



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

28th March, 2022

Sunday Sermon: John 9: 1- 10

On a beautiful Spring morning, with abundant signs of new life, Alex Bedford drew our thoughts to the vine which, unlike other trees which have main and subsidiary branches, is unique in that the branches and fruit emerge directly from the main stem.

It demonstrates the truth that God's love reaches out to us. Christ's coming to earth, his being one with the Father, his sacrifice for us on Calvary, our trusting in him by faith, all mean that we are eternally connected to Jesus, bonded with him. Life flows from him to us so that we are never alone or bereft. He chose us for this relationship that we might bear fruit and glorify him.

In the same way, nourished by that life that comes through abiding constantly in him, we should reach out to others with that same love. His commandment is to "*love one another as I have loved you*", thus bearing much fruit.

Communion

To accommodate Easter services the normal Communion times are being changed slightly for April with Evening Communion on the 3rd and 17th and Morning Communion on the 10th and 24th.

Lenten Services

The series of Saturday morning (9 30 – 10am) Lenten services continue at St Paul's this week with Stephen Thomas reflecting on: "*the outcome of faith*" based on "*but have everlasting life*" from John 3: 16.

Bible Study

This Thursday's Zoom Bible Study will be the last one on Deuteronomy with a reflective overview of the whole book. Having now completed our study of the Pentateuch we take a break over April and Easter before starting on Joshua on Thursday, 5th May, DV.

Holiday Club

We are planning to have a Holiday Club this year running from Monday 27th June to Friday 1st July working in conjunction with C.E.F (Child Evangelism Fellowship) and led by Simon & Hannah Snodgrass.

The first planning meeting will be held on **Sunday 3rd April at 4pm** in the church and we are requiring people to help as in previous years, please give this your consideration and come along to see how you can be of help and support.

This initiative is a great opportunity to reach out to the Community in Milngavie. Please remember this in your prayers.

Faith Mission

The monthly Prayer Union for the work of the Faith Mission and the activities of Gordon and Janice Thomson in particular will take place next Monday, 4th April at 7 30pm on Zoom. Details are: Meeting ID: 783 9491 6462; Passcode: 8BYacB

Mission of the Month

Having designated March for Relief Work in the Ukraine and surrounding countries through the work of the Slavic Gospel Association, (during which £2935 was

contributed) April's Mission of the Month will be Street Connect whose leader, Ricky McAddock, shared with us on Sunday 13th March telling something of the work they do in reaching out to the addicted and the homeless and taking them through a programme of rescue and restoration. It was good to hear some of the testimonies and examples of the projects.

More on the Chinese Church

Following on from our catalogue of the Chinese – and Jing's – church activities, here is a little more of its history.

CBMC began as Christian Business Men's Committee in the United States in 1930, when a small group of Christian businessmen coordinated a series of pre-Easter prayer rallies. With the Great Depression in its second year, these men saw an urgent need for spiritual revival and took it upon themselves to plan a six-week evangelistic series of meetings at the Garrick Theatre, in the Chicago loop area. Public response to the first gathering on January 6, 1931, was overwhelming, as more than 800 packed into the 800-seat facility for all six sessions. As the meetings were drawing to a close, the downtown Chicago business community wanted to

continue the gatherings as more and more men were experiencing life change through their newfound relationship with Christ.

Christian Viewpoint

The Ladies meet again for Lunch on Wednesday 6th April at 12 45 when the speaker will be a representative from the Leprosy Mission.

A Passion for Life

The next preparation meeting for A Pasion for Life will be held in Allander on Saturday morning, 9th April, from 10 until 12 noon.

Holy Week Services

Holy Week Services conducted by Milngavie Churches will take place from Monday 11th to Friday 15th April in St Luke's Church at 7 30pm each evening.

The speakers will be:

Monday, 11 th :	Ramsay Shields
Tuesday 12 th :	John Macleod
Wednesday 13 th :	Gavin Mathews, SOLAS
Thursday, 14 th :	Douglas Campbell
Friday 15 th :	Fergus Buchanan.

Each will reflect on an aspect of the final week leading up to the Crucifixion.

Finally,

There is much talk in Governments around Europe in particular about energy security and limited resources. The dependence on Russian gas supplies in particular has been brought into focus by the war in Ukraine and is reflected in Global fuel prices.

The Apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Ephesians of the resources available to the Christian: - *'I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high and how deep his love is.'* (Chapter 3 from v16-18, New Living Translation)

May we live in the good of such resources.

Ian Baird