

Annan United Reformed Church

www.annanurc.btck.co.uk



September 2018 Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2018 WORSHIP AT ANNAN URC

Sunday 2nd September: Communion Service - Worship Group - Jim Murray

Prayer Leader: D Maxwell

Bible Readings: M Jones
M Kerr

Sunday 9th September: Morning Service - Mrs Lesley Richmond

Prayer Leader: H Mc Nairn

Bible Readings: J Pool
D Maxwell

Sunday 16th September: Morning Service - Church Meeting

Prayer Leader: N Maxwell

Bible Readings: H Higton
J Murray

Sunday 23rd September: Morning Service - Rev Iain Mackenzie

Prayer Leader: H Higton

Bible Readings: E Woodman
M Lamont

Sunday 30th September: Girls' Brigade Enrolment - Rev Haydn Higton

Prayer Leader: J Murray

Bible Readings: R Richardson
G Glass

Note to Prayer Leaders and Readers: visiting Service Leaders have the option to choose their own theme and readings, and may wish to lead prayers themselves.

Such information will be given to you as soon as possible.

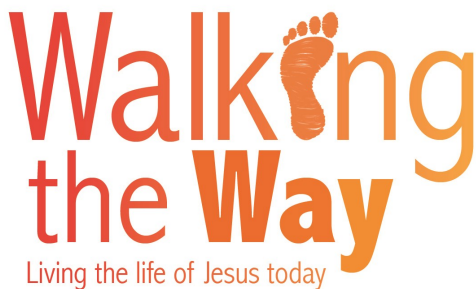
FROM BRITAIN TO BANGLADESH -
see the impact of your kindness

This is a headline from a Christian Aid leaflet which is on the internal noticeboard in the vestibule at the church. After escalating violence in Myanmar forced them to flee their homes, hundreds of thousands of Rohingya people sought refuge in Bangladesh.

The scale of the crisis seemed overwhelming but folk who support Christian Aid – like our church – helped by their donations to ensure children there were fed and elderly and frail people were sheltered from the elements and women protected from violence. Many people had nothing but the clothes they were wearing, and they live in overcrowded refugee camps.

Read the leaflet - see the scale of the crisis, and then think of the cash gift you can contribute to our Harvest Thanksgiving for Christian Aid on Sunday 7th October. Together, our actions can help yield a better future for the most vulnerable of our neighbours.

Please give GENEROUSLY. Thanks to funding from the European Union, every £1.00 given will be worth £5.00; so that's five times the number of lives you can help this Harvest. Give, act and pray to help create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.



Haydn Higton

HARVEST PRAYER

God of justice,
you call us to stand together,
to walk side by side,
to share ideas, dreams and burdens –
to work together for a just harvest of your good gifts.

Together, we have the power to grow hope,
to plant seeds that yield a better future.

This season, we pray with our global family.

May we embrace the gift of each other –
and walk side by side with our
sisters and brothers
to bring about change.

Together, we're stronger.

May we offer our gifts this season.

1ST ANNAN GIRLS' BRIGADE



The aim of the Girls' Brigade is to help girls become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ and through self-control, reverence and the sense of responsibility to find true enrichment of life.

The motto is

Seek, Serve and Follow Christ.

There are three sections within each company of the Girls' Brigade.

EXPLORERS

This is the first section on the GB journey. Girls join from Primary 1 and stay for 3 years until the end of Primary 3. Making friends and having fun are key to girls of this age, but GB offers new challenges through games, craft, physical activities and story-telling. If your child is currently registered for P1-P3 at school and you would like to find out more or make an enquiry about them joining, please contact us through the Church contact page. The Leaders who run the Company will happily provide you with information you will need to get your child started, with costs, enrolment and uniform, as well as answering any other questions you may have.

JUNIORS

Juniors start at P4 and this part of the GB journey takes them through to the end of P7. Girls are encouraged to explore the world around them while building on their inter-personal skills. The reward programme offers a wide variety of challenging topics along with areas such as games, music and drama.

BRIGADERS

Brigaders run from S1-S6 and follow a programme to challenge them on every level which includes ability, belief, social responsibility and community engagement. There are many opportunities open to young women at this stage of their GB journey and it is definitely the case that the Brigaders Section offers something to everyone.

LEADERS

To become a leader, whether a Trainee Leader, Warrant Officer, Auxiliary Leader or Commissioned Officer, you have to be at least 18 years old. The various Leaders have different qualifications but mostly you have to undertake Child Protection Training, undergo a satisfactory PVG check, be a member or adherent of a church or mission or be sympathetic to the aims and ethos of the Girls' Brigade. You will be responsible to the Captain, make commitments to attend Company nights, undertake tasks allocated by the Captain and other Leaders to help deliver the programme and activities of the girls, demonstrate a positive influence on the girls and work as part of the Staff Team. The 1st Annan GB are always in need of Leaders, so if you can help in any way, even for a couple of nights per month, please contact the Church or the Captain personally or via the web page. It's not just the girls who get something out of a Company Night: you will too.

Registration for 2018-2019 Session was on Thursday 23rd August 2018, at the Church Hall, United Reformed Church, Station Road, Annan. If you missed this date, please speak to a Leader.

Company Nights are Thursday nights during school term times, 6.00pm to 7.30pm.

*Kevin Higton
Captain – Paula Mitchell*

HOW MANY?

Last year our church contributed 58 boxes to the Shoebox Appeal for disadvantaged children at Christmas. There are three of our members working to fill six shoeboxes each at the moment. If everyone else would fill one or two shoeboxes, last year's total could be exceeded, and we would know our efforts had ensured more children will be helped.

~~~~~

## **REMINDER - FOOD BANK**

Grocery items are always needed for the Annan Food Bank. Please bring your gifts of dried pasta and rice; tinned meat, fish, beans, vegetables and fruit; cereals, soups etc and leave in the marked plastic box in the inner vestibule. (No out of date items, please!) The box is emptied periodically, and the food taken to Kate's Kitchen for distribution to those in need.

~~~~~

SOUP AND SWEET LUNCHES

Our lunches resume in September, on Thursday 13th, between 11:30am and 1:30pm. All are invited to come along and meet with friends, old and new, and contribute to this fund-raising effort. Our thanks go to those who work tirelessly to ensure that all are welcomed and fed, and if you feel you could help, please speak to a member of the fund-raising committee. Cakes, bakes, pies, jams etc are always needed for the cake stall (bring on the day, second Thursday each month) and also items for the tombola, which can be left in the appropriate box in the inner vestibule at any time.

~~~~~

## **SEPTEMBER – PRELUDE TO AUTUMN**

In the orchards ripe fruit falling from the heavy trees –  
Shaken from the loaded boughs with every passing breeze.  
Blackberries in ripening clusters in the country lanes,  
Chill of twilight – hint of winter – as the daylight wanes.  
Tint of crimson in the leaves where trailing creepers climb,  
Sheaves of corn out in the fields ... the crown of summertime.  
Prelude of the autumn ... morning mist and evening dew,  
The haze that rests like purple smoke upon the distant view.  
Soon the sunshine will be fading, and the birds take wing  
Till the world rolls round again towards another spring.

*Church Gardener*

## **LOVE IS THE ANSWER**

This is the theme for Fridays In Faith meetings during this coming winter. The meetings are on the first Friday each month in The HUB (Old School) , Ednam Street. It is intended for youngsters of Primary School age, accompanied by an adult, and is a time when we can come together for enjoyable and challenging activities. The opportunity is there for learning about faith through fun, crafts, games, singing and food in a welcoming way – each evening runs from 7:00 to 8:30pm.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated in the envelopes for Fridays in Faith and the Holiday Club. This year “Monsters Stink” was the theme of the holiday club in Hecklegirth School and some 70 youngsters dealt with things that disturb our lives – e.g. greed, envy and so on – learning too how the Bible and its teaching can strengthen our lives every day.

Next year’s Annan Churches Together Holiday Bible Club’s theme will appeal to nearly every youngster – “The Sweet Factory” – and the week is 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Book the dates now! It’s a great activity for a week in the school summer holiday and it’s open for children at Primary Schools.



Next Meeting is Friday 7th September at 7pm

~~~~~

PORTABLE APPLIANCE TESTING

As part of their health and safety responsibilities, the Elders have to ensure that PAT testing is carried out on all eligible equipment in the church.

For a number of years some of us have carried out the testing and inspection of Portable Electrical Appliances on an annual basis to meet with regulations. After this work is completed, a report is made out (copy opposite) which highlights our findings and actions required. The section which you could really help with is the last paragraph, namely new items, through your kindness, being brought onto the church premises without being checked and then tagged.

The full list of items is quite large and, as these have to be searched for before inspection, it would be most helpful if new ones are tagged and added to the list before we proceed with their inspections.

Please help.

Jimmy Blake

PORTABLE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE TESTING AND INSPECTION
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH ANNAN

All portable electrical appliances that could be found within the church were inspected and tested where possible by Mr George Chalmers (Electrical Engineer) on Friday 25th May 2018.

Item 020 Oil Filled Radiator had no earth connection, on inspection and testing this item should be scrapped and removed.

All other items found (and tagged) were passed fit for purpose.

New Items added to list.

073 Tesco Microwave MMBS 14 650-700W

074 Silent Night Electric Heater 2000W

075 Tesco Extension Reel 4 Socket

Items not found on premises

Item 012 4-Socket Extension

Item 015 4-Socket Extension

Item 021 4-Socket Extension

Item 030 Power Cable

Item 044 Asus Laptop Computer

Item 045 Hitachi Ipod Deck and Adaptor

Item 049 Hewlett Packard Printer Adaptor

The Loop System Item 042 box in the hall (What is the latest position. Should it be replaced or scrapped?) *It would be helpful if this question after a number of years received an answer.*

We did not open the large metal cupboard this year as we have not been advised if any items remaining were assessed (please see below)

(Request from 2017)

Some items (books and sweets) in the large metal cupboard (now in the New Store Room) have been removed. (Thank you)

It would be most useful if remaining items were assessed for retaining or for disposal.

Please note that items 073, 074 and 075 were in the church premises without being added to our Portable Inspection List or tagged. This could cause a problem if an accident happened.

We have requested in the past that any electrical item brought into the church should be notified to a church elder before being used. Please help.

Financial statement on this page is only available in the printed edition of the newsletter.

Editor

SEPTEMBER 2018 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 1st	South Link Get Together - meeting starts 11:00 am
Sun 2nd	Communion Service and Sunday Seekers - 10:30 am
Mon 3rd	Floral Art Group - 7:00 pm in hall
Tue 4th	Knit & Natter - 10:00 am in hall, and every Tuesday
Tue 4th	All Ability Games - 2:00 pm in hall, and every Tuesday
Tue 4th	Rainbow Tribe and Spectrum - 6:00 pm, and every Tuesday in term time
Thu 6th	Girls' Brigade - 6:00 pm in hall, and every Thursday in term time
Fri 7th	ACT Fridays in Faith - 7:00 pm in The HUB, Ednam Street
Sat 8th	Scottish Fair Trade Campaigner Conference - Gracefield - see notice boards*
Sun 9th	Morning Service and Sunday Seekers - 10:30 am
Wed 12th	Art and Craft Group (SHAP) in church hall - 2:00 pm
Thu 13th	Soup & Sweet Lunches - 11:30 am to 1:30 pm in hall
Sun 16th	Morning Service and Sunday Seekers - 10:30 am; Church Meeting after
Sat 22nd	Vestry Day
Sun 23rd	Morning Service and Sunday Seekers - 10:30 am
Sun 23rd	Deadline for October Newsletter items to reach Ruth Mitchell, please, including your group meeting diary dates
Fri 28th	Friday Fellowship - 2:00 pm
Sat 29th	Fundraising: Meal - 5:00 pm - and Concert - 7:00 pm - tickets available
Sun 30th	Girls' Brigade Enrolment - 10:30 am

A REMINDER TO GROUPS:

We are a Fairtrade Church.

We have committed to:

Use Fairtrade tea and coffee for all meetings for which we have responsibility

Move forward on using other Fairtrade products (such as sugar, biscuits, fruit)

Promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight – and through other activities whenever possible



*** Late news - Scottish Fair Trade Forum are holding their AGM and Campaigners Conference in Dumfries, at Gracefield, on Saturday 8th September. Lunch available from 12:00, talks from 13:00. All welcome and free to attend - see posters on notice boards for registration details.**

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sat 1st	Exodus 19:1-9	John 20:11-18
Sun 2nd	Exodus 12:21-27	Matthew 4:23 to 5:20
Mon 3rd	Haggai 1	Mark 7:9-23
Tue 4th	Proverbs 21:1-18	Mark 6:30-44
Wed 5th	Hosea 11:1-11	1 John 4:9-end
Thu 6th	Lamentations 3:34-48	Romans 7:14-end
Fri 7th	2 Kings 19:4-18	1 Thessalonians 3
Sat 8th	Deuteronomy 29:2-15	2 Timothy 3:10-end
Sun 9th	Exodus 14:5-end	Matthew 6:1-18
Mon 10th	Job 12:1-16	Matthew 15:1-9
Tue 11th	Proverbs 8:1-11	Luke 6:39-end
Wed 12th	Proverbs 2:1-15	Colossians 1:9-20
Thu 13th	Genesis 1:1-13	John 1:1-18
Fri 14th	Deuteronomy 7:7-16	1 Corinthians 1:18- end
Sat 15th	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Luke 2:41-end
Sun 16th	Exodus 18:13-26	Matthew 7:1-14
Mon 17th	Genesis 21:1-13	Luke 1:26-38
Tue 18th	Ruth 4:7-17	Luke 2:25-38
Wed 19th	2 Kings 4:1-7	John 2:1-11
Thu 20th	2 Kings 4:25b-37	Mark 3:19b-35
Fri 21st	Ruth 1:1-18	John 19:25b-30
Sat 22nd	Exodus 15:19-27	Acts 1:6-14
Sun 23rd	Exodus 19:10-25	Matthew 8:23-34
Mon 24th	Exodus 19:16-end	Hebrews 12:18-end
Tue 25th	1 Chronicles 16:1-13	Revelation 11:15-end
Wed 26th	1 Chronicles 29:10-19	Colossians 3:12-17
Thu 27th	Nehemiah 8:1-12	1 Corinthians 14:1-12
Fri 28th	Isaiah 1:10-17	Mark 12: 28-34
Sat 29th	Daniel 6:6-23	Revelation 12:7-12
Sun 30th	Exodus 24	Matthew 9:1-8