

ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Interim Edition: July, 2022

This is an interim edition of your Allander Newsletter covering the month of July, replacing the weekly version which has appeared ever since the Coronavirus lockdown in 2020.

Holiday Club

Last week's Holiday Club went really well thanks to the planning, support and hard work of all those who helped in whatever way. In fact, the number of willing helpers and their involvement was one of the encouraging hallmarks of the whole venture. An average of 50 children attended each day with a regularity and enthusiasm that was inspiring. A high proportion of parents attended the Parents' Evening and showed both interest and appreciation. The content of the week was sound and substantial which makes it more than worthwhile, with several expressions of wanting to come to Sunday School and join Hashtag in September. Above all it has been clear evidence of God's gracious answering prayer and affirming real faith. Praise the Lord.

Ministry Matters

Sunday's sermon dealt with the third feature of the early church: *devotion to the Breaking of Bread*. It was an expression of a shared life, based on their trust in the resurrected Jesus and being a community of believers. It reminded them of their spiritual life, it was a celebration of Christ and His redeeming work and, in itself, was a proclamation of the gospel.

John will continue with the studies on Acts 2: 42 on Sundays 11^{0h}, and 17th July and then go off to help in the Children for Christ camps in Romania. Services on Sunday 24th July will be taken by Howel Jones in the morning and Gordon Thomson at night. On the following Sunday, 31st July, Jim Gourley will take the morning and Danny Sutherland will take the evening service.

Summer Camps

The school holidays are an ideal time for Christian agencies to offer camps for families and young people. Scripture Union has a range of activities at their various residential and camp centres. The Faith Mission has a number of summer camps for different age-groups across the UK. Oak Hall offers excellent holidays in a range of European venues and Capernwray has a number of interesting activities. Pray for these opportunities of reaching young folk with the gospel and giving them a taste of a Christian environment.

Pray for:

Throughout the year we have mentioned various folk who would appreciate prayer. Most of these relate to physical and medical conditions, some ongoing needing a great deal of endurance for both patient and carer, and others more acute and over a shorter period of time. Some are circumstantial involving additional responsibility, change of location and concern for others and strength to face significant challenges.

At the risk of inadvertently making omissions, here are some of the names

which have appeared and would still appreciate prayer. Ian & Margaret Baird, Stuart Campbell, Ian & Irene Carmichael, George & Margaret Cowan, Terry & Joan Gallagher, Justine (and Mark!) Girvan, Christine & Jack Harvey, Joyce Kyle, Mary Linton, Inga McKendry, Baby Samuel, Margaret Stewart, Liz Walker, David & Morag Wilson,

One of the hymns that has often been quoted in prayer, as well as sung when we meet, has the chorus: *When I fear my faith is small, He will hold me fast.* That has been an encouragement as various prayers have been answered. Several folk over this past week have expressed thanks for the fellowship's prayers.

Appreciations

Esther McColl writes: Samuel has continued to do well over the past few days and we now have a provisional plan to take him home. Getting home is obviously very positive for us all, however, we are aware that it's going to be a long road and a big adjustment for us as a family. We have felt a huge amount of love and support for us all over this past week and are so thankful for all of you who have been praying. And Terry Gallagher says: Thank you for your prayers. God Bless you all.

Jim Gourley also gives thanks for the prayers and support for him while he had a check-up resulting in a good outcome and extension of review period to six months.

Keswick

The annual Keswick Convention will be held this month with three separate weekly programmes from 16th July to 5th August. Bible Readings and seminars will be streamed online on each of the three weeks.

Mission of the Month

£575 was contributed during June to support Wycliffe Bible Translators in their key ministry.

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This month we will be supporting The Faith Mission and its work across the UK. Gordon and Janice Thomson take over responsibility as Directors for Scotland on August 1st overseeing all the work in Scotland as well as continuing their own outreach activities.

Thoughts for the month

O enter then His gates with praise, Approach with joy His courts unto. Praise, laud and bless His name always; For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good, His mercy is for ever sure; His truth has always firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path