

Human Rights - Human Wrongs

Living in the afterglow of Christian civilisation, we find it hard to imagine just what a shocking and revolutionary effect Christianity had on Roman culture's hierarchy of gods and men, and the supremacy of power. The idea that slaves had any rights as a person was outrageous. Paul's famous words "There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female for you are all one in Christ Jesus" marked the beginning of a cultural revolution that demanded equality unknown in any civilisation before or since. But it became our civilisation and we take it for granted today.

History gives us no reason to believe that the freedoms of Western civilization will last for long after its Christian roots have been pulled up. They are already disappearing fast. Can 'Human Rights' exist when we have only humans to rely on? Many people think so but the evidence of the last hundred years is discouraging. Religion's bloody reign has been vastly out-done by more recent secular regimes' slaughter of tens of millions.

Despite Christianity's obvious failings it has twenty centuries of unprecedented and still unmatched moral triumphs – its care of widows and orphans, its alms houses, hospitals, foundling homes, schools, shelters, relief organisations, soup kitchens, medical missions, charitable aid societies, and so on, are not simply an expression of normal human kindness but a result of the Christian revolution.

At its best, the shocking 'Christian Revolution' demonstrated (and still is) that mankind can 'Love one another'. If there is nothing but 'atoms and the void', we have no other example to follow except increasingly disappointing human behaviour. Only time will tell what the future holds.

Ministerial Team Changes

I am so thankful to all who have welcomed my wife and I in this community, but it is time that we both retired. I am happy to welcome experienced Pastor John Fergusson as the new Senior Pastor; and a new trainee part-time minister to the team, Ivana Mendez. Alongside them will be our other full-time minister, Karin Wieczorek, who has been with us nearly a year; so the community work and services of the Church will continue as always. As ever, a warm welcome awaits you.



God bless,
Paul R Clee

Diary Dates

Healthy Living

27th Sept "The maze of Food Labelling"
25th Oct "Healthy Christmas Meal Options"
29th Nov "Does the winter leave you feeling blue?"

Stanborough Park College of Music

Concert dates: 29th Sept, 27th Oct & 24th Nov
(Performers will be varied) www.spcm.org.uk

Prayer and Reflection

3:30-4:30 pm. 1st Sept, 6th Oct, 3rd Nov

Come Be Still

2-3 pm. 10th & 24th Sept, 8th & 22th Oct, 5th & 19th Nov

Parallel Service

8th Sept Picnic Nathan Stickland
15th Sept Patrick Johnson
22nd Sept Ian Sweeney
29th Sept Karin Wieczorek
20th Oct Laurence Turner
27th Oct Leslie Ackie
10th Nov Connect Day Jacques Venter
17th Nov Karin Wieczorek
24th Nov Mariusz Wieczorek

Senior Members Club

3rd & 17th Sept, 1st 15th & 29th Oct, 12th & 26th Nov

Messy Church

Registration from 3:45pm. Each session runs from 4pm – 6.30pm.
Ages 0-13yrs
4-5pm = craft session (all ages. 10-13yrs / The Hub finish at 5.30pm)
5-5.30pm = song and story time (for 0-9yrs)
5.30 – 6.30pm – meal time
15th Sept – The Parable of The Talents (Matt. 25:14-30)
20th Oct – The Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids (Matt. 25:1-13) & Autumn theme
17th Nov – The Christmas Story

Sunday Sale - 14th Oct 12 - 2 pm

MacMillan Nurses Afternoon Tea - 21st Sept 3-4:30 pm

Christmas Gifts, books and craft Fair - 11th Nov 11-3 pm

Tuesday Talk Reunions - 11th Sept, 9th Oct, 13th Nov

Soup Run - starts again on Friday 7th Sept

Stanborough News Autumn 2012

Stanborough Park Church & The Stanborough Centre
609 St. Albans Road | Garston | Watford | WD25 9JL
www.stanboroughchurch.org



Editorial

Dearest reader,

This edition of Stanborough News brings to a close our summer, if you want to call it that! Although barely graced by the sun, we have had the privilege of hosting the 2012 Olympics! Good compensation for the lack of rays, I'd say! While eyes have been glued to the TV cheering on TeamGB, and the time off packed with holidays and BBQ's, we have been busy preparing for a new start. Many activities were also on a summer break and are now starting back up: Messy Church, Seniors Club, Toddler Club, Soup Run, Youth United and quite a few others!

A church is not just a place where you come and hear a sermon and sing a few songs. A church is a place where your mind and body find healing and strength, where your spiritual needs find inspiration, where your life could find meaning. Those are just some of the reasons we send this leaflet your way, so that whatever your need might be you could find answers. We hope this Stanborough News has something especially for you and that we will get to meet you soon!

Diana Sabatier

Parallel Service

Parallel service is turning 4 this September! We are so thankful for God's guidance and blessings on this service where many have found Jesus and a church family to call home! We are celebrating with a picnic on the afternoon of the 8th September! Please join us whether you know us or not! We would love to meet you and see you again!

Parallel has also fund-raised over £1,000 for a new electronic drum kit. This new instrument is helping our service achieve new levels of worship, and our resident drummer, Keith Woodman, has been quoted as saying the drums are 'splendiferous'! We think he's very pleased with them. Come along and experience it for yourself!

Everyone is WELCOME!



Stanborough's Garden Party



The sun finally made an appearance to provide a perfect end to the Music Garden Party in the beautiful grounds of Stanborough School on Sunday 24th June. It began with a concert in the school hall, which amazed the guests by the excellence and virtuosity of the highly talented soloists. 'I felt so privileged to listen to such high quality performers in such a select audience', said one of the guests. A sentiment echoed by us all as we listened to well-known classical pieces played by Song-ah Choi on violin, Isabella-Maria

Asbjornsen on harp, and Min-Young Bae on piano. After the concert homemade cream teas were served to guests in various locations in and around the school while a background of chamber music was performed by pupils.

'Old Stanboroughians' Pete and Pat Walton had a great conversation with John and Eileen Welsh, who live so close to 'The Park' that their garden used to be part of it. They moved to Appletree Walk about 40 years ago when it was first developed and were enjoying their first glimpse of a school function. I'm sure that many friendships were made or renewed on that day and that we are all looking forward to the next Stanborough Park event. Over £600 was raised towards the Stanborough Secondary School Scholarships and Bursaries fund.



Charities Supported

ADRA Shoebox Appeal 2012

Gifts with a Smile. Each year thousands of volunteers pack a shoebox sized giftbox for impoverished children. The collection point and dates will be announced.

Contact ADRA-UK on 01923-681723 or email info@adra.org.uk

Pat's Sales

Popular table-top sales with plenty of stalls to browse and excellent light meals to buy. Fund raising for charity, 14th October.

MacMillan Afternoon Tea

Fund raising for the well known cancer support organization, 21th September.

Christmas Gifts, Books and Craft Fair

The annual book and craft fair with quality craft items for sale in time for Christmas, 11th November



90th Birthday Reunion for Rosalind

Mrs Rosalind Kaczmarek first came to Stanborough Park as a little girl. She later worked at Granose and the Stanborough Hydro but soon emigrated to South Africa raising four daughters and travelled to many parts of the world. Recently Rosalind rejoined the church community at Stanborough Park and was baptized anew last year. Rosalind's four daughters, who were all connected with the School at one time, crossed the globe to meet together for the first time in 30 years to celebrate her 90th birthday. They are pictured with Rosalind outside the Noke Hotel after a celebration dinner. From left to right: Angela and Elaine (both now living in South Africa), Velda (now living in Cyprus), and Rose (living in Kent, UK).

Modernisation for Stanborough Church

The church is preparing for a major refurbishment and modernisation of its interior, over eighty years after it was built. The worship area will be enlarged, the balconies and platform re-styled and the old pews cast out as the church is brought into the 21st century. It is hoped that the work will start before the end of 2012. Check out this web video for a the architect's concept animated walk-through <http://stanboroughpark-adventistchurch-org-uk.adventist.eu/refurbwalkthrough>



Competition Success

Min-Young Bae (left) recently entered the International Piano Competition in Padua, Italy, and was awarded a highly respectable third place in the 19-22 age category.

Min-Young is one of the very talented musicians at Stanborough Park, and is very involved in the Stanborough College of Music. She is also involved in the music during the services. We'd just like to add our hearty congratulations for her success.