

ACF NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 Autumn 2017

HOPE

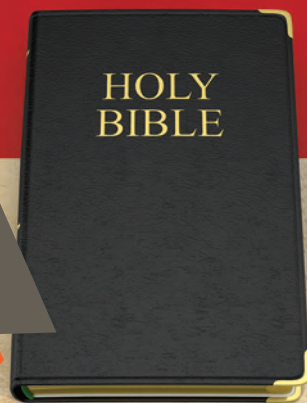


Auchinleck
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Serving Christ, Serving the Community

Welcome to the first issue of our Newsletter

Auchinleck Christian Fellowship (ACF) is a group of Christians who meet in the hall in Park Road. Two of our reasons for existing is to Serve Christ and to Serve the Community. Over the many years of our existence we have organised various events, as well as our normal weekly services, in order to connect with the community of Auchinleck. Our newsletter, which we hope to distribute quarterly, is just another way we aim to communicate. We will use this publication to advertise our various activities which cater for all ages. In each edition we will give details of events taking place, as well as offering various articles which we hope will stimulate people to think about spiritual matters. In addition, in each issue, we will introduce you to one of our members. We are renowned for our home-baking so we will also insert a favourite recipe each issue for you to try. Please feel free to attend any of the activities that we advertise—all are free and everybody is welcome. Any feedback would be welcomed and contact details can be found in this newsletter.



SPECIAL Free Offer

Throughout this newsletter you have read quotations from the Bible. If you would like a **free copy of the Bible** please feel free to contact us.



POET'S CORNER The Cross is The Way

He died for us upon a cross,
He died so souls would not be lost,
He suffered the pain, the anguish, the shame,
So sinners like us would know Him by name.

So what right have people to curse Him and swear,
To use His name lightly and give it no care,
He died for us all, the good and the bad,
The nails were embedded deep through His hands.

And what of the thorns, so tight round His head,
Think of the pain, His blood running red,
The sins of the world were placed on Him there,
Oh think of the horrors His heart had to bear.

He could hear the crowds laughing and jeering at Him,
Oh the sadness, the hurt He felt from within,
For He loved them so much, He had died in their place,
Yet all that He saw was hate on their face.

And centuries on the story's the same,
The crowd might be different, but the jeering remains,
The love of a Saviour they don't want to know,
They want something trendy that goes with the flow.

All paths lead to heaven, I've heard people say,
Yes, every religion will show you the way,
I hear Satan laugh at the sound of that cry,
For people are living his devilish lie.

Yet He died on that cross, I know that it's true,
He died for me and He died for you,
His arms all outstretched to take us all in,
His suffering and pain the price of our sin.

But the story's not over, He lives now today,
Over death He has triumphed, the cross was the way,
And He calls us to follow, for His way it is true,
Just listen to Jesus He's calling to you.

Shirley Imrie

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS VIA SACRA (THE SACRED WAY)

We have all travelled out of Auchinleck towards Ochiltree, and been impressed, not only by the straightness of that section of road, but by the impressive line of trees on either side. It looks like an avenue you would see leading up to some magnificent mansion and that



is what it originally was!! It was the avenue leading from Auchinleck House to the parish church. Hence the reason it was called the **Via Sacra or the Sacred Way**. You can just imagine days of old when Lord Auchinleck, his family and house guests would travel in style **from the big hoose to the kirk**.

Lord Auchinleck's son claimed that the three mile, almost straight avenue, nick-named the Via Sacra, had been built at "**great expense**". The full length was lined with beech and oak trees the initials of which spell the first two letters of the name Boswell—the **family name**.

Lady Dumfries requested that Lord Auchinleck accommodate her plans for a road to The Temple, which they had built, on their estate. His reply was, "... I have at immoderate charge made a road for my own use to the Church at Auchinleck which indeed gives me **great satisfaction.....I cannot submit to having my plan altered.**"

All this reminds me of another Sacred Way. Not the way from a mansion to a church but **from earth to a mansion in heaven**. Jesus said, "**in My Father's house are many mansions**" (John 14.2). The forming of this way was accomplished at **enormous expense**. It cost the Lord Jesus Christ all the suffering of His death at Calvary. The road to heaven is not lined with trees but **it starts with a tree—the rugged Cross where the Saviour died**. It is due to what He accomplished, through the sacrifice of Himself for our sins, on the Cross, that He is able to make the bold statement, "I am **THE WAY**, the truth and the life, **no man** comes to the Father but by Me." (John 14.6). We have noted Boswell's name was associated with the Via Sacra, but **the name of Jesus is clearly associated with the way to heaven**—"no man comes to the Father **but by ME.**" He is the only way!!

Lady Dumfries wanted Lord Auchinleck's plans altered but her request was denied. **Many want to alter God's plan**, by introducing their own philosophies and ideas as to how to get to heaven. God refuses—He has made the way possible at such incredible cost, **He is satisfied with it and makes it available for all**, not just Lords and Ladies but for all sinners like you and I, to travel on by faith.



If you want to get to heaven you need to get on the right road. It starts at the Cross when you acknowledge your sin and accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

MEET A MEMBER

JOHN LEITCH

I was born in 1944 and brought up in Auchinleck along with my brother and three sisters.

When young we went to the Sunday School at the Gospel Hall in Park Road and when older we went to the Bible Class.

At fifteen I left school and worked at the Bleach Field Cotton Factory in Catrine.

By this time, I no longer had any interest in the things of God, in fact I never really had much interest even when attending the Bible Class.

I met my wife Mary at the Auchinleck dance and we married in 1967 in Lugar Church where we were members. After we were married we became members of Peden Church Auchinleck.

After a few years Mary trusted the Lord Jesus as her Saviour but I still wasn't interested in spiritual things. I thought I was doing ok and didn't need God in my life. I went to church sometimes and also joined the local Masonic Lodge.

One night at the Masonic Hall I was sitting playing old hymns on the organ. One of the hymns that I started to play was, "Oh sinner the Saviour is calling for thee...". For the first time, the words of the hymn really spoke to me. I started to see that I was indeed a sinner in need of a Saviour and that Jesus had died for me.

I went to a few meetings at the Gospel Hall and a friend, who was a Christian, took me to a Gospel Meeting in Kilmarnock. As the preacher was speaking I felt God was speaking to me. I knew that night that I needed to be saved urgently. At the end of the meeting I trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour.

Since then God has blessed me and I have the assurance of a home in heaven with the Lord Jesus who died for me.



THE ELECTION IS OVER

THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE!!

On Thursday the 8th June, which seems a long, long time ago, our nation went to the polls. People listened to the pleas and promises of the politicians and made their choice. The consequences of the decision will possibly last for five years depending on a variety of circumstances!!

However, we are encouraged in the Bible to make another choice, "Choose you this day whom you will serve." Joshua 24.15. The choice is between **servicing the Lord or servicing Satan, Sin and Self**. The consequences of this decision will last for ever!!

The appeal of God is for us to repent of our sins "**God now commands all men everywhere to repent**" Acts 17.30. This means acknowledging our personal failure and accepting God's forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ and what He accomplished at Calvary.



Favourite Recipe



Raspberry Muffin Trifle (submitted by Ruth Robertson)

Ingredients

5 x choc chip large muffins;
250g frozen raspberries;
tin of caramel condensed milk;
2 x cartons of Elmlea Double Cream;
some Maltesers.

Enjoy!!!

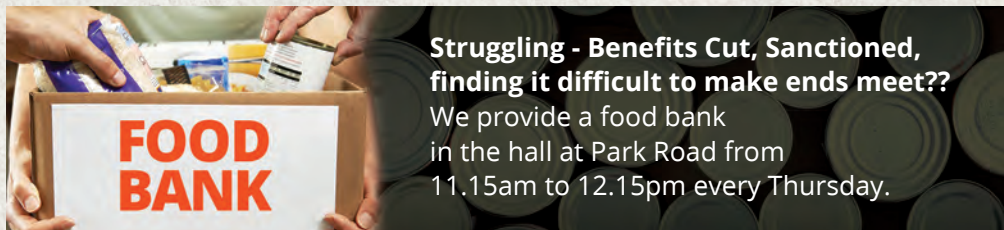
Method

Break muffins up onto base of dish.
Pour the frozen raspberries over the broken up muffins. Allow the raspberries to thaw a bit. Mix the caramel condensed milk and Elmlea Cream together till custard thickness. Pour the mixture over the raspberries. Top with a handful of crushed Maltesers to decorate.

Parent and Toddler Group

Thursday @ 9.30 - 11.00 (term time only)

Please contact Ruth on 07402 468 244 for further details.



Struggling - Benefits Cut, Sanctioned, finding it difficult to make ends meet??

We provide a food bank in the hall at Park Road from 11.15am to 12.15pm every Thursday.

COFFEE MORNING

Why not drop in for coffee, cake and chat the 1st Monday of each month from 9.30am to 11.00am
(4th September; 2nd October; 6th November)
Tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits.

All free of charge.



Family Service

Our all-age family service is held each Sunday @ 12.45pm

Creche for kids

Singing, Kid's Message plus Message for Adults

Free lunch provided for all after service

Youth Fellowship

Every second Friday @7.30pm

Snooker, Table Tennis, Tuck Shop, Bible Lesson

Times of Services

SUNDAY

11.00am – Breaking of Bread

12.45pm – Family Service

14.45pm – Bible Teaching

MONDAY

7.30pm – House Meeting @
101, Main Street

TUESDAY

7.30pm – Prayer Meeting

CONTACT DETAILS

www.auchinleckchristianfellowship.co.uk

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