

Updates from India

From the Church of God in Lolla

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Brother Sudhakar writes: On Sunday 5 September, Brother Prasad visited our Assembly. He joined us after the breaking of bread. He taught us about Jacob's vision, the tabernacle, the temple of Solomon, spiritual worship, etc. He presented the design of the tabernacle and explained all the parts of it. He ended the message by talking about our Lord's coming to the air to receive us to be with Him. The Church is moving forward in all its activities. A brother and two sisters are preparing for baptism. Add your prayers.

The Church of God in Gante

The Church held three days meetings between 13 and 15 September with messages from Brothers Prasad Rao, Kiran, Vijay Babu, Baba Saheb and Sudhaka.



The Church of God in Podagatlapalli

The Church held three days special meetings on the tabernacle led by our brother B.V. Prasada Rao supported by 6 elders from other Assemblies. On the last day folks from the work at Mandapeta joined and 7 baptisms took place in the nearby canal.

Brian Tugwell



Do you think this lad will ever forget the lesson gently taught that day?
Communicated by Brian Tugwell



True Purchasing Power

Way back in the dim and distant past before money came into play people used the "Barter System", where your neighbour might have something you would want and in exchange you would offer something that he would require, so there would be a swap over. As the centuries went by, metal coins were used with set values and then paper money and cheques became the order of the day. Now there is talk of moving into the cashless society and working online. Recently we have moved into the field of cryptocurrency, and some have been making quick fortunes as the value has risen rapidly. The value of money can fluctuate and as time proceeds depreciate in value. Inflation means the pound in your pocket is worth less now than it used to be. You cannot buy as much with it as in earlier times and people

find the cost of everything is getting dearer. Its purchasing power is diminishing.

There is however something that will never diminish in value. It is called in the Bible "precious". It is not for bartering nor coinage, paper or cryptocurrency and its value will never go down. It is the precious blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God who shed His blood on Calvary's cross outside the city wall of Jerusalem nearly 2,000 years ago. You may ask, why is it so precious? - because it is unique and irreplaceable and because of what it has achieved. "We have not been redeemed with silver or gold but by precious blood, even the blood of Christ" (1 Pet. 1:19). The Apostle Paul in Acts 20:28 spoke about the Church of God which the Lord had purchased with His own blood! How greatly God values a Church of God

purchased with the blood of His Son, and how we should also appreciate the Place of the Name which God has chosen.

As for disciples of our Lord Jesus in our worship times, it is the blood of Jesus that gives us access into the most holy place in the true tabernacle which is in heaven (Heb. 10:19 and 9:24). Yes, the blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses from all sin (1 Jn. 1:7 and it is the blood of Jesus that is our means of access for disciples to worship God. No wonder at all that in the Bible it is called precious!

Neville Coomer

Could you please continue to send used stamps for Bibles to me at Hilton of Forthar, Glenrothes, Fife KY7 6LP. The world needs Bibles.

Neville

New Faces and New Facilities in Vancouver, British Columbia



When we accepted a property developer's offer to exchange Cambie Gospel Hall for a purpose-built facility as part of a low-rise condo development on the same site, we had no idea that it would take a few years to bring the project to completion! However, as we reported in April's edition we're thankful to our God that we finally took possession of Cambie Christian Centre this summer and a new phase of Assembly life is underway. We're also grateful for the efforts of Jim Bell, who invested countless hours in helping make this a reality.

We have an attractive facility that is well-equipped for a range of in-reach and outreach activities. We've just launched two events to take advantage of this – a Thursday Coffee Connect and a Friday evening Youth Hangout, the latter utilizing our newly acquired table tennis table! Please pray with us that God will bless these initiatives.

Like so many other Assemblies, we've been hampered by COVID restrictions over the last 18 months. Nevertheless, God has still been at work here – resulting in Brian Wirch, Shana Stomperud and Etim Udoh being numbered with us. Both Brian and Shana have been attending special events for

several years and towards the end of 2020 joined us for the streaming of two UK conferences. From November 2020 in-person gatherings were once again suspended but they continued to join us on ZOOM every Sunday (along with Brian's cat!). Brian and Shana attended in-person gatherings once they recommenced and soon asked to join us. Already baptized believers, they were added to the Assembly

on 25 July.

Etim came to Vancouver with his family from Nigeria and was numbered with us before withdrawing some years ago. In July 2021, the Lord stirred his heart and he once again began attending and requested to be restored to the Fellowship, which we were delighted to put into effect on 1 September.

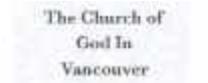
This increase in our numbers has brought great joy and thanksgiving as the Assembly lays hold of the fresh opportunity for outreach. Your ongoing prayers are appreciated as we serve the same Lord and Master in our part of the vineyard.

Richard Hutchinson; Kevin Jones

Other Activities



Friday youth night 7:30-9:00pm (4th)



Faith, building hope



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Hamilton Assembly Re-connects



Like many Assemblies, our ability to get together for times of fellowship has been severely hampered over the last 18 months. The start of September is traditionally when we 'restart' after summer vacations, and although we're still not able to resume our youth programs or Growing Disciples class just yet, we were permitted to hold an outdoor event in the sizeable green space we have on our property.

The late summer weather was perfect, and the majority of the Assembly was able to be there for a socially distanced chat, a (propane-fuelled) campfire, snacks, singing led by Kevin Archibald, and a short talk by Andrew Dorricott about the God who does not change (despite the changes we see all around us). It was also an unexpected delight to have Christian neighbours pop over to say hello.

It was a real boost for us all to be there and experience the 'simple things' that we might have once taken for granted – thank you, Lord! Thank you also to all who helped practically to make it happen. We're looking

forward to COVID restrictions being lifted soon, God willing, so we can enjoy fellowship like this more fully, freely and frequently!

Whose brother was an aviation pioneer who successfully sued the Wright brothers?

Which ship sank in sight of the new Statue of Liberty?

Which assembly met at number 40 ½ above a stable?

Which assembly's baptistry doubled as a crockery cupboard?

Who threw her husband's gun down the toilet after he tried to prevent her attending the Remembrance?

Which two saints were married to Benjamin Franklin?

Who failed to turn up for their own baptism, and why?

Who got in trouble for singing the Grand Old Duke of York?

Which teen survived the sinking of the Lusitania and lived until she was 92?

Who, or what, was Brantford's "Mounted Brigade"?

Who fought in Queen Victoria's army?

Who passed away shortly after being gored by a bull?

Who was saved after his wife's appeal from her deathbed?

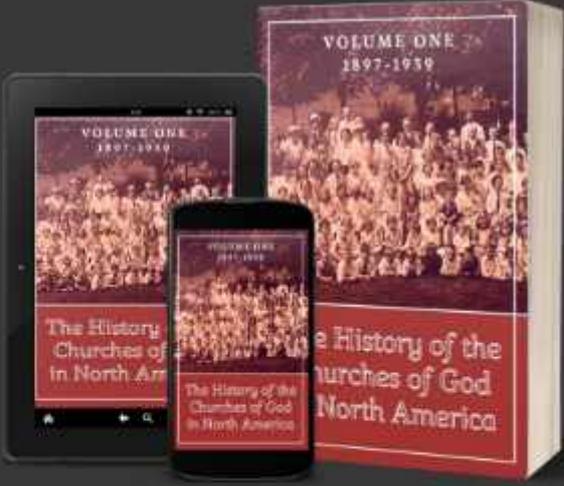
Who married Everett L. Blankenship?

Which overseer's father was a noted Scottish poet?

Who was sent to Burwash prison, and why?

What did George Prasher Senior do in San Francisco?

How did 5 Mexicans have a miraculous escape?



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Martin Jones; Chris Sutton

For Prayer Ministering Brethren

(November and onwards)

Brian Johnston

As things stand, of 10 ministries I'm scheduled to give during November only one is virtual!

Geralde Magusara

I will be making transcripts and recordings for 3 months of radio ministry in Nabunturan. I will also be conducting a Bible seminar in New Dalaguete and Kaligutan, and speaking at a Conference in Tagum (Malinawon company).

Anthony Nemi

I shall by God's grace work with Igbei and Alawaye Assemblies. Pray for God's blessings on His people and the door-door evangelism efforts.

Karl Smith

I continue my familiar pattern of recording Reality Check Gospel videos and written outreach (especially on Facebook), but now am able at last to visit contacts at home again, supporting smaller Assemblies locally and limited leaflet distribution. Please pray especially for us as we plan commencement of local youth work and other Gospel outreach. There is a demand for both and we need to meet this safely.




Kirkintilloch Celebrates its 75th Anniversary

This year the Church of God in Kirkintilloch celebrates 75 years in its current form. Although there was an Assembly at the beginning of our movement, it was one of thirty-three Churches that split from us in 1904 (sometimes called the 'Vernalites' after their leader, Frank Vernal). Their Assembly here closed only this year and the four surviving members are friendly to our Church.

What happened next is quite extraordinary. In the 1930s, a work of the Holy Spirit began in the town with an entirely different set of people. When Mavor and Coulson (M & C Switchgear) opened their factory in Kirky, a young man named Willie Stewart came to work in the factory and constantly told the people he worked with about His Saviour, Jesus Christ. So many became interested that he began having Bible readings in various homes in the town. One couple who hosted these, John and Jean Alston, became Christians and others followed. Jean was a lovely and very intelligent lady and wrote some eloquent and detailed recollections of the early days of the work here and a lot of this article is based on information from her.

As the war years started, friends from Glasgow came to help Willie and the Gospel was preached in the open air. Lairdsland school was used for children's meetings on a Tuesday evening. One of the workers, Dick Thomson, worked at a sweet factory and brought bags of 'mush' - sweets rejected by the workers but accepted by the children! Billy Bell and Willie and Jean Whitelaw, still active in our Church, came to believe in the Lord Jesus at these meetings. Billy Bell recalls, "My mother opened her house for neighbours who attended faithfully every Thursday to hear the message. At one time we had Willie Stewart one week and Jack Ferguson the next on 'The Journeys of the Children of Israel'. I was only ten and had a lot to learn!"

After the war was over in 1946 the time had come to begin meeting as a Church. They acquired a derelict lemonade factory in Donaldson Street. Many hours of labour were put into renovating it – all freely given by people after their own hard day's work was over! When the Church was opened, sister Churches in Sydney, Australia and in the USA sent letters of encouragement and food parcels to the new Church – this was a touching gesture as rationing was still in operation. One absent person was Willie Stewart, whose enthusiastic talk to his workmates had started the ball rolling. He had been called to full-time service, serving especially in Nigeria and in effective children's work all around the UK. Within three years the original 17 people in the Church had nearly doubled to 33 and grew steadily to a peak of 54 in 1976.

Now meeting at Regent Hall in Regent Street, the Church numbers 29 and there is a real bond of love between all those who belong to it. The Assembly folks are real workers for their Lord and we are grateful for this. We would also like to record our thanks to Robert and Doreen Shaw (now in Swindon) whose hard work contributed enormously to the Assembly as it now is. The vision for the Gospel has remained key to the Church's identity. It is perhaps best known in the town for its Wednesday coffee corner, where many from the town drop in for home baking and a natter. We also visit a local sheltered housing complex, Kelvin Court, and have a well-attended special Gospel event on the last Sunday of each year. We have been blessed with regular visitors on a Sunday night too. Recognising the lack of any kind of church in the neighbouring village of Queenzieburn, we now run a popular Wednesday Club for children there instead of in Kirky. Covid, of course, has temporarily called a halt to all this, but our sisters particularly have gone the extra mile to keep in touch with all our contacts. We are currently only able to meet for the Remembrance and prayers following, but we are appreciating the sweetness of these times all the more after the gap imposed by the lockdown. It shouldn't be too long before we can resume a proper midweek meeting again. For now, Zoom is serving us well. An article has appeared in the *Kirkintilloch Herald* with some of the details of the Church's history and we hope this will attract interest in our Assembly and, more importantly, in our Lord.

Whilst a lot has changed since the Church opened its doors in 1946, the Bible text inside the hall sums up the faith of those who attend: "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever" (Heb. 13:6).

Karl Smith; Tony Smith
(with help from many recollections of those in the Church)

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**Romford Conference
Saturday 13th November**

**'Masked but not Silenced'
Maintaining a Witness
during the Pandemic**

**First hand accounts from
Myanmar, The Philippines,
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**Log in to Romford's Virtual
Conference on Zoom on
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Starting at 10:30**

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Convention 242



We thank God for a great Convention at Whitemoor Lakes! Just over 160 people of all ages gathered for the Saturday 'Freedom' programme, with half of those staying overnight to enjoy extended catch-up time and the Remembrance with Birmingham on Lord's Day morning.

The Birmingham 'Church in the Park' team created and performed an excellent interactive all-age presentation to recount the early stages of Israel's exodus from Egypt. Engaging puppets, drama, games and songs resulted in a memorable opening!

Stephen Oxley (Hayes) led us through some enthusiastic acapella hymn singing; there was an air of 'freedom' as everyone raised their voices. Newer songs were enjoyed too, helped by the praise band. It was really good to sing together!



The two keynote talks are available at www.project242.co.uk and on the Project 242 YouTube channel. Andy Wood (Birmingham) and Phil Brennan (Buxton) helped us understand more about 'the God who sets free' and 'freedom now and forever.' They're well worth watching.

You'll also be able to watch a long-distance interview with Bro. Thang-Lian from Myanmar whose personal story of being set free by Christ, both spiritually and physically, is great to listen to.



Primary school-aged kids enjoyed a session specially designed for them, and the safety and freedom of Whitemoor's indoor and outdoor spaces.

After such a long time being apart, it was a real joy to be together, to catch up with each other, to enjoy praise and teaching. Praise to our God!

The Project 242 Committee



SEYC Weekend, 24-26 September 2021



On the last weekend of September, we returned to Blackland Farm Activity Centre in Sussex to enjoy our first in-person YC event since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. With nine 'Young Christians' from Hayes, Crowborough, Wembley and Swindon attending, we had a small but representative group from the SE district (only Romford was missing).

Our study was based on the Sermon on the Mount, broken down into two sessions, 'Success' and 'Please' – each one introduced by a video of the same name from VideoBibleTalks.com.

'Success' on Saturday morning looked at the beatitudes (or 'beautiful attitudes') in Matthew 5:1–16 through the lens of the question 'What does success mean?' Guided by questions compiled by Andy Seddon, we worked

our way through Jesus' list of directions for successful living, unpicking terms such as 'poor in spirit' and 'meek', thinking about what each one really means, and how it differs from what the world leads us to think is successful.

In the evening, we focused on Matthew 6:1–18, with a video talk titled 'Please'. The relatable presenter prompted us to consider who we are trying to please – people, ourselves or God – and showed how Jesus called out the religious people of his day for doing the right things, such as giving, praying and fasting, for the wrong reasons. He finished by reminding us that we can't gain God's love or approval by doing these things; instead, we do them to please God because we already have his love through Jesus.

Later, we sat cosily (if slightly uncomfortably) around a crackling bonfire, nursing hot chocolate and listening as Stephen Oxley talked about how God is always there, helping us to live the different, and often more difficult, but better way of life that Jesus outlined for us in the Sermon on the Mount. He impressed on us Jesus' words before he left the disciples to return to Heaven: 'I am with you'.

Aside from our insightful and stimulating subject, highlights of the weekend included singing sessions (something we really missed at our virtual YCs!) led by Andy S. and James Willis, delicious food prepared by Stephen O. and Pauline Renfrew (we especially enjoyed the burgers at Saturday lunchtime), a surfeit of blue skies and autumnal sunshine, and our afternoon activity of wall-climbing. It was lovely to see the YCers encourage and support each other, as some overcame their fears to reach the top, while others appeared to have been bitten by the same bug as Spiderman.

On Saturday night, James got out The Logo Game and much hilarity ensued as we all sat around the table offering up our guesses. It proved a great end to a great weekend, which was slightly abridged from the usual given that we packed up after breakfast on Saturday morning, but no less joyful or activity-filled for that.

Bethany Johnston; Andy Seddon

Midlands Youth Camp 2021

We praise God that we were able to run a Midlands youth camp this year! Very different of course, but we felt God's blessing on us and His presence with us throughout the week. As a committee, there was a consensus that although we could not run a camp as we normally would due to Covid-19, it would still be hugely beneficial to us as a team of workers to spend time together studying God's word, building one another up and availing ourselves of the opportunity to discuss and pray together about the future of camp work in our district.

Twelve adults and nine children were on-site at our regular campsite in Burton-under-Needwood. It was such a joy to watch the children playing together and the Lord blessed us with fine weather, meaning we spent the majority of our time outside. We met as workers before breakfast to pray and read God's word together. Mid-morning, we broke into three groups. The younger children enjoyed an active programme looking at Bible Heroes followed by various activities. We also had a discipleship group that looked at the Gospel of Mark. The workers' group discussed the topic of Partnership which had been prepared for us by Phil Brennan. All in all, a much needed time of great fellowship and fun!!

Please continue to pray for the future of our camp work, and that we would know the Lord's leading and guidance in our way forward.

Andy and Sarah Wood

William Gainford (1856-1941) - Author of PHSS 480



William was born on 3 February 1856 in Blindcrake in the parish of Isell in West Cumbria. He was the youngest of three children born to William Gainford and Mary Curwen, with two elder sisters Frances (1851) and Sarah (1852). His father was an innkeeper, but during the 1860s the family moved to Whitehaven where he worked at a coal mine.

William junior's early life was, by his own admission, unremarkable other than his ardent desire for acquiring knowledge. He was a "bookworm" and much preferred reading to playing with other boys. He was always happy in a secluded nook with a book and much preferred the company of older people, especially if they were of a literary turn of mind. He well remembered an old couple in their 80s who kept a curiosity shop and esteemed it a great privilege to be permitted to ransack their old dust-covered books by himself. William was of a retiring nature, having a finely strung and sensitive temperament with an aptitude for private unseen service more than public activity.

William was christened in the Church of England at Isell Parish Church on the banks of the River Derwent as a child of just 41 days old and later sang in the church choir. However, before he was saved he had never heard the Gospel and had never striven with God about his soul. In his testimony that was published in the 1915 Eagles Wings magazine, he remarks that his sister Sarah had an earnest desire for her brother to be saved and invited him to attend a Gospel meeting

with her. The preacher didn't make any impression on William, but he was accompanied on his walk home by someone who talked to him about John 3:16 and stressed that salvation was intensely personal, quoting the verse in the following way:

"For God so loved William Gainford, that He gave His only begotten Son for William Gainford, that if William Gainford believed in Him he should not perish but have everlasting life."

As they stood on the roadside overlooking a ghyll in July 1879, William gave his life to the Lord Jesus. He was baptised shortly afterwards and added to an association that he would later sever to identify himself with those who were seeking to give effect to God's will in the Fellowship of His Son. He would often think of those beautiful Psalms that he sang in the choir, repeating "parrot-like" in his spiritual blindness, and thank God that he was no longer in darkness but had the light of life.

By 1881 William was working as a porter at the Liverpool Blind School on Hardman Street- although he was registered blind he did have some impaired vision. It was here that he developed the skills of a mat-maker that would become his occupation. On 25 December 1882, William married Anne Humes at St Michael's Church in Toxteth Park; however, Anne died in February 1884 aged just 27. The April 1901 census shows him as a widower sharing lodgings with William E. Kewley of the Isle of Man. He went on to marry again in the Summer of 1901 Ellen Jane Corry at Toxteth Park.

In September 1909 William attended his first of many Conferences of Overseers, where he took an active part. He was faithful in all aspects of service, as a pastor and teacher, counsellor and warrior. He showed great acuity of mind and in debate was both insistent and persistent concerning matters he held to be important. He tenaciously held to truths purchased so dearly by the present testimony. It was during his long years of service that he wrote the words of the hymn that is now number 480 in PHSS, "As now assembled round Thy word", the words of which allude to his love of reading God's word. William delighted in the Law of his God.

At the age of 84, after many years of infirmity, William was called home on 10 January 1941 following nearly 60 years of faithful service. The first few days of 1941 were one of the coldest starts to a New Year on record; however, the very severe weather four days later did not deter a good number attending the burial conducted by J.C. Radcliffe at Allerton Cemetery. His dear wife Ellen was called home aged 82 on 20 May 1942; she was buried alongside William, and Leopold Jones conducted the funeral. Ellen had been staying with William and Pauline Butler in St Helens for the previous few months, due to the German wartime bombing of Liverpool. The Gainfords had informally adopted Pauline Cholerton at a young age after her parents had been lodging with them when they were married in 1914. When her parents moved to their own home, Pauline (1915-2006) still wanted to stay living at the Gainfords' home, and she and her husband were still residing at 43 Moor Grove Liverpool after they married in 1937. Pauline's grandfather was John Kewley of the Isle of Man. Her sister Elsie Nora (1916-1985) married James Hunter and another sister Muriel Jean (1925-1993) married Charles Oxley.

Now 80 years since William Gainford was called home, maybe we can sing PHSS 480 with a little more knowledge of its author.

Chris Sutton; Martin Jones



Edinburgh - Researcher Reflections

Dates: 1892-2020

In the capital city, the "Separation" completed, planting took place on 30 October 1892. The first Remembrance was held in Nicolson Street Hall. Saints then numbered around 70 from the wider ingathering. Sadly, due to Covid restrictions, the last Remembrance was held on 9 February 2020 in Ardmillan Hall, the Assembly roll numbering but 15. After 129 years of unbroken testimony, the Church ceased. The Edinburgh City motto - "Nisi Dominus Frustra" taken from Ps 127:1, "Except the Lord build the house ... " became a spur towards faithful witness.

Saints of note

John Albert Boswell, with links to Shetland, became the lead overseer, and to him the Fellowship thereafter owed a great deal. He, along with Ludovic Alexander and John Brown, later became editors of Needed Truth. Early records show that Joe Lang, James Stark, William Teuton and Alexander Livingstone became separation stalwarts, standing firm against opposition.

In more recent times, brethren of note from the 1950s onwards were Tom Hope, William Bunting, John Baird (editor of Bible Studies), Alex Hope (editor of Eagles Wings) Martin Dyer (Leading Brother) and Malcolm Macdonald (Lord's Servant).

Tragedy struck

In 1915, overseer James Aitken and members of his family were lost in the sinking of the Lusitania.

Occupations

The 1890s show varied skills within the Church: farming and shepherding, mining, engineering, railway workers, coach builders, joinery and shop keepers. Now, in 2020, banking, education and teaching, civil servants, management various, administration and secretarial duties reflect changing work patterns in society 100 years removed.

Events of note, working with youth

Since the 1900s the Church has been outgoing, reaching out within and beyond the city. Sadly, in later years few have been added. However the children of the saints have, many leaving to further career opportunities while assisting in other Churches in the UK and overseas in leadership and other duties. Well trained indeed!

From the 1960s onwards, the Lord opened up work in the Duddingston area of the city, firstly from a pilot project leading to a Sunday School for 50 to 70 children. This work continued until 1990. It later become known that a number of the older children had professed faith in the Lord. Work in local schools continued with Scripture memory verses and sports activities. Eagles Wings and tract distribution continued around the Hall.

The Edinburgh International Festival

Since the late 1970s this busy annual event, together with the use of the Scottish Gospel Van, has been a real focus for outreach. Lord's Servants and many from our UK Churches have come to help. Overseas visitors from far afield have approached the gazebo to inquire, and in conversations to accept displayed literature in various languages. At least a few visitors are known to have expressed faith in the Lord. To Him, the Lord of the Harvest, we leave results.

Visitors to Edinburgh

Early records are scarce, but those known are - George Geddes, Edward Coyne, George Prasher Snr., and later Harry King, all three with the Tabernacle model. Of late, most of the UK Lord's Servants have visited. From overseas, Zac Travi, Eric Sampou, U San Hla, and Mark Imoukhuede.

Edinburgh has played a central role in the activities of the East Scotland District. Many will have fond memories of the work done in seeking to maintain the unbroken testimony.

Iain Hunter

District Event - Swindon, Saturday 4 September 2021

Brian Tugwell joined us for the day and introduced the subject "Strengthening each other in Christ".

Brian spoke to us about the relationship between David and Jonathan and how Jonathan's love for David is an example to us as Christians. Brian's talk gave us plenty to discuss in our groups, where we thought about Jonathan and his example as we seek to encourage and strengthen each other in our walk with the Lord. While we were enjoying our discussions, the children were learning about David and Jonathan and what makes a good friend.

After tea, we listened to Brian's second talk, "Reminding each other of the promises of God". It was also great to sing together led by our able musicians in the praise sessions. The Lord blessed us with fine weather for the day. A country walk, picnic lunch, cream tea and barbecue were all enjoyed outside in the fresh air. It was great to be together in person instead of on a screen.

Adrienne Goodchild; Colin Jarvis

Baptism in Stoke



We were delighted to baptise Adam Twigg in Stoke-on-Trent on Saturday 25 September. Adam became known to us in October 2020 through the loyal witness of Jess Goodgrove and has been actively attending both our weekly Zoom Bible study and physical meetings in the hall, and witnessing the Remembrance for many months. Being brought up in a Christian family and being a saved believer before becoming known to us, Adam has continued to grow in his love for the Lord and made it known to us that he wanted to follow in the pattern of Acts 2:41, 42 and be baptised and added to the Churches of God. The baptism was well attended and we were delighted to have Phil Brennan providing a message through Jacob, describing Joseph as a fruitful bough (Gen. 49:22,24), drawing water from the wells of salvation (Isa. 12:3), bearing fruit that should remain (Jn. 15:16) and abiding in the vine (Jn. 15:4). Adam was added to the

Church of God in Stoke-on-Trent the following Lord's Day morning, a joyous time indeed! In thanking God for His blessing in this happy event we would request prayer for Adam that he might know guidance and strength from the Lord as he seeks to go on following Him.

Adrian Goodgrove; Malcolm Botherstone

Happy Birthday Joe



Joe and Sylvia Wannop were amongst the founding members of the Church in Swindon and are very dear to us all. Their love of the Lord and positive attitude to life, despite poor health, is an inspiration to everyone. After the Remembrance on 1 August, we celebrated Joe's 90th birthday with a "socially distanced" coffee and cake.

Adrienne Goodchild; Colin Jarvis

Birth Announcement



On Lord's Day 18 July, Heidi Catherine Brown witnessed her first Remembrance at the Church of God in Wigan. She was just barely three days old, beating her sister Ava's previous record of 6 days. Heidi was born to Anthony and Stephanie Brown, a sister to Georgia and Ava, at 8:50 pm on 15 July as the Assembly was praying for her safe arrival. Like her sister before her, she has witnessed every Remembrance in Wigan since she was born. We pray that her young life will be blessed and that in His good time she may come to know the Lord as her Saviour.

Chris Sutton; Graeme J Hunter

Baptisms at Pallavaram



Sathyaraj, and sisters Latha (Pallavaram) and Pooja (Chennai) were baptised on 5 October. May they be strengthened and kept.

A.Ruben P.Venkat

At home with the Lord – Moses Bamidele Adeyemo, Ibadan, Nigeria

Our brother was born in 1954 in Ibadan, Nigeria and slept in the Lord on Friday, 30 July. He was buried on 6 August. He gave his life to Christ Jesus in his early years and was added to the Church of God, Ibadan in 1975. At his Christian wake which was well attended by family members, friends, neighbours and brothers in the Lord, brother Opeyemi Ayinde spoke on 'One Death' as read from Heb. 9:27. He said that both believers and unbelievers will die. The only difference is that believers will not experience the second death (Rev. 20:15). He added that death is a transition to a better life for Christians and that death is like the vehicle to eternal joy for them. The speaker made it clear that our late brother Bamidele has been transited and he will be with his Master forever where he will never partake of the second death. He invited every unbeliever to give their lives to Jesus Christ so that they can be free from the second death. A lot of people testified to the good life of our late brother, worthy of note is the testimony that he was so honest that they nicknamed him 'Honesty'. The burial service was conducted at the Church of God, Alawaye Hall and attended by well over 100 people. Brother Moses Adelanwa while ministering, said that he had known him for over 45 years and that our late brother was consistent in his walk with the Lord and in working for his Master. He encouraged the family to take heart because they will still see their beloved again. He also encouraged Bamidele's wife telling her of God's promise from Isa. 57:1. At the graveside, the speaker quoted from 1 Thess. 4:16. He said that we are only saying "good night to our brother". Our brother will be greatly missed but we take comfort in that he has gone to be with his Master. We are soliciting for prayer support for his wife and children who are numbered with us.

Ayinde Tololupe

At home with the Lord – George Thompson, Barry, South Wales



On 29 August, at the age of 88, our precious brother George Thompson passed quietly and peacefully into the presence of the Lord Jesus, resulting in much sadness for the family and Assembly but pure joy for him.

George was born in Coalisland, Dungannon in Northern Ireland on 7 July 1933. He moved to Canada as a young man and took his place in the Brantford Assembly. He returned to the UK to attend a wedding and met his future wife Eunice. They settled in Canada where their son Derek was born. The family then returned to the UK where their daughter Elaine was born and where over the years they belonged to Churches of God in Newcastle and Hayes. Over twenty years ago they joined the Church of God in Barry where it was not long before we all wondered however we had managed without them!

George took a genuine interest in other people and supported them in practical ways and by praying for them. He was a man of strong faith who knew his Bible and was prepared to discuss his beliefs with anyone. He loved his daily quiet times which resulted in him being a godly example to those around. George was a valued member of the Barry youth club team and was popular with the children. He assisted with the setting up of the South Wales Camp when it was in a farmer's field, running the electrical services from the generator to fridges, mobile toilet blocks, marquee lighting etc. He was willing to lend a hand

with any duty that would lessen the load on others. The family recalled his involvement in summer youth camps whether they were in Ontario, Lancashire, the South Downs or on the Norfolk coast. On looking through his paperwork there were letters from camp leaders thanking him for his work there, saying once a role was given to him they knew it would be fulfilled and once a job was finished he would look to see if there were any others to do. He was also praised for his teaching and counselling of the children.

George was also very supportive of the Radio Gospel Outreach work and spoke enthusiastically of his days assisting in the production of broadcasts by conducting interviews and short talks.

During the funeral service, David Palmer referred to the unswerving faith that George had in his Saviour Jesus. Two Scriptures were read – Psa. 14:1, "The fool says in his heart, 'there is no God.'" This was linked with 1 Cor. 1:18-25. The question was asked – What does the world in its wisdom say about ... God, the Creation of the universe, eternal life, sin and heaven? Appropriate Scriptures were used to present the Gospel message to the gathered family and friends. Around 45 people were present, including a neighbour who George had spoken to on many occasions about his Saviour. Finally, all were challenged with the following Scriptures...

From 10:13, "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved."

Psa. 107:43, "Let the one who is wise heed these things and ponder the loving deeds of the Lord."

At the graveside, Jeff Butler lovingly spoke about George and shared some encouraging scriptures including those from 1 Thess. 4:13-18, John 11: 25-26 and 2 Cor. 5:8. Those present were challenged to consider the reality of our home in heaven and the coming of the Lord to the air for those who have 'fallen asleep' and those of us still alive.

Please pray for George's family, especially his son Derek and daughter in law Ki, his daughter Elaine and her son Callum, and George's sister Esther and her family. Pray also for friends from the small Assembly in Barry who will miss him so much.

Jeff Butler; David Palmer

At home with the Lord – Elizabeth Drummond, Brantford, Ontario



Our dear sister Liz Drummond was gently called home in her sleep on 12 July, aged 78. Elizabeth was born on 18 November 1942 in Whitburn, Scotland. It was here that she met her husband Arthur and together, after their wedding, they immigrated to Canada in the early 1960s. Liz was an outstanding example of faithfulness and patience in suffering. Her faithfulness, together with her husband Art, their open-hearted hospitality and sheer kindness were examples of what discipleship to the Lord Jesus looks like. Predeceased by her husband Art, Liz's life became marked with significant breathing problems, family concerns and finally being released from her daily struggle with cancer. Throughout all these

obstacles, she maintained a cheerful disposition and joy of the Lord and has now been met by the smile of her Lord as He welcomed her home. She will be missed by us here in Brantford, as she will by her family and particularly by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren whom she not only adored but witnessed to faithfully.

Dave Neely; Trevor Shaw

At home with the Lord – Elsie Wood, Brantford, Ontario



Elsie Wood passed away peacefully on 20 July, with family members holding her hands in prayer. For over 80 of her 98 years, Elsie was a diligent and faithful servant of her Lord Jesus. Living a life dedicated to serving others, she was a wonderful example of consistency in her Church service, her family service, and her community service. Times spent with Elsie were always profitable. Elsie was a teacher of young and old yet kept her place as a sister in the Church. Together with her dear husband Hiel (called home in 2015) they were Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:26) - teaching, encouraging, and continuing in steadfast faith and prayer. Elsie was also a stalwart volunteer at Brantford General Hospital for almost 50 years and surely many a

patient and visitor would have felt the benefit of a cheery greeting or a wise word.

Elsie's strength and eyesight became increasingly weak during her final years, yet she remained in the home she and Hiel had raised their family in and occupied for many years after. As those days became more difficult, she held on to 2 Tim. 4:17, "But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me." Though unable to be at the gatherings of the Assembly, she remained keenly interested and informed about Assembly life and was even able to join with us online very occasionally for our weeknight prayer time. It was a joy to have her join us.

Though her presence is missed, we rejoice that today Elsie's eyes "see the king in his beauty: they shall behold a land that reacheth afar" (Isa. 33:17).

Dave Neely; Trevor Shaw

At home with the Lord – Periasamy, Pernampet, India



We record the passing to glory of our brother Periasamy of the Pernampet Assembly. Our brother had just passed 100 years of age. He was of a sweet and gentle nature. He was a tenant farmer and visitors loved to sit with him and his family among his goats. Always hospitable, he would share freshly picked coconut and fry up the groundnuts with the added cane sugar, jaggary. He was as regular as he could be at Church and we will miss his quiet smile.

R.Deivasagayam; B.Tugwell

James on
JAMES

12-14 MARCH 2022
MIDLANDS SISTERS' WEEKEND
A Study of the Epistle of James - Guest Speaker James Needham
Shallowford House, Staffordshire
forms & further information - celiabrennan@live.co.uk

new venue!

We have booked sole occupancy of the 19thc building set in beautiful gardens, woodland and meadows



Special focus

Elevate Camp 2021



For two years we waited and planned; 2020 plans were thwarted by Covid, but not August 2021; thanks be to God. Nervously we prepared, pushing and pressing on, trusting God would open the way for Elevate camp to emerge. We were not disappointed, with forty on camp; including three families and no-one restrained due to COVID, apart from one person who tested positive prior to camp and for him our prayers have been many.

Our recall of Paul's deep, earnest desire "I long to see you" was ours, and when the campers arrived our hearts were full, overflowing with joy at meeting past and new campers. With studies in Ezra for the morning looking primarily at 'New Beginnings' and evening messages focused on Isaiah's Servant Songs, could we rise any higher? The campers (17-30 year olds), although our movements were restricted, enjoyed wild water swimming, archery, paddle boarding and an assault course and just simply being together, sharing Scripture and helping one another with life's battles; if only it could have gone on and on...! The singing was awesome and lifted the roof of the Piggery, with everyone being involved including the children.

It was a joy to hear of two who attended camp now going forward into baptism and discipleship. We are of course very aware that the return to everyday life brings many challenges.

Please, please pray for these campers, for new beginnings, servant attitudes and the many real life worries... jobs, relationships, mental health, etc.

*On behalf of the SE camp workers
Liz, Kev & Elevate Team*

Notice Board

We are aware that due to COVID-19, events are cancelled; however some may happen via online methods.

November

- 05 Northern Ireland Annaluin
- 06 North East District Newcastle Fellowship
- 14 Romford Virtual Conference
- 20 IWDP
- 27 Northern Ireland DOM

Text for the Month

Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.
1 John 4:15 (ESV)

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in⁺telligence

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Published by Hayes Press
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