NEWS&VIEWS 2022: Issue 3

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the third edition of News and Views for 2022.

Firstly, I want to say a big 'thank-you' to those who were able to invest time and money in attending the CMJ UK Conference during the weekend of July 8th-10th. It was great to welcome 288 attendees alongside our keynote speaker Gavin Calver (CEO The Evangelical Alliance).

Of these attendees 60 were attending for the first time and 51 were aged under 18. These numbers (plus those who joined parts of the Conference online)

Is God Calling You?

The Church's Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ) is seeking to appoint a Community Based Evangelist (CBE)

We are looking for a new evangelist to join the current team of 2 CBE's and who will be able to identify, initiate and develop evangelism activities primarily among Jewish people within their communities here in the UK. shows that we are a multigenerational ministry with many areas of encouraging growth. For this we are truly thankful to the LORD. The main feature article of this edition of News and Views is focused upon the Conference.

In addition to the Conference article, we have several articles and reports, plus my regular Thinking Aloud column.

With thanks for your interest and on-going active support for CMJ. Shalom

Alex

For this position we are seeking a person with good and developing evangelism skills/gifting and good contacts within Jewish communities and who has good standing within the Church.

The job description and application form are available from our website www.cmj.org.uk/CBE or email CMJ UK CEO, Rev Alex Jacob directly alexj@cmj.org.uk

LCJE

– Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism

I was very pleased that at the Conference I was able to announce the new publication from the Lausanne Consultation on Jewish Evangelism. This publication on Jewish Evangelism is an excellent contemporary resource. I was able



to serve as part of the editorial and writing team for this publication alongside Dr Tuvya Zaretsky, Dr Darrell Bock, Susan Perlman, Dr Richard Harvey and Dr Rich Robinson.

CMJ has purchased a good stock of this resource and we are currently making these available at a discounted rate via the CMJ UK online shop **www.cmj.org.uk/ shop** | Alex Jacob



The Church's Ministry among Jewish People

NEW TEAM MEMBER LISA BOOT, FINANCE MANAGER



I'm Lisa, CMJ's new Finance Manager! Based in the Office at Farnsfield, I am delighted to have joined a wonderful and dedicated team of staff and volunteers in this mission field. I come from a mainly commercial banking background, having also held finance roles as a Church treasurer and an overseas mission administrator.

In my part-time role as Finance Manager, I will be handling all things financial - so, if you have any queries on giving and Gift Aid, please seek me out!

I'm married to Daniel and have 3 amazing children ranging in ages between 10 and 17. 2022 is a special year for us as we celebrate our 20th Wedding Anniversary! It was at our home Church where we were introduced to the work of CMJ and this year experienced our first Jewish Passover meal – I was bowled over by the significance of the foretelling of Jesus in every element and the knowledge of His fulfilment of all of God's promises. I think that was just a taster of things to come and I'm very much looking forward to delving into the rich history that underpins our Christian faith.

Once again this year we shall benefit from the sale of Christmas cards and the other cards and gifts available from Gospel Cards, etc. We included a full catalogue in our Days of Awe mailing but if you don't have one full details of the cards, etc. are on their website **www.GospelCardsEtc.com** or call **Tel. 01623 883960** to request a copy by post.



KELVIN CROMBIE AND HIS DAUGHTER, ABIGAIL VISIT THE NETHERLANDS.



We are thankful to Ben Moxon who assisted in the visit for the following report.

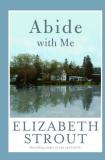
From Jewish people being forced out of the country to Jewish people being helped in the country, our Australian Crombie duo had it all covered in their talks about the fate of Jewish people in the Netherlands during the Holocaust. Associated with the release of Kelvin Crombie's new book, Jewish Christians in the Netherlands during the Holocaust, the talks centred around the development of phases 1-7 of Hitler's plan to remove the Jewish population from Europe; followed the testimony of a Jewish Protestant who met his death at Mauthausen concentration camp; the efforts to save innocent Jewish people through the church's intervention, even of providing them with baptismal certificates; along with the tireless intervention of the everyday people in Holland who risked their own lives to save people they had never met - through adoption of Jewish children, hiding Jewish people in their house and helping them escape.

As a member of the younger generation, I think this testimony of the courage and compassion we as humans should have to others regardless of faith or colour will always speak volumes. It serves as a stark contrast to the individualism and disregard to others we see becoming ever more commonplace today. The incredible and moving talks given by Kelvin also detailed his passion for Israel and the mental and emotional challenges he had to invest in his research and writing project. The Holocaust will always remain a draining & distressing project to research but keeping alive the stories and testimonies of those who lost their lives solely for being Jewish is essential, as Kelvin's daughter, Abigail Crombie's amazing talk on her 4-year research project also detailed.



THINKING ALOUD | ALEX JACOB

I have recently read the Pulitzer Prize winning fictional novel - Abide With Me. This novel written by Elizabeth Strout and published by Scribner. The key character is Tyler Caskey a local Church Minister, working in a small Church in Maine (USA). The novel is set in 1959-1960



and tells a story of bereavement, vocational holiness, failure, disappointment, and restoration. The New York Times review said, "This story is told with superlative skill. Strout challenges us to examine what makes a good story – and what makes a good life."

There is much in this unfolding story which is very moving. However, there is one phrase I would like to share with you in this Thinking Aloud! Article. It is a phrase from Henri Nouwen (Dutch Catholic Priest and Theologian) which spoke greatly to Tyler Caskey. Tyler Caskey is drawn to the writing of many of the early Church Fathers, along with Nouwen and Bonhoeffer and quotes and reflects frequently on their lives and writings. The phrase from Nouwen is this; "My whole life I have been complaining that my work was constantly interrupted, until I discovered that my interruptions were my work."

I am not sure how you will apply this phrase into your own unique work and life situation, but for me I hope I will be able to discern when these 'interruptions' are indeed promptings of the Holy Spirit and openings for ministry and service. Such openings are to be welcomed rather than ignored or resisted.

Happy reading and discerning.

Alex

The Full Report is available on the CMJ UK website



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"After attending the Conference for twenty years I am still filled with wonder at the love of CMJ staff for Jewish people worldwide, and their enterprise in finding fresh ways to engage with Jewish and other people across the Middle East. This year again brought much to inspire: Canon Daryl Fenton quietly and courageously sharing the challenges of ministry in Jerusalem; Pedro Santos' joy at Beit Immanuel's Israeli neighbours wanting to know more about Jesus; the logistics of Paul and Janey Hames driving the Bible Come To Life exhibition across to this summer's Warsaw mission; Rosemary Saunders' moving testimony to God's hand on the lives of staff and students at the Anglican School in Jerusalem during her six years as Principal.

Lois Tverberg's workshop on Jewish prayer reminded us that Jesus prayed often and lived among prayerfilled people. There is a Jewish blessing for every aspect of life, right from thanking God for giving the rooster the intelligence to tell day from night!

The film Sabine portrayed the remarkable faith of Romanian Jews Richard and Sabine Wurmbrand and their forgiveness for the Nazi who killed her family."

ELIZABETH SADLER

The CMJ Conference is an annual highlight. I am always refreshed in my relationship with God. **Gavin Calver's brilliant teaching** challenged me to be brave; I had become a little stale. Although not heavy on Jewish roots, you cannot get more Jewish than Jesus and a reiteration of Jesus' teaching is often what is needed most.

MARK MADELEY

We are thankful for your feedback on the 2022 conference. We have reviewed all the returned surveys. Feedback will be available soon!

"I look forward to CMJ Conference each year. This year felt extra special. I really enjoyed the RADIX youth sessions and catching up with people of my own age, as we not have anyone my age in our Church. I had an amazing experience of God like never before."

RACHEL MADELEY (AGED 16)



"My visit to the UK was primarily to complete a speaking tour arranged by Jane Moxon associated with the subject of Jewish Christians during the Holocaust. My daughter Abigail was present for some of this time, and at the Conference she was invited to speak at a workshop about her graphic novel completed for the Queen's Award with the Girl's Brigade, entitled The Unshakeable.

As my previous CMJ experience in the UK was synonymous with Highleigh and Swanwick, I was apprehensive about going somewhere else for the CMJ weekend, somewhere 'modern.' But it became clear that CMJ really is all about people and relationships, and the location is secondary.

Overall the setting didn't seem to impact upon the gathering of the CMJ family. A family has something distinctly in common. Everyone present had something in common – we are all in covenant union with Jesus, and we all support the vision, purpose and heritage of CMJ.

Although CMJ is an international entity, with the focal point upon Israel, yet much of the heart of CMJ still remains in the UK. Some 213 years of history and heritage is important, and for all of those years CMJ UK has been the central and main supporter base, and in many ways is still the 'home' of the international family.

Thanks for allowing us to join with you."

KELVIN AND ABIGAIL CROMBIE



WE ARE DELIGHTED TO INVITE YOU TO BOOK FOR 20 Our keynote speaker will be Mark Greene. For further information and booking forms please visit our website www.cmj.org.uk/conference2023

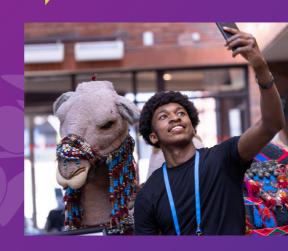
"Our family looks forward to Conference each year - time to meet with friends, hear about the work of CMJ and be encouraged by excellent teaching. Gavin Calver inspired us to be braver as a family and specifically with Church. We have already been putting this into practice."

CAROLINE MADELEY



"It was good to get down to the ins and outs of God with great music from RADIX to liven it up, whilst still getting to know God to a further degree."

BEN MADELEY (AGED 14)



"As first time conference goers we didn't know what to expect, especially in regards to what was there to interest our kids. We were so pleasantly surprised with the incredible Youth for Christ events for our teen as well as the fantastic job done by Olly and Helen Goldenberg with Children Can for our younger child. Our kids had the best weekend they've probably ever had at an event like this. Our entire family felt very welcomed and we could tell that an immense amount of work, time and thought went into every aspect of the Conference. We really enjoyed the meals provided and the fellowship with friends, both old and new, over the course of the weekend. It was refreshing to gather together with like-minded believers with an interest in Jewish culture and importance in both past and future. There really was something for everyone at the CMJ Conference!"

MARK FREEZER

"I joined CMJ in the month leading up to Conference 2022 and so it was a privilege to be involved in the weekend events, meeting lots of new faces and talking with members and delegates ranging from first time attendees to those who have been involved with CMJ for many years. It was a real encouragement to see young people meeting together in their streams - and witnessing the positive impact this had on my own children as they were encouraged in their faith! Thank you for such a warm welcome and I look forward to getting to know more of you in the future as my role develops."

LISA BOOT

"For a number of years now we have had the privilege of leading the children's ministry at CMJ Conference. As we work with the children, one thing stands out to us - the children who come to the Conference are amazing!

These children are generally very knowledgeable about the Bible, interested in knowing God more and wanting to honour and live for Him. They are of course still children which allows us to have fun together, but in many ways, they are different from the children of the world.

All this sets me thinking - Why are these children so receptive? I believe the answer is found in the homes where faith is passed on the Jewish way. Some are doing so consciously, celebrating the feasts and revealing Jesus in the rituals. For others it is perhaps more subconscious as they begin a journey to discover the foundation of our faith and the richness of the Tenakh (Old Testament) for believers today.

These principles are creating a tangible difference in the lives of the children. With the many challenges that children are facing in the world today, we would do well to encourage more families in our churches to explore their faith together the Jewish way."

OLLY GOLDENBERG - CHILDREN

Mark Freezer was the CMJ UK official photographer for the Conference and has taken the fantastic photos on this centre spread.