

# A B Church NEWS

# The Sustaining God Hebrews 1:1-4

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021

# ABC ONLINE – TWICE A WEEK – EVERY WEEK

Following the Government's new guidelines and the subsequent advice from the Baptist Union, the church will be closed for at least the next few weeks. None of us want our church to be closed as we all enjoy meeting together as we listen to God's word – but we have to be sensible and keep safe. Consequently, our services will now only be available online. This week, Simon's sermon is entitled, "The Sustaining God" This is based on Hebrews 1:1-4. In the Book of Hebrews, God reveals Jesus didn't simply bring a message from the Father; He is a message from the Father. Don't miss this. Derek. Our Sunday morning service will go "live" at 6pm on a Saturday evening. However, if possible, we would like you to join us on Sunday in prayer at around 10.20am before watching the service at 10.30am as normal. Again, this week, please pray for your church family, many of whom are unwell and for people who are struggling with the loss of close family members. Pray too for Avinash and Shibali who have both been unwell and, of course, both work at St. Richard's hospital. Please also pray for everyone else who works in our local hospitals as I am sure they are feeling very pressured at present. Pray too for our local clergy who are also finding life without personal contact extremely challenging.

Please <u>click here</u> to go directly to the current service page. You can then watch the entire service through the without interruption by following the simple instructions on that page.

In our midweek series this week we will be continuing with our new 8-part series based on the importance of Christian unity, entitled, "United we stand, divided we fall." Clive's talk is entitled, "All are welcome in the House of the Lord" based on Romans 15:7-15. In the following week, Derek will be continuing with the series with his talk entitles, "The Unity of Disbelief."

This service be accessed using the same link as above from 4pm on Tuesday.

**WHEN IS YOUR BIRTHDAY?**- It would really help me if you could let me know in advance the date of your birthday. No, you don't have to tell me how old you are – unless, of course, you want to! Derek

**ADVANCED NOTICE** – King's Gate Church (formally CCF) will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary over the weekend of March 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>. Due to the current restrictions this will be online on the Saturday from 9.30am to 4pm where Ben Leney, amongst others, will be bringing some highlights from his transcriptions of the Roger Price's Fellowship Life Studies. On the Sunday, there will be a special zoom service to help us mark 50 years of faithful witness forJesus. Ben's suggests you put the dates in your diary now.

AN UPDATE FROM SAMARA - Our three areas of focus to support the Syrian people are Food, Health and Education. We need to take ownership of the growing and production process as much as possible, even if just for a narrow group of important foods. (In the utterly broken economy of Syria, widowed mothers have been forced to make many degrading decisions for themselves and for their children, just to eat and survive. UNICEF stated in a report this month that between November 2019 - November 2020, there has been a 251% increase in the prices of the food.) Please pray that we can make inroads into this urgent problem.

### THIS WEEK'S POEM

In his poem this week, Arthur reminds us that even in our darkest hour, the light of Jesus is shining bright, if we only look to Him.

"Light of hope" When you are in that depressing pit of panic, sweat and fear. Oh, still small voice what comfort to know that you are near. When we see no hope in sight, when no one seems to care Oh, still small voice what joy to know that you are there. In our own strength, we often fail, of that we can be sure. Oh Lord through earthquake, wind and fire, You are the same for evermore. Through that long dark tunnel I see a light of hope. There is a way, I have a choice, Oh thankyou Lord, Oh still small voice.

#### Arthur McGee

AN UPDATE ON THE JESS FAMILY - As you may know from their past few newsletters, the Jess family has been in the UK for some time now due to travel restrictions, and they anticipate remaining in the UK as this chapter with BMS draws to a close. Please do join us in praying God's richest blessings on Dee and Hye-Young and their children during this time of transition, and as they continue to settle back into life in the UK. We have been church partners with the Jess family for many years and now we need to decide if we wish to begin a new partnership with BMS Church Partners. If you have any opinions on this, please contact Barbara.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2021:** The service planned for this year is entitled 'Building on a Strong Foundation' and has been written by the women of Vanuatu – an archipelago of 80 islands in the South Pacific. Due to the pandemic, it has been decided to postpone the Ecumenical Service in Bognor Regis from the 5th March until September (date and venue yet to be decided). Let us keep the people of Vanuatu in our prayers and thoughts especially on the 5th March. **AN UPDATE ON ANN** - Please pray too for **Ann Tyler** who has moved again from St.Richards to Arundel District Hospital, Chichester Road, Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 OAB, phone 01903 882543. Pray for a correct diagnosis and for a satisfactory plan for her ongoing care.

**AN UPDATE ON TONY** - Tony is in Abbots Lawn, Sylvan Way, PO21 2RS, for 8 weeks. Phone number is 01243 823288. Although Tony doesn't know yet they are moving to a bungalow that their daughter has found but it is in Cumbria! There will be more room there and paved work outside for Tony to move around in his wheelchair. Please pray that Tony accepts this move as he wasn't initially keen on the idea.

**AN UPDATE ON JANICE** - Janice is now waiting for an appointment to see her cardiologist after her recent check-up where the doctors found a clot in her heart. This may take up to 4 weeks. Please pray for Janice's peace of mind, for the correct treatment as soon as possible and for healing.

**ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU** - From Mavis for all of your letters, cards and support following the loss of her dear sister and especially whilst she was watching the funeral online as she was unable to go to the actual funeral. Please continue to pray for Mavis as she is still very upset.

**URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS** - If you have, or know of, an urgent need for prayer then please contact me and I will then activate the prayer chain.

PLEASE ALSO CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR – Avinash and Shibali, Vivienne Newman, Mavis Eade, Hilary Naesmith, Rosanne Gould, Jean Shaw, Mick Parker, Michelle and Jon Crane, Arthur and Eileen McGee, Bridget Long, Marion Bryant, Chris Grant, Mary Edwards, Kate Moss, Joy Smith, Stella Filby, Joan Brett, Joy Puffett, Val Collett, Pam Ryan and for any others in our fellowship who are unwell at this time

#### **Contact and Church office information**

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