



BROCHURE

The **Methodist Church**

GHANAIAN METHODIST FELLOWSHIP UK & IRELAND CHAPLAINCY



★ **GMF-UK @20** ★

Sunday 10th September 2023

★ **GOODWILL MESSAGES** ★



Theme: "That All May Be One"
John 17:21

All Are Welcome To Worship With Us!
Every 2nd Sunday of The Month

You  **Live**

GHANAIAN METHODIST FELLOWSHIP



GMF-UK



**Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church, Ghana, Most Revd
Dr Paul Kwabena Boafo**



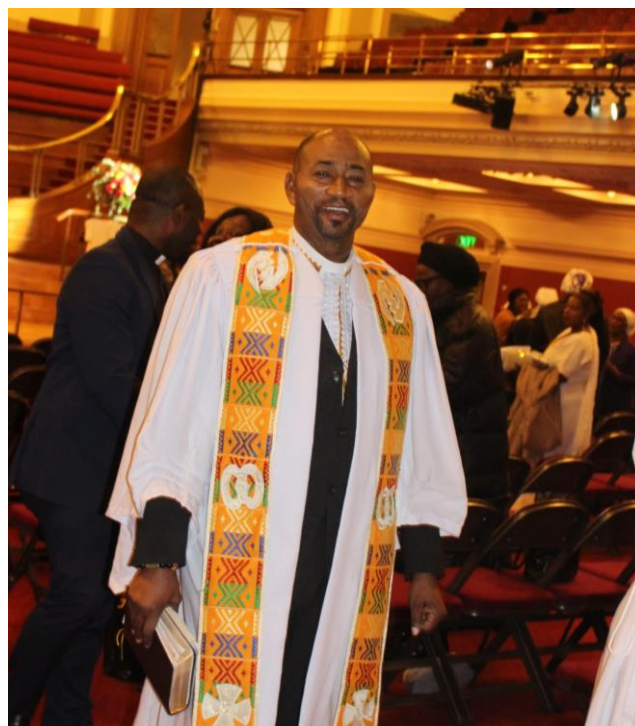
President of Conference, The Methodist Church Britain, Revd Gill Newton



**Secretary of Conference, The Methodist Church Britain, Revd
Dr Jonathan Hustler**



The Global Communities Officer, Connexional Team, The Methodist Church Britain, Revd Dr Leão Neto



Chaplain to The Ghanaian Methodist Fellowships and Congregations – UK & Ireland, Very Rev Quophie Anochie Ababio



**Ghana's High Commissioner to UK & Ireland, His Excellency
Papa Owusu Ankomah**



CMC Secretary, GMF-UK & Ireland, David Kit Yawson



**The Immediate Past CMC Secretary, GMF-UK & Ireland
Clement Addai-Bempah**



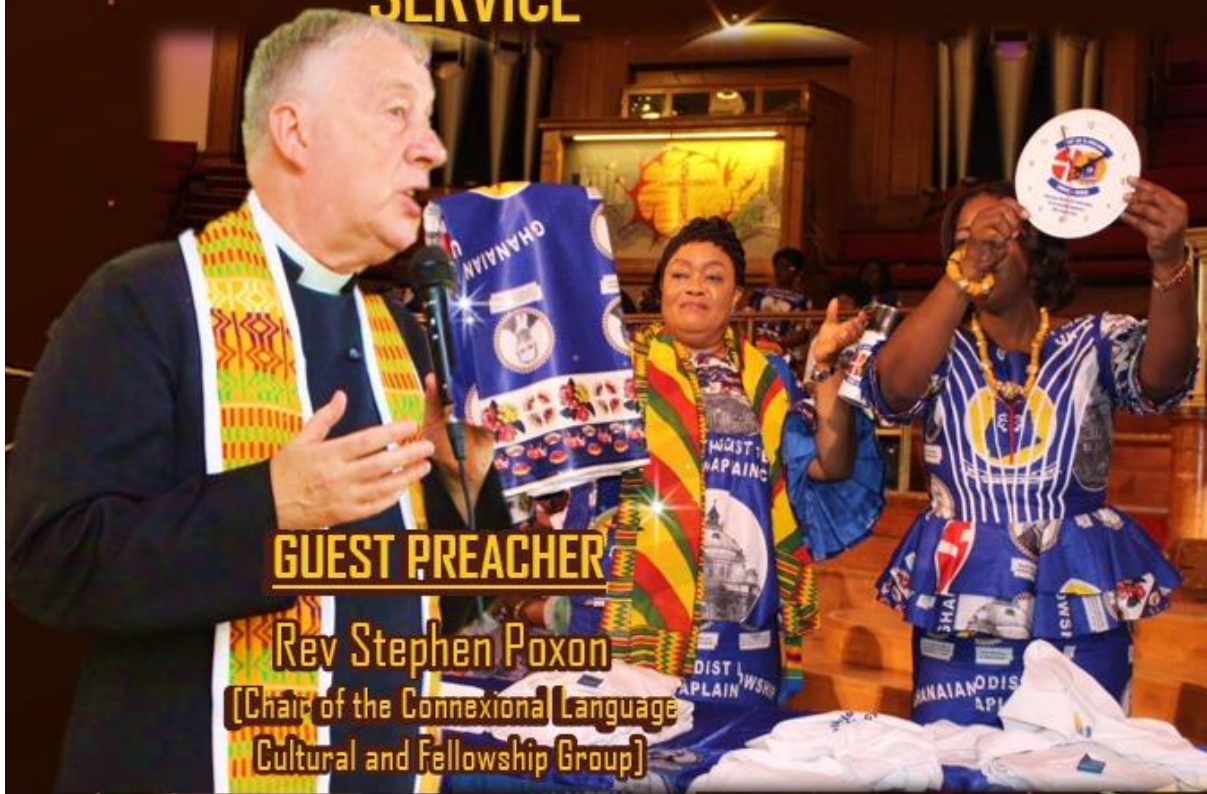
The **Methodist Church**

GHANAIAN METHODIST FELLOWSHIP-UK & IRELAND CHAPLAINCY



20 Year
ANNIVERSARY

THANKSGIVING SERVICE



GUEST PREACHER

Rev Stephen Poxon

[Chair of the Connexional Language
Cultural and Fellowship Group]

Sunday 10th September 2023 @ 1:30pm

**Methodist Central Hall, Westminster
Storey's Gate, London SW1H 9NH**

You Tube Live *Theme: That All May Be One*
Come With Family And Friends!



GHANAIAN METHODIST FELLOWSHIP

20TH Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

Order of Service for Sunday 10th September 2023.

Theme: That All May Be One (John 17: 21)

PART 1

Processional Hymn – MHB 672 –
Saviour Blessed Saviour.

1. SAVIOUR, blessèd Saviour,
Listen while we sing;
Hearts and voices ringing
Praises to our King:
All we have to offer,
All we hope to be,
Body, soul, and spirit,
All we yield to Thee.

2. Nearer, ever nearer,
Christ, we draw to Thee,
Deep in adoration
Bending low the knee.
Thou for our redemption,
Cam'st on earth to die;
Thou, that we might follow,
Hast gone up on high.

3. Clearer still and clearer
Dawns the light from Heaven,
In our sadness bringing
News of sin forgiven;
Life has lost its shadows,
Pure the light within;
Thou hast shed Thy radiance
On a world of sin.

4. Onward, ever onward,
Journeying o'er the road
Worn by saints before us,
Journeying on to God;
Leaving all behind us,
May we hasten on,
Backward never looking
Till the prize is won.

5. Higher, then, and higher,
Bear the ransomed soul,
Earthly toils forgetting,
Savior, to its goal;
Where in joys unthought of,
Saints with angels sing,
Never weary, raising
Praises to their King.

Introit: GMF Choir

Welcome: Rev'd Tony Miles

Call to worship: GMF Chaplain

Opening Hymn: MHB 428 CAN 140 – I'll praise my Maker while I've breath....

1. I'LL praise my Maker while I've breath;
And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers:
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
While life, and thought, and being last,
Or immortality endures.

2. Happy the man whose hopes rely
On Israel's God! He made the sky,
And earth, and seas, with all their train;
His truth for ever stands secure;
He saves the oppressed, He feeds the poor,
And none shall find His promise vain.

3. The Lord pours eyesight on the blind;
The Lord supports the fainting mind;
He sends the labouring conscience peace;
He helps the stranger in distress,
The widow, and the fatherless,
And grants the prisoner sweet release.

4. I'll praise Him while He lends me breath;
And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers:
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
While life, and thought, and being last,
Or immortality endures.

Prayers (Adoration/Confession & Intercessions)

Praise and worship

BIBLE READINGS:

1ST Reading – Genesis 11:1-9 – Read in English and Ga by Cecilia Quarcoo

2ND Reading – Ephesians 4:1-6 – Read in Twi by Ramy Obeng

CANTICLE - TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

WE PRAISE THEE O GOD

We praise | thee, O | God : we acknowledge | Thee to | be the | Lord.
All the | earth doth | worship Thee : the | Father | ever | lasting.
To Thee all Angels | cry a | loud : the Heavens and | all the | powers
there | in.
To Thee | Cherubim and | Seraphim : con | tinual | ly do | cry,
Holy, | Holy, | Holy : Lord | God of | Saba | oth;
Heaven and | earth are | full : of the | Majesty | of Thy | Glory.
The glorious company of the A | postles | praise Thee.:
The godly fellowship | of the | Prophets | praise Thee.
The noble army of | Martyrs | praise Thee :
The holy Church throughout | all the | world doth ac | knowledge Thee;
The | Fa- | ther : of an | infinite | Majes | ty;
Thine honourable, true, and | only | Son;
Also the | Holy | Ghost the | Comforter.

Thou art the King of | Glory, O | Christ :
Thou art the ever- | lasting | Son of the | Father.
When Thou tookest upon Thee to de- | liver | man :
Thou didst not ab- | hor the | Virgin's | womb.
When Thou hadst overcome the | sharpness of | death :
Thou didst open the Kingdom of | Heaven to | all be- | lievers.
Thou sittest at the right | hand of | God : in the | glory | of the | Father.
We believe that Thou shalt come to | be our | Judge:
We therefore pray Thee, help Thy servants ^ whom Thou hast re- |
deemed with Thy | precious | blood.
Make them to be numbered | with Thy | Saints : in | glory | ever- | lasting.

O Lord, save Thy people and | bless Thine | heritage :
Govern them and | lift them | up for | ever.
Day by day we | magnify | Thee :
and we worship Thy | Name, ever | world without | end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this | day without | sin :
O Lord, have mercy up- | on us have | mercy up- | on us
O Lord, let Thy mercy lighten upon us as our | trust is in | Thee :
O Lord, in Thee have I trusted, ^ let me | never | be con- | founded.

GOSPEL READING: John 17: 6-21 – read in English and Akan by Justina Bilson & Kofi Amoo Aidoo

MHB 781 CAN 257 – LORD, speak to me, that I may speak...

1. LORD, speak to me that I may SPEAK
In living echoes of Thy tone;
As Thou has sought, so let me SEEK
Thine erring children lost and lone.

2. O lead me, Lord, that I may lead
The wandering and the wavering feet;
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed
Thy hungering ones with manna sweet.

3. O strengthen me, that while I stand
Firm on the rock, and strong in Thee,
I may stretch out a loving hand
To wrestlers with the troubled sea.

4. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
The precious things Thou dost impart;
And wing my words, that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

5. O give Thine own sweet rest to me,
That I may speak with soothing power
A word in season, as from Thee
To weary ones in needful hour.

6. O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,
Until my very heart overflow
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

7. O use me, Lord, use even me,
Just as Thou wilt, and when, and where,
Until Thy blessed face I see,
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share. Amen.

Sermon:

Rev'd Stephen Poxon.

Anthem by the GMF Choir

Notices and Offertory:

Sister Patricia Alfonso-Brown

PART 2

Brief history of the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship UK & Ireland by

Brother Clement Addai-Bempah

Introduction of Dignitaries:

**Brother Albert Oppong and
Sister Lina Effie Appiah**

Address by Chairperson:

Brother Tatah Amenonyoh

Appeal for Funds:

Rev'd Papa Bona-Owusu

Fraternal Greetings

Address:

His Excellency

Papa Owusu Ankomah – Ghana High Commissioner, UK & Ireland

**Acknowledgement of Members of GMF-UK Anniversary Planning
Committee**

Sister Christina Narmah

Vote of Thanks

Sister Gloria Agyeman (Queen G)

Closing Hymn MHB 10 CAN 10 – Now

thank we all our God.

1. NOW, thank we all our God,
With hearts, and hands, and voices;
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms,
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours to-day.

2. O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever-joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in His grace,
And guild us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With Them in the highest heaven:
The one, eternal God,
Whose earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Amen.

Benediction: Very Rev'd. Quophie Anochie Ababio

**Chaplain, Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship UK, and Ireland
Chaplaincy**

Recessional Hymn – MHB 526 - O Jesus I have promised....

1. O JESUS, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou for ever near me,
My Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me:
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

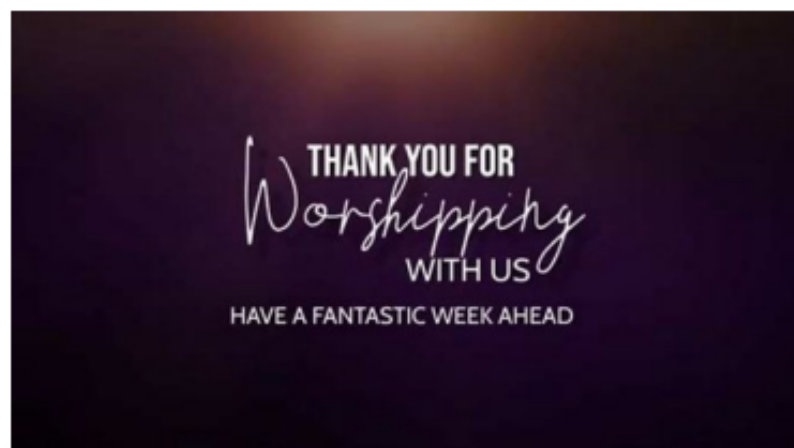
3. O let me hear Thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou Guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, Thou hast promised,
To all who follow thee,
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

Liturgists: Revd. Ben Twumasi & Revd. Papa Bona Owusu.

**Join us for our monthly Worship Service (every 2nd Sunday of the Month)
from 2PM here at Methodist Central Hall Westminster, Storey's Gate,
London SW1E
H 9NH**

**You can also join us for our monthly Worship Service (every 4th Sunday of the
Month) from 3PM at St Mark's Methodist Church, 455-457 High Rd, London
N17 6QB**



CHRONICLES OF THE GHANAIAN METHODIST FELLOWSHIP – UK CHAPLAINCY



**Report by The Immediate Past CMC Secretary, GMF-UK & Ireland
Clement Addai-Bempah**

Preamble

The relationship between the Methodist Church Ghana and the Methodist Church Britain dates to 1835 when because of the news of a fertile ground being prepared by some African Christians, the Reverend Joseph Rhodes Dunwell was sent to the then Gold Coast by the Wesleyan Missionary Society. Since then, Ghanaian Methodists who came to the United Kingdom to study or work have identified with local Churches wherever they have lived. With the influx of people from developing countries to seek greener pastures in UK over the past decades, the number of Ghanaian Methodists in the local Churches has increased tremendously.

The desire to identify with their traditional way of doing things brought some individuals in some local Churches together to form fellowships to support themselves, study the word of God in their own language and support their churches both locally and back home in Ghana.

These noble ideas caught up with many churches and by the 1980s there were identifiable groups in Walworth Methodist Church (Clubland), Brixton Hill Methodist Church, Bermondsey Methodist Church, Deptford Methodist Mission, Leytonstone Methodist Church, Upper Tooting Methodist Church, and many others. Towards the end of the 1990s the late Reverend Dr Hayford Adu-Darkwa was mandated by the Church to coordinate the Fellowships.

The idea of a Chaplaincy was thus born. It began its meetings at Walworth Methodist Church. The fellowship later moved to the Bermondsey Methodist Central Hall and then Methodist Central Hall, Westminster where we currently worship.

The Methodist Church Ghana and Methodist Church Britain decided to bring the various Fellowships under one umbrella. A Chaplain was appointed and stationed in then Streatham & Dulwich Circuit as a minister in pastoral charge of a Church, a resource person to the ministers with Ghanaians in their congregations and a Chaplain to the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowships – UK Chaplaincy.

The inauguration of the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship (UK Chaplaincy) in September 2002 was therefore the fulfilment of the dreams of those men and women who began in their own small way to meet as a Fellowship. The prayer must be that the good work they began will continue to grow from strength to strength, thus expanding the Kingdom of God on earth.

The first Chaplain was Rev Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe whose tenure of office ended in 2008. He was succeeded by Rev William Edmund Davis whose tenure of office started in September 2008. Rev Davis was stationed in the New River Circuit in North London. He was also the minister in charge of two Methodist churches in the New River Circuit. Our current Chaplain, Reverend Quophie Anochie Ababio is our third Chaplain. He also has responsibility for two other Methodist Churches at Abbots Langley and Trinity, Watford both in the West Hertfordshire and Borders Circuit.

The Chaplaincy has seen growth both in membership and in the number of fellowships within the local churches. Through the Local Fellowships, Ghanaians have been helped to integrate into communities and local Methodist churches.

Our fundraising efforts during these years have supported efforts in Ghana and the UK helping to improve standards of living where possible.

We are now 20+1 years. We started a new life as the now Chaplaincy in 2002. Life has not been that smooth for us. There have been complications, but we are here now with 19 Local Fellowships spread over the UK landscape. We could have been more had it not been for the

dreaded Covid-19 pandemic and its consequential lockdown rules. This is how we have evolved.

1995-1996	1995-96 marked the beginning of the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship. The Fellowship was founded under the late Reverend Dr Hayford Adu-Darkwah as The Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship of London at Walworth Methodist Church, Camberwell.
1996-1997	<p>The late Reverend Dr Adu-Darkwah in 1996-97 moved the Fellowship of London to Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. Worshipping was done twice a month in Emmanuel Room. He then re-named the group: The Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship – UK.</p> <p>The Greeting then was “Nyame Ye Odo, Mo ma Yen Ndo.”</p> <p>It was at Emmanuel Room that the congregation was informed of the then Presiding Bishop of Ghana’s impending visit to the UK at the invitation of the British Conference.</p> <p>Plans were then made for the inauguration of the Fellowship by the Presiding Bishop during his visit.</p>
June 1998	<p>The then Presiding Bishop, the late Most Reverend Dr Samuel Asante-Antwi inaugurated The Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship-UK at Methodist Central Hall in the small room (Emmanuel Room).</p> <p>Funds were raised during the inauguration for the Wenchi Methodist Children’s Hospital.</p>
July 1999	First Anniversary of the very first GMF UK was celebrated
July 2000	Second Anniversary celebrations were held – Funds were raised in support of the Methodist University in Ghana
2000-2001	The Fellowship moved from Methodist Central Hall, Westminster to a temporary accommodation at Asker’s House but later found a place at Bermondsey Central Hall. The Fellowship then changed its name to Ebenezer Ghanaian Methodist Church
Summer 2001	The then Presiding visited UK and established an Interim Management Committee with the appointment of Reverend Tony Brazier as Caretaker until the appointment of a Chaplain
2001	The first GMF-UK Choir was formed at Bermondsey Central Hall

<p>Autumn of 2001 November 2001</p>	<p>A Chaplain in the person of Rev'd Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe arrived in the UK from Ghana to head the GMF-UK Fellowship under an agreement between the British and Ghana Conferences. The Fellowship then stayed as a Fellowship and not a Church as per the agreement.</p>
<p>December 2001</p>	<p>Rev'd Aggrey-Ogoe accompanied Rev'd Tony Brazier to meet the growing numbers of the congregation at Bermondsey Central Hall for the first time.</p> <p>The Fellowship was then advised to drop the Church designation as the Fellowship was not a Church. The group then decided to drop the name Ebenezer Ghanaian Methodist Church in its entirety and revert to its original name of Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship – UK.</p>
	<p>Rev'd Aggrey-Ogoe's first task was to consolidate all the pockets of Ghanaian congregations into Fellowships under one umbrella which then became a Chaplaincy.</p>
<p>September 2002</p>	<p>The Chaplaincy was then inaugurated on 22nd September 2002, the 20th Anniversary of which is what we are celebrating today. Our new name became the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship UK Chaplaincy.</p>
	<p>From when we were inaugurated in September 2002 to date, we have had three Chaplains:</p> <p>Reverend Aggrey-Ogoe, Reverend William Davis and the incumbent Reverend Quophie Anochie Ababio.</p> <p>Our greeting then changed to:</p> <p>'YENYE NYAME REYE, YENYE NO YE A OYEYIE' in Akan and in Ga as 'WO KE NYONMO MII FEE, KE WO KE LE FEE LE, EHIO'</p>
<p>July 2003</p>	<p>A service in honour of the then Presiding Bishop, the late Most Rev'd Dr Samuel Asante-Antwi and Bishop Nuh Ben Abu Bekr was held.</p> <p>The first Chaplaincy Organisation, Susanna Wesley Mission Auxiliary (SUWMA-UK) was inaugurated during this service which was attended by several dignitaries including Honourable Paul Boateng</p>
<p>2004</p>	<p>GMF – UK hosted its first Ecumenical Celebration and Thanksgiving service of Ghana's 44th Republic Anniversary at Methodist Central</p>

October 2004	Hall attended by dignitaries including the then Ghana's First Lady Mrs Theresa Kufour. 1 st Fund-raising Dinner and Dance held at National Hotel, Russell Square
June 2005	Dinner Evening with Chaplaincy Leadership held in honour of the Most Reverend Dr Aboagye-Mensah and his wife
2005	We were part of the Celebrations when Ghana attained 170 years of Methodism. Fund-raising Dinner-Dance rounded-off our celebrations at St Mary's Hall, Camberwell
March 2007	GMF hosted Ghana's colourful 50 th Independence Anniversary Celebration and Thanksgiving Service at Central Hall attended by His Excellency Mr John Agyekum Kufour, then President of the Republic of Ghana and other dignitaries
May 2010	First Fellowship Fun games held at Burgess Park
May 2011	St Mark's Methodist Church Local Fellowship was inaugurated
December 2011	GMF – UK Chaplaincy made its first Youth Mission trip to Ghana
April 2012	The Chaplaincy acquired its first Minibus
“	Our Youth makes another trip to Ghana
May 2012	GMF Choir Version 1 performs at the Mapperley Methodist Church, Nottingham
June 2012	GMF UK Chaplaincy makes its first Ecumenical visit to Hamburg
July 2012	GMF hosted the inauguration of Ghana Christian Council UK & Ireland
October 2012	10 th Anniversary Dinner-Dance at Ivory Mansion, Leytonstone
January 2013	Ministerial Mission trip to Ghana including a visit to Nzulezu Township
October 2014	Our Chaplaincy Choir Version 2 is inaugurated. Choir members dressed in their new robes

January 2015	The Chaplaincy gives gifts of Motorcycles to various societies in Ghana
June 2015	The Chaplaincy says farewell to Reverend Dr Stuart Jordan, one the first Three Chairpersons of London District
September 2015	GMF – UK Chaplaincy donates £8,000.00 towards the construction of a Manse at Nalogni in Yendi
March 2016	His Excellency, Mr Victor Smith, the then Ghana High Commissioner to the UK worshipped with the Fellowship at the Methodist Central Hall
August 2016	Chaplaincy held a farewell service for Reverend Daniel French and his family who were then returning to Ghana after his tour of duty
March 2017	SUWMA-UK visits SUWMA – Modena, Italy
April 2017	The Chaplaincy Choir introduces their 2 nd set of Robes
July 2017	The new Ghana High Commissioner to the UK, His Excellency Papa Owusu-Ankomah visits and worships with the Fellowship at Central Hall
March 2018	Launching of the Methodist Church Ghana Heritage Fund at St Mark's Methodist Church, Tottenham during the visit of Ghanaian Bishops and the then Presiding Bishop.
July 2018	The Chaplaincy bids farewell to Reverend William Davis and his family after completing his 10-year term with the Chaplaincy
April 2019	The Chaplaincy inaugurates its 19 th Local Fellowship at Manor Methodist Church in the Southwark and Deptford Circuit.
July 2019	The new Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Dr Paul Kwabena Boafo worships with the Fellowship at the Methodist Central Hall, Westminster
May 2022	The opening of the first ever Ghanaian Language Congregation of the Methodist Church in the UK at Ketley, Telford by the Presiding Bishop of Ghana, Secretary of the British Conference, The Ghana High Commissioner, and a whole host of dignitaries.

June 2023	The Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Dr Paul Kwabena Bofo inaugurated the second Ghanaian Language Congregation, Freeman Methodist Church at Beckenham in the Bromley Circuit
June 2023	The Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Dr Paul Kwabena Bofo attended a recognition service at Trinity, Watford in the West Hertfordshire, and Borders Circuit
July 2023	The Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Dr Paul Kwabena Bofo inaugurated the third Ghanaian Language Congregation, Ebenezer Methodist Church in Glasgow, Strathclyde Circuit. Ebenezer was one of the 19 Local Fellowships which converted into a Ghanaian Language Congregation in Glasgow.
	The Chaplaincy today has 18 inaugurated Local Fellowships, fourteen of the Local Fellowships are based in London with the remaining 4 based in Leeds, Nottingham, Milton Keynes, and Harlow. The latest to be inaugurated was at Manor Methodist Church in South Bermondsey in March 2019. Ebenezer Methodist Church in Glasgow is now the 3 rd Ghanaian Language congregation within the UK used to be one of the 19 Local Fellowships.
	<p style="text-align: center;">Formation of Chaplaincy Organisations</p> <p>After the Fellowship's inauguration into Chaplaincy in September 2002, the then Chaplain Rev. Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe encouraged members to start branches of all Organisations as existed within the Methodist Church in Ghana. These Chaplaincy Organisations were then formed as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Susannah Wesley Mission Auxiliary (SUWMA) was the first to be inaugurated on Sunday July 2003</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women's Fellowship – inaugurated in 2004.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Men's Fellowship – inaugurated in 2004.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christ's Little Band – inaugurated in 2006.</p> <p>A new Chaplaincy Choir was formed in 2014 to replace the earlier one formed at Bermondsey Central Hall in 2001.</p>
	Our all-forgiving Lord has brought us together this far. Let us hold our ideals and objectives together to meet the challenges we have ahead

	<p>of us. We have a brighter future, but we need to stay stronger and more united to be able to fight anything that will come between us and our service to God; for when we work together, caring for the problems of others as if their problems were ours, we will demonstrate Christ's example of putting others first, and when we do that, that is when we experience unity. God Bless you all.</p> <p>Have a Wonderful and a Happy 20th Anniversary Celebrations</p>
	<p>Times are Changing. Do we need to Change to grow our numbers</p>
	<p>We have been in existence for 20+1 years. Apart from growing our numbers within the Chaplaincy, are there significant achievements that we have attained. Our fund-raising efforts have been successful until the dreaded Covid-19 and the recently introduced Congestion and Ulez charges</p>



Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church, Ghana, Most Revd Dr Paul Kwabena Boafo

Grace, Mercy, and Peace be unto you as we give thanks to God for the opportunity to celebrate twenty years in the life of the GMF London to His glory and honour.

It gives me great pleasure to send you this message of felicitations from the Conference Office on the occasion of your 20th anniversary celebrations. Twenty years in the life of any entity is no doubt a remarkable achievement. It obviously brings fond memories of the pioneers as well as compatriots who have gone ahead of us to join the church triumphant.

It is certain that in these twenty years of your existence, successes have been chalked while challenges have been encountered leading to this celebration. We are however grateful that in all these, the Lord, in his usual faithfulness, has been gracious - He has been your guide, anchor and support. Thus, we all have every cause to be grateful and happy today.

It is always my thrilling pleasure and joy seeing our Church grow and advance on all fronts and I am therefore particularly delighted at the progress the GMF in London has made in these twenty years. I have taken note of your exploits especially your consistent and firm determination to continue to grow, coupled with the intentional effort and hard work with which you have approached all your Christian Obligations. I am convinced that your efforts have, beyond doubt, not been in vain, and I congratulate you on the hard work and commitment especially in Discipleship.

The celebration of this twentieth anniversary is undoubtedly a call on you as a Fellowship to rise up for more greater participation, sacrificial commitment and single-minded devotion to God's task to His Church, which task is to be His mission to the world. I therefore call on you, to rise to the responsibility of building up the Church through spreading the Gospel message to all people.

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the people called Methodists in Ghana are still focusing on making disciples of all nations with the hope that all will live the transformed life in Jesus the Christ, Our Master. I pray that you will be mindful of this in all your endeavours. Therein lie the essence of the theme for your celebrations: "that they all may be one." The theme is a call to unity and love. Unity as of the Father and of the Son Jesus. Unity also among the disciples of Jesus. This unity must create a strong bond marked by love, so that the world can be transformed and enlightened. The Gospel of John reveals the deep love of Jesus and the Father. The Church must also be a community marked by love. Followers continue with the same goal: to live in unity and love.

Oneness is an important phenomenon among human beings, which brings about progress in the socio-economic and security of the world. Jesus knew the importance of oneness to His disciples even before He physically departed from them; therefore, He dedicated His time to praying for the oneness of His disciples. This is because,

1. Oneness among Christians is the manifestation of the nature of God's relationship with Christ.

2. Oneness means eschewing our differences and fellowshiping for the effective functioning of the church, which is the body of Christ.

3. Oneness enables us to support one another and to endure suffering together as believers.

May your celebration be Christ centred and Spirit-filled and may it challenge you to take your social responsibilities seriously for the holistic well-being of the individual and the overall good of the community of people you serve.

To the leadership and the entire membership of the Fellowship, I congratulate you warmly on this happy and memorable occasion and wish you hearty celebrations. My prayer is that The Lord God Almighty give you strength and grace to fulfil your responsibilities to continue to give your services to the people of your Fellowship.

Finally, it is my prayer that the ever-present companion, the risen and living Christ and the Comforter guide you through the years ahead.

Blessings of the Lord be upon all of you.

THE MOST REV'D DR. PAUL K. BOAFO
PRESIDING BISHOP
THE METHODIST CHURCH GHANA



The Global Communities Officer, Revd Dr Leão Neto

“The Ghanaian Fellowship is an example of the pilgrim people of God, and of a church always in the move. Congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the Fellowship.” (Revd Leão)



Chaplain to The Ghanaian Methodist Fellowships and Congregations – UK & Ireland, Very Revd Quophie Anochie Ababio

Dear Brethren

Were it not for the Lord, we would not be able to celebrate here today. May the Lord be forever glorified. Let us echo his words of Exodus 14:14... 'The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.'

I am filled with excitement and overflowing with the joy of the Holy Spirit today as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary in grand style. God has built His church to magnify His glory and we are the fruit of His labour. May he continue to use our Fellowship to fulfil His glory. Happy anniversary to the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship.

The new milestone reached today by our Fellowship is amazing. Let us celebrate this feat as one body as we achieve yet another fortunate anniversary. May God in his infinite mercies show us more blessings in the years to come.

Yes, indeed, the Lord has been faithful to us these twenty years and it is fitting to celebrate His faithfulness to us as members of His family. If we look back to what the Lord has done in the past twenty years, we cannot but appreciate all those who availed themselves and sacrificed greatly for us to come this far.

My message salutes those who are alive but not in direct active service within the Fellowship. They have also made their mark in the building of our great Fellowship. We congratulate them for their unwavering faith in the times past.

The faithfulness of our God in these twenty years has been seen in turning the church from a humble beginning, sometimes in our homes, in very tiny chapels, into a large congregation with membership numbers of approximately 1,500. The Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship (UK Chaplaincy) was inaugurated in 2002 to fulfil the dreams of people who began in their own small ways to meet as a group sometimes fellowshiping in their residences until such a time that the GMF-UK was born. The Chaplaincy has so far seen the appointment of three Ghanaian Ministers to the position of a Chaplain in the United Kingdom. It can presently count of 19 Local Fellowships from London to Glasgow, Scotland (14 of such Fellowships in London and five outside London Fellowships. Glasgow Local GMF has recently become a Ghanaian Language Congregation referred to in this document as Ebenezer Methodist Church). The Chaplaincy has operated smoothly in the United Kingdom for over 20 years. It reached the age of twenty in September 2022 but as will be learnt later in this report, the Chaplaincy is entering into a new phase which will see the establishment of new Ghanaian Methodist Language congregations across the United Kingdom.

We must remain focused on the sacrifices made by those who started the Fellowship and those who are still contributing in many other ways to grow our esteemed Fellowship. I can confidently say that the future of the Fellowship is glorious, but there are also challenging times.

I started my ministry with you in September 2019. Unlike my predecessors, I have been stationed in an outside London Circuit but just as I was getting used to the ins and outs of the Fellowship, the dreaded Covid-19 pandemic hit the whole world with its deadly outcomes like the dreaded atomic bomb of old. For nearly two years, I was stuck in my outside London home station as the restrictions imposed on the members of the public made it impossible for citizens to physically interact. At some point during the two-year period, the Fellowship discovered the use of Zoom Media for holding worship services among us. I am grateful to all those who got involved in the use of Zoom for services and as other means of doing Church and Fellowship business.

When the Covid rules were relaxed to allow for interaction between members of the public, our Fellowship members struggled to come out, as they used to do, for a normal service at St Mark's and Westminster Central Hall. This has been a challenge to this date.

In September 2024, I will be moving on as my current Circuit has restructured and will no longer have a place for a part-time appointment as the case has been before September 2024. To make matters worse, the Connexional grant that funded my part-time appointment will cease from September 2024.

This however is not to say we have come to the end of life of the Chaplaincy. The evolving Ghanaian Language Congregations will help us worship in our Ghana brand Methodism and Pastoral Care. Let us embrace the idea of the Ghanaian Language Congregations so that we do not lose our identity which we have safeguarded for the past 20 years or so. Conversations are on-going. Let us all get involved and support the idea. Big congratulations to the Fellowship and a happy anniversary. May God continue to work in mysterious ways and use His mighty works to draw souls to the kingdom of God. May he always uplift our leaders in grace, wisdom, and knowledge.

I am so proud of you! You have been through so much and yet you continue to stand tall and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. You are an inspiration to all of us and this celebration is a reminder of all the good that you have done. The 20th anniversary of our Fellowship is a celebration of the faith that binds us, the hope that sustains us, and the love that unites us. On this special day, let us rejoice in the joyous memories, embrace the present with gratitude, and embrace the future with faith. As we commemorate this milestone, let us be reminded that the walls of our "church" are built not with bricks but with the unwavering faith of its congregation.

Congratulations on attaining twenty years of service to the body of Christ. Let us pray that God continues to bless us with many more years of abundance. May God strengthen us and give us the courage to always stand with him. Because his plans for us is of good and as we celebrate the Fellowship's anniversary, all the good plans of the Lord will come to fulfilment in our lives and upon the church. A big congratulations to the Fellowship on our twenty years. The blessings of the Holy Trinity are among our Fellowship. We promise to serve him always in spirit and truth. May we carry out His grace and the free will that He has given us and combat the powers of darkness.

Happy anniversary to God's Fellowship.

GMF-UK Chaplain

Very Rev Quophie Anochie Ababio



CMC Secretary, GMF-UK & Ireland, David Kit Yawson

Brothers and Sisters, we thank the Almighty God for seeing us through 2 (two) decades of fellowshiping amongst fellow Methodist Ghanaians in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

I entreat all of us to continue to extend our message of welcome to fellow Ghanaian Methodists in the UK & Ireland who have not heard about us to join us to the glory of our God whom we serve through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 133 enjoins us, thus, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to join together in unity..." so let us uphold the spirit of togetherness to enhance our outreach programmes so that by the end of this third decade of fellowshiping, we shall increase our numbers and move our fellowship to greater heights.

Every blessing

David Kit Yawson

Secretary, Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship UK & Ireland



GMF-UK & Ireland Senior Steward, Patricia Alfonso-Brown

Hail! Hail!

We have the right to celebrate with fullness of joy and happiness what the good Lord has done for us. Let us use this 20th anniversary to reflect on the past years, learn lessons and draw the necessary inspirations where it matters. In other words, we should celebrate with care and soberly reflect on the contributions we can make in ensuring that GMF becomes one of the attractive fellowships in all our Methodist Churches in Great Britain.

By Pat Brown

Long Live GMF



The 1st GMF-UK & Ireland Chaplain, Revd Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe

Celebrating 20 Years of Faith, Fellowship and Blessings

Dear members of the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship,

My family and I bring you warm greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! I am writing to extend our heartfelt congratulations as you celebrate your 20th anniversary of service and devotion. This is undoubtedly a significant milestone for your fellowship, and it is a testament to the unwavering commitment and dedication of its members.

Over the past two decades, your fellowship has been a shining light in The Methodist Church and community, embracing the values of love, unity, and faith. Through fervent prayers, impactful outreach programs, and inspiring worship services, you have touched many lives and are continuing to make a difference in the lives of countless individuals.

20 years of being united in Christ symbolize an incredible journey of growth, both as individuals and as a community. Through the highs and lows, your fellowship has remained steadfast in providing a place of solace and spiritual nourishment for all who seek it. Your unwavering commitment to the teachings of Christ and your dedication to the service of others have made you a true beacon of hope.

As you commemorate this memorable occasion, let us take a moment to reflect on the countless blessings and milestones you have encountered on this journey. Remember the lives that have been transformed, the hearts that have been healed, and the joy that has been shared. May these memories strengthen your faith and propel you forward with renewed passion and purpose.

It is also an opportunity to express gratitude for the tireless efforts of your leaders, volunteers, and members who have played their part in shaping your fellowship into what it is today. The countless hours of prayer, the selfless acts of service, and the commitment to inspire others have made a lasting impact on your community. Together, you have built a foundation of love and compassion that I hope and pray will continue to serve as a spiritual refuge for generations to come.

As you embark on the next chapter of your journey, may the guidance of the Holy Spirit be your constant companion. May your fellowship continue to be a place where individuals find solace and strength, where lives are transformed, and where God's love flourishes. May your ministry grow and expand, reaching even more hearts and souls with the message of hope and salvation.

Once again, congratulations on this momentous occasion. May the joy of celebrating 20 years of faith, fellowship, and blessings fill your hearts with gratitude and may the GMF UK continue to thrive in the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Wishing you continued success and abundant blessings in all your future endeavours!

In the love of Christ,

Revd Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe and Family



Founding Member & 1st Secretary of GMF-UK & Ireland, Nana Arhin Suronku-Lindsay I

TO GOD BE THE GLORY, that by His grace and Spiritual guidance has now reached the milestone age of twenty years.

At this juncture, I would like to pay Tribute to the FOUNDING FATHERS, and say a fitting 'THANK YOU', to all of them, wherever they may be and to the present Leadership, I will say a big 'WELL DONE', for steering the affairs of the Fellowship to this 20th Milestone.

We wish the current Leaders God's wisdom and guidance as they move the Fellowship through the envisage difficulties coupled with the swell of new members, as well as on-going administrative and structural changes of the British Methodist's own metamorphosis year on year.

According to the Motto/ Greetings of the Fellowship, namely, 'YENYE NYAME REYE...YE NYE NO YE A OYE YIE' , an AKAN adage which translates to the well-known Scripture passage that WITH GOD EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

To this regard, I CONGRATULATE the Fellowship, on its 20th Birthday.

May the Almighty God do it again and give us grace that the GMF-UK Fellowship will weather the storm through another 20 and more years.

May God Bless Us All !

Nana Arhin Suronku-Lindsay I

(Founding Member & First Secretary of GMF-UK & Ireland)



The 1st Treasurer of GMF-UK & Ireland, Kojo Amoah-Arko

Ebenezer, that is how far God has brought the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship (GMF). It is indeed a pleasure to be part of this special occasion and to reflect on the journey over the past 20 years. The GMF being the first born of the language fellowships groups in the British Conference, enjoyed benefits and faced challenges as well. I personally rejoice in seeing that the GMF has now been seen as a positive initiative and not as a threat by Circuit Ministers.

Being the pioneer of the language fellowship groups, the GMF had financial, pastoral and other support from the British Conference. This contribution helped greatly in the success story of the GMF. The success of the GMF made it possible for other language fellowships to be established.

The headline vision of the GMF for most of us was to see Ghanaians coming together to worship and fellowship in our local language the Ghanaian way. This has largely been achieved as most of us look forward to the 2nd Sunday of the month at Central Hall. The other vision of the GMF was to organise Ghanaians in the local churches by establishing local fellowships. The local fellowship will then encourage Ghanaians to take active part in the local churches by taking up stewardship roles as well as nurturing those with promise to take up ministerial training to be worship leaders, local preachers and eventually presbyterial ministers. This aspect of the vision has not been successful in that even though several local churches' fellowships have been inaugurated they have not been effectively coordinated into a cohesive force.

Yes, the GMF has been successful so far. However, going forward the GMF will be facing challenges different from what it faced in its formative years. It is no longer the first-born cherished language group. Several fellowships have been established in the last 20 years. Due to the difficult economic climate that the whole world is facing, the British Conference is no longer in the position to be generous. On top of all these we are having an ageing congregation couple with the fact that the youth are not enthusiastic enough to fill the gap left by the older generation.

Indeed, there are challenges but not beyond the reach of the God we worship. The God who has brought the GMF so far is the same God that will go forward and navigate the future. With God all things are possible.

I wish the GMF a blessed celebration

Kojo Amoah-Arko



Founding member, GMF – Harlesden, Bro. Patrick Mensah-Amoah

Brothers and Sisters, I join you in showing gratitude to God for the incredible journey we have embarked upon together during these past years. It fills my heart with joy to hear from afar the impact GMF – Harlesden continues to make within the GMF – UK fraternity, and in our communities.

As fellows-in-a-ship, growing and spreading the message of love, hope and compassion, let us remember the foundation upon which the Fellowship was built – a steadfast commitment to serving and strengthening others in the name of Jesus Christ.

Serving as a Lay Chairman in the Premier Diocese in the mother Church in Ghana, I continue to enjoy the love and support from members in the Fellowship, for which I am grateful.

I am excited to see what the future holds as we walk this path of faith and service together. May God continue to guide and inspire us, as we fulfill our mission in the next decade. “Yenye Nyame ye a oye yie”.

Remember “someone plants, another waters but it is God who brings about the increase ...” (1 Corinthians 3: 7,8 paraphrased)

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Bro. Patrick

Message from Reverend Dr Stuart Jordan

I have many fond memories of the Fellowship and count it a privilege to have been able to have been able to offer some measure of support and encouragement during the early years of its existence. It is a joy to learn of its on-going ministry and of the plans for this special anniversary.

Unfortunately, I will be travelling on holiday over the weekend of 10 September and so unable to be with you but send my congratulations and very best wishes for the success of the occasion and for the important work of the Fellowship into a third decade. Please pass on my greetings to the members and especially to all those involved in its leadership.

Every blessing.
With all good wishes,
Stuart

Message from Reverend Dr Martyn Atkins

Greetings to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Thank you so much for the invitation to this great celebration in the life of the Ghanaian Fellowship. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend as I am out of the country at that time.

I trust and pray that you have a great time. Every blessing to you all.

Martyn Atkins



Martin Turner

Dear Friends in the Ghanaian Fellowship,

Of the many initiatives I was involved with in my time at the Methodist Central Hall Westminster few were as blessed as supporting the setting up of the Ghanaian Fellowship. The meetings were always so full of life and joy - even if sometimes I had to stand at the back tapping my watch in the hope of being able to start the evening service!!

Your group has been used to bless so many across the years. In enabling familiar worship, in giving to support one another, in witnessing trying to win others to Christ, in offering praises to our Loving God.

May the Good Lord bless you in your celebrations today and bless you still more in the twenty years to come,

Biddy joins me in sending her blessing,

In Christ,

Martin Turner



**GMF-UK & Ireland 20th Anniversary Planning Committee Chairman
Alfred Nimako**

It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you all on the occasion of our 20th Anniversary thanksgiving service.

It is my prayer that as we celebrate 2 decades anniversary , our dedication to the Fellowship and it's organizations, locals and the newly developing languages congregations will remain strong , united and deepened by a renewed dedication to the purposes and Providence of God.

It is my wish and Prayer that the Fellowship will grow from strength to strength spiritually and in numbers and to open more congregations to the spread scriptural holiness throughout UK and Ireland.

Alfred Nimako

Chairman

GMF-UK 20th Anniversary Planning Committee



GMF-UK & Ireland Media Team Member, Gloria Agyeman

We have come this far by faith, and the Lord has been so good to us. Through it all, His love, mercies, and protection have guided us to overcome some of the challenges we've faced on our way. Twenty years and still counting ! To God be the glory, great things he hath done.

As a member of the GMF-UK Media Team, I will continue to contribute my quota to support the work of God through my role in Photography, Graphics Design, Video Editing and Audio Visuals /Voiceovers to promote the activities of our dear Fellowship and uplift it to greater heights.

I believe that, as a Fellowship, we are more than grateful to God for how far he has brought us and we will continue to keep our trust in the Lord for a bigger and better Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship for many years to come.

Blessings be upon all who have steadfastly supported our dear Fellowship in all shapes and forms, in cash and in kind, come rain or shine you are always around; to that, I say Ayekoo!

Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship UK family, Me Ma Hen Nyinara Afeyiapa oo!

Blessings!

Gloria Agyeman (Queen G)

Member of GMF-UK Media team

GMF-UK @ 20

To God Be The Glory!

Happy Anniversary To Us All!

www.gmfuk.org

This brochure was compiled by:

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