

# TOGETHER

SINCE WE ARE ALL ONE BODY IN CHRIST, WE BELONG TO EACH OTHER AND EACH OF US NEEDS ALL THE OTHERS - ROMANS 12:5

BRITISH ISLES | SUMMER 2018 | No 33

## DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES 2018

### INSPIRATION & CHALLENGE

"Hearing what the voice of the Spirit is saying to the Church". The Spirit has been speaking to the church – and not least through the Assembly reports of the District Superintendents, which contained frank assessments of the current state of the church along with a passion for effective outreach and growth. Indeed, **"Inspiration and Challenge"**.

Speaking to delegates in Bangor, Rev Jim Ritchie highlighted areas of encouragement and denominational strength. These include, a strong Missional Focus, Community Involvement, Inspiring Worship, a rich and deep Theological Heritage, the dual emphasis on Word and Spirit, Compassion for all and Committed Leadership in our churches. However, alongside these blessings there is a need to press on in key areas. The blessings are considerable, but the challenges are great – and in the following areas:

- *Discipleship Deficit: to take people from conversion to growth in Christ.*
- *Effective Evangelism: to be able to fruitfully reach people with the Gospel.*
- *Cultural Relevance: to engage with an ever changing world.*
- *Lacking Resources: to overcome frustration and low expectations.*
- *Ageing Population: which can limit activity and continued witness.*
- *Engaging Youth: which is a massive priority and a huge challenge.*

Many of these insights and challenges were echoed in the report brought by Rev David Montgomery to South District delegates that met in Sheffield. The report highlighted the importance of several areas including:

- *Local Churches: the need to cultivate healthy local churches.*
- *Church Planting: the priority to start new centres of evangelism and outreach.*
- *Community Engagement: being involved in the local community.*
- *Personal Evangelism: including actions and words.*
- *Reliance on the Holy Spirit: for it is God who gives the increase.*

**"Inspiration and Challenge"** – and God's word reminds us that the Gospel is *"...the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes"* (Romans 1:16). The church must be guided and empowered by the Spirit and *"...by all possible means save some"* (1 Cor. 9:22).

## NORTH DISTRICT



Dr Eugénio R Duarte, General Superintendent, at Bangor



Ordination Group North Assembly (l to r) Rev Jim Ritchie, Rev Rosemary Davidson, Rev Gary Law (ordinand – Pastor: Desertmartin), Rachel Law, Dr Eugénio R Duarte

Former Nazarene missionary to the Cabo Verde, Rev Ernest Eades, (now approaching his 99th birthday) enjoys a visit from Dr Duarte – who comes originally from Cabo Verde.



## SOUTH DISTRICT



Dr Joseph Wood (Lecturer: NTC), who was ordained at the South Assembly, with his wife, Rev Kat Wood



Dr Sam Wood (Pastor: Pleasant View Church of the Nazarene, Jamestown, TN, USA) presents his son, Dr Joseph Wood, with the Ordination Certificate



The Credentials of Dr Stephen Wright (Lecturer: NTC) were received from the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Australia. (Picture: Steve & Heidi Wright)



The Credentials of Dr Ken Baker (Pastor: Thornton) were received from the Elim Church. (Picture: Ken & Val Baker)



The Credentials of Rev Eun Ho Kim (Pastor: Didsbury Korean Church) were received from the Korean Baptist Church. (Picture: Eun Ho with his wife, Dr Mi Ja Kim)



Sheffield Heeley Church – assembly crowd



## IN MEMORIAM

**Joyce Deasley** passed away 5th March, age 82. Born in Alberta, Canada, Joyce Metz qualified as a Registered Nurse, and in 1958 married Alex Deasley. The following year the Deasleys returned to England where three children were born and Joyce continued her nursing career and shared in and supported Alex in his pastoral and teaching assignments in Ashton and at British Isles Nazarene College, Manchester. From 1972-77 Dr Deasley taught at Canadian Nazarene College in Winnipeg and Joyce was again able to follow her nurse's calling. In 1977 the family moved to Kansas City where Dr Deasley became Professor of New Testament at the Seminary. Joyce was a devoted wife and mother and was also involved in a visitation ministry through her local Nazarene church. Funeral services were held 10th March in the Overland Park Church of the Nazarene. We remember Dr Alex Deasley, and Richard, Shauna & Jeremy, and their families, in our prayers.



**Evelyn Edgar** passed away 12th March, age 84. The wife and help-meet of the late Rev D. Fred Edgar, Evelyn shared with her husband in the work of the Belfast Shankill Mission, which became the Shankill Church of the Nazarene in 1979. After 6 years in Troon (1982-88), the Edgars returned to pastor the Shankill church until Fred's home -call 30th March 2012. The Shankill Church of the Nazarene was packed for the Service of Thanksgiving for Evelyn Edgar's life held 16th March which was conducted by Pastor Philip Evans and Rev Caroline McAfee. The Edgars had five children, Rev David Edgar (who was unable to attend the funeral due to sickness but followed the service on live video call from the USA), Karen, John (deceased), Kathleen and Jill. Our prayers are with the family in these days.



**Rev Margaret Brown** passed away 22nd April – she was a few weeks from her 61st birthday. Originally a nurse who came into contact with the Church of the Nazarene in Taunton, Margaret studied at our College and in 2006 was inducted to the Atherton Church. She was also involved in ministry in the Ashton and Bolton Brownlow Fold churches and was ordained in 2010. Many Nazarenes attended the funeral service held 11th May at the Howe Bridge Crematorium, Atherton. For the past 2 years Margaret had been in fellowship with the Sports Village Church, Leigh.



## UPDATE ON BROOMHILL, GLASGOW

Partick Bethel was a Holiness Mission led by George Hart in the first part of the 20th Century and located in the West of Glasgow. In the 1960s the work became the Hart Memorial Church of the Nazarene, and in the early 1970s relocated to its present building in Broomhill. In recent months significant developments have been taking place both in practical areas – property maintenance and improvements – and relative to the ministry team. Senior Pastor, Robert White, reports that a US Nazarene couple, Dr Steve Fountain and his wife Tasha Alison have joined the ministry team as Associate Pastor and Community Outreach Pastor respectively.



Steve, who is the son of Nazarene missionaries, is an author and teacher and is highly qualified both in the medical and theological areas. A graduate of Trevecca Nazarene University, Steve holds the MD degree from the Medical University of South Carolina and has a PhD from the University of Glasgow where his thesis was on the topic of kenosis in the theology of Thomas J.J. Altizer and the fiction of A. S. Byatt. Tasha has considerable experience in the area of marketing and research and was a Vice President at the Alison & Associates marketing company for 20 years. In 2009 Tasha and Steve founded Icebox Ministries ([www.iceboxministries.org](http://www.iceboxministries.org)) which seeks to teach people how to make healthier food choices and minimize food waste and already a programme for those interested in the spiritual importance of food issues has been launched at Broomhill.



Dr Steve Fountain and Tasha Alison

A new chapter has begun in the work at Broomhill and much interest is being shown as new ministries and outreach take place.

## THE KINGDOM CHOIR AT FRESH GROUND

Just two days after singing at the Royal Wedding in Windsor 'The Kingdom Choir' was hosted by the London, Battersea Rise, Fresh Ground church on Monday 21st May. The programme was broadcast live to the ABC News breakfast show, "Good Morning America". Led by Karen Gibson, who was interviewed for the breakfast show, the choir powerfully proclaimed the Gospel.



In addition to her work with 'The Kingdom Choir' Karen also leads the 'Gospel on the Rise' community choir which meets in the church. Numbering about 60 the choir meets every Wednesday and gives concerts from time to time. Local pastor, Rev Jason Nike says, "...Karen is a good friend of ours and lives near to the church...many from the Fresh Ground community attend...there is a real spread of ages, ethnicities, social backgrounds and faiths. We thank God for all He is doing through Karen and we are really thrilled that Karen and the 'Gospel on the Rise' choir are partnering with us in 'enriching our community through faith, friendship and compassion'."





## NAZARENE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: BACK IN SCOTLAND

The collaborative partnership between NTC and the Scottish School of Christian Mission that has developed over the past years is changing. The SSCM Board decided last month to dissolve as a charity, as of June 30th, confident that NTC can "carry the vision of mission and transforming communities across Scotland and further afield."



NTC, founded on the edge of Glasgow almost 70 years ago, will continue to fulfil the need and desire for a Scottish-based centre of evangelical Christian learning and teaching, specialising in training in youth work, community transformation and urban mission, designed and delivered in and for Scotland. NTC has already begun to recruit Scottish-based students for the next academic year.

Noel Peacock, SSCM Board Chair, commented, "We are delighted that the vision of mission and transforming communities held by SSCM is being taken up by NTC. Having worked in partnership with NTC we are confident of their commitment and capacity to carry the vision into the future."

The core Glasgow-based teaching team will remain, but NTC will take a much more hands-on role in setting strategic vision and in developing a presence in Scotland. Dr Deirdre Brower Latz, Principal, comments "We are delighted to be able to build on the work of SSCM. Change is inevitable, but that powerful and hopeful vision remains strong."

## MINISTERS' SUMMER SCHOOL

Over 30 attended the Pastors' Summer School held 28th-31st May. Devotions were led by Chaplain Rev Michael Kane and Sheffield Associate Rev Helen Lawson, and faculty members, Dr Julie Lunn, Dr Steve Wright and Dr Mi Ja Wi addressed the theme "Prophet, Priest and King".



## GROUND BREAKING

Members of the Board of College Governors joined with the Principal and members of the faculty on Saturday, 12th May, for the ground breaking for the Café Extension. This building project is to extend and add capacity to the café and also to install toilet and disabled toilet facilities. Funds for the £160,000 project – which has been promoted as the 'Principal's Project' over the past months – are still being raised.



## SYDNEY MARTIN LECTURE

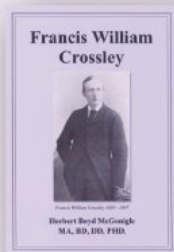
The first in the annual cycle of College Lectures, the Sydney Martin Memorial Lecture, was delivered in the MacLagan Chapel on Tuesday evening, 29th May. Professor Chris Baker, who is William Temple Professor of Religion and Public Life at Goldsmiths, University of London and Director of the William Temple Foundation, spoke on, "Searching for 'God' after God' Public theology in an age of political re-enchantment."



## NEW BOOK

### "FRANCIS CROSSLEY"

(113 pages) by Dr Herbert McGonigle. The foreword of this book, on the life of the godly Manchester engineer and founder of the Star Hall Holiness work, is written by Dr Dwight Swanson. Books in this series can be obtained from Dr McGonigle c/o NTC, Manchester.



## WELCOME

In March 2018 Tim and Jessy Anne Scott arrived in Manchester to help in the Marketing Department of the College.



The Scotts are graduates of Trevecca Nazarene University, Nashville, Tennessee, where Tim studied Mass Media and Film, while Jessy Anne studied Communications and Journalism. Prior to coming to NTC the Scotts worked in the Marketing Departments at Trevecca and also at Eastern Nazarene College, Massachusetts. The couple are planning to be at NTC for a year, helping to share the work and mission of the college with potential new students, alumni and more.

## FAITHFUL SERVICE RECOGNISED

The Troon Church presented Ted Lovett with the Distinguished Service award in November 2017 in recognition of many years of faithful service in the church. Over the years Ted has served as NMI President, SS Superintendent, Church Secretary and Trustee. Pictured with Ted Lovett are Billy Malone (l.) and George Devenish (r.) who are both long-standing members of the Troon church and who paid tribute to Ted's practical skills and his quiet dignified Christian witness.



At the North District NMI Convention in Bangor (N.I.) Jeanette McMillan of the Irvine church was presented with a Distinguished Service Award in recognition of over 12 years of faithful service as District NMI Treasurer. Picture: Jeanette received the award from Dr Paul Tarrant.



Also, at the North District Assembly Rev Jim Ritchie (DS) presented Rev Rosemary Davidson (Edinburgh) with a gift in recognition of nearly 15 years of faithful service as North District Secretary. (At the North Assembly Richard Wood (Parkhead) was elected District Secretary. Rev Don Mentch (Kings Lynn), although retired from pastoral ministry, continues to serve as South District Secretary – a position he has held for the past 14 years).





## CUBA TRAGEDY

10 Nazarene pastor couples and church leaders were among the 111 killed in the Cubana Flight 972 crash on Friday 18th May. The couples had attended a 3-day 125 strong National Conference at the Cuban Nazarene Theological Seminary, Havana, and this group were returning to their homes. National President of the Church of the Nazarene in Cuba, Rev Leonel López, said, "In this moment of anguish and pain, we ask for your prayers and help to be able to get through this situation together." The Global Church of the Nazarene has been in prayer for the bereaved families.



## PENTECOST

**UNITED SERVICES** were held in different venues on the North District on Sunday 20th May. About 60 from churches in the North East of England met at Cramlington for a fellowship lunch and afternoon service – Pastor Bev Fitzjohn was the speaker. In N. Ireland at Carrickfergus approximately 250 met for an evening rally and Rev Stephane Tibi (Eurasia Education Coordinator) was the speaker. One interesting feature of the service was that the Pentecost passage (Acts 2:1-12) was read in 5 different languages – English, Spanish, Arabic, French and Swiss-German. Over 300 from Scottish churches gathered in Perth (pictured) to celebrate together and Rev Michael Kane (also pictured, Chaplain NTC) was the speaker.



## INDUCTION

Rev David Montgomery (South District Superintendent), who is in the process of returning to the pastoral ministry, was inducted to his former church, Leeds South, on Saturday, 5th May. The service was led by Rev Tracey Day (Thetford). Pictured (l.to r) Linda Boston (Church Secretary) Alison & Rev David Montgomery, Rev Tracey Day.



## FIELD STRATEGY COORDINATORS

...representing the Church of the Nazarene in North Europe, Western Mediterranean, Central Europe, Eastern Mediterranean, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and South Asia met in the Netherlands during the last week of April. Pictured are participants with their spouses together with Regional Director, Rev Arthur Snijders (front row 2nd from left). In addition to workshops and seminars, the group was able to visit the Corrie Ten Boom home in Haarlem which featured in the film "The Hiding Place".



## YOUTH NEWS



Robson Dodd (pictured) was elected North District NYI President at the recent NYI Convention; he succeeds Amy Warner who has served for the past 3 years. Originally from Ashton, where he was involved in youth work, Robson is now a member of the Erskine church and is involved in the Blend Café community ministry in Paisley. Following studies taken at NTC, Manchester, Robson is currently completing a degree course at the University of Glasgow in Psychology and Social and Public Policy. Robson sees his ministry as part of a 'Community of Leaders' that will guide the work among young people and learn together what God has planned and what God is doing. Robson says, "...we are trying to...move our passions and focus on the things that matter...sometimes it's good to shake things up so that the dust can settle on the real things that matter and that God is already doing."

At the South District Assembly Rev Carl McCann (Ashton) was presented with the "Timothy Award" – a denominational award established in 1995 which is given for "service, sacrifice and personal commitment to youth through NYI". Carl has been involved in youth work for many years and served as District NYI President on the South District for 4 years (2013-17). Pictured (l.to r) Lauren & Rev Carl McCann and daughter Paige.



## HARBOUR BLESSING

The Troon Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fisherman hosted the annual Troon Harbour Blessing and the Blessing of the Fleet service which was held at Troon Harbour on Sunday afternoon 4th June. Troon Nazarene Pastor, David Rudge, brought the main address (pictured).



## A JOYFUL NOISE



CLAPHAM JUNCTION worship group leads the congregation in praise – with Naomi Benthams (wife of pastor, Rev Joe Benthams) on the piano.

## FRESH GROUND

Pastor Clint and Lauren Grimes (pictured) have been involved in the Fresh Ground, London, ministry over these past months. Originally from Fort Worth, Texas, they are both graduates of Southern Nazarene University, Oklahoma and have been on the staff of Fort Worth First Church of the Nazarene. At Fresh Ground they are involved in the Café ministry and focus on building relationships, leading small groups for youth and adults and helping with IT and communications. The Grimes say they are glad to be at Fresh Ground and are excited at what God has in store for the church.



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