

Where are we?

Our meeting place is in the former Gospel Hall in Park Road, Auchinleck KA18 2AZ

We hope this leaflet gives you a better understanding of what ACF is like and the kind of things we get involved in. Our aim is to be an active part of the community. A place where people can come and feel welcome and loved. A place where God speaks and is visible in the lives of those who make up the church in Auchinleck.

We would love you to come along to the services and find out more for yourself. A fully functioning church is a place where people feel welcomed and accepted. Those of us who make up the fellowship in Auchinleck have recognised there is nothing attractive about our lives - actually the opposite. Even though this is the case amazingly God still loves us and has accepted us on the basis of our faith and our repentance.

If you wish to speak with us about the bible, your questions about faith or if you are interested in actually becoming part of the church please do not hesitate in contacting us. We would love to see you come along to any of our meetings.

Details of Meetings

Sunday

11.00am – Breaking of Bread
3.00pm – Bible Teaching and Prayer
6.45pm – Family Service

Tuesday

7.30pm – Prayer and Fellowship

Other activities will be announced as they are arranged including a mothers and toddlers group, coffee mornings, soup and sandwich lunchtimes, etc.

Our only aim is to give Glory to God. It is our desire to lift up The Lord Jesus Christ and see souls come to true repentance and saving faith in Him.
Contact phone numbers : 07734709834
Website :- TBC



JESUS SAID, I AM THE WAY
THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.

CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE
WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS.



Auchinleck
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Serving Christ, Serving the Community

Why are you receiving this leaflet?

- To introduce ourselves and to invite you to join with us at some of our activities. Hopefully the leaflet will give a very quick and simple summary of the church called *Auchinleck Christian Fellowship*.
- Recently we have refurbished our hall and it is our desire to see as many of the folks from the community benefit from its modern facilities and also to be able to hear the message of the Gospel that means so much to us.
- This information might help you understand why we meet as a church and give you a better understanding of what we believe. Some of this detail you might be interested in but be afraid to ask.



Who are we?

We are simple, down to earth folks from a variety of backgrounds who call ourselves Christians and who seek to put Jesus first in our individual lives. There is nothing special or different about us or the building we meet in. If something happened to our building tomorrow, the church (which is the people) would still be meeting together elsewhere. We can confidently face the biggest questions and concerns of life, including: the forgiveness of sins, death and life after death because we have individually trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour and have consequently found God to be true. He has changed and satisfied our lives, and is someone on whom we can depend.

Our History – Around 1875/76 a group of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ just wanted to follow the simple instructions of the Bible and started meeting in the home of a Mr and Mrs Finnie in Coal Road. They regularly preached the Gospel in the many miners' rows and, in spite of opposition, a number of folks got saved through believing on the Lord Jesus. Sometime later they started meeting in "Tailor Stewart's" shop on the Main Street, moving soon afterwards into larger premises in the Square. As numbers continued to grow, as the Lord saved souls, they started to rent the newly built Town Hall. The next move was to Milligan's Hall, owned by a Mrs Milligan who owned the adjoining Railway Hotel. Many of these early believers were baptized in the Merlin Loch. In the late 1890's it was decided to build their own hall in Park Road. This hall was opened with a prayer meeting on Queen Victoria's funeral day on 1st January 1901. Obviously all the original members of this local church have passed away, but the church continues to exist, as over the years, the Lord has been pleased to save others and maintain this testimony for Himself in Auchinleck.

What do we believe?

We take the Bible (God's written Word) and put it into practice. It impacts our individual lives and determines the aims of the church here in Auchinleck. If you're wondering how can a church do this? Remember a church is not a building - it's a group of people who come together under The Name & Authority of Jesus Christ.

The following is a brief summary of what we believe -

- The Bible was written by men as they were directed by the Holy Spirit. It is the authoritative Word of God. It is the infallible source of all truth. It is the basis for life, for the individual and for the church as a whole. (2Timothy 3.16)
- The Godhead is composed of three persons --- Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is all powerful, all knowing and ever present. He is holy and cannot tolerate sin. However, He is also loving and merciful and has, through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus, made it possible for sinners to be forgiven and made right with Himself by His grace through faith.
- Man (Adam and Eve), was created by God, but the relationship with Him was broken by their wilful disobedience of His commands. Since then all people have been sinners. All have come short of God's standards and our sins have cut us off from fellowship with God. (Romans 3.23; Isaiah 59.2) The result of our sin is eternal punishment from God. "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6.23)
- The eternal Son of God (Jesus) came into this world by a virgin (Mary) by the power of the Holy Spirit, and lived a totally sinless life.
- He was called Jesus (Saviour) because He came to save sinners by his sacrificial death on the cross at Calvary. He died a righteous man for unrighteous men, that by trusting in Him unrighteous men might be made righteous before God. After His burial He rose from the dead and returned to heaven 40 days later. (1 Peter 3.18; 1 Corinthians 15.3-4)
- No-one is born a Christian, but all are born sinners, so the Bible calls on "all men to repent" (Acts 17.30) All those who genuinely repent of their sin and place their faith (trust) in the work of Christ on the cross and His subsequent resurrection receive the gift of everlasting life.
- At the same time each believer receives the gift of the Holy Spirit within them and their relationship with God is restored through new spiritual birth.
- All believers are expected to be baptised by immersion to symbolise their identification with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus will return soon and take all true Believers (dead and alive) to be with Him in Heaven but those who do not believe will ultimately suffer everlasting punishment in the lake of fire.

What do we do?

The format of our meetings are very simple, and devoid of the ceremonies and outward show that marks many religious services. Let us assure you that the services, or meetings, are done orderly and politely. The teachings that you will hear are not motivated by politics or cult-like agendas but their primary aim is to help people understand what the Bible teaches. There are no secret rituals that are only known to the members. We do not ask money from visitors. You are welcome to come to any of the meetings and to stay and talk after the meetings. There will be no pressure tactics to try and make you sign or join anything. We do not have a denominational name because there are none in the Bible. We are neither Protestant nor Catholic. We gather only in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and take our practices from the Bible. The focus of our services and events is on the Bible and Jesus Christ who is our Lord and Saviour. Since the Bible is all about Jesus we invariably talk, sing, worship and witness about our Lord Jesus Christ.

Breaking of Bread

"This do for a remembrance of Me"

The most important service for the fellowship is the weekly remembrance of the Lord Jesus which takes place each Sunday morning when we meet together as a church and share in the taking of bread and wine, which symbolize the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. He commanded all believers to remember Him in this way. Paul tells us, "Whenever we take the bread and drink the cup we proclaim the Lord's death until He returns" (1 Corinthians 11. 26). For many people this will be like no other service that they have ever attended. No one organizes or "takes the service", it is left open to allow the Holy Spirit to lead individual men to lead the company in a song, a prayer or a reading from the Bible. The whole aim of this meeting is to focus on the Lord Jesus—who He is, what He is, where He is and what He has done—and so give thanks to God for Him in a deep spirit of praise and worship. This very simple meeting culminates in the believers in the company partaking of the bread and wine. These are two of the very few symbols that the New Testament tells us about.

Bible Teaching

We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of the Living God (2 Timothy chapter 3 verse 16 & 2 Peter chapter 1 verses 20-21). It is God's wonderful revelation to the human race and is relevant, authoritative and unchanging. As a fellowship we think it's important to look to God's Word regularly and allow God to speak. He does this individually as we read the Bible for ourselves and as a church when we turn to Him for teaching. Many people today attempt to rubbish the Bible as something that's not relevant and out of date. Most have never taken the time to actually look to what it says. At the same time they will follow all sorts of views which have their origin in men and women just like ourselves.

The Bible is "profitable for doctrine (it tells us what is right); for reproof (it tells us what is not right); for correction (it tells us how to get right) and for instruction in righteousness (it tells us how to keep right)." 2Timothy 3.16

At ACF we turn to God's Word and seek His guidance and everything we do, say and preach is based upon it. Each Sunday afternoon at 3.00pm we meet for the teaching of God's Word.

Prayer

Any study of the life of the Lord Jesus will reveal just how much He was marked by prayer. All through the gospels there are references to His prayer life. He is our example. If He prayed—how much more do we need to lay hold of God. We meet every Tuesday evening for prayer. We see this as a vital function of a New Testament church. Of course Christians individually should have a very active prayer life just like Jesus. We don't just pray when we get together at our prayer meeting. When we get together to pray we are united in our petitions to the Eternal Throne of God. We live in a world that is away from God, morally, intellectually, spiritually, - in just about every aspect of life. We as Christians need to be marked by prayer as we bring our church, our society and individuals into the very presence of God. This is a great privilege. Paul tells us God is "able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine".

Preach the Good News

Another major aspect of the life of the Lord Jesus and of the early Christians was to preach the Gospel (Good News). They did this on a one to one basis as well as to crowds of people wherever they were meeting together—in the market places, the seaside, the synagogues or wherever. The places and people that were involved differed but the message was always the same and we still preach the same message today. "All have sinned and come short of God's glory (the standard of what God is)" (Romans 3.23). As sinners all are condemned to die, and face an eternity of separation from God in the lake of fire, and deservingly so. No man is able, by himself, to merit favour with God because all are spiritually bankrupt. Is there any hope then? Praise God there is hope, but only because of the grace, love and mercy of God in sending His Son, Jesus, to die, "the righteous for the unrighteous that He might reconcile us (bring us) to God." Christ came to put away sin and that through the sacrifice of Himself. The death of Jesus Christ was therefore "substitutionary"—in other words He didn't die for any sin that He committed but He died for the sins of others. He took the penalty, bore the punishment, paid the price, that should have been ours!! So, God, on the basis of Christ's sacrifice, is prepared to "justify" (make righteous) and therefore make acceptable before Him all who repent (turn from) their sin and rest, by faith, on Christ and the value of what He accomplished at the Cross. When a sinner does this he becomes what the Bible calls, saved, born-again, forgiven, cleansed, redeemed, justified, etc.. He becomes the possessor of eternal life, a member of God's family, a part of the Church (which is Christ's body on earth) and has the assurance of a reserved place in heaven. This glorious message is preached at our Family Service each Sunday at 6.45pm. The first part of the service is geared towards children and the second part is more directed towards adults.



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