



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

18<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2020

#### **Hello**

Midway through May – and still locked down!

#### **Humble yourselves ....**

In a week where governmental declarations intended to provide clarity have caused confusion because of uncertainty regarding the sources informing such pronouncements, John reminded us that God has an eternal plan in which we can have total confidence.

That plan is executed through and by Jesus Christ and displayed in both His 'mind-set' and in His incarnational example; both of them in complete contrast to this world's attitude and stance.

The two transformational principles underpinning Jesus' work: living for the glory of Another and entrusting Himself to the governance of His Father led Him to an experience of condescension and deep humiliation. Yet, that trust was vindicated, for God has "highly exalted Him" and given Him "a name above all names". And, at that name, "every knee will bow ... and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord".

Meanwhile, the challenge for us is to willingly and gladly acknowledge that absolute Lordship by adopting the mind-set and accepting the humiliation for it is all for the glory of God the Father.

And that means practical outworking.

#### **Ascension Day 2020.**

Jim Gourley reminds us that this Thursday, 21st May, is remembered in the Christian Calendar as Ascension Day, the day Jesus was taken up into Heaven (as recorded in Acts 2: 8-11). In her old hymn: Golden Harps Are Sounding, Frances Ridley Havergal said:

*All his work is ended, joyfully we sing :  
Jesus hath ascended: Glory to the King!*

#### **Business as Usual**

The Elders are now holding weekly meetings by Zoom at 10am on Monday mornings. We continue to manage the ongoing matters that require our attention. Work is also being done to ensure the grounds at the Church are being maintained. Looking to the future we have also given consideration to the future, under the heading of "The Way Forward" and will continue to do so despite not having any timescales to work upon. Please remember us in your prayers as we at Allander seek to know how God would have us worship and serve Him when we are able to be together again.

#### **Milngavie Churches**

This Sunday would have been the occasion of Milngavie Churches' Songs of Praise, hosted by Allander. That, like similar gatherings, is now cancelled but it is an opportunity for us to remember our

fellow believers in the town. We think of the congregations as they maintain fellowship and witness in these days, and especially of ministers like Fergus Buchanan, slowly recuperating after stem cell treatment, yet writing very inspiring blogs each week; Ramsay Shields, looking after St Luke's, St Paul's and Baldernock, with all the responsibility that carries; and Douglas Campbell in the UF who makes excellent use of technology to offer a 'full' church service each Sunday morning via their website and YouTube.

### **Matters for Prayer**

We continue to remember the various outreach agencies in Glasgow: Street Connect, Hope for Glasgow, Channan, Bethany Trust, Glasgow City Mission et al. The present lockdown has severely restricted their scope and presented them with major challenges.

We also remember those of our number who need special prayer at this time, particularly those in Care Homes or carrying the burden of care in their own, or others', homes.

### **Keeping in Touch**

A letter has been sent out by the church to all those friends who have some loose contact with us through the Children's activities, Mother and Toddlers and the Ladies Meeting, to maintain the link and hopefully engage with them, when activities start up again, whenever that may be.

### **Website update**

Manuel, using his expertise, is busy updating the church website, making sure that the information it contains is both current and helpful. While Ava is denied the chance to display her many fascinating graphic backgrounds on the screen on Sundays, Manuel is still at it using his skills for our benefit. Thank you both.

### **Zoom Along**

The Zoom Prayer meeting on Tuesday at 8 pm and the Bible Study at 7 pm continue with the same access details as last week. Within present restrictions, it is a good way to meet.

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee*

Finally

Both secular and 'religious' treatments for fear are built on faulty foundations and therefore lead to frustrated expectations. Ultimately, they will bring delusion and despair. In order to deal with fear without succumbing to it, we need to fear God and God alone. Our theology determines who and what we fear. If we believe in God the Father, Creator, Provider, and Saviour of the world, we will not ultimately trust science or religion. Instead, we will trust in the covenant God of the Bible who keeps His promises and works out His purposes for His glory and our good. (Romans 8:28).

Sandy Allan