

### Preaching Dates

#### 2 December 2018

**David Andrew** (am) at St Mungo's Church of Scotland, Alloa

**Glen Cartwright** (am) at Fusion, Newton Mearns Baptist Church

**David Craig** (am) at Vale of Leven Baptist Church, Alexandria

**Alastair Crockett** (am) at Cupar Baptist Church

**James Ewen** (am) at Bo'ness Baptist Church

**Jonathan Groves** (am) at Banchory Christian Fellowship

**Stephen Ilett** (am) at Alness Baptist Church

**Cheryl Leckie** (am) at Ayr Baptist Church.

Church  
**Jim McNulty** (am) at Islay Baptist Church

**Phill March** (am) at Lambhill Evangelical Church, Glasgow

**Christ Townsend** (am) at Strathendrick Baptist Church, Balfon

**Brian Crockett** (pm) at Lower Johnshill, Auchloch Retirement Village,

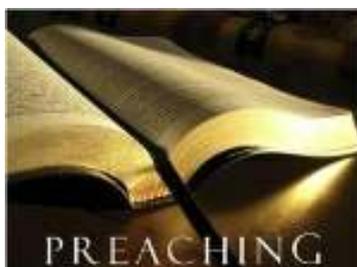
Lesmahagow

**Gordon Dickey** (pm) at Selkirk old folks' home

#### 3 December 2018

**Jim McNulty** at Christingle Service, Round Church, Bowmore, Islay

**Chris Townsend** at RE class, Killearn Primary School, on Believer's Baptism



“Does this sound familiar?”

By Stan Paliwoda

Aasia Bibi, a Christian Pakistani woman and mother of five, spent eight years on death row for blasphemy. When the verdict was overturned, this brought riots and demonstrations and a government pledge to prevent her leaving the country while they investigated the court decision. In this situation, the law becomes a political football. If she stays in the country, the clamour for her to be hanged will not suddenly go away but if she wants to leave, where will she go and what will happen to her friends and family? The lower courts had all acceded to the popular charge of blasphemy for fear of antagonising those baying for her blood, while the three Supreme Court judges who ruled that she must be freed, are all now under threat from Islamic extremists. Pakistan is according to Open Doors' World Watch List, the fifth most dangerous place to be a Christian (The No. 1 spot is taken by North Korea, closely followed by Afghanistan).

Sadly, her husband applied to Britain for asylum but our government prefers to give money to this general cause rather than to support a specific innocent victim out of fears for the safety of consular staff and perhaps fomenting domestic unrest. This is shameful. Little has changed since the days of Pontius Pilate. Prayer is urgently needed.

Also, the murder of a young American missionary on North Sentinel, an island in the group known as the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which are under Indian jurisdiction and where the indigenous people are deemed to be under such great threat from the modern world that it is illegal for anyone to go within three miles of this island. Here was a determined young man keen to bring Christianity to a warlike tribe. He was killed by an arrow on landing. There will be no murder charges and his body will not be recovered to preserve the peaceful isolation of this dwindling tribe of people.

Was he a courageous missionary for Christ or simply foolhardy, likely to spread panic and twenty first century diseases amongst an isolated people? It recalled a similar situation in Ecuador in 1956 when a team of five missionaries found a Waodani settlement from the air and they, like John Allen Chau, exchanged gifts with the natives. On January 3, 1956, the five missionaries, Nate Saint, Jim Elliot, Ed McCully, Pete Fleming and Roger Youderian, landed on a beach. The Waodani were a violent tribe similar to the North Sentinelese and their experience was of incomers only seeking to deprive them of their way of life. Five days later, after exchanging gifts, the entire team were killed by spears. In the outside world, the response was one of shock but the sister of the pilot chose to continue this missionary work and this became the cornerstone of Mission Aviation Fellowship. For more, I can offer the video of “The End of the Spear” free of charge.