



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

Monday, 13th November, 2023

Remembrance Sunday

*Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony
Lest I forget Thy love for me:
Lead me to Calvary*

Sunday Sermon: Romans 8: 28 - 30

Approaching the end of the inspiring Chapter 8 of Romans, Paul brings encouragement to those who are still grappling with the radical change that takes place with accepting the gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation.

Against a background of such struggles and within the knowledge that there is "no condemnation", Paul brings **Great Truths for the Groaning** (believers) for, troubled by what we don't know there is comfort in what we do know.

These verses provide **Encouraging Affirmation**. There is an assurance that in this salvation, God is working all things for good. It is positive action on His part. All these experiences "*are meant for our good*".

That leads to **An Explained Accomplishment**. What is happening is that He is preparing His people through these experiences to accomplish his purpose for them. Based on his foreknowledge he has determined a destination for them to reach.

That accomplishment is achieved by God's **Effective Actions**. He calls, and justifies and glorifies. That calls for a response, an acceptance and a blessed anticipation.

This Week

Following a busy weekend last week, and changed service times yesterday to cater for Remembrance Sunday arrangements, this week takes up 'normal' activities with Toddlers at 9 30; Prayer Meeting (in church and on Zoom) at 8 pm on Tuesday; Zoom Prayer at 9 am (and on Friday, same time); Café at 10 30 am, #One2Seven / Youth Challenge at 6 30 pm on Wednesday; and Zoom Bible Study (Proverbs 8) on Thursday at 7 30pm.

Sunday Speakers

John Macleod will take next Sunday morning's service while Eddie Martin of Myra's Wells will speak in the evening. On the following Sunday, 26th November, Chris Greenhalgh from Open Doors will speak at the morning service and we welcome Ramsay Shields from St Luke's for our evening service.

Mission of the Month

£500 was contributed to Blythswood Care during October along with 51 Shoeboxes destined for poor families in Serbia.

Our Mission of the Month for November is Release International who are involved in ministering to oppressed Christians in many countries.

SGA Prayer Meeting

After last month's postponement, the group meets again in Manuel and Ava's home this Friday evening, 17th November at 7 30 pm. Location details from Manuel.

Church Open

The church will be open from 12 noon – 5pm on Saturday 25th November for visitors to the Milngavie Christmas Lights switch-on. Leaflets available.

Report from Swansea Visit

Manuel and Ava have shared with us how they met and were blessed through the dynamic ministry of Charles and Molly in Swansea. Sadly, the church congregation has grown old and the premises have been closed, but Manuel and Ava travelled down for the closing service and here report on their visit.

It was a fruitful visit to Swansea. We were richly blessed during this time, but it was also a time of mixed emotions. Argyle and Rhyddings Park, the church we used to attend, where we met and got married,



was closing. Our mentors, Pastor Rev. Charles Chua and his wife Molly, are leaving after 21 years of faithful service as missionaries.

On the Saturday we had a Thanksgiving and Farewell service, which was attended by around 100 people from different parts of the U.K. (and even some from abroad). What they had in common was that they had all experienced the love of God expressed through Charles and Molly, and their departure brought all these people back to Swansea again to pay tribute. Many of them have established themselves in a local church where they live now. During the service, many went

up to say how the time in Swansea had impacted them and shaped their lives. It really moved us how through one obedient couple God can touch so many lives. It also inspired us to be that same light to others.

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16



And, worth reflecting on -

Wise words seen on a stone plaque during that visit.

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent;
For this is the House of God.
Before the service speak to the Lord;
During the service let the Lord speak to you;
After the service, speak to one another.

Finally

Once again we come round to another Armistice Day and remember those who lost their lives serving their country during two world wars. Watching Breakfast TV, we listened to the oldest survivor from the Second World War reminiscing. He was 104 years old and had been shot down twice yet survived. He said, "I was so lucky and still am lucky in my life".

As we remember those who died in these wars, let us never forget to remember our Lord Jesus, through whom the ultimate victory over sin and death has already been won for us.

Jim Flett

