



10 August 2017

To: All SEC Lay Leaders, Elders, and Communication Secretaries

Office of the President

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Dear Elder,

We welcome back the travelers from TED Youth Congress as well as the various events across the SEC.

For our Monday morning worship we had the pleasure of hosting Dr Eric Walsh who led worship here at the SEC Office. You may recall that Dr Walsh was the target of an insidious attack by those who threaten the stability of the Biblical concept of marriage. He is here conducting a campaign at the Leytonstone Church under Pr Vaughan Thorpe. Dr Walsh in a medical doctor and Pastor that combines his experience of theology and medicine in a campaign entitled 'Faith that works'. The campaign closes this coming Sabbath with a grand celebration. There has been 3 requests for baptism so far.

Sophia Nicholls the SEC Diversity Director reported from last week's TED Congress that, attendees, buzzing with excitement and enthusiasm, reinforced the richness in diversity of the SDA church membership within the Tran European division. Greta (not her real name) a young lady from Germany who uses a wheelchair, attending for the first time exclaimed how blessed she felt to be part of such a network of adventist youth all on the Journey to heaven. She had felt included and that she belonged! The last engaging sermon highlighted the need to find 'heaven' here on earth through restored relationships with one another – one of the key strategies of the SEC Diversity and Disability ministries department. The overarching theme of the GC youth - the power of one - summarises the essence of our Oneness in our diversity through the blood of the Lamb.

In keeping with our drive to engage the local community in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year, we have run a number of events which allows us to meet community needs at the coal-face. One such event is the annual Lone Parent Camp run by our Community Services Director, Malika Bediako.

Staff worked tirelessly to provide activities for everyone from toddlers to grandparents and some parents that come year after year because they enjoy it so much. Khyeiwah Bediako reports that 'this year we had a lone parent from church invite her lone parent friend from a different faith. In addition to this we had a lone parent family from the community stay with us for the week. The Worships were short and sweet and the weather was on the whole very good. We had unexpected events like the invasion of the cows from the farm next door and visiting a church on Sabbath. All the lone parents were also taken out to dinner for one of the nights. The parent workshops that were taken by our Chaplain ( Pastor Opoku-Mensah) were informative and helpful. The children had a great time! "Without this Camp some of our families would never be able to have such a holiday, so we hope and pray Lone Parent Camp continues" said Samantha Lipyeat. Because of all that we have done this year, one of our lone parent guests from another faith has promised to visit her local SDA church. Praise the Lord!

Dr Chidi Ngwaba the SEC Health Director also reported on the health event with the combined Bristol Churches under Pastor Royston Smith. I am attaching a copy letter from the Councillor of Bristol who attended. It makes heart-warming reading and allows us to see what can be achieved when we are intentional in our efforts. Dr Chidi will be at Borough this weekend, (see the attached poster) and we are praying that the efforts will bring some much needed Health and Healing especially for the community who has suffered from the local atrocity a few months ago, and again today when three people were hurt after a borough market Business was sent an envelope containing a substance through the mail.

Don't miss this opportunity to engage in the Reform-a-Nation programme this coming weekend. It will change the way that you engage in evangelism and renew your faith in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. For further information please see this week's BUC news for a flavour of what's to come!.

On November 18th there will be a joint departmental day of fellowship under the theme 'In His Image'. The Women's, Family Life, Disability, Diversity, Men's, Music and Youth departments are working together to host this day of spiritual upliftment, praise and worship, discussion and learning towards Restoration. The venue will be Walthamstow Academy, Billet Road, London E17 5DP. Everyone is welcome! We are encouraging all churches in the London area and beyond to come together for this day of celebration, praise, thanksgiving and worship.

Please remember to share details of the ASNA Carers Respite weekend from September 29th - October 1st at Jury's Inn Oxford. All unpaid carers are encouraged to attend this weekend to receive spiritual, peer, emotional and physical support. To book a place and to receive more information contact: Sophia Nicholls at [snicholls@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:snicholls@secadventist.org.uk)

Stanborough Press will host the annual Press Open day at their headquarters in Grantham on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017. Please follow the link.  
[https://drive.google.com/a/stanboroughpress.org.uk/file/d/0B6ht4r6stMf6UGFCTnd2TkREZ0U/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/a/stanboroughpress.org.uk/file/d/0B6ht4r6stMf6UGFCTnd2TkREZ0U/view?usp=drive_web)

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

Warmest regards,



Dr Emmanuel Osei  
President  
SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE