### United Churches

The pandemic and its restrictions have seriously affected the various joint activities evangelical churches in Milngavie have enjoyed in the past.

However, there are stirrings that suggest joint Prayer Breakfasts and Worship services, especially leading up to

Christmas, may happen again. It so happens that a wider-based Passion for Life programme is likely to be a catalyst for this working together over the next six months, or so, with joint Advent Services. See the notice about Passion for Life below.

### **Passion for Life: Introductory Meeting**

A joint meeting of Milngavie churches will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 9am, in Allander. It will start with some refreshments and pastries prior to a presentation.

The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the churches to "A Passion for Life" in which we – and other churches - will be involved in between Christmas and Easter 2022.

To hear full details of this exciting venture the plans we have, please come along on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> October at 9am.

### **Milngavie Churches Advent Services.**

Joint Sunday evening services will be held at 7 pm during the weeks leading up to Advent:

Nov. 28 <sup>th</sup>	UF	John Macleod
Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Allander:	Ramsay Shields
Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup>	St Luke's:	Fergus Buchanan
Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup>	St Paul's:	Douglas Campbell

### **Ladies Meeting**

Following an encouraging opening meeting – the Ladies Meeting resumes again this Thursday at 2pm, with Jim Gourley speaker.

### **Finally,**

It is common today to talk about something's footprint. Whether it is our carbon or energy footprint or the market presence of a business we are encouraged to think carefully about the footprint we are making. What a wonderful image for a Christian as we recognise that we are called to leave an indelible footprint of faith during our journey in this world. The best thing for us is that we know we can leave such a footprint if we simply follow in the footsteps of our Saviour, Jesus. As the old hymn says, *"Footprints of Jesus that make the pathway glow; we will follow the steps of Jesus where'er they go"*.

John Macleod

### **Blythswood Boxes**

A reminder that Blythswood Shoe Boxes are due by the end of the month. Early posting will be appreciated!

### **Prayer:**

We continue to remember the many among us who need prayer for different situations in these days. Liz Baxter is now in St Margaret's Hospice. Joyce Kyle, Margaret Cowan and Jack Harvey are in the various Homes while George and Christine have the duty of visiting; Esther McCall has suffered back problems which have prevented her from playing at the morning service and the Ladies Meeting. And, there are others.

### **Faith Mission**

Gordon Thomson and his FM colleagues are planning to hold a Faith Mission Rally at Allander on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 7 30 pm and will follow that with the resumption of the Rejuvenate outreach programme for teenagers on the Saturday.

### **Bible Study**

Re-visiting chapters 10 – 13 last Thursday occasioned much sharing of valuable insights. We will continue with that activity again this week focusing on chapters 13 – 17, highlighting the many lessons to be learned from these Old Testament passages.