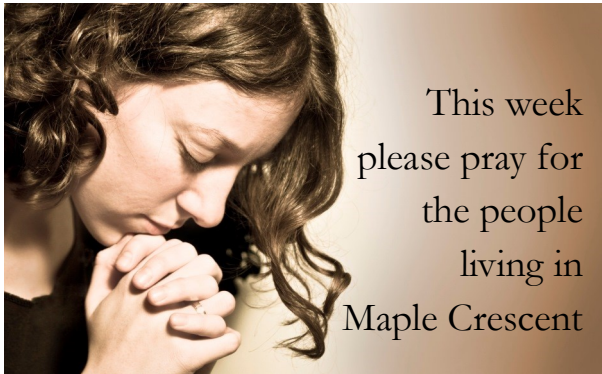


# Church Without Walls

Issue 47 March 14th 2021



Click here to join us for worship  
at 10.30 on Sunday morning



This week  
please pray for  
the people  
living in  
Maple Crescent



Following a year of uncertainty and a virtual event in 2020, we're set to go ahead once again with a three-week event in Keswick, Lord willing, from July 17th – August 6th.

A full programme is in place, with Bible Readings, Seminars and Evening Celebrations; there's a modified programme for children and youth. All the details are on our website:

[www.keswickministries.org](http://www.keswickministries.org)

If you would like more information about the event, please contact [info@keswickministries.org](mailto:info@keswickministries.org)

The Convention relies on around 600 volunteers, serving in a variety of ways from welcome team to catering. We still have a need for help in some of these areas. If you were able to consider volunteering for a week or more, we'd be most grateful. We provide accommodation, food and travel expenses for volunteers. Find out more here:

[www.keswickministries.org/volunteer](http://www.keswickministries.org/volunteer)

## trypraying.

Last year we had a focus on 'try praying' at St Stephen's. This year we are joining with a group of other churches to host a website called 'Try Praying Preston' and you can have a look at this by following [this link](#). The idea is that people will be able to download the App or request a hard copy of the 'try praying' booklet via the website and requests can be linked to local churches. There is also an interesting article from the 'try praying' team [here](#). If you would like a copy of the try praying booklet to pass on to a friend please contact the church office.

## An Open Letter on Behalf of UK Christian Event Leaders



*A letter has been sent to all Christians from the leaders a number of large Christian events:*

Christian events in the UK have a legacy that has impacted millions, and that legacy is refreshed year on year as more come to faith and respond to God's work in their lives. Christian events create space for us to come away from the day-to-day routine and for God to impact us.

But now, the Covid-Pandemic has had a profound impact on us all both practically and financially.

As we contemplate two years without gathering in the normal way, we have had to rapidly learn to meet in new ways – either online or in smaller hybrid events.

Some of these events have been postponed, some have moved to free digital alternatives, some to chargeable digital or hybrid events. Each event has had to take the decision that is best for them both now and for running events in future.

Now they need our prayerful and practical support. They need people to stand with them financially, and to support them in any way we can so that we can all gather again in 2022.

[You can read the letter and see how you can help here](#)



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Seen on a church notice sheet...

- The peace-making meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.
- The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'



## Bethany House News

Unfortunately we have an outbreak of Coronavirus at Bethany House.

Out of 22 residents, 17 have had positive tests although 3 of those are waiting for confirmation by the lab test. 5 residents have continued to test negative and today no new positive cases were identified, so the lockdown to rooms, which has been in process since last Friday, is taking effect.

Two staff tested positive this week and have mild symptoms, although both had been vaccinated with the first dose. No new cases today among staff.

We are thankful to God for his protection as we have no poorly residents but some have some minor symptoms.

Prayer points from Gill the Home manager:

- no further positive tests amongst residents
- residents to stay well
- no further cases amongst staff and protection for them and their families
- positive staff to stay well and cope with isolating with their families
- wellbeing of residents in isolation, some are struggling with this.
- Energy levels for staff, as they face very busy and demanding working days.

Please pray for Gill as she seeks to encourage the staff and residents, as she and the Care Managers keep resident relatives and friends informed. That she will know God's presence especially in the night that she might have restful sleep.

**This poem has been written by one of the Street Pastors:**

It's the place to be, the perfect pitch  
In the light,  
Under signs advertising things that cannot be bought  
Not on income support

Coins gladly accepted, collected in a used coffee cup.  
The occasional note, the occasional bag of chips with ketchup  
"Take care mate" from passers-by  
Their best wishes—no food for an empty stomach

Blue lights and fluorescent clothing mingle  
With high heels and fancy shirts in the drizzle.  
Cardboard, damp and lifeless,  
Once warm, now discarded, lies by.

Flapjack baked in a warm kitchen,  
The smell faint from oven cooking  
The taste of home long gone  
Given with love, freely  
Under the signs advertising things that cannot be bought.

*You are invited to join us  
in Holy Week online for:*

**"Behold the  
Lamb of God"**

A worship and communion  
service for persecuted  
Christians worldwide  
with **Paul Robinson** CEO  
and **Revd Imtiaz Ashraf**,  
and Release International  
guest partners.

**Thursday 1 April 2021,  
7.30pm to 8.30pm**  
On **YouTube**  
Tickets via **Eventbrite**  
Free event and  
donations welcome.

[https://releaseinternational.org/  
lockdown-church-2021](https://releaseinternational.org/lockdown-church-2021)

**RELEASE INTERNATIONAL**  
**Voice**  
of Persecuted Christians

Registered Charity No. 280577 (Scotland: SC040456)