



*Life at King's*

SPRING / SUMMER

2021



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# A WORD FROM PAUL THOMAS

Welcome to our summer edition of Life at Kings.

As I write we're between stages 1 & 2 of the roadmap out of lockdown. I wonder if certain dates have ever been more anticipated! And I wonder what your plans are post-lockdown? - Perhaps like me you've a list of things to do and people to see in person.

As a church we're really excited about the prospect of returning to our normal activities.

Although it's not all going to happen instantly, over the coming weeks and months things will gradually restart, perhaps not exactly the same (who knows, perhaps even better!), and hopefully a few new things will be added into the mix as well. You'll be able to find details of how things are progressing on our website and social media channels. Whilst Zoom, YouTube and other online formats have filled the gap so amazingly in many respects, we're so excited to be finally gathering again on a Sunday to worship God together

and to meet with one another, despite the continuing restrictions. Until these are lifted, we have to be careful with how we gather, but our hope is that as the infection rates continue to decline, we can soon restore everything that has been missing.

So, yet more patience needed! I've been reflecting a lot recently on the idea of waiting. Our modern lives aren't wired for it, and yet during this last year it seems we've done a good deal of it - waiting, anticipating, patiently hoping. I wonder what it has taught us - perhaps a renewed gratitude for some of the things we once took for granted? An appreciation of the value of people and relationships, of the fragility of life? - Or the value of just a simple smile! Whatever the lessons learned, I do look forward to seeing you 'in-person' very soon.



# ABOUT

**WHO WE ARE...** Welcome to King's Church Amersham, a modern, friendly church with a passion for Jesus, for the people in our community and for enjoying life together!

**WHAT TO EXPECT IN NORMAL TIMES...** A congregation made up of people of all ages and backgrounds, some of whom have been part of the church for many years and some who have only recently come to know us.

- A friendly environment where all are welcome and included
- Joyful, creative and expressive worship times
- A commitment to the Bible as truth and to learning how it is relevant to life today
- Regular opportunities to share communion and to be supported in prayer
- A safe, caring place for children and young people to be, with activities that are fun and relevant to them

**WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE MOMENT...** Our congregation has had to adapt during the Pandemic, enjoying a mixture of online services via our YouTube channel (King's Church Amersham) and in-person services when government restrictions allow. We hope to be meeting together again from Spring 2021, including restarting children's groups, if government advice allows.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE...** King's Church Amersham is an independent Christian church. Although not affiliated to any particular denomination, along with 4000 other churches in the UK, we fully subscribe to the Evangelical Alliance's 'statement of faith.'

**ORGANISATION...** We have a team of people called 'Elders' to oversee the spiritual life of the church, a Board of Trustees to take care of the business of running it and a staff team to serve and facilitate the day to day life of the church and most importantly an amazing congregation who enable everything that we do.

A modern, friendly church  
with a passion for Jesus

WELCOME

# ATTENDING FOR THE FIRST TIME

# FAQ

Due to social distancing our 10.30am services can accommodate a limited congregation, which will be subject to change as we progress through the year. Our services have been available to watch on our YouTube channel, King's Church Amersham, whilst we cannot accommodate everyone in the building.

We hope to re-start our children's work during the 10:30am service after Easter. Our Kids Show services are finishing on Easter Sunday but will continue to be available on our YouTube channel if you are unable to attend the service.

#### How long is the service?

Our main Sunday services last approximately an hour. The KCA Kids YouTube service lasts approximately 30 minutes.

#### How can I get to know others in the church?

Sign up for one of our small groups, or join in our social events. We will be following government advice and hope to allow groups and events to meet in person where this is safe and possible to do. If this is not possible, we will run activities online.

#### How can I find out more about King's?

Pick up one of our 'Life at King's' magazines, or take a look on the website ([www.kca.church](http://www.kca.church)). Our 'Who We Are' pages will tell you more about our history, who's who, how we operate and what we believe. Request to join our church software, ChurchSuite, which will enable you to access our calendar and keep abreast of all of our activities.

**You are  
welcome at  
King's Church**



# ChurchSuite

ChurchSuite is an app that enables users to keep up to date with what is going on, register for, and receive details of events and courses, check rotas and much more.

We are now using ChurchSuite here at KCA for our database, users are able to update their records and choose how we communicate with them. Using ChurchSuite is a great way to stay connected to KCA with information in one convenient place.

[www.kca.church/churchsuite](http://www.kca.church/churchsuite)

# A BRIEF HISTORY

Baptist Christians have been traced in Amersham from as early as 1626. However, the founding of the congregation that now meets at Raans Road, began with the arrival of an ex-army man, Richard Morris.

Morris was ordained as a Baptist minister in June 1776 and began preaching in his home and then from his workshop. In 1784 a new Chapel was opened on a site close to this workshop, the beautiful red brick building in Amersham Old Town

Richard Morris died in 1817 and following his death there was some division in the church. Unity was restored by 1828 and the church continued as a trust, with various ups and downs, until 1942 when it was agreed to transfer the church deeds to the Baptist Union Corporation.

In 1969, the then pastor, Rev Eric Chambers, felt the Lord declare that the church should be 'Like A Beacon On The Hill', shining light and the Good News of Jesus, over Amersham and the surrounding areas.

Many possible sites were explored over many years, but objections, practical difficulties and the presence of wealthier property purchasers meant that none of them were suitable.

Then in May 2006, the church learned that Cala Homes had agreed a deal with the County Council to build a housing development on the vacant Raans Road site. In July 2006 a team from KCA met with Cala Homes, to open discussions about the possibility of including a new church building on the site.

Due to generous giving by church members and the amazing agreement by Cala Homes to transfer the land to us for only £1, KCA finally had the funds to get started. 42 years after Rev Eric Chamber's prophecy, on the 6th November 2013, the new KCA building opened and the next stage of KCA's history began.



For more detailed information about the history of the church, please visit [www.kca.church/our-history](http://www.kca.church/our-history)



## NEIL BARTLETT | SUNDAY 9TH MAY

Having lead King's Church, High Wycombe for 26 years, my current part-time role at King's is Leadership Development Pastor with the goal 'To create a leadership culture that produces more leaders than it needs.'

In addition I am also a Pastoral facilitator on the Leadership and Theological training course for Catalyst, which is a network of churches within Newfrontiers.

My wife Des and I are based in High Wycombe not far from KCA who were brave enough to let me loose in ministry!



## PAUL HARCOURT | SUNDAY 11TH JULY

Paul is New Wine's National Leader and vicar at All Saints Woodford Wells. He and his wife Becky have two children, the eldest of whom has special needs. Under Paul's leadership, All Saints has developed into a network of four churches, with All Saints' acting a resource church for the region.

Paul has written two books about following Jesus into the Spirit-filled life - "Growing in Circles" (2016) and, with Becky, "Walking on Water" (2017).



## PAUL LYNCH | SUNDAY 12TH SEPT

Paul & Liz are passionate about bringing the Father heart of God to the people of God, through the Word of God, the prophetic word and personal prayer ministry. We have such a passion and a desire to encourage, equip and inspire local church leaders and the local church to reach their full potential in God and in their destiny with Him.

After 35 years serving the local church we have, under God's guidance, established the ministry 'Encounter - Heart to Heart'.



## GAVIN CALVER | SUNDAY 17TH OCT

Gavin Calver is the CEO of the Evangelical Alliance. He has a burning passion to see the church working together to share the Gospel throughout the UK. Formerly the leader of Youth for Christ and chair of Spring Harvest, he's an ordained evangelist and regular public speaker, and has authored six books. Married to Anne, they have two children, Amelie and Daniel. He loves new challenges, is a passionate AFC Wimbledon supporter and was part of the team that broke the World Record for the longest 5-a-side football match.



## IAN STACKHOUSE | SUNDAY 14TH NOV

Ian Stackhouse has been the Senior Minister of Millmead since 2004 and has been in pastoral ministry overall for nearly thirty years. He is married to Susanna and they have four sons who are at various stages of young adult life. Ian has thus far authored four books - the Gospel Driven Church being his PhD thesis - and has contributed various other chapters and articles. As part of leading Millmead, he has occasion to travel in the UK and overseas, ministering in churches, seminaries, conferences and retreats.

# KINGS TEAM

We've had a few changes to our staff team... So here's an update and a little about each of them

# S



**PAUL THOMAS**

**Responsibilities:** Leading the church here at King's

**Likes:** Golf

**Has:** No grey hair – yet



**JANE THOMAS**

**Responsibilities:** Wide variety of operations you see in any business, not just church

**Likes:** An auction bargain

**Has:** Never liked soup



**PHIL SHAW**

**Responsibilities:** Worship, communications and creative ministries

**Likes:** BBQs & Craft beer

**Has:** Met the president



**ADRIAN ABRAMIAN**

**Responsibilities:** Youth, children's and young adults' ministries

**Likes:** Football & Burgers

**Has:** A collection of thimbles



**JULIAN DAGNALL**

**Responsibilities:** Integration and teaching ministries

**Likes:** Beating Australia at cricket

**Has:** A strong tendency to cry when watching movies / TV



**ABI SHOREY**

**Responsibilities:** Sunday morning children's ministries

**Likes:** Luke warm tea

**Has:** Lived on 3 continents

# KINGS TEAM



**Marian Burton**

**Responsibilities:** Financial Administrator

**Likes:** Theatre and dancing

**Has:** Once did a triathlon and decided never to do it again!!

**SIMON STRINGER**

**Responsibilities:** Senior ministry and is part of our pastoral team

**Likes:** Collecting beer mats

**Has:** A beautiful allotment just off the Woodside Road

**CLAIRE YOUNGMAN**

**Responsibilities:** Health and safety and office admin

**Likes:** Baking

**Has:** No fillings

**PETER CHILTON**

**Responsibilities:** Manages all things IT and tech

**Likes:** Any ball sports

**Has:** Been a member of King's Church for 54 years!

**LORRAINE HAWKINS**

**Responsibilities:** Pastoral team and safeguarding responsibilities

**Likes:** National trust visits... especially coffee and cake

**Has:** Preferred Radio 4 to any music station since a young child

**IAN LAMB**

**Responsibilities:** All our community 'compassion' ministries

**Likes:** Skiing

**Has:** Frequent bad hair days

**DISCIPLESHIP YEAR STUDENTS**

**Responsibilities:** 'DY' students

**Watch this space!**

**BUDDY THOMAS**

**Responsibilities:** Distracting visitors to the office

**Likes:** Chicken, belly rubs and walks

**Has:** Never admitted to eating Paul's shoes

# KING'S ELDERS

The Elders are tasked with determining the overall vision and future direction of the Church

- Providing accountability to the Lead Pastor, to ensure the vision and values determined by the Elders are being carried out.
- Ensuring the Church's teachings and practices reflect accurate Biblical theology.
- Providing avenues for pastoral care, conflict resolution, and restoration.
- Creating policies to define clearly Church values and Biblical operating procedures.

**TIM PATTERSON – ELDER**

**Occupation:** Chartered Accountant working with charities and fashion retailers



**VICKI HAMILTON – TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Mum of two and working part-time in the photography department at BBC Studios



**Responsibility as trustee:** Health and Safety

# KING'S TRUSTEES

The Trustees' primary responsibility is to ensure the Company is run on a sound financial basis, ethically and in compliance with all legal requirements.

**NEIL SUGGETT – ELDER**

**Occupation:** Leadership coach/ conference speaker/writer

**Responsibility as trustee:** Remuneration and performance



**PAUL THOMAS – ELDER AND TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Senior Pastor and leader of KCA



**DAVID PATTERSON – TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Retired former accountant

**Responsibility as trustee:** Church's finances and Director of King's Roast

**KAT WILLIAMSON – ELDER**

**Occupation:** Part-time Insight Communications at BT and mum to three gorgeous kids



**JULIAN DAGNALL – ELDER AND TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Part-time pastor at KCA and accountancy

**Responsibility as trustee:** Company Secretary



**CALLIE TOMLINS – TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Experience Director for Origin Global

**Responsibility as trustee:** Risk Management



**SIMON HARDING – TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Works for Natwest managing a team of Data Engineers based in India and the UK

**Responsibility as trustee:** Not yet assigned



**IAN LAMB – ELDER**

**Occupation:** Retired Chemist who now supports the teams who work in the community as the Community Care Services Leader



**KATHY NUSSBAUM – ELDER AND TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Chair of trustees at Rope and involved in several areas of Church life



**ANDY BURTON – TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Self employed/ investor in businesses

**Responsibility as trustee:** Chair of the board of trustees



**SIMON ROSE – TRUSTEE**

**Occupation:** Tax lawyer  
**Responsibility as trustee:** Legal / Chairman of King's Roast

# THIS TIME TOMORROW

## *This time tomorrow*

**Marcel and Clare Oxlade have been married for almost twenty-four years. Together they have seventeen-year-old twins, James and Sophie, who are currently doing A-levels. Marcel also has an older daughter, who is married and has two children, who are a bundle of fun!**

During her childhood and youth, Clare attended KCA with her family and this is where she gave her heart to Jesus and was baptised. Age seventeen, she moved to King's Church, High Wycombe, due to friendships and starting work as a Dental nurse. She later became the Practice Manager of a dental surgery.

Marcel started going along to King's Church, High Wycombe when he was eighteen and after hearing the good news of the Gospel, decided that he wanted to give his heart to the Lord.

After a period of unemployment and casual jobs, Marcel had the opportunity of owning a café in High Wycombe and this led onto them both starting a business in 1999, selling collectable toys and latest

crazes in their shops in the area. The business later took a different route from having shops to wholesaling as well and then Amazon arrived on the scene and they now sell stock on Amazon.

*There have been many highs and lows in our lives, but one thing has been constant and that is we know God has been faithful and with us in it all.*

Marcel balances his time between running the business and playing golf, although during the summer months sometimes it's the other way round! Clare helps out at the business and runs the family home.

After trying out a local village church for a time, they realised they wanted to be a

part of a church where they all felt happy. Clare and Marcel knew what an important part Christian friendships had played in their own lives and felt it was time to move to another church where they as a family could feel at home - and that church is KCA.

They love socialising and being part of the church family. During the various lockdowns over the past year, they have really enjoyed the online services and being part of a couple of different online small groups.

*We've been made to feel extremely welcome at KCA and James and Sophie are really enjoying being part of the youth. Looking forward, we are excited to see what God has in store for us and the opportunities to connect and get more involved within the church.*



# COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

These services are subject to modification depending on Covid-19 guidelines.

The central focus of our community care and social action here at KCA is our determination to show unconditional love, compassion and practical help to those in need, through the services outlined here.



**TLG Make Lunch**

TLG Make Lunch offers free hot lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays during school holidays for families with young children struggling on tight budgets, plus a time to play and chat.



**TLG Early Intervention Programme**

TLG train up volunteers from churches who go into a school weekly for 1 year to work with a particular child, identified by the school as having a need for additional 1:1 support. They use fun, creative projects along with TLG's emotional literacy coaching resources to best support the child they are working with.



**Christians Against Poverty (CAP)**

CAP provides sound and robust advice (plus a befriending support service based here at KCA) to people with financial and major debt problems.



**Acts 435**

We are in the very early stages of developing a working relationship with Acts 435. For more information see the article following.



**The Furniture Project**

The Furniture Project collects good quality furniture to give away free to recipients in the local area who are in difficult financial or domestic situations.



**Restoring Homes/ Clearing Gardens**

Our team offers a basic house decorating and/or garden clearing service for the elderly and those with mobility or long term health problems.



**New Homes Starter Packs**

For those fleeing situations of domestic violence and abuse, any new home that is offered is often very sparse; bare walls, bare floors, bare cupboards. We provide new crockery, cutlery, glasses, kettle, toaster and other kitchen and domestic products, plus the potential for some new carpeting.



**BabyBasics**

Working with local community midwives, BabyBasics provides vulnerable women facing financial or domestic hardship with a Moses basket full of essential products for starting life with a new baby.



We have connections with various organisations in the local area. If you have a need, please get in touch and we will try to help.

For more information about our community care services please email [info@kca.church](mailto:info@kca.church)

# CROWDFUNDING

Initiative



With our Community Care Services, the central focus of our community care and social action here at KCA is our determination to show unconditional love, compassion and practical help in a number of ways.

These services are under the overall leadership of Ian Lamb, who is looking to launch a 'Crowdfunding' initiative known as Acts 435: 'Giving to anyone who has need.'

Acts 435 is an online giving charity, directly connecting those who want to give with those who are in genuine need of their help, through a network of local churches and charities. The ethos of Acts 435 is that local churches provide the best model for partnering because they are on the ground in a local community and know who is in genuine need, whilst being able to connect with potential new donors through their congregations.

So Acts 435 enables those in need to be helped, at the same time as being a way for people who wish to give to respond to a particular individual and their needs.

On the 'request for help' front: a specially trained 'advocate' from KCA would manage the request process according to Acts 435 guidelines, which include confidentiality.

This could be made in person, via the web or by a phone call. The 'advocate' would carefully assess that the need is genuine, and then post the request on the Acts 435 website. There is a limit on value and number of claims (3) per household.

On the 'giving' front, when so many people need so much help, giving can sometimes feel hit and miss, and choosing between charities can be hard. Acts 435 puts people who can give in touch with people who are in need - with the Church as the physical, face-to-face forum to enable virtual, online giving, in an easy and accessible way.

There are no hidden costs when donating; money raised from Gift Aid on donations covers administration costs.

The way it works is simple: the advocate from the local church or charity posts the need on the website. Different people can then donate to whomever they choose and however much they wish to donate, until together the amount needed has been raised. Hence the expression 'Crowdfunding'. It's a joint effort. 100% of the money given goes to the person in need. Needs can be diverse: money needed for car repairs to enable someone to keep working, an unexpectedly large fuel bill, help for someone in need of new furniture or a cooker - these are just a few examples. Advocates have an opportunity to send thank you messages to the donors who gave to the requests they posted, explaining how their gift made a difference to the beneficiary. Usually the crowdfunded response comes back in

approximately two weeks, and the advocate will then arrange for the cash or item to be handed over to the recipient. As one donor commented: 'This is the great joy of ACTS 435 giving - you know exactly what your donation achieved, it is personal and real.'

The intention at KCA is to start small with this project, working with our referral partners initially rather than the public, and growing the service as we fully understand the process.

If you would like to know more, you can visit [acts435.org.uk](http://acts435.org.uk) or contact Ian Lamb via email: [ian.lamb@kca.church](mailto:ian.lamb@kca.church).

Then they would give the money to each as any had need  
Acts 4v35

# INTRODUCING NEWCOMERS

*Emma Carroll*

**Would you share a little bit of background about you and your church background?**

I grew up in the church and was very active in the church through my teenage years. I moved to Amersham about 20 years ago and did come along to Kings in the old town for a little while but drifted away over time.

As life moved on, church became more distant and I was busy with a partner, job and raising 2 children.

**How and when did you start 'coming' to KCA?**

My recent experience of Kings started with children's activities. They loved the holiday club and the Big Day Out, and I always felt really welcome as a parent at those events. It made me realise that I really missed being part of the church and I started coming along to Sunday services when I could.

**How have you been able to be involved in church since you found us?**

During lockdown I was able to watch the service every Sunday, and **really got a lot from knowing everyone was worshipping together** although we were all at home. I was also a 'buddy' to my lovely neighbours, Joan and Laurie, and it has been a great pleasure getting to know them and hearing their inspiring stories. When we were able, I also joined a small group at the church. I am now part of the Connect small group, for people new to the church. I have met some amazing and inspirational people, in person and online, and really feel part of the church community.

**What have you enjoyed most about joining KCA? / What has church meant to you during the Pandemic?**

Being part of the church during the pandemic has been so important in feeling connected to



Emma Carroll

the community and being able to share in the hope and encouragement from the teaching and worship.

# THIS IS WHO WE ARE

**I have really grown in my faith and benefited greatly from both the services, small groups and ongoing prayer and support from so many people in the church.**

One funny consequence of joining the online services is that I feel like I know everyone, even when I have never met them. I have smiled and waved at several members of the leadership team on the street when they had no idea who I was!

*Heidi & Joseph*

**Would you share a little bit of background about you and your church background?**

The two of us grew up in church families. We had relatively similar church backgrounds, and had even attended the New Wine Summer Conferences for most of our lives but had never met! We were finally introduced in London at a music institute, after which, Heidi joined me at St Mary's Bryanston Square, which we attended for 5 or so years.

**How and when did you start 'coming' to KCA?**

We had been living in Amersham for roughly 10 months and were keen to become part of a community in our surrounding area. Though 'formally' attending St Mary's Bryanston Square at the time, albeit online, we booked ourselves into the few in-person services KCA had in October, off the back of a recommendation. Since then we've joined all the online services and in-person services where possible!

the form of small groups, and **we joined the 'Connect' group, designed for newer members of KCA, which has been amazing.** We have also been able to get involved with the worship team at KCA, and I was even able to get involved with the Christmas recordings for the carol services.

**What have you enjoyed most about joining KCA? / What has church meant to you during the Pandemic?**

During the pandemic, we were made aware of how vital the local community is, especially during a time where we have been mostly limited to our immediate surrounding areas. KCA has been a big part of us becoming part of that community, and living locally it has been a real pleasure to cross paths with various members of the church on walks and the like. During the online services, **knowing that there were members of KCA worshipping at the same time as us, connected not just by being online at the same time, but also by proximity, brought a great deal of comfort.**

Heidi and Joseph Watt



**How have you been able to be involved in church since you found us?**

From the very first time we attended KCA, we have been made to feel very welcome. We were greeted by both members of the staff team, and all kinds of wonderful members of the church. KCA promotes fellowship in

If you are new to KCA and would like to connect with others please email [julian.dagnall@kca.church](mailto:julian.dagnall@kca.church)

# What's ON



## APRIL

1	
2	
3	
4	10:30 Morning Service
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	10:30 Morning Service Holiday Club Volunteer Sign up opens
12	09:00 King's Roast Re-opens (Outdoors only)
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	10:30 Morning Service
19	
20	09:30 Oasis Re-opens 19:00 Youth House Groups face to face re-start
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	10:30 Morning Service Sunday Youth & Kids groups re-start
26	
27	19:45 My Grief Journey course starts
28	
29	
30	



## MAY

1	
2	10:30 Morning Service
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	10:30 Morning Service Guest Speaker - Neil Bartlett
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	10:30 Morning Service
17	09:00 King's Roast re-opens inside
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	10:30 Morning Service 19:30 Flourish - First Women's event
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	10:30 Morning Service
31	



## JUNE

1	
2	20:00 Prayer & Communion
3	
4	
5	
6	10:30 Morning Service
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	10:30 Morning Service
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	10:30 Morning Service
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	10:30 Morning Service
28	
29	
30	



*Kings Roast*  
*Coffee House*

Find us at King's Church Amersham  
Raans Road, HP6 6LX

Re-opening 12<sup>th</sup> April (outdoors only)  
17<sup>th</sup> May (indoors)

subject to government guidelines

[www.kca-church/kingsroast](http://www.kca-church/kingsroast)



WWW.KCA.CHURCH

# KIDS CHURCH ONLINE



In September 2020, we started recording and televising a weekly Kids Show, in order to stay connected with our primary school age group. As well as keeping in touch, our main aim was to create a really positive atmosphere during a very challenging time for children.

The show is lively, fun and packed with as much activity as possible in 30 minutes. Full of laughter and entertainment, our presenters attempt challenges, crafts and experiments, alongside worship songs and uplifting Christian teaching. Over the past term we looked at the book of Daniel in the



bible; it's full of brilliant stories to share with the children and we hoped our weekly themes would encourage both the children and their parents in their faith.

It's been great to see families engaging with us each week; sending in photos and videos, trying out weekly challenges and sharing what they've been up to during lockdown. A number of parents have told us they enjoy the show as much as the kids and for many it's been a chance for the whole family to come together and learn about Jesus.

It was a steep learning curve for the team to get things up and running; creating a TV Show is a very different experience to a Sunday morning at Kids Church. From recording videos without audio, to crafts going wrong, we've found ourselves with hours of bloopers footage. We really did have as much fun making the show as we appear to on camera!



We are very thankful to the team who came together to help us film, as well as those who recorded video content at home. We are also grateful for our set designer Jane Thomas, who created a bright and eye-catching set with inflatable pizza's, monkeys and doughnut rings. We certainly hope it brought some fun to your week.

We've very much enjoyed this venture and will look back with great fondness, however we now feel extremely excited to welcome the children back into the church building on a Sunday morning. We look forward to the sound of fun and laughter filling our kids' rooms again soon.

*The Kids Show Team*

# ON YOUR MARKS!



## GET SET FOR... HOLIDAY CLUB 2021

### AUG 23<sup>RD</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup>

Team sign-up opens on 11<sup>th</sup> April!



For more info visit: [www.kca.church/holiday-club-2021](http://www.kca.church/holiday-club-2021)

# UGANDA UPDATE

Tim and Anna Kalibbala live in Kampala, Uganda with their children Jonathan and Caleb where they are serving as part of the Every Life Team. The team works in the slum communities bringing God's love and hope with the desire that they encounter the life transforming power of Jesus!

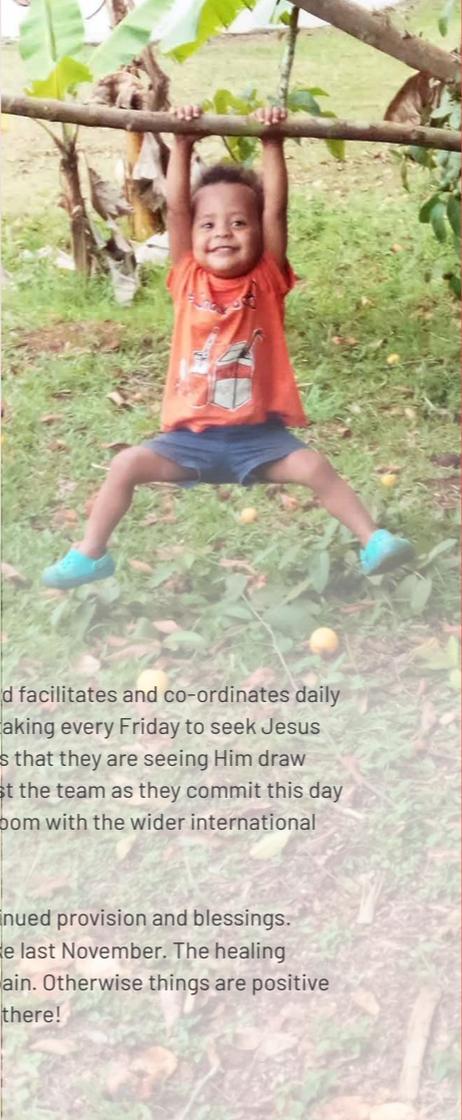


**Every life**  
WWW.EVERYLIFE.ORG.UK

In spite of the challenges brought by Covid they are seeing God move, bringing change and there is a sense of Him doing new things in this season. Their work continues and they have restarted many of their groups after they were closed due to lockdown restrictions. They have begun a nutrition programme with families who have severely malnourished children and this is progressing well. Tim's team is busy working on various social cases, working closely with other NGOs and local agencies to seek resolutions. This is really positive but is very time consuming and tiring for them.

Anna supports the Ugandan team with pastoral matters and facilitates and co-ordinates daily prayer and worship at the base. As a team they have been taking every Friday to seek Jesus with more time and intention to hear his voice. The result is that they are seeing Him draw people closer. It is exciting to see what He is doing amongst the team as they commit this day to Him. Additionally, they have been able to worship over Zoom with the wider international Every Life team which has been a real blessing to them.

As a family they are doing well and are so thankful for continued provision and blessings. Anna is still having problems with her ankle which she broke last November. The healing process is an exercise in patience and she is still in some pain. Otherwise things are positive and they are enjoying the sunny weather of the dry season there!



# GHANA UPDATE

**We received two photos from Ghana recently that tell a story of church life there – one was the latest graduation ceremony for students from the accredited Bible School that Edward and the Kings Church have run for many years; the other shows the roof now at last almost complete on the main church building in Kumasi.**



Buildings and people – two aspects of the commitment and perseverance of our friends in Ghana to see the Kingdom of God strong and growing in their midst. We spent 25 years looking for land for our own church building in Amersham, then built it in a year; they have had land and have been gradually building for 30 years, little by little, as finances allowed – and now, thanks to their sacrificial giving, they have reached this most significant stage of near-completion.

Buildings encourage the people and strengthen the churches. We have seen faithful pastors like Edward Gyesi in Kwadoso, like Agnes in Abuakwa, who know and love their flocks and communities, buy small plots of land, dig foundations, buy cement, and build walls over many years, so that the Kingdom might grow.

And we have seen young pastors like Charles come through the Bible School, then move 40 miles out of the city with his wife and four young children to begin a new Kings Church in Konongo; or like Emmanuel, build a new church for villages on the edge of the city by evangelising door-to-door each day before 7 in the morning and after 8 in the evening, while studying accountancy during the working day!

**And so the Kingdom of God grows in Ghana 'like a mustard seed', because faithful men and women give, and serve, and persevere, in what may often seem like small ways, but which will reap an eternal harvest.**

For more information or to sign up to read the newsletters, please visit: [www.facebook.com/Kings-Church-GHANA-2350493291843380/](https://www.facebook.com/Kings-Church-GHANA-2350493291843380/)

# CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

2020 was an especially hard year for the majority of us, providing an increase in uncertainty that led to a greater number of families finding themselves in financial hardship. Working again with local partners we were able to ensure that those in need in Amersham & Chesham could sign up to receive a hamper and take the pressure off providing a meal on Christmas Day. The hampers contained over 20 items, including a turkey, pigs in blankets, chocolates & gifts for the children. The hampers were hand-delivered by the congregation to the recipient's homes on Tuesday 22nd December.

Christmas Hampers for local families in need began after a family came into Church a couple of years ago looking for a foodbank box at lunchtime on Christmas Eve. They had nothing. Just one hour beforehand, someone else had walked into the Church and donated a fantastic hamper containing lovely meats, jams, biscuits & other goodies that they didn't need.

**For the 2nd year KCA ran the Christmas Hamper project, reaching 167 families in need in the local area to provide them with everything they need for Christmas lunch.**

They asked for it to be given to someone who really needed it and the Church didn't know who to give it to. When the family walked in, it became clear, and the idea to launch a project to help those in need at Christmas was born!

Despite the difficulties this year has brought, the Church has again showed an overwhelming response in supporting the project through

donations and help. In 2020 we received so many donations that we were aiming to give 150 hampers but managed to deliver 167!

Thank you to everyone who donated or volunteered in any way to help make it a success again this year. We received a number of thank you messages from recipients and we were able to show the love of Jesus through each Hamper.

# oasis Toddlers



Oasis is a place to meet other parents, carers and toddlers.

Come along, enjoy a chat and a coffee. Your kids can play with the exciting toys and explore the slides and climbing frames in the outdoor play area.

Each week the children take part in story and singing time. We also have a weekly craft for little hands to get stuck into.

The sessions run from 9.30-11.30am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Places are limited and will require you to sign up in advance.

We hope to be re-starting the sessions when the schools go back after the Easter Holidays, subject to the latest government guidance, so to find out more information, please check our website or contact [info@kca.church](mailto:info@kca.church).



# 2ND HALF LIVING | WORKSHOP

Now that I have finished full time work, there is a bit more time for other activities. In addition to my part-time role at KCA I love walking with Julia, riding my mountain bike, digging my allotment and organising my beermat collection!

But was this all there was? I felt prompted by God to set up a series of workshops on '2nd Half Living.' This would give a group of us the opportunity to examine what God might have for us in this exciting stage of life.



## The topics to be considered would be:

- Change and transition
- Anxiety and fear
- Work and rest
- Freedom and opportunity

Originally we planned to run the course 'in person' during the Autumn, but Covid restrictions led to a change of plan and we moved to Zoom meetings that took place in January and February.

Our Course Tutor was Ted Pilling from Cardiff who has worked with the Navigators in student ministry and international missions.

A total of 35 of us took part in the workshops mostly from the Chilterns but some from places such as Newcastle, Bangor and South Devon.

## What did we gain from the course?

Being challenged to hear what God is saying about this stage of my life....particularly the potential we have to serve God using our experiences over many years.

*- Roger Jones*

The whole ethos of the course, that the SHL years can be full of value, both in one's own spiritual development and growth and also in what one can offer to the Church really resonated with me.

*- Liz Rutty*

The idea of a memories file on the computer- so practical and not something I had ever thought of.

*- Frank Krapton*

The group that we were in was very supportive and the key to our benefiting from the sessions.

*- John Dowling (Newcastle)*

It has helped me to recognise what I need to let go of (related to work) and create more space for play and rest.

*- John Carter (Devon)*

I felt that God spoke to me about change and setting things down and about not looking back but looking forward to what He has planned for me in the next part of my life.

*- Marian Burton*

We loved the breakout rooms and to be in the same room each week helped in forming relationships. It helps us to look at our identities in Christ in the latter years of our lives.

*- Grahame Robinson*

The programme has re-ignited my interest in the joys and challenges of 2nd Half Living.

*- Neil Suggett*

**Amen to that!**

*Simon Stringer*

# THIS TIME TOMORROW

## *This time tomorrow*



Bryn and Ann Neal first became members of Amersham Baptist Church (now known as KCA), in 1976.

Both were born and raised in Tottenham (and yes they are Spurs supporters in case you were wondering!). They married in 1969, whilst Bryn was still a student at Westminster Medical School.

Bryn completed his training for General Practice at Wycombe and Amersham Hospitals and took a permanent post as a Partner at what is now known as Rectory Meadow Surgery in Old Amersham. Bryn describes having a wonderful career as a GP in Amersham. He enjoyed looking after the medical needs of many families and even delivered some of their babies!

Bryn also enjoyed being involved with the training and development of many younger doctors over the years.

**I thoroughly enjoyed it and I'm very grateful to God for allowing me the opportunity - I would very happily do it all over again!**

Bryn retired from Rectory Meadow in 2010, after thirty-three years in General Practice and thirty-eight years working for the NHS.

"Apart from the hard work, we had lots of fun, as you might expect. I have lots of stories to tell - like the time that I was on a house visit and the lady I was visiting mistook me for a double glazing salesman, which only became clear when she directed me through the house and demonstrated to me the window that she wanted replacing!"

Bryn and Ann have three grown-up sons, Simon, Matthew and Benjamin, three daughters-in-law and five grandchildren. You might spot youngest son Benjamin playing drums in the worship band.

Their eldest son Simon is married to Nicola, who occasionally preaches at KCA. Simon and Nicola moved to Uganda with their two children and set-up a charity called 'Every Life' ([www.everylife.org.uk](http://www.everylife.org.uk)), working with the impoverished living in the slums around Kampala. They no longer live in Uganda, as Simon had some serious health setbacks, however they continue to run the charity with a group of trustees in the UK as well as an NGO board in Kampala.

Over the years, Bryn has been a Trustee of a number of Trusts, mostly related to childhood disability and end of life issues. It is in these roles that he has been privileged to meet both Prince Charles and Prince William at charity events.

Since his retirement, Bryn has been involved with setting up a new charity called 'Chiltern Compass'. This local charity's objective is to encourage people to consider and talk through the issues, both practical and emotional, concerning end of life. Talking to others often helps reduce the stress and fear of death and enables people to live life in the present and to the full. The charity organise workshops to provide a supportive and safe environment for people. They visit community organisations and societies, give presentations for professional and caring groups, provide literature and are generally available to answer questions and signpost people where appropriate.

Over the years, Bryn and Ann have been active members of KCA, having been involved with children's work and small group leadership. Bryn's been a Deacon and a Trustee and has also been involved with a number of working committees; the most recent of which being the development of the current Church building.

"It's been wonderful to see the new building put to great use for a wide range of functions, under the careful stewardship of Jane and Paul. Upon overcoming the Covid-19 Pandemic, we look forward to seeing a return of the multi-usage and as a home to this part of the body of the Church in Amersham."



LOVE WELL • LIVE WELL  
LEAVE WELL

[www.chilterncompass.org.uk](http://www.chilterncompass.org.uk)

# New Term Teaching Series

## Letter to the Hebrews

**So Easter has come and gone – we have celebrated the victory of Jesus on the cross; but how much do we really understand it? What was it all about?**

We take a look at the letter to the Hebrews to find out – using as a framework the language of a ‘deal’, a contract between God and man, signed in blood, of which Jesus was the ‘broker’ (the word ‘mediator’ comes three times in the letter).

- 25th April The Broker Jesus the High Priest Hebrews 7
- 2nd May The Contract A Better Covenant Hebrews 8
- 9th May The Terms Only by Blood Hebrews 9.1-22
- 16th May The Price Sacrifice for Sins Hebrews 9.23-10.18
- 23rd May The Outcome - We Have Confidence! Hebrews 10.19-25

Christ . . . the mediator of a new covenant

Hebrews 9:15

Everything in the letter takes the original Jewish Christian readers back to the old covenant as a reference point – to show how God’s ‘New Deal’ was the same, only better, and with a vastly better outcome . . . namely confidence to enter the very presence of God himself.

We of course do not come from that Jewish tradition – but even so, if we can grasp how all the principles of the old covenant are magnificently fulfilled in Christ on the cross, that will give us too a rock-solid foundation for confidence in our own right-standing before our holy God, just as he intends . . . and that can only be very good news!



Now about

# *the gifts of the Spirit*

I do not want you to be uninformed 1 Cor 12

**Any parent loves to give good gifts to their children – and Father God is no different; in fact he is the template for such loving generosity!**

**So God gives to us the Holy Spirit**, but it doesn't stop there; the Holy Spirit himself is a giver of gifts to the church – gifts that are intended to help each one of us through this Christian life, and, more than that, to help the church grow in strength and wholeness together as the body of Christ.

The gifts are there to help – to make it easier, to build up, to empower – so we need them today just as much as when God brought charismatic renewal to the church a couple of generations ago . . . or, for that matter, when the church of Christ was born a couple of millennia ago! 'Church' would be harder without them, so we neglect them at our peril.

During June and July we will be looking afresh at the Holy Spirit . . . how he fills us . . . the gifts he gives each one of us, that we who are his body should eagerly desire . . . for the common good, for the strengthening of the church . . . all under the banner of love, the 'safe place' for their use.

We'll take 1 Corinthians chapters 12 to 14 as our guide for this journey of exploration – and we will also consider the practical realities of how these gifts can, and should, be part of everyday church life here in Amersham, in the 2020s.

**We hope you can join us as we discover more about how we can be the body of Christ together, today – his way.**

# SMALL GROUPS

As Elders, we believe that following Jesus happens best when we are actively engaged in other people's lives. It is in relationship that our faith is truly shaped and sharpened



### When do the groups start?

Groups will start from 19<sup>th</sup> April and run for 12 weeks.

### How do I choose a group that is right for me?

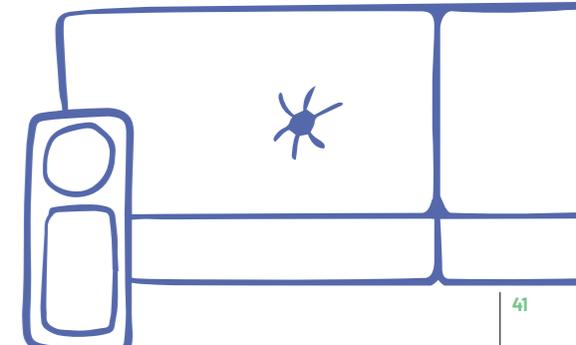
We hope there is something for everyone. If you are new to the church, we recommend you attend the Connect group. If you need any help or advice on choosing the right group for you, please email the Church Office. Some groups have a limited number of spaces, so sign up quickly!

### How do I sign up for a group?

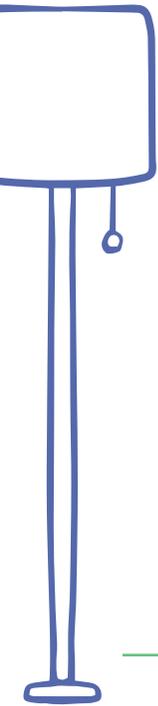
It's really easy... You can sign up via ChurchSuite or email at [smallgroups@kca.church](mailto:smallgroups@kca.church) during the sign-up period.

### Does everyone have to attend a group?

Sundays and Small Groups are the heart of life at King's, so we would love everyone to be part of a group.



# SMALL GROUPS cont.



## What am I signing up to?

The sign-up is for one term at a time. For groups to develop friendships and grow in faith together, we encourage everyone to attend each session, if possible. At the end of the term you have the option to sign up again if the group is continuing, join another group or take a break.

Please note that existing members of any continuing groups have priority for sign-up for the new term.

## What happens after I have signed up?

The group leader will contact you to confirm the details of start date, when and where the group will meet and to welcome you into the group.

## Can I join a group part way through the term?

Some groups will not be open after the second week particularly if it is course based. Other groups will remain open all term so that new people can get involved at any stage.

## Can I join more than one group?

You're free to join more than one group.



Make New Friends  
Learn Something New  
Grow Closer to God

## Weekly Small Groups

Hosted in the Church building (if restrictions allow) or Zoom. A time of fellowship, discussion and prayer with the opportunity to get to know others.

Mondays	8pm
Tuesday	Morning
Tuesday	8pm
Wednesday	8pm
Thursday	8pm

Sign up start date Sunday 28th March

Please sign up via ChurchSuite or email [smallgroups@kca.church](mailto:smallgroups@kca.church)



# SMALL GROUPS



Leader: Adrian Abramian

## OASIS

A place to meet other parents, carers & toddlers. To enjoy a chat & coffee whilst the children play with exciting toys, bible stories, explore the slides & climbing frames outside.

**When:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays (Term time)  
9.30 to 11.30am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Preschool toddlers & parents/carers



Leader: Helen Patterson

## THURSDAY HOUSE GROUP

A Bible study for those in the early teenage years. A place to build friendship, play games and explore God's love for us.

**When:** Thursdays  
7.00 to 8.00pm

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Years 7 - 9

## TUESDAY HOUSE GROUP

A Bible study for the older teenagers in our church family. An opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and in fellowship with other Christians.

**When:** Tuesdays  
7.00 to 8.00pm

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Year 10+

## LADIES PRAYER

Meeting together to share scripture, pray for global, National & local issues, for the church family & each other.

**When:** Thursdays  
9.30 to 10.30am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Anyone with a heart for prayer

## STITCH & CHAT

Meets weekly and provides an opportunity to get to know a group of like-minded people whilst you start, continue or finish your own creative project that requires any sort of stitches.

**When:** Thursdays  
10.30am to 12.30pm

**Where:** King's Roast Cafe

**Who for:** Anyone

## KING'S MUMS

For mums with little ones who would like to build relationships with others at church. Worship, prayer and bible study (with the odd cuppa too!) Whilst embracing the mayhem of having the little ones with us - whether they're playing, eating or sleeping!

**When:** Fridays  
9.30 to 11.00am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Anyone with young children



Leader: Sue Brandom



Leader: Hannah Shaw



Leaders: Kathy Nussbaum & Liz Ritty

# SMALL GROUP



Leader: Simon Stringer

## COMMUNITY CARE PRAYER MEETING

A once a month opportunity to support the work of the Community Care Services teams in prayer.



Leader: Julian Dagnall

**When:** Monthly on Sundays  
10.00 to 10.30am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Anyone with a heart for our community projects

## CEDARS (KCA Seniors)

A place for faith, friendship and mutual care to grow as Jesus's presence and love is discovered, experienced and shared. Come and enjoy fellowship, a time of worship, testimony, ministry and a speaker. We have a summer programme of weekly garden parties and other gatherings.

**When:** Wednesdays  
10.00 to 11.45am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** 55+

## CONNECT

For those who are new to the church, finding faith, or just wanting to know more.

**When:** Wednesdays  
8.00pm

**Where:** TBC

**Who for:** People new to the church

# BereavementsMatter

## My Grief Journey

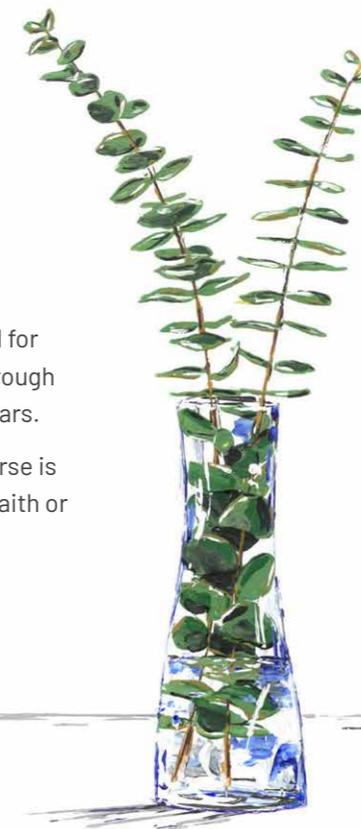
Starts Tuesday 27th April

7.45 - 9.30pm On Zoom

'My Grief Journey' is a six week course designed for anyone who has lost someone close to them through death, whether recently or dating back many years.

Although based on Christian principles, the course is suitable for anyone with or without a Christian faith or church background.

We also hold an annual Hearts of Love Service for those who have been bereaved.



Judith and Neil Suggitt

For daily encouragement on Twitter 'BereavementsMatter' (@JudithSuggitt)

For more information contact Judith & Neil at bereavement@kca.church or 01494 431882.

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