



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2023

#### Sunday Sermon: Romans 5: 1 - 11

In the previous four chapters of this key epistle Paul has outlined human sinfulness as being universal (*all have sinned*) and fatal (*the soul that sins, it shall die*). But, against that, God's merciful righteousness in Christ is revealed so that a believer is justified by faith. That justification – forgiveness and reinstatement by new birth – leads, in chapter 5, to **The Benefits of faith** in Jesus and His sacrifice on Calvary on our behalf.

It means access into a new reality which brings with it:

- **Peace that passes understanding**  
– a sense of being justified and accepted by God;
- **A permanent position in grace**  
with the prospect of all the God-given accompaniments of that new state of being declared right with God;
- **Pleasure in the purpose of life.**  
Access into this new grace opens the door to future blessedness achieved for us by Jesus;
- And even through inevitable hardships there is the blessing of **perseverance in pain**. And, above all,
- **The promise of presence.**

All this – justification, access, survival - is only possible because Jesus died instead of us to reconcile us to God. Now that He is risen he continues to save us by his everlasting life. It is the **power of the Person we believe in**.

#### Acts Bible Study

The Book of Acts was featured on Sunday evening with interesting testimonies of conversion, commitment and guidance. Thursday's chapters are 23 and 24.

#### Holiday Club

With the Holiday Club only a matter of weeks away (10 – 14 July) the remaining details will be considered at tonight's Planning Meeting at the church at 7 30pm. If at all interested do please come along and get acquainted with what is being envisaged for the week.

#### This Week

Another week of 'routine' but important activities this week starting with Toddlers on Tuesday morning, the Drop-In Café on Wednesday morning, #One2Seven / Youth on Wednesday night and Zoom Bible Study on Thursday at 7 30pm. Supporting each of these activities and the total work of the church and missions, we meet for prayer on Tuesday night at 8pm and on Zoom Wednesday and Friday mornings for half an hour on Zoom at 9 am.

#### SGA Prayer

The next Slavic Gospel Association Prayer Meeting meet this Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, at 7 30 pm in Margaret Russell's home at 53 Roman Road, Bearsden, G61 2SG.

#### Mission of the Month

We continue to support Children for Christ in Romania as our Mission of the Month. Their summer camps programme is in its final stages of preparation for a June launch.

## People and Prayer

In addition to our 'regulars' we add Allyson Flett's name this week as she recovers after an operation on her eyelid.

We also think of:

### Inga

Inga completes her time at Moorlands heading up and teaching on the SIL Linguistics course. It has not been an easy time for her. Apart from heavy responsibility for the course, she has had to deal with Covid and the absence of a key teaching colleague through accidental injury. But, she too, is thankful for *"the help that comes from God"*. Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June will be her last Sunday with us before returning to her main task in Oaxaca that week.

### Myanmar

Last week we mentioned the situation in Myanmar. Since then the area has been devastated by a cyclone affecting millions in that coastal area and inland.

### Faith Mission Convention

Gordon Thomson and Janice are encouraging us to attend the Faith Mission Convention held in the FM Bible College in Edinburgh from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July. The speakers are Paul Mallard in the morning at 10 30 and Charles Price in the evening and seminars, such as, From Murder to Ministry

featuring the story of Alan McBride. :

There is the possibility of arranging an Awayday from Allander on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> which will include lunch at the College and a tour round the premises as well as the chance to meet with other friends and FM personnel. Please let Jim Gourley know as soon as possible if you are interested

### Ladies Afternoon

Those involved with the Ladies Afternoon meetings at Allander have been considering how to proceed following Christine Stephenson's retiral after faithful oversight of that activity for 20 years.

Next session, which begins in October, will see the start of a monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month until May 2024, with an extended time from 2 until 3 15 pm. Janice Allan will take on overall leadership and responsibility and will be assisted again by those volunteers who so faithfully enable this meeting to be sustained. Details will follow.

### Seminars on Evangelism

Glen Scrivener will give several seminars on evangelism at Calderwood Baptist Church, East Kilbride, on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June between 10am and 1pm which should be of great help and interest. He will also be delivering an evangelistic talk that same Saturday evening.

### Finally,

Last week I visited the church printer to sign off the final draft of the new Church Prayer Diary. While going there I remembered the words of the late Rev Eric Alexander *"Never say there will be a meeting to pray for the work of the church - prayer is the work of the church"*. I hope that when we all receive the new Prayer Diary that it will help us to pray more for people in the church and also our various ministries.

If you believe prayer is the work of the church, then please join our corporate times of prayer each week: Tuesdays 8pm, Wednesdays and Fridays 9 to 9 30am. There is so much for us to pray for.

Jim Gourley