



PASTORAL NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE



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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

DR. EMMANUEL OSEI

Dear Friends,

Allow me to wish you a Happy New Year. Without making resolutions let's make a commitment in this New Year to be there for each other and help fellow human beings in need even if we don't know them personally. Let's spread some kindness and cheer which will open doors to the Spirit and fulfil the commission that we are called - to share the Gospel and giving the opportunity for others to know Jesus!

We are living in a selfish world which has forgotten how to share and care. You would be forgiven for thinking that a New Year would bring love and peace. Sadly four young men were killed in stabbing incidents in London despite the New Year celebrations. Three were stabbed on New Year's Eve and a fourth in the early hours of New Year's Day in unrelated incidents.

Another young man stabbed on New Year's Day is in a critical condition in hospital. This tells me that whatever policies being employed are not working. Calls are being made to bring back the hugely unpopular 'Stop and search' action by the Police. There are things that we can do to take precautions and I would counsel everyone to be sensible about the company that you keep as well as being vigilant. I call upon all of our churches but especially those in urban areas to pray for the youth of our society that God will intervene to bring about change! Something has to change!!

It is my sad duty to report to you the deaths of the parents of three of our prominent female workers.

The father of Malika Bediako, the father of Pastor Sophia Peart and also Valerie Chambers the mother of Dr Sarah Itam.

May the God of comfort be their strength as we pray them through this very dark period of their lives. Please join me in praying for them and their respective families.



UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS

The SEC Evangelism Expo to be held at Newbold College on Sunday 7th January. This is an opportunity to meet your SEC directors, listen to their vision, and be informed of upcoming events.

Joint SEC Department Day of Fellowship is now on the 27th January with the theme #Breaking the trend! It will be held at the Rock Tower, Tufnell Park, London. Please save the date! Please see the attached poster.

TREASURY

As we prepare for our 2017 Audit, all church evangelism claims relating to 2017 needs are to be submitted to the SEC Treasury no later than 18th January. Any claims received after that deadline will be made against your 2018 budget

CHANGES TO NEWSLETTER

You will have noticed that we have changed the format of the Pastoral letter into a newsletter which is designed to be more accessible and readable to all of our members, incorporating information that can be shared at all levels.

Forthcoming issues will have a section on Upcoming events and diary dates and also a section for prayer requests. If you would like us to pray for you please let us know your requests. Please send those to:
prayer@secadventist.org.uk

Let us continue to pray for the work of the church, remembering Pastors, spouses and workers who need our prayers in your corporate and personal devotionals.

If you have significant stories for next week's edition to share with the constituency please send them to:
news@secadventist.org.uk

Warmest regards,

Dr Emmanuel Osei
President
South England Conference