

10/2023

ISSUE NUMBER: 001

LG TRUMPET

Quarterly Newsletter



LONDON GHANA SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editors

Pr. Japheth Obese–Amankwah
Mr. O. Frimpong
Mr. Gyau
Elder. S. Twum

Writers

Pastor Kwame Sarpong
Elder Richard Antwi
Ransford Nana Sarpong
Rubina Fosua Arthur

2

**PASTOR'S
CORNER**

3

**SPORTS AND
BBQ DAY**

5

**ADVENTIST MEN
CELEBRATE
MEN'S
MINISTRY DAY**

6

**THE
SPECTACLE OF
THAT TOUCH**

Pastor's Corner

By Pastor Kwame Sarpong
(Associate Pastor of London Ghana, Prince Emmanuel and
New Jerusalem SDA Churches)

Time is not on our side

Make use of the time you have!

Time is something in life that we have very little control over. In a world where we are encouraged to 'take control', time is one of those things that this saying cannot truly be applied. However, the one thing we can control is how we use our time. Words, like procrastination are almost synonymous with phrases like 'time-wasting' or 'wasting time' but as God's people, we need to make sure we are being mindful of what we do with the limited time we have because James 4:13 reminds us that we should not focus on doing things tomorrow for "you do not know what will happen tomorrow." As much as we can believe in a tomorrow, we should be focusing on today because "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery but today is a gift, that is why we call it the present." – Eleanor Roosevelt.

As a church, London Ghana is becoming the church of today. This year, we have done outreach and are slowly starting to make our mark in the community. From food bank to door-to-door invitations, to innovative concerts and even letting our young people lead. Indeed, we are embracing the gift that is today. So far this year, under the visionary leadership of our senior pastor, Pastor Joojo Bonnie, we have seen London Ghana press on with both young and old walking together, hand in hand. From the Spirit-filled Youth Week of Prayer led by Pr. Paul Smith, to the "Remember" Concert, to the Easter Musical Production and most recently, the evangelistic campaign led by Dr. Alanzo Smith. As a result, 50 people have given their lives to Jesus through baptism. We are truly seeing the Spirit of the Lord has been moving upon this church.

As exciting as it has been over the past year with Pastor Joojo, in the last South England Conference Session, which was held in September, Pastor Bonnie was called to serve as the Teens Director in the South England Conference. Now this may seem premature, especially with the great things that have been going on in London Ghana, but today I want to encourage and liken Pastor Joojo's short time in London Ghana to the ministry of Haggai, the prophet in the Old Testament.

The ministry of Haggai lasted for about three/four months, but it was an impactful three/four months. Haggai's prophecy came at a time when the Israelites were still struggling from the effects of the Babylonian activity and could not seem to shake themselves from a defeated spirit. Haggai came along and encouraged them and made them realize that the people of Judah needed to rebuild the Temple. It could not be left in ruins any longer. (Hag. 1:4)

This year, we have experienced the spirit of Haggai. Pastor Bonnie has come and encouraged that London Ghana cannot be left in ruins. London Ghana cannot be the same again. God's House must be rebuilt! As we continue into the final quarter of the year, we await with fervent prayer for Pastor Bonnie's replacement, but we also pray that as he goes on to this new journey to work as the Teen's Director, he continues in that same spirit, to rebuild the teenagers within our conference and that God will also help us, here at London Ghana, to continue rebuilding God's house, awaiting Jesus' second coming.



By Ransford Nana Sarpong

London Ghana SDA Sports And BBQ Day



This year's summer had a varying level of heat and cold but that didn't hinder the biggest Ghanaian Adventist congregation in the UK from coming out to enjoy a number of sporting activities and some communal tasty food.

With many members turning out in their numbers, there was stiff competition in football, athletics, droughts, table tennis and other indoor games.

On the football side, there were 6 teams competing on three different pitches. These were the London Ghana youth , the Kick About stars (Non church and church teams), the London Ghana Adults, The London Ghana Teens and the Kick About stars. There were some sterling performances notably from Benjamin Adu, Samuel Fosu, Jesse Amos, Ransford , Eld Hanson, Eld Adjei (Kuuku Dadzie), Vincent Kwarteng (Coach Vinnie)and a host of other elders in the church.

The Kick About Stars (Non church) team emerged winners with 3 wins overall. Kofi Opoku Boadi of the Kick About Stars team emerged as the top scorer.



The women were not left out as they thrilled the crowd in the athletic competition. A keenly contested 100 meter dash final was won by Mckayla fending off keen competition from Docia Essel, Abigail Attah Pokuaa and Maame.

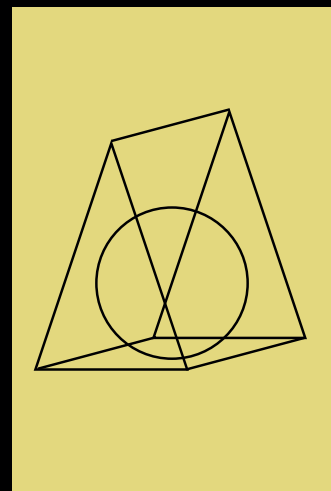
The head pastor, Ps Joojo Bonnie who did the awards presentation, admonished the youth and their leadership to continue to organise such social activities so to keep the youth in the church in the face of many tempting non Christian activities in the world. The church pastor, flanked by the first elder and the pastoral team thanked all who participated urged them to continue to keep fit.

After lifting the trophy, Amos Jesse captain of the Kick About Stars also highlighted how important these events were to the church family and praised the church leadership for organising such program. and was not short of praise of the members who turned up.

Back at the church premises, other indoor games like draught, ludo, PlayStation games, oware and ping pong went on as members chatted and wound down. There was a lot of food as is usual with many a Ghanaian event. Members enjoyed meals ranging from beef burgers, Waakye, jolof rice and savouries. There was a lot to drink as well.

This year's event like the previous one was took place at both the Beckton district park and the church premises and proudly sponsored by Tap Tap Send a money transfer organisation.

Adventist Men Celebrate Men's Ministry Day



By Elder Richard Antwi

The ticking of the clock finally came to an end on Sabbath, 19th August for the Men's Ministry Day. As bright and sunny as the weather could be, it was all smiles and joy as Adventist Men (AM) of London Ghana SDA Church ushered into the ecclesiastical hall in a processional. All dressed in white and singing SDAH 612, 'Onward Christian Soldiers.'

The theme for the day was: 'What manner of man?'

On a personal level, this was reminiscent of Matthew 28: 2 – 3, "Their appearance was like lightning, and their clothing as white as snow". Indeed, the 'word and work' of God were unbeatably burning in their hearts.

The men finally took their seats among the congregation, and amidst the Choristers, dressed in blue anniversary clothes, while the Singing Band and the rest of the congregation, adorned in 'mix and match' of apparels befitting the Sabbath.

Sooner than later, the Divine Service commenced after series of announcements by a seven-member panel. Momentously, the Praise Team spiritually invigorated the congregation with local songs, which was followed by the opening hymn, SDAH 373 – 'Seeking the Lost'.

There was a feeling of excitement and giggles all around, especially when the Adventist Men took to the dancing floor to praise the Lord. One of the memorable periods was when the men sang their theme song: "Adventist Men – Men of faith."

Men of Peace

Indeed, the activities, the performance and the dedication of the AM clearly demonstrated their eagerness to preach and propagate the gospel of Christ.

The sermon of the day entitled: "I will take what is left" was delivered by Pastor Ebenezer Jones Lartey, a former pastor of London Ghana congregation.

The sermon, which was primarily based on Matthew 13: 1–11 narrated the parable of the sower. Pastor Lartey elaborated on the fact that the sower and the seed don't change.

"Although our hearts may not be fertile, understanding the Bible is an integral part of our Christian journey would assist believers to bring souls to Christ. Jesus doesn't require us to bring in 100 per cent souls; at least, a minimum of 30% would exhibit our dedication to His work", he said.

Comparing the theme for the AM day, which was: 'What manner of man?' to the Sermon which was titled: "I will take what is left", it seems the two themes lean on each other. Indeed the former could be translated to mean: 'Are you that kind of man or Christian who can yield fruits for Christ or are you the kind that flings the congregation?' Jesus is ready to accept whatever is left; no matter what kind of soul you bring to Him.

The Men's Day reached a climax in the afternoon with a discussion on a theme regarding advice for young people who are preparing to find their life partners. Among the pieces of advice, contributions and discussions, it was concluded that the underlying factors for choosing a life's partner are based on spiritual and physical endeavours, like being God fearing, readiness to marry – sustainable job and income among others. Fundamentally, having unconditional love for the spouse cannot be ruled out.

Elder Bright Sam, leader of the Men's Ministry worked diligently to bring this programme to a successful conclusion.

The spectacle of that touch!

By **Rubina Fosua Arthur**

Climaxing what had been an exhilarating campaign in September 2023, Pr Dr Alanzo Smith chimed enthusiastically to his audience, "He is real!"

In a highly technological and scientific oriented world, miracles are often associated with ancient fables but in a heart wrenching and emotional appeal, Pr Smith recounted how he had been saved from the brink of death at the height of the Covid pandemic. Pr Smith challenged listeners to accept the reality of God's existence. "God is not a fragmentation of our imagination. He can change your life. What a mighty God we serve!"

Describing an extremely eerie hospitalisation back in April 2020, where absolutely no one, was allowed to touch him for four consecutive days, due to fear of contracting a virus which hadn't been fully understood, and no vaccine available at the time, a deafening silence engulfed the church building as onlookers re-lived what had been a tragic state of affairs when Covid arrived.

The extent of the breathlessness that consumed his body, according to Pr Smith, nearly resulted in him being placed on a ventilator but he firmly believes that only the intervention of prayer warriors in his immediate family as well as a variety of believers praying across America, the UK and the West Indies, pumped oxygen into his lungs in a space of three hours to the amazement of the medical team who had watched him struggle to breathe for nine days. Gasping for air, his blood pressure shooting through the roof, coupled with pneumonia in his blood, a hopeless situation which had made him question, whether he could ever preach again, dissipated, with one touch.



Amongst the attending audience during the course of Pr Smith's campaign, were individuals from all walks of life, different ages and backgrounds, but notably, the number of young people under the age of eighteen who chose to get baptised at the end of the campaign was rather captivating to say the least.

Joel is a thirteen-year-old pathfinder, who chose to get baptised after listening to the inspirational messages that had been shared by Pr Smith. Freshly out of the water, Joel couldn't hide his excitement about being born again. "I had been thinking of getting baptised for some time but I kept postponing it until I was sitting on the train a couple of days before the campaign ended and I heard that someone had jumped off the train. It made me think about how short life is and I'm so happy that I got the chance to get baptised before anything bad happened to me".

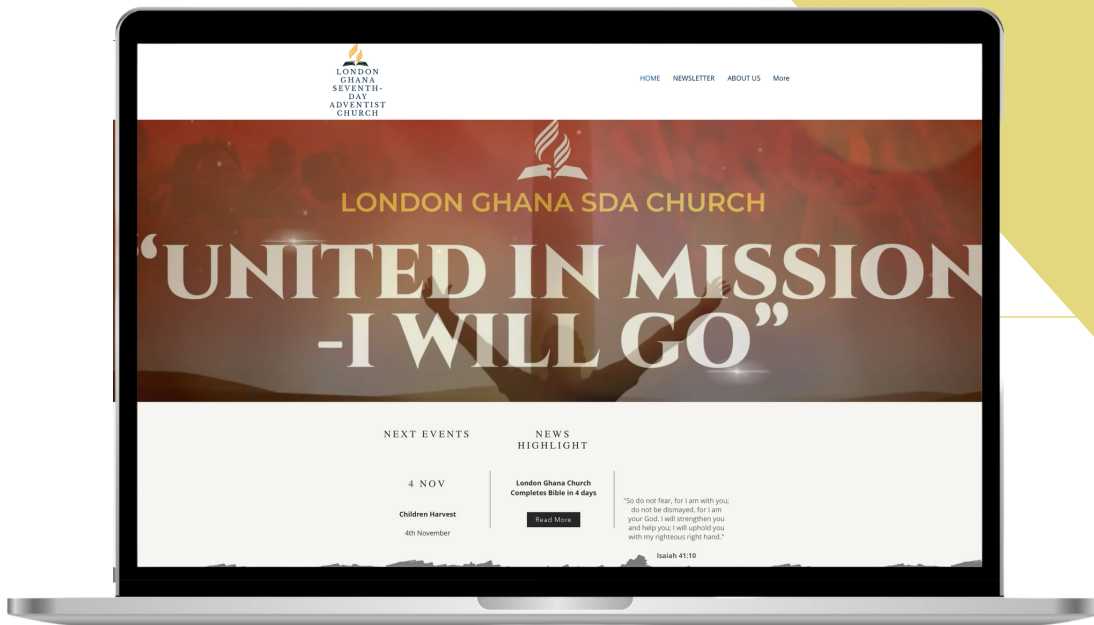
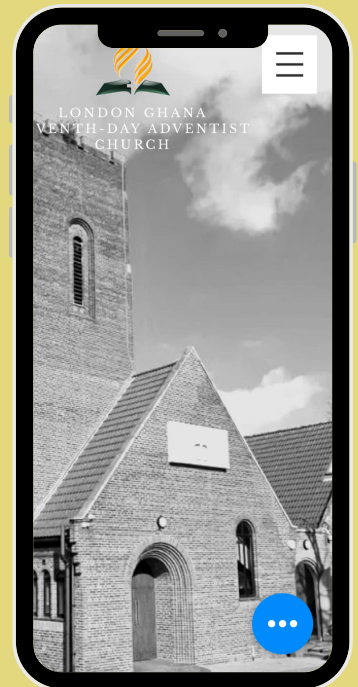


Sixteen-year-old Hilary, is also a vibrant young person who is buzzing about her decision to receive a special touch from God through baptism. "My life was going in all sorts of directions and I felt that I had no purpose...God is upgrading me!" Joel and Hilary were joined by twenty-four other people who also got baptised including Reece, Hilary's younger brother, who had been moved by the holy spirit to join his sister, after Pr Smith delivered his heartfelt testimony about that touch.

Despite being at risk of missing his return flight to New York, Pr Dr Alanzo Smith, made every effort to witness as many of the young people walk into the baptismal pool before dashing off to the airport, a crescendo, to the reality of God's unstoppable, powerful touch!







Visit us online

www.londonghsda.com



Never miss an issue!