

Ask for help—safely

Just get in touch with us on the Home page of our website.

If you have a problem perhaps we could help. We now have a greater range of ages at the Chapel than before and while older ones in the congregation should take care even if they have no symptoms, the restrictions do allow us to help those in need. (While keeping “Social Distancing” rules of course.) Our younger members would be happy to help. In addition, our Pastor is in a unique position as a minister, regarded as a ‘key worker’. We have been able to provide a few items to those who were unable to get home deliveries and although visiting has to be done at “arm’s length” we recently found that a chat standing in a garden was not against the spirit of the rules and was mutually beneficial. The Pastor and several other members have **DBA certificates** so you can feel safe approaching us; be warned that this is sadly not the case with everyone offering assistance on an *ad hoc* basis.

Lockdown events from Langford Chapel

You will recall that the planned meetings with **Barry King** were postponed. At short notice he arranged to speak remotely to us on Friday 1st May at 8 p.m. on the topic, “**Lessons from Falling Towers**”. Emails and a Facebook campaign resulted in more folk asking to join so we were planning to go ahead as we went to print.

Before the pandemic hit us the Government (after calendars had been printed!) decided to move the early May Bank Holiday from the 4th to the 8th, the **75th Anniversary of VE day**. Pastor George thought it would be a shame not to mark the occasion, especially as there were Church members in 1945 who had been in the forces. So we have planned a YouTube service on **Friday 8th May at 11 a.m.** which we hope will go some way to making up for not having an event in the Chapel. The link will be on our website. Tell your ex-service friends! We will record this service for those without the internet.

Verse for the month

Let Thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in Thee.

Psalms 33 verse 22



Locked down but not locked out

After we had to close the Chapel due to the virus restrictions, our Pastor has been delivering services online from home on a mobile phone. One day when he needed to check the building he decided to record his message standing at the Communion table. He says that it was strange to do this in an empty Chapel but he did find it more natural to preach standing up than sitting in his study. (Photo from YouTube 26/4/2020.)



In this issue:

Famous hymn: A Welshman’s choice: *My favourite hymn*, inside.
A timely prayer from the Psalms: *Verse for the month*, back page.
Help in a time of stress and strain: *From the Pastor’s study*, inside.
Langford Chapel online: *Lockdown events*, back page.

My favourite hymn

by Lewis Prescott

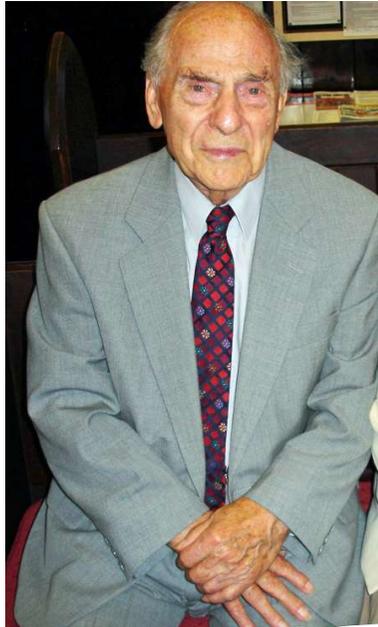
“One of my favourites. Originally written in Welsh by William Williams and translated into English by Peter Williams. To be in a packed Welsh Chapel all singing *Cwm Rhondda* is a most uplifting experience. Just as the children of Israel needed guidance travelling through the wilderness, so we are living in very uncertain times and need God’s guiding hand. “

Guide me O thou great Redeemer,

Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,
Hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliv’rer, strong Deliv’rer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell’s Destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan’s side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.



Lewis is a member of the Bristol Evangel Male Voice Praise choir and is often seen at Langford Chapel services and the Aroma coffee mornings.

Prayer requests

Pray that the Lord will have mercy upon us and take away this plague. Ask God to guide those who are in authority and help them to turn to Him for wisdom. (Psalm 111:10.)

Pray that we will never take God, or His benefits, for granted again. Ask the Lord to help His servants to find ways to reach out to others.

Tweet of last month

Langford Evangelical Church @Langford_Chapel

Can you feel the same this #Easter day? The trauma that Mary had been through, the horror that she had witnessed, the loss that she had suffered. Wiped away in a single moment - the first person to see the risen #Christ. #Hallelujah

From the Pastor’s study

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.” Paul the Apostle said this when writing his letter to early Christians in Rome. In the last few weeks I have found myself doing much of the latter, and all with the difficulty of being unable to be physically there to show how much I care, let alone having the privilege of putting a comforting arm around a suffering or grieving person. Telephone, text, email or even video chats with Zoom will never replace *being there* when most needed. The value of prayer for those having a tough time is highlighted; the Lord *will* be with them when I’m not. There were a few times of rejoicing: To hear of those who have recovered from this dreadful plague and have been restored to their families, like our own Prime Minister; of some who have not been severely ill against all expectations; to find that my faltering attempts at video ministry have been a help to others, including those who do not usually worship at the Chapel, have brightened some moments. Amid all the stress and strains and long days, recalling that *Jesus wept* (John 11:35) has helped me cope.

For your diary

Sadly we had to cancel yet another **Aroma** coffee morning due to the ongoing effects of the dreadful virus. This was especially sad because the April event was the 12th Anniversary. We hope to see you soon and we

can have a delayed celebration. Until the situation changes, we will continue to prepare online services using YouTube and special events on Zoom. If you have not got internet access get in touch, we can provide CDs.