

Beautifully Broken

"I am forgotten as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery." Psalm 31:12

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Our bus finally arrived at our much-anticipated destination—an archaeological dig in Israel where we would actually do some excavation work of our own. The site's director explained that anything we might unearth had been untouched for thousands of years. Digging up broken shards of pottery, we felt as though we were touching history. After an extended time, we were led to a workstation where those broken pieces—from huge vases shattered long, long ago—were being put back together.

The picture was crystal clear. Those artisans reconstructing centuries-old broken pottery were a beautiful representation of the God who loves to fix broken things. In Psalm 31:12, David wrote, "I am forgotten as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery." Though no occasion is given for the writing of this psalm, David's life difficulties often found voice in his laments—just like this one. The song describes him as being broken down by danger, enemies, and despair.

So, where did he turn for help? In verse 16, David cries out to God, "Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love."

The God who was the object of David's trust is the same One who still fixes broken things today. All He asks is that we call out to Him and trust in His unfailing love.

By: Bill Crowder - Taken from odb.org



Watch the Traditional Service online with Pastor Terry Messenger

Announcements / News

TOY SERVICE For the 60th year in succession hundreds of new toys adorned the already decorated platform to set the scene for the special service. Carols, handbells and choirs enhanced the wonderful spirit of Christmas. As usual representatives from Watford Borough Council, social services and charities attended the service. The current Mayor Peter Taylor and Baroness Thornhill, an enthusiastic supporter of the Toy Service, took part. The memory of the founder of the Toy Service Alf Kelly was honoured and his daughter Pat Walton, who has carried on the tradition for the last 25 years, was presented with an award by the Mayor for her service to the community.

The large display of presents on the platform was added to as children streamed to the front of the church (while following Government guidelines) to add their toys to red 'Santa sacks'. The remarkable generosity of the congregation in the giving of the toys is truly heart-warming and will bring joy to hundreds of Children. **Carols by Candle night. Christmas Eve at 5.00 pm.** A family time to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Lord and Saviour. The overflow room will be used if attendance reaches 200. The same arrangement will be in place for Christmas morning as well.

- Parallel fellowship lunch in the Cedar Sycamore room on 18th December. Bring your own lunch, and a Christmas treat to share.
- Children's Sabbath Schools: We have 4 groups running at church Cradle Roll (0-4) in the William's Hall, Kindergarten / Primary (4-8) in the Armstrong Room, Junior (9-12) in the Larch room and Earlyteen (13+) in the Beech room. Sabbath school starts at 9:45am.

We have 2 groups running on zoom - Primary and Earlyteen.

For more information, please email <u>ishida.yvonne@gmail.com</u>.

The Cradle Roll video programmes are going out on YouTube and Facebook as usual.

For anyone who would like to join us, Sabbath school will be running at church as usual on Christmas Day from 9:45am.

SOUP RUN – every Friday the soup run goes into London to assist the rough sleepers who are in need of men's winter clothes especially warm jumpers, jeans, warm jackets, socks underwear, sleeping bags and toiletries. If you wish to donate these items please contact Pat Walton on 07788311097 to arrange when to bring the items to the welfare centre.

Adult Sabbath School has started meeting in person at church with two classes currently in the Maple Room and Oak Room from 10am to 11am. The lessons will also be accessible via Zoom with the following links:
Oak Room class: LINK Meeting ID: 813 2543 1531 || Passcode: Z9tr0T
Maple Class: LINK Meeting ID: 757 070 1887 || Passcode: 111000 (Or by phone: +44 203 481 5240)

- ADRA ANNUAL APPEAL If you would like to join this endeavour by acknowledging a birthday or to give thanks to God by donating to ADRA - please go to <u>https:justgiving.com/fundraising/Audrey-Balderstone1</u> Thank you.
- Welfare Department Operates every week usually two mornings. If you wish to make donations please contact Pat on 07788311097 to arrange when to bring the donations to the welfare centre. The donations MUST NOT BE LEFT ON THE CHURCH/CENTRE PREMISES.
- Please keep Mrs Lola Gordon and her family in your prayers as she prepares for her treatment to start.

ADRA VIRTUAL GIFT BOX APPEAL 2021: Last year we raised £10,000 to help children in the UK that were affected by the pandemic. This year our Virtual Gift Box campaign will benefit children in rural Chad. We would like to provide them with a basic school kit, a hygiene pack and a toy. What a difference this will make. We ask you to donate £10 per child on our <u>JustGiving website</u>: donate as much as you can e.g. a £50 donation will benefit 5 children. This year we have kept it simple: make a donation on our <u>JustGiving page</u> or, alternatively, send us a cheque.

Please pray for Muriel Glendinning who is back in hospital. Becky De Oliveira has had a second successful surgery this week. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.

Family Service - 18th December

Welcome & Announcements - David Burgess Meditation - 'Oh Holy Night', Elizabeth Roberts Invocation - David Burgess Call to Worship - 'O Come, O Come, Immanuel', SDAH 115 Children's Story - Paula Carillio Hymn of Praise - 'The First Noel, SDAH 118 Family prayer - Christopher, Marlène and Gabrielle Levy Scripture Reading - Matthew 2: 1-15 (NIV), Neriya Khetavath Special item - 'It Came Upon the Midnight Clear', Piano duet by Gaia Miteva and Neriya Khetavath (Stanborough Secondary School)

Sermon - 'No Christmas?', Pastor Terry Messenger

Closing hymn - 'Angels from the Realms of Glory', NAH 98 Benediction - Pastor Terry Messenger Postlude

Sabbath School from 9:45am

Welcome & Opening Prayer - Massimo Molteni Opening Hymn: SDAH 86 - How Great Thou Art Facilitator: Bheki T. Moyo Panel: Wallacia Scott, Felipe Fuste, Erna Herteliu, Ioan Herteliu

Third Partial Report of the Nominating Committee 11 December 2021

Deacons Deputy Heads:

Mick Lilley **Richard Gayle** Simon Wragg Filipe Fuste Julio Brugos Deacons: Trond Asbjørnson Thomas Akindele Denver Annable Eustace Anthony Gavin Gengan Sang-Bin Jung William Nalli Dean Papaioannou **Clinton Quarshie** Colin Robertson Lascelles Shields Wally Solomon Simeon Vontzalidis

Ushers

Christian Constantinou Dane Cummings June Cummings Belicia Miteva Gaia Miteva

Adult Sabbath School Team: Erna Herteliu

Children's Sabbath School

Primary Leader: Esther Kansere Junior Leader: Elena Turturica Earliteen Leader: Uche Ademuyiwa Youth Leaders: Student Missionaries

Pathfinders

Director: Davide Labalestra Bukky Ayo-Ipaye - Deputy Hamish McComb - Deputy & Guide Paula Carrillo- Deputy & Friend Eileen Hussey - Deputy & Voyager Ashlove Amoako-Atta - Companion Sunsiree Renard - Companion Esther Kansere - Explorer Uzo Wosu - Ranger Jackson Bright - Voyager Ngozi Wosu - PBE coach Yetunde Bright - Master Guide Coordinator

Parallel Service Music Committee

Leader: Manuela Mai Dan Sabatier Chantel Alen Charlotte Marshall

Communication Team

Leader: June Coombs Social Media: Student Volunteers Digital: Jef Nasciemento Website: Jef Nasciemento

The following names will comprise the **Church Board**

Senior Pastor Chair Assistant Pastor Co-Chair Florence Allen Elder Audrey Balderstone Elder David Burgess Elder Bernell Bussue Elder Louis Guenin Elder Steven Moser Elder Bheki Moyo Elder Roger Murphy Elder Annalisa Molteni Head Deaconness Alix Roberts Church Clerk Massimo Molteni Adult Sabbath School Leader Paula Carillo Children's Sabbath School Leader Bernell Bussue Church Site Management Committee Chair Davide Labalestra Pathfinder Leader Megan Joseph Adventurer Leader Fred Shone Treasurer June Coombs Communication Ministry Pat Walton Welfare Tunde Adelbayo Youth Ministry Faith Allen Health & Safety Officer

Print: June Coombs Photographer: Costa Vaggas

In addition, the Church Board will also add the following roles once names have been brought to the church to vote in a future Partial Report. Head Deacon Church Member x 2 Family Ministry Leader Health Ministry Leader Outreach Ministry Leader Prayer Ministry Leader Safeguarding Officer Women's Ministry Leader

These names will be voted on Sabbath 18 December 2021. Should you wish to clarify a name, please contact Pst Geert Tap or Dave Burgess.











60th Toy Service



Cradle Roll Sabbath School -DECEMBER

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Stanborough Park Church

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CONTACTS

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www.stanboroughchurch.org

Stanborough Park Church is part of the <u>Seventh-Day</u> Adventist Church 609 St. Albans Road, Watford, <u>WD25 9JL</u>

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