

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the third edition of *News and Views* for 2021.

A lot has been happening recently within the ministry of CMJ UK and hopefully this edition of *News and Views* will give you a taste of some of this.

In this edition you will read about our annual Conference. Despite having to navigate some important Covid restrictions, I believe the Conference was a great success and am excited to report back on it. The feedback from participants has been very positive. Our key note speaker was Canon J. John whose clear, direct, and humorous Biblical teaching inspired and challenged us.

I am delighted that CMJ UK will have an ongoing relationship with J. John; he has accepted our invitation to become one of our Vice-Presidents.

In addition to some of our regular items you will see an interesting article from Jane Moxon on a recent tour with Kelvin Crombie and an article updating news about the Messianic Jewish Liturgical Project.

With kind regards and shalom,

Alex Jacob

MESSIANIC JEWISH LITURGICAL PROJECT

The seeds of this significant advocacy project were sown a few years ago when requests came from a number of Jewish Believers in Jesus seeking to have their Jewish identity 'affirmed' and 'celebrated' within their own Church communities. Following these requests I engaged as fully as possible with a range of Jewish Believers, Church leaders, mission practitioners, and theologians as we explored issues around why and how this could (should or should not) happen.

After this extensive period of engagement and reflection there was no unanimous way forward discerned (you may not be surprised by this outcome!), yet I could see several core values and key principles which gave a foundation on which we could begin to build.

This 'building' is now taking shape and CMJ has produced two mini documents. The first gives some background information about this process and why and how the Order of Service (liturgy) has been produced. The second document is the Order of Service itself, known as an 'Order of Service to affirm and celebrate the identity of Jewish Believers in Jesus within the Church.'

This Order of Service is a resource freely offered to Church communities and individual Jewish Believers in Jesus who believe that the Order of Service will be pastorally helpful and theologically significant. I fully appreciate that this service will not be deemed helpful or necessary by some, yet it is my hope that many will explore this resource and that it will in time be used widely. In the longer term I hope that important Church councils, Synodical authorities and ecumenical groups will give support to, and appropriate recognition of, this resource within the context of understanding and affirming the Biblical significance of Jewish Believers in Jesus in regard to ethnicity, ecclesiology, eschatology, and ongoing evangelism.

Copies of both mini documents are available for free from CMJ, please email office@cmj.org.uk detailing how many copies you require. Equally, if you are a Church leader and would like to meet with me to discuss this resource, please contact me via alexj@cmj.org.uk

Alex Jacob

We recently have heard from Mary Tarry who was the aged 106! She joined CMJ in 1921 as a 5 year old Beehiver!

This is her centenary year as a supporter! We hope to share more of Mary's story in future *News & Views*. Are there any more "Beehivers" out there?



SHARE THE WORD

2021 CONFERENCE SPECIAL



From Carol Brooks - Conference Organiser



How does it feel when something you've planned for over a year, but feared would never happen, suddenly gets the green light! Boris Johnson announced an extension to 'lockdown' to the day after we were due to finish Conference and our hearts sank!

So, it was delightful to finally get the message that Conference 2021 could go ahead – albeit with limited numbers! After many months of continuing to plan 'just in case' the excitement of knowing it was a YES was palpable – even if it was a great surprise!

And it was a great success! People were so happy to be together again, to share fellowship, to worship and to get excellent teaching from J. John. We had a wonderful Radix Youth stream lead by Youth for Christ, the brilliant Children's ministry led by Helen and Olly Goldenberg, a wide range of workshops and a choice of concerts from Out of the Ashes or The Sense in the evening.

We introduced our new Events Manager, Sally-Anne Morgan and five years on and I'm handing over the gauntlet of Conference. It's been an interesting time since I agreed to do a 'little bit' of volunteering for Steph to help her with Conference! Thank you to the Trustees for their beautiful gift of flowers at the end of Conference. But mostly, thank you to the amazing bunch of volunteers and staff who have supported me through Conference over the years. Without them none of it would be feasible. See you next year!

FROM JOY CLARK - YOUTH FOR CHRIST

We were so excited to be invited to head up Radix youth conference 2021 and to be meeting face to face with 20 young people aged 11-18+.

We saw God really challenge and change lives in just a short space of time and we had emotional parents draw us aside to share with us the difference they saw in their children over the weekend.

We have been so privileged to see young people engaging, learning and growing together, coming to Jesus and having their lives transformed, we're really excited about next year's event!



J. John - Keynote Speaker

CMJ CONFERENCE 2021 REPORT

From Melanie Ward -
New Conference Attendee

This was my first year as a Conference attendee in reality (I attended on line last year). It was everything I hoped it would be. After the months of lockdowns and restrictions I was so delighted when we were finally told the Conference would go ahead.

It is so difficult to highlight anything in particular. J. John was on good form, inspiring and challenging us all as usual. The children and young people seemed so happy and blessed in their activities. The musicians were full of skill and energy. I learnt a lot from the Quiz on the Friday night - I am not usually that competitive - to the workshop I attended on the Saturday afternoon. I also have to mention I enjoyed the good food.

The Priestly blessing sung in Hebrew at the end of the Conference was something I will always take with me. We were reminded that we have the Name of the Lord upon us in all our witness and work for Him.



"This summer I was invited to attend the annual CMJ conference at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick. I was especially looking forward to the event as I've identified with the charity's work ever since I first visited Christ Church in Jerusalem. The weekend was enriched with great fellowship, worship, and workshops, which equipped me with a much deeper understanding of many important issues we face in the church today. I highly recommend next year's conference for all those with a heart for Israel, as CMJ have faithfully stood up for the good of the Jewish people for over a century."

DAVID BASS
NEW CONFERENCE ATTENDEE



**PROBABLY
THE BEST
CONFERENCE
IN THE WORLD!!**

(TO MISQUOTE
THE ADVERT)

Rev. Mark Madeley

I always excited when the CMJ annual conference comes round. You know there will be great biblical teaching and good fellowship. This year the conference excelled.

Our main speaker was J.John. He was brilliant, encouraging us that it is the Lord's plan to evangelise everyone, whilst acknowledging the unique role CMJ plays in winning and discipling Jewish people for the Lord. Speaking on Jonah on Saturday, J.John explained how easily we become distracted from the Lord's plans when we either do not want to do them or do not understand them, but that the Lord always brings us round, even if it means a troublesome time in the process - Jonah in the fish!

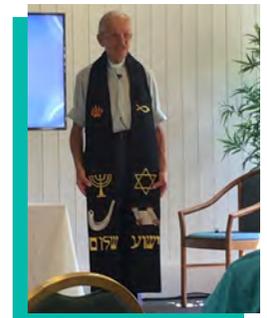
With great seminars on tricky subjects such as answering replacement theology and worshipping when we are not in a good place with the Lord, to name just two, there was plenty of choice for everyone.

I was thrilled my two teenagers had a fantastic time at the Youth Conference. My daughter talked nonstop for over an hour about what she had learnt.

**Thank you, CMJ –
Let's all book for next year!**

**SWANWICK
JULY 2021**

*Rev. Ray Lockhart,
CMJ UK President*



**A conference like
no other...**

We said that last year after such an amazingly effective online conference! Now we can say it once more...

So back at Swanwick following the brave step of faith to have a live weekend despite inevitable restrictions. We took the tests (a first for some of us!) and off we set maybe with some doubt as to the wisdom of the decision? Having survived the temperature gun on arrival we were in familiar surroundings and meeting old friends and new in an experience which didn't suffer on account of necessary regulations. Why was it such a special conference?

- **Superb organization.** Inevitably there had been extra work and new patterns to follow both for CMJ but also The Hayes staff. So a huge vote of thanks to Carol Brooks and her wonderful team.
- **Having J.John as our keynote speaker.** The humour, depth of teaching, practical insights were there in abundance. And the icing on the cake? J.John has agreed to be a CMJ Vice-president!
- **Hearing of the innovations and advances** that CMJ is making both in the UK and Israel in the face of considerable additional challenges not just despite Covid but because it has been a catalyst to bring in fresh directions and initiatives.
- **Welcoming as many as 70 new delegates.** So encouraging, and along with the young people and children helping to ensure the average age of Conference is falling year by year... a good sign!
- **God's evident hand upon us** and keeping the CMJ Conference 'bubble' free from signs of illness.
- **The Conference weather.** Can we remember it being better in our 33 years experience?

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

**CMJ UK CONFERENCE 2022
SAVE THE DATES:**

8th - 10th July 2022
Yarnfield Christian Conference Centre,
Staffordshire, ST15 0NL.

Please see the CMJ UK website for details and a booking form www.cmj.org.uk



Kelvin Crombie joined Jane Moxon in August to talk about his latest research.

'Such an incredible time this morning listening to the report of the research into the subject of Jewish Christians who died in the holocaust by Kelvin Crombie.'

This comment echoed those of many who listened to the first of the three live-streamed open meetings on the Family Jocz from Poland.

Setting the scene, by describing the development of the Nazi plan to annihilate 13,000,000 Jewish people, listeners realised, some for the first time, the depth and extent of the plan to rid not just Germany of Jewish people but the world.

It became clear that to hide was impossible, no place was left unturned, no square foot of forest left unsearched, so methodical and detailed the obsession to wipe out an entire race.

And yet, across Europe Jewish people were hidden by those who danced to another tune.

In Churches, Monasteries and private houses many hid Jewish people and in Bazyli Jocz' case a woodshed! French policemen became dilatory rounding up their commanded targets allowing many to escape.

The story of the camps in France was new to many and even to those living near the holding camps at the time, who were told some naughty people were there.

The Q & A session filled gaps, showed Jacob Jocz speaking and enabled us to learn something of how a boy from the Australian Bush ended up writing about 'Non-Aryan' Christian Holocaust survivors.

These talks have been uploaded onto the CMJ YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/c/cmjuk

'The talk Kelvin gave was fascinating. He is superb at painting a contextual canvas on which he then places the coloured facts in oils, crayons, water colours and chalk, each one representing tone and character.'

'The series with Kelvin was brilliant.' 'Great presentation!' 'Excellent talks.'

'A big thank you to Kelvin, Jane and Joel - much appreciated.'

'Bazyli & Anna Jocz' - £7 from our online shop

www.cmj.org.uk/shop
Buy an extra to give away!

Jane Moxon



THINKING ALOUD by Alex Jacob

A few weeks ago, Mandy and I were able to have some time away in Shropshire and Wales. We enjoyed visiting some key historical sites, hiking (well walking slowly) in the hills and hosting family and friends. I also had some time to do some holiday reading and enjoyed the book by Michael Axworthy, Iran-Empire of the Mind (Penguin, 2007). In this book I came across the following quotation from the Oriental historian H.A.L. Fisher, "The fact of progress is written plain and large on the page of history; but progress is not a law of nature. The ground gained by one generation may be lost by the next. The thoughts of men may flow into channels which lead to disaster and barbarism."

In terms of Church history one can identify the wisdom of this insight; at times the Church has made wrong decisions and followed the wrong paths. This is why every generation of Church life (and every Mission Agency) needs to seek times of reflection, reformation, renewal, and revival.

It is also true in our own personal discipleship; a friend of mine recently said to me that his Christian life recently has been a bit like "taking one tentative step forward and sliding back two."

How is your progress as a disciple of Jesus? Perhaps you are sliding back, you could be standing still or even moving forwards. My hope for all of us is that we will be self-aware enough to know, honestly, where we are at. If we fall, we will know that the LORD can pick us up. If we are sliding, we will know the LORD can steady us. If we are walking slowly (or hiking vigorously), the LORD is with us and leading us forward. Progress is not a law of nature, but growth as a Christian is a gift of grace and the mark of the Holy Spirit.

Happy walking and growing!

Alex



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