



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2023

#### Sunday Sermon: Romans 3: 21-26

In presenting the gospel of which he is not “ashamed” Paul, until now, has been emphasising the sinful nature of all humanity and its inability to keep the law (or obey conscience) to rectify it. The gospel, however, is good news and proclaims **God’s Remedy** – God offering perfect righteousness.

In this section, God’s **righteousness is revealed**. While humanity’s natural behaviour is incompatible with God’s nature, He has reached out in offering a remedy: righteousness embodied in Jesus.

But, that offer of **righteousness is to be received** by faith. That faith – deliberately trusting God – is to be placed in Christ. It has little to do with the ‘quality’ of our ‘faith’ but in the One in Whom it is placed. ‘All have sinned’ but, following repentance and admission of our impotence, placing faith in Jesus Christ means justification – being forgiven – and redemption – being rescued from the inevitable ‘wages of sin’: death.

That **righteousness is demonstrated** in Jesus. God sent Him into our world to bring salvation by being exposed to our unrighteousness which he took on Himself, died from it on Calvary and rose again victorious. Receiving Christ is accepting God’s righteousness.

It is essential that each of us receives that righteousness by a clear act of personal faith. When that happens **righteousness can be celebrated** with sinners humbled and boasting excluded. It also unites believers and removes discrimination.

#### FM Prayer

The monthly Prayer Union for the work of the Faith Mission takes place tonight, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May, at Margaret Russell’s home at 53 Roman Road, Bearsden, G61 2SG.

#### This Week

Full steam ahead this week with no Toddlers on Tuesday; but Drop-In Café from 10 30 to 12 30 and #One2Seven / Youth Challenge from 6 30 to 7 45 on Wednesday; Bible Study (Any ‘gem’ from Colossians) at 7 30pm on Thursday, as usual.

Prayer will take place on Tuesday at the church and on Zoom at 8pm and for the half-hour from 9 to 9 30 on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

In addition this week, packing for Romania will take place at the church on Friday morning, 5<sup>th</sup> May, from 10 30. Another busy week

#### Faith Mission Rally

After a break, because Easter coincided with the first Friday of the month, the monthly FM Rallies resume at Allander this Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> May at 7 30pm with Charles Ferguson as speaker.

#### Rejuvenate

Follows on the Saturday – Coronation Day – at 8pm. We trust that they will have a “right royal time” complete with bacon rolls and fellowship!

#### Mission of the Month

With a new month the new cause for Mission: Children for Christ in Romania.

## Ladies' Meeting



With the Ladies Meeting having finished for this session some of the helpers gathered together recently. The occasion was to mark Christine Stephenson's 'retiral' from the leadership role she has so faithfully carried out for the last 20 years. That dedicated service is really appreciated and leaves a gap for more helpers to take up the cause of this important outreach.

## Christian Institute

The Glasgow meeting of the *Let's Pray* Tour is on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 7 30pm in Newton Mearns Baptist Church.

## Morning Star

It is planned to show the film – Morning Star – telling the story of John Wycliffe and his pioneering work in promoting the Reformation. The showing will be at Allander on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7 30pm. Admission is free with a retiring offering at the door

## People and Prayer

Following on from last week's list of those normally mentioned for prayer, Elisabeth Gemmell has asked to be included. Another name which has been brought to our attention this last week is that of Inga's colleague – Mirsa - in Oaxaca. She fell last week and broke her hip. Happily this has now been replaced but she needs a lot of care through the period of recuperation.

## Library

The church now has an extensive library arranged and looked after by Colin Wilson who writes: *You are invited to visit the new Church Library where hopefully there will be a book of interest for you. Come and speak to me about the books that you enjoy and would like to be here.*

## Concert

Inspirational Gospel Music, Scotland, have arranged Ernie Haase+ in a live concert on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7 30pm in Freedom City Church Centre in Cumbernauld, G67 1QR. Tickets are available from Bill Anderson, 07909697573

## The Scottish Reformed Conference

Will be held at Hamilton College on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May with Sinclair Ferguson and Kevin DeYoung as the speakers..

## Finally,

I recently had a strange sequence of events regarding my laptop which told me that the battery was low and needing charging. I quickly got the charger and plugged it into the wall, only to note a few minutes later that my laptop was still demanding charging. It was then I realised that despite plugging into the wall I had not connected the cable to the laptop! Problem solved! Or not, as the laptop was still indicating that it was not getting power. As they say, the simplest solution is usually the right one and I came to see that I had not actually switched the socket on! Apart from the obvious advancement of my senility, this left me with one other lesson; How often are we close to the power of God, but not quite managing to connect with it; or should I say Him? See Paul's words to the Athenians in Acts: 17v27 *"God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us"*.

John Macleod