



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

19th September, 2022

Sunday Sermon

With John away at Maryhill Evangelical Church this morning the preaching was undertaken by Terry Gallagher who, with his wife Joan, have been worshipping with us since January.

It began with Terry sharing his remarkable testimony. Brought up in the Gorbals in a rough environment and engulfed in gang culture, with a history of crime and alcoholism, he encountered a gangland friend whose life had been changed and who encouraged Terry to attend a Christian rally which brought him face-to-face with the gospel and its challenge. That resulted in a personal encounter with Jesus which transformed his life. Subsequently, that life has resulted in ministry in various churches as a pastor and an extensive experience of helping those in similar circumstances.

Basing his sermon on some incidents in the Book of Acts he went on to emphasise the fact that Jesus can effect change – radical change – in anyone's heart if they believe in Him, despite the nature of the difficult circumstances they face or the sinfulness they are aware of.

That was further illustrated in the story of the Philippian jailer and his family who, in spite of pending doom were told to "*believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved*". Doing that, they found release and were baptised, openly confessing their faith in Christ.

Such incidents challenge us to believe, be bold and be fully active in the work of the gospel, despite any adverse setbacks.

Crowded House

Encouraging news from the children and young people's activities. The Sunday School has a regular attendance but the wide age range still presents a challenge; Toddlers is still drawing full numbers with several names on the waiting list (waiting for that second session); Hashtag's numbers are increasing. Younger new members present something of a behavioural challenge while some of the older ones are continuing to attend and are meeting as a youth group.

Allander leaflet

The Elders have produced a very attractive leaflet containing details of Allander's many activities. It can be used for general distribution. It will be very useful for handing out to visitors to the church, friends, parents of children who attend our activities, and anyone else showing interest.

Evening of Gospel Music

Morag Wilson has sent in details of an Evening of Gospel Music on Saturday, 8th October at 7pm in Freedom City Church Centre, Cumbernauld organised by Inspirational Gospel Music Scotland. It will feature several performers including Colin Elliott and Joy Glass. Tickets cost £7 and can be obtained by contacting 07909 697573 or 01236 821077.

SU Thanksgiving

An evening of Thanksgiving for SU Scotland's work in Independent Schools will be held on Tuesday, 4th October at 7 30pm in St Silas' Church, Glasgow

Inga

This Sunday will be the last Sunday Inga will be with us before she flies back to Mexico on Thursday, the 29th. During her time at home she has not only renewed fellowship with us and her many friends, but she has been working hard maintaining Mixtec translation activities, and contributing to some very high level work within the linguistic community and ensuring the quality of the translation work and its many challenges. Last week she was at the Wycliffe gathering in Germany presenting a report on the translation challenges faced by those working in the Americas region of the world.

As an expression of our identification with, and support for, her she will be commended at this Sunday morning's service.

Mission of the Month

Our mission this month is Platform 67, an agency supporting indigenous missionary work across the world.

Faith Mission

The first of the Faith Mission Rallies will take place in Allander on Friday 30th September at 7 30pm when the speaker will be Gavin Harrison and his wife

Rebecca the singer. Rejuvenate will launch again on the next day, Saturday 1st October.

Ladies' Meeting

This meeting, will resume for the winter with its first meeting of the new session on Thursday 6th October at 2 pm when Mima Campbell will be the speaker.

Prayer

As Sue Huggins, Inga's co-worker, often writes: "*prayer would be appreciated*" for national events: the State funeral for HM Queen Elizabeth II, HM Charles III, and the Westminster Government with Liz Truss and her Cabinet. It also means challenges for the devolved parliament and assemblies as new relationships are worked out in practice in a changing era. Of concern to us is the safeguarding of values, clearly declared during this transition period but vulnerable to pressures from "the enemies of God" and the influence of a secular society.

Bible Study

Last week's Bible Study was affected by internet connection problems. However, we will continue this Thursday with looking at Chapter 1

Finally,

The tributes to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II have made us realise the greatness of the dedication she had toward her role. So many insights to her hard work and commitment have been made that it has been truly humbling to consider how much she was devoted to serving her people as their Queen. Many people confess (myself included!) that they were ignorant of the extent of her work and the comprehensive levels of application it required. If the truth be told we rarely paused to consider what she actually did for her people. On a much greater scale, how many pause to consider the constant faithfulness of what the King of Glory does in sustaining His creation and extending His kingdom day by day. It would be impossible for us to calculate the commitment and devotion of our God in his kindness to a world that rejects Him and in His faithfulness to the people he has redeemed. Let's lift our eyes to the One who never slumbers nor sleeps.

John Macleod