

Dear Church Family,

'Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

There above it stood the Lord, who said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac... I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it."

Genesis 28 (selected)

In the book of Genesis the story of Jacob has many twists and turns. In chapter 28 he is running away from his brother Esau to escape Esau's anger as Jacob has cheated him out of both his birthright and his father's blessing.

Jacob was a schemer and would go on through many tumultuous experiences to become the father of the twelve tribes of Israel - a name he receives after wrestling with an 'angel' all night!

With his head on a hard rock he dreams of heaven and earth joined by a 'stairway' which carries the agents of divine blessing up and down.

Alone, anxious and probably uncomfortable he comes to understand that God's presence and God's blessing are available anywhere and always... 'the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it.'

May we each recognise the Lord is in whatever place we may be and will keep faith with us.

Prayer Update

Please keep praying for those mentioned in the Tuesday email, especially the family Dorothy Douglas whose funeral took place today.

Please also add Jane Holliday to your prayers for those working with people in the NHS and associated services.

HBCC Online

Our next online service will be available on Sunday from 10:30.

All services can be found on the HBCC Facebook page and are also on YouTube.

<https://www.facebook.com/Hesketh-Bank-Christian-Centre-137989929662209/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI-q5TmlygGFnooTXluT6kg>

Post Service Zoom Catchup

Following the success of last Sunday's session Alex will be running another Zoom 'catchup' for anyone who'd like to connect with others live after the service on Sunday. This will start at 11:00.

If you would like to join in you will need to have the Zoom App on your computer or tablet. Zoom works fine on phones as well but you can't see more than a few people who are taking part if you use it on a phone

To download the free version of Zoom go to <https://zoom.us> and click on 'sign up for free'.

Details of the catchup meeting will be posted on the HBCC Family Facebook page immediately following the service; these will be a meeting ID and password.

Wednesday Devotional

Please look out for the next of our new weekly devotionals on the Family Facebook Page; available from Wednesday morning.

Bible Study

We are looking to post a short Bible Study each week in the near future. Mark Hawksley will be presenting this; more details will follow.

Facebook Quiz - Sunday 17th Sunday

Shaun and Lauren Twist will be hosting a church quiz this Sunday evening via the HBCC Family Facebook page. Check in at 19:30 on Sunday evening and all the information you need will be available then. There will be a live session later with the questions and further instructions.

Birthday Congratulations

Happy Birthday to Ivor Williams who celebrates his 74th birthday on Sunday.

*Please can you let us know if you would like us to share news of special birthdays, anniversaries or occurrences in our weekly bulletin. Send details to the church email address - hbccentre@tiscali.co.uk

Christian Aid Week 10th - 16th May

This week is Christian Aid Week and as there can be no envelope collection this year the charity is being innovative about fundraising.

If you would like to give to the work of Christian Aid, which is doing such valuable work helping people in some of the poorest parts of the world, you can donate online at:

caweek.org

or by phoning 020 7523 2269.

If you would like to watch some great short personal videos about faith in action, visit the CA website visit: caweek.org/resources, and search for 'Faith in Action' films.

Online Giving

Don't forget you can give directly to the church using online banking.

Bank Sort Code: 40-24-14

Account No: 10429627

Contact Numbers

You can reach us on the numbers below:

Mark	- 07526 989665
Steve	- 07484 268297
Alex	- 07701 042458 (Youth and Young People)

Please also keep in contact with all the groups of which you are part with the social media tools at you disposal.

Grace, peace and every good to you,

The Leadership Team 14.05.2020

(This bulletin is available in the 'latest news' section of the church website along with all previous communications.)