



E-News



The General Conference of the New Church

About Us

To find out more about The General Conference of the New Church, including the locations of our Churches, visit our web site at:
www.generalconference.org.uk/

Send Us Your News

If you have any news that you would like to share in a future issue of E-News, please send it via email to:
paul.crone@generalconference.org.uk

Share E-News

Feel free to print and share this publication.

Sign up

Sign up for E-News and E-Read email notifications at:
www.generalconference.org.uk/signup/

Local News

View local Church newsletters at:
www.generalconference.org.uk/resources/newsletters/

Home Worship

To download the latest Home Worship material please visit:
www.generalconference.org.uk/resources/home-worship/

To subscribe via email, please sign up:
www.generalconference.org.uk/hwsignup

Donations

E-News and E-Read are provided completely free of charge.

If you would like to donate to support this ongoing resource, please do so here:

www.generalconference.org.uk/resources/donations

Rise and Shine Radio Show

Revd Jack Dunion broadcasts his own online radio show every Sunday at 9am on Lomond Radio (formerly River Radio):
<https://lomondradio.co.uk/shows/rise-and-shine>

The link below allows you to catchup Rise & Shine programs:
www.mixcloud.com/RevJack/



Spiritual Caregiving Invitation



Karin Baynes writes . . .

In Matthew 25:35 Jesus says "...for I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in ..."

- Are you spiritually hungry – wanting to do good and dissatisfied with what you do now?
- Are you spiritually thirsty – eager to learn and grow, but you have doubts and questions?
- Are you a spiritual stranger – needing community and connection, or feeling lonely or isolated?

Our New Church beliefs are challenging, joyful and life-giving. I'm here to gently support you on your journey to integrate our spiritual heritage with your daily life and relationships. Can I help you clarify and appreciate how the Lord is leading you towards a heavenly life? My calling is to acknowledge and affirm your vulnerable efforts to develop and enrich your spirituality.

Do you need time and a safe space to explore your living faith with an empathetic listener? Might you benefit from a regular check-in with yourself and your spiritual practice? How is your relationship with the Lord growing and changing?

You're never too young or too old to receive spiritual caregiving from a companion who accepts you as you are right now. Do get in touch if you feel drawn to engage with this invitation. Sessions are an hour long on Zoom every six weeks.

karin@stuartbaynes.com

Karin is registered with the Bath & Wells Diocese of the Church of England as a trained and supervised Spiritual Director with advanced safeguarding certification, an Adult DBS Certificate and ongoing CPD. She is a member of both the General Church and General Conference Church here in the UK, a Logopraxis practitioner and a SOLCe tutor.

Feedback from Conference 2024

E-News readers who have attended an Annual Meeting of the Conference will know that feedback is sought on the whole event and on specific parts of the programme. This year, such was the time-pressure on the final morning of the conference that members did not have the normal opportunity to let Conference Council and the programme organisers know of any concerns, or indeed to give thanks for what had been offered this year.

So here's your chance. The Council would be glad to know of anything which you felt was not helpful or didn't work as well as hoped. For example, do you have any thoughts on the Conference Holy Supper Service, which was managed differently this year with the children and young people present throughout. Any thoughts? Especially constructive ones!

How about the overall balance and intensity of the timetable? This is always a real challenge, and, again, practical suggestions would be of help to the planning group.

What about the domestic arrangements at Swanwick – any thoughts?

And why not tell us of any particular highlights which you found especially valuable. Positive thoughts are encouraging to those who bear responsibility.

Please take up your pen, or your keyboard, or your phone (any variety!), and communicate with the Council. The Company Secretary would be pleased to hear from you, and you could contact any of the Trustees who will pass on your comments.

Our Conference is a vital part of the annual cycle of Church life, and it's in all our interests for it to be an enjoyable, effective and fulfilling experience. Please play your part, and make contact with us:

Company Secretary: Natalie Welch, Purley Chase Centre, Purley Chase Lane,
Mancetter, Atherstone, CV9 2RQ
Tel. 02477 110461 Email: natalie.welch@generalconference.org.uk

Trustees	Chairperson	Margaret Cowie
	Vice-chair	Bruce Jarvis
		Sue Chesworth
		Barry Friend
		Trevor Millar
		Nigel Sutton

For contact details, see the Conference Address Directory

Purley Chase Centre – Satisfied Customers!

Conference Council writes:

We're used to guests attending events at our Centre talking about a warm welcome and positive aura, about good food and facilities, about staff who do their utmost to ensure guests are comfortable and well-looked after. You could say, Well, that's what we'd expect. Such a "tradition" goes back a long way. It's certainly a vital element in running a Centre seeking to bring people closer to the Lord Jesus Christ, and develop the qualities of their own spiritual character. We owe so much to the team - Rachel Gilsenan and her staff, and the Management Committee who oversee the day-to-day organization of the Centre, event leaders and everyone who ensures that Purley Chase is what is – a piece of heaven in a troubled world.

Recently we received an especially warm paean of praise, and thought we'd pass it on. For many years there has been an annual two-week summer school at the end of July organized by the British arm of the General Church of the New Jerusalem, with its headquarters at Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, for New Church young people from Europe and North America. They and their leaders fill Purley Chase for two weeks with a varied programme focusing on the Heavenly Doctrines, along with a wide range of social activities. Here are some extracts of a message to the Chair of Conference Council from one of their leaders, Doug Reuter, who is an Assistant Principal at the Academy of the New Church. He wrote:

I just wanted to reach out and let you know that Rachel Gilsenan is an actual angel. She goes above and beyond in her duties. She's cheerful, positive, professional, and goes out of her way to meet our needs and requests. The same holds true for her staff.

While they may not be official staff members of our specific program, they might as well be. The students love them and they seem to love our students.

Please pass along our deepest appreciation to Rachel and the rest of the staff. We thanked them when we left, but I would love for them to know that we value their efforts enough to reach out to the next level in the Purley Chase team.

Thank you so much.

Doug's appreciation has, of course, been passed on to Rachel and her staff. We feel that readers of E-News and members of our Church would want to hear how our Centre and staff are appreciated by a group who use it regularly.

Conference Council

Clayton-le-Moors New Church

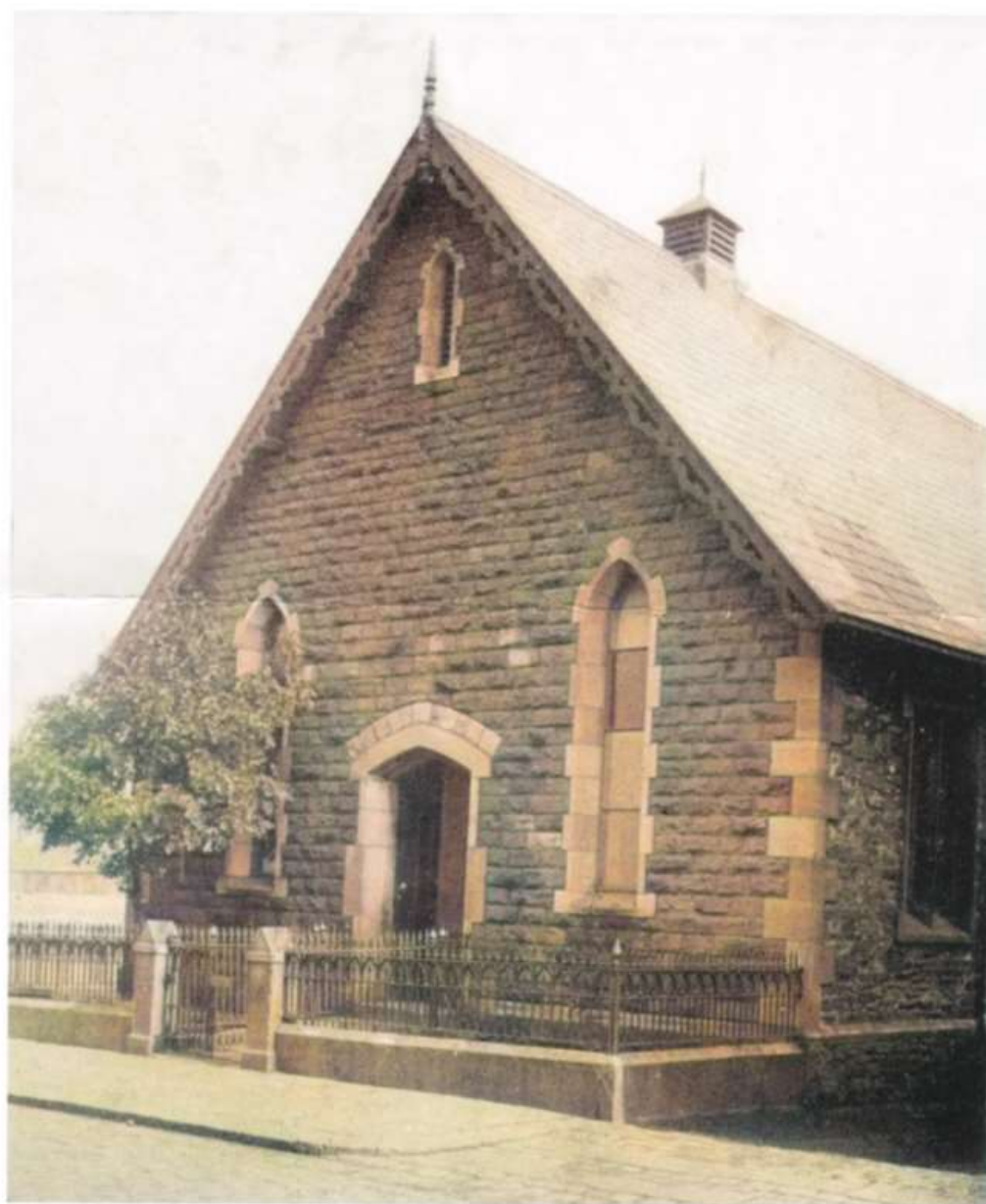
When one of our Societies decides it must cease its activities, we all sense the powerful, deep feelings of loss that remain with the surviving members who have doggedly and faithfully maintained the life of their Church. Usually, it is the General Conference in its role as Trustee which has the responsibility to deal with the disposal of the buildings and land. In the case of Clayton-le-Moors New Church it has been different because, unusually, the ownership and responsibility remained with the local Clayton Trustees to take those decisions after the closure in March 2017

The sale process has been far from straightforward, and Conference Council is especially grateful to John Ford, who manages Church properties in the north of the country, and to Christine and David Sagar, the remaining Trustees at Clayton, who have persevered over several years with all the legal intricacies involved.

Thankfully, the sale has recently been completed, and for Christine and David and John there are the feelings of relief at a duty completed. Alongside our sadness at the closure, we are also most grateful to the Clayton Trustees who have generously donated £75,000 of the sale proceeds to General Conference. This gesture is much appreciated, and we send them our sincere and warm thanks.

Maeve Hawkins had family links with Clayton-le-Moors from her childhood, when her father, Revd James Ayre, was working in that area. She tells us that meetings began in 1867, and were held in a cottage in Albert Street. A number of groups grew up in the area surrounding Accrington, including Haslingden, Spring Hill and Clayton. One of the Clayton group, a local GP, Dr W H Pilkington, whose father Revd Thomas Pilkington was Minister at the Haslingden Society, started a building fund. The foundation stone of the church was laid on a site in Arthur Street in June 1868, and the building was opened and dedicated in November that same year. Several additions to the premises were made in subsequent years to provide classrooms for the day school established in 1871, all of which have been demolished in recent years, and the land sold for housing.

We give thanks for all the devoted service by the Clayton members and Ministers during those 150 years. And we honour their endeavours to witness



Clayton-le-Moors

www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/LAN/ClaytonleMoors/ArthurStNewJerusalem

Upcoming Events

Saturday 14 th September	Divine Providence and the way of the spiritual bracelet
21-22 nd September	Kearsley Scarecrow Festival & Harvest Festival
Sunday 22 nd September	Zoom service of worship led by Revd Becky Jarratt
Sunday 6 th October	Harvest Service-Keighley
Saturday 2 nd November	Experiencing Awe and Wonder
Saturday 16 th November	Where am I headed after I die?
Saturday 16 th November	Christmas Fair-Keighley
Saturday 14 th December	Seaburn Dene-A Candle for Christmas

Full details <https://www.generalconference.org.uk/new-church-events/>

The next E-News will be published 13th September. Items by Wednesday 11th please.