



E-NEWS



The General Conference of the New Church **News**

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May Meeting of the Conference Council

Zoë Brooks reports:

The Council meeting scheduled for 15 and 16 May has been cancelled. The reason is of course Coronavirus.

Anyone wishing to have a paper considered by the Council should send it to me as usual and I will put it on the agenda for the next available meeting.

New Church Study Group

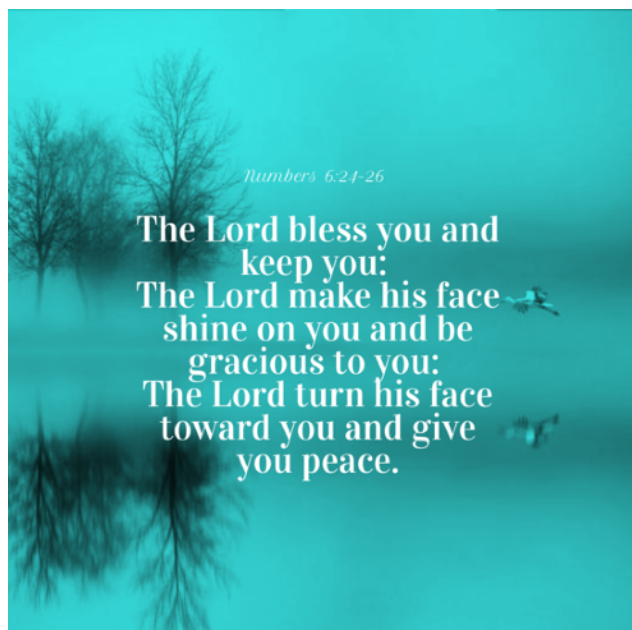
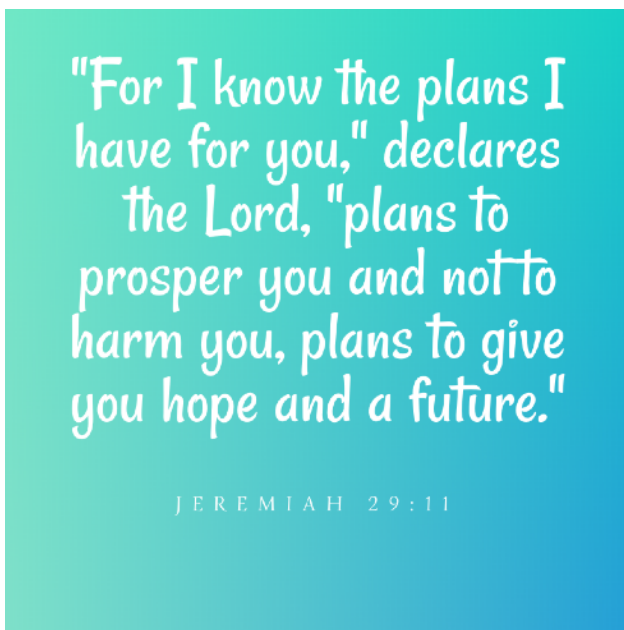
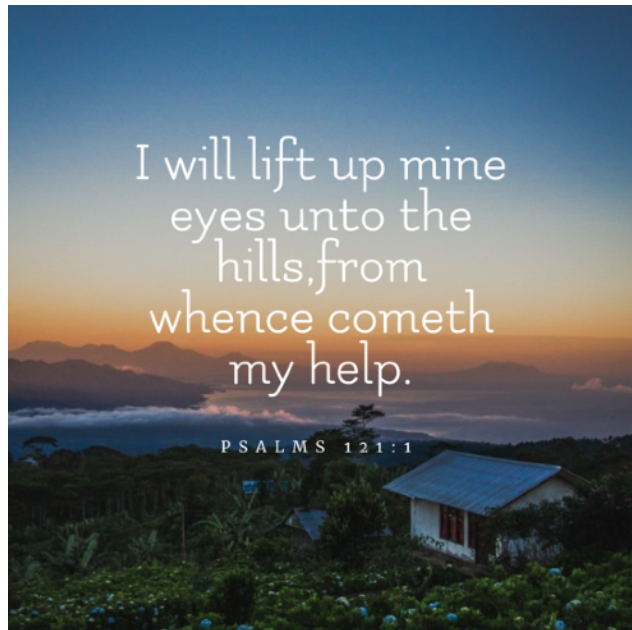
Jenny Jones reports:

Just over a week ago, in response to the anticipation of having a bit of free time, a new study group formed using Whatsapp as its means of communication. Our initial aim was simply to study and discuss the writings of our church together during the time that we cannot meet in person and to be a support to each other.

In just 48 hours, we have “met” and introduced ourselves, caught up with old friendships, shared our favourite bible verses and what we are most grateful for, posted photographs of beauty around us and considered two bible verses and their significance to us. Wow!

Yesterday, many of the group shared their favourite bible verses with each other. We thought that E-News readers would enjoy reading some of these uplifting verses too...

Do you have a favourite biblical verse?



Palm Sunday Service

The General Conference of the New Church Ministry Team reports:

Palm Sunday Service

This coming Sunday 5th April we invite you to join a Palm Sunday service led by our Spiritual Leader, Revd Jack Dunion. This will be held using Zoom, an online platform that facilitates people coming together in live discussion, meetings and worship.

Timing: the service will start at 10.45am but the link will be active from 10.30am to allow folks to join the Zoom platform and have some time to greet each other and have a chat. The service will last approximately 40 minutes.

To maintain the security of this platform a link to the service will need to be emailed out to participants individually.

To receive the link invitation: to join our Sunday services please email a request to - alison.southcombe@purleychasecentre.org.uk

To join via the telephone: if your technology does not allow you to access Zoom you can join by telephone. Please contact Alison by email (see above) or call on 01827 715591 for the dial in and access code.

We hope to see you on Sunday! *Illustration by Elizabeth Wang, copyright © Radiant Light 2020*



How to Use Zoom

If you haven't got one already, you will need to sign up and create a free Zoom account here, which you can do now so it's all ready for Sunday: zoom.us/signup
Make sure you remember your login details!

You can download Zoom here: zoom.us/support/download
Run the downloaded file to install Zoom.

For those who have never used Zoom online, whilst it is very user friendly you may wish to view a YouTube guide to joining a Zoom meeting which shows you just how easy it is: youtube.com/watch?v=hlkCmbvAHQQ

Reader Contributions

Covid-19 cannot travel down a telephone line - but love and sympathy can!

David Friend

I read with interest the report by Anne Gaffney about the Bread Church weekend in February. I think there was a beginner's one towards the end of November which I had thought of going to. However, other events happened at that time which meant it was out of the question. So, it was good to read about this second one. The photos of the food looked very tasty.

I was also interested to read the poem from Trevor Millar and the extract on "Angels by your side - thoughts for each day" sent by Gwendolin Rowe.

I too would like to offer a poem written by Margaret Fishback Powers entitled "Footprints" which I have found very reassuring at difficult times. I am sure it will be well known to many of you.

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.
After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.
This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.
"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."
He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you."

David and I wish you all well at this most unsettling of times.

Susan Friend