

HEATH STREET

BAPTIST CHURCH

APRIL - JUNE 2022



Newsletter 1061

**SAINT
STEPH
E
N**

&

**SAINT
CECIL
I
A**

**PATRON SAINT
OF STONE MASONS**

**PATRON SAINT
OF MUSIC**



*** REQUEST YOUR HELP ***

**FUNDRAISING FOR
STONEMASON REPAIRS**

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

More than one hundred and fifty years ago Victorian timber tycoon James Harvey moved to Hampstead with one thing on his mind. A widower, Harvey was father to one son, Alfred James, and Alfred was so ill the doctors said there was only one hope. The little family would have to leave Bloomsbury Square: they needed to live somewhere where there was a slim chance 'the delicate health of the child' might recover in fresher, cleaner air.

James chose Hampstead, and from the first week he arrived he would go each Sunday to the house just round the corner where the local Baptist community met for worship and prayer. But that was soon to change. The church's prayers for Alfred were heard, the boy recovered, and his father felt the time had come to show his gratitude in a big way.

That's how an answer to prayer led to the purchase of this land and the building of this church, and though a century and a half has passed the church is still

standing, and the community here is still here to welcome newcomers and serve our community as best we can.

This is a place where the homeless are fed each week. This is a place where parents and carers, babies and children gather to relax and recharge. This is a place where asylum seekers don't just get a helping hand but play a vital role. This is a place where beginners and professionals make music every day, this is a place where faith is questioned and challenged, awakened and enriched.

But right now we need more of the kind of generosity James Harvey showed back in 1862. Our building's Bath Stone façade is not as young as it was, and substantial repairs are needed to ensure it remains safe and secure. The full scope of works will cost more than £150,000 and (along with Sts. Stephen and Cecilia!) we encourage you to think what you can do to help.

POEM

A PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

BEIRUT, LENT 2022

Though I am poison, make of me the cure;
Though damned, give me one prayerful hour;

My scream turn into speech.

My fury's tempest was a bitter war

Which broke my feet of clay

And ruined me

Quite finally.

And grief's great sea bore me away

And washed me up on your eternal beach.

CHRIS LITTLE

PRAYER

Dear God

We pray we may see your light entering our own darkness in new and powerful ways.

We pray for your grace, mercy and peace to be with us here.

Help us to raise our hands to rejoice in these days

Open our eyes to see your mercy amongst us

Open our mouths so we may praise your name

We praise you God for you created us and you redeemed us. From the depths of death you call us to living water and victory in your Son Jesus. May the light of the world not only be our guide but our foundation and our resting place.

Forgive us for how we sin and refuse to allow your light into our hearts and minds. Too often, we are blind to how you see the world. We shrink from your love and instead seek to remain in charge, directors of our own lives.

Break the barriers and boundaries we put in place to protect ourselves. We pray your light pours in past all our misjudged protections and walls. May your light bring with it all your glory - your hope, your peace, your justice, your reconciliation, your power and your love.

In your name we pray

Amen

EZEKIEL 1



In the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the exiles by the river Chebar, the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. On the fifth day of the month (it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin), the word of the Lord came to the priest Ezekiel son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was on him there.

As I looked, a stormy wind came out of the north: a great cloud with brightness around it and fire flashing forth continually, and in the middle of the fire, something like gleaming amber. In the middle of it was something like four living creatures. This was their appearance: they were of human form. Each had four faces, and each of them had four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like burnished bronze. Under their wings on their four

sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another; each of them moved straight ahead, without turning as they moved. As for the appearance of their faces: the four had the face of a human being, the face of a lion on the right side, the face of an ox on the left side, and the face of an eagle; such were their faces. Their wings were spread out above; each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies. Each moved straight ahead; wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went. In the middle of the living creatures there was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches moving to and fro among the living creatures; the fire was bright, and lightning issued from the fire. The living creatures darted to and fro, like a flash of lightning.

As I looked at the living creatures, I saw





a wheel on the earth beside the living creatures, one for each of the four of them. As for the appearance of the wheels and their construction: their appearance was like the gleaming of beryl; and the four had the same form, their construction being something like a wheel within a wheel. When they moved, they moved in any of the four directions without veering as they moved. Their rims were tall and awesome, for the rims of all four were full of eyes all around. When the living creatures moved, the wheels moved beside them; and when the living creatures rose from the earth, the wheels rose. Wherever the spirit would go, they went, and the wheels rose along with them; for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. When they moved, the others moved; when they stopped, the others stopped; and when they rose from the earth, the wheels rose along with them; for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

Over the heads of the living creatures there



was something like a dome, shining like crystal, spread out above their heads. Under the dome their wings were stretched out straight, one toward another; and each of the creatures had two wings covering its body. When they moved, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of mighty waters, like the thunder of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army; when they stopped, they let down their wings. And there came a voice from above the dome over their heads; when they stopped, they let down their wings.



BOOK REVIEW

BECOMING BEAUVOIR: A LIFE BY KATE KIRKPATRICK

Simone de Beauvoir was a French 20th century philosopher whose work divided opinions in an exceptionally pervasive manner, both in academia and in quite demotic conversation. Known primarily as a leading figure in feminist philosophy and existentialism, her work was a driving force in the female liberation that characterised the 1970s for so many.

Born in 1908, Beauvoir's education was of the very best that interwar Paris could afford a female, and she was encouraged both at home and in school, "to be precocious, to read, to question". In 1929, studying at the Université de Paris, she became the youngest person, and seventh female, ever to pass the Agrégation- a highly competitive and prestigious examination in the French public school system, prompting Kirkpatrick to refer to her as "one of the star philosophy students of a famously stellar era".

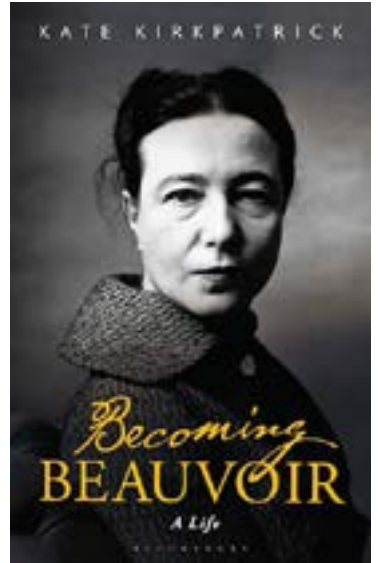
In the early stages of her philosophy, Beauvoir became known for her essays and novels on existentialism and phenomenology as well as for her theory

of perpetual becoming. This theory was centred around the idea of the self as a "process of irreversible becoming", rather than as a 'thing' which is affected by external circumstances, so that it can change but is essentially always the same 'thing'. The theory influenced her later, feminist work too, provoking her most famous line: that "one is not born, but rather becomes, a woman".

During her time at the Université de Paris, Beauvoir was introduced to Sartre, a fellow student who was to go on to become a leading name in 20th century existentialism in Europe, and with whom she went on to have a life-long, and very controversial, relationship. This was inaugurated in 1929, in the making of a 'pact': that they would be each other's "essential love", but that they might each have "contingent loves". Their relationship came under much discussion and was revered by many as the model of a modern relationship, even as "the great love story of the century"; it remained constant, if very open, until Sartre's death in 1980.



Kate Kirkpatrick is Fellow in Philosophy and Christian Ethics, and Director of Studies in Philosophy at Regent's Park College, Oxford. Not only does Regent's train candidates for Baptist ministry (including the present minister), Regent's professors also used to mark Heath Street Baptist Church's Sunday School Examinations.



Their relationship came at a cost, however, to Beauvoir: in addition to the disapproval she found at the hands of society, she was seen as Sartre's mouthpiece, her work as a supporting act to Sartre's. Some even believed her work to have been written by Sartre himself.

For years, Beauvoir had refused to identify herself as a feminist, claiming that “‘feminism’ and the ‘sex wars’ made no sense to her”. Even at the writing of *The Second Sex* (1949), her magnum opus, which went on to be revered by many as ‘the feminist bible’, even as she was lauded as a ‘liberator’ of women and accepted as one of the leading voices of

second-wave feminism, she still refused to align herself with the movement, until far later on, in 1972, turning to feminism “because she wanted to be an intellectual whose works left an impact not only on readers’ imaginations, but on the concrete conditions of their lives”.

In *Becoming Beauvoir: A Life* (2019), Kate Kirkpatrick sets about the monumental task of documenting the story of the Parisian-born philosopher through the stages of her life, thought, and writing; writing of her life, as Beauvoir did, as a “perpetual becoming”.

–Frida King

NEW ARRIVAL

Baby Gaia

Daughter of Victoria and Francesco

Born 25th Feb, 2022



Heath Street
Choir sing James
MacMillan's O
Radiant Dawn
(Third Sunday of
Advent, 2021)



BAPTISM

Frida King



READINGS AND PRAYERS

April 17-23 Acts 10.34-43

17th	Rhona MacEachen
18th	Margarite Biadun
19th	Mysie Johnson
20th	Coco Ellenbogen
21st	Nesa Thorne
22nd	Ewan King
23rd	Michael Bloxham

April 24-30 Acts 5.27-32

24th	John-Henry Baker
25th	Peter Forrest
26th	for the parents, carers and children who attend Oldtime Nursery
27th	John Walsh
28th	Susan Le Quesne
29th	Joachim King
30th	Lydia Baker

May 1-7 Acts 9.1-6 [7-20]

1st	Monsignor Phelim Rowland
2nd	Annie Fang
3rd	Ali Ghasempour
4th	Kylo Layton
5th	Rebecca McLeod
6th	Paul Conrad
7th	for all who sing in our community choir

May 8-14

Acts 9.36-43

8th Theresa Thom
9th Wilf Merttens
10th Thaddeus King
11th for all who attend Contact Club
12th Hildegard Williams
13th Gaynor Humphreys
14th Ethan McLeod

May 15-21

Acts 11.1-18

15th Nathan Biadun
16th for Kasai Province, DRC
17th Gabrielle Falardeau
18th Tom Somers
19th Beryl Dowsett
20th Elya Ghasempour
21st HK

May 22-28

Acts 16.9-15

22nd for our worshipping congregation
23rd Otilie Johnson
24th Leila Ranjbar
25th for our deacons
26th Victoria Tjirimuje
27th Robin Thorne
28th Francesco Giannocco



READINGS AND PRAYERS CONTINUED

May 29-June 4

Acts 16.16-34

29th Nomsa Ndebele
30th Andrea MacEachen
31st Selena Barrera
1st Susan Brandt
2nd for the children who attend Storymakers
3rd Cole Ellenbogen
4th Beza Geberegiabher

June 5-11

Acts 2.1-21

5th Jen Finamore
6th for the bereaved
7th Thomas Roy
8th Christina Cairns
9th Laura Somers
10th Fiona Ranford
11th Sarah Harper

June 12-18

Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31

12th Evelyn Baker
13th for those in hospital
14th Josh Somers
15th Frida King
16th Edward Humphreys
17th for those in prison
18th Birgit Leuppert

June 19-25

1 Kings 19.1-7

19th	Nathalia Bell
20th	for the life and ministry of St. Mary's Hampstead
21st	Anselm King
22nd	Isabel Somers
23rd	Esme Baker
24th	Emad Eisapour
25th	Eleanor Patterson

June 26-July 2

2 Kings 2.1-2, 6-14

26th	Genna Naccache
27th	Leo Patterson
28th	Zahra Safaryazdi
29th	for our Sunday Club
30th	David Neil
1st July	for the World Baptist Alliance
2nd	Beauty Kunene





WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sundays	11 am	Divine Worship Live from the church on Zoom and followed by after-church Zoom coffee, both using the following Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87179878823
	7:30 pm	Contact Club
Mondays	5:00 pm	Storymakers Club An after-school club aimed at children between the ages of 7 and 13.
Tuesdays	10 am	Oldtime Nursery Introducing old melodies and traditional stories to a new generation of children.
Wednesdays	5:30 pm	Storymakers Club
Thursdays	10:30 am	Oldtime Nursery



I LIKE SPRING, I LOVE YOU MORE THAN SPRING



Please see the church website for updates: heathstreet.org

For requests regarding church membership, Baptism or opportunities for Christian ministry in the church, please contact the minister.

Copy for the next newsletter should reach Eleanor Patterson (eleanorlaise@gmail.com) not later than Wednesday 8th June.

Church Officers:

Gaynor Humphreys (Treasurer)
Wilf Merttens (Church Secretary)
Annie Fang (Deacon)
Sarah Harper (Deacon)

Minister Ewan King
Heath St Baptist Church
84 Heath St, Hampstead, NW3 1DN, London | ewan_king@mac.com
www.heathstreet.org 020 7431 0511