

Erskine Baptist Church

Newsletter - November 2020



November always comes in just after the clocks have changed and the nights are dark. The golden leaves of Autumn are now just messing up the gardens and gutters. This month seems to be dominated by the theme of remembering. November 1st is All Saints Day, or All Hallows which is why the night before became Hallowe'en, when the holy ones of the past are remembered as an encouragement to those of us who struggle on in this life.

5th of November in the UK used to be about remembering the gunpowder plot and the efforts of Guy Fawkes to blow up Parliament. Our experience of terrorist attacks combined with unsocial behaviour with fireworks has reduced the significance of this anniversary. It is saddening to think that the original plot was rooted in religious intolerance.

Remembrance Sunday this year is the 8th although the number of survivors from WW2 is decreasing it is a sad indictment of our world that conflict still exists and places like Erskine are still rehabilitating those injured.

For our US cousins 26th November brings Thanksgiving when they (supposedly) remember the arrival of the Pilgrim Fathers to the new country. Again the pilgrims risked their lives crossing the Atlantic to escape religious intolerance!

Many of these traditional reasons get lost or changed by the passing of time and the needs of the retailers to get as much as they can out of shoppers. Why is our Halloween now dominated by pumpkins and everything orange?

In most Christian churches communion, the taking of bread and wine, is celebrated as a form of

remembrance of Jesus' death and resurrection, and when the apostle Paul wrote to the church at Corinth about it he reminded them that they would only remember until Jesus came back.

We remember past people and events either with thanksgiving or as a warning; we remember Jesus not because of history but because it also gives us hope for the future. **He is alive and will return.**

Often November's article would have reported on the Baptist Assembly but this year due to the Covid-19 restrictions we reshaped it as an online event of prayer, teaching, seminars etc. with separate streams for families and youth. Not being able to meet people face-to-face was disappointing but the YouTube video of Sunday worship has been viewed 7,400 times and the Friday Prayer gathering has been viewed 3,800 times! This is many more than the hundreds who often attend Assembly in person and has been a blessing to those in the outlying regions of Scotland.

If you missed any of the event you can catch up on YouTube.

Peter



Watch our online programme Sundays from 10am

On our Facebook page
YouTube channel
and the church website,

Available anytime, anywhere

Come, let us sing to the
Lord !
Let us shout joyfully to the
Rock of our salvation.

Psalm 95 v 1 (NIV)

Please pray this month for :

November 1st

Baptist World Alliance
Queen's Park Baptist Church
Renfrew Baptist Church
Rosyth Baptist Church

November 8th

Rutherglen Baptist Community Church
Saltcoats (South Beach) Baptist Church
Sanquhar (St Ninians) Baptist Church

November 15th

Selkirk Baptist Church
Sheddocksley Baptist Church
Shettleston Baptist Church
South Leith Baptist Church

November 22nd

Southside Christian Fellowship
Springburn Baptist Church
St Andrews Baptist Church
St Mary's Community Church

November 29th

St Ninians Community Church
Stenhouse Baptist Church
Stirling Baptist Church
Stonehaven Baptist Church



Happy **November** Birthday to:
Amanda, Chris and Karen

Please Pray for all on the
Birthday list this month



the
prayer
course

EBC Prayer Course

continues on Zoom on the other three
Sunday evenings at 7pm



Baptist Union of Scotland
online Prayer
1st Sunday of each Month
@ 7pm on BUS YouTube
Channel



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