

Church Without Walls

Issue 16 July 19th 2020



Click here to join us
on Sunday morning at 10.30

Please pray for Nimi & family who have had to go to London to visit her Step-father, who has been put on palliative care

“The good thing about prayer is that there’s only one way to go wrong, and that’s *not* to do it. If prayer, at it’s simplest level, is listening to God and talking to Him, you don’t need long books to tell you how to do it” - Anon

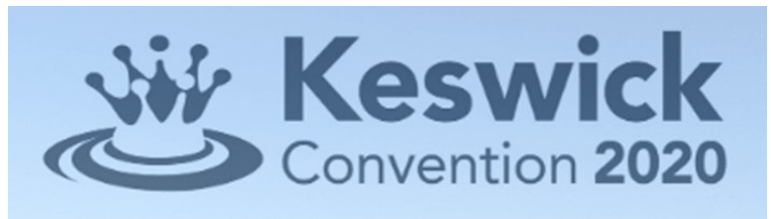
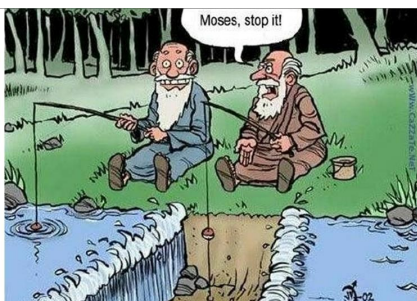


As lockdown slowly eases please pray:

- ⇒ For common sense to prevail; that we will not produce a second wave of the virus
- ⇒ For our government to make right decisions
- ⇒ For developing countries, where the virus is spreading more rapidly due to living conditions
- ⇒ For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one
- ⇒ For all who are lonely and cut off from family and friends



Email Dave for a zoom invitation to Compline at 8pm on Monday – Thursday
vicardave@ststephenspreston.org.uk



Keswick Convention has been running each summer since 1875. This year it will be running online from 27th – 31st July
Ministry Director, James Robson writes:



"I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope." (Psalm 130:5-6)

The Psalmist recognises that the only true source of hope is in God and his word. This isn't a hope that airbrushes out the difficulties. After all, the Psalm begins with raw honesty: "Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD". It's a hope rooted in God - his faithfulness, his action in history - and in his Word.

That's why, this year, in the new online **Virtually Keswick Convention**, the theme is Hope. Our Bible Readings in the morning with Christopher Ash will speak of Hope in Jesus from the Psalms. Every day there will be a seminar that explores hope from a different angle. One will look at hope amidst grief and trauma, another at hope and crying out honestly to God. In the evenings, a celebration will highlight a different aspect of the hope found in Jesus Christ. There's a great programme for children and youth, too.

For more details, go to: <https://vkc.keswickministries.org/>

You can watch any of these when they are first broadcast, or catch up later on YouTube - all details are on the website



Conventioners - then and now

Covid-19 has meant that many conferences have been moved online. Of course, this can make such events accessible to more people. If you have attended an online event and are happy to share your experience, please [email the office](#) with some details of which event you attended & what you have learnt from it

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Bishop Julian has recorded a message for the Diocese as lockdown is eased

... let me begin with a massive thank you to so many around the diocese for the energy, creativity, and adaptability you have displayed during the lock down in ensuring that church life remains open; yes buildings have been closed, but church has remained open. That has been demonstrated in the greater care for neighbours, the provision of meals and food parcels, the streaming of services of worship and teaching, and times of prayer over zoom. There has been a heightening of interest in spiritual matters, people asking questions about God and meaning and a greater number of people praying. The spiritual temperature has been rising, people have been focussing on the things that really matter, families have been seen out together, exercise has become more common. It's been a moment to rethink, reset, reboot, reconsider ...



By contrast with a grateful look back, we must keep our eyes fixed on the future ... Christians are called to the ongoing task of making Jesus Christ known, calling others to follow Him, as the One who can bring fulness of life, the unique gift of eternal life. And to make that message credible we serve the whole community, seeking justice, peace and love, seeing His Kingdom be established in communities and individual lives. Our passion for others to hear and receive the Gospel message of salvation found in Christ remains undimmed ...

You can see the full video message [here](#)

The Preston Churches in Prayer

Tuesday morning Prayer Meetings are on zoom at 7.30am

If you would like to join in please email Andy Pratt: andrewpratt1@btinternet.com



A Message from Tearfund:

Even as the pandemic slows down here in the UK, across the world it is accelerating. People already suffering due to conflict, persecution and poverty now face the threat of a disease against which they have little protection.

Millions of lives are at stake, and the need is growing every day.

The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) – a group of 14 of the UK's leading aid charities – has launched an urgent appeal for help. We're joining with other DEC members to ask for your support.

- In Yemen, millions of people have been facing the world's worst humanitarian crisis
- In the Democratic Republic of Congo, decades of internal conflict, as well as numerous Ebola outbreaks, have wreaked havoc upon the country.
- In Syria, entire cities have been reduced to rubble in one of the most destructive conflicts in recent history. Now, there's coronavirus too

These countries and many others simply do not have the infrastructure to cope with the pandemic, and risk being taken beyond the brink of disaster.

But there is hope. Because there is the church.

Tearfund continues to step up its response, working with local churches and other partners to reach people in need. There are a number of ways in which you can support this work:

Pray: there is a prayer guide [here on our website](#).

Give: If you are able, [please consider giving to our appeal](#).

Thank you for joining us as we continue to follow Jesus where the need is greatest. Further challenges lie ahead, but if you act now you can save lives.

With every blessing,

Virginia Lubatt (UK Churches Director, Tearfund)



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Remember to give this number to anyone you know who would appreciate being able to hear a message of hope at this time



This week please pray for the people living in Meath Road