



Autumn 2014



STANBOROUGH NEWS

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Pastor's Page *by Pastor Sam Neves*

Most of us watch the news everyday and wonder what is going on with the world:

hundreds of thousands of Christians and other religious groups flee to the mountains in Iraq to escape the brutal Islamic State fighters; Palestinians in Gaza wish they had a mountain to hide in from attacks from Israel; Israelis run from a relentless pounding by rockets from Gaza; Ukrainians lose their sleep as Russia furtively tries to take over their land; millions fear a deadly virus which has spread to 3 countries so far. Over four hundred earthquakes shook the ground in August alone (avg. 4.2 in strength); the EU economy is stagnant or failing. All that and much more and that before we even start on issues affecting the UK and Watford in particular. Whatever is going on with the world? More importantly, why doesn't God do something about it?

If you haven't been to church in a while you may think that religious people in general try their best to avoid that question. After all, clinging to a blind faith is a lot easier than facing hard questions. However, even if it may surprise you, we don't come to church every week just to pat ourselves on the back and recite the mantra "keep your eyes shut, your mind closed and you'll go to

heaven someday". When we meet every week at Stanborough Park Church we struggle with the hard realities of life and look for ways of alleviating suffering wherever we find it and bring hope.

In fact, if you want to explore the hard questions that confront us from a biblical point of view we are launching a second series of the 'The Bible Academy' especially for you. It takes place on Friday evenings starting on the 12th of September and continues for the next seven weeks. You can subscribe for free on our website. This will be

a very hands-on experience involving all of your senses. You've probably never experienced anything like it so please check it out.

Although Seventh-day Adventist

Christians hope for a heaven and a world restored to its original plan we also believe in the here-and-now. We are actively trying to reflect the character of Christ by showing His love, compassion and forgiveness to all our neighbours right now. So if you've ever felt like joining a group of people that are trying to make our neighbourhood a happier place, welcome to our community. We need more hands to do this so we look forward to meeting you soon.



Health Talks

This popular series of health lectures continue monthly. Come and listen and ask questions, both publicly and privately from the experts.

Entrance is free, and talks begin at 8pm. A free light supper is served at 7pm, so come early and enjoy! Feel free to bring a friend to these informal and informative talks.

Dates:

25 September - Pastor Paul Clee

30 October - Dr Marlene Levy

27 November - Marlon Bridgeman





Tuesday Talks

THE CONVERSATION OF A LIFETIME a new series starting on 9 September. Come and join us in a 'round table' chat on simple topics with hard answers! 'Everyone else pays cash'; 'Goldilocks and God'; 'The Corn God Myth' and much more.

Conversations will be introduced by Pastor Jacques Venter. Start time at 8pm A pre-conversation supper will be served at 7pm.



Community Chaplaincy

Look out for our new Community Chaplaincy Service. We are calling at houses in our area around Stanborough Park and Meriden with the intention of offering to help you in ways that you want and give you the support that you need

wherever we can. So we hope you will be willing to at least say 'hello' and please don't hesitate to contact us if you need to.



Prayer & Promises

What do they mean in the 21st Century? In a short series of five Wednesday night talks (beginning on November 12 at 7.30 pm) Paul Clee will be looking at some of the practical but awkward questions about prayer. What happens when your prayers don't seem to be answered? What about the huge "blank cheque" promises of

Jesus such as "If you ask anything in My Name it will be granted". How do we get such answers? Come and find out as we explore what the Bible says for us in Watford in 2014.



Messy Church & Toddler's Club

Messy Church Saturdays at 3:45 p.m. 20 September, 18 October, 15 November
To book please email stanboroughparkmessychurch@gmail.com

Toddler Club taking place on Wednesday & Thursdays.
Contact for availability on 07962320372





Development Thoughts

by Diana Sabatier

Many times I drive past the church, go in and proceed as normal. Every now and then I'm taken by surprise and go the wrong way down the new road layout, after having to stop for people crossing the newly painted pavement. And it's then I remember changes are happening.

This time we didn't have to get confused with the new layout because we stopped by the imposing "Caution: Construction site" gate. Growing up on a construction site with my dad, I figured this wouldn't be much different; after all it's just rubble and dust and hard hats, right?

After I entered the no unauthorised access area,



signed in, put on a hi-vis jacket and a hard hat, I walked around the corner. Much of the back of the church was gone. Some dusty white tiles had stood the trial of demolition to remind me of the vestry that once was. In a corner, a doorframe had stood the test of strength giving me a glimpse of the inside. The site manager then took me into the church. The church was a mere skeleton. The floors had collected the everyday pickings



of workers, the windows were boarded, and the ceiling showed me the majestic woodwork that held it together. Walking through the side passage to go upstairs, I passed some cast iron radiators. My husband fondly remembered the times he used to put his Bible on one of them, hang his bag on the side and lean his head to rest.

We paused a few minutes. Upstairs gave me a different view. The side balconies were no more; the steel work was almost gone. But more striking was the sight of the baptismal pool, used last by family members and friends, and the shell that was once the pulpit. The site manager's voice brought

me back from my thoughts when he said in a couple of weeks the scaffolding will go up and the wall I was facing would come down. My husband's baptism, our wedding, family dedications, harvest festivals, toy services, all took place on that stage and against that backdrop. It wasn't just rubble and dust and hard hats anymore. And then I smiled. The old must come down and let the new take its place. And two weeks, all of a sudden, seemed too far away.





Mums in Action

MUMS IN ACTION FUN DAY ATTRACTS 1,200

Stanborough Park opened its gates for the second time this Summer to welcome in our local community.

First the Stanborough School Fete and this time Mums in Action Fun Day on Sunday 24 August. Children and mums - guaranteed to inspire and tire out! Activities throughout the day included free professional health checks, head and back massages, and pedicures; face painting; bric-a-brac stalls, gifts and loom bands; and there



were lots of activities for the kids who all appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves. George Derbyshire, current Chair of Watford Borough Council, joined in with the fun and grabbed the chance to mingle with his younger constituents on the bouncy castle and mingled with the 1,200 strong crowd.

There was lots of music with DJ services kindly provided by Watford Hospital Radio, special guest Bobby Bovell who flew in from Denmark, and local Irish dancers.

"I really enjoyed myself", said a lady from Greenwood Drive, Garston. "There was so much to do and see. I look forward to next year's event."

As well as fun activities there was also a stall with a prayer counsellor who prayed privately for individuals who requested it.

Mums in Action is a grass-roots not-for-profit volunteer organisation run by mums, for mums and their families within their local community.

The event was co-sponsored by the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Watford.



The Adventure Begins...



Carolyn and Etienne Guenin begin their adventure as missionaries in Benin, Africa. They will be teaching at a local school as well as helping in an Inter-Faith Dialogue Centre, serving the local Muslim community. They are pictured leaving Heathrow Airport.





Fundraising

Pat's Sale

12 October Sunday 12 - 2 pm - profits to locally organised charity STOP International.

Macmillan Afternoon Tea

26 September Friday, 3 - 4:30 pm - profits to Macmillan.

Book & Craft Fair

9 November Sunday 11 - 3pm Christmas Gifts, Book and Craft Fair. profits to Watford Peace Hospice.



God of Science...

God of Science Our Purposeful Existence

25 October, Saturday 3-7 p.m. Free entrance
- The Stanborough Park Church Chance or Design team present a programme embracing science, evolution and God with internationally recognised speakers plus dynamic young speakers talking

about belief in God. Venue: The Stanborough Centre, 609 St Albans Road, Watford, WD25 9JL. Contact info@chanceordesign.com or register at www.chanceordesign.com/registration/



Shoe Box Appeal

Christmas Boxes for Children in Togo

It might seem a bit early to be thinking about Christmas but it's a long way to TOGO! We will be delivering the toys ourselves by lorry via our sister organisation ADRA-UK. We are taking part in a 'shoe box' appeal and we invite you to join in the fun. There is great excitement for us in preparing gifts for children and for the 'postman' in seeing the delighted children who receive them. It's just one of those unselfishness treats.

ADRA will be delivering thousands of boxes: imagine the chaos caused by trying to pack

many different sizes of box. To avoid the chaos we are providing a standard 'shoebox' obtainable from us. Unfortunately other boxes cannot be accepted. If you or your children or grandchildren would like to get involved we can deliver a box to your door with instructions about what can be put in it. We also suggest a donation of £2 to help with packaging and transport. Final deadline for collection of boxes is 12 October so get yours as soon as you can.

The boxes are available now, so if you want to join in please contact me : The Stanborough Park ADRA co-ordinator, Joy Bussey: phone 01923 461044, email js.bussey@ntlworld.com





Diary Dates

Special Events

- 26 September, Friday 3-4:30pm, Macmillan Nurse Afternoon Tea, Stanborough Centre
12 October, Sunday 12-2pm, Sunday Sale Usual stalls 20p admission Profits to STOP International
25 October, Saturday 3-7pm, Seminar: 'God of Science and Our Purposeful Existence'
9 November, Sunday 11-3pm, Stanborough Centre, Christmas Gifts, Book and Craft Fair – Profits to Watford Peace Hospice
13 December, Saturday 11am, Toy Service in the Marquee on Stanborough Park

Seniors Club

- 15 September, Monday, 2-4pm. Ian Copeland Illustrated talk on London.
29 September, Monday 2-4pm. Sonia Waterton "I Have A Song To Sing -O"
13 October, Monday 2-4pm. Autumn Outing to Stratford on Avon
27 October, Monday 2-4pm. Vegetarian cooking demonstration with Vivienne Vine.
10 November, Monday 2-4pm. Autumn Bring and Buy sale ADRA Shoe box appeal promotion.
24 November, Monday 2-4pm. Potters Crouch Candles

Prayer & Promises

- 12 November, Wednesdays 7.30pm
19 November, Wednesdays 7.30pm
26 November, Wednesdays 7.30pm

Messy Church

- 20 September, Saturday 4pm.
18 October, Saturday 4pm.
15 November, Saturday 4pm.

Health Talks

- 25 September, Thursday 8pm. speaker Pastor Paul Clee, subject "Armchair exercises – keeping fit whilst watching TV"
30 October, Thursday, 8pm. Speaker Dr Marlene Levy, subject "Counselling and therapy – just what the Doctor ordered".
27 November, Thursday 8pm. Health Talk, speaker Marlon Bridgeman, subject "A two edged sword – Bipolar disorder"

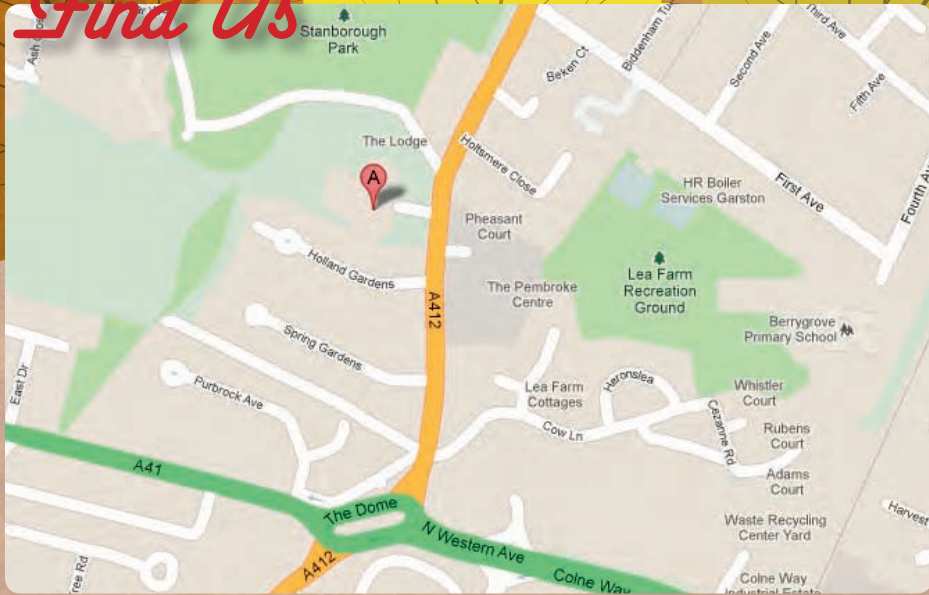
Regular Activities

- Toddler Club 3, 10,17,24 September, Wednesday mornings and afternoons
Toddler Club 4, 11,18,25 September, Thursday mornings
Toddler Club 8,15,22 October, Wednesday mornings and afternoons
Toddler Club 9, 16,23 October, Thursday mornings
Toddler Club 5, 12, 19, 26 November, Wednesday mornings and afternoons
Toddler Club 6, 13, 20, 27 November, Thursday mornings

Creative Crafts Every Wednesday 1-3 pm.
Tuesday Round Table Talks, Tuesdays 8pm.



Find Us



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

Contact Us

Pastoral Office | 01923 67 94 94

Bookings for Stanborough Centre:
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