



# *The Chronicle*

A Publication of The Church of God (England)

July to December 2024, Volume 19, Issues 3 and 4

## **National Overseer's Address to Ministers' Convention, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024**

Philip C. Bennett

As we gather here today in our National Ministers' Convention, we have a year of labour ahead of us. Our mandate is the Great Commission, which was given to us by Jesus Christ Himself.

We are pleased to see the start of the new mission in Walsall, and pray that God will bless and prosper it in every way. Please continue to pray for Brother Justin Clarke, Sister Chedene Clarke and all who will be assisting the work.

Many of us were privileged to attend the last General Assembly, and to visit the site for our new Assembly Tabernacle. The Tabernacle Advancement Committee has been entrusted with the task of raising funds for the building of the Tabernacle. This will be a mammoth task, and as such, will require us all to do our best. All the countries have been allocated a sum to collect during the year. The sum for the nation of England is \$2,500 (£1,917).

Various initiatives have been proposed, such as 10 for \$100. This is basically finding 10 people who are willing to donate \$100. There is also a 5 for \$5.00 initiative, which can be utilized by our Gleaners and younger children. We can decide on our own figures in British pounds. I will discuss this with the National Trustees. (These were later agreed as £50.00 and £5.00).

There is a form for each initiative, which I will ensure the Pastors have to distribute to the members. There is also a thank you letter that we can give to the donors. We can also let them know that their donation is tax deductible if they complete yearly tax returns, or if they are self-employed. All auxiliary co-ordinators are asked to put plans in place to raise funds to contribute to this total.

(The General Overseer outlined 10 abbreviated steps to help every participant to be successful. The full guidance can be found online on our International website or in the November 2024 edition of The Evening Light).

**Step 1:** Pray – Ask the Lord to help you find 10 donors (Agonize before you Organise).

**Step 2:** Identify your 10 – Take time to write down the names of people to talk to.

**Step 3:** Make contact – Visit them personally, send a text, make a phone call, etc.

**Step 4:** Share the Vision – Our goal is to have a home, an Assembly Tabernacle, to hold our annual meetings. This will be where we can be free to operate on our own schedule and preach the Word of God without restraint.

**Step 5:** Ask for a Donation – Simply ask, “Would you be willing to make a tax deductible donation of \$100 to help The Church of God build an Assembly Tabernacle?”

**Step 6:** Collect Contact Information – This is a crucial step and one that will help this campaign take on another level! We are asking every participant to collect the name, email, and phone number of all donors and give them to their Tabernacle Fundraising Co-ordinator or Overseer. This is important because we want to give a special thank you from the General Overseer.

**Step 7:** Offer an Evening Light Subscription – Simply ask, “Would you like me to sign you up for our Church paper called ‘The Evening Light’ so you can keep up with the progress of the Tabernacle project? It’s free and will be emailed to you each month.”

**Step 8:** Give a Donation Receipt – once a donation is received, the donor should be given a receipt for tax purposes. Until the receipt is available on the Church website, participants will be instructed to contact

Brother Montgomery, their Tabernacle Fundraising Coordinator, or their Overseer for a copy.

**Step 9:** Give a Creative “Thank You” – This is an opportunity for Overseers, Pastors, and local churches to be creative with public relations. For example, host a donor recognition meal. Making positive connections with family, friends, and the community is a great way to promote the Church.

**Step 10:** Follow-up and Win a Soul – Every contact with a donor is a “touch point” to build a connection. Use these connections to follow up and invite to special church activities. Overseers are asked to use these connections to grow their State/Region. Pastors can use these connections to grow your local church!

On the evangelism front, our General Evangelism Co-ordinator is asking the Church worldwide to conduct a Revival meeting for 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025. I will liaise with the Pastors to arrange this.

## Message - Stay Awake

My message today stems from the Convention theme. Right now, we are approaching the midnight hour. It is a time where people are tired and exhausted after a day’s activity. The natural tendency is to go to sleep, but if we go to sleep now, we may sleep the sleep of death and never wake up.

When people are asleep, they become vulnerable as they are not aware of what is going on around them. The apostle Paul was encouraging the saints in Thessalonica to be watchful and aware of the time that they were living in, over two thousand years ago.

The words of one song states:

*Years of time have come and gone  
Since I first heard it told  
How Jesus would come again someday  
If back then it seemed so real  
Then I just can't help but feel  
How much closer His coming is today.*

**Signs of the times are everywhere  
There's a brand new feeling in the air  
Keep your eyes upon the eastern sky  
Lift up your head, redemption draweth nigh.**

*Wars and strife on every hand  
And violence fills the land  
Still some people doubt He'll ever come again  
But the Word of God is true  
He'll redeem His chosen few  
Don't lose hope, soon Christ Jesus will descend.*

*1"But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. 2For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 4But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness."*  
(1 Thessalonians 5:1-5)

Satan is forever trying to blow out our lights and leave us in darkness, but the words of a well-known song says: *'This little light of mine; I'm gonna let it shine... I won't let Satan blow it out.'*

Paul then went on to say: ***"Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*** (1 Thessalonians 5:6)

**Sleep:** (1) *A periodic state of physiological rest during which consciousness is suspended and metabolic rate is decreased.*  
(2) *Being in a dormant or inactive state.*

Our theme Scripture admonishes us not to sleep as others, implying that others are asleep. The opposite of being asleep is to be awake.

**Awake:** (1) *To emerge or rouse from sleep.*  
(2) *To become or cause to become alert*

**Sober:** (1) *Not affected by alcohol; not drunk.*  
(2) *Serious, sensible, and solemn.*

People have various ways of staying awake. Some people drink coffee or other refreshments to stay awake. Another way to stay awake is to stay active and keep busy. It is said the devil finds work for idle hands. We need to be busy doing the Master's work or we will fall asleep. We need to be praying and reading our Bibles to keep awake, otherwise we will fall asleep.

Have you ever fallen asleep and been bitten by some insect like a mosquito? Sometimes, we only recognise that we have been bitten when we see and feel the effect sometime later. There are some parasites that bite their victims and deposit their eggs within them. These eggs germinate and then begin to eat the victim from within.

Some Christians have been bitten and impregnated with the seed of the enemy lying dormant within them. They fell asleep and woke up feeling strange, not knowing what had happened and after a while they dismissed the incident and carried on as normal. They look the same to the natural eye, but they have been impregnated with a virus which slowly takes its course.

They know when they fell and they know where they fell, but after a while they forget the bite and feel that they are ok. However, the seed has been planted, just awaiting the right time and conditions to germinate. After a while, we would not believe the behaviour of our once nice brother or sister. Their nature changed once that seed that was planted germinated.

*24"Another parable put he forth unto them, saying The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: 25But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. 26But when the blades was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. 27So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in the field? From whence then hath it tares? 28He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."* (St. Matthew 13:24-30)

When I was younger, I remember watching films about Dracula. Once he bit a victim, they were no longer the same again - even though they looked the same.

**One of the most dangerous enemies to a Christian is a fallen brother or sister.** The danger lies in the fact that we do not think they will harm us, so we are not on our guard. What we need to understand is that they have a new master. We should be especially careful of backslidden family members.

When people fail God, they often cover up what has happened to them and go on as normal, because of embarrassment. As a child growing up in Jamaica, I managed to get a Star Apple seed stuck in my nose. Because I did not tell anyone about it straight away, after some time I became embarrassed and afraid to talk about it. Luckily, my Aunt found out and managed to get it out. Had she not spotted that something was wrong that seed could have been detrimental to my physical health.

Some people feel that time heals sin, and if it is left long enough, God will overlook it, especially if they have done some good work as compensation. Some people when they do wrong will not say sorry. They will just do works to show you that they are sorry. However, if we commit sin, God wants us to confess it and forsake it. Until we can acknowledge where we fell or that we are at fault we cannot be helped. **Sins unconfessed are sins unforgiven.** Time does not heal sin.

If we refuse to get right with God, which may mean doing our first works again, we will not be able to abide in His house, The Church of God. David, the Psalmist wrote: *"1LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. 3He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. 4In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. 5He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved."* (Psalm 15:1-5)

Brethren, let us walk in the light and let us **stay awake.** 📖

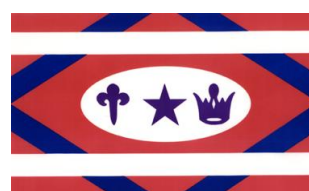


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## National Administration

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<b>Philip C. Bennett</b>	National Overseer/Pastor, Long Lane
<b>Angela Clarke</b>	Pastor, Druids Heath/National Treasurer/National Choir Director
<b>Beverley Anderson</b>	Pastor, Handsworth/National Women's Missionary Band/ National Ladies Retreat Co-ordinator
<b>George Wilson</b>	Pastor, London/National Family Camp Co-ordinator/ Communications and Media Co-ordinator
<b>Claudine Brown</b>	National Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator/ National Choir Director/Communications and Media Co-ordinator
<b>Stuart Brown</b>	National Church of Prophecy Marker Association/ Bible Training Institute Co-ordinator/ Communications and Media Co-ordinator
<b>Justin Clarke</b>	National Evangelism Co-ordinator/ Men's Retreat Co-ordinator/Communications and Media Co-ordinator
<b>James Mwila</b>	National Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator
<b>Jennifer Thompson</b>	National Sunday School Co-ordinator
<b>Rikki Prince</b>	National Family Camp Co-ordinator/National Music Director
<b>Dawn Prince</b>	National Golden Agers Co-ordinator
<b>Beverley Wilson</b>	National Reporter
<b>Karen Richards</b>	Assistant Editor of <i>The Chronicle</i>



## From the Overseer's Desk

So much has come and gone since the last edition of *The Chronicle*.

We were blessed to have our General Evangelism Co-ordinator, Bishop Jerry Campbell; his wife Sister Vivian Campbell, Sister Janet Talley and Sister Charlotte Dixon visiting with us for our Go-Rally in London and our National Convention in Birmingham. Also visiting with us from the USA was Sister Morgan Lewis, who also attended our National Ladies Retreat. All of these events were a great blessing.

My appreciation goes out to the individuals who planned, moderated and participated in these events, especially Brother Justin Clarke, Pastor George Wilson and Pastor Beverley Anderson.

We had the largest ever delegation from England to the General Assembly (34 delegates) this year. What a joy it was to visit the site for our future Assembly Tabernacle and to enjoy the al fresco dedicatory service; with speakers including the new General CPMA Co-ordinator, our own Brother Stuart Brown! Hip hip...! Let us work together as a nation in raising funds for the building of our very own Assembly Tabernacle.

Congratulations goes out also to the BTI graduates who successfully completed their 2<sup>nd</sup> term course, and received their certificates during the graduation ceremony in October. Commendations to Brother Stuart for the many hours spent in making both the course and the graduation event a great success.

In closing, let us have the same mind set as our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who said:

***“I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.”***

(St. John 9:4)

### **Upcoming Events:**

<b>National Ladies Day</b>	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2025
<b>National Family Camp</b>	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> to Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
<b>National WMB Fasting &amp; Prayer</b>	Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
<b>National Youth Convention</b>	Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
<b>National Sunday School Concert</b>	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2025





# ABM BOOST

Claudine Brown -  
National Assembly Band Movement Co-ordinator

The new general Assembly Band Movement theme for the assembly year 2024-2025 is:

## 'We are members of His Body'

(Ephesians 5:30)



Greetings to our Chronicle readers from the National ABM department of The Church of God in England. Our new ABM theme is a mysterious statement which would probably appear “foolishness” to the “natural man” (1 Corinthians 2:14), but for those able to spiritually discern its meaning, it brings with it a glorious revelation: ***“For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is***

***a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church”*** (Ephesians 5:30-32).

One flesh as a concept is also mysterious. A husband and wife grew in separate wombs. It's beyond natural understanding that one flesh can be made out of two people. How can what appear in the natural eyes to be multiple pieces, in the spiritual realm, in actual fact be one?

“His Body”, the Body of Christ, is the Church. From before the foundation of the world, as individual members we were chosen in Him ***“before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love”*** (Ephesians 1:4). Each one of us has been set, or placed, in the body ***“as it hath pleased him.”*** (1 Corinthians 12:18). ***“...the body is not one member, but many.”***

(1 Corinthians 12:14) and as Paul explains, body parts cannot tell themselves - or each other, that they are not needed. The Head of the Church is well able to make that call without our input, and if you are a member of His Body, you can be sure that He has a divine purpose for you. Whether you be the hand, foot, eyelash or little toe - you are a valued part of His Body and the ABM department is here to help maintain your spiritual health.

When Christ prayed ***“That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us...”*** (St. John 17:21), I wonder whether He looked into the future and saw the members of His Body disputing like the body parts in 1 Corinthians 12? The oneness He prayed for has a divine purpose: ***“...that the world may believe that thou (the Father) hast sent me (Christ)”***. The Body functioning as one; with one mind, one faith and in one accord, will be a witness to the world that Jesus was sent by God and we can be certain that Christ's prayer *will* be fulfilled.

A quotation from a hymnal favourite goes like this: ***“We are not divided, all one body we. One in hope and doctrine, one in Charity”***. This depicts the Body of Christ in its perfect state. The bigger picture and future for the Body of Christ is that He will ***“present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing”*** (Ephesians 5:27).

In closing, here is an excerpt from M. A. Tomlinson's book, *'This Bible as the Word of God'* that was printed in a recent Evening Light: ***“As members of the Church, the body of Christ, we have higher goals than unrestrained liberties and selfish ambitions. There can be no unified body with individual members thinking and acting differently, strictly as individuals. But O, the beauty of such attributes as grace-love-humility-submission-subjection-obedience!”***

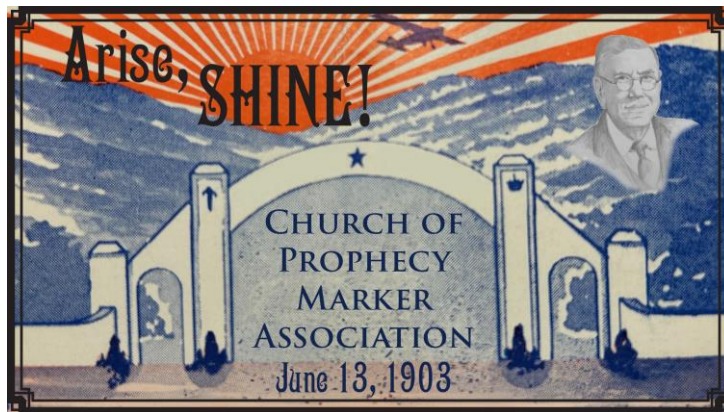


## CPMA/BTI BOOSTS

Stuart Brown -  
National CPMA & BTI Co-ordinator

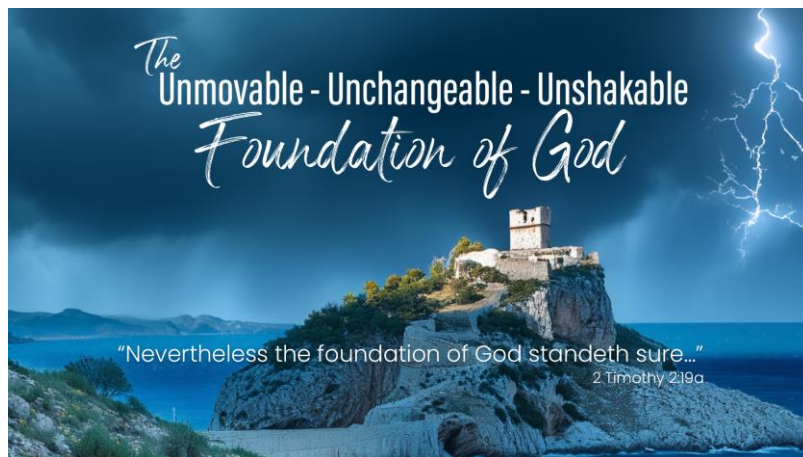
The new general Church of Prophecy Marker Association theme for the assembly year 2024-2025 is:

**'Arise, SHINE!'**  
(Isaiah 60:1, Psalm 132:6)



The new general Bible Institute theme for the assembly year 2024-2025 is:

**'The Unmovable-Unchangeable-Unshakeable Foundation of God'**  
(2 Timothy 2:19a)





## “Exciting times”

Greetings to you all from the CPMA & BTI departments. I pray you are well and still letting your lights shine as living markers for Jesus and His Church.

We are in exciting times. In our history, there have been many great endeavours and the Church has accomplished a lot of good things. We have also faced many disappointments and suffered some blows in things we have established. As a result of the great departure from the Church during the 1990's, we lost a 10,000-seat tabernacle. It was eventually demolished and land was sold off, which was difficult for many to witness.

“But God, He saw ahead...” and knew all along that His Church would continue to this point in time, and once again set about establishing good things.

I will use the word “OUR” intentionally and with zeal, that our tabernacle will soon be built and functioning in our near future by faith! God willing, as all of His Church membership do our part, we will see and experience what it will be to operate out of our own tabernacle.

Exciting times indeed! We are in it, and I want us to keep this work at the front of our minds alongside evangelising the gospel to whosoever will hear.

Let's be active in giving, fundraising, rallying interest in others outside the Church to give offerings and donations for this endeavour. We can also use the tabernacle fundraising to raise the profile of The Church of God, engage people with her, her teachings and her beautiful identity and the Head of the Church who is Jesus.

Be a productive, lively marker/member! The time demands it!!

<u>FULL ACRE</u>	<u>HALF ACRE</u>	<u>QUARTER ACRE</u>
\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,500
£7,630	£3,820	£1,910

**Heritage Acres**

**30 people £20pm until June would raise £4800/\$6298**

Sunday School Department



**The Church of God**

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOST**

**Jennifer Thompson - National Sunday School Co-ordinator**

The new general Sunday School theme for the assembly year 2024-2025 is:

**‘Paths of Light – the Altar Encounter’**

(Psalm 119:105)

Greetings from the Sunday School department.

Our General Sunday School theme for 2024-2025 is **“Paths of Light – the Altar Encounter”**.

At a young age, Saul of Tarsus was sent to Jerusalem to complete his education. He went to the school of Gamaliel to become educated in the Law, submitting himself to the strictest discipline of the sect of the Pharisees. He became a forceful defender of Judaism and a bitter enemy of Christianity.

Acts 9:1-20 tells us that Saul (who later became Paul) had an encounter with Jesus. Before his encounter, he persecuted and ‘wasted’ the Church, having authority and a letter from the high priest. This caused him to throw men and women into prison.

As he was on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christians, he was struck down by a bright light that blinded him. Jesus spoke to him, **“Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?”** “And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, **“I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.”**

His encounter led him to prayer. Paul had a new direction. Instead of persecuting the people of God, he encouraged them to fight the good fight of faith. Paul had a life changing encounter with God. You cannot have an altar encounter with God and remain the same. No, there must be a change.

## **Sunday School announcements:**

**Sunday School Concert – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**Vacation Bible School – further details to be announced.**



## WMB BOOST

**Beverley Anderson - National Women's Missionary Band Co-ordinator**

The continuing general Women's Missionary Band theme for the assembly year 2024-2025 is:

**'Unstoppable!'**

(St. Mark 16:15)



Our General theme is now in its second year but it is quite appropriate for the time that we now live in. It means we must keep working - **no time to sleep, no time to play, no time to relax spiritually. There is no time to compromise.** 'Sleep' here means being spiritually unconscious of the time we are living in.

We must be unstoppable in all we do and that includes redeeming the time. Paul told the Hebrew brethren that as they saw the day approaching, they were to exhort one another ('exhort' - strongly encourage or urge someone to do something). He was saying, encourage each other to be unstoppable (Hebrews 10:25). **We must be in contact with and around each other, in order to exhort and encourage.**

In the secular workplace there are policies and procedures, codes of conduct and ethics that must be adhered to. In the world, the entire legal system hinges on the 10 commandments, (well it used to). Many things have changed in the world today but in the spiritual realm nothing has changed.

I heard a message not long ago entitled, “**Has God changed?**” The preacher was comparing us to the stiff-necked Israelites, as the Scripture states. The conclusion was, we may believe that God has changed, simply because Christ stands between us and God interceding for our souls. Due to this, judgement is not executed swiftly - making it appear to many that God has changed.

The preacher went on to state: “wasn't Christ there interceding when Ananias and Sapphira dropped dead because of lying to the Holy Ghost?” Ananias and Sapphira forgot what God had told Moses when he said “...*Ye are a stiffnecked people: I will come up into the midst of thee in a moment, and consume thee:...*” (Exodus 33:5)

St. Matthew 5:19-20 is part of the sermon Jesus preach on the mount:

*“Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*

*<sup>20</sup> For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.”*

**The Scribes and Pharisees** - had an outward appearance of righteousness, but inwardly they were whited sepulchres, living off the praises of men.

The commandments are like an unbroken chain - **Unstoppable**.



What fills  
the broken  
link?

St. Matthew 5:19

**We must be unstoppable** in keeping our doctrine and advice to members intact. We must be unstoppable in training up our children to keep this link unbroken.

God bless us as we continue to be unstoppable in His service.

## WMB Diary for 2024-2025

- Local church visits between January and April 2025. Dates will be given by Pastors.
- 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 - National Ladies Day
- 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 - National Fasting and Prayer
- 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 - International Ladies Retreat.





VICTORY  
LEADERS  
BAND

## VICTORY LEADERS BAND BOOST

James Mwila - National Victory Leaders Band Co-ordinator

The new general Victory Leaders Band theme for the assembly year 2024-2025 is:  
**'Safe and Sound'**



Deuteronomy 33:12 says:

*"...The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by him; and the Lord shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders."*

Proverbs 18:10:

*"The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."*

There is safety in the Lord! Everything we need, we will find in Him, if only we trust and obey.

**Jehovah Jireh** "the Lord will provide".

**Jehovah Nissi** "the Lord my banner or the Lord my victory.

**Jehovah Rapha** "the Lord who heals".

**Jehovah Shalom** "the Lord is peace".

There is no better place to be than being rooted and grounded in the Lord. Everything out in the world is temporary, but the Lord is eternal.

VLB's, let's go forward for God!!

### **VLB plans for the Year ahead**

Druids Heath Church visit Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024

National Youth Convention - Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2025

London Church visit TBC

Handsworth Church visit TBC

Long Lane Church visit TBC

For any sports/social events, please contact Brother Joshua Anderson with suggestions.



# THE CHURCH OF GOD (ENGLAND)

## 69<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION 2024

Our National Convention was held on 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and our theme was ***“When I see the blood, I will pass over you”*** (Exodus 12:13). A wonderful time was had. The three days of meetings were filled with inspirational messages, singing, and presentations. We were blessed this year to have Bishop Jerry Campbell, General Evangelism Co-ordinator and his General Go Rally Team present at the Convention.

On Friday, we heard from the Church of Prophecy Marker Association and Bible Training Institute Co-ordinator Brother Stuart Brown, who encouraged the brethren to have substance to stand in the day of deception.

Brother Justin Clarke followed with the Evangelism programme. He reported on the work of the Evangelism team, who have been conducting outreaches in the West Midlands. An encouragement was given to the congregation to be mindful of the commission that Jesus left and ‘GO’ tell someone about Jesus.



Sister Claudine Brown preached on the forgiveness of Christ and how we all must get to a place of forgiveness for God to work in His Church.

The Overseer, Bishop Bennett preached a message based on Revelation 19:7, titled *‘The Perfecting Process Continues’*. He

said the Church needs to be perfect. The Church has heard many admonishing messages from God urging us to take heed so we will be ready for His return.

Many followers have departed from the teachings of the Bible, but we must maintain God’s standards if we are to become perfect.



God continued to speak to us using His messenger, Brother Joshua Anderson who preached a message taken from Acts 4:12, *‘Neither is there salvation in any other’*. In a world where humans are never satisfied, he reminded us that God is the only one who can satisfy not only the soul but the flesh.

The highlight of the weekend was hearing Bishop Jerry Campbell preach two stirring evangelistic messages.

On Saturday, he preached *‘How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation’* - Hebrew 2:3. He focused on three main words of the text. Escape, Neglect, and Great Salvation. When we accepted Jesus, we escaped the penalty of spiritual death. To truly escape the sin of this world, we must maintain and grow in grace, for we have a responsibility to those in the world to help them escape from sin.



Then on Sunday, Brother Campbell encouraged us to be *‘Changed from glory to glory’* – 2 Corinthians 3:17-18. Brother Campbell said that it is the Spirit of the Lord that does the changing. When we came to Christ it was not the end of our salvation, it was the beginning of our faith. In 2 Peter 1:1-11, Peter admonished the brethren to grow up in Christ.

We must add to our faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity. We cannot allow the devil to blindsides us in those blind spots in our lives. With all diligence, we

must seek to grow stronger and stronger in Christ and allow Him to take us to places where He can use us.

In closing, the Holy Ghost led Brother Campbell to call for a prayer line for all those seeking a deeper experience from the Lord. Seeing the brethren standing in line to receive prayer from the ministers was glorious. I believe many received something from the Lord.

Here are some more pictures of the 69<sup>th</sup> National Convention.



We thank God for His Word and ask

Him to help us grow in the knowledge of Him, so we can maintain the work He has started in us.

**Sister Beverley Wilson - National Reporter**





# NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT 2024

The National Ladies Retreat 2024 was held in July 2024 and centred around the theme **“I will restore to you...”** (Joel 2:25) **“He hath holpen his servant”**

(St. Luke 1:54). Pastor Beverley Anderson organised a blessed retreat - full of interactive workshops, presentations, group discussions, messages, devotions and time to worship the Lord.



The Lord spoke to our hearts; reminding us of who our help comes from, what being a servant of God looks like, and what we are being helped/restored from. The sisters were able to share in wonderful times of fellowship and I believe that the Holy Ghost was with us in every moment of the Retreat.

Our sisters described this year’s retreat as: “food,” “corrective, restorative and uplifting,” “refreshing,” “reflective,” “my help cometh from the Lord,” “The retreat was a blessing, as for the first time we had Asian and European ladies in attendance and individuals from other denominations. To God be the glory, great things he has done.” “Blessed,” and “enlightenment”.

As mentioned by some of our sisters, it was a blessing that this year’s retreat was one of the most diverse group of attendees as far as some can remember. Our Retreat had a total of 34 attendees, including 7 visitors - two of which were Asian - from The Church of England, one European, one American and one visitor from the New Testament Church. One of our sisters said “it was good to have different races worshipping and



fellowshipping together”. We give God all the thanks for drawing in people from a variety of different ethnic backgrounds, reminding us that His will is “till we all come in the unity of the faith” (Ephesians 4:13).

We pray that this ministry will continue to flourish according to God’s will. Let us continue to pray for all the organisers and workers that made themselves available to be

used on the Lord’s programme. God willing, we look forward to what God has in store for the International Ladies Retreat in 2025 as we hold onto the blessing from this year! God bless you all.

**Sister Hannah Wilson -  
Reporter**



# The Church of God (England) National Ministers' Convention

## Theme: *'...let us not sleep, as do others...'* (1 Thessalonians 5:6)

On 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024, The Church of God (England) gathered for the annual Ministers' Convention at Long Lane Church, Halesowen. We worshipped together for our first meeting of the Assembly year and the National Auxiliary Co-ordinators shared their plans for the year ahead.

### **National Overseer's Address – 'Stay Awake' - 1 Thessalonians 5:6**

The Scripture admonishes *'...let us not sleep, as do others...'* as we must be alert for Jesus' return. The Scripture also tells us that His coming will be like that of a thief. We will not know the day, or the hour, so we as Christians need to be alert and sober.

One way of staying awake is to be active and busy. For Christians to stay awake spiritually, we must be actively reading our Bibles and praying. When someone is asleep, they are unaware of what is happening around them - especially if one is a heavy sleeper.

It is possible to be bitten during our sleep by mosquitoes or other parasites at night. We would be unaware of this, until a mark or swelling is seen the following morning. If left untreated, the area can become infected. Brother Bennett said that spiritually, some Christians have been bitten and instead of treating the area, they ignore it. The infection then germinates and sooner or later the effect of the bite is manifested in the person. They are no longer the same. In St. Matthew 13, Jesus spoke about the parable of the wheat and tares. The purpose of this is to warn us to be spiritually alert.

In closing, Brother Bennett said 'one of the most dangerous enemies to a Christian is a fallen brother or sister'. If we fall spiritually, we cannot ignore this or cover it up. We must acknowledge the wrong and seek forgiveness from God. 'Sins unconfessed are sins unforgiven'. Psalm 15:1-2: ***'Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle?...He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.'***

### **Message by Sister Claudine Brown - 'But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.'**

(St. Matthew 24:13)

Jesus Himself encouraged us to endure unto the end. The definition of endure is 'the ability to suffer a difficult process or situation without giving way'. Sister Claudine said: 'No one can endure on your behalf. When we are living for Christ, we must consider the cost (St. Luke 14:28-30). This means being ready to deny self and suffer loss for Christ. No one finishes a race the way they started it. A distance race requires endurance and stamina. We receive the ability to endure from the Lord when we spent time training in prayer on our knees.'

**Cares and Affairs** – St. Luke 8:14; St. Luke 21:34, these are the things that can blind us to the signs Jesus was warning us of in St. Matthew 24. Endurance comes from a deep-knitted relationship with the Lord. To learn how to endure, we have to learn how to pray.

Sister Claudine shared an example of endurance by explaining part of the US Combat Fitness Test. Two significant points used to assess fitness to join the army are to:

- i) reduce preventable injuries and attrition.
- ii) enhance mental toughness and stamina.

Sister Claudine said that sometimes the injuries we sustain could be avoided, for example, King David could have avoided the sin he committed with Bethsheba if he went to battle. We as humans have lost mental strength and toughness and have become brittle. We get offended easily and are quick to give up and walk away from the Church and Christ.

We need to have the mental toughness of our elders, who through many of life's trials endured. We must remember the apostle Paul's testimony in 2 Corinthians 11:23-28. He endured many afflictions. We cannot act like the world. We need Paul's resilience and mental stamina to make it and remain saved. Amen.

**Sister Beverley Wilson - National Reporter**



# What's happening at London Church?

This year, London Church was blessed to be the hosts for the Go-Rally, that was led by the General Evangelism team (Bishop Jerry Campbell, Sister Vivian Campbell, Sister Janet Talley and Sister Charlotte Dixon). We were blessed by a wonderful time of fellowship, outreach and sound preaching!

During this time, we also hosted Sister Morgan Lewis from Princeton, Minnesota, USA, who attended the rally and also our National Convention and National Ladies Retreat. It was a blessing to worship and fellowship with her.

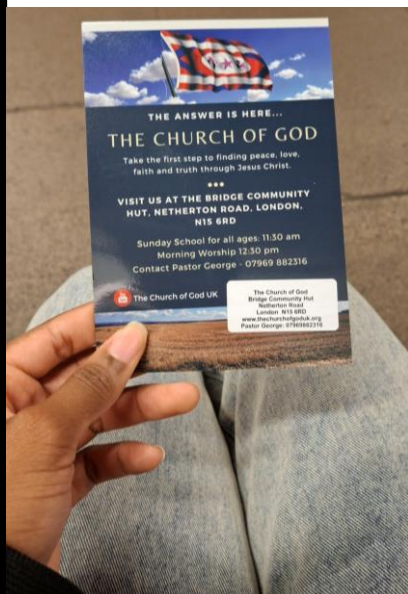


The evangelism efforts didn't stop at the rally, as we managed to hand out leaflets for our local church. While showing Sister Morgan around London, we also met a young man from London who has since been expressing an interest in visiting our church.

Continue to pray for all those souls that were reached during this Summer and also keep the Church in London in your prayers, as we pray for your churches.

God bless you all in the care of the Holy Ghost.

**Sister Hannah Wilson - Reporter**



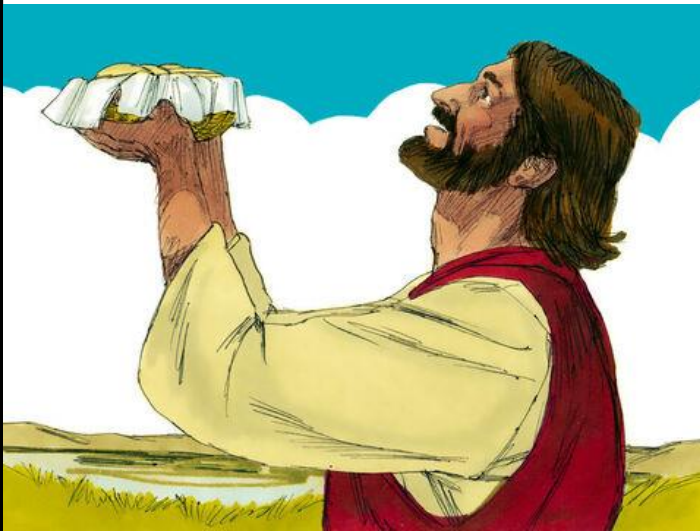


# What's happening at Long Lane Church?

## Loaves, Fishes, and Fundraising: *A Miracle Night for Missions!*

Greetings to all of our Chronicle readers in the mighty name of Jesus! As we draw near to the end of 2024, we look back on the blessings that we have enjoyed by the mercies of our Heavenly Father and are full of thanksgiving.

God continues to show us how He can make much out of little, for His glory. We experienced this during



our Dorcas Service on Tuesday 22nd October 2024. During our devotion that night, we were reminded of the miracle that Jesus did with five loaves and two fishes. Once they were in His possession, He looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke them before giving them to the disciples to share out. These seven items filled five thousand men, (besides women and children) and there were twelve baskets of food left over. That is extraordinary and challenges mathematics! But that's our God.

For our Dorcas service that evening, the original plan of our WMB leaders Sister Claudine and Sister Novlet, was to sell chicken and fried dumplings alone, but after a suggestion from Pastor Bennett that he would donate some home-made Ginger Beer to auction, a new idea was born. The fundraising fire soon spread, with brethren offering to also auction home-made sorrel and cupcakes. We also received bids from keen buyers outside of Long Lane Church. By the end of the evening, the auction of one bottle of ginger beer, two bottles of sorrel, cupcakes and the sale of the original chicken, dumplings, and *more* cupcakes resulted in the raising of £226.63 for October World Missions! Thank you Lord! The deals were sweetened, and bids raised even higher when the makers of the drinks and cakes shared their recipes.

It was a good night and we thank God for His blessing, we thank our brethren for their giving, and we pray that the funds raised will bring a soul to Christ. Keep the Dorcas fire burning brethren!

**Sister Claudine Brown – Reporter**  
**Long Lane Church**



### **Special Note:**

*The Chronicle* is an official publication of The Church of God (England) with Philip C. Bennett National Overseer and Editor. Articles intended for publication in the next issue of *The Chronicle* should be received **before 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**. These submissions will be for the January-March 2025 issue. Please send to: Karen Richards, 12 Cherhill Covert, Druids Heath, Birmingham, B14 5YB. Email: [kazgirl\\_uk@yahoo.com](mailto:kazgirl_uk@yahoo.com)

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