



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Monday, 25th September, 2023

Sunday Sermon: Romans 1: 5-8

Writing to the Roman church, which he had never visited, Paul unashamedly sets out the gospel in which Jesus, the Son of God is offered to fallen humanity to replace their inherent sinful nature. That gospel is received by faith – faith bringing forgiveness for past sins and faith that gives place to the resurrected Jesus living his life out through the believer.

Chapters 1 – 7, which were covered before the summer break, spell out the process of that transition – a process not without its struggles to see it worked out in practice.

Last Sunday, John reminded us of the comforting opening words of Chapter 8 that there is no condemnation because Jesus has fulfilled all the requirements of the Law by dying on the Cross and being raised by the Holy Spirit.

Yesterday, continuing the series in Chapter 8, John shared reminded us that in this passage, that there are **Two ways to live:** by the flesh or by the Spirit.

One or other of these ways becomes **the driving force of life**. To follow the one or the other becomes **the defining pattern of life**. The key is what we set our minds on: either our old way of living by following our natural instincts, or the new life of the Spirit made possible by God's provision in the gospel. Realising the truth of the gospel (and all that Jesus has done on our behalf in his atoning sacrifice) and choosing the right path, becomes the **distinctive experience of life** with a **destiny** - of life. Or death.

Harvest

Our Harvest Thanksgiving service, featuring Blythswood Care, will take place on Sunday 1st October at 10 30am

Blythswood

Our Mission of the Month for October will be Blythswood Care.

As in previous years, we will, in addition and as part of our Harvest Thanksgiving, be supporting the annual Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal.

The usual information leaflet about the Appeal, together with instructions, is now available from Jim Gourley.

The last date for bringing a box to the church will be Sunday 29th October.

Ladies Meeting

The new session of the Ladies' Meeting will commence on Thursday, 5th October at 2 pm with Gordon Thomson as the speaker on this occasion. For the new session, due to the shortage of personnel, it has been decided to reduce the frequency of the meetings to the first Thursday of each month but to extend the times to 2 until 3 15pm. The welcome, warmth, programme content, refreshments, fellowship and purpose will still be the same as it always has been.

Friday Rally

The first of this winter's Faith Mission Rallies at Allander will take place on Friday, 6th October at 7 30 pm with the usual menu of music, testimony and an invited speaker-to share the Word with us. Gordon's cheerful welcome,

refreshments and fellowship afterwards with other believers are always a bonus.

Rejuvenate

The Rejuvenate programme for young people will also start up on Saturday, 7th October at 8pm with its opportunity for “fun, fellowship and food” with young people from Allander and other churches.

Sunday, 8th October

Both services on Sunday, 8th October will be taken by Simon Snodgrass while John is away taking Communion Services on the Isle of Lewis.

Faith Mission Prayer

October's local FM Prayer Union will meet a week later – on Monday, 9th October, not the 2nd - in Jim and Allyson Flett's home 20 Craighead, Mains Estate, Milngavie, G62 7SD, at 7 30pm.

Prayer

Over recent weeks several of our folk have suffered accidents, illness, setbacks and various challenges. Currently, Mary Atwell, George Cowan and Jean Donnelly are in hospital. Members of other families, too, have been diagnosed with ill-health.

It is good to pray for each other. There is evidence of answered prayer and many can testify to the help and comfort that comes from trusting in God and being

supported by fellow believers and friends. Let's continue to uphold each one in prayer.

At the same time we learn of believers in different parts of the world who are victims of disasters or persecution, many of whom again show resilience through their faith in a way that is a challenge to us.

And we remember Inga in Oaxaca holding the fort and heavily engaged while her co-worker, Sue, is away receiving extended treatment for lymphoma.

“What Goes On In x”:

We are hoping to feature and explain various activities over the next few weeks.

Worldview Conference

A West of Scotland Gospel Partnership Conference at the Tron Church on Saturday 7th October from 9 30am to 4 30pm, entitled ‘War of the Worldviews’ will consider how Christians and gospel churches can navigate the increasingly hostile culture in which we are called to mission. Places can be booked through this web link

<https://www.tron.church/conference>.

Entry for the day is £10, which includes materials and refreshments, but not lunch.

Finally

Once again we are back to all the activities in the church after something of a break over the past two months. I trust you've all had good summer over that period.

Last week we once again started the Bible Study. This time we are studying Proverbs.

It was interesting to read that, when God appeared to Solomon, he said: ‘Ask whatever you want me to give you’. Solomon's reply was: ‘Give me wisdom and knowledge so that I can lead this people’. God gave him that wisdom and knowledge

May we as, God's people, as we live our daily lives, have the wisdom to know God's way and the knowledge to walk by his instructions.

Jim Flett