Stokey Advent Times

Talents - How do you use yours?

Did you know that a talent is one kind of stewardship (responsibility in the kingdom of God)?

The parable of the talents tells us that when we serve well in our stewardship, we will be given greater responsibilities.

If we do not serve well, our stewardship will eventually be taken from us. (<u>See Matthew</u> 25:14–30.)

Have we made good use of what God has given us, so that we edify others and bring glory to His name?

On 29th June 2024 – the AY Programme was entitled – **STOKEY'S GOT TALENT** – our take on the popular and highly produced talent show – Britain's Got Talent. Fame and fortune, I presume would be the main goal of these talented, and some not so talented, individuals. They showcase their gifts, sometimes in dramatic fashion, before a live audience and millions of couch judges, ready to pass their judgement.

Who are we showcasing our talents to? And are we hoping that the judgement that will be passed from our Saviour will be as positive as the Master in Matthew 25 – 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things...'

No talent is insignificant; however, when we are given our talent:

- We should work promptly.
- We should work with perseverance.
- We should do our work with success.
- We should be ready to give an account to our master.

Additionally, our talents should not be reduced to the things that we can do, but talents are also life resources – such as time, money, and authority. We should not waste what has been placed in our hands.

Our abilities are not for man's applause, but rather to receive praise from our Master, to receive a promise of future blessing and to receive glory, "the joy of your Lord."

All that God has given us, as each has received a gift/talents/abilities, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace (1 Peter 4:10)

Nicole Gooden First Elder



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Treasury

Treasury Department Initiative

To give £10, minimum, a month, towards the main building. Thank you to those who are supporting this initiative.

Treasury Update

Main Building

Main church collection (Jan - May 2024) £2,473

New Build project

New Build collection (Jan - May 2024) £5,769.57 New Building bank balance £77,393.19.

For the different ways you can contribute to the new build project, please see page 4 of this newsletter.

Treasury Facts

The present 2024 budget needed to run Stokey

- £648.81 weekly, or
- £2,811.50 monthly

The department would like to encourage everyone to continue giving a generous offering and thank you for doing so.

Other Fundraising Initiatives —Reminder!

Stokey is currently raising funds for different departments in the church. Namely:

- Community Kitchen
- **Pathfinders**
- Children's Ministries

Those listed are the departments that remind us on a regular basis, but it does not stop at just these departments.

We would like to remind you that you can give to any department in the church. All you need to do is write the department name or the cause e.g. Flowers, roof, carpet, double glazed windows etc, on the envelope or tithe envelope and the funds will be allocated accordingly.

If you require more treasury information, please speak to a member of the department.

Conference Treasurer

Just a reminder for those who are working and are not currently on the 'Gift Aid'. I would like to encourage you to join as this is also a way to receive funds back to Stokey Church. If you would like more info, please speak to Donna

COMMUNITY OUTREACH TIP! - Organize outreach events with a spiritual or religious component, such as a message, prayer session, worship, and other community-focused activities. Use online channels and social media to spread faith-based information, stories, and messages.

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:
 - ♦ 16 & 30 July
 - ♦ 13 & 27 August
 - ♦ 10 & 24 September
- Prayer Meeting, Wednesdays at 7.30pm
- **5 9 August** Vacation Bible School (VBS)
- **24.8.24, 2pm** Community singing outreach
- **31.8.24** Education
- 31.8.24 Deaconry outreach
- **14.9.24** Communion
- 21.9.24 Comms/Media AYS
- 28.9.24 Deaconry Day

Events... to come











Find the words listed. Words may appear forward, backward, up, down or diagonal. Words may overlap and cross each other. When you have found a word, be sure to circle it and cross it off the list.



BIBLE Word Search



ADAM KTGMKGHCVNJKNMVCNCT ANGEL RGTMOLFNFLOYQWPZOVKB ARK V J Y D H Z T T L M R I Z X J J A D X G LMIRACLESANDXLSXHKLA BETHLEHEM BIBLE LTDNOZEGNJRAVVFOSJQD **CREATION** ITTTARGLB **CROSS** XNVQMNTLHALEMTQRCEJN MCAMARVABLGDCFEPLUFQ **CRUCIFIXION** V O D B D V S L V N E E E A G P R L R G DAVID V M S C A Q E H A L R H T S I B X W K C DISCIPLES SMLEBSMPERAL E C IWARKV **EXODUS FAITH** ENSSORCSLNH INVFROXNZ H D P H N H E O L R D E R G F M B R Z H **GARDEN** P M N L B R N J Z Y W F R P D J M J P M GOD SERMONADNRMCRL **GRACE** RNBMBTGLYRXKFIGECARG **JESUS** PTNMLVEXODUSXTTMFDCM **JOSEPH** EMLJREYARPCHZGNY

MARY

MIRACLES

MOSES

NOAH

PARABLES

PRAYER

SALVATION

PROMISED LAND

SERMON

PROPHETS

SHEPHERD

RESURRECTION TEN COMMANDMENTS



Bible Trivia Did you know?

- ◆ The Bible (KJV) has: 31,102 verses and 1189 chapters.
- ♦ Shortest verse: <u>John 11:35</u> "Jesus wept"
- ♦ Longest verse: Esther 8:9
- ♦ Longest chapter: Psalm 119
- ♦ Shortest chapter: Psalm 117
- ♦ Shortest book: <u>3 John</u>
- ♦ Longest book: Psalms
- ♦ Most used word: "the"
- The longest sentence in the Bible (KJV) is the genealogy of Jesus found in <u>Luke 3:23-38</u>) (467 words!).
- The Bible was written over a period of 1500 years by approximately 40 different authors.
- Nine out of every ten people own a Bible.
- ◆ The complete Bible has been translated into 724 languages.
- ♦ Have you ever taken the time to read your Bible cover to cover? Assuming your Bible is 1000 pages long (not counting study notes), and you read a page every 5 minu tes, it should take you 84 hours or just under 3 and a half days to read it all. You have read many other books cover to cover, but have you read the most important book of all time?

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'

It will happen...

It is said that the best laid plans of mice and men often go awry but God's word says in Isaiah 60:22 last part, 'When the time is right, I, the Lord, will make these things happen."

The departments of Education and Possibility Ministry made plans this year and among them was Financial Literacy sessions, a 5K walk, celebration of 4 years for 'It is possible Tuesdays'. Some of these plans fell by the wayside as the months came and went.

The team feels disappointed that the plans did not bear fruit as scheduled. BUT God is an ontime God and so we want to remind the church that we make plans, we invite God to bless our plans because everything that we do is for the glory of God.

The plans the departments made this year were many for growth and evangelism; delay does not mean the end.

We take consolation in the scripture of Isaiah 60:22 which reminds us that everything is in

God's own time. While those plans did not bear fruit at the time scheduled, it does not mean that they won't bear fruit in the second half of the year.

It also allows us to see that God opened other doors for us at the time so that other things could happen which will benefit the departments in the long time. Take for instance the fact that the teams of the Education and Possibility Ministries departments, now have Radio Evangelism certification as well as a network of people who will be able to assist in our growth and expansion.

As we enter the second half of the year, see it as us getting our second wind. We are not out nor down...we are getting ready to resume.

The lesson is there for everyone:
Delay is not defeat...Second wind does not
mean we are winded...because 'When the time
is right, I, the Lord will make these things happen.'.

Sanjo Jeffrey Education and Possibility Ministries

Appeal

Community Kitchen

Since its relaunch in March 2023, the community kitchen has been taking place every other Tuesday from 12.30 - 2pm, right here, at Stokey church.

The number of attendees have been steadily increasing and the last serving was for over 80 people.

As there is a need in the Stoke Newington area to help those who are less fortunate, we

would like to see Stokey offering this service for a long time to come.

In order for this to continue, funds are needed and we are asking for you to help with as much or as little as you can, both financially and with your time to help out on the day.

For more information on ways to help, please contact Wilma Williams-Kelly. Also, donations can be made in an envelope marked 'Community Kitchen'. Thank you.

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 6 July, 3 August and 7 September.

New build fund total to date £77,393.19.

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

Nothing but Good 'Ole Bible Guidance!!

As a comms department, we like to share interesting things to encourage, enlighten and give guidance in our daily lives. We are able to do this from information that the team gather or through sharing info received from members.

We all know that there is no better place to go for information than the bible itself. Whatever we may be facing in life, there is always, most definitely, something in the bible to lead and guide us.

The bible is there for our knowledge and teaching. You have already read elsewhere in the newsletter asking if you have read the whole bible or if you have not, to take the time and do so.

You may, or may not, have heard the saying "it's good to talk" but is it always? One topic we would like to share bible guidance on is:

WHEN TO KEEP SILENT

DO NOT SAY A WORD:

	The Situation	Scripture
1.	In the heat of anger	Proverbs 14:17
2.	When you don't have all the facts	Proverbs 18:13
3.	When you have not verified the story	Deuteronomy 17:6
4.	If you words will offend a weaker brother	1 Corinthians 8:11
5.	If your words will be a poor reflection of the Lord or your friends and family	1 Peter 2:21-23
6.	When you are tempted to joke about sin	Proverbs 14:9
7.	When you would be ashamed of your words later	Proverbs 17:27
8.	When you are tempted to make light of holy things	Ecclesiastes 5:2
9.	If your words would convey a wrong impression	Proverbs 17:27
10.	If the issue is none of your business	Proverbs 14:10
11.	When you are tempted to tell an outright lie	Proverbs 4:24
12.	If your words will damage someone's reputation	Proverbs 16:27
13.	If your words will destroy a friendship	Proverbs 23:28
14.	When you are feeling critical	James 3:9
15.	If you cannot speak without yelling	Proverbs 25:28
16.	When it is time to listen	Proverbs 13:1
17.	If you may have to eat your words later	Proverbs 18:21
18.	If you have already said it more than one time (then it becomes nagging)	Proverbs 19:13
19.	When you are tempted to flatter a wicked person	Proverbs 24:24
20.	When you are supposed to be working instead	Proverbs 14:23

PROVERBS 21:23
"WHOSOEVER KEEPETH HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE,
KEEPETH HIS SOUL FROM TROUBLE"

Comms & Media Department

- Donna Douglas
- Winston Whitehead
- Steve Prince
- Johnnet Hamilton
- Denise Lewis
- Jackie Paton
- Raymond Wedderburn

What is the department about?

Consists of personnel working in:

- ♦ Audio
- ♦ Visual
- Verbal and written communications

to inform members and visitors of information using different forms of resources, namely PA system, mobile phone and website.

Our Vision

To make our communications relevant and current by using as many different platforms as is possible and working with other departments to achieve this. Effective outreach!!

Aim

To be effective in providing you, our church members and visitors, with information that is readily available in formats that accommodate everyone as reasonably as we are able.

Plan

To work tirelessly in keeping all informed of what Stoke Newington SDA Church is doing and also what the Adventist Church worldwide is doing to spread the good news of Salvation.

How do we meet our plan?

By doing the following:

- Bulletins
- ♦ Website
- ♦ Newsletters
- ♦ AYS programs
- **♦** Outreach programs
- ♦ Sharing live and pre-recorded programs via YouTube
- Sharing useful information via WhatsApp broadcast
- Articles being shared in the South England Conference such as the Messenger and 60SEC news

Donna Douglas Comms & Media

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.

About Us

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 OBD

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

Parking is available on site

Wheelchair accessible

Disabled toilet facilities





Opening Times

Saturdays (Sabbath)

9:15am Morning Prayer 9:30am Sabbath School 11:15am Divine Service

(Worship)

3:00pm Pathfinders

(3rd Saturday monthly)

Sabbath Service online via YouTube 11.15am

Search - Stoke Newington Seventh day Adventist or click on link

https://www.youtube.com/ @StokeNewingtonSeventhdayA dvent/featured

Tuesdays (alternate)

12:30pm Community Kitchen

Wednesdays

7:30-8:30pm Prayer Meeting

Sunday (1st Sunday monthly) 11:00am Pathfinders

Lastly

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