



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Monday, 6th March, 2023

Sunday Sermon: Romans 1: 18 - 32

Paul's letter to the Romans is unique in many ways. In it he is discharging a 'debt' to the Roman church which he had not founded or yet visited. So, as a 'servant of Jesus Christ' and an 'apostle to the Gentiles', taking nothing for granted, he declares to them the whole gospel.

That gospel is 'concerning Jesus Christ' and one of which he is not ashamed because it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes. It is a gospel in which the wrath of God is revealed against ungodliness and unrighteousness but offers a righteousness as a gift from God.

In this section Paul explains **why they need such a gospel**.

In the first place it is **because of God's wrath**. The whole range of human behaviour that ignores God's requirements and intention for humanity which he created but has ignored that Creator. God's wrath is as intensive and extensive as is His love. It is fearful.

Secondly, **it is because we are guilty**. The list of wrong behaviour listed in this chapter is uncomfortably familiar and representative of our contemporary actions. There is no excuse. The facts are stark. God has 'given us over' to our own sinful ways.

Thirdly, it is **because we** (because we are guilty) **need to be rescued – or 'saved'**.

That rescue can become effective when we repent and believe, accepting the righteousness which God offers.

This Week

Our regular activities continue this week with Toddlers at 9 30am and Prayer Meeting at 8pm on Tuesday; Drop-In Café from 10 30 to 12 30 and Hashtag / Youth Challenge at 6 30pm on Wednesday; The Ladies Meeting at 2pm and Bible Study at 7 30pm on Thursday. Zoom prayer times from 9 to 9 30 on Wednesday and Friday.

Gordon Thomson will take both services on Sunday.

FM Prayer

The monthly Prayer Union for the work of the Faith Mission takes place tonight (Monday 6th March) at 7 30pm in Betty Mackay's home at 44 St Germain's, Bearsden G61 2RS

Ladies Meeting

The speaker at the Ladies Meeting on Thursday afternoon from 2 to 3 pm will be Cathy Steed of Drumchapel UF.

Echoes Conference

Echoes International will hold their Annual Scottish Mission Conference on Saturday 11th March 2023 at Woodhill Evangelical Church in Bishopbriggs. This is a good opportunity to hear what God is doing in various situations across the world and the role Scottish missionaries – like Inga – are playing in it.

Mission of the Month

The Mission that we will be supporting this month is Platform 67. Martin Dudgeon, its leader, is a regular visitor to Allander and shares something of the support and servicing they offer to a

whole range of outreaches across the world.

Last month, £750 was contributed for the work of Street Connect.

Turkey / Syria Appeal

The response to the opportunity to make donations for Jean Malkin's paintings given to the Appeal has been most rewarding.

People and Prayer

As far as we are made aware of needs, we include the names of folk who are particularly in need of prayer, for whatever reason. That is our duty.

In response, those who are prayed for often express appreciation for being thus remembered and wish to say a sincere Thank You to all concerned.

So, we continue to remember: George Cowan, Margaret Russell, Joan Gallagher, Mary Clarke, Larry Malkin, Janice Allan, Inga and our many 'regulars'.

Holy Week

This year the Holy Week services will be hosted by Allander in association with our other neighbouring evangelical churches: St Luke's, St Paul's and Milngavie UF. Reverting to a previous arrangement, there will be one speaker – Dr Sandy Rodger - for the week. It is envisaged that this will be a very helpful series of meetings drawing believers from both Milngavie and surrounding churches as

well as being an occasion to present the Easter message clearly.

St Paul's Festival

St Paul's will be holding an Easter Festival from Wednesday 5th April until Friday 7th April. There will be an exhibition in the Church telling the Easter Story in Fabric and Flora designed by various organisations. There will be a children's craft corner in the hall and a tea room.

The festival will be open on Wednesday 5th April from 10am until 4pm, Thursday 6th April from 10am until 6pm, and Friday 7th April from 10am until 4pm. All are welcome.

Easter arrangements

Following Holy Week and its nightly services at Allander we will have a service at Allander on Easter Sunday morning followed by a snack lunch. More details to follow,

SGA Prayer

The next prayer meeting for the Slavic Gospel Association is planned for Friday 17th March. Normally held at Margaret Russell's home the venue is still to be confirmed.

SU Camp

Pray for the East Dunbartonshire SU Camp at Lendrick Muir later this month.

Finally,

Recent political developments have reminded us of the hypocrisy of the human heart. When Boris Johnson was elected leader of the Conservative Party and therefore became Prime Minister there was great clamour amongst Nationalist politicians that this was undemocratic and they called for a General Election. Now a similar change is happening in the Scottish Parliament, but the cries of unfairness remain silent. Jesus despised hypocrisy. Some of his fiercest attacks were on those who religiously said one thing but did another. May the Lord strengthen us with integrity so that the world may see in the church the powerful truth and faithfulness of the Gospel.

John Macleod