



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

22nd November, 2021

Sunday Sermon

Introducing his presentation update on the work of SAT-7, Alastair Lochhead, its Scottish Representative, quoted the Scripture: *Is anything too hard for the Lord?* Applying that to the situation in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) he showed how God used one man's initiative in reaching millions by means of satellite whereas previously there was no significant gospel access possible.

SAT-7's current focus is on presenting the gospel and encouraging the church through a variety of programmes broadcast 24/7 on four different channels. It brings hope to millions and pays particular attention to the needs of women in these countries and that of children deprived of educational opportunities.

Concluding the service around the Communion Table, Jim Gourley focused on the last week of Jesus, beginning with the acclaim of Palm Sunday but soon to be overshadowed by the betrayal, rejection and crucifixion which followed.

Yet, in a wonderful gathering in the Upper Room the night before Calvary, Jesus communed with his disciples, telling them that he was about to depart, leaving them to be his witnesses. He prepared them for what lay ahead by warning them of the difficulties they might encounter but assuring them of the enabling power of God available to them through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

It was our privilege to gather to again remember that sacrifice and that promise

Mission of the Month

The current Mission of the Month is SAT-7 – a contemporary mission agency using satellite technology to beam gospel and educational programmes with a Christian focus into many countries in the Middle East at a time when ordinary missionaries are not allowed to operate.

Services on Zoom

Because of the difficulty in using Zoom and the Loop service for the hearing impaired at the same time, Sunday services will not now be available on line but can be followed on the Internet, as normal, through the church website.

The Tuesday Prayer meeting will still be available on Zoom for those who find coming out at night difficult but, as Elders, we would stress the importance of being in one place for this most important meeting in the life of the church.

Milngavie Churches Advent Services

From November 28th, we join with local churches for Advent services on the theme of looking forward to the Second Coming. These will be at 7 pm each Sunday leading up to Advent in different locations as set out below.

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

Advance Notice

The Church's General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday 2nd December at 7 30pm, DV.

People and Prayer:

Sadly, after a long illness, Liz Baxter passed away on 7th November. We valued her time with us at Allander and will miss her presence and give thanks to God for our times together. Her funeral service is this Thursday 25th November at 1 30pm pm at Clydebank Crematorium. Among others facing fresh challenges this week are: Mary Linton, Mary Atwell, and Ibbie.

Christian Institute

The Christian Institute, who do such a sterling work lobbying Governments and standing up for traditional values, are hosting a Week of Prayer from Sunday 21st to Saturday 27th November. A booklet with details is available by download from www.christian.org.uk

The work is ongoing and incessant in the face of strong pressure from activists who oppose Christian teaching and exercise a disproportionate influence on decision makers. Making counter views known is very important so we are all strongly urged to write to MPs and MSPs and to take part in genuine consultations. Views are taken seriously. There is a current

consultation on 'conversion therapy'. Advice on what to write to whom and government consultation sites is available from the Christian Institute.

FM Christmas Bookstall

The Faith Mission are holding a Christmas Bookstall at Drumchapel UF church from 10am to 3pm on 25th to 27th November.

Platform 67

We look forward to welcoming Martin Dudgeon from Platform 67 at our prayer meeting on Tuesday 30th November at 8pm. Plan to come for what is always a fascinating evening with Martin as we hear how they are reaching people in other countries of the world..

Church Cafe.

Last Wednesday we had 30 people at the morning café; the highest number since we started, which was very encouraging.. The cafe provides a place for: people in the community to come and meet church members; for church members to bring family and friends; and where we as church members have time to talk and share with one another. If you have not been yet why not visit soon?

Finally,

In the days of Hezekiah, Judah was on its knees economically, paying tribute to Assyria. When Hezekiah came into power his priority was not the **Economy** but the **moral state of the nation**. He restored proper worship in the temple and turned Judah away from their idolatry. Hezekiah stopped paying tribute to the King of Assyria. He built new towers, strengthened the walls and created a water-way within the city of Jerusalem anticipating an attack from Assyria. The king of Assyria arrived with his army and besieged the city. His psychological warfare was to demoralise the defenders of the wall declaring that no gods of any nation had withstood him, and that Judah's God was no exception. He sent a letter to Hezekiah to surrender or face the consequences. Hezekiah rent his clothes and laid the letter before God interceding before Him that God's name be honoured. God answered his prayer and sent an angel to destroy the Assyrian army. This teaches us that our priority is the spiritual restoration of God's people and the nation. **"2 Kings 18v5 says "He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, so that there was none like Him among all the Kings of Judah, after Him, nor among those who were before Him."** Let us intercede before our God and pray for the nation that God's name be honoured.

Sandy Allan