

# PASTORAL COMMUNICATION

ISSUE 01 | JUNE 2022

## *Pastor & family transition update*

Pastor Dan and his family have accepted the call to work in Newcastle District from the 1st of April 2022. As you know, through the official letter from NEC that was read to us all in the last quarter of 2021, the original churches are Newcastle, South Shields and Durham, as voted by the Executive Committee. However, a change happened shortly after that, which inevitably brought Carlisle back as part of the district and the Durham congregation remains part of another district.

It was envisioned that the transition period (the pastor's family moving from Wolverhampton to Newcastle) would happen in three months, and in July, they will have a permanent address. However, unavoidable delays have occurred, so the pastor and his family are now deemed to have a permanent address in the area by September 2022. For July and August, a temporary weekend accommodation is arranged for them.

Lilian has been actively searching for a job under the NHS in Newcastle. She has submitted at least four applications already. She is yet to receive a positive reply from the potential employer.

## Pastoral Class with the Youth



**H**ere are the essential things I want to emphasise to our parents and our youth. I am writing to you the reasons why our young people need to come to our Pastoral Class.

Our sessions will be two to three times a month in a Sabbath afternoon at 4:00 pm. This time allows me to have the chance to eat my lunch and the ability to travel if I'm coming from the other churches such as Carlisle or South Shields. Future dates will be announced in good time by the AY Leader via WhatsApp. But for the month of July, the dates are 2, 16 and 30.

### **DIFFERENT APPROACH WITH CURATED TOPICS**

Our sessions would have to start not with the traditional Bible study. These subjects are carefully prepared and chosen to prepare you for the macro concepts you have not been taught before in your Bible studies. They will open your mind to understand with a bird's eye view of where you are in relation to others. The subjects will prepare and brief you for what is out there when you live independently and make your decisions. Once you have understood the bigger picture, we will move on to the micro details of the Word when we zero in to what the Scriptures have to say.

So, the following are part of our studies:



## *Pastor & Family.. (continuation)*

Elijah is already applied for a place in a secondary school, and they are waiting for a response from Gateshead Council.

This relocation is a major one. It's a change from the familiar to the unknown and unfamiliar, from permanence to a period of instability. It is a serious commitment to undergo the stresses and inconveniences of such an upheaval, particularly on the part of Lilian and Elijah in the disruption of her work and his studies, respectively. But this call has been accepted in faith, knowing that the Lord will eventually provide for their needs according to His riches in glory. If He calls, indeed, He enables.

With your understanding, support, encouragement and prayers, this transition will be smoother and will soon be over.

Meanwhile, please include in your prayers travelling mercies for the family. They are doing nearly 2,000 miles each month in this current setup to minister to the district.



This **Sabbath, 2 July 2022**, is **YOUTH DAY**. There is also **Baby Dedication** in the morning, and the **Pastoral Class** in the afternoon.

# The Contents of the Pastoral Class

## 1. Three Main Worldviews on Earth (1 to 2 Sessions)

Your neighbour, classmate or friend has one or a combination of two prominent worldviews. Knowing these will open your mind about the person's basic assumptions about things and life. You will see your standpoint in relation to the others. Worldviews shape religion, change government policies, and guide a person's mindset. This is precisely what is happening in our world today!

## 2. Major World Religions and their Founders (1 Session)

Following an understanding of the significant worldviews and people's belief systems, here you will see in a big picture the difference between the major religions in the world, including Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Christianity. You will be able to compare the central teachings, the lives of the founders and their significant claims. You will see your options as to which one makes sense as you have never seen them before.



## 3. Why So Many Christian Denominations in the World? (1-2 Sessions)

Followers of Jesus span the globe. But more than 2 billion Christians are separated into thousands of denominations. The list goes on: Pentecostal, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Baptist, Anglicans, Methodist, Adventist, etc. Estimations show there are more than 200 Christian denominations in the U.S. and a staggering 45,000 globally, according to the Centre for the Study of Global Christianity. Why is that? Why do Seventh-day Adventists, for that matter, matter?

## 4. Major Biblical Teachings Most Churches Have Missed (1-3 Sessions)

Understanding the central teachings in the Bible that the Seventh-day Adventists have, that are also adhered by other Christian religions and the ones that they reject. The subject doesn't just deal with the *what* of things but also the *how* and the *why*. In this study, we zero in to God's Word.

More Contents are to be continued in the Second Issue that will be released next month, July.

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