



E-News



The General Conference of the New Church

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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/



Ministers' Seminar

Revd Lynne Griffiths writes:

It is Friday and I've just returned from ministers Seminar at Purley Chase. Running from Monday lunchtime to late Thursday morning Seminar gives a chance for ministers and invited laity to come together and engage in discussions, learning and worship. A huge thanks however must be given to the Purley Chase staff, led by Dave and Anne Gaffney who

provided the most marvellous meals, sweet treats and hospitality that really made the week.

Monday started with an opening by Revd Jack Dunion before Revd Mary Duckworth led us through a period of guided stillness in preparation for the week ahead. After a short period of free time we came together to look at non-binary gender identities. For some this meant exploring the definition of the term, for others discussing their interpretations of Swedenborg's views on gender and sexuality and for some simply a chance to openly discuss how they felt the church could move forward. Overall agreement was that further education and discussion was needed to help us as a church body. People may need reassurance, perhaps, that the church wishes to ensure they are appropriately informed before rushing to any 'official position' but a clear desire to collectively move forwards exists. Our evening closed with Swedenborg Pot Pourri - a chance to bring any part of the writings that speak to you, baffle you or simply that you may not agree with. This was a session where you never knew what was coming next. As if by the Lord's Providence the session finished by quoting a passage from 'Do not Worry' in Matthew's Gospel which led perfectly into closing vespers led by myself which was based on this theme.

Tuesday came bright and early with worship by Revd Christine Bank and accompanying tubs of play dough – as we heard the story of the Potters wheel and how the Lord can mould us too, we were encouraged to 'play', and many fine bowls and a duck were on display at the end! It was then the turn of Revd Michael Stanley to lead us in a presentation called 'Angelic Flight'. A lovely session leading us through the writings and focusing on how we are all 'angels in training' gaining our wings through learning truths and focusing upon the angelic qualities that we can each develop and also see in others. Our first external speaker was Bishop Adrian from the Old Catholic Apostolic Church – an organisation not too dissimilar to our own. No longer with many physical church bases, they work predominantly remotely in communities providing outreach through street pastors, chaplaincy work etc. whilst maintaining some elements of traditional worship also. A message clearly given and heard was that a garden should not be all daffodils but all varieties of flowers should be welcomed and helped to grow. Bishop Adrian encouraged us not to judge but to welcome all to come to know God.

A lovely early afternoon of free time led many of us to go for walks round the quarry and others took themselves off site for a coffee and change of view. When we came back Revd Christian Bank led us in a Bible study of New Testament Angels. We were split into groups and given the instances in the New Testament where Angels were mentioned. Groups then chose what they would like to focus on and various discussions occurred which inevitably started at one place but finished in an altogether different place! Evening time brought a chance for personal discussions in small groups before some of us went to bed....

For those of us rested and refreshed Wednesday morning appeared - for me a chance to see a real muntjac deer in the Purley grounds (I'm told spotted the day before by others also).

For those who perhaps had stayed a little past their bedtime in the bar Revd Mary Duckworth's worship including circle dancing was a chance to shake up and wake up! Our first session was brought by Revd Brian Talbot based upon his research into and experience of those following Islam. This was a challenging session but it was clear that Brian had undertaken great research over time and it certainly challenged us all to look at our own beliefs and values and, in some cases, our own naivety of Islam or our view of those of other faiths. This was a session that led to many discussions afterwards. Our second external speaker was Revd Jonathan Macy, leader of the church of the cross and author of 'In the shadow of His wings; the pastoral ministry of angels: yesterday, today and for heaven'. Jonathan led us through the roles of angels in the Bible – as messengers of God, protectors, strengtheners, etc. A key focus was on angels always pointing back to God and never seeking glory or credit themselves. Following another afternoon of free-time Revd Becky Jarratt led us in Capacitar activities. Movement to the universal prayer of peace, gentle music accompanied us also as we saluted the sun and we all chose a piece of nature laid out and explained why we had chosen it. It was a chance to connect in body, mind and spirit with the Lord and nature. Wednesday ended with Revd Jack Dunion conducting the Holy Supper service - a lovely occasion as always that touches the soul as the spirit moves amongst us.

Thursday gave opportunity for feedback as well as packing before we all head in our respective directions. It was a lovely week with many chances to connect with one another and a clear focus on the future of the church and moving forwards. We look forward to next year's seminar.....



Revd Jonathan Macy



Bishop Adrian

New Manager at Purley Chase Centre

The Conference Council is delighted to announce the appointment of Mr. Clive Greening as the new Manager for the Purley Chase Centre.

Clive will begin his full-time employment on Monday 29th September 2025. His extensive experience and expertise will be greatly appreciated as we look ahead to the future.

Clive can be contacted on: clive.greening@purleychasecentre.org.uk although please continue to use enquires@purleychasecentre.org.uk for anything relating to events and bookings at Purley Chase Centre

"First of all, thank you for making me feel so very welcome; it was one of the things that drew me in when I started my background research. I have been in the hospitality industry for over 35 years and it's a huge part of who I am.

I started out in catering college before moving to hotels and restaurants for the next 10 years, from 5-star hotels and Michelin-star restaurants to 3 and 4-star venues, bars, and even a nightclub. I soon realized I was a better talker than a chef and was far more a 'front of house' man.

After a short period in Ireland, I came back to the UK and spent the next 15 years as a General Manager and Partner for Nando's. I supported new managers and opened around 13 new sites, with teams of 20-50 people and a budgeted turnover of around £2.5m per year. It was a lot of hard work but a lot of fun, and the biggest change for me was the introduction and training in coaching and mentoring, which I love.

More recently, I opened my own mobile coffee and food delivery service, but when Covid hit, I transitioned the business to focus on helping people get essential groceries. I later pivoted to managing hospitality in a couple of large retirement villages, which was hugely rewarding. That more or less brings me to your doorstep and the next stage of my journey.

Away from work, I am married with three grown-up children. We have a large old house which we like to fill with foreign student placements. We also have three dogs, one cat, and a love of motorbikes, fast cars, and occasionally peace and quiet, which again is another reason why I am looking forward to coming to work at Purley Chase. I look forward to meeting you all.
Clive"

We are all looking forward to welcoming Clive to the team.

Adventure into Lower Earth Workshop. September 6th 2025

Feedback from two of the Travellers – Pam and Simon Young

Simon and I arrived at the lovely Wellspring House to be warmly greeted by Mary, Michael and Ray, who had obviously spent many hours organising and preparing for our Adventure into the Lower Earth experience.

The board game/journey / counselling tool was created and inspired by Michael's visit to Findhorn in 1983 and continues to grow and develop, helping people on so many levels, depending on the needs and choices of the players. Thank you, Michael, you started me on my path of awakening all those years ago.

Simon and I were introduced to Gwendolen and Jonathan, our guides, who were wonderful in supporting us in learning the rules and making our choices. I was amazed at how much knowledge they had had to learn in becoming a guide, and the number of hours they had given freely to become the competent guides they are.

Although Simon and I set off together from the same place on the board, due to randomly choosing cards and throws of the dice, our paths started to reflect us as a couple, our individual perceptions and interests.

At the start of my journey, it became obvious to me there was another guiding force, albeit invisible. Nothing is random! I noticed immediately there was a Sacred Lady to be found on Lower Earth. I was on a quest. It made me very happy.

Throughout my journey into Lower Earth I was deeply aware of synchronicities leading the way. Using my intuition, facilitated by my lovely guides' knowledge and insights, I found the whole experience thrilling and exciting.

Unlike Simon, I don't pick up rules easily or remember them easily. I am a slow learner whereas Simon is a quick learner, and he sped on, but we always remained a team of four, interested in each other's choices. Thankyou Gwendolen and Jonathan for your patience in teaching and advising me. I realised that in many parts of my life I need to ask and graciously accept help and understanding.

My dearest wish was to reveal the location and presence of The Sacred Lady. The places I visited on the Lower Earth, the failure to find HER, being in the doldrums, and then learning to have patience, reflected what was going on in my life.

I had, for many years, in meditation, connected to a Higher Being whom I called OUR LADY OF LIGHT. She came in many guises, and it was my perception that she represents humanity's collective Higher Selves. So, this experiential journey into Lower Earth was a

wonderful symbolic gift. I was happy to rest in HER Love and Peace when I located HER at the end of my journey.

Simon loved constructing and engineering, building and understanding the possibilities the game could offer him. He would have loved to go on into the night. He will share his journey into Lower Earth too.

Interestingly, we finished on the same geographical line near to each, as we had started. And unbelievably had the same Laurel points!

Thank you everyone involved in the day. The circle of feedback and gratitude at the end of the day was beautiful.

I know this amazing experience for people is only possible because a seed was planted in Findhorn and you have all nurtured, fed and watered it, been compelled to share it, and add your light to it.

Thank you for a delicious lunch too. The cost for the workshop and lunch in beautiful surroundings with lovely people all for £10. GOOD HEAVENS. WHAT A BLESSING!

Pamela Young. xxxxxxxx

Lower Earth feedback

It was wonderful to be back at Wellspring House again, to be welcomed by familiar and new faces.

Both Pam and I had been looking forward to the day very much.

When we moved into the workshop room I was delighted to hear that we would have guides for this journey, as the layout of the tables was a little daunting, with a multitude of cards, symbols and playing pieces.

Once we got started and fell into the rhythm, it quickly settled into a routine, a complicated one, but never-the-less one that we could follow. Here the skill, patience and knowledge of the guides was essential.

I very quickly became absorbed by understanding the objectives, move choices, potential outcomes and their consequences.

The guides were excellent, explaining in detail what moves were available to us, the pros and cons of the various choices, which choices might best serve to fulfil our objectives, and then giving us time to ponder. Never did they show any reaction to the choices we made, but accepted them and moved on. Occasionally we were reminded to monitor our wellbeing, and check our resources, energy levels and the like.

We were not participating at the counselling level, but merely playing as if it was a game, and it was intriguing, absorbing and fascinating. All too soon it was lunch, and then back to the game.

The afternoon flew by, and all too soon it was time to close. Way too early for me. I could have stayed with it for the evening, but sadly that was not to be.

I would like to play this again to its conclusion, but that may take a weekend with some late nights.

I am in awe of the depth, complexity, power and accessibility of this procedure. Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who was there to support and help us.

Simon Young

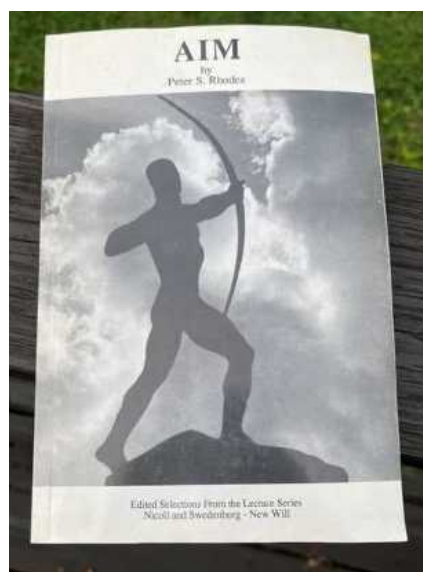
AIM

Muriel Morgan writes:

I was wondering if anyone can help a friend here in Bryn Athyn, you might have read his book, The AIM book by Peter Rhodes. He is down to 1 copy of his book and is asking if anyone has copies they no longer want/need that could come back to him. If you can help, can you please send me a message at murielmorgan1706@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Muriel





**The General Conference
of the New Church**

PODCASTS

BY REVD. BECKY JARRATT

AVAILABLE EVERY FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER



Week 1
UNIVERSAL
HUMAN



Week 2
ARMOUR OF
GOD



Week 3
FAITH WITHOUT
DEEDS IS DEAD



Week 4
BEING REFINED
IN THE FIRE

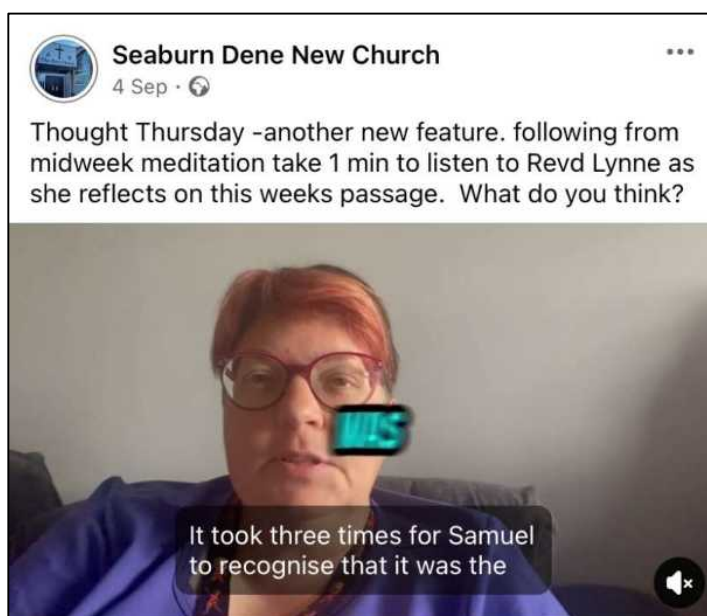
To listen, click on this link

<https://www.generalconference.org.uk/resources/podcasts/>

Midweek Meditation

Revd Lynne Griffiths writes:

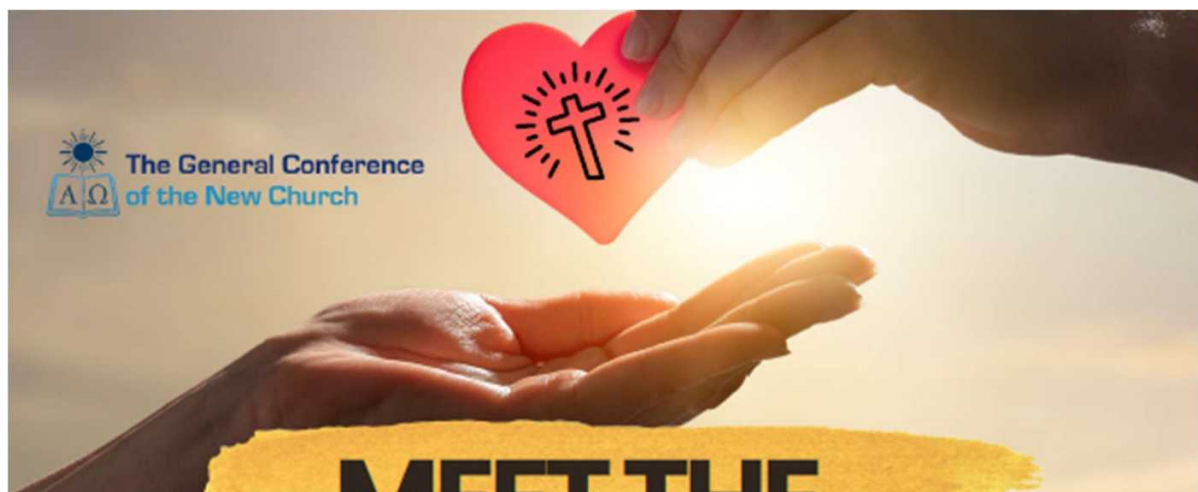
Seaburn Dene New Church's Facebook page has reached 200 followers now. The use of social media is an important way of reaching out to people both locally and further afield and we are very grateful for this opportunity and its continued steady growth. Following my formal employment I have begun a new outreach on our Facebook page. Join us each Wednesday for midweek meditation where you'll find a passage from Scripture read alongside calming music and pictures, enabling a few moments of peace in amongst daily life where the Lord can speak to us. This is then followed by Thought Thursday where I spend a minute (or maybe slightly over - whoops!) reflecting on the passage. We hope you will find these new initiatives useful in your spiritual journey and if you have any particular passages you would like featured please contact us and we'll be happy to include them.



A big thank you to the 41 friends who attended my induction service on 14/09/25 at Seaburn Dene (39 in person, 2 on a last minute zoom link). It was very humbling to have so many attend or reach out with well wishes in advance. We hope those who attended enjoyed the service and the gorgeous buffet afterwards. A big thanks from me to Nicky for helping prepare and set up the church on Saturday with me, to Mr Jarvis for organ playing, to Hazel and Geoff for the food organisation and to Heather for flower arranging. Thanks to all of the Seaburn Dene congregation for their kind and unexpected gifts of flowers and a lovely new Bible which I have used already! I attach some photos for those unable to

attend who may be interested. A lovely day overall and the start of a new chapter at Seaburn.....





MEET THE MINISTER

Spiritual Guidance | Emotional Support | Belonging

We are delighted to announce the launch of "Meet The Minister", a new initiative from The General Conference of the New Church. This programme is designed to give you the opportunity to schedule a personal, one-on-one meeting (on Zoom) with a Minister.

What is "Meet The Minister"?

Whether you are seeking spiritual guidance, comfort during challenging times, advice and support for new endeavours, or simply wish to connect and foster a greater sense of belonging within the Church community, "Meet The Minister" is here for you. These meetings offer a safe and welcoming space for open conversation – be it about faith, life's challenges, or just for a friendly chat.

Why now?

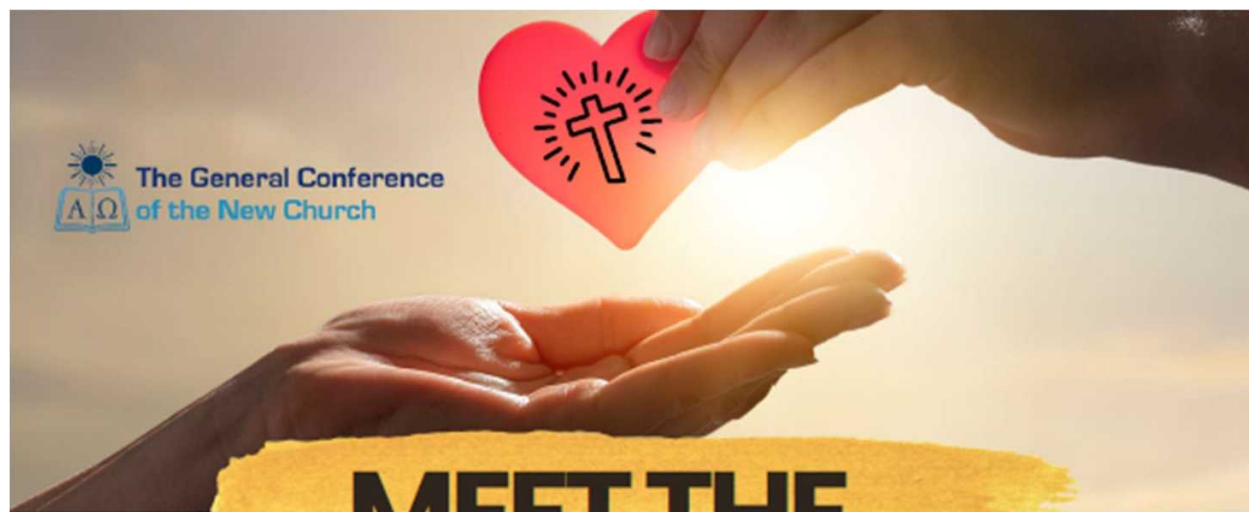
The launch of this initiative comes at a pivotal moment as we mark the beginning of Rosh Hashanah – the first of the High Holy Days, as specified in Leviticus 23:23-25. In English, this day is translated as the "Days of Awe"; and so, it begins, we might say! It is a time for reflection, renewal, and reaching out – making it the perfect occasion to introduce a new way to connect with Ministers and each other.

How to participate

Below is a list of the available appointments for you to book. Spaces are limited, so we encourage you to be quick in booking your appointment. To book, or for further information, click the 'Book Now' button below or email ministers.secretary@generalconference.org.uk. Make sure you include your preferred date and time (from the list below) and your full name in your email. Appointments are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. The Minister's Secretary will send you a confirmation email along with a Zoom link. If the appointment you have chosen is already booked, we will email you an alternative date and time, or your name will be placed on a reserve list. We can also arrange a telephone alternative for those who don't have access to the internet.

www.generalconference.org.uk

ministers.secretary@generalconference.org.uk



 **The General Conference
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MEET THE MINISTER

Spiritual Guidance | Emotional Support | Belonging

Fri 26 Sept	Mon 27 Oct	Thurs 27 Nov	Fri 19 Dec	Mon 22 Dec
10.00 to 11.00 Revd Brian Talbot	10.00 to 11.00 Revd Christine Bank	10.00 to 11.00 Revd Mary Duckworth	10.00 to 11.00 Revd Becky Jarratt	10.00 to 11.00 Revd Christine Bank
14.00 to 15.00 Revd Jack Dunion	14.00 to 15.00 Revd Helen Brown	14.00 to 15.00 Revd Jack Dunion	15.00 to 16.00 Revd Becky Jarratt	18.00 to 19.00 Revd Christine Bank
17.00 to 18.00 Revd Jack Dunion	16.00 to 17.00 Revd Helen Brown	16.00 to 17.00 Revd Mary Duckworth		
19.00 to 20.00 Revd Brian Talbot	18.00 to 19.00 Revd Christine Bank	18.00 to 19.00 Revd Jack Dunion		

The General Conference of the New Church hopes this initiative will help strengthen personal connections and support within our community and Ministers look forward to meeting you.

www.generalconference.org.uk ministers.secretary@generalconference.org.uk

Kearsley's Harvest Festival

Carolyn Kennion writes:

After an extremely wet Saturday, Sunday 21st September was a beautiful calm and sunny day for our Harvest Festival service. We seemed to have more donations of food than ever and the church looked beautiful with it all displayed alongside the children's creative work. In Sunday School during September we had been learning about the miracle of Jesus feeding more than 5000 people with 5 loaves and 2 fish. We made a large picture illustrating the story to form part of the harvest decorations. We had also used pictures of fruit and vegetables to form letters spelling out GIVE THANKS and these were hung on the altar rails.

Brian's Bible reading for the service was the parable of the sower and he explained the meaning of this for our own lives. About thirty people attended the service and stayed for a delicious lunch afterwards. Many thanks to the cooks and to all who contributed in any way, including the Sunday School children who had baked loaf and fish-shaped biscuits to share with the congregation. On Monday morning the food donations were delivered to The Well foodbank and community cafe at Farnworth Baptist Church where it was gratefully received.



Upcoming Events

31 st Oct – 2 nd Nov	November Family Weekend – Purley Chase
17 th October	Leaders United - Keighley
3 rd – 6 th Nov	Autumn Fellowship – Purley Chase
14 - 17 th Nov	Festival of Angels - Kearsley
6 th Dec	A Candle for Christmas – Seaburn Dene

Full details www.generalconference.org.uk/new-church-events/