



## ALLANDER EVANGELICAL CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTER

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

#### Christ-centred faith: Luke 18: 31 - 43

Concluding the series on *end-time faith* as presented in Luke 18, John covered the final two incidents in that chapter: Jesus' prediction of His death and the healing of the blind beggar.

Speaking to the disciples, Jesus highlighted the fact that people can have information but lack illumination. Yet, despite their ignorance, Jesus, identifying himself as the Son of Man, showed His intentionality of going to the Cross and fulfilling all that the Prophets had said about the Messiah. But, they could not see it: they failed to understand.

The blind beggar, however, despite being naturally blind, cried out to Jesus as the Son of God, thus acknowledging His deity. He cried with confidence and, in answer to Jesus' direct question, sought deliverance from the scourge that afflicted him. He wanted to see: he wanted to be saved. It was not a vague cry of anguished despair but a convincing belief that Jesus could meet his need.

As with other incidents where people had come to Jesus for help, the instruction given was "*your **faith** has made you well*".

And the impact? Healing, deliverance and transformation expressed in following Jesus and spontaneously glorifying God in praise and worship.

That is what Christ-centred faith can do.

#### Blythswood Shoe Boxes

The **Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal** will still be taking place this year when more than ever the need for support is very considerable given the current living conditions in the countries Blythswood supports. Leaflets will be available soon and you will be advised of this both at Church and in the Newsletter. We are asking that all boxes are brought to the Church by Sunday 1st November. If you are unable to personally come to Church then we can arrange for the box to be uplifted.

#### Zoom Access

After faithfully and effectively hosting all our Zoom meetings for the past 28 weeks David Jack is taking a well-earned 'sabbatical' (7 days!) this week. John will take over host duties with new access details for both the prayer meetings and the Bible study. They are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82026822203?pwd=REVNeVRuNUhUbnRZb09NakpRWlqydz09>

with Meeting ID: 820 2682 2203 and

Passcode: 484096. The telephone number remains the same but they may require the new numbers. Thank you, David.

#### Quote

"Some people think that God does not like to be troubled by our constant coming and asking. The way to trouble God is to not come at all." (D L Moody)

### **Faith Mission Prayer Union**

The Milngavie and Bearsden Faith Mission prayer meeting will be held tonight at 8 30 pm (not 7 30pm this month) Access details are:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71698556874?pwd=ald6UWMxZ1o4WW9YVhVhYaUVmUkj6d09> Meeting ID: 716 9855 6874; Passcode: 7t0KhK

### **The McColls**

Having been home since April, during which time their baby was born, David, Jennifer and William McColl headed back to Bolivia last Tuesday.

On their way back they are spending a week in Cochabamba (8000 feet above sea level) to acclimatise before heading to La Paz (14,000 feet) on Thursday.

Please remember them as they readjust to life there with its Covid challenges and political uncertainty (elections on October 18th)

### **Sunday Services**

This Sunday will be Harvest Sunday with the focus on the work of Blythswood

Trust. You can support this cause by giving a financial gift in the offering box available in the church during October, or by cheque/post to David Jack.

There will also be two baptismal services on Sunday for a Chinese student and a contact of Gordon Thomson's.

Services on October 18<sup>th</sup> will be taken by Simon Turner of Kilsyth Community Church and on the 25<sup>th</sup> by Gordon Thomson of Faith Mission.

Please remember John, Simon and Gordon in your prayers.

### **People**

We are sorry to announce the passing of Anne Wilson last Thursday; Jack Harvey is now in Buchanan House Care Home and Margaret Cowan still in QUEH.

### **Street Connect**

Reminder of the Zoom Annual meeting and reports on Wednesday at 1 pm.

Contact details:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/street-connect-annual-general-meeting-tickets-120198692525>

### **Finally**

One of the recurrent themes in the speech of political leaders these days is the urgency required in finding a vaccine to fight Covid-19. There are a lot of conspiracies surrounding this vaccine, but we know that vaccination programmes have been hugely beneficial to fight all kinds of diseases over the years. What strikes me is the desperation. Once they realised the impact of the virus there was a desperation for the cure. If only people could see the fullness of the impact of sin upon life and upon this world, then maybe they would be desperate for the cure and see that, thankfully, the remedy to the ills of sin is readily and freely available in Jesus.

John Macleod