



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

5th September, 2022

August Ministry Sermons

Andy Hunter, in a challenging message, preached on the example of Paul in Acts 21 where he was fearless and yet flexible. Paul did not flinch from the hardships he encountered when spreading the gospel, often in hostile situations. Yet, at the same time he was flexible in accommodating the demands of different contexts but without compromising the message in any way

Starting a new series on the Book of Esther, John emphasised how the book, though set in a different historical context, dealt with the same kind of problems as we face today with world powers becoming more despotic and human power shown up as weak. Yet, though 'unseen', subsequent events show that God is in control, using these circumstances for the furtherance of His purposes.

Euan Goodall, thinking of the story of Joseph, reminded us of the unchanging nature of God controlling events.

The comfort of that truth was reinforced by Gordon Thomson reminded us that there are 365 "Fear Not"s in the Bible – one for each day of the year. And followed that with a challenge to be bold, not negative, in our witness.

Of course, there are two sides to fear. One is being frightened of how we might be adversely affected. The other is being respectful of a holy and awesome God – something that perhaps we should practise more diligently when we meet together for public worship.

September Activities

September sees us launching into our activities again with the FM Prayer Union meeting tonight at 7 30 on Zoom.

Toddlers and the Café have already resumed with an encouraging number at the Café and a waiting list for Toddlers. More volunteers would make it possible to offer a second session in the afternoon.

Hashtag starts up again on Wednesday at 6 30 with Simon, Hannah, baby Edith and our volunteers – Danny, Sandy and others – keeping things going.

Thursday sees the start of a new series of Bible Studies at 7 30pm on Zoom. Having spent many months on the Old Testament, recent ministry inputs from various meetings seem to indicate the relevance of the Book of Acts. So, Thursday's meeting will be an introduction with sharing 'gems' from it that have meant something to us. Come prepared!

Yesterday morning, all these activities were dedicated afresh as we enter into this busy winter phase.

Zoom Access Details

With the resumption of meetings here is a reminder of the Zoom access numbers.

Meeting ID: 851 6446 7898

Passcode: 080856

Telephone: 0131 460 1196

Thoughts to ponder from Keswick

Keswick ministry has been available online over the three convention weeks. This

year, an outstanding feature has been the Wednesday lecture addressing issues facing us as evangelicals. Glyn Harrison, a Christian psychiatrist, spoke on current issues of identity during Week 1 and John Stevens, leader of FIEC, in Week 3 on British Evangelicalism in the post- Covid context. Both - very powerful and significantly relevant - are available on Keswick YouTube.

Visitors

An encouraging feature of the past few months has been the number of visitors who have joined in our services on Sunday mornings and evenings. Among the many were Charles and Molly Chua, from Swansea. Having served on the OM ships they came to Wales from Singapore and took on the pastorate of a liberal church in Swansea – and transformed it. Their enthusiasm and commitment led to outreach among students, one of whom was Ava who was led to the Lord there and where, subsequently, she and Manuel served faithfully before blessing us with their move to Milngavie. God is surely in control.

People

Congratulations to Mark and Justine on the birth of a baby girl – Michelle Morag Ann.

Finally,

My recent trip to the Hebrides had many moments of nostalgia as I renewed acquaintance with people I had not seen for 20-30 years! It was great to recall great times from the past and to speak of people and events that had been integral to our enjoyment of life. Greater still was the opportunity to discuss how the Lord had led us to Himself and to know that we now share a greater friendship because of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. The wonder of a shared faith meant that we not just looked back to the way things were, but we were able to look forward to what God will yet do on this earth and to what He will reveal eternally for His redeemed. It was a great comfort when leaving these renewed acquaintances to know that one day we will definitely meet again, be it in this life or the next.

"What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived" -- the things God has prepared for those who love him." 1 Cor. 2: 9

John Macleod

Our sympathy goes to: David Morton with the passing of his wife, Fran, after protracted illness; and to Jack Wallace of Maryhill with the passing of his wife, Margaret after months in a coma.

Pray also for those members of the fellowship who are facing various challenges, people such as Inga and her visit to Germany, Iain and Margaret Baird, Margaret Stewart, Joyce Kyle, Christine and Jack Harvey, George and Margaret Cowan, the Carmichael family – and many others.

Mission of the Month: Platform 67

Platform 67 is a service agency which gathers information and promotes prayer for missionary activity in various corners of the world beyond the main places of interest. Martin Dudgeon, its leader, visits us regularly at Allander and provides a range of information and prayer helps to sustain missionary activity across the world.

Slavic Gospel Association Prayer

The next SGA Prayer Meeting will be held in Margaret Russell's home (53 Roman Road, Bearsden) on Friday 16th September at 7 30pm.