



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

26<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

#### **Sunday Sermon: 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10**

Yesterday's services were taken by our good friend Gordon Thomson who, in his inimitable style and inspiring stories, took us to 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians and the lessons we can learn from the first chapter.

Paul greeted the Thessalonians with thankfulness because of the kind of life they were living. Following a genuine conversion and the change that had been brought about through that experience they were shining examples of the difference accepting Christ makes.

Just as they had been chosen by God as exemplars, so we should be shining lights in our situations – however difficult and arduous that might be. Even in the strange days we are living through, God can sustain us. So, we should bear testimony to what God has done for us as expressed in the words contained in one of the hymns that was played: *"Through it all, I've come to trust in Jesus; I've learned to trust in God"*

The secret of that change was their acceptance and reception of the word of God – the gospel - despite much affliction. As a result, they had *"turned to God from idols to serve the living God"*. In the same way we should put our faith in that gospel and let God change our lives and, having done so, be totally committed to serve God fully in our situations in a way that glorifies Him.

#### **Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal**

As intimated over the past two weeks, we are again supporting the Blythswood Care Shoe Box Appeal which will still be taking place this year. More than ever the need for support is very considerable given the current living conditions in the countries Blythswood supports. Leaflets are available, with new guidance which will now apply in view of Covid.

We are asking that all boxes are brought to the Church **by Sunday 1st November**. If you are unable to come to Church personally then we can arrange for the box to be uplifted.

#### **Reaching Out to Children and Families**

Due to the Covid 19 restrictions we had to cancel our annual Allander Holiday Club and are currently unable to restart our Sunday School or our Wednesday evening meeting for primary school pupils (#ONE2SEVEN).

We are concerned that contact has been lost with homes and children for now and so we are considering the commencement of a weekly programme through our Web site with the support of Brian Lowrie and the team at MAD Ministries.

In connection with that, there will be a Zoom meeting on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30 pm** where we will share our thinking and invite ideas and comments for reaching children through the church website. Details for joining the meeting by Zoom are: ID - 819 2022 9424. Passcode - 047533. Telephone access: 0131 460 1196. (Same as for Prayer Meeting)

There is still a considerable amount of work to be done to enable this to happen so we would ask you to pray for the venture and plan to join the zoom/telephone meeting on Tuesday 27th October at 6.30pm.

### Praying for each Other

From time to time we mention people in urgent need of prayer for health or situational reasons. However we are conscious of many 'regulars' who may be missed out, so here is a more comprehensive list – in alphabetical order - with apologies to anyone inadvertently missed out:



*Jack Adair; Janice Allan; Ian Baird; Liz Baxte;, Stuart Campbell; Ian and Irene Carmichael; George and Margaret Cowan; Gordon Craig; Jean Donnelly; Anna and Netta Gardiner; Jack and Christine Harvey; Joyce Kyle; Mary Linton; Andrew, Bethany and Carol Macleod; Jean Malkin; Jim and Helen McKellar; David and Morag Wilson.*

### FM Meeting

The Faith Mission Prayer Union meets again on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November by Zoom at 7.30 pm. Access details are: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73006720695?pwd=RIpyeTlzRTRHdm5lVmxJV1UyWFM4UT09>; Meeting ID: 730 0672 0695; Passcode: hFQgt1

### Maryhill Evangelical Church

We appreciate fellowship with the folks from Maryhill who join us for some of our meetings. We'll have a report from them next week as they plan for the future.

### Zoom Change

From this week the Bible Study and Prayer Meeting will use the same Zoom access number: ID: 819 2022 9242 and Password: 047533

### Finally

At last week's prayer meeting, Jim Gourley mentioned the time saved by everyone through meeting virtually instead of geographically. The next day I decided to make use of the time I save by looking for something worthwhile to read. I soon realised that I had already read most of the books on my bookshelf and knew what they contained so was not interested in reading them again. However, one book caught my eye, a book which I had read several times and although I was aware of its contents and its message knew that it was a book worth reading again. It was of course, the Bible, which Howel has expertly been exploring and describing to us at our Bible study evenings. The difference between this book and the others is that it is the living, breathing word of God to His people, is inhabited by His spirit and is powerful enough to change all that has been and all that will be. A book which is worth reading time and time again. I trust that you are making good use of the time you are saving by reading and re-reading this God breathed book.

*'From infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work'. 2 Tim 3:15 to 17*

Allander Fellowship Newsletter 956 5866

David Jack

[Draw near to God and He will draw near to you – James 4: 8](#)