



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

16<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

#### Sunday Sermon: 1 Corinthians 15: 35 -49

While last week's sermon dealt with the past in that the resurrection of Jesus and what he accomplished through that experience meant the defeat of death (*"by destroying principalities and powers triumphing over them in it"*), this week's sermon looked ahead and showed that the resurrection signals **A Glorious Future.**

Christian testimony bears witness to this, none more so than in the sentiments expressed in the "negro spirituals" sung by African slaves as they exercised hope in very adverse circumstances.

The Resurrection – of Jesus and of those who believe in him - means **continuity with the present.** In nature a seed 'dies' and is re-formed: similarly those who 'die' in repentance and trust are 'born again' of the Spirit of God.

But, there is also a **contrast with the present.** It is not *'more of the same'*; a simple repeat of what was but a re-generation with a new body and better features. It is spiritual, being born of God, superior to our present existence. *Eternal, incorruptible, raised in glory. We shall be 'like Him'.*

It **corresponds to our present source of life.** While natural life comes through genetic inheritance, spiritual life comes from Jesus, our *"heavenly Father"*. *That is why we must be "born again"*.

That blessed truth of being blessed in Christ who (following his resurrection) is seated with God in heaven brings us **comfort in the midst of everyday life.**

#### Congratulations

Today Jean Donnelly celebrates her 90th birthday and we send to her our love and warmest blessings and trust she has a very happy day. We do appreciate all the many years of service Jean has given to the church at Allander.

#### Summer Holiday Club.

The next planning meeting will take place tonight, Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the Back Hall. The event is only 6 weeks' away which doesn't leave us much time to get everything ready for the Club which runs from 27<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July. Please come along and see if there is any way you can offer help.

And, please do remember this outreach in your prayers.

#### Mission of the Month

This month's Mission is CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) an international mission focusing on reaching children with the gospel and nurturing them in the Christian Faith. Two of their workers, based in Scotland, Simon and Hannah Snodgrass, have been a real answer to prayer in taking over the running of our #One2Seven each week (19 children attending last week) free of charge. They will also be conducting the Holiday Club during the last week in June. Simon will be speaking at our services on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May.

#### Slavic Gospel Association.

We are looking forward to the visit of Mark Foster on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm.

This will be an opportunity to hear first-hand from Mark about Slavic Gospel Association and their work in war torn Ukraine. Please plan to come to this meeting.

### **Answers to Prayers**

At the Prayer Meeting on Tuesday night Jim Gourley, standing in for John who was indisposed, encouraged us with reciting several examples of answered prayers in the life of the church over the last year or so. He mentioned, among other things, the encouragement from the work among the children from Toddlers through Sunday School to #One2Seven where not only numbers are relatively high but the enthusiasm and expressed appreciation by the “clients” is so positive. Simon and Hannah have been a real provision from God as have been the faithful regulars who contribute each week.

### **Appreciation**

Apart from organised activities in and through the church being prayed for several folk, whose names appear from time to time in our Pray For section, have expressed their appreciation of being remembered in prayer and enabled to come through their various experiences. That appreciation can be summed up in the words of a missionary who makes frequent trips to Eastern Europe in the

face of much danger: *Thank you for your prayers during my recent ministry visit to xxx. These were much appreciated. I was very often aware of being held up by prayer.*

### **Pray For**

Prayer requests came in on Tuesday for three close friends from neighbouring churches: Danny Sutherland (almost ‘one of us’) suffered an accident last week and damaged several ribs. Fergus Buchanan of St Paul’s, who last week celebrated 40 years in the ministry, is again not at all well. And Ramsay Shields at St Luke’s is undergoing investigative scans and potential surgery for cancer.

Then, among our own folks we continue to remember: Ian and Margaret Baird, the Carmichael family, George and Margaret Cowan, Gordon Craig, Christine and Jack Harvey, Joyce Kyle, Roddy Mackenzie, John Macleod, Inga McKendry, Margaret Stewart, Agnes Wilson, David and Morag Wilson, and Linda Wilson. And others.

### **STOP PRESS:**

Joyce Kyle is now resident at Mugdock Care Home, Stockiemuir Road, Bearsden, G61 3SF. Hopefully she will be able to have more company and be easier to visit.

### **Finally,**

Despite it being weeks ago that I heard this statement on the radio, I still cant get over what was said. On BBC Radio Scotland as they discussed the issues surrounding Boris Johnson and parties during the Covid lockdown, a commentator came out with this, “Well he broke the rules and possibly even the Law, but has he really done anything wrong?”! This is the world we live in! Now on one hand you could argue that maybe the rules and the Laws were overstated, but the fact remains that they were in place. I have often felt speed limits are outdated and unfair, but they are the Law! When it comes to the judgment of our lives, how blessed we are to know that there are no grey areas in God’s thinking and no blind spots in his interpretations. We can be thankful for this because we know that His judgments will be right and true. I will praise you seven times a day because all your regulations are just. (Ps119v164 NLT)

John Macleod