



nacukie news

Newsletter United Kingdom, Ireland and Isle of Man

January 2021



Foreword

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As this is our first newsletter in 2021, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you a happy and blessed year ahead.

A new year gives us the chance to make a fresh start and to look with anticipation to that which lies before us. The motto, which our chief apostle has given us for 2021, is [Christ, our future](#). Under this word we focus on the promise of His return, and our glorious eternal future.

As I write this article the corona virus infection rates are rising fast and the health services are under extreme pressure. This is directly impacting on many of our brethren, some of whom have lost loved ones; are suffering themselves or are carrying other heavy burdens or worries. On the other hand, the vaccine is rapidly being rolled out and other treatments are being

discovered to help reduce the suffering. A minister recently said to me: 'the darkest hour is before dawn,' and therefore even when our circumstances seem harder than ever before, we have a reason to have hope and to look towards the dawn and the light rather than the darkness and the night.

Just as the birds herald the coming dawn with their song, so we can also be active today as we prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus. An important part of this preparation are divine services, and I am very thankful to all those involved in making the online church services possible. Ever since the first lockdown we have planned for a return to church but it seems that as soon we make a new plan, a day or two later the situation changes, and our plans have to be changed or suspended. I will admit that it is more than a little frustrating, but it doesn't stop us continuing to plan even though the situation remains uncertain.

I am delighted therefore to advise you of two very exciting events which I sincerely hope we will be able to realise.

- On Sunday the 2nd of May our district apostle plans to hold a divine service in Ireland to which the whole of Ireland is invited.
- On Sunday 31st October our chief apostle plans to hold a divine service for the whole of the UK.

At the time of writing, we don't know if and how these events will go ahead, but as of today we can all pray, prepare and plan for them. So, while it may still seem dark around us, may this news bring us all the light of hope and anticipation and enable us to focus forwards to an exciting year ahead.

With love and greetings

David Heynes



Morning Broadcast

Thought for the Day

This article was shared as part of the UK and Ireland's online morning broadcasts, which take place at 6, 7 and 8 a.m. Monday to Friday.

Thought for the Day, Wednesday 13th January.

Author *Linda Hoeck*
(*Glasgow congregation*)

Good morning Brothers and Sisters,

I have already shared with you the story of how our Glasgow Congregation started with my father Harry Hoeck as rector.

My grandparents were also instrumental in supporting my parents through those difficult times, but they were reluctant to participate in the services. My grandfather, John Bambridge, (who was affectionately called 'Bowser' after a little dog who looked like him) was a very reserved man, he was happy and believed that there was a higher being but didn't feel the need to take it any further. Grampa passed away when I was 4 years old, but I was told many lovely stories about him. My grandmother, Jeannie Bambridge was a God-fearing woman all her life, gave thanks to the Lord every day and was a member of the Tabernacle Church nearby.

Many ministers from England, Canada and the USA came to visit and held services and my mother would always

make sure that granny was included in the little gathering. My sister and I would ask her, 'Granny – why don't you become New Apostolic?' and she would smile and say, 'You are New Apostolic, and I am Old Apostolic.' So, we just continued to pray every day that one day she would change her 'Old' to 'New.'

15 years passed and over that time our Apostle and then District Apostle Kraus from Canada, who visited at least once a year, got to know my grandmother and always hoped that the day would come when she would stand before him to be sealed but he was always disappointed.

My grandmother then became very ill and was diagnosed with cancer and she came to live with us in our home. She requested that we leave the door of her bedroom and the 'church room' door open so that she could listen to the services and she took to reading the many 'Our Family' magazines that we had accumulated. One evening she called my father to her bed and she said, 'Priest Hoeck,' she had never before given him this name, 'I would like to be sealed.'

My father spoke with her a little while and they prayed together.

Within a short time, our District Apostle Kraus came to London Central Church to hold a service and ministers' meeting and my father drove down to London to attend this special event. After the service my father spoke to DA Kraus and told him about my grandmother's illness and her request to be sealed if it was possible



District Apostle Michael Kraus

before she passed away. He said he was so sad to hear of her illness, but it was not possible to seal her as he had to get back to Canada on a flight that evening.

My father came home and gave us the news and you can imagine we were all very disappointed and upset. A few days passed and my father received a call from DE Thomas saying that he should get a train to London as the DA Kraus was holding another ministers' meeting again in London and he had especially requested that my father be there. My father had never experienced such a beautiful ministers' meeting and after it DA Kraus took my father aside and said, 'Priest Hoeck, you are flying to Glasgow with me and I am going to seal your mother-in-law.'

During their flight to Glasgow the district apostle told my father that on his return to Canada he could not sleep thinking about my grandmother, and he had to come back and seal her.

DA Kraus held the most beautiful sealing service for my grandmother in her bedroom with her family around her and prepared her soul for eternity. Shortly after his visit she passed away and we were so thankful that her wish was fulfilled by the love of our District Apostle Kraus. ■

Grandparents of Sister Linda Hoeck





Nadja Drayton



Brenden King

Music

An interview with two of our young musicians

Sister Nadia Drayton and Deacon Brenden King are both actively involved in contributing and supporting music within the church. We asked them to share their thoughts and experiences.

? What kind of music inspires you?

Nadia: As a music student, all music inspires me in different ways. I've always been fascinated with the fact that music can have a strong impact on the way we feel and can give us the foundation to unlock different thoughts and emotions. If a song makes the hair on my arm stand up, then that is my kind of music!

Brenden: I listen to a wide range of music, classical music in general helps me to clear my mind when I'm brainstorming ideas. Listening to other musicians, especially our youth performing is a great source of inspiration!

? Do you play a musical instrument?

Nadia: Yes, I was very fortunate to learn a few. I am mainly a singer (which does count!) but I also play the recorder, guitar and I dabble in the piano.

Brenden: Growing up I focused mostly on singing so the only instrument I learnt to play was the recorder, however, before the first lockdown Priest Jeremy Dawson encouraged me to learn the bass guitar which I'm still learning to play and enjoying it!

? What do you enjoy most about music in the church - any special musical highlights?

Nadia: I enjoy the community that music can bring to a church. I remember from my childhood attending an apostle service or something similar, there were lots of different congregations there and some even joining us from other countries. After the service the apostle asked if we could all sing a hymn together and immediately everyone started singing, 'The Lord Is My Light.

Everyone knew the hymn and it was incredible to see even our friends from abroad singing! I always smile when I remember this moment as it was such a fantastic moment of community and friendship. It truly showed that music is a universal language.

Brenden: Music is such an important part of praising God for me, I feel especially close to God whilst listening and performing music in church. A highlight must be performing in the youth choir during the International youth weekend in Dusseldorf.

? What would you like to see more of why?

Nadia: Personally, I would love to see a more diverse range of music within the church. Don't get me wrong, the hymns are beautiful, but I feel sometimes the younger generations miss out. Much like music outside of the church, it has evolved.

Brenden: I would like to see more youth getting involved in creating and performing some wonderful music within our congregations. There are so many talented youth and they have the power

to help shape and mould the music within the church for the future. Without their involvement, those that have the influence to make the changes would struggle to make decisions that are in the best interest of our youth!

? How can the youth get more involved in shaping music in the church?

Nadia: Ask them what kind of things they'd like to hear. You never know what Christian artist they may have discovered on Spotify! Encourage congregations to create worship bands amongst the youth, I imagine there are lots of hidden talents waiting to be found! These bands could then play during youth services maybe.

Brenden: By coming forward with ideas and using the opportunities within youth services and activities to perform and participate. As I look after the youth music for the UK and Ireland, I am always open to new and exciting ideas and encourage our youth to contact me or the youth music leads for their respective districts.

? If there is one thing about music in the church that you could change what would that be?

Nadia: I know today's teenagers are listening to things different to what I listened to when I was that age! I feel our worship music should do the same, bring in the guitars and drums! Same hymns just... revamped.

Brenden: It is something that is already slowly beginning to change. I would like to see a more inclusive style of music such as worship band music introduced more into church services especially for youth services, where the congregation is involved in performing all the pieces and not only two or three through out the duration of the service

? What should we be doing more of?

Nadia: During lockdown right now is a perfect opportunity for the youth to record covers of songs and spread their knowledge of worship music!

Brenden: Encouraging our youth to come forward with ideas of what they would like to hear and perform. The youth is the future! ■