



ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

29th JUNE, 2020

Hello, again.

Live by Faith

The key phrase recorded in Habakkuk 2: 4 both sums up the lesson the prophet was having to learn and is echoed as the pivotal principle in the New Testament's message of effective salvation.

Surrounded by events he could not understand and indications of happenings that made little sense to him, Habakkuk is assured that, unlike those 'puffed up' around him, "*the righteous shall live by faith*". His challenge was to know how to live when '*all things seem against me*'. That same challenge is repeated in the New Testament, especially in Romans, Hebrews and Galatians, where the phrase is cited.

The righteousness spoken of was very different from the self-centredness of the enemies of God. It was not achievable by human endeavour, but, as Romans says, it is the essence of the gospel that proclaims forgiveness and generates new life. Hebrews stresses the importance of activating trust in God and His word that results in faithful endurance despite adverse and perplexing circumstances. And Galatians sees the exercise of that faith as liberating and transforming the manner of living from fearful bondage to a glorious confidence in God – with all the positive fruit that generates as Christians behold, believe and behave!

Website

Manuel has been busy again. *Lessons from Lockdown* has now been incorporated into the Resources section for easy access to it and the sermons on which it is based. Thanks Manuel.

FM Prayer meeting by Zoom

The Milngavie and Bearsden Prayer Union will meet again on Monday 6th July by Zoom. Meeting ID: 782 7710 3348; Password: 4HNKDZ

Holiday Club

Allander's Holiday Club would have been held this week but, like so many other similar activities, has had to be cancelled this year because of Covid 19 restrictions, breaking a long sequence of Holiday Clubs over the years in which many have been involved. We remember the children who would have attended, the parents with whom we have contact and Brian Lowrie and the MAD Ministries team whose whole summer programme is affected and new strategies will need to be developed for the coming school terms.

Community Magazine

We learn that the Community Magazine is planning to produce an issue for July. Hopefully our activities will be included in the What's On section and elsewhere.

Faith Mission Convention

Although the FM Edinburgh Conference has been cancelled they will be posting two messages online each day this week: Charles Price on Issues of the Heart, based on David, and Liam Golicher on "Aliens and Strangers" based on Hebrews 11. Accessed through FM website: www.faithmission.org or go to soundcloud.com/faithmission/sets/edinburgh-convention-2020.

Church Opening

The following statement has been issued by the Elders and may be included in local publicity over the next week or so.

With the easing of some lockdown measures we are now able to offer the opportunity for people to enter the church building for private prayer, should they wish. Whilst this is not part of our usual church life, we are conscious that after weeks of isolation some may appreciate the opportunity to come into the quietness of the church building and take time to reflect and pray. This invitation is open to all and the building will be accessible from 2-4 pm on Sundays and Wednesdays beginning on Sunday 5th July. People are welcome to come and go as they please during these times, but

Finally

A spirit of disobedience - Ephesians 2:1 to 3

I am sure that we were all disturbed to see the behaviour of the crowds on Bournemouth beach last week. Despite instructions and advice regarding social distancing and the possibility of an increase of infection from Covid 19, some decided to ignore both the advice and consequences. Such attitudes are not new as Jeremiah experienced when Judah ignored his advice to turn from their sins, but locked him in the stocks and threatened his life. The result was that God allowed them to be exiled to Babylon. May we always be ready to obey God's word and be aware of the consequences of disobedience.

David Jack

numbers will be monitored to ensure we continually comply with social distancing measures. There will also be hygiene stations at the entrance and exit of the building as well as free masks if anyone does not have their own. We are thankful that things are progressing in our nation and we continue to encourage the seeking after God in these difficult days. For any further enquiry email Allander.church@outlook.co.uk or phone 0141 956 2253.

People

Jim McKellar wants to thank everyone at Allander who prayed for them during Helen's recent procedure at QEUH.

Christine Harvey also expresses appreciation for prayers and expressions of support during the recent family bereavement.

And, Jim Gourley's operation last week went well. He appreciates all the support and good wishes he has received from so many. So often he is at the giving end.

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