

[Greenstead Evangelical Free Church](#)

Guest Book Comments on the Church's 50th Anniversary

Dean Eltiti

2015-10-06 18:12:57

Greetings to everyone at GEFC. We are rejoicing with you in the Lord as we think about the 50th anniversary of GEFC. We are so grateful to the Lord for giving us the privilege of being members of this church in the very first years of the 21st century. The church will always hold a special place in our affections as we recall the way we saw the Lord working in and through this church. It is one of my primary models of a true biblical church and has both equipped me and inspired me in my ministry on the other side of the World. We earnestly pray that the Lord will be glorified in and through your ministry throughout this century.

Yours for the Master,
Dean, Stacy, Wesley, Abigail and Gabriel Eltiti.

Shirun Da

2015-10-05 16:40:41

Dear brothers and sisters,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from China.

I have been blessed by your Christian love and faithful witness since I first came to England in 2007. I first came empty-handed but went home with a personal faith in Christ in 2008 because He had used your prayers, preachings and examples of godliness to bring me to Him. Experiences in this church were so unforgettable that I was encouraged to come and live in Colchester again after a two-year gap. And there were more love and grace and goodness to experience! It is amazing to think how God has brought me full circle in the first seven years of my Christian journey through a church in a far off country and yet, you have made for me a home away from home. My memories of the U.K are filtered through all the love I experienced in this church. I am not the only international students whose lives have been saved and built up through GEFC. Thank you! You have shared with me things of eternal value. I rejoice with you and pray that the Lord will continue to bless you abundantly and build you up in His strength!

Yours in Christ,

Rene (Shirun Da)

Colin Cresswell

2015-10-05 13:26:38

We have been away for a few days making it impossible to send a message in time for Sunday but we have been thinking about you and hope you had a wonderfully encouraging day. It has been a privilege to have fellowship with the good friends at Greenstead since May 1984 ~ I can still remember the welcome from Jane and John on that distant day!

We look to the Lord to constantly strengthen and equip you to serve Him to His glory.
(Ephesians 3:21)

Warmest greetings,

Colin

Chris Banks (Daws Heath)

2015-10-03 22:47:22

It's really not possible for me to be away from Daws Heath on Sunday but I trust you will know the Lord's blessing and His continued blessing in the days ahead. May the gospel testimony at Greenstead be continued until the day the Lord Jesus returns.

In Him,
Chris

Lucy Tedham

2015-10-03 21:48:43

How wonderful it is to celebrate 50 yrs of GEFC, I am so thankful to God for my time with you all and how he used so many faithful Christians in the church in sharing their faith and praying for me. I came to you as a stranger and was welcomed with such kindness, the love of Jesus was made so evident to me through knowing many of you. I have many many happy memories from GEFC, YPF, weekends away, the 'christmas parties' and many many more. May this weekend be a wonderful celebration and an encouragement to you all for your hard work and faithfulness, I know for certain there are many more people who have been privileged to say that GEFC has played an important role in their walk with the Lord!

We miss you all.

Lucy, James, Pippa and Eadie

Ian Hughes

2015-10-03 17:26:36

Hello everyone at Greenstead EFCC. The family and I are thanking the Lord with you as you give thanks for his faithfulness over 50 years. God has been good to us all over the years and we are glad to take this opportunity to remember it and praise him for it. The six years we were with you provided us with many memories of his goodness and grace. In the nitty gritty of church life it is easy for us to focus on the things we would rather change, the next job on the seemingly endless list and the greatness of the need around us. But from the standpoint of eternity when we are with the Lord Jesus we shall praise him for his great faithfulness: the gospel preached, souls saved, lives changed, people strengthened to stand firm under temptation, be patient under trials and sacrificially show the love of Christ. This is a day for giving God the glory. We rejoice with you that he has given you so many reasons to do so. Our prayers and love to you all. How quickly our time in this world seems to fly by. Keep on loving him, loving one another and declaring our wonderful Saviour. Our warmest regards in the Lord.

Ian, Anna, Samuel, Naomi and Sarah Joy.

Mike Hutton

2015-10-03 11:28:34

Will be thinking of you on Sunday and thanking God with you for these fifty years of gospel witness. I am eternally grateful for those who shared Christ with me over forty years ago and continue to pray that your witness on the estate may prove fruitful. To God be the glory!

Deborah Condry

2015-10-03 08:57:53

Happy 50th birthday GEFC! I am truly grateful to so many in the church for the bible teaching and example of godliness which shaped my early Christian life as a child and teenager growing up in the church. I am particularly grateful to those who transported us backwards and forwards to youth meetings and who wrote to me and prayed for me whilst I was at university. It was through the generosity of many members that I was able to go on a short term mission trip to Africa in 1995. You have been a great blessing to me and I hope you have a wonderful weekend reflecting on God's goodness to you as a church family.

Love from Deborah Condry (nee Slatter) and family xx

Mike Moore

2015-10-02 17:48:31

Congratulations Greenstead on attaining your half-century!

These days, I find it depressing to know there are churches younger than me but I do pray God's richest blessings on the anniversary events.

It's been a joy to be associated with you for about 25 years and from the very first time I visited I felt not so much a welcome guest as a member of the family. You have ministered to me as much, if not more, than I've ministered to you. Thank you.

I'm sorry I can't be with you for this milestone birthday but I am heading for the North of England for two weeks of preaching and teaching. Wishing you all the Lord's richest blessings for the next fifty years,

Yours in Messiah,
Mike Moore

Braintree Evangelical Church

2015-10-02 16:36:19

We pray for the Lord's continued blessing in fruitful witness to His great loving mercies to us all in the Lord Jesus. It is a special milestone at 50 years and we pray that you, as a fellowship and family, may know an increase of zeal and usefulness in the coming days. May the Lord confirm in you His good will and faithful purpose

Jeremy Bailey

2015-09-30 22:44:12

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Thank you for your kind invitation to attend your 50th Anniversary services. Sadly, due to commitments in the church here in Port Talbot, I will be unable to join you. I was three and a half years old when the church started and have very clear memories of the godly people whom the Lord used to shape my life in those early years. There was a devotion to the Lord and to one another, and a deep desire to make the gospel known on the fast growing Estate.

Over the years you have proved the Lord's faithfulness as you have reached out with the word of life.

The church recognised my call to the ministry and sent me to Bible College in the eighties.

There was close fellowship whilst Jenny and I were in Kirby and even though we are separated now by many miles, it is still good to know that we have Christian friends there in Greenstead.

Whilst we remember the past, with thanksgiving, we do not live in the past. Rather, we press on towards the goal to win the prize for which we have been called heavenwards in Christ Jesus. (Phil 3 v 14).

May the Lord richly bless you all on this special weekend.

Warmly yours in the Lord

Jeremy Bailey

Zbigniew and Elizabeth Modnicki

2015-09-29 10:31:23

Dear Friends, we have been blessed by your faithful friendship and great help since we first met you in 1989. But even before since 1985 up to now Zbigniew has been faithfully and generously supported by your church. It is impossible to thank our God and to thank you, His faithful servants for all goodness and kindness we have experienced. We would like to mention wonderful holidays which were provided for us by great people from Colchester! We were spending time with godly men and women from whom we could learn so many things -including kitchen recipes, household tricks etc. But above all - our faith has been built by the teaching we were exposed to and by private conversations with pastors and elders, who created such a friendly atmosphere in which we felt free to ask the most controversial theological questions. I had better finish right now, but I must say the biggest THANK YOU for all the books we got from you. We are so grateful! The day when Alan and Paula took us to the Metropolitan Tabernacle Bookshop we will never forget! May the Lord keep blessing you abundantly and may you continue being blessing to all! We include Aaronic Blessing.

Alan and Paula Hill

2015-09-27 21:10:57

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour from Switzerland.

We thank God for the past 50 years of Greenstead Free Church. We thank God for the hundreds of Christians who have been built up in their faith, for the thousands who have heard the Gospel and for the many who have been saved. We thank God for those who have faithfully served the Lord and sacrificially given to support the work.

Our heartfelt prayer is that the Lord will continue to keep the church faithful to the Word and faithful to the Gospel. "Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls." Jeremiah 6:16 NKJV

Samuel Mustapha

2015-09-26 14:46:14

Congratulations! Thank God for women, men and children that God through Christ has turned their hearts to godliness and they have been promoting the gospel of Christ in Greenstead and its environs since 1965. The brethren in Greenstead were so used of God to show Christian love towards me and members of family during our stay in England that Colchester has become my second home. It is a shame, we will miss the ceremony but our hearts are with you and we shall join you in thanksgiving service in spirit. May the gospel light continue to burn in your hearts and through you to others. Hold the fort....(until) the Bridegroom cometh!

Samuel, Affi, Joanna, Joshua and John.

Jackson Lim

2015-09-24 06:40:24

To the Pastors and Leaders and congregation of Greenstead Evangelical Church.

My heartiest congratulations for your 50th Anniversary. I was attending the Church in 1989/90 when I was doing my post-graduate studies in University of Essex. I will always cherish the love the Church has shown to overseas students. I remember Pastor Bailey's servant heart joyfulness as he comes to fetch students living on campus. I remember fondly the times I spent with the Webster family as the Church encourage local families to show hospitality to overseas students. This is truly God's love expressed through all of your actions. You all made it less difficult for some of us living away from our loved ones.

I wish you God's abundant blessings and may you continue to make an impact in the lives of your community and may God's grace be more than sufficient as you establish God's Kingdom on earth.

Gratefully yours,
Jackson Lim (Singapore)

David Quin

2015-09-23 16:29:43

Sorry not to be able to join you on this happy occasion - I wish you the richest of God's blessings for another 50 years.