



# PASTORAL NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

DR. EMMANUEL OSEI

Dear Friends,

Christian greetings to you and your loved ones.

Last week, on the 2 September, the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) published a [report](#) drawing on evidence from 38 different religious organisations (including Baptist, Jehovah's Witnesses, Methodist and independent evangelical churches, as well as Jewish Orthodox and Islamic groups).

Sadly, their findings indicate "shocking failings" in the way that many major UK religious groups handle child sex abuse allegations.

A number of organisational and cultural barriers to reporting were identified, including victim-blaming, mistrust of external authorities and misuse of scriptures and religious doctrines; which often serve to prioritise the reputations of an organisation and its leaders above the needs of abuse victims.

Published less than a week after an excellent two-part '[End it Now](#)' programme coordinated by Sister Jacqueline Otokpa, our SEC Women's Ministries Director, the report serves as another sobering reminder of our duty and responsibilities as leaders to Keep our Church Family Safe.

There are policies in place from the General Conference right down to the [local Union](#) for the prevention of abuse.

And where abuse has taken place, there are procedures that must be followed. Within the South England Conference, the Children's Ministries and Secretariat departments oversee the implementation of the Union's safeguarding policy, '[Keeping our Church Family Safe](#)', to ensure best practice in the protection of children and adults at risk.

Additionally, each local church has a responsibility to ensure that appropriate measures are implemented: Each congregation should have a **Designated Safeguarding Person**, responsible for training those working directly with children and adults at risk, as well as raising general awareness of the BUC policy and 'good practice' procedures among the membership.

There should also be a **DBS Clerk** available in each church, to carry out Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for church officers. These checks, which should be repeated every three years, enable churches to make safer recruitment decisions and prevent unsuitable people from working with vulnerable groups, including children within our organisation.

Beyond this, each member should be empowered to recognise their role in ensuring that the policies and procedures in place to protect the most vulnerable are functioning appropriately; and to report any concerns to the church's designated safeguarding lead and other relevant authorities.

## DEPARTMENTS

PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

TREASURER

ADVENTIST RADIO LONDON

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

CHURCH PLANTING & GROWTH

COMMUNICATION

COMMUNITY SERVICES

COUNSELLING SERVICES

DISABILITY MINISTRIES

DIVERSITY MINISTRIES

FAMILY MINISTRIES

HEALTH MINISTRIES

HUMAN RESOURCES

MEDIA

MEN'S MINISTRIES

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

PATHFINDERS

PERSONAL MINISTRIES

PRAYER MINISTRIES

PRISON MINISTRIES

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

SABBATH SCHOOL

STEWARDSHIP

TEENS

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

YOUTH

Safeguarding the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of the vulnerable is integral to practically demonstrating the grace of Christ in our churches and communities. There is no room for complacency on our part. If we are to be effective in our mission to **Make Disciples and Build Communities**, we must be proactive in our efforts to prevent and respond to abuse in all its forms.

## Communication & Media

### Monday Morning Manna: 6 September

Please be encouraged by these short devotional messages and feel free to share: [youtu.be/Zq6mloAqRCM](https://youtu.be/Zq6mloAqRCM)

### 60 SEC News

Watch the new episode here: [youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCJwMkH9QCA\\_6uapEj2iGQuaIDbOmcP6i](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCJwMkH9QCA_6uapEj2iGQuaIDbOmcP6i)

### SEC COMMUNICATOR Magazine

This quarter, we discuss Gender Inequality; as well as the usual departmental updates and church news: [seccommunicator.com](https://seccommunicator.com)

### Singles Ministry

#### S.N.A.G.D. Click & Connect Weekly Zoom Friday 10 September (7pm)

A weekly blend of worship, wisdom, and worldwide fellowship for single unmarried Adventists:

[us02web.zoom.us/j/8337107765?pwd=TTMyN0N3cWhqelRCNzNQelhrUGtVZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8337107765?pwd=TTMyN0N3cWhqelRCNzNQelhrUGtVZz09)

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 833 710 7765

**Passcode:** BLESSED

#### S.A.S.S: What Single Adventist Women Want Saturday 11 September (9pm)

A panel of over 20 single Adventist women give their thoughts on what they seek in a 1 Timothy 3:1-7 or Titus 1:5-9 Godly spouse. Attendees must keep their cameras on and use their real names to gain entry:

[us02web.zoom.us/j/5455184477?pwd=VmJMNmUrc0V2RzJnUnpCQWdxQUhmZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5455184477?pwd=VmJMNmUrc0V2RzJnUnpCQWdxQUhmZz09)

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 5455 1844 77

**Passcode:** Genesis218

#### S.A.S.S. Weekly Zoom Schedule:

- **Prayer Meeting:** Thursdays (8pm)
- **Sabbath School Study:** Fridays (9:30pm)
- **Social/Quiz Night:** Saturdays (9pm)
- **Singles Zoom Walk:** Sundays (12 noon)

### Youth Ministry: SEC Sports Max Summer '21 Indoor 5-A-Side Football Tournament Sunday 12 September (10.30am)

Register a team of up to 7 players for the chance to win 'The Indoor Champion' trophy: [ymfootball.eventbrite.co.uk](https://ymfootball.eventbrite.co.uk)  
Email [youthministries@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:youthministries@secadventist.org.uk) for more information.

### Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Elective Home Education Proposed Legislation Discussion

#### Sunday 12 September (4pm-6pm)

With changes to home schooling legislation looming, what do we need to know? Please share the attached posters and access the attached House of Commons Education Committee Report prior to the meeting. Watch on the [Brighton Kavaloh YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBk10000000000000000000) or join via Zoom:

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 617 786 3422

**Passcode:** jjg7JG

### Newbold College Autumn Diversity Lectures: Urban Religious Diversity Online Conversations with Millennials About Faith – Learnings from a Lockdown Summer Tuesday 14 September (7.30pm)

In March 2020, the SEC Youth Ministries Director was furloughed. The youth programme was led by young people for young people living in diverse cultural backgrounds, mostly in the cities and towns of southern England. They decided to facilitate online discussions about the issues they were facing as Christians entitled, 'No Walls Talks,' which sparked a cascade of other local conversations among young people in urban churches. Learn what they discussed and discovered and explore some of the challenges they faced with Newbold ecclesiologist, Dr Tihomir Lazic.

**Speakers:** Pastor Lolly Fontaine from LondonLive Church & Kennington Community Fellowship; and Thomas Mwadime, SEC Youth Ministries Digital Co-ordinator, and Trainer in Diversity, Inclusion and Leadership.

**Register:** to join in with the interactive Q&A following the lecture:

[zoom.us/webinar/register/1216293688467/WN\\_mxzLdkhcRzyLcnHjQqYyFA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/1216293688467/WN_mxzLdkhcRzyLcnHjQqYyFA)

### Croydon Church

#### Plant Based Online Cook-Along Classes Thursday 16 September (7pm-8pm)

Learn how to cook tasty and nutritious plant-based dishes and immune-boosting smoothies. Register: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/croydon-online-plant-based-cook-along-classes-registration-129590056347](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/croydon-online-plant-based-cook-along-classes-registration-129590056347)

### Pathfinders & Adventurers

#### 71st World Pathfinder Day Saturday 18 September (10am & 4pm)

An Outdoor Pathfinder Worship experience on Stanborough Park. Tickets required for entry (register by 12 September): [secpathfinder.shop/product/sec-world-adventurer-day-in-the-park-ticket-18-september-2021](https://secpathfinder.shop/product/sec-world-adventurer-day-in-the-park-ticket-18-september-2021)

### Church Growth

#### Simple Church Training Webinar for England Saturday 18 September (3pm-5pm)

Register now for this live webinar with Milton Adams to learn more about house church planting. Visit the link below: [www.SimpleChurchTrainingWorkshops.com](https://www.SimpleChurchTrainingWorkshops.com)

### Ilford Central Church

#### I Will Go: Reaching the World with the Word of Hope

#### Continues Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays until 18 September

Join live on Sabbath mornings at Ilford Central Church; or tune in online:

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 8253 5493 761

**YouTube:** [Ilford Central SDA Livestream](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

### SDA Generation X: Let's Start Over A Friday Night Worship X-perience Friday 24 September (7.30pm)

An evening of refreshing, revival, and renewal, especially for Gen-Xers (those born between 1965 and 1979). Watch on the [SDA Generation X YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...).

### Area 2 Virtual Day of Fellowship

#### Go Light Your World

#### Saturday 25 September (11.30am & 3pm)

Join Pastor Wayne Erasmus and Professor Stuart Burgess online for a day of fellowship and inspiration.

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 147 424 851

**Passcode:** 158 424 741

### Men's Ministry

#### Real Men Real Talk

#### Returns Monday 4 October

Please look out for details of the next series of discussions later this month. In the meantime, please contact SEC Men's Ministries Coordinator, Devon Boyd, on [dboyd@secadventist.org.uk](mailto:dboyd@secadventist.org.uk) or 07956 383222 for help and support with your local Men's Ministry.

### Cornerstone Counselling Service (CCS)

Please ensure your members are aware of the support available through Cornerstone:

- Call the dedicated listening line from 8am to midnight, seven days a week on 0330 133 2495;
- For counselling appointments, call the office on 0207 723 8050, from 9.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, and 9am to 12 noon on Fridays;
- Email [connect@ccscounselling.org.uk](mailto:connect@ccscounselling.org.uk);
- Visit our website to chat online and for emotional support resources: [ccscounselling.org.uk](https://ccscounselling.org.uk)

### ADRA-UK Update

#### Emergency Appeals

Please share the link below with members who may wish to donate to support the ADRA Network Emergency Response efforts: [ow.ly/1gEr50FRwEp](https://ow.ly/1gEr50FRwEp)

### SEC Prayer Line

Join us for a Spirit-filled hour of prayer every morning from 6am.

**Dial in (UK):** 0330 088 1937

**Telephone access code:** 619764#

**Link:** [join.freeconferencecall.com/churchh](https://join.freeconferencecall.com/churchh)

**Online meeting ID:** churchh

**International dial-in:** [fccdl.in/i/churchh](https://fccdl.in/i/churchh)

Warmest regards,



Dr Emmanuel Osei  
President  
South England Conference