

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- ADRA 2022
- Devotional Review
- A Heart for the Hurting
- ...Just for laughs!

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Book Review	1
ADRA Appeal 2022	1
Departmental Feature	2
So What IS happening...?	3
Children's Story	4
Puzzle Time	4

Check out our website for previous editions of The Stokey Advent Times on the "Read All About It" web page.

A Time To "DO GOOD"...

There is absolutely no doubt that hard times are ahead! We are being bombarded with cost of living increases so it doesn't seem the best time to be asking you to commit to charitable giving but that's just what I intend to do!

Over the past two years the usual annual ADRA appeal (ingathering) has been severely impacted by the global pandemic caused by Corona Virus. Just at a time when funds are needed to respond to increasing humanitarian needs, door to door collections were suspended.

As the Stoke Newington Church community, last year we raised and donated £1022.00 to the annual appeal. As grateful as I was to submit that amount – I know that we could have done so much more. So, this year, I

am asking that you commit with me to do better.

ADRA has advised that door to door collections are being suspended for a third year. The 2022 Appeal is set to run for the whole year instead of the usual four weeks, church members and friends being asked to 'donate' to the Appeal.

The 2022 Appeal will fund access to clean water in Zambia



and Sri Lanka, help with the education of rural children and girls in developing countries. Respond to Covid-19 in Ghana and to other international disas-

ters. Here at home the Appeal funds will help to feed, clothe and empower those in hardship.

How can you help?

I worked out that if I save £2.00 every week for the next year (52 weeks) then I will have £104.00 to donate. If 29 of you join me, we will be able to donate £3120.00 and if 49 of you join with me we will be able to donate a whopping £5200.00!

If that's not a method that appeals to you, it will also be possible to donate online, by SMS message, via direct debit, by phone, post and bank transfer.

However you do it, let's make a difference to someone's life in 2022, let's **DO GOOD!**

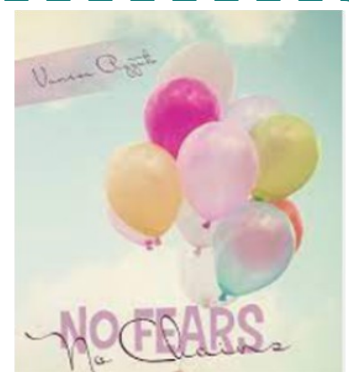
Thank you,
Wilma Williams-Kelly
ADRA Co-ordinator

Book Review

No FEARS, NO CHAINS... by Vanesa Pizzuto

This devotional for women is both encouraging and uplifting.

It speaks candidly to us as women of God and the issues we face daily. But more importantly it puts to bed our fears by reminding us that we need not worry, for Christ has indeed set us free!!



Departmental Feature - Interest Co-ordinator

The interest coordinating team have 6 objectives for 2022

I would formally like to say, thank you to Sister Pat Corea, for mentoring me to this point whereby I can now take up the position of Lead Interest Co-ordinator.

Predictions for 2022 are as follows:

- Primarily encourage and empower our current members in the return to church.
- Work with all interested persons who are keen to receive contact via; phone calls, information, literature, visits, bible studies, or attend Church, with a view to aid them in building their faith. This will be done by referring to the relevant department/ services.
- To ensure effective communication between prospective members or visiting persons and departmental heads.

- Systematically obtain and record information of interested persons, visiting, or fellowshiping with Stoke Newington Church, in line with policies and procedures.
- Where applicable undertake outreach work in accordance with the churches policy.
- To attend and/or contribute to any conferences, reviews, pastoral training applicable to the post.

But being an Interest Co-ordinator is more than just keeping an organized list of all interested individuals received by various departments of the church.

To me it's caring. Caring for the wellbeing of others.

Everyone wants to be cared for, we all long for someone to pay attention to us, to show an interest in what's happening in our life.

This is why the people loved Jesus. He cared enough to pause and speak with them, he knew more than just their name, he sat with them and ate with the, He was aware of their anxieties, uncertainties, and the pressures they faced.

He took time to listen with patience, tolerance, respect, and acceptance.

In Psychotherapy this term is called **Holding** , it refers to the emotional and mental holding of another; being reliably, present, consistent, and attuned to that person as they embark on and explore the process of becoming a disciple for Christ.

Really it's about letting people know that God's love and His saving grace, is more than sufficient to see them through any situation, sickness, rejection, pain, loss hopelessness or despondency, but this is something which must be experienced in the church first.

When they see me and you **Holding** them first, they then will truly learn and know what it is to be held securely by God.

Lorraine Whitehead

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY





You can



today

26 March
Set an intention to 'Do Good'
Galatians 6:9

ADRA Appeal 2022

27 March Send a message to a young mum telling her that's she's doing a good job	28 March Send flowers to a loved one	29 March Call a friend and let them know you are thankful for them	30 March Make a meal for a family who is struggling	31 March Pick up litter in your community	1 April Do online shopping for an elderly friend or family member	2 April Organise an online fundraiser for your community
3 April Say 'I love you' to members of your family	4 April Pay for someone's morning hot drink	5 April Pray for a friend	6 April Invite a friend to a Bible study or church service	7 April Plant something	8 April Look for something positive to say and/or be thankful to those around you	9 April Donate to help ADRA's work
10 April Take time to appreciate the sunrise or sunset	11 April Smile and be friendly to everyone you meet today	12 April Bake a dessert and share it with your neighbour	13 April Set up a Direct Debit for ADRA	14 April Buy something from a struggling small business	15 April Go for a walk with a friend, in person or on the phone	16 April Share your favourite Bible verse/quote with someone
17 April Volunteer at a local community project for EASTER	 ADRA-UK, Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 9JZ, England Tel. +44 (0) 30 30 40 10 17 - www.adra.org.uk Registered charity 1074937 (SC037726 - IOM1101)					YOU CAN DONATE NOW! 



Medical Emergencies!

Incidents and accidents can occur anywhere and at any time!

As a church family we want the very best for you and want to be able to respond with speed and efficiency in getting you the help required if

ever needed.

To enable us to do this, we are asking that you share with us the contact details of your next of kin and any health conditions that you might have.

We have emergency cards prepared and invite you to complete one. Your details will be held confidentially and only shared with emergency responders should the need arise.

Thanking you for helping us to help you.

So What's Happening?...

SDA Generation X

THE THINGS WE DO FOR **LOVE** - SERIES -
Friday 15th April 2022

LESSONS FROM **THE FATHER** with **Pastor Nigel David**
 7.30pm GMT, 2.30pm EST
 11.30am PST, 4.30am (+1 day) AEST

Join us on YouTube Search: SDA Generation X

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

LET'S CROSS OVER
 10th - 11th April 2022

South England Conference **CAMP MEETING 2022**
LET'S CROSS OVER

8750hrs - Main Speaker
 @8750hrs

MAY 30th to JUNE 5th
HAY'S WOOD
 Retreat Centre
 King's Lynn, Norfolk, UK

Stokey Easter Programme
 16th April

Church Spring Cleaning
 24th April

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE PRESENTS

HEALTH AND WELLBEING FEST EXTRAVAGANZA
 STANBOROUGH PARK, WATFORD, WD25 9JZ

FREE ADMISSION

FREE ZONE - ANIMAL PAINTING, FACE PAINTING, BUNTING, GAMES, PROPER CUP & SPOONS, SHOPS OF ALL KINDS, FREE

FREE HEALTHCHECKS - DIABETES, BLOOD PRESSURE, CHOLEsterol, THE BIG EXERCISE 1000 STEPS - WELLBEING GAMES, A FUN DAY OUT FOR ALL THE FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS

SUNDAY 01 MAY 12 - 6 PM

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT BARBARA - 07940 007331
 SPONSORED BY THE SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

Imagine reaching out to one of your friends only to find that something is very wrong. They are sad and hurt and don't want to talk. Then you learn that your friend just received the terrible news that their parents are going through a divorce. What do you say to them? How can you help them feel better when everything is falling apart? In today's verse, Paul describes God as the God who comforts us so that we can comfort others. Jesus was the greatest comforter of all, and we can learn a lot from his example. He was great at seeing other's pain and showing them patience, love, and humility. In fact, he loves us so much that he died on the cross to save us from our sins. What an amazing act



of love! So what does it look like for us to comfort others? How can we show love like Jesus to a friend who is hurting? Just like Jesus, you can comfort a friend by listening to them, being honest and trustworthy, and staying by their side in good times and in bad. Comforting someone is an act of love. Helping a friend that is hurting does not mean you have to know all the "right" things to say. Sometimes a simple "I am here for you" is enough. A friend in pain needs your presence more than your words. And even though they are hurting, you can keep doing normal, fun things that friends do to

help cheer them up. Like Jesus, you can be a ray of hope in their time of need.

PRAYER

Lord, please open my eyes to see when friends are hurting. Help me to be a comfort to them so that through me they can know the greatness of your love and mercy. Amen.



Joke Corner..

Puzzle Time!



When someone needed a boat made, what did the people in town say? "We Noah guy."
Which nursery song would Jesus have heard the most? "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Connect the dots to see Noah's Ark — you can read the amazing story of the Flood and Noah's ark in Genesis 6-9.

