

Dear Church Family,

*Unless the Lord builds the house,
the builders labour in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.*

*In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat—
for he grants sleep to those he loves.*

Psalm 127:1 & 2

This Psalm reminds us that we can work hard and be vigilant but unless we are working and watching in partnership with God our building and our attempts to protect what we've built are 'in vain'

Perhaps in these unusual times we have the opportunity to take stock over what we are building and what we are seeking to protect and preserve. We don't know what life will look like in the weeks and months ahead but we can determine to pray that God will guide us and help us walk the journey ahead.

We can live in the interruption and disruption knowing the peace which bypasses our comprehension and our fears of how things will pan out. We can know the blessing of the love of God and, my prayer is for all of God's beloved, that we may know the blessing and grace of peaceful and restorative sleep each night... because 'the Lord watches over the city'.

Reopening of the Church Building Survey

As you should have seen from Tuesday's email we are asking you to complete an online survey to help us plan for the future. Please could you follow the link provided and submit your responses by midnight of Monday 20th July.

NB Where we have more than one email address per household we only sent the email and link to one of them. If you can't find the email or link please let us know.

Life Groups & Small Groups

We know a good number of groups have been meeting regularly via Zoom during lockdown and it seems increasingly important that we are able to meet virtually as small groups on a regular basis. The survey asks a few questions about Life Group connections and we are looking at ways of nurturing and boosting the effectiveness of smaller groups of different kinds... so watch this space and keep connecting if you are in a group!

Advance Group

The Advance group is focussed on evangelism and staying in a place of expectancy for God to work through us in our everyday lives. If you have a heart to reach others with the good news of Jesus, if you want to grow in confidence in sharing your faith or just simply want to see more of God's kingdom in your life then please join us on Zoom on Tuesday 28th July 7.30-9pm. We believe God wants to work in fresh ways through us during this time of lockdown.

We will be meeting every other Tuesday night for a new set of sessions led by Emily Darby and Abi Chetwood. There will be time for sharing stories and testimonies, teaching and discussion. Please call us if you would like to know more or to join in, we'd love to see you!

Emily - 07540571324
Abi - 07761396948

Part-time Work for Furloughed Staff

Linda, Eva and Jan are now doing a few hours a week each in line with the government's changes to the Furlough Scheme which allows for some part-time hours to be fulfilled by those register as on Furlough.

HBCC Online

Our next online service will be available this Sunday from 10:30 onwards.
All services can be found on the HBCC Facebook page and some are also on YouTube.

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

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

bibleproject.com

If you've not yet discovered this tremendous online resource please check it out. There are a lot of good things to explore; the material on how to read the Bible is very good.

Mid-week Reflection

On the HBCC Family Facebook page there is a short, encouraging devotional talk each week. This is usually posted on a Wednesday morning. Many thanks to all those who've contributed so far.

Zoom Catchup

The usual Zoom 'catchup' for anyone who'd like to connect with others is live after the service on Sunday; this will start at approximately 10 minutes after the online service finishes. Details will appear on HBCC Family Facebook. Anyone is welcome to join in and leave as and when you feel comfortable.

Stories, News and Celebrations

If you have some news, a story, or if you would like us to share special birthdays, anniversaries or occurrences in our weekly bulletin....send details to the church email address at hbccentre@tiscali.co.uk

Giving

There are still ongoing expenses as a church community even during lockdown. Many of you give regularly and very faithfully and we're so grateful for your continued support. If anyone would like to make any one-off gifts you can do this through online banking.

Bank Sort Code: 40-24-14

Account No: 10429627

Finally, if you need help or support during the week, you can reach us on the numbers below:

Mark-07526 989665

Linda-07732 074420

Steve-07484 268297

Alex-07701 042458 (Youth and Young People)

Steve - on behalf of The Leadership Team 16.07.2020