

Celebrating 500 Years
OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION



Rediscovering
THE GOOD NEWS



STANBOROUGH PARK
Watford, WD25 9JZ

Reform-A-Nation



“The Reformation” anniversary held today is a great festival of Jesus Christ, a testimony to our faith being a reform movement and is our hope for His soon return! Strictly speaking, in 2017 we will not be celebrating 500 years of Reformation – we will have been celebrating the Reformation for 500 years!

It is obvious that the centre and foundation of the Biblical Solas is Jesus Christ – everything else rotates around Him, what He did and continues to do for each one of us today. Our uniqueness and identity as an Advent Movement should be rooted and centred around nothing and no one else but Jesus Christ – His life, His teachings, His death, His resurrection, His mediatory ministry in the heavenly sanctuary and His soon return. Reformation is not necessarily about finding new truth – but rather a reminder about the forgotten, the basic, the existential – a reformation that we need in our daily journey with God.

As we pray and reflect during this celebration, perhaps we need to ask ourselves, as believers in 21st Century Europe, is our worship focus on Jesus Christ alone, still enough for His people to come together to do His mission? I pray that Reform-a-nation will prove a source of renewal and inspiration in this 21st century. That I am convinced.

I praise God that reformation goes on every day and every hour, it never ends. It is about crying to God, help me Lord to rediscover your will, your truth, your wisdom – help me to be like Jesus and to see the unseen with fresh spiritual eyes.”



Raafat Kamal
TED President



Dear Friends

Welcome to ‘Reform-a-Nation’, the BUC’s celebration of the 500 years of the Protestant Reformation.

The Reformation, in all of its incarnations in history, had a transformative effective not only on Christian believers but also in wider society. Over this weekend, we are seek to show the positive contribution of our Christian faith on the wider society, hope to make new friends and be supportive to the needs of our community.

We are privileged to have Dr. Ron Halvorsen Jnr, President of the Ohio Conference who is our Worship Service Speaker. Dr. Roy Adams, Associate Editor of Adventist Review (retired), Dr. Ganoune Diop (GC), Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Director, and Pastor David Neal, TED Stewardship Director are our theologians for the afternoon Bible Conference and Dr. Jeff Brown (GC), Associate Editor, Ministry Magazine, will deliver the Bible Study on Sabbath morning.

Additionally to this, Drs Adams and Brown and our very own Pastor John Surridge, BUC Executive Secretary, have other speaking engagements with us during the weekend and beyond, in relation to this programme.

Our Sunday programme is geared for the community and we encourage you to invite your friends to our Fun-in-the-Park event on the final day of this special weekend.

Christian blessings!



Ian Sweeney
BUC President



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Dear Fellow Worshippers

On behalf of the planning team, I would like to welcome you to Reform-a-Nation.

Martin Luther's protest on 31st October 1517 against the was one of the main catalysts that propelled the established church to change. Today, we have thousands of different denominations enjoying the blessings of not only Luther, but of men like Huss, Jerome and Zwingli, the persecuted communities of the Anabaptists and also the Puritans, who played a significant part in changing the way that believers worshipped.

Over the weekend we will celebrate our heritage as a church, as "*Heirs of the Reformation*" and also ensure that we engage our local community and your friends and family with the unique message of hope found only in Jesus Christ.

One of the aims of Reform-a-Nation is an attempt to engage the entire Union territory in evangelism, while commemorating this special event. Through the use of articles, resources and Fun-in-the-Park programme, we hope that you and your church will gain ideas in which you can witness more effectively in your local communities.

We pray that as you join us this weekend, you will be inspired to develop your trust in the man Christ Jesus and recommit your life to His service.

May God richly bless you!



Eglan Brooks
BUC Evangelism Director



THANKSGIVING SERVICE
7:30PM, FRIDAY 11th August 2017

Welcome		Ian Sweeney
Hymn	<i>Oh, for a Flame of Living Fire</i>	Geert Tapp
Prayer		Jacques Venter
Scripture	<i>Psalms 78:1-4</i>	Kathleen Hanson
Historical Reflections of Adventists		Patrick Boyle
Special Music	<i>He'll Do It Again</i>	Noah Naylor
Who Are Seventh-day Adventists?		John SurrIDGE
Special Music	<i>Great is Thy Faithfulness</i>	The Coopers
Reflection	<i>Lest We Forget: This is War</i>	Roy Adams
Hymn	<i>Faith of our Fathers</i>	John SurrIDGE
Prayer		Roy Adams

Chairs: John SurrIDGE / Jacques Venter
Coordinator: Kerrine Guthrie

BIBLE STUDY
9:45AM, SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST 2017

Praise and Worship		Praise Team
Welcome		Sharon Platt-McDonald
Hymn	<i>Far From All Care</i>	Praise Team
Prayer		Pauline Allcock
Scripture	<i>Galatians 3:22</i>	Sophia Prince
Special Music		Paul Lee
Lesson Summary	<i>School's Out</i>	Jeff Brown
Special Music		Camelia Bran
Mission Spotlight		Bert Smit
Offering		Steve Okelo
Hymn	<i>Ancient Words</i>	Praise Team
Closing Prayer		Jeff Brown
Announcements		John SurrIDGE

Chair: Sharon Platt-McDonald
Coordinator: Pilira Zapita



WORSHIP SERVICE
11:00AM, SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST 2017

Processional		Crown Imperial, HACS Millennium Brass
Introit	<i>We have come to Worship</i>	Croydon Gospel Choir
Invocation		Emmanuel Osei
Welcome & Introductions		Ian Sweeney
Praise & Worship		Praise Team
Hymn of Praise	<i>O For a Thousand Tongues</i>	Emmanuel Bran
Scripture	<i>Ephesians 2:4-9 (MSG)</i>	Ron Halverson Jnr
"Stand"		BUC Staff
Special Music	<i>"Nyame Mma (Children of God)"</i>	London Ghanaian Choir
Offering	<i>Rejoice in the Lord Always</i>	Charles Bramble (with HACS)
Prayer		Julian Hibbert
Meditational		Croydon Gospel Choir
Sermon	<i>The Wittenberg Door & A Lot More</i>	Ron Halvorsen Jnr
Hymn	<i>And Can It Be?</i>	Praise Team
Prayer		Richard Daly
Postlude	<i>The Peace</i>	Croydon Gospel Choir
Recessional	<i>I shall see the King</i>	HACS Millennium Brass

Chair: Ian Sweeney
Coordinator: Jacquelyn Johnson

- L U N C H -



BIBLE CONFERENCE, ADVENTISM & THE REFORMATION
3:00PM, SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST 2017

(Venue: Stanborough Park School Chapel)

Prayer	John Surridge
Introduction	John Baildam
The 16th Century Reformation's Content & Context: Highlighting the pivotal role of freedom of conscience	Gaunone Diop
Is Salvation Really Free?	David Neal
An Anchor Called Hope	Roy Adams
Panel Discussion	John Baildam
Closing Remarks	John Baildam
Prayer	Ian Sweeney

Chair: John Baildam

Coordinator: Sophia Prince



Dr Ganoune Diop

Title:

The 16th Century Reformation's Content & Context: Highlighting the Pivotal Role of Freedom of Conscience

Synopsis:

In my presentation, I will share the ten principles of the Reformation that changed the world. These principles contributed to creating a new religious landscape. They are also necessary to understand Christian identity. Most Christians communities, churches, or denominations stem from this decisive moment in church and world history.

To understand the Reformation is to be provided with lenses to insightfully grasp most issues of our contemporary world. Freedom of conscience, tolerance, peaceful coexistence, the respect of others in the dignity of difference: all these issues were at play during the Reformation and today. The Early Reformers have achieved extraordinary gains in the quest of freedom. However, they did not overcome intolerance. The freedom of conscience they fought for, was not always granted to those who believe differently. In specific cases, the claim of having the "truth" made them persecute, execute or approve the murders of other Christians.

In the presentation, I will show that claims to truth must always be paired with the right of others to choose according to the dictates of their conscience. Despite the mitigated legacy of the Reformation, it contributed to our own awareness of the need to pursue the Reformation and carry it forward to its intended goals. These goals are consonant with helping develop a culture of peaceful coexistence among people who believe differently. Freedom of religion or belief is also the right for all to share their deep convictions without coercion, force, intimidation or manipulation. Love cannot be forced.

This presentation therefore will be part of an endeavor to encourage people to be more human and humane with our fellow human beings, seeking everyone's well being and sharing our common good in all respect of the dignity of everyone.



Pastor David Neal

Title:

Is Salvation Really Free?

Synopsis:

Seventh-day Adventists make two very bold claims about the Reformation story. First, it is incomplete, and secondly, they are its spiritual descendants. They make these claims based on their understanding of Holy Scripture. Martin Luther's *'Dare to be a Daniel'* stand against powers that sought, and still seek to distort the truth about God, is at the core of their spiritual DNA.

The intent of the Reformation was to rekindle the flame of 1st century Christianity, a flame that during the Middle-Ages had almost gone out, leading to a remote, distant, and exacting God. The simple Gospel story about the life and teachings of Christ, was hidden behind the authority and practices of the Church, who had become keyholders of God's revelation, in a time when few could read the printed word, scarce as it was.

It was a wealthy church, but stewardship of holy funds seemed to benefit not the proclamation of the Gospel, but those entrusted with it, leading Bernard of Clairvaux to complain: *"There is as much difference between us and the men of the primitive church as there is between muck and gold"*.



That Reformation stirrings arose in the mind of Luther was as much about the abuse of money and power, as it was about doctrine. As the Church expanded across Europe, building churches and monasteries (not least St. Peter's at Rome), as a more than safe borrower, to the banks it went to fund, eager to lend with interest.

But it was the security for the debt, the sale of the Indulgence, zealously preached across Germany by *pardoner-in-chief*, Johann Tetzel, that particularly troubled Luther. Salvation, far from being free, could be bought from the priest. To the ignorant worshipper great comfort was found in the proverb of the time, *"The moment the money tinkles in the collecting box, a soul flies out of purgatory"*. Salvation came with a cost.

Luther was not the first person to be troubled by a Gospel with a costly price tag, monetary or otherwise. *"But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed"* - (Galatians 1:8). To the Apostle Paul, it was a more than a problem, but a matter of life and death.

As we remember Luther's contribution to restoring the biblical Gospel, it seems appropriate to once again, ask the question, *"Is Salvation Really Free?"* If a specific community of faith makes claim to be spiritual heirs of the Reformation, then it's also appropriate to check its understanding of the Gospel of Christ, in both faith and practise.

Luther's contribution to the restoration of the Gospel can never be diminished. But it was the beginning of a story, not the end. Because of his aversion to salvation through *'good works'*, he would never accept the letter of James into the biblical canon. His attitude to *'others'* was less than Christ-like (notably his hatred towards Jews), even though he claimed to have discovered the grace of Christ. Like his personality, his writings were direct and hard-hitting and at times extreme.



"I am hot-blooded by temperament, and my pen gets irritated easily", he wrote in 1520.

Can we learn from his experience? With a similar 'Dare to be a Daniel' gene in our spiritual DNA, does a 'full understanding' of the Gospel in our time make us more, or less, sectarian? How do the values of "Here I Stand – I can do no other," and, "The strongest argument in favour of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian," connect?

This is our task for 'Reform-a-Nation 500'.



Dr Roy Adams

Title:

An Anchor Called Hope

Synopsis:

Addressing believers in Rome, second generation Jewish Christians, on the verge of abandoning their faith in Christ, the author of Hebrews makes one of the strongest cases for confidence found anywhere in Scripture. In chapter 6, using God's promise to Abraham as his starting point, he points these flailing believers to the divine source of spiritual stability, namely, an anchor called hope. That's exactly what the people in Luther's day needed 1500 years later, and exactly what we need today deep-rooted assurance in Christ.

**HYMN FESTIVAL
6PM, SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST 2017**

Introduction	Tina Brooks, Cathy Boldeau
Prayer	Ron Halvorsen
Judas Maccabeus Overture by George Frederic Handel (1685 - 1759)	HACS
Music for The Royal Fireworks Overture by George Frederic Handel	HACS
A Mighty Fortress is Our God	Ken Burton
All Hail the Power of Jesus Name	Congregation
How Far From Home?	Croydon Gospel Choir
He Who Would Valiant Be	Bobby Carr
Jerusalem	Congregation
Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah	Holloway Male Voice with Congregation
It Is Well With My Soul	Holloway Male Voice Choir
How Deep the Father's Love	Michaela Mathieu-Marius
Be Thou My Vision	Congregation
Here I Am, Lord' (New British Hymn)	Tina Brooks & Praise Team
Sing Anyway	Jeff Brown
Precious Lord Take My Hand	Tessera
I have learned to trust in Jesus, Christ is Coming	Ghanaian Choir
He Gives Me Joy	London Adventist Chorale
Seeking the Lost	Praise Team with Congregation
In Christ Alone	Praise Team with Congregation
Closing Remarks	Tina Brooks
We Have This Hope	Praise Team

*Chairs: Tina Brooks & Catherine Anthony Boldeau
Coordinator: Milimo Ninvalle*



Ron Halvorsen, Jr. is currently the President of the Ohio Conference. The son of a pastor/evangelist, Ron has pastored in churches large and small. He has been the senior pastor of three of our university and college churches in the United States. He enjoys ministering to people of all age groups. He is a loved and sought after preacher. Ron has been married for 36 years to Buffy, who has been an associate pastor in team ministry with him for the last 17 years. They have two adult children who are married and two grandsons (ages 4 and 1), whom he absolutely adores.



Ganoune Diop, PhD, and Doctor Honoris Causa for his significant work on helping develop a global culture of human rights, is the Secretary General of the International Religious Liberty Association. He is the Director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department (PARL) at the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church world headquarters.

Dr. Diop is the Representative of the SDA Church at the United Nations in New York and Geneva. He is currently the Secretary of the Conference of General Secretaries of the Christian World Communions.



John SurrIDGE is a fourth generation Seventh-day Adventist whose grandparents and parents served as missionaries in Africa. John spent his early years in Nigeria and then Ghana before returning to the UK for his secondary education. After an initial interest in science, which concluded with a BSc in Electronics, and employment in the integrated circuit industry, John retrained as a Seventh-day Adventist minister. His early ministry was in South Wales, but in 1996 he began a highly enjoyable ten year period as Communication director at the church's headquarters in Watford. This was followed by a further ten years as president of the Welsh Mission, before his current work, as Executive Secretary of the Adventist church in the UK and Ireland, in July 2017.

John is married to Moira, an Intensive Care nurse, and they have two grown-up children who are also both married. In addition to their children John and Moira have a passion for their delightful dogs, Benji and Bonnie.



Dr Jeffrey Brown was born in Birmingham, UK, of Jamaican parents. He has diplomas in Theology, Counseling, Education, and French from Newbold College, Herbert Gray College, the University of Oxford, and the Adventist University of France. He has a BA Theology degree from Washington Adventist University, a Master of Divinity from Andrews University, and a PhD in Religious Education (Family Life Education and Counseling) also from Andrews University.

Dr Brown has pastored in England, Canada, the United States and Bermuda, and served as Director of Family Ministries in the North England and Bermuda Conferences. He has worked as a school counselor for University College Birmingham and a relationships counselor for National Relate. He is a Certified Family Life Educator and a qualified premarital counselling and marriage enrichment administrator with Prepare-Enrich. He taught at Bekwai and Agona-Ashanti Seventh-day Adventist Secondary Schools in Ghana and served as senior lecturer and Director of Pastoral Studies at Newbold College.

Dr Brown served as president of the Bermuda Conference for ten years before being called to be Director of the Bradford Cleveland Brooks Leadership Center at Oakwood University and professor of pastoral care and religious education. He also served as Editor of Family Life, publication of the Adventist Association of Family Life Professionals. He now serves as Associate Editor of Ministry magazine and Associate Secretary of the General Conference Ministerial Association. He is also a doctoral advisor at Andrews University.

Dr Brown is married to Pattiejean (née McMahon) from Bermuda. She is a graduate of Atlantic Union College where she received a BS in Behavioral Science and a BA in Liberal Arts. She served as Director of Ministerial Spouses and Family Ministries Assistant for the Bermuda Conference, and is the author of *What On Earth Am I Doing? Leadership Lessons For Clergy Spouses*.

Dr Brown is the author of *Single and Gifted: Making the Most of Your Singleness*, and together they have authored, *Total Marriage: A Guide to Successful Marriage; A Guide To Parenting: On The Winning Team With Your Children, and The Love Seasons*.

They are blessed with two young adult children, Kristle, a postgraduate student in Florida (MA mental health counselling), and Jamel, a postgraduate student in California (MBA).



Roy Adams was born in the Caribbean, and received his education at schools in Grenada, Trinidad, Canada, and the United States. The majority of his pastoral work occurred in Montreal and Ontario in Canada.

After obtaining a PhD in Systematic Theology from Andrews University in 1980, Adams did a 6-year term of overseas service in Asia, teaching at what is now the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS) near Manila in the Philippines. Adams' teaching and speaking appointments has taken him to several Asian countries including Singapore, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Bangladesh.

Returning to Canada in 1986, he served as associate secretary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada (Canadian Union). In October 1988, he moved to the General Conference where, until his retirement in November 2010, he served as associate editor of *Adventist Review & Adventist World*.

Adams has authored nine books (including *The Wonder of Jesus*, *From the Heart*, *The Nature of Christ*, and *The Sanctuary*). His two latest books (*Looking for a City and Beams of Heaven Guiding Me -his memoir*) published in April and September, respectively, of 2014.

He is married to Celia Wilson from Panama and they have two adult children and two grandchildren, Isabel (10) and Alex (5)



David Neal serves as the Director of Stewardship Ministries for the Trans-European Division. Prior to his appointment in 2016, he served for 11 years as the President of the Irish Mission. His life work is committed to encouraging balanced but passionate Adventism. His hope is that as Seventh-day Adventists humbly seek to be spiritual heirs of the Reformation, with it will arise a renewed and fresh understanding of the Gospel of Christ, resulting in our lives shining brightly for Him, in both word and deed.

Married to Marci for 29 years, they are blessed with two sons, Tom (married to Cathy) and Marc. They are soon to become grandparents.



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For more information call Kerrine or Cathy on 01923 672251
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Earl Ramharacksingh

Project Lead: Eglan Brooks

Additional Planning Team: Sharon Platt-McDonald, Richard Daly,
Kerrine Guthrie, Catherine Anthony Boldeau

Musical Director (Friday): Beatrice Cooper

Musical Director (Sabbath): Michael Agyei-Asare

Praise Team Leader: Kwaku Agyemang

Conductor: Fiona Paquette

Special thanks to our guest speakers, chairpersons and coordinators, HACS Millennium Brass, Orchestra, Woodwind & Strings, Croydon Gospel Choir, London Ghanaian Choir, Holloway Male Voice Choir, London Adventist Chorale, Midlands Chorale, Tessera, all musicians and soloists, TED for their part sponsorship of the event, BUC Directors and Staff, Julian Hibbert for his editorial support on articles and the special Reform-a-Nation edition of Focus, Stanborough Park Church, Stanborough Park Primary and Secondary Schools, the operational teams and volunteers, Audrey Balderstone, SEC Media, Peter Oppong-Mensah of IcandoWorld Media & Promotional Sources and, last but not least, to Almighty God for enabling the BUC to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation over this weekend.

