

Shining Stars

"You will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life." Philippians 2:15–16

I can close my eyes and go back in time to the house where I grew up. I remember stargazing with my father. We took turns squinting through his telescope, trying to focus on glowing dots that shimmered and winked. These pinpricks of light, born of heat and fire, stood out in sharp contrast to the smooth, ink-black sky.

Do you consider yourself to be a shining star? I'm not talking about reaching the heights of human achievement, but standing out against a dark background of brokenness and evil. The apostle Paul told the Philippian believers that God would shine in and through them as they held "firmly to the word of life" and avoided grumbling and arguing (Philippians 2:14–16).

Our unity with other believers and our faithfulness to God can set us apart from the world. The problem is that these things don't come naturally. We constantly strive to overcome temptation so we can maintain a close relationship with God. We wrestle against selfishness to have harmony with our spiritual brothers and sisters.

But still, there's hope. Alive in each believer, God's Spirit empowers us to be self-controlled, kind, and faithful (Galatians 5:22–23). Just as we are called to live beyond our natural capacity, God's supernatural help makes this possible (Philippians 2:13). If every believer became a "shining star" through the power of the Spirit, just imagine how the light of God would repel the darkness around us!

By: Jennifer Benson Schuldt - Taken from odb.org



Watch the <u>Traditional Service</u> online with Pastor Douglas McCormac



Watch the <u>Parallel Service</u> online with Pastor Tim Roberts Zoom Meeting ID: 840 134 7522, Passcode: 2007691

Announcements / News

- □ Treasury Report 2020 Read it here.
- Church Re-opening: Plans for May. The first three Sabbaths will be live and the last two pre-recorded. The limit for the number who can attend the live services is 50 persons. If you wish to attend the services please contact Audrey Balderstone (abalderstone@btconnect.com) or Roger Murphy (rt.murphy@hotmail.com) who will assist to accommodate you.
- DBS: All those who have received their DBS need to contact Uche Ademuyiwa.
 She needs to update the system. Email: <u>uchejbc@yahoo.co.uk</u>

For information about Earliteen Sabbath School, please email: <u>Uchejbc@yahoo.co.uk</u> For information about Junior Sabbath School, please email: <u>spcjuniorss@gmail.com</u> For information about Primary Sabbath School, please email: <u>ekansere@gmail.com</u> For information about Kindergarten Sabbath School, please email: <u>ishida.yvonne@gmail.com</u>

ADRA As we will not be able to collect door to door for ADRA again this year, Audrey Balderstone has come up with a fund raising idea. She plans to give a donation to ADRA for the birthday of each of her friends and relatives during the year. She is also asking for donations to ADRA instead of birthday presents to her. If you would like to swell the fund for ADRA you could donate in honour of a friend or family member - or as a 'thank you' present for God's blessings. To donate please go to Audrey's Just Giving' page:

https:justgiving.com/fundraising/Audrey-Balderstone1

Cradle Roll Programme May edition Sabbath at 9:45am on <u>Youtube</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

Women's Ministry: Please join us Saturday 15th afternoon at 3-5pm for an inspiring programme. Our guest speaker is from America and she's looking to fellowshipping with us. Looking forward to seeing you. God bless. Zoom ID - 2509665133 Passcode - 243467.

- The family prayer basket has gone to Jacqueline Dean and her family. "We pray that God's Name will be forever praised for His Kindness and Love to us. We pray that we will cherish Jesus more and more in our lives and trust Him for everything. We pray for reconciliation and healing for each one of our family and friends, that His leading and love in our lives will enable us to fulfil God's best plans for us. For Jacqueline, Duncan, Sophie, Ellie, Robert, Rebecca, Marcus and Mateo"
- An Adventist couple and their 8-year-old daughter are looking for a temporary flat to rent. They came from the Caribbean island of St Vincent & the Grenadines where happened recently volcanic eruptions. If you have or know someone that could help them, or would like to have more information, please, do not hesitate to contact Dawn Wallace 07948760329 or via email heatherpaw@aol.com

Thank you in advance.

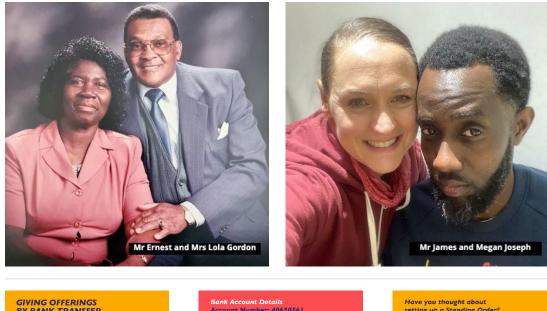
Congratulations to Joanna and Carl Swain and big sister Hana, on the safe arrival of Grace Leah born last Sabbath 8th May, weighing 3.18kg.

- The flowers in the church today are to thank God for the recovery from Covid of my parents and sister in India. They also celebrate my Mother's birthday today and are given in praise and thanksgiving. Margaret Thulimelli.
- Please continue to pray for Margaret Anthony at this challenging time. And, also
 'Thank You' for your love and concern for our family Eustace.

Membership Transfers

Mr Ernest and Mrs Lola Gordon from LeHigh Acres SDA Church, Florida to SPC. Mrs Adebukola (Bukky) Ayinke Ayo-Ipaye from Victory Sanctuary SDA Church, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos, Nigeria to SPC. Mr James and Megan Joseph from Ilford Lane SDA Church to SPC. Pauli and Sandra Madeira from Stanborough Park Church to UNASP-EC Church in Brazil.

This is the first reading of these names. Upcoming date: Members Meeting 27th June











A Passionate Touch



What is to prevent me? (Baptism Service)



Cradle Roll Sabbath School - 8th May 2021



Adventist Global Camp-Meeting

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Stanborough Park Church

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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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