



Stokey Advent Times

Master of Masters!

I have to say that the lesson study for week 11, in the third quarter lessons, really was inspiring and interesting 'Practicing Supreme Loyalty to Christ'.

In our lives we all have to answer to someone, whether we are in charge or not, whether we like the person or not, whether they believe in the same principles, morals, religion or not. It is what it is!

Paul, in scripture, sets out quite clearly how we are to go about practicing supreme loyalty, regardless of what the relationships may be e.g. parent/child or employer/employee. How? you may ask, by having respect and sincerity, working at all times not just when being watched and to serve/work willingly. You are to do all of this as if you were serving Christ. Now this may be hard, especially if you are in a subordinate role and not being treated right, but if you keep in mind that you will receive your reward from God when he comes, then this should make it easier.

One thing that we can be sure of is that there is only one ultimate Master, who is Christ. So as we go about our daily lives, let us live a life that would be reflective of our Christian principles and values and be reassured that no matter what, Ephesians 6:9 encourages us with the words '*And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favouritism with him*'. Whatever position we are, employer, employee, son, daughter, mother or father, God is not concerned with our status as He shows no favouritism and we are all treated equally.

In everything that we do, let it be done in love and how we would wish to be treated. You may say "*easier said than done*" but it is possible as Philippians 4:13 reminds us '*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*'.

Donna Douglas
Communications and Media



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Special points of interest

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- About Us - how Stoke Newington SDA church came into existence



Treasury

Treasury Department Initiative 2023

To give £10, minimum, a month, for the rest of this year towards the main building. Thank you to those members who have taken up the initiative and it is not too late for new joiners.

Update: Some of the funds received were used to fix the car park and replace some pipes. Further planned works are ceiling repair and purchase of a dishwasher.

Main building total, including initiative funds, collected January—July **£3,808.49**.

Treasury Facts

The present 2023 budget needed to run Stokey is:

- £640.10 weekly, or
- £2,773.75 monthly

This is to cover expected increase in operational costs. However, will negotiate savings with external suppliers where possible.

January—July Income and Expenditure

Actual budget funds collected	£18,546.18
Actual budget spend	£17,023.65
Underspend of funds	£1,522.53

Of note: The budget is general offerings donated to church to offset its operational and departmental expenses. This is collected via offering in the envelopes, bank transfer, online payments direct to SEC or loose money in the weekly basket collection.

Donations from members or visitors given to specific areas e.g. community kitchen, or any of the departments are special offerings which go direct to that department or cause.

Birthday and thank you are not local offerings and go straight to the conference. If you want them to remain at church, please mark the envelopes Stokey Birthday / Thank You.

As an encouragement, let the story of King Joash in 2 Chronicles 24:4-14 be our inspiration for Stokey. Thank you for your giving!!

ENERGY TIP! - Turn your lights off when you are not using them or when you leave a room. This will save you around £25 a year on your annual energy bills.

Replacing all the lights in your home with LED bulbs could help you save even more.

Dates for your diary

- **Every 1st Sunday**, Pathfinders at 11am
- **Every 3rd Saturday**, Pathfinders at 3pm
- **Community Kitchen**, alternate Tuesdays at 12.30pm. Next on:
 - ◆ 10 & 24 October
 - ◆ 7 & 21 November
 - ◆ 5 & 19 December (please note, dates are subject to change)
- **Prayer Meeting**, Wednesdays at 7.30pm
- **28.10.23** Children's Day
- **29.10.23**, 2am clocks go back 1 hour
- **4 -11.11.23** Week of Prayer
- **9.12.23** Communion
- **31.12.23** End of year Service

Events... to come

REMINDER — On Sunday 29th October



Taking place in December

Week of Prayer taking place in November



COMMUNITY KITCHEN

ALTERNATE TUESDAYS

12:30pm – 2:00pm

HOSTED BY THE
COMMUNITY
MINISTRIES
DEPARTMENT

We will be serving
hot take-away
meals!!

You are invited to
come and partake

Spread the word!

9 May 2023 then
every other
Tuesday

STOKE NEWINGTON
SBA CHURCH
15-17 Yorkley Road,
London N16 6BD
020 8300 8422
<https://stokenewington.adventistchurch.org.uk/>

For/About the Children!

This Summer the Children waited with eager anticipation for our annual VBS (Vacation Bible School). Each Sabbath we counted down the weeks and days until the launch.

Our themes for previous years were all very exciting, we had the *Rocky Railway* which taught our children that Jesus' power pulls us through every situation. This was followed by *Treasured*, where we discovered that we all are priceless to God. *Shipwrecked* was our first on-site VBS as all the previous summer VBS programmes were conducted on zoom due to the Covid Pandemic.

This year we blasted off to outer space for our VBS programme, titled, *Stellar, Shine Jesus' Light*. We enrolled 55 children. Over 38% came from non-Adventist homes. We found the children excited to learn about Jesus in a beautifully imaginative way. We conducted experiments which taught the children how to love God, each other and how to shine Jesus' light to all the people they encounter each day.

The Children's Ministries Team, parents and grandparents



Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light

week we catered for. Unfortunately, we did not have the funds to exceed the week-long programme. Although it was hard work, many of the leaders and assistants were sad to see the final day of VBS. We look back in fondness, encouraged by all the forever friendships that have been formed and the memories that have made an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of all those who attended.

The children look forward to showing the church what they learned in VBS on Sabbath, 28 October 2023, Children's Day. We hope you are there to support and to get to know more about our children as they fit themselves for time and eternity.

I would like to thank God for using us for His purpose and providing for us in miraculous ways. I also thank our teachers, Beverly Andrew, Itohan Khan, Tanya Corea and Elishama Harvey for their dedication. Our Lunch Team who provided delicious snacks and lunches for the children, our four youth assistants, Nathan, Kyran, Brehanna and Celine for their innovation with improvising when the weather did not allow us to go outside. Thanks also to the many parents and grandparents who helped in every way possible



got together to prepare the church for the children. Much time and energy went into transforming the church into a space odyssey. Our youth assistants supported VBS by organising games and supervising the children.

The weather was not what we expected for the month of August, but we were still able to enjoy countless moments of joy and excitement as we played and learned about working together as a team. Recently the children made a video stating where they see themselves leading out in church when they are older. In order to be a successful and growing church we need to nurture and encourage our children.

Many children wanted VBS to continue longer than the 1

to ensure the programme run seamlessly. Special thanks to Carl Andrew and Tanya Corea who ensured we had all the media support we needed and Beverly Andrew who led on decoration and design to make the programme auditory and a visually stimulating experience. Thanks to the board who endorsed our programmes, ensuring that we had all we needed to make this vision come to fruition. Last, but by no means least, thanks to the church members who help the children's ministries department financially and in prayer. May God bless you all for your unwavering support.

**Caroline Banjo
and the Children's Ministries Team**

Christianity Facts Did you know?

- ◆ Christianity is a monotheistic religion centre on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.
- ◆ Christians believe in the Holy Trinity.
- ◆ The central message of Christianity is the Gospel, which means “good news”.
- ◆ Christian worship typically takes place in churches.
- ◆ Christians believe in the existence of heaven (a place of eternal life with God) and hell (a place of eternal separation from God).
- ◆ The holy book of Christianity is the Bible, which consists of two main sections: the Old Testament and the new Testament.
- ◆ The 10 commandments were given by God to Moses in the Old Testament.
- ◆ Christian missionaries have spread the faith to different parts of the world.
- ◆ Christianity encourages believers to actively practice their faith through acts of charity, compassion and love

didoyouknow.org

For Your Info

If you would like to contribute an article to the newsletter or would like to see us present on something specific, please either:

- contact Donna Douglas
- Send an email to: stokeysdamedia@hotmail.com

Thank you.

‘Something for All’

“Labour for learning before you grow old, for labour is better than silver and gold, silver and gold will vanish away but a good education will never decay” – Desmond Dekker

Another school year has begun, and for teachers and students it will be filled with amazement, anticipation, anxiety, excitement, fear, tension, wonder and zeal.

Students move to another year and another phase; they move from primary to secondary, from secondary to 6th form, from 6th form to university or apprenticeship. A whole new world of opportunities, options and outcomes awaits each group.

For all students they will spend the first few weeks learning the routines, structures and expectations of each year group, phase and classroom. They will meet new classmates and new teachers as they navigate the social and academic landscapes post summer holidays. ‘Early to bed and early to rise’ will be the mantra for all so that they will be in an optimum mental space for learning and cognitive tasks.

The ‘what next?’ stage is finally here but it is usually fraught with making the right decisions that will impact the future of our children and young people. Have schools and parents done their best in preparing the students for this phase? Have the students in phase 4 and 5 been given information, advice and guidance about careers and the steps after year 11 or year 13? Was adequate and pertinent guidance given about subject choices in year 8 for year 9 options? Were these reviewed regularly? Were students exposed to professional mentors and career fairs?

The Education department of the Stokey church has a ‘pray for the child’ initiative which is going well; we have issued a call for teachers to offer tutoring and revision sessions for our students; the Education and Children’s department have begun talks around a mentoring programme; a careers’ fair is in the pipeline and the education department will be hosting drop-in sessions for parents and children in education to ensure we assist in their academic success this year.

Please contact the department via email at stokeyeducation@hotmail.com for all your educational needs and requests. We offer advice and support for all our students.

Congratulations to :

- Malia and Michaela as they begin secondary school at Community Chace School.
- Christal Soltau on her very successful GCSE results and as she embarks on her sixth form journey.
- Sis Ingrid’s granddaughter, Monecia McLean who despite brain surgery last year achieved at least 7 A*s in the recent GCSE exams.
- Sis Reid’s twin grandsons who performed excellently in the GCEs and are on their way to the Royal Veterinary College, and apprenticeship respectively.
- Aaliyah Doyley who begins her tenure as a teacher at Hyland House
- Sis Jennifer Smith who retired after 40 years in education. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to Christian Education.

Sanjo Jeffrey

New Build Update



Just a reminder that the new building project collection takes place the first Sabbath of every month, with the next collections taking place on 7 October, 4 November and 2 December.

To date **£65,071.73** has been collected. Approx. total needed is **£374,000** (plus VAT £448,800).

You can donate in the following ways:

- **In a tithe envelope** marked ‘**new church building or new project**’ as a one off
- **By monthly pledge** In an envelope marked “**new building**”
- **Online** with the reference ‘**new building**’ -
Name: Seventh day Adventist church **Sort code:** 090127
Account: 88676252
- or alternatively, scan the QR code opposite.



Department Spotlight

Pathfinder & Adventurer Club

Introduction

The Stoke Newington Pathfinders and Adventurers Club, being a part of a worldwide organisation sponsored by the Seventh Day Adventist Church, seeks to be a vibrant and dynamic 'community' - dedicated to fostering spiritual and personal development, outdoor exploration, and community service for our children. Our club has a rich history of providing children/young people with opportunities to learn, grow, and make a positive impact on the world around them.

Our leaders of the Club are volunteers who have a wide range of skills, abilities and interests. Most of us are former Pathfinders ourselves and are now dedicated to passing on the skills we have learnt to the next generation of young people. As leaders, we strive to provide guidance and support to help the children navigate the challenges they encounter as they develop into leaders themselves.

The Adventurers are aged 4-9, whilst the Pathfinders are aged 10-15. After this, the children can choose to go on to undertake the Master Guide Programme, which is the highest level that can be achieved within the General Conference Youth Ministry Leadership Programme.



Programmes and Activities

The programmes and activities of the club are designed to help to challenge the children both physically and mentally, promoting self-confidence and problem-solving, as follows:

- ◆ **Spiritual growth** – focuses on the children having a deeper relationship with God.
- ◆ **Personal growth** - communication, goal setting, and career development to help them succeed in all aspects of life.
- ◆ **Leadership Development** - focuses on leadership skills and character development.
- ◆ **Community Service** - we believe in giving back to our community. As such, in addition to what we do at church, we intend to engage in various service projects, such as cleaning up local parks, volunteering at shelters, and participating in food drives.
- ◆ **Outdoor adventurers** – camping/hiking/nature activities - help the children connect with nature, develop outdoor skills, and build resilience.
- ◆ **Social Events** - we organise and intend to organise social gatherings (including fund-raising), game nights, and movie nights to foster friendships and a sense of belonging among our children.

Membership

Membership is open to any child who would like to join. To become a member or learn more about our club, please contact us at:

- Email: stokeypathfinders@hotmail.com
- Phone: 0758 844 1944 (Marcia); 0790 411 0189 (Howard)

Conclusion

The Stoke Newington Pathfinders and Adventurers Club is committed to nurturing the next generation of leaders. Through our diverse programmes and activities, we strive to create a supportive and enriching environment where the youth can thrive and make a positive impact on their communities.

Marcia Oughton
Club Director

The Team of Leaders

Directors

- **Marcia Oughton**, Director
- **Howard Kelly**, Deputy
- **Pr Kwesi Moore**, ex officio
- **Camille Moyo**, Chaplain
- **Pr Hannah Ahmed**, Acting Secretary
- **Nicole Gooden**, Acting Treasurer

Counsellors

- **Josephine Aaron**, Master Guide
- **Cheyenne Eastwood**, Master Guide
- **Beverly Andrew**
- **Caroline Banjo**
- **Tanya Corea**
- **Aaliyah Doyley**
- **Monifah Doyley**
- **Asher Eastwood**
- **Elishama Harvey**
- **Celine Heedram**
- **Karimah McKenzie**
- **Amanda Pryce**

Support Staff

Sammy Aaron, Ade Banjo, Shawn Farquharson, Steve Prince, Kathy Stewart, Cheryl Stewart-Wedderburn

Please note:

We are seeking more volunteers - so please feel free to contact us, if you would like to make an impact on our youth.

Mission

Our mission is to empower the youth to become responsible, caring and active members of the church and their wider communities—while fostering a love for God, adventures and the great outdoors. We achieve this through a range of activities and programmes that promote leadership, teamwork and service.

Club Times

3rd Sabbath (Saturday) monthly
3:00pm – 5:00pm

1st Sunday monthly
11:00am – 2:00pm

About Us

Our Purpose

'Stokey' as we are affectionately known, aims to be the first choice church in Stoke Newington.

To provide a practical, personal and spiritual service in Stoke Newington, enabling people to see Jesus in what we do, and helping to prepare people to meet Jesus when He comes again.

The Stoke Newington Seventh-day Adventist Church can trace its roots from its humble beginnings in 1965, in the home of former members at Mildenhall Road, Lower Clapton. It was there that Bible Studies and Prayer Meetings took place attended by around 12 people.

This group, drawn from the Holloway Church and the former New Gallery Centre, soon grew large enough to seek alternative accommodation. The group stepped out in faith to a rented building – The Friends Meeting Hall (our current site). As time went on, a request was made to the South England Conference for a pastor and this group was placed under the pastoral care of Pastor Nicholson.

By the 1st January 1966, the membership grew to about 60 and the Stoke Newington group was organized into a church.

50+ years later, we are still here - Thanking God!! Of course over the years the membership has grown and people have come and gone. Whoever has been in membership of Stoke Newington, previously, currently and to come, will continue to be a beacon of light in our community.

For more information on Stokey, visit our website ['About Us'](#) page.

Website details: <https://stokenewington.adventistchurch.org.uk>

Stoke Newington SDA Church

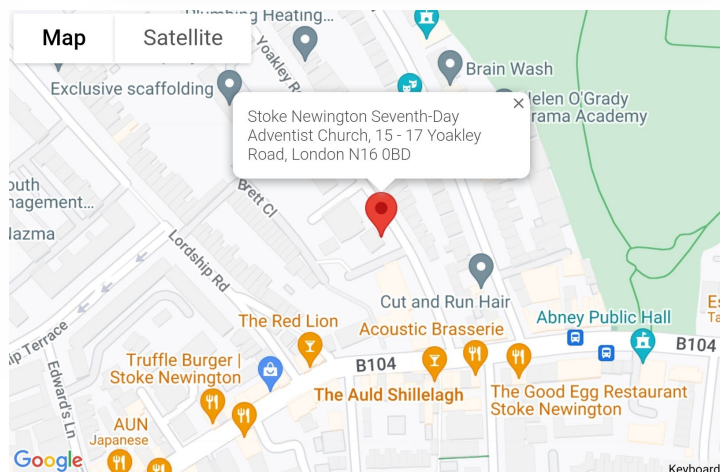
15 - 17 Yoakley Road
London
N16 0BD

Phone: 020 8800 8422
E-mail: stokeysda@hotmail.com

Parking is available on site

Wheelchair accessible

Disabled toilet facilities



Opening Times

Saturdays (Sabbath)

9:15am Morning Prayer
9:45am Sabbath School
11:15am Divine Service (Worship)
3:00pm Pathfinders (3rd Sabbath)

Sabbath Service online via Zoom

Meeting ID: 832 2896 0129
Passcode: 191068

Tuesdays (alternate)

12:30pm Community Kitchen

Wednesdays

7:30- 8:30pm Prayer Meeting

Sundays

11:00am Pathfinders (1st Sunday)

Lastly

THANK YOU, to all contributors towards this edition of the Stokey Advent Times

Check out the ['Read All About It'](#) web page for previous editions of the Stokey Advent Times