



27 April 2017

Office of the President

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To: All SEC Lay Leaders, Elders and Communication Secretaries

Dear Elder,

Through the diligent work of Pastor Kavaloh and his team of helpers I have been keeping you abreast of what the Government has been planning under the guise of anti-terror legislation. Plans as they are currently, is likely to affect how we worship especially as it pertains to the teaching of our Children. We have run a number of symposiums which has included a significant amount of information and a letter template which individuals can send to their local MPs. I am pleased to be able to share with you that responses are coming in. Although not all positive, we are starting to receive invitations to have an audience with our MPs which leads into representation to the Government Minister. Regardless of the General Election called for the 8th of June, we cannot afford to take our foot off the pedal in protecting our right to worship and the amount of time spent in teaching our children. It is not acceptable that we should be viewed in the same way as any other groups that are subversive, so it is imperative that we stand up for our beliefs.

There are two further events to follow; On the 14th of May we are holding a timely 1-day seminar at the Advent Centre on championing Religious Liberty through the New British bill of Rights Post Brexit Equality Law Framework relating to Religion or Belief featuring Elder Doris Williams Diplomat at the St Vincent & Grenadines High Commission alongside Dr Kavaloh. See the attached poster.

We are also aware that some teachers have lost their jobs because of their biblical/moral position on the teaching of British values which are not wholly Christian or in keeping with our beliefs. On Sunday 28th May Education Director Gina Abbequaye invites you to attend the Adventist Teachers Association Seminar: Education & Religious Liberty, which is also an opportunity to network with Adventist educators, teachers and teaching assistants working in non Adventist educational institutions. More information to follow.

A couple of weeks ago, I attended the AMR Conference which featured a number of speakers including our former AMR Director and now General Conference AMR director, Pastor Petras Bahadur. What was shared that weekend was such that we were able to have a view of the work to be undertaken in this area and the training needed to achieve the objective of reaching out in a positive way to our Muslim friends and neighbours. To this end, Pastor Bahadur will be running an International AMR Coaching Training at Newbold College on the 8th of July. He is further requesting the support of 10 SEC Churches where his world leaders can do a Sabbath AMR program on that morning and afternoon. May I encourage you Pastors to liaise with Pr Fergus Owusu-Boateng to register your interest.

I informed you last week of the plans that we have to engage in real-life hard conversations, to come together and talk openly and honestly on the 16th and 17th of June, to hear the voices of our young people and conference at large'. We met this week to put some flesh on the bones and we will notify you shortly of the venue where the topic can be discussed in full detail.

I have the pleasure of sharing with you a YouTube link with an encouraging word from our 2017 SEC Camp Meeting Speaker and Singing Evangelist Pastor Wintley Phipps. May I ask you to organize for this message to be broadcast in your respective churches so that those who may wish to attend Camp Meeting could be encouraged to do so. <https://youtu.be/-OM00yNDGAK> Other speakers for this year include: Dr Daniel Duda as our Bible Study Speaker; Dr Chidi Ngwaba: Health Director; Youth Speakers: Pastor Paul Graham and Dean Culinane; Teens and Prayer & Praise Speaker: Pastor Carlos Patrick and Juniors Speaker: Pastor Karyle Barnes Jr. The 2017 booking forms with the significant reduction in chalet prices is available from the SEC Website on the Home page and SEC Events. We are now releasing and I attach the weekend booking form for those who cannot be with us for the week, but can attend on the weekend. We are in for a bumper convocation.

On **Sabbath 6 May** Newbold College is hosting its annual Bible Conference in Salisbury Hall, from 10am – 5pm. This year's topic is *We Can't Look Away: the Church and Social Justice* and will feature Newbold theology experts Dr Tihomir Lazić, Dr Ivan Milanov, and Dr Tom de Bruin, as well as Dr Daniel Duda (Education Director for the Trans-European Division). Register now, or find out more about this free event, at newbold.ac.uk/bible-conference. Topics will include:

- *The Eyes of the Lord God are Upon...*
- *The Historical Jesus: A Figure of Social Justice*
- *Church Without Boundaries: The Kingdom's Social Experiment*
- *Hearing the Cry, Showing the Compassion*

This week's 60sec News is now online:

<https://youtu.be/p6kNDrs61XQ>

To download please click below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/a7e3e0thrzca3si/60sec%20News%20068.mp4?dl=0>

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

Let us continue as a church to pray for our Pastors, spouses and workers who need our prayers. Please also remember them in your personal devotionals.

Warmest regards,



Dr Emmanuel Osei
President
SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE