



Strathaven

IN THE LOOP

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PALM
SUNDAY
WELCOME THE KING

it's a big
weekend
at A+D

AS WE WELCOME THE COMMUNITY

The wait is nearly over and we are approaching Easter with excitement. This Sunday we remember the excitement of Palm Sunday as people gathered and welcomed Jesus as King and Messiah as he entered Jerusalem. Excitement, yes. But understanding, no! The journey of Holy Week reminds us of our own journey from misunderstanding, or disbelief to recognising Jesus for who he really is. There is a lot to ponder this week.

And so as our 40 day journey through Paul's letters from prison comes to an end we turn our focus this week onto the stories of Holy Week and Jesus' willing sacrifice for us.



Street Food Invitation This Sunday

Joint Service. Avendale 11 am

Yes it's BIG event time once again and the catering team are pulling out all the stops to provide a huge variety of street food options again. From pulled pork burgers to curries, Thai to Italy, there's surely something that will suit your taste.

But the point is not just to enjoy - but to think if there's someone you know who might like an invitation to come with you.

Either way - make sure you don't miss it.

Family service at Avendale as usual at 11 am followed by this grazing lunch to share - for *everyone!*

Could regular worshippers please consider a cash donation on the day so that we can treat our guests.



Come as our guest for a street food lunch and experience tastes from all over the world!

At 12.30 - Immediately after church on Sunday 29th March

Avendale Church www.avendale-drumclog.org.uk





readthrough comes to an end this week

How has your journey through Paul's letters from Prison gone?

There's been such positive feedback from folk reading through and a big thank you should go to our 6 writers and 6 fantastic readers. Chris Macrae has done an amazing job coordinating the website.

We have also heard of Bible study groups elsewhere in Scotland using our material for their own home groups and individuals in far flung places joining in.

Remember that you can still catch all the material from the last three years of 40 day series on the church website in the resources section

More exciting News

We are producing a short 6 week podcast series exploring some of the ideas and themes on the church that we've been looking at in the last few months.

These programmes will appear on the church website on Mondays from 13 April to 25 May (and remain there for posterity)

Each programme will last about 15 minutes and contain a reflection on a bible passage, some chat about it and a piece of music that might stimulate your thoughts.

Be sure to tune in!

COMING UP NEXT!





HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Drumclog 9.30

Avendale 11.am

Street food Invitation 12.30

Monday

Avendale 7pm

Tuesday

Chapelton 7pm

Wednesday

SEC 7pm

Thursday

Glassford 7pm

Friday

Trinity 7pm



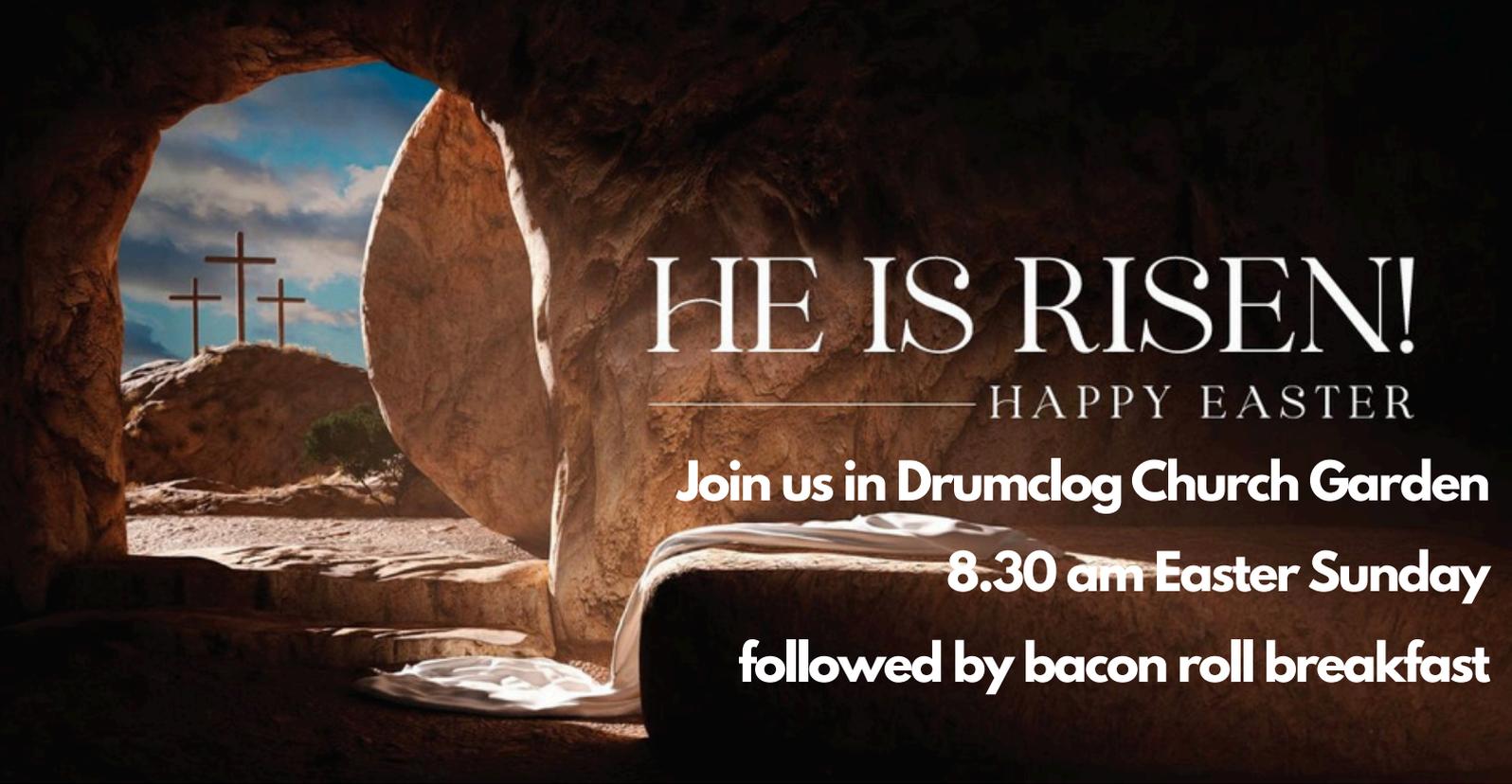
for Holy Week
AT AVENDALE

A short led devotion will happen daily at Avendale at 10am each morning of Holy Week



Following the 10 am Friday devotion the church will be open for personal prayer with led prayers on the quarter hour from 10.30 until 1pm -

Do try and find time to join us.



HE IS RISEN!

HAPPY EASTER

Join us in Drumclog Church Garden

8.30 am Easter Sunday

followed by bacon roll breakfast

WELCOME THE RISEN LORD

DRUMCLOG 9.30 AM

AVENDALE 11 AM



COME AND
CELEBRATE

WITH US THIS EASTER



kintsugi HOPE *Wellbeing Group*

Join us on a journey as we explore essential wellbeing topics like honesty, anxiety, and resilience, offering a refreshing pause in the midst of our busy lives. Kintsugi Hope Wellbeing Groups provide practical tools to navigate life's challenges while fostering meaningful connections and lasting friendships.

Hosted by

Where is the group running?

Avendale Church

Contact Information:

Dawn Cunningham

dawncunningham2@aol.com

Date and Time:

TBC, when suits group best

Other Information:

Small group, usually 6 -10 people

The Annual Fairtrade Poster Competition has taken place with over 130 entries from the Primary 6-7 schoolchildren in and around Strathaven. All the entries will be displayed from the 12th-20th March in the window of Sainsbury's supermarket. The selected winning posters (two from each of the participating schools) can then be seen in the Climate Action Strathaven shop, where we will award the winners with their prizes.

The posters are very impressive and they confirm that all the children in Strathaven get to know and understand about the importance and worth of the work of the Fairtrade movement. Fairtrade exists to reduce and eradicate the imbalance of trade between the global North and South. This happens by supporting the work of growers, whose work, historically, has been underpaid and exploited, often by large, multinational companies in the rich North.



What can we do?

In the photo there is a small illustration of buying goods ethically: some are locally produced goods: the milk, is delivered, in reusable glass, from a farm near Strathaven, the eggs are laid by hens within half a mile from my house, while the coffee is roasted by a young man in Strathaven from ethically-sourced raw beans. These are examples of our purchasing decisions supporting local farmers and growers, and of reducing "food miles" with its impact on our environment.

Then we can see basic goods for which Fairtrade is well known: bananas, tea, coffee, chocolate and sugar- all of these you can buy in our local businesses, supporting those shops and knowing that workers are fairly rewarded for their work. These products are no longer much more expensive than buying, for example, coffee from large multi-national producers whose profits can benefit shareholders above producers.

The third category contains produce of a Scottish organization called True Origins, formerly Just Trade Scotland, who source goods from small growers and manufacturers in different countries: the items shown come from Kenya, Mozambique and Eswatini, and works with small companies to ensure that quality products can reach our market and benefit the growers and their communities. This type of produce is widely available from online suppliers, please talk to me for more details. Maureen, the chairman of our Fair Trade group commented that I have pictured too few goods, as businesses which are committed to Fairtrade may have 1500 items available for sale, but this is what is in my store cupboard and I just wanted to demonstrate that we can all, where we live, and regardless of our budget, help to redress trade unfairness, and think about the environment, by adapting our buying habits bit by bit.

Why do I think this is important?

Someone asked me recently what was I giving up for Lent; I haven't- if I gave up chocolate, would be for my waistline rather than the Kingdom of God! But in revisiting Paul's Letters in our Forty Day reading, I have noticed that while Paul emphasises Faith over Works, he definitely is not excluding our calling to live in accordance with Christ's teaching and God's will. The prophet Amos speaks of the wickedness of the exploitation of the weak and poor by the rich and powerful and one verse has resonated with me throughout my life: Let justice roll on like a river, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream (Amos 5:24). And so I will try to support a cause like Fairtrade.

3 great leaders in the church's history said this about prayer.....

"If a church does not pray, it is dead... Everything will hinge upon the power of prayer in the church."

Charles H. Spurgeon

"God does nothing but in answer to prayer; and the prayer meeting is where the work begins."

John Wesley

"Every great movement of God can be traced to a kneeling figure."

D.L. Moody

It is challenging to think about this isn't it! And so as we finish our 40 day read-through and prayer journey let's consider how we can keep praying for things in the church.

This month we can focus on the various church programmes that have been highlighted in the "Being Church" series. Pray for growth, wisdom and that people who come will be moved to seek God more. These are contact points we pray will allow people to go deeper.



NEXT BOOK GROUP MEETING THURSDAY 26 APRIL

This month we'll be reading Elizabeth Strout's book "Abide with Me"

Time to get your copy and enjoy!

Details Fromm Alison Muntz but we'll update you here as well.



Saturday 11th April 2pm



Tabeeetha School

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path*

Update: News from Tabeeetha School, Jaffa, Isreal.

The school has been closed since the outbreak of the war with Iran.

**The Children have been learning on-line again over the past two weeks,
with staff delivering lessons via google classroom amidst the siren warnings.**

**The Executive Director, Mona Ashkar and the Head of Primary, Madelaine and the Head of
Secondary, Trish have all worked tirelessly to ensure that all pupils are safe and are
registering for lessons. The staff focus not just on learning and teaching for the children and
young people but also their emotional wellbeing.**

**For many of the children this is not a new situation for them as their education over the last 5
years has been severely disrupted many times firstly with covid, then the six-day war, then the
war in Gaza following the October killings and the fighting in Lebanon and now war with Iran. It is
a very difficult time for all in Tabeeetha.**

Please remember the school - staff, pupils and their families in your prayers.

If you have not watched the school videos, please click on the links below.

[Tabeeetha School: Sustaining a Community of Hope and Peace](#)

[Oasis in the desert: Jaffa school teaches tolerance amid hate & war](#)

Visit the School's Website for more information www.tabeethaschool.org

Dawn Cunningham