

NEWSLETTER

"...when I sit in darkness the lord shall be a light unto me." - Micah 7:8



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With hearts brimming with gratitude, I extend warm greetings as we enter a new month, reflecting on the myriad of events that have graced our district over the past couple of months. As we stand united in our faith, we are reminded of the exquisite tapestry woven by our spiritual ACFM family.

We were excited to join forces again this July with Chatham and Riverway district with our joint "Health Expo Extravaganza." Over the course of three days, we reached out to over 250 people, delighted with their free health checks, books and massages. To our surprise we had testimonies from people who had experienced the health checks the previous year, gleefully returning for another helping of God's goodness and grace.

July bequeathed Ashford a special blessing—the baptism of the Bell family. Their proclamation of faith showcased the transformative grace of God. Let us therefore enfold the Bell family in our prayers, as they voyage into this new chapter, nurturing their faith and communion with God.

The August District Day resounded with triumph, an orchestra of energy and commitment from all who converged. Pastor Mbui's guidance illuminated our path, infusing practical evangelism insights into our

endeavours. Your door-knocking efforts in Canterbury were a testament to your willingness to embrace our local neighbours with open hearts, leaving behind smiles even when doors remained closed. In unity, let us encourage one another as we continue our journey of community enrichment.

Folkestone joyfully welcomed Sister Rai, our esteemed eldest member, into the fellowship at the remarkable age of 92, a living testament to the enduring nature of faith.

In poignant memory, we gathered to commemorate Elder John, an esteemed figure in our church community. The Wilson family's gratitude for the support shown reminds us of our shared unity and strength. Let's keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

In this upcoming month, our prayers are directed towards the 64th Session scheduled for the 7th to the 10th of September. This season also bears personal significance, as I have been chosen for ordination on the 9th of September. Your support and love have been deeply appreciated, and I cordially invite you to share in this momentous occasion.

I extend my warmest wishes to all who celebrated their birthdays this August! May your lives be continuously enriched with joy, love, and the abundant grace of God.

Blessings *PR Orey*

ACFM SDA CHURCHES PRESENTS



THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

EVANGELISM TRAINING

SPEAKER: ELD. PAUL DAY

13TH MAY 2023

09:30 - 17:00

“Evangelism, the very heart of Christianity, is the theme of primary importance to those called to herald God's last warning to a doomed world.”
— ELLEN G. WHITE



DIVINE SERVICE

A time for all to come together in community to worship, learn, and grow in our faith.



STREET WITNESSING

Street witnessing is a powerful way for us to share our faith and engage in meaningful conversations with people from different backgrounds and perspectives. It is a fulfilling and rewarding experience. If you have not tried it, come along and learn more.



TRAINING

We will be looking at

- What the Law says about street witnessing.
- Some different techniques of street witnessing.
- How to transition your conversations. And more.

Sharing the Love of God in the month of May

ACFM District once again came together for an insightful session on street evangelism. The presentation covered legal protection, diverse methods of street evangelism, and inspiring testimonies. The speaker also shed light on the challenges faced when dealing with both tough situations and law enforcement. The worship service reaffirmed our commitment to spreading God's love through bold actions and willingness to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the streets.

“...YE SHALL BE WITNESSES...”
Acts 1:7-8



As the afternoon sun embraced Folkestone High Street, a spirited mission unfolded. Armed with "The Great Controversy" by E.G. White, we ventured out to offer this 'free' book to the community. What ensued was heartening – a stand-alone table and audio recording became a magnet for curious minds, as we distributed more than 200 copies within an hour.

The atmosphere was blessed with 25+ church members and visitors from across our district, all joining hands in this street evangelism endeavour. We stood united in our mission to share the message of hope, inviting conversations and sparking connections with the community. In this simple act of giving, we witnessed hearts opening to new perspectives and ideas.

This vibrant afternoon affirmed that our streets are ripe grounds for sowing seeds of faith. As we continue to reach out, may our actions mirror the love and compassion that are at the core of our beliefs as Seventh-day Adventist Christians.



ACFM Pathfinder Camp - “Count me in!”

From June 30th to July 2nd, Kingsdown Camp in Deal was the backdrop to an invigorating weekend for our Pathfinders and Adventurers. With 30 attendees, the camp reverberated with energy, fellowship, and spiritual nurturing.



The journey commenced on Friday evening with a Devotion led by the ‘Sunbeam’ class. The Sabbath dawned with a joyful awakening of praise, followed by Sabbath School led by the ‘Helping Hands’ class, aligned with our theme, "Count Me In."

Throughout the weekend, we dove into curriculum sessions and enjoyed a picturesque hike down the white cliffs to the seafront.

As the Sabbath sun began to set, we gathered by the campfire, relishing the sweetness of corn and marshmallows. The following Sunday afternoon resonated with the sounds of drilling and marching, a testament to the commitment of our young pathfinders and adventurers.

We want to say well done to Builders, Little Lambs, Busy Bees, Sunbeams, Helping Hands, and Pathfinders for completing their work; and a heartfelt appreciation to all the Pathfinder leaders and counsellors for your commitment. As we anticipate the path ahead, we warmly invite parents, both those returning and those new, to journey with us in the forthcoming year.

A Delightful Escape (Margate)

The Margate group experienced a delightful escape to a country getaway at the Hay’s Wood Retreat in the heart of Norfolk, indulging in a range of activities including nature walks, fellowship, communal cooking, and shared meals.

As a group, we explored woodland trails, uncovering the hidden gems of nature and wildlife along the way. The friendships that blossomed within the group were heartwarming, as we shared conversations, and the cosiness of the luxury cabin brought everyone closer together.

For those who joined, it was a journey of connection, relaxation, and spiritual rejuvenation that will be cherished for a long time to come. The Margate group's venture into the heart of Norfolk was indeed an invitation to experience the beauty of nature, the warmth of fellowship, and the serenity of retreat.



District Health Expo '23

Seven Seventh-day Adventist churches in South-East England (Ashford, Canterbury, Folkestone, Margate - Chatham, Maidstone and Riverway), came together to emulate Christ's outreach method at the Kent County Show from 7th to 9th of July.

Together we set up a 12m x 9m pitch at the show, offering free health checks, spiritual discussions, and counselling. Services included BMI measurements, blood pressure checks, glucose tests, and more. Volunteers passionately engaged, leaving a positive impact on attendees. The initiative

fostered connections, distributed informative materials, and even entertained with the Chatham Pathfinders' Drum Corp performance. The endeavour was a success, drawing gratitude, inquiries, and participation. The collaboration involved numerous organizations and volunteers, uniting for a shared cause, while embodying the Seventh-day Adventist church's core Health Message in practical ways.



The pastoral team and the district evangelism team extend our heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated members of our churches who selflessly sacrificed their time and effort to make this outreach ministry a reality. Your commitment and sacrifice have not gone unnoticed but have shown the way of compassion and service. We thank you for your unwavering devotion to making a positive difference among the hundreds of other exhibitors at the Kent Showground in Detling.

“ NEW START ”



Bell Family Celebration (Ashford)

A heartfelt celebration is in order as we come together to rejoice in the baptism of the Bell family on July 29th. Their decision to publicly affirm their faith marks a significant milestone in their spiritual journey. As a district, let us surround them with our love, support, and prayers as they continue to walk the path of faith and grow in their relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

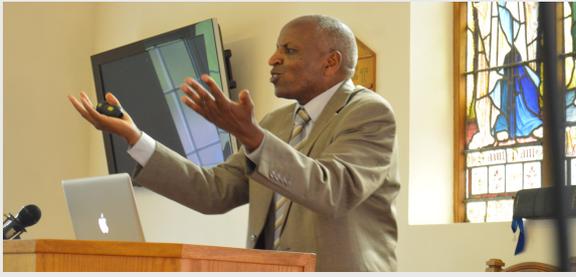
” BAPTISM ”

"The ordinance of baptism by immersion is a symbol of our faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour. We are to follow the example of our Lord in His burial and resurrection. 'Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.' Romans 6:4." - The Desire of Ages, p. 121.



Monthly Outreach: Sharing the Love

Every month, a beautiful testament to Christ's love in action unfolds as church members unite to reach out to the neighbours and community. This embodiment of love finds expression through various avenues including book distribution, street preaching, and heartwarming singing. If you feel the calling to be part of this impactful mission, don't hesitate to connect with your local personal ministries leader or Elder. They will be delighted to share more information and guide you on how to get involved in these transformative monthly outreach efforts.



District Day of Fellowship

As we gathered in unity and faith, the District Day of Fellowship transformed into a vibrant platform for evangelism, guided by Pastor M. Mbui's insights and the spirit of Christ's method, as outlined in Ellen G. White's "Ministry of Healing."

Pastor Mbui's teachings mirrored Christ's approach, highlighting the power of meeting people's needs with love and compassion. Echoing Christ's mingling with diverse souls, we embraced community visitation, sharing conversations and smiles, just as He did.

Our experience echoed Christ's challenges, reminding us of the importance of persistence. Through Pastor Mbui's guidance, we embodied Christ's method, merging timeless wisdom with present-day purpose.

With hearts aligned to Christ's ministry, we venture onward, carrying His message through actions, words, and love, sowing seeds that resonate with the spirit of evangelism.

District Memorial

On August 27th, 2023, we gathered to remember Elder John A. Wilson, a cherished member of our district. The memorial service was a poignant blend of shared memories and reflective moments, reminding us of his profound impact on our lives and the ACFM community.

Through tears and stories, we celebrated a life devoted to faith, family, and service.

As we bid our farewells, let us carry forward Elder John's legacy - his unwavering faith and selflessness - and allow his memory to inspire us in our own journeys.



“FAREWELL”

Age Knows No Bounds: ACFM Sports Day.

Check the SEC Newsletter to see the write up for our Sports Day.

<https://seccommunicator.uk/sec-nl-2023/07/2023-07-28-sec-nl-060.html>



*All web links are clickable.

COMMUNION DATES

Ashford: 9th September 2023

Canterbury: 23rd September 2023

Margate: 7th October 2023

Folkestone: 4th November 2023

BAPTISM DATES

14th October 2023

2nd December 2023

If you would like to be baptized, please contact your local Elder or Pastor Greg for Bible studies.

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS

Please consider transferring your membership to your local church. Transfers of membership can be easily done by using the **7me App** which can be found on the "Google play store" or the "ios App store."

DISTRICT DAY OF FELLOWSHIP

9th December 2023

BOOK A PASTORAL VISIT

<https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/Visitation@secadventist.org.uk/bookings/>

DAILY PRAYER LIFELINE

5am - 6am - ID: 893 1062 6525 - Passcode: 7772406

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89310626525?pwd=OGN0MmcrTU9mdDNjWUs0SUNvRjQ0QT09>



“Healing Hearts | Changing Lives...”