

DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

The 72nd District Assemblies were held over the weekend 14th-17th March 2025. The South District met in the Watford Woodside Church of the Nazarene and the North District met in the Megain Memorial Church of the Nazarene, Belfast. Dr Carla D. Sunberg was the presiding General Superintendent.

SOUTH DISTRICT



Sunberg (GS), Rev Paul Welham & Mary Welham, Rev Carl McCann (DS).

Rev Paul Welham was ordained a Deacon; Paul and his wife Mary direct the Dove's Nest Ministry in Thetford (dovenestthetford.co.uk).

Pictured (l.to r) Dr Carla D



Ordained ministers gather as the General Superintendent lays hands on the ordinand.



Licence), Juvelino Flavio Taela, Jenna Jones, Beth Ford. (not pictured, Adam Sanders, Hannah Sanders, Lucy Frost).

Licensed Ministers receive their District Licences as part of the assembly business.

(l.to r) Mary Welham (first Licence), Sam Lynam (first Licence), Kim Danao (first

NORTH DISTRICT

Three were ordained Elders at the North Assembly – Rev Ben Goodwin (Carlisle), Rev Jordan Neill (Carrickfergus), Rev Dr Stephen Fountain (Largs).

Pictured (l.to r) Rev Ruth Turner (DS), Richard Wood (District Secretary), Chloe & Rev Jordan Neill, Sophie & Rev Ben Goodwin, Tasha Alison & Rev Dr Stephen Fountain, Dr Carla D. Sunberg (GS).



Cathy Tarrant was honoured at the NMI Convention and presented with a Distinguished Service Award. Cathy has stepped down as District NMI President after having served for 30 years.

Pictured (l.to r) Rev Ruth Turner (DS), Cathy & Dr Paul D. Tarrant.



Former-retired District Superintendents were at the North Assembly. Pictured (l.to r) Rev Philip McAlister (2011-2016), Rev John Paton (1987-1992 - and 1992-2002 South District), Rev Colin H. Wood (1992-2011).



CHURCH HOLIDAYS



DROMORE CELEBRATION

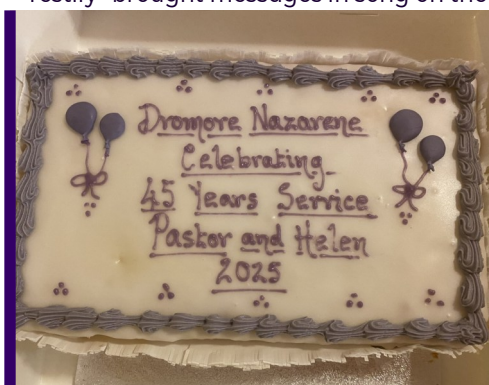
The weekend of 25th-26th January 2025 was a time of celebration for the Dromore Church of the Nazarene as the Somerville family, and members and friends of the church, met to celebrate the 45-year ministry of Rev Noel and Helen Somerville. Following a short ministry in Hull, the Somervilles came, in 1980, to Dromore, Co Down.

In spite of the effects of Storm Eowyn – closed roads, power cuts and water shortages - over 100 people came from near and far including a former school Principal and local councillor. Other tributes included a video greeting from Rev Colin H. Wood, and 'in person' contributions from Rev Philip McAlister, Oliva Crutchley (a former member who is now working for Child Evangelism fellowship) and Cathy Tarrant whose parents Rev James & Ina McLeod were previous pastors. Gospel singers, "Testify" brought messages in song on the Saturday evening.

There were many significant moments over the weekend. A special surprise was when the Somervilles were presented with a plaque dedicating and naming the Church Hall "The Somerville Hall" – the present church building and the hall (which was opened in September 2000), were both designed and built under the direction of Rev Noel Somerville. The Sunday celebrations concluded with a fellowship supper which included a personalised cake.

The Somervilles have truly been devoted and consistent throughout their ministry and faithful to the Call of God. There have been the challenging and difficult times but through them all they have persevered. And the work goes on!

(Pictured are the Somervilles with 2 of their 5 children, (l to r) Helen Somerville, Esther, Rev Noel Somerville, Ruth).



LADIES CONFERENCE

On Saturday, 26th April, the annual Ladies Conference was held in the **Irvine Church of the Nazarene**. This event has been led by Pat Macdonald since 2008. This year Pat has stepped down as conference-coordinator, and we thank her for her leadership and faithful ministry over these past years. Pat shares this report.

"A thought in 2007, an idea I believe born of God, grew into a reality in 2008 to become the Irvine Church of the Nazarene Women's Conference. God always inspired the theme for the incoming conference, which He would faithfully give me on New Year's Day at the top of the Carrick Hills. When I was no longer fit for the ascent to meet Him there, He would drop a verse of Scripture, usually in the first week of January, into my spirit and I instinctively knew it was for the Conference. That first year, women attended from across the district including Northern Ireland, Carlisle and Cramlington.

"Over the past 17 years we have been blessed, inspired, and encouraged by the ministries of the women who have been our guest speakers and those who have shared testimonies. Most have been from within the North District Church of the Nazarene. with others being from various churches and ministries including Prayer for Scotland and Parliamentary Prayer Scotland.

"Among the many who have been past speakers have been Rosemary Davidson, Anne Findlay, Margaret Vosper, Cathy Tarrant, Mary Wood, Ann Goodwin, Lorraine Bell, Tasha Alison, Janet Hands, Ruth Turner, Jean Black, Sylvia Rebus, Helen Williamson, Bev Fitzjohn, Jane Austin, Jacqueline Tarrant. We were so grateful for their ministries and willingness to participate. We are also blessed with a gifted praise and worship team who help create an atmosphere of the tangible presence of God.

"The conference has become an April fixture in Women's Ministry Calendars in Ayrshire and British Isles North District with growing numbers attending from towns and churches across North, East and South Ayrshire, who are made so welcome and catered for by the ladies from our fellowship. This was my final year as Conference Co-ordinator, and I am delighted that it will continue under the capable leadership of Janette Macmillan. Please pray for Janette that this annual event will continue to grow, prosper and bless for many years to come." (Pictured: Conference worship, Pat Macdonald cutting cake (with daughter, Mandy, standing by), Janette Macmillan).





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NTC LECTURERS TEACH IN ARGENTINA



Earlier this year, Rev Dr Jacob Lett (Vice Principal (Academics), Dean of the Faculty, and Senior Lecturer in Theology) and Dr. MiJa Wi (Lecturer in Biblical Studies, Global Mission and Director of Bridging Worlds: Centre for Asian Christianities) taught at the Nazarene Seminary in Argentina (Seminario Teológico Nazareno del Cono Sur).



"The South America Region of the Church of the Nazarene requested us to come and teach classes in Wesleyan Theology, Practice, and Hermeneutics. 28 educators from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Peru,

were present. We also taught on the same themes to around 125 educators, pastors, and church leaders for their annual conference, which was also held at the seminary. The people were hungry for theology, and it was an absolute joy to learn alongside them."

Pictured are educators from Nazarene Institutions in South America who attended the seminars.



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REGIONAL CONFERENCE, ALBANIA



Go to conference.eurasiaregion.org to register or for more information.

WORSHIP WEDNESDAYS at Parkhead Nazarene

Back in November, Uddingston Nazarene set the stage for an uplifting Worship Wednesday—and this time, the joy rolled into Parkhead! The Fellinghams, Lou & Nathan (center), returned with their heartfelt music and ministry, a gift that began during lockdown and has kept going ever since. Nearly 100 people gathered to sing and praise together—a beautiful reminder of how music and community can lift the spirit! Thanks to Rev Tommy Goodwin MBE (far right), who's been touring churches nationwide with the Fellinghams, sharing their music and spreading joy wherever they go. And for David Allan (far left) and his team, with tech, hosting, and very welcome coffee and treats! Together in song, together in spirit.



IN MEMORIAM *Remembering those who have served*

Rev John William McDonald Webster passed away in Calgary, Canada, on 3rd April - he was 83. Originally from Dunfermline, and married to Ann for 61 years, John had a secular career as an electrical engineer, working in Scotland and Canada, as well as a ministerial calling. John and Ann studied together for the ministry at the Toronto Nazarene Bible Institute before returning to Scotland where the Websters pastored, for 8 years, the Glasgow Broomhill Church of the Nazarene. John was ordained in 2002.



Returning to Canada the Websters pastored in Baptist churches prior to retirement. In recent years John and Ann have served as Prayer and Counselling pastors in the Skyview Community Church of the Nazarene, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where a Service Celebrating John's life and ministry was held 12th April. We send our greetings and condolences to Ann and to Ernie and Helen and their families.

CHURCH NEWS

NAZARENE YOUTH

Two North District "Encounter Weekends" for Nazarene Youth have been held with a combined total of 134 attending – 96 young people and 38 leaders. The weekend for Scotland/N. England youth was held 14th-16th February in Moffat, Scotland, and for N. Ireland youth held 21st-23rd February in Greystones, Ireland.

District NYI President, Nick Barclay, reports, "...with our theme 'Built into the Name', our speakers, Jana Seifert (NYI President, German District) and Bethany & Joshua Sanderson (Lisburn) challenged us to reflect on what it means to 'Encounter God', how scripture speaks about these encounters, and how we can seek God in our daily lives. Ultimately, these weekends were all about creating space and opportunity for our young people to meet with Jesus.

"Please continue to pray for our young people that the experience of these weekends will continue to shape their everyday lives!" Pictured the Scotland and Ireland groups.



LADIES RETREAT

Over 50 ladies, of all ages, attended this year's retreat held 21st-23rd February at the Lodge Hotel, Coleraine. Nine N. Ireland churches were represented and a few ladies from Scotland joined the group. The theme for the weekend was "Women from the Bible" and the speaker was Rev Ruth Turner (DS). Rev Ann Goodwin led the communion service.

Pastor Isabel Hamill reports, "...we had an amazing weekend of fun, laughter and fellowship – games, karaoke, a spa night, and some 'retail therapy'. Ruth's teaching was truly inspiring, challenging and encouraging and the stories of women from the Bible reminded us that God works through women of all backgrounds, personalities, and seasons of life to fulfil His purposes. Save the Date! – next year's weekend will be held 27th February-1st March 2026 DV."

"Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." (Proverbs 31:30).



PARKHEAD VISITOR

The speaker at the Parkhead, Glasgow, mid-week 'Friends Together' programme on 18th February, was Marvin Andrews – former Glasgow Rangers professional footballer.

Marvin spoke about his up-bringing in Trinidad, his life as a professional footballer, and his faith journey.

He is currently involved in a ministry in Kirkcaldy, Fife. Pictured are some of the Parkhead men with Marvin (standing centre).



LADIES RETREAT

The South District Ladies' Retreat took place from 7th-9th February, at Yarnfield Park in Stone, Staffordshire. The event was attended by just over 100 women and the theme was, 'Who am I?'. The weekend included an array of activities and seminars to help expand the theme, with plenary sessions led by Rev. Tracey Day.

During the final service of the retreat, the women had the absolute pleasure of hearing that an 80-year old lady, Marlene, had given her life to God! Her daughter, Bev McKinnon (New Church on the Corner) shared with the ladies that she had been praying for her mother's salvation for many years! Marlene was baptised the following Sunday! Praise God!

Next year's Retreat will take place from 6th-9th February 2026, at Kings Park, Northampton.

