

the Christian Worker MAGAZINE

June 2024 • Vol 56 No 6

Spring Sing in Northampton

3 - The Great Redeemer

O that ev-'ry one would know Him, O that
all O that all would a-dore! would a-dore!

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The image shows a large group of people gathered in a church for a spring sing. A man in a grey blazer is seen from behind, leading the group. A large screen at the front displays the musical score for 'The Great Redeemer'. The church has a high wooden ceiling and brick walls with large windows.

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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION

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Editor-in-Chief: Trevor Williams

twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk

(0115) 837 6895

195 Hickings Lane, Stapleford, Nottingham NG9 8PJ

Production Editor: Jon Galloway

jdgalloway@mac.com

(07906) 060618

5 Aklins Lane, Netherburn, Larkhall ML9 3FH

Treasurer: Jenny Sparks

Website:

Header Design: Kevin Nicholson

UK Congregation Directory Online: www.churchesofchrist.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/christianworkeruk

Previous Editors: Albert E. Winstanley (1969-1973; 1980-1987); Robert C. Eckman (1973-1980); Graham A. Fisher (1987-2014)

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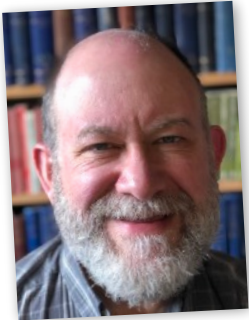
To receive *The Christian Worker Magazine* as a free pdf, send your e-address to jdgalloway@mac.com. Professionally printed copies are available at cost. Please contact Trevor for details – twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk.



Front cover and above: Spring Sing in Northampton



MY PERSPECTIVE



What a strange time we live in

Politics fascinate me. I realise that many – if not most – find what happens in our governments and the political parties to be totally boring. But I don't. I don't take an active part in politics – being an American eliminates most involvement in British politics and living so far from my country of citizenship makes it impractical to be involved there. And I'm not sure I would want to be involved. I find politics, especially in both countries just now, to be divisive and, as Christians, I believe we should be trying to unite people – in Jesus.

What should be our view of politics and governments as Christians? Jesus had something to say about this, as recorded by his apostles and prophets. Notice what the apostles wrote.

“Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established...For the one in authority is God’s servant for your good... Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing.” (Romans 13:1-6 NIV)

“Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right... Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor.” (1 Peter 2:13-17)

“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority,

that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Did you notice a theme running through these verses? We are to be subject to our human governments. Why? Because, as bad as they often are, God has established them. They are God's servant for our good. And we are to pray for them!

I can already hear people objecting: but you don't realise how *bad* our government is! I think our problem is that we don't realise how *really* bad the government was that Paul and Peter were living in and wrote about. The emperor was Nero. He was one of the most cruel of the Roman emperors and was responsible for the deaths of many Christians. Yet scripture still says we are to be “*subject to the governing authorities*”, we are to honour them, and we are to pray for them. Part of the reason is “*that we may live peaceful and quiet lives*”.

Perhaps part of the reason people get so contentious about politics is that, to them, this is the only life we will ever have. That is not the case for Christians. Yes we live *in* the world but, as we often say, we are not to be *of* the world. We look forward to a better home with Jesus. Let us not get embroiled in the politics of this life but look forward to what we will have in eternity with Jesus.

“But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.” (Philippians 3:20-21)

Jon

CONGRATULATIONS!



Caleb Lanade



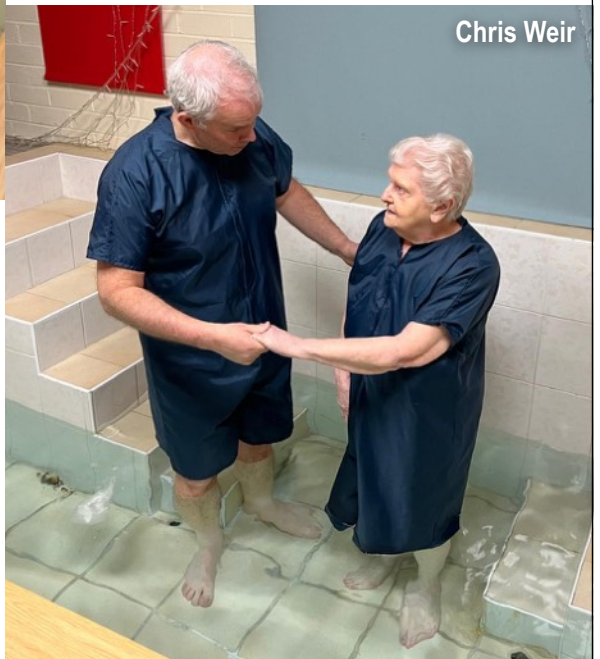
Enoch Lanade

More good news in Cumbernauld!

More good news at Cumbernauld! Three were immersed this month: **Chris Weir** (age 91), **Caleb Lanade** (age 13) and **Enoch Lanade** (age 11)

Celebrations all round as they make the best decision of their lives and give their lives to Christ!

Nicole Barr



Chris Weir



Nathaniel Nyarko

Rejoicing in Edmonton!

Please rejoice with us as we celebrate the baptism of yet another soul. On Sunday, 21st April, the Lord added **Nathaniel Nyarko** to his body.

Ofori Dwumah

Happy news from Aylesbury!

We are pleased to share our happy news concerning the marriage of **Peter Morrison** and **Ana Neferu** last month (April). Peter is known to some in Scotland, having been a part of the Aberdeen congregation, and Ana is originally from Romania but now works at King's College, London.

They have set up home in High Wycombe and travel over to Buckingham Park, Aylesbury, to worship where they have become dear to all in our church family. We ask for our Father's blessing to be upon their life together.

Steven Whitehead



Peter & Ana Morrison



BRITISH BIBLE SCHOOL NOTES

A faithful watchman

Although our cities and towns no longer have watchmen, I think we can understand their function and the need for them in days of the past. The watchman was the person who stood 'watch', looking for the enemy or anything that might threaten the settlement of people, especially while they were sleeping. We might call them a 'lookout'. We find a good description of a watchman in the book of Ezekiel.

"The word of the Lord came to me: 'Son of man, speak to your people and say to them: "When I bring the sword against a land, and the people of the land choose one of their men and make him their watchman, and he sees the sword coming against the land and blows the trumpet to warn the people, then if anyone hears the trumpet but does not heed the warning and the sword comes and takes their life, their blood will be on their own head. Since they heard the sound of the trumpet but did not heed the warning, their blood will be on their own head. If they had heeded the warning, they would have saved themselves. But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet to warn the people and the sword comes and takes someone's life, that person's life will be taken because of their sin, but I will hold the watchman accountable for their blood."'" (Ezekiel 33:1-6 NIV)

A watchman was to warn the people of danger. If he did his job and the people listened, they would be able to get to safety. If they heard the warning and ignored it then when they were captured or conquered it wasn't the fault of the watchman – he did what he was supposed to do. But if he saw danger coming and did not sound a warning then the watchman would be responsible for the death of the people and would be held accountable.

"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. When I say to the wicked, "You wicked person, you will surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways,

that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.'" (Ezekiel 33:7-9)

Ezekiel was a watchman for God's people but not someone to warn them of a physical attack that might be coming. Ezekiel was to be their spiritual watchman. He was to watch how they were living and persuade them to change if their lives were characterised by sin.

This was serious: if he did not try to warn them to change then he would be held responsible. Both the wicked and Ezekiel would be punished by God. If he did warn them and they refused to listen at least he would do what God wanted him to do. He would be saved while they would die in their sin because they refused to listen to God's word.

Is there not an application for us as God's people today? Although we have congregational leaders who watch over us, as a shepherd does the sheep, there is an extent to which we must watch out for each other. Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi to be humble and *"value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others"* (Philippians 2:3-4). The anonymous writer of Hebrews reminds us to *"encourage one another daily, as long as it is called 'Today', so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness"* (Hebrews 3:13).

We, too, are to be watchman, warning those who are in danger from sin and encouraging each other as we live for Jesus. May we be faithful watchmen.

If you are in the northeast of Scotland, plan to be with us 7th-8th June as we complete our study of the prophet Ezekiel.

Jon Galloway



FAMILY NEWS

CUMBERNAULD

We are blessed to have brothers and sisters from thirteen different countries in our congregation. On the 27th April we came together and celebrated one another's cultures. We learned songs, dances, poems and traditions from each country and also had some traditional food. It was a great night of fellowship.

What an amazing thing it is to have so many different backgrounds but be able to come together as one big family in Christ. God knew what he was doing when He designed the church.

Nicole Barr

Post to: 11a New Walks, Shepshed, Loughborough, LE12 9AP

Meeting times:

Sunday: 10.45 am Breaking of Bread
Thursday Bible Study: 7.30 pm

Stephen Woodcock

Our website www.churchesofchrist.co.uk holds a directory of congregations and contacts. Please check your information is up-to-date and let me have any changes.

Trevor Williams



SHEPSHED (LOUGHBOROUGH)

Updated information

Meeting Place: Shepshed Town Council and Community Centre, 47a Charnwood Rd, Shepshed, Loughborough, LE12 9QE

Email address:
shepshedcoc@outlook.com

Phone: Stephen Woodcock (07723 379124)

FRANK WORGAN ARCHIVE

I began sending the links to lessons by Frank Worgan during the Covid shutdown in April 2020 and have now sent out 204 of Frank Worgan's lessons. These were originally intended to help isolated individuals in congregations or small congregations without access to a speaker. This has resulted in a good archive of Frank's lessons.

Family News

Frank's lessons as well as other lessons can be found on my YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF4I0_UtKgd514EUKITW7Jg/videos

Graeme Morrison

MILTON KEYNES

The congregation in Milton Keynes owes its existence to the unwavering dedication of three young former university students from Ghana: Douglas Mensah, Ato Nimoh-Brema, and Yvonne Nimoh-Brema. Their shared faith and commitment propelled them to establish a vibrant congregation in the city. Overcoming initial challenges, including the collapse of a previous congregation, they began meeting in 2004, initially in the home of Ato and Yvonne. Their perseverance and God's blessings led to the congregation's growth in both size and strength. They moved to the Netherfield Meeting place with a spirit of outreach and collaboration. The congregation stands today as a testament to their enduring faith and community spirit.

At the beginning of 2023, it became a consuming desire to appoint overseers in line with the provisions in scripture (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4). The group spent a considerable length of time studying scriptural leadership and, in particular, the qualifications of

elders. After this awareness creation, the congregation was ready to appoint elders.

A vetting committee was created to oversee the appointment of elders for the Lord's church at Milton. After several months of work, the committee introduced Samuel Adom and Nathaniel Oppong as men to be appointed. Samuel became a Christian 1981 and has been worshipping with the Milton Keynes congregation since 2007. He is married with three children (all Christians). Nathaniel became a Christian in 1987 and has been an active Christian in Milton Keynes since 2014. He is married with four children (two of whom are Christians).



New elders with Kunle Orekoya

The ordination event was held on Sunday, 5th May, after the worship. Kunle Orekoya, an elder at the Lord's church at Northampton, officiated the ordination, assisted by brothers from other congregations. This was followed by a fellowship meal where guests were treated to good food, good fellowship and good singing from the youth at Milton Keynes and Luton.

We continue to ask for prayers for the new elders and the entire congregation.

Nana Kwame Owusu-Afriyie



Samuel Adom and Nathaniel Oppong

Family News

NORTHAMPTON

It has been scientifically proven that singing has a multitude of health benefits. Singing together fosters a sense of community and belonging. It's a shared experience that can bridge gaps and bring people together, creating a support network that's essential for mental and emotional health. From a spiritual perspective, singing worship songs allows us to express our faith and gratitude. It connects us to something greater than ourselves, providing a sense of peace and purpose. Singing is a practice often mentioned in the Bible, reflecting joy, worship, and community.

"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts." (Colossians 3:16)

"Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation." (Psalms 95:1)

"Praise the LORD. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!" (Psalms 147:1)

All of the above were found to be true in the Northampton church building on Saturday, 18th May. I think it is safe to say God was glorified in our singing and every person present was encouraged in their faith. Over one hundred children of God from several congregations met together to praise God. We are thankful to those who led our singing: Alan Dodd, Spencer Eastland, Anthony Newman, Jason Snethen, Sola Adeosun, Paulus Litrean and Matt Lima. They provided a wonderful mix of old favourites, new favourites, hymns, children's songs and choruses. A huge thank you must also go to those who provided and served hundreds of cups of tea, coffee and soft drinks and fed us well.

This came about after some from Northampton attended a similar event hosted by the Reading congregation. How wonderful that we can share in these experiences and be built up by them. May we continue to support each other as much as we possibly can. Do not stay at home! Attend your local congregation and visit the events of others – you will be glad you did. Thank you to all who



supported our Spring Sing and those who worked to make it go so well.

On behalf of the Northampton congregation
Timmi Okubanjo

New reporter for the Christian Worker

When joining in with the Spring Sing in Northampton I did a CW promo asking people from the various congregations to please send in their news items. I asked who would help me and be a news gatherer. I had one volunteer, Timmi, who – bless his heart – put his hand up. It was the only hand that went up! He may not have fully understood what I was asking for but he put his hand up.

So many in the congregations want a news magazine but few send in news and many do not bother to read what is sent in! But Timmi put his hand up – and I am so proud of that young man. He reminded me of

Isaiah's words, 'Here am I send me'. Or of Samuel when he said, 'Speak for your servant hears'. No one knows what is fully required of them when they are called to service and you never will – unless like Timmi you put your hand up.



Trevor Williams



SOME THOUGHTS ON THE GODHEAD

One of my favourite hymns is Reginald Heber's uplifting 'Holy, Holy, Holy' in combination with John B. Dykes' rousing tune *Nicaea*. Growing up as I did in a congregation that used the American *Great Songs of the Church*, I was used to singing the final line as "God in three Persons, blessed eternally" and only found out much later that Heber's original words were "God in three Persons, blessed Trinity" when we switched to *Favourite Hymns of the Church* in 1995. I think it was the late Albert Winstanley who pointed out to me that some of our American brethren were uncomfortable using the word 'Trinity' as it does not appear in the Bible and so preferred the word 'Godhead' which does but which would not fit the scansion of Heber's hymn.

I might be wrong in attributing this anecdote to Albert but it was certainly one of our senior brothers who told the story and then went on to wonder whether some of our brethren are frightened of the Trinity, not just using the word. Certainly, the doctrine of the Holy Trinity is not an easy one. For centuries, generations of our sisters and brothers in the ancient church struggled with the concept of God being one and yet also three. In more recent times (relatively recent) there were some in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries who objected to the doctrine of the Trinity – Isaac Newton being one of the best-known – and the rise of the Unitarian Church, a non-Trinitarian denomination, gives further support to the statement that the Trinity might be a difficult doctrine to defend.

However, defending the Trinity is, to adapt Spurgeon's statement on defending Scripture, is like defending a lion: we just have to let it out of its cage and it can look after itself. Those ancient summaries of the faith known as the creeds (from *credo*, Latin for "I believe") do not include the

Trinity or Godhead as such. Christians who recite a creed daily or weekly proclaim their belief in one God: Father, Son, and Spirit. No more needed to be said. The creeds were compiled in the years pre-printing when the Bible was not readily available to the majority so a creed as a statement of faith was an easy way of establishing what Christians did and did not believe.

Like the Jews, Christians believe in one God, to which Jews and pagans would respond that a belief in Father, Son, and Spirit does not sound like a belief in one God. However, Christians can respond by explaining that we worship Jesus as truly God, not a demi-god or a created son of God. Jesus is in every way possible God who, for a time, entered into his creation as a real, in every way possible, human being. The Egyptian bishop Athanasius (c.296 – 373) wrote *On the Incarnation* in which he points out that if Jesus was not truly human then his moral example is just a sham and if he is not truly God His sacrificial death cannot save us. *QED*, although there is a lot more to it than that. Similar arguments were later used to express the certainty that the Spirit was an equal part of the Godhead and that we need all three Persons, Father, Son and Spirit, if we are to truly know and begin to understand the love of our Creator, the example of our Saviour and the comfort of being filled with the Spirit. "God in three Persons, blessed Trinity" indeed.

If anyone would like further share in discussing this topic please contact Trevor on twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk

Further reading

Athanasius (translated and edited by a Religious of C.S.M.V.): *On the Incarnation* (London: Mowbray, 1944).
Ben Quash and Michael Ward (editors): *Heresies and How to Avoid Them* (London: SPCK, 2007)
Dorothy L. Sayers: *Creed or Chaos?* (London: Methuen, 1947).

Steven Whitehead



AROUND THE WORLD

MALAWI

We are now almost getting out of the lean period here in Malawi of which we can now have a sigh of relief. Farm produce are now being harvested and sold so most households can at least have one meal a day. This is good as it improves attendance as well for worship on Sunday.



Evangelism & Outreach Programme

Worship on Sunday and follow-up to those not attending has been the main activity during the week. This has led

to nine baptisms at the Ekwendeni Congregation. There has been also some improvements to youth participation and the English worship, which most of them prefer to attend. The average attendance for this is now 28 while the main Tumbuka meeting is 117. Rural congregations average attendance is 9-35. So far a total of 23 baptisms and 31 restorations have been reported from the rural congregations.

On 10th February we had the Preachers' meeting at Ng'ongo where we agreed to have our annual one week Bible School at Ekwendeni from 4th-9th August, then a gospel meeting from Friday evening to 11th August. If you have time and resources, you are cordially invited to come and teach or just attend. We have also planned nine major village Gospel meetings this year.

On 8th March I travelled to Lilongwe Airport to welcome Nicole Barr and Edwin Offin from Scotland who visited to see the work of the five preachers they



Nicole with Davison

Around the World

support. The trip was good as it gave them first-hand information about the Lord's work in Malawi and what challenges the Christians here face.

Ladies Programme

During the visit of Nicole and Edwin I took advantage to teach the congregations leaders to encourage the women to have Bible classes once a week as is the case in Ekwendeni. As I reported in my previous report, we do have more women in our respective congregations than men and they can only help more in congregation activities including teaching each other if they know the Bible. The women are generally too shy to ask questions during Sunday Bible class hence the need to have their own during the week.

Youth Programme

Not much has been done apart from attending Sunday worship and the Bible Class on Sunday afternoon. Most of these are students and this term they are due to write exams. However after July they have proposed a number of activities like visiting the elderly and youth meetings.

Benevolence & Church building Projects

We are not doing much on this due to limited resources despite our church is congregation having more needy Christians whose income is mostly less than a dollar per day. This trend of hoping to be helped has also made us to have very poor or dilapidated church buildings which sometimes pose danger mainly in rainy season. We are appealing to each other to have the Manolo Church building roofed.

Davison Z. Ndhlovu
davison1961@gmail.com

Davison has asked the CW to raise funds for local preachers to have a bicycle to travel around the villages. They need seven new bikes coasting about £70 each – can anyone help towards this fund?

Trevor



UKRAINE

We have one big orphanage that has 75 children with special needs. The director found money to replace the old wooden windows with new plastic ones, which are much more energy efficient and keep the heat in better. They are looking for help to purchase the windows (they are more looking for the building material itself).

They have 232 windows in total. As much as I would like to replace them all, I realise I can't. So I decided to find out the cost of one window and if someone can help, I could help with at least a few windows. Four windows is one bedroom where 6 children sleep! It costs 4000 hryvnias to make one window (about £78). I will use the funds I have and could use more. (The *Christian Worker* has sent around £225 to help in this.)

Ivan Usmishki

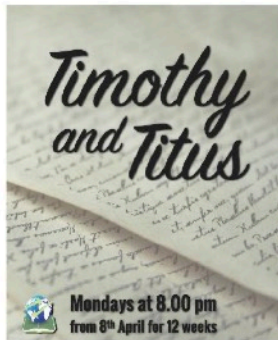


NOTICES

Online Bible Classes with the British Bible School

For twelve weeks commencing
8th April 2024

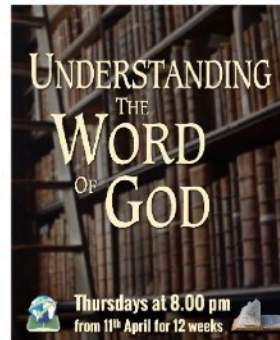
Mondays at 8.00 pm



Among the writings of the apostle Paul were a number of personal letters written to young men whose lives were devoted to the work of the mission of God. These letters not only offer insight into these working relationships, but also suggest plenty of important lessons for those working among the people of God today.

Presenter: John Griffiths

Thursdays at 8.00 pm



Any text, particularly any ancient text written in contexts far removed from our own, needs interpreting in order to be understood. To do so requires good practice in order to understand not only what it meant to those for whom it was first written, but also what it might mean for us today.

Presenter: Patrick Boyns

As advertised ...



Some light-hearted, educational, entertainment for everyone - nothing too testing (promise!). And you might want to have a pen and paper handy - plus a box of choccies to award yourself if you happen to win - or even if you don't. Please check dates on social media.

Quizmaster: Steve Whitehead

www.britishbibleschool.com

All times = GMT +1

Ladies Afternoon of Songs

Hosted by the ladies of Thamesmead

Saturday, 22 June 2024
11am - 4pm



A day filled with fellowship in song and praise. We will have congregational singing. Small groups, solos, and duets are welcome! Please let us know in advance if you or your congregation wish to prepare a song for the day.

"Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song."
Psalm 95:1-2

For more information contact:
Aisha - 07904 897551
Tina - 07773 786411
Joyce - 07886 613926

Thamesmead Church of Christ
40 Manor Close
London SE28 8EY

Ezekiel

Aberdeen

393 George Street
Aberdeen
AB25 1EQ

Friday, 26th April 7.00 to 9.00pm
Saturday, 27th April 9.00am to 4.15pm
Friday, 7th June 7.00 to 9.00pm
Saturday, 8th June 9.00am to 4.15pm

Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway
www.britishbibleschool.com

Thought by some to be a difficult book, this module shows the writings of Ezekiel to be both clear and full of excitement, as well as very relevant to the work of mission today.



All are welcome to either or both weekends!

For more information please visit our website or look for us on Facebook.

Notices



THE PRIZE

PHILIPPIANS 3:14: I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL FOR THE PRIZE OF THE UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.

FELLOWSHIP DAY

Saturday 29th June 2024,
11:30am - 5:30pm

Guest speakers....

DAVID ADEOSUN: TRAINING FOR THE PRIZE.	JASON SNETHEN: RECEIVING THE PRIZE.	SHEPshed CHURCH OF CHRIST ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH HALL, CHURCH GATE, SHEPshed, LEICS, LE12 9RJ	CONTACT: STEPHEN WOODCOCK (07723379124) EMAIL: SHEPshedCOC@OUTLOOK.COM
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Church of Christ
EDMONTON (UK)
FOR CHRIST THE KING REIGN ON EARTH

Building Effective Communication

In Churches
(Ephesians 4:29)

2024 in-Person Men's Workshop

Hosted & organised by Church of Christ, Edmonton

Venue: 201A Bury Street, Edmonton N9 9JE

Date: Saturday, 13th July 2024

Main Speaker: Bro Manny Ebony, Nigeria

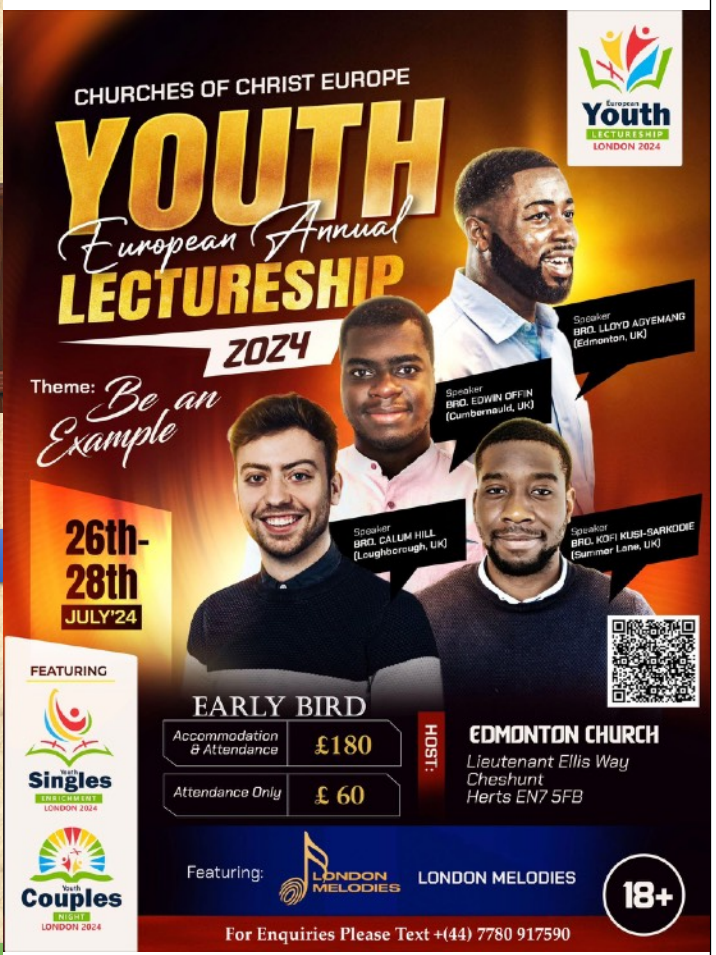
Discussion Group Leaders

Group 1: Bro Sydney, Lewisham – Practicing Effective Communication

Group 2: Bro James, Edmonton – Ways to improve decision making

Group 3: Bro Trevor, British Bible Sch. – Bringing Churches Together

Contact: Deacon Maxwell Adu-Yeboah - +44 7983 435054



Churches of Christ Europe
YOUTH
European Annual
LECTURESHIP
2024

Theme: *Be an Example*

26th-28th JULY'24

Speakers: Bro. Lloyd Agyemang (Edmonton, UK), Bro. Edwin Offin (Cumbernauld, UK), Bro. Callum Hill (Loughborough, UK), Bro. Kofi Kusi-Sarkodie (Gummar Lane, UK)

FEATURING: Singles, Couples, LONDON MELODIES

EARLY BIRD: Accommodation & Attendance £180, Attendance Only £60

HOST: EDMONTON CHURCH, Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, Herts EN7 5FB

For Enquiries Please Text +(44) 7780 917590

18+

Notices

Double honour retreat week in France

Calling all couples serving the Lord!
Come and enjoy a four night break for
FREE! 2nd-6th September
All meals and accommodation included.
Travel reimbursement of \$150 per couple.

The retreat schedule is very relaxed. Other than the Encouragement Sessions, the rest of the retreat time is free, allowing guests the option to withdraw and rest, enjoy a night with their spouse, or participate in recreational group activities and dinners.

This is an opportunity for any couples who can possibly go. It makes time to talk or be quiet. The food is great – I know the chef very well indeed! The journey is easy. Let me tell you more about the plans.

Trevor Williams
twilliams195@hotmail.co.uk



Three minute videos from Tony Coffey

“Jesus Our High Priest”

Jesus Our High Priest (1)
<https://youtu.be/PZ7o8o6ua8k>

Jesus Our High Priest (2)
https://youtu.be/mufw_FLiyo

Jesus Our High Priest (3)
<https://youtu.be/MHs2bKLTqzo>

Jesus Our High Priest (4)
<https://youtu.be/9BcVeo98NUQ>



Trip of a Lifetime 7 Churches of Revelation
Tour of Turkey with Ian Starrs
4th-12th November 2024

Ian invites you to join him following in the footsteps of Paul to Turkey visiting the 7 Churches of Asia Minor from the book of Revelation.

Itinerary highlights:

- City tour of Istanbul
- Canakkale
- Troy
- Izmir
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DIARY

June

3rd – **British Bible School evening class:** “The Letters to Timothy and Titus” led by John Griffiths each Monday, 8.00-9.00 pm, for twelve weeks. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

6th – **British Bible School evening class:** “Understanding the Word of God” led by Patrick Boyns each Thursday, 8.00-9.00 pm, for twelve weeks. Links to join the class can be found on the BBS social media and website: www.britishbibleschool.com.

7th-8th – **Aberdeen:** British Bible School Study Weekend. Module: Ezekiel. Friday evening and all day Saturday. Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway. Contact: David Murray (dgmsem@gmail.com).

22nd – **Liverpool:** All Day Fellowship (10.00 pm-4.00 pm) at 1 Picton Road, Waterloo, L22 8QH. Contact Charles on 07359 750645 or cyankiah@hotmail.com.

22nd – **Thamesmead (London):** Ladies’ Afternoon of Songs, 11.00 am-4.00 pm. Venue: Thamesmead Church of Christ, 40 Manor Close, London SE28 8EY. Contact: Aisha (07904 897551), Tina (07773 786411), or Joyce (07886 613926).

22nd – **Livingston:** Devotional Evening, 7.00 pm. Contact: east_kilbride_coc@outlook.com.

29th – **Shepshed:** Fellowship Day. Contact: shepshedcoc@outlook.com.

July

13th – **Edmonton (London):** Men’s Workshop – “Building Effective Communication”, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm. Contact: Maxwell Adu-Yeboah (07983 435054 or info@edmontonchurchofchrist.org.uk).

26th-28th – **Edmonton (London):** Youth Lectureship – “Be an Example” (including a Singles’ Enrichment programme and Young Couples Night); ages 18-35. Early bird price (until 31st March): £60 for attendance only and £180 for attendance and accommodation. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/european-youth-annual-lectureship-tickets-741443757237>. For further information text: 07780 917590.

27th – **East Kilbride:** Devotional Evening, 7.00 pm. Contact: east_kilbride_coc@outlook.com.

August

24th-25th – **East Kilbride:** British Bible School Study Weekend. – The Gospel of John (part 2). All day Saturday and Sunday Bible class and worship. Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

September

7th-8th – **East Kilbride:** British Bible School Study Weekend. – The Gospel of John (part 2). All day Saturday and Sunday Bible class and worship. Teachers: Patrick Boyns and Jon Galloway. Contact: Jon Galloway (jdgalloway@mac.com).

13th-15th – **British Bible School:** Autumn retreat at Letton Hall. For details, see our website: britishbibleschool.com.

21st – **Liverpool:** Gospel Meeting (6.00 pm-8.00 pm) at 1 Picton Road, Waterloo, L22 8QH. Contact Charles on 07359 750645 or cyankiah@hotmail.com.

28th – **Shepshed:** Youth Day. Contact: shepshedcoc@outlook.com.

October

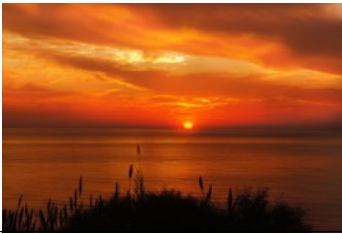
26th – **Liverpool:** Evening of Songs (6.00 pm-8.00 pm) at 1 Picton Road, Waterloo, L22 8QH. Contact Charles on 07359 750645 or cyankiah@hotmail.com.

28th-1st Nov – **British Bible School Residential Study Week** at Bassenfell Manor: “The Divided Monarchy”. Info and registration will be available at www.britishbibleschool.com. Contact: Patrick Boyns (pkb@britishbibleschool.com).

November

4th-12th – **Trip of a Lifetime:** Seven Churches Tour of Turkey. Info: ianstarrsturkeyitinerary.pdf. Contact: Ian Starrs: jes22ian@msn.com or 07960 150856.

23rd – **Liverpool:** Gospel Meeting (6.00 pm-8.00 pm) at 1 Picton Road, Waterloo, L22 8QH. Contact Charles on 07359 750645 or cyankiah@hotmail.com.



THE FINAL WORD



I am getting old

'The length of our days is seventy years – or eighty if we have the strength; their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away'. (Psalm 90:10)

I am getting old. My grandchildren are grown and setting out into their own lives. I creak and occasionally groan. I am getting forgetful and sometimes get slightly confused when I can't remember people's names or places or the names of the plants in my garden. I remember faces, dates, recipes, and I can turn to most passages in my Bible that I need. My faith is strong, I love to sing, I am thrilled when I am with God's people – but I am getting old.

My peer group say the same things that I do and, just sometimes, my brain and my mouth do not seem to work together. Just sometimes the words seem to come out the wrong way. Sometimes I need just a second or two to get myself together. I am getting old.

I can still sing the hundred and one choruses that I sang in Sunday School seventy years ago. I am still opinionated and am anxious for the growth of the Kingdom of God here on Earth. I still have a sense of humour and enjoy a good meal. But I am getting old.

Please be gentle with me if I say something that seems a little odd. Perhaps you have a Mum or Dad, a relative or friend, who is also getting on in years. Please give us all some latitude – we are not stupid, life is still very real, and we are not in our dotage, but we are getting old.

We can remember all sorts of things. We have done our best and still want to serve Jesus until the day he calls us home. Please do not be sharp or angry – we need gentleness, hugs and told that we are loved. Our time is getting short – we will soon fly away to the arms of Jesus. For Christians that is our trusted hope. Remember, if you live as long as we have, you will find yourself in the same position.



Thank you, Lord, for granting us a home with you in Heaven. Long life is happiness and sorrow. At the end of the day, we are all we have and all that we can offer to you. Thank you for accepting us as we are, young and old. Your blessings never cease. Amen.

Trevor