



## THANKFUL PEOPLE

*Psalm 9:1 "I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."*

When the Stanborough Park Church family end their annual Harvest Festival, their closing act of worship is to usually sing the rousing hymn, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come", reflecting gratitude to God for His continual provision in their lives. As they sing, their eyes focus on the magnificent and colourful display of fruits and vegetables, some even homegrown.

It was different this year. Thankful people could not come together in the traditional way.

But Spirit-filled people adapted by extending their own harvest festival to become a 'Watford Community Harvest' with an invitation 'Come – drive through and donate your food gifts'. Strategically located within the borough, the church campus is blessed with a huge car park, and ideally positioned to be the food donation point.

Organised jointly by Adventist Community Services, and the One Vision Project (the services' delivery arm of the Stanborough Park Church), on Sunday, 4 October a steady stream of cars drove into the car park to deliver gifts in a COVID-safe manner. Once sorted, the gifts will be distributed to local Watford charities to support families in need.

As leaders and volunteers gathered together in the open space around the church, with only umbrellas for protection from the relentless rain, spirits were of good cheer due to the response from the community of all faiths and none. Stanborough Park Church Associate Pastor Geert Tap used one of his favourite themes to describe the experience, "It was as if the church had left the building".

Pastor Emmanuel Osei, president of the South England Conference, reflected on how harvest is "a reminder that the God who provides is the God who binds us together to do what He wants us to do."

For the previous five months, Stanborough Park Church has hosted the One Vision food hub and has provided 13,230 hot meals and just over 3,000 parcels during the COVID-19 lockdown. Staffed by a mix of volunteers of many different backgrounds working for a common cause.

One such volunteer is Liz Burns, who has been a friend of the church family from as far back as 1977. For the past six months, Liz has been a volunteer to help manage the daily meal programme. "In Volunteering for One Vision, I feel that God has again been telling me this is where I belong. This was proved to me one morning after learning of the sudden death of a member of this church. For some reason, I got in my

The volunteering spirit is engrained in the Stanborough Park DNA, as it has been for many decades. It was through support for the 'welfare' team that Liz first connected with the church. Sometimes seen as unfashionable in these times, the 'welfare room' door located on the right-hand side of the building serves a growing cliental of people in need. Back in service for four weeks after the COVID-19 lockdown, each Friday night, a minibus of food and supplies leaves for the London West End, providing hot soup, sandwiches and drinks for the homeless, staffed by youth and adults volunteering together.

Pastor Terry Messenger, senior pastor testifies that the way he is able to still give thanks in these difficult and hard times, "is to live with the attitude of gratitude, and finds it marvellous that the One Vision partnership builds and widens Stanborough Park's commitment to serving the community.'

Coming up soon is the annual 'Toy Service', usually the first Saturday in December, a worship service to 'provide presents' for families in the community experiencing hardship in the run-up to Christmas. As the congregation sing their carols, they usually see a magnificent display of colourful toys donated by the children of the church.

It will be different this year – but the Spirit will still move.

7 October 2020 | Watford, UK [David Neal] via [TED.Adventist.org](https://TED.Adventist.org)



Watch the [Traditional Service](#) online with Pastor Geert Tap



Watch the [Parallel Service](#) online

## Announcements / News

- **Church Opening announcement by Pastor Terry Messenger.** [READ HERE](#)

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- **Parallel** is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom service on Saturday 10th October at 11am. Meeting ID: 832 2765 9255, Passcode: 718084. Roy Christie will lead the congregation in a discussion. Hope to see you online.

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- **Virtual Gift Box Appeal 2020** - Many children here in the UK have become disadvantaged because of the impact of COVID-19. Through our ADRA community hubs, we want to support such children and bring a little bit of happiness to them this year. [Your virtual gift box](#) will allow our hubs to respond and help. Each virtual box is valued at £10. [Please donate a virtual gift box today!](#) [www.adragiftbox.org.uk](http://www.adragiftbox.org.uk)

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- **Women in Prayer** on Saturday 10th October from 3-5pm. Join the Women's Ministry team on Zoom ID 250-966-5133, Password 243467.

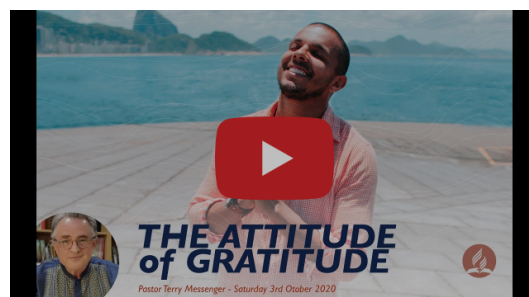
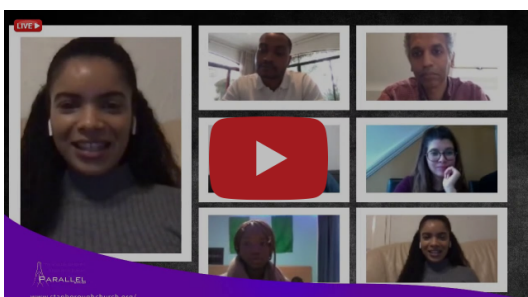
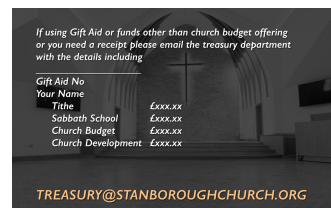
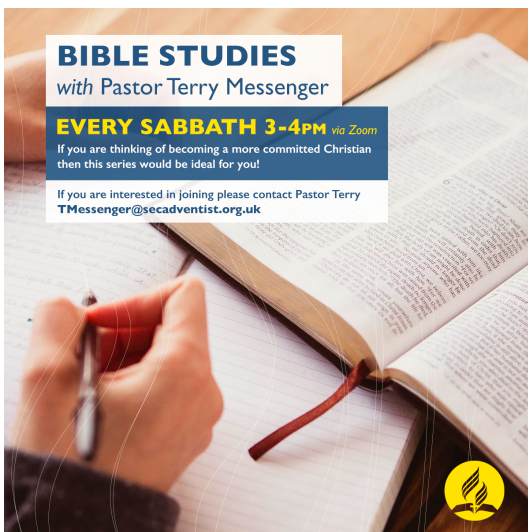
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- **Prayer Meeting** on Wednesday at 7pm. Join us on Zoom. ID: 86332812854, Password: 063944

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- For information about **Earliteen Sabbath School**, please email: [Uchejbc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Uchejbc@yahoo.co.uk)  
For information about **Junior Sabbath School**, please email: [spcjuniorss@gmail.com](mailto:spcjuniorss@gmail.com)  
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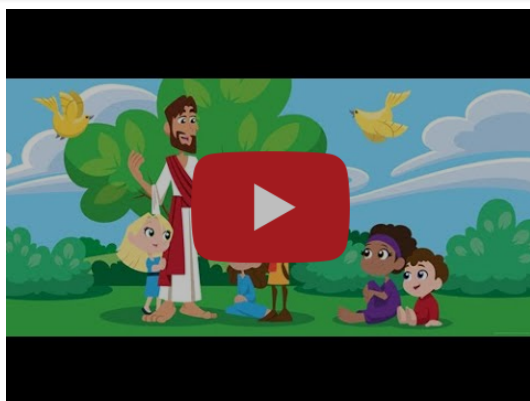
September. If you would like to join in via Zoom, please email Pastor Terry at [TMessenger@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:TMessenger@secadventist.org.uk) to get details.

- **Cradle Roll Programme for OCTOBER Sabbath** at 9:45am on [Youtube](#) and [Facebook](#). New video coming on Saturday.
- Stanborough Park Church was able to raise £390 for Macmillan Nurses in September despite not having our usual Afternoon Tea event.
- **Generation COVID - [Virtual Gift Box Appeal 2020](#)**
- **Youth Meeting.** Please contact Natalie, Paula or Carol/Lucas for the link or email [youth@stanboroughchurch.org](mailto:youth@stanboroughchurch.org).
- **Lockdown News #6 [read here](#)**





**One Vision presentation at GC session LEAD**



**Cradle Roll Sabbath School  
1st of October**

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Stanborough Park Church

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**Stanborough Park College of Music** [info@spcm.org.uk](mailto:info@spcm.org.uk)

**Treasury Department** [treasury@stanboroughchurch.org](mailto:treasury@stanboroughchurch.org)

**Bulletin Deadline Wednesday 6pm** [bulletin@stanboroughchurch.org](mailto:bulletin@stanboroughchurch.org)

**[www.stanboroughchurch.org](http://www.stanboroughchurch.org)**

Stanborough Park Church is part of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
609 St. Albans Road, Watford, WD25 9JL

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