

...EVER NEW!

A chorus we used to sing began with the words, "The old, old, story it is ever new." And as we enter the New Year, we remind ourselves that God is the God of the "new" and the Gospel is "ever new" - and in the following ways.

NEW LIVES

"...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come" (2 Cor. 5:17). God wants to make people new. To be 'born again' is at the heart of the gospel and central to the Christmas message. Jesus was "...born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth." Our response must be, as the modern song puts it, "I'm giving You my dreams, laying down my rights, I'm giving up my pride, for the promise of new life."

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

"See, I am doing a new thing...I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland." (Isaiah 43:19). The message doesn't change, but methods, approaches, opportunities can. Our task is, as Charles Wesley expressed it, "...to serve the present age." Our society is characterised by technology, materialism, and for many the pursuit of pleasure. Let us grasp every opportunity to share the Gospel; in the words of the Apostle Paul, "...that by all possible means I might save some" (1 Cor. 9:22).

NEW HOPE

"And the One who was sitting upon the throne, said, 'Behold, I make all things new'" (Rev 21:5). The theme of the June 2023 General Assembly of the International Church of the Nazarene was "Jesus the Hope", and in our war-torn, confused, needy world we need hope - hope now and hope to come. A day is coming when the Lord will make everything new - "...a new heaven and a new earth" (Rev 21:1). Yes, we have hope "already, and not yet!"

INDUCTIONS



STOCKTON - Rev Tim Burton was inducted to the Stockton-on-Tees Church of the Nazarene on Saturday 12th October with Rev Ruth Turner (DS) officiating. The Burtons come originally from New Zealand and have served in ministry assignments for some 30 years in New Zealand, Australia, and in the UK. UK pastorates have included Sheffield and Houston. Tim is a graduate of Nazarene Theological College, Brisbane, Australia and earlier last year he served as Interim District Superintendent of the Australia North & West District. Married to Aroha (who



is a registered nurse), the Burtons have two daughters who live in Australia. Group picture - Rev Rob Fitzjohn (Cramlington) prays for the Burtons.



CROYDON - Rev Jeremy 'Jez' Smith was inducted to the Croydon church of the Nazarene Saturday 19th October with Rev Carl McCann (DS) officiating. Originally from Glossop, Jez served in lay ministries in a free evangelical church for a number of years before moving to the Church of the Nazarene. A BA graduate of Nazarene Theological College, Jez is currently studying for an MA in Aspects of Christian Holiness. Jez comes to Croydon after a 7-year ministry in the Bolton Brownlow Fold Church of the Nazarene.

Jez says, "The church in Croydon has a great opportunity to thrive... technology has been a challenge, but a financial gift has enabled us to utilise our YouTube channel and we are live every Sunday morning. During Advent we had some 17 new people joining us for services...and we handed out Christmas hampers to families in need. The church building is over 100 years old and presents a real

challenge regarding maintenance and up-grading...we would welcome prayer as with God's help we look to the future."

Jez is married to Susanna (née Tamburello) and they have a son and two daughters.



DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

14th- 15th March 2025
Woodside, Watford.



15th- 17th March 2025
Megain Memorial,
Belfast.



IN MEMORIAM *Remembering those who have served*



REV EDDIE CAIRNS of Belfast, passed away 28th September 2024 after a lengthy illness – he was 95. Converted in his late teens, Eddie met Margaret Baillie, his wife to be, at a Christian Endeavour meeting. They were married in 1955 and they both felt called to be missionaries. Following

studies at Beech Lawn Bible College, and further studies at Eastern Nazarene College, USA, the Cairns were appointed, in 1958, Nazarene missionaries to British Honduras (now Belize) serving for 15 years. Returning to N. Ireland in 1972 Eddie was appointed pastor of the Glenmore Street, Ballymacarrett, Belfast, Church of the Nazarene serving faithfully for a number of years. Eddie is survived by 3 children, Jessie, Peter, and Stephen, 7 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. Margaret Cairns passed away 17th November 2013, age 82. Eddie Cairns was a deeply spiritual and humble man and a faithful caring pastor; a Service of Thanksgiving for his life and ministry was held 8th October 2024 at the Megain Memorial Church of the Nazarene Belfast.



BERYL MCNEIL passed away 21st November 2024 – age 94. Originally from London, Beryl Griffin and her family attended the Baptist Church. She met Len McNeil when they were both working for the Bible Society and they were married in the 1950s. Beryl was to become a pastor's wife but

also a mother and home-maker. The McNeils pastored in Halstead (Kent), Earlsfield (London), Cosham, and, for 21 years, in Ashton-under-Lyne. Rev Len McNeil passed away 24th September 2008, age 86. As a pastor's wife, Beryl faithfully supported her husband in the ministry of the church, playing the piano, and sharing in a ministry of friendship and concern for others. Two of her four children, David and Ann, predeceased her; she is survived by Ruth (McCann) and John and their families. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and testimony of Beryl McNeil was held Wednesday, 18th December 2024, at the Ashton Church of the Nazarene.



LISBURN - The Lisburn, N. Ireland, Church of the Nazarene celebrated its 70th Anniversary 19th-20th October 2024. The weekend included worship, fellowship, memories shared, refreshments and the cutting of the 'anniversary cake'. Guest speakers included, Rev Ruth

Turner (DS) and Rev Samuel Robinson (Belfast).

It was in the mid-1950s that Rev Albert J. Lown pioneered the work in Lisburn and across the years the church has maintained a strong witness in the community. Previous pastors

have included Rev John Paton, Rev Eric Lewis, and Rev Albert Griffith - who pastored the church for 31 years.

The present pastor, Pastor Stephen McTernaghan, says of the anniversary weekend, "It was great to have some of young



people leading the worship for the first time...it was a fantastic weekend all round." Pictured cutting the cake: pastor's wife, Carolynne McTernaghan (r), with long-standing member Mrs Christine Spence.

EDINBURGH - It was in 1964 that Rev David & Joy Tarrant moved to the Clermiston area of Edinburgh to plant a new Nazarene church; 2024 has been a year of activity and celebration. Pastor-in-Charge, Rev Rosemary Davidson reports...

"...Clermiston celebrated 60 years of mission and ministry in our community during 2024 and it has been a most eventful year. We began a works programme to bring our building up to standards of both accessibility and safety. As a result of much prayer God provided both builders and finance to pay for it thanks to an Alabaster grant,

legacy from a previous member, and sacrificial giving from our members. At the same time our prayers asked how we could, a small group of faithful believers, reach our community for God's Kingdom. A Vision Day led by Jeannette Allan (Troon) helped us focus our hopes and dreams and we continue to pursue the main areas agreed.

"Our Open Day, 31st August, was well attended, helped by crafts and trains for the young at heart and free pancakes and cakes, space to chat and listen to the local community choir, the Corstorphine Singers (2 of our members are part of this choir).

"At the Anniversary worship celebration 29th September, the church was almost full of past and present members, worship led by George Williamson's (Perth) wonderful piano playing and a timely word of God from our District Superintendent, Rev Ruth Turner. Most stayed to fellowship over snacks and the special anniversary cake provided by Dr Paul and Cathy Tarrant (Ersikine).

"Our Portuguese service led by Revs Maria and Jose Garcia has now been in operation for 6 years, a lot of contacts have been made and continue. This new congregation was, like

many, affected by the pandemic and although the online services every Sunday afternoon are watched by hundreds on a regular basis, the prayer of the Garcias is face to face worship for Portuguese speakers in Edinburgh and surrounding areas. We continue to be amazed, humbled and so grateful to God that He continues to bless and use our wee community of faith to reach people for Him. So much more to tell you..." (Pictured Rev Rosemary Davidson (l) and Rev Maria Garcia).





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GRADUATION was held in the magnificent Whitworth Hall of the University of Manchester on Saturday, 26th October.

The programme listed 6 PhDs, 32 MAs, 4 Post-Graduate Diplomas, 18 BAs, 4 Diplomas, and 59 individuals were awarded NTC Theological Foundation Certificates.

The Graduation Speaker, Rev Jim Ritchie (Global Missions Director) spoke on "Incarnation and Example" challenging graduates to embody Christ's example in their lives and ministries.

Pictured (l.to r) Rev Jim Ritchie (Global Missions Director), Dr Peter Rae (VP, Academic Quality), Dr Deirdre Brower Latz (College Principal).



COURSES offered at NTC include, PhDs, MAs in, Asian Christianity, Biblical Studies, Christian Holiness, Church Planting, Community Development and Social Change, Ecology, Global Missions and Culture, Humanitarian Development and Social Justice, Practical and Pastoral Theology, Transforming Leadership, and Theology. BAs in Theology, Practical Theology, Youth and Community.

NEW COURSE – the College has received formal approval for the launch of an undergraduate BA pathway in Theology and Counselling, with a first intake to take place September 2025. The University-validated degree has been shaped to meet professional counselling requirements, and has been designed in conversation with a team of professional counsellors and the College's own internal specialists.

The new degree is designed to equip graduates to work in the social spaces where counselling specialists are desperately needed: with the NHS, with schools, in prisons, with social agencies, with Churches, as well as in private practice. It is unique in its engagement with this discipline alongside a solid grounding in theology: many counselling programmes have no awareness of the significant role that faith plays in supporting the mental health of people in our society.

The College has also received a grant to help cover fees for a number of students who may not be eligible for student loan funding: those who already have a first degree, or who, for reasons of residence, are excluded. Vice Principal Dr Peter Rae comments, "We feel that this award will be significant for our students and for the Church, offering a resource in settings where mental health needs are high, and offering a bi-vocational option for those ministering in settings where full time ministry isn't an option. My colleague, Dr Jacob Lett, has worked tirelessly to steer this programme through the challenging journey to approval, and it is already attracting wide interest."

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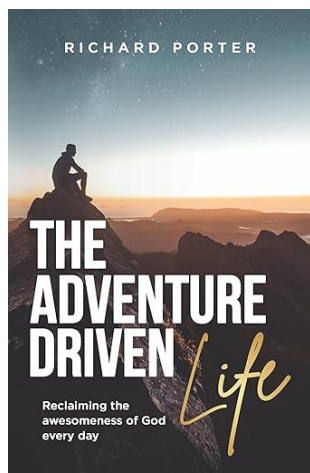
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NEW BOOK

The second book to be authored by Rev Richard Porter (N. Ireland) came off the press in July 2024. In "The Adventure Driven Life – Reclaiming the Awesomeness of God Every Day" (Authentic Media 2024, 240 pages), Richard encourages us to take more risks of faith in our Christian Walk as we learn to

trust more deeply in our awesome God. (Pictured - Richard and his wife Karen with retired Nazarene pastor, Rev Leslie Evans (centre), when visiting in Sheffield last September).



APPOINTMENT

After serving as director of the Scottish Evangelical Alliance (SEA) for some 17 years, Rev Dr Fred Drummond joined, in September 2024, the staff team at Trinity Church of the Nazarene, Perth. Fred stepped down from his role as Director of the SEA in the summer, but continues with them in a part-time role focusing on prayer. Fred's role at Trinity has a local and national expression in three specific areas: ministry with wounded leaders, reaching those on the fringes of Church, and fostering Church Unity through prayer and worship. Fred also shares in the preaching and teaching ministry at Trinity. Dr Ian Wills, Lead Pastor at Trinity, says, "What a joy to have Fred join the team. His passion, wisdom and faith are a gift. We're excited about his ministry locally and nationally as we seek to serve and bless both the city and the nation." (Pictured (l.to r) Dr Ian Wills & Dr Fred Drummond).



CHURCH NEWS

MEMORIAL FUND



The fund established by Paul Wallace in memory of his late wife - missionary nurse and pastor - Rev Irene Wallace (who passed away 6th May 2020), has raised nearly £6,500. It is fitting that this money has been gifted to the Kudjip Nazarene Hospital in Papua New Guinea where Irene was a nurse 1975-77.

Paul reports, "The money has been used to set up a new training centre at the hospital; it is a place where nurses, doctors, and others receive in-service training and orientation." Dr Benjamin Radcliffe, Director of Medical Services, says, "Thank you for your generous support and for partnering with us in what God has called us to do here at the Hospital."

AWARD



A 'Distinguished Service Award' was presented to Anne Irvine of the Glasgow Govan Church on Sunday, 29th September 2024, in recognition of her faithful service in the church

for over 60 years. Anne has served as Church Treasurer for over 30 years and also as Church Secretary for a number of years. The award was presented by Rev Claire Fender and members of Anne's family were present including her sister, Elizabeth McCulloch and her brother-in-law, Dr David McCulloch (former Principal of NTC), who was the special speaker. Anne is the daughter of the late Rev & Mrs W.B. Kelly. Pictured: the Govan congregation and (l to r) Dr David & Elizabeth McCulloch, Anne Irvine, Rev Claire Fender.



APPOINTMENT



Pastor Ben Goodwin, pastor of the Carlisle Church of the Nazarene, was accepted, in August 2024, as a sports ambassador with the Christian Outreach Group "I Am Second" - he is the first UK ambassador to be appointed. 'Team Second' is an initiative crafted by "I Am Second" designed to partner with coaches, college athletes -

who are mainly in US colleges - and post-college athletes, who are passionate about representing Jesus by sharing the gospel and making disciples. Ben has been involved in the sport of wrestling for a number of years.



CONGRATULATIONS

Long-standing member of the London Clapham Junction Church, Beryl Louise Hart, fondly known as Mother Hart, celebrated her 100th birthday on 29th September 2024. Originally from Jamaica, she began attending the church in the early 1970s when she moved next door to the church and has served under 8 pastors. Although unable to attend church in recent years, Mother Hart continues to take an interest in the work of the church and prays for the church family and the pastor. Pictured is Mother Hart with her birthday card from the King and Queen. "Congratulations!"



LEADERS MEET

District Superintendents and Leaders from the North Europe Field met in Greystones, Ireland, during the week beginning 28th October, with NYI Presidents and Youth Leaders joining the group for the final two days of the event. Also present were Dr Carla Sunberg (General Superintendent) and Dr Mark Louw (Regional Director).



Field Strategy Coordinator, Rev Antonie Holleman (Netherlands), commented, "... the meeting served as a reminder that building a meaningful future for the church means the older generation must embrace its role in guiding, nurturing, and genuinely engaging with the younger generation to foster a vibrant, enduring faith community." Pictured: denominational leaders, North Europe District Superintendents, and spouses, and with YP representatives.



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