How will ‘Mind the Gap’ benefit your secular friends?

‘Mind the Gap’ will be broadcast on the Hope Channel 7-18 February 2005. The purpose of this series of ten programmes (level three in the concept of LIFEdevelopment.info) is to build an understanding with your unchurched friends of the basics of Christianity.

Each programme focuses on one main topic and includes street interviews, statements by church members of what the topic means to them, and a music spot. The main segment shows a ‘LIFEgroup’, hosted by Pastor Dwight Nelson discussing the topic of the programme.

The series will be available on DVD and will be a lasting resource for churches and small groups. The programmes are presented in the following order and the discussion is designed to give answers to such questions as are given under each title below.

**FAITH**
- What if people of ‘faith’ the world over are praying to a Jesus who isn’t there; believing in a sentimental myth that is no more real than the Wizard of Oz? Why does God make it so hard to believe in him? Can I really trust him? Not something else I need to exercise!

The programme covers God – Christian Faith

**BIBLE**
- How do I read the Bible? What does it mean for my daily life if I read this ancient book? How can I be sure that it is God’s message for me? Can this old book be relevant in the twenty-first century, etc.

The programme covers the Authority of the Bible

**PRAYER**
- Why do people pray? Are they really able to communicate with a higher being? Is it a one-way communication or do they receive answers?

The programme covers Spirituality

**JESUS – WHO?**
- Was Jesus the divine-human Saviour of sinful humanity, or a Jewish sage, a religious genius, a misguided visionary or a magician?

The programme covers Jesus – God

**JESUS – DEATH & RESURRECTION**
- Why was Jesus punished if he was innocent? Did he really come back to life? What does his resurrection mean to me? Is he still alive today? What is he doing for me?

The programme covers Victory over sin

**JESUS – SECOND COMING**
- Can we believe his promises? How and when will it happen? Why is it important for me? What’s he coming back for and what happens afterwards?

The programme covers Hope for the Future

**HOLY SPIRIT**
- Is there such a ‘thing’ as the Holy Spirit? Is it a force or a person? How can I connect with this ‘power’?

The programme covers: A Spirit-filled Life

**HUMAN NATURE**
- What is Satan’s strategy? How can we resist it and defend ourselves?

The programme covers: Repentance

**HEALING**
- Was Jesus a magician? Can Jesus really work miracles and heal people? Can physical and spiritual healing be obtained through Christianity? Does he still work miracles today?

The programme covers: Deliverance from sin and the healing process

**FELLOWSHIP**
- Why are there so many ‘flavours’ of Christianity? I’ve got my own views; I don’t want to be indoctrinated. Why do we need special buildings to be with God? Isn’t church just a social club or a ‘self-help’ group?

The programme covers: The Church

You can order ‘Mind the Gap’ on DVD, which comes with a Study Guide, by emailing the LIFEdevelopment office at ask@lifedevelopment.info or by writing to LIFEdevelopment.info, Stanborough Park, Wolford, Herts, WD25 9JZ.

LIFEdevelopment.info
ABPA Day of Fellowship
by Audrey Balderstone

The forecast was for rain, but for rain, our group subsequently changed its name to ABPA. Although it is primarily a fellowship group which encourages its members to witness in their business and professional lives, the Association does sponsor one project each year and its members are very involved in their local churches. ABPA chaplain John Ferguson took his theme for worship of the twenty-third Psalm. It was, he said, a psalm of provision, comfort and promise. We shall not be in want; God will be with us through the valley of the shadow of death, and we will dwell with him forever. Alluding to the anniversary of 11 September, and to the awful atrocities of the week before, in Russia, Pastor Ferguson confessed that he had no answers. He could, however, attach to the goodness and mercy of God and the certainty that one day he would right all wrongs. Pastor Ferguson caught the attention of the young people with his knowledge of popular songs and groups, but he urged them not to heed the lyrics which say we are alone in the world. 'We are not alone,' he said. 'We have God with us at all times and in every situation.' Full of positive encouragement, he spoke of the importance and the responsibility of a number to those in the congregation who are going through their own valley experiences. Having read and sung the twenty-third Psalm in modern versions, the congregation did its best to do so beautifully and well-loved tune, ‘Craddock’. The next meeting of ABPA will be a weekend in November at Staverton Park Conference Centre in Daventry. If you are in business or a professional and would like to know more about ABPA, please contact the Secretary, John Arthur arthurjohn4@btinternet.com.

Healthwise

‘Eyes Right’

‘Eyes right’ is a form of salute in the armed forces when a soldier passes an officer and smartly, on command, turn their heads in his or her direction. Not doing so would, if the officer thought you right could just as easily be a catchphrase to remind drivers of their responsibility to give unambiguously at the right could just as easily be a catchphrase to remind drivers of their responsibility to give unambiguously and safely to children. Sight-testing is particularly important for drivers aged over 45. A new campaign is being launched by the光学 police and the Centre for Integrated Vision which has argued that at least one in five drivers could see one of the outer four corner of his or her left eye. Apparently it was the only way that he could see to drive. It is not only eye disease as such that is worrying the opticians. They are concerned about the effects of prescribed medications on normal eyeight and the timing and dosage of these drugs on increasing ability. Drug side, the research shows that lifestyle and not genetics have a bigger role to play in the development of eye conditions such as glaucoma.

A new craze in the Netherlands is to have frontiemoney (or frontiemoney) the eyesight to a small child. The picture shows a series of car numbers - appropriate to the driver, who may have a history of glaucoma. The message is clear: the future of our children is at stake. This is not of, course, a diagnostic tool but a reminder that eye testing is important. Some doctors warn that when conducting a medical for employment in the dockyard, I asked a man to look over one of his eyes and face the sight chart. He promptly turned right and right and right and right until he was out of the corner of his left eye. Apparently it was the only way that he could see to drive. It is not only eye disease as such that is worrying the opticians. They are concerned about the effects of prescribed medications on normal eyeight and the timing and dosage of these drugs on increasing ability. Drug side, the research shows that lifestyle and not genetics have a bigger role to play in the development of eye conditions such as glaucoma.

As they serve no medical purpese, the continued use of such a drug is not supported by any way to determine safety, any kind of cosmopolitan activity, rather like body-building, does not fall into a regulatory framework so it is not known if there are long-term side-effects. One cannot help but think that the sparkle in the eye should come from within, given that the eyes are the windows of the soul. So [370] [1867] lies, and salute the Creator of the windows!

With Richard J. B. Willis, BUC Health Ministries director
Laurence Turner on Church views of Earth’s origins
by Helen Pearson and Timothy Puko

The ‘Seventh-day Adventist Church may need to define itself more accur- acely as it attempts to re-evaluate its 135 Adventist leaders at the International and Faith and Science Conference 2002. 4, including theologians and scientists, who presented exploring the nexus between the science and faith and policy.

He summarised the areas where ideas were both strong and disagree- ment between particular areas within the church such as: epistemology (the science of knowledge), interpretation of scripture, interpre- tation of Ellen White’s writings. Dr Turner says that a discussion of these issues will give the Adventist community the opportunity to look across the church. “We need to understand what the church is before we can pon- der the amount of diversity that can exist within it”, Dr Turner said. “Even- tually we shall be able to assess more effectively the various challenges to traditional Adventist opinions.”

To conclude his lecture, Dr Turner reported and commented on the Affirmation of Creation, a series of affirmations and recommen- dations which the conference produced. “A number of the historic Adventist understanding of Genesis 1, that on earth was created in six literal days and is of recent ori- gin,” the second affirmation said. Other affirmations emphasise the

primary role of scripture and a lit- eral understanding of Genesis.

Further, the doc- ument’s recommen- dations include, among other things to: create a Paradigm No. 6, to the church’s official statement on creation, more specific and stream- lined, and to give the doctrine of creation a higher priority in Adventist preaching.

“Discussing significant matters for church life is part of the Adventist heritage,” said Dr Turner, “It is part of what it means to be faithful to present truth.”

Race for Life
On 4 July approximately 8,000 women took to Cheltenham Racecourse in the Race for Life. Who better to join the women than our own Health a Tenderloin tempera- dor Deborah Smillie, who ran the race in an impressive 34 minutes, and managed to raise £180 for Cancer Research UK. Well done!

ELIZABETH COMMISSION SECRETARY

Crieff Flower Festival
Crief church recently held their tenth annual flower festival, but this was really one with a difference. The church has been discussing ways in which it can witness in an increas- ingly secular world. Over the years the annual flower festival has cer- tainly broken down much prejudice and become quite an event in Crief. This year Crief church, church leader Logan and Moya Rodol felt it should have a real ‘outreach’ flavour. They decided the theme would be ‘be the church’ and so the thirty-one beau- tifully imaginative displays illustrated the main beliefs of Christianity and the special beliefs of the Adventist Church. Each of the displays had a precise title and the visitors were also given a specially-prepared booklet further

amplifying them. A small group of enthusiastic members prepared the church and prayed that it would be successful.

The writer was amazed at the ingenuity of the flower arrangers. They did not try just to do a pretty arrangement but to make it a flora- l illustration of a sermon point. Even a fifty-year-old bonsai tree was used with great effect.

In our hall, refreshments were served so the members could mingle with the visitors. Computer expert Steve Logan joined forces with Pastor Lawley Edwards to produce visual displays of the achievements of the church.

The visiting speaker was Tony Best from Rushall Hills church, and his presentation was entitled ‘Why are we here?’

And then there were three!
They say things come in threes: in truth church has proved a reality. Initially, on the morning of 3 July we had prepared the church for the single baptism of Austin. A young man, who through the conviction and dedication of his family members, including SEC treasurer Earl Ramcharakis, determined to give his life to God. The baptism was held in the church board was called to an emer- gency meeting immediately after divine service that Sabbath to meet little Thussangma (aka’Mbon) Mbano, a 9-year-old boy who boldly told the church leaders that he desired baptism because he wanted to follow Jesus’ example. After speaking to Tom about his decision, we were convinced, such was his focus, that this was right thing for him. As his mother Paula later said, “I am at my commitment. He is an inspiration to me.”

To add to this, another young man requested to be joined in mem- bership on profession of his faith. Leroy Williams was not stranger to our congregation as he had attended church on many occasions with his fiancée, in search of his musical talents to enhance our worship services. That afternoon our visiting speaker, Pastor David Rogers from Tennessee, asked him if he was ready to enhance our worship services. Our martial artist and professional martial artist, Pastor David Rogers from Tennessee, asked him if he was ready to enhance our worship services. Our martial artist and professional

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Sixty fascinating years

by April Darrett

John and Mabel Darrett celebrated their 60th of August Diamond Wedding Anniversary on the 30th of August. The couple, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1996, are survived by their four children, 14 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. John and Mabel, who have been married for 60 years, were married on the 30th of August 1954 at the Church of England, St. John the Baptist Church, Netherfield, Nottingham. From 31 December 1954, John and Mabel have been residents of the Nottingham area, and their wedding anniversary service will be held at 3.30pm followed by Sabbath school at 2.45pm.

NEVERS-SPRAWL Sunday 11 July was a beautiful day to celebrate senior church members at the church of England, Netherfield, Nottingham. The service was attended by many of the congregation. The service included a special wedding anniversary service for John and Mabel Darrett, who were married on the 30th of August 1954 at the Church of England, St. John the Baptist Church, Netherfield, Nottingham. From 31 December 1954, John and Mabel have been residents of the Nottingham area, and their wedding anniversary service will be held at 3.30pm followed by Sabbath school at 2.45pm.

JAMES MARK BEARD (1905-2004) d. At 76 he was a fine, humble and loving church member who was always happy to help anyone. He had a wonderful gift that God gave him through his talent. He would be proud of his success as he went through life. As his own, he is a person who we would like to see more often. He is well-loved and respected. The Darrell family was so proud of him. He was a good, loving father to his children. He was also active in the local church in Netherfield. James died on the 20th of August 2004 and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was known as the "good neighbor" in his community. His church and home were always open to others. He was a man of honor and integrity, and his legacy will live on in the memories of those who knew him. He was truly a blessing to all who knew him. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

AUNTIE MARIE BEARD (1905-2004) d. This Sunday, 11 July, was a beautiful day to celebrate senior church members at the church of England, Netherfield, Nottingham. The service was attended by many of the congregation. The service included a special wedding anniversary service for John and Mabel Darrett, who were married on the 30th of August 1954 at the Church of England, St. John the Baptist Church, Netherfield, Nottingham. From 31 December 1954, John and Mabel have been residents of the Nottingham area, and their wedding anniversary service will be held at 3.30pm followed by Sabbath school at 2.45pm.

Helen's Reflections

A few days after Jamaica's fifth and last general election in 1998, the newly elected MP for St Ann, Jamaica and the British West Indies, Alvin Marshall Picart, died at the age of 79. Picart was elected to represent the constituency of St Ann, Jamaica and the British West Indies in 1998 and held the seat until his death. He was a member of the Jamaica Labour Party and served as a member of parliament for 28 years. He was known for his work in the areas of education, health, and housing. He was also a member of the Jamaica Defence Force and served in the military for many years. He was a respected member of the community and a dedicated public servant.

Alvin was a member of many programs and supported the community through various initiatives. He had been a member of the St Ann's Bay Health Centre and was the first Black person to be elected to the St Ann's Bay Municipal Council. He was also a member of the Jamaica Social Democratic Party. He was a strong supporter of theJamaican people and was known for his dedication to social justice and equality. He was a respected member of the community and a dedicated public servant. He will be missed by all who knew him. His legacy will live on in the memories of those who knew him and the community he served.

Andrew Mark Beard (1905-2004) d. This Sunday, 11 July, was a beautiful day to celebrate senior church members at the church of England, Netherfield, Nottingham. The service was attended by many of the congregation. The service included a special wedding anniversary service for John and Mabel Darrett, who were married on the 30th of August 1954 at the Church of England, St. John the Baptist Church, Netherfield, Nottingham. From 31 December 1954, John and Mabel have been residents of the Nottingham area, and their wedding anniversary service will be held at 3.30pm followed by Sabbath school at 2.45pm.

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New address for Nottinger Commons

Clarendon church services are now held at the Nottinger Commons, 11 Church Lane, Netherfield, Nottingham. From 31 December 1954, John and Mabel have been residents of the Nottingham area, and their wedding anniversary service will be held at 3.30pm followed by Sabbath school at 2.45pm.

Church plant in Wakefield

We have been meeting as a group for about six years and have been planning to set up a church plant in Wakefield for quite some time. We have been meeting as a group for about six years and have been planning to set up a church plant in Wakefield for quite some time. We have been meeting as a group for about six years and have been planning to set up a church plant in Wakefield for quite some time.

Choir director Andrew Mark Beard

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Paulsen meets the Press after Annual Council
Saying that the 20-million-plus Adventist world community is 'a big ship that turns around slowly,' world church president Pastor [Dr Paulsen] told reporters on 14 October that leaders must consider the cross-cultural implications of growth and governance in the movement.

He made his comment after a five-day meeting of the church’s executive committee, a session known as Annual Council, and noted that the 2004 council, the last annual gathering before the 2005 world session in St Louis, Missouri, was particularly loaded with administrative items, as well as larger issues. The question of how to reconcile more conservative forms of Christianity found in some nations versus the ‘Northern Christianity’ of many Western lands, is ‘a big issue,’ he said.

Even raising the issue is important,’ Paulsen added when discussing matters such as the guidelines expressing an Adventist philosophy of music as well as a report affirming the church’s traditional view of the church. Those academics and pastors who disagree with various positions have set-up the ‘Affirmation of Creation’, along with the ‘Growing in Christ’ Fundamental Belief, along with the guidelines expressing an Adventist philosophy of music as well as a report affirming the church’s traditional view of the church’s 1980 world session.

The new statement addresses several areas of Christian belief and practice that many church leaders and theologians believe did not receive adequate attention in the church’s 1980 world session.

The new statement addresses several areas of Christian belief and practice that many church leaders and theologians believe did not receive adequate attention in the present statement of core beliefs.

As a church, we've set a priority on reaching those who live in the 10/40 window—nearly 70% of the world’s population,” says Michael L. Ryan, vice-president for strategic planning, and director of the church's Global Mission initiative. "Most of those people go to bed each night fearing evil spirits. Their first question to us invariably is, 'What will you do about the evil spirits?'"

He added, 'If we're going to be a people of hope, we also have to be able to show people where to find it - and that's why these spiritual resources and practices that point to Jesus have been identified in this new statement.'

The 27 doctrinal affirmations currently identified in the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Fundamental Beliefs.

‘Growing in Christ,’ the proposed new statement, will be on the agenda at the church’s worldwide General Conference Session in July 2005 in St Louis, Missouri.

It's the first addition recommended by the executive committee since the original beliefs document was approved at the church’s 1980 world session.

The new statement addresses several areas of Christian belief and practice that many church leaders and theologians believe did not receive adequate attention in the present statement of core beliefs.

The complete text of the ‘Growing in Christ’ Fundamental Belief, along with supporting Bible references, can be viewed at www.adventistreview.org.

International News

The London Youth Federation presents

‘Sleeping through the sirens’

27 November to 3 December, 7pm

At the following venues, and with the following speakers:

Holloway church
381 Holloway Rd, N7
Enoch Ade

Brixton church
Stanley Rd, SW2
Vic Acquah

Topics: Memory lapses & monkey business; Moon walker's message; Man of mud & metal; Reading the owner's manual:

Move your hand; History is his story; Your day in court.

With singing evangelists: Michaela Mathieu-Marius & Kristina Harper-Fuller

Contact: LYN on 07956 688 923

 UPCOMING EVENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>WHEN</th>
<th>WHERE</th>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>HOW</th>
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<tr>
<td>Writing seminar for Singles</td>
<td>29th November</td>
<td>Holloway church;</td>
<td>Val Bernard</td>
<td>Contact Val Bernard on <a href="mailto:vbernard@newbold.ac.uk">vbernard@newbold.ac.uk</a> or call 01344 407468.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gospel Concert in aid of Hurricane Appeal</td>
<td>4 December 7.30pm</td>
<td>Harrow Bell School, Barnet, Harefield St, Birmingham B12</td>
<td>Various artists from Birmingham, Nottingham, Luton and London</td>
<td>Judith (021) 544 3990; Lorna 01162 493877, Julie 021 698 6201. Email: lori@<a href="mailto:spencer@aston.ac.uk">spencer@aston.ac.uk</a></td>
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