



# Keswick Ministries

HEARING • BECOMING • SERVING

Newsletter

February 2020



## Welcome

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."  
Philippians 4:6*

I love the deep pastoral wisdom of the Apostle Paul. He addresses people where they are and engages with what they feel ("anxious") about any situation ("anything").

But he doesn't just say "Don't be anxious!" That won't help. He gives a remedy: "In every situation... present your requests to God."



Ah, but doesn't that make prayer just like a shopping list of what we want God to do for us? You may have heard that criticism made of asking God for things.

We need to be careful here. Asking God is a good thing - a parent loves it when a child comes to ask. The Lord's Prayer is full of requests. And Paul urges the Philippians to "present your requests to God". But... God wants us to present our requests "*with thanksgiving*"

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our prayers were filled with gratitude in 2020.

There is much going on as preparations are under way for this year's Convention. The theme of this summer's event is Grateful. Let's be praying, even now, that our lives, as well as our prayers, would be marked by gratitude.

In this edition of the newsletter, there are updates on this summer's Convention, the Teaching and Training programme, the Derwent Project and the Keswick Fellowship. Do read, enjoy and pray!



James Robson

Ministry Director



## Seminar speakers

Each week of the Convention will include a variety of seminars focused on different aspects of the theme of Grateful. This newsletter highlights some of them.

In Week One, we are delighted to welcome Clare Heath-Whyte, Keswick Ministries trustee and author, to speak on the witness of some key Christians in history, as well as David Landrum, Director of Advocacy at the Evangelical Alliance, who will speak about being grateful for our Christian heritage and Abi Jarvis, the public leadership coordinator at the Evangelical Alliance, who will talk about being grateful for opportunities Christians have to shape and act in society.

Week Two's seminar speakers include Andrew Ollerton, author of The Bible Course, who will give a Bible overview through the lenses of gratitude, and Anne Zaki who teaches seminary students in Egypt will speak about gratitude and prayer. Richard Coekin, who is CEO of Co-Mission a Church Planting Network in London and Senior Pastor of Dundonald Church, will be speaking about God the Evangelist.

The final week of the Convention will include seminars by evangelist and author J. John, who will speak about evangelism. Karen Soole, who is the women's worker at Trinity Church, Lancaster and the chair of the Northern Women's Convention, will help us be more grateful for the Old Testament. Also leading seminars will be Dr Rosalee Velloso Ewell, who is the Executive Director of the Theological Commission for the World Evangelical Alliance. She will be speaking about being grateful for mission.

Check out our website in coming months for more updates.



Clare Heath-Whyte



Richard Coekin



Karen Soole

## How the Convention will work on one site

It will be great to be together on one site from this summer, with a new larger main venue, and Base Camp moving into the former Pencil Factory packing warehouse.

Whilst based on the Pencil Factory site and Rawnsley site, we are still using Keswick Methodist Church, St John's Church (for Keswick Unconventional in Week 3), and St Herbert's School (in Week 2 for Count Everyone In).

Conventioners are encouraged to walk or cycle where possible; if needing to use a car please use the Rugby Club Convention car park. There is no on-site parking or street parking around the site. There is limited parking for disabled drivers. A shuttle bus will run between the Skiddaw Street site and the Pencil Factory site before and after main meetings.

Our excellent Children and Youth programme is based at Rawnsley and on the ground floor of the former Pencil Factory building. There will also be a creche on the Pencil Factory site (parental supervision required). Children and Youth need to be registered – registration will open at Easter.

We are working on lots more of the operational details of the site, and look forward to sharing more with you over the coming months. Please also keep an eye on our website for more details.

**Convention 2020**

## Volunteers needed

Thanks goes to everyone who has applied to volunteer at the Convention! Places are available on the fundraising teams and catering teams. Take a look at the link below for more details about the roles, and to apply.

### Volunteer

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There has been a strong interest in the 2019/2020 with many people signing up to the courses.

The Pastoral Refreshment Conference taking place next week is sold out. Please pray for it, that all those who attend will be encouraged and refreshed.

In the next few months there are a number of events including the Letter to the Hebrews workshop with Rev Dr Nick Moore in March and the Faith in the Second Half course running between 4- 7 May. Places are still available for these courses as well as the Influential Leadership Workshop 18 - 22 May.

For the first time ever, there will be an Art Retreat in Keswick over the May Bank Holiday weekend (22-25 May). This will be a weekend exploring what the Bible says about working in art. It will be a practical weekend on how to survive and thrive as a Christian and an artist. There will be plenty of time to meet other Christians in the arts, to enjoy the beautiful Lakes and make some art while you're here!

### Teaching and Training

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It's exciting times as work is about to begin at the Pencil Factory!

Contractors are being appointed for roofing, rendering work and replacing windows.

During the Convention, some of the children's work will be held in the building, as it was last year.

The main tent will be next to the former warehouse on the site. The warehouse will be cleared out to house Base Camp where the mission agencies will exhibit alongside a bookshop and café.

The entrance to the Pencil Factory site is set to be widened for vehicles and pedestrians. Work is under way to create new access from Rawnsley to the Pencil Factory site. (See lower right photo).



## Keswick in East Lancashire

Good quality Biblical teaching has been brought to people from Burnley and Blackburn at an autumn Convention.

James Robson spoke "excellently" on Nehemiah 8-10, said organisers, and 10 of those provided "a well-stocked book stall that helped to equip people with good quality resources".

"These meetings are always great opportunities for many Christians from different backgrounds to demonstrate that they are 'all one in Christ Jesus'," organisers added.

Over 100 people attended the meetings. Organisers would like people to pray for more to come to their next event, which takes place in March with Duncan Hunter from 'Outreach UK'. The event will focus on Evangelism.





## Keswick Gloucestershire

Around 700 adults and children attended the first Cotswold Bible Festival, a new one-day event for all ages.

The festival, which is a ministry of Keswick Gloucestershire, welcomed Vaughan Roberts and others to speak. Vaughan spoke about the Book of Habakkuk on the theme of Trusting God in Troubled Times. Sung worship was led by EMU Music and DumbRocks. There were fun fringe activities during the event. Organisers partnered with Christian organisations including Youth for Christ, Camp XL and Indigo Valley coffee.

Click on the link above to go to the Cotswold Bible Festival website and watch their review video.

Plans are now in place for the next event Bible Festival which will take place on 21 November 2020 in Cheltenham with main speaker Hugh Palmer.

There's lots of events taking place across the UK. Take a look on the Keswick Ministries website to see what's on in your area.

[Keswick Fellowship](#)

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## Peter Maiden update

*"The Lord will fulfil His purpose for me; your love, O Lord, endures forever – do not abandon the works of your hands." Psalm 138:8*

We are pleased to share a health update from Peter Maiden, Minister-at-Large for Keswick Ministries. Many people have been supporting Peter in prayer following his cancer diagnosis: primary in the bowel, which has spread to his liver and lymph nodes.

He has had a series of six chemotherapy treatments - and was contacted just before Christmas to say that these treatments had reduced all the tumours in size, and some had disappeared completely. He has said that after losing a substantial amount of weight, he is putting weight on again.

Peter is due to have six further treatments which will take him through until the end of March. He aims to begin preaching again in April.

He said: "Thank you very much indeed for your prayers and your many notes of encouragement and support. Please go on praying – one thing remains certain – "The Lord will never abandon the work of His hands!"

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## Keswick Ministries



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