



June 2025



## DAVID & CATHIE SANDIFER

with Annabelle (14) and Josiah (12)

Serving the Lord in the Netherlands



*"And he appointed twelve... so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach..."*  
(Mark 3:13)

*'Every workman knows the necessity of keeping his tools in a good state of repair... We are, in a certain sense, our tools, and therefore must keep ourselves in order.'* (Charles Spurgeon)

### Dear friends

When Jesus called his disciples it is striking that He first of all called them *to be with him*. In this we see a pattern for all ministry: we must first be with the Lord in order to serve in His name--we give out of the fullness of what we receive from Him. Charles Spurgeon compared this to a workman keeping his tools in good order: as gospel workers we are our own tools, and it is only as we keep our souls in good order, by remaining close to Jesus, that we are enabled to do the work He has called us to do. We are very conscious of this reality in our own lives, and of our need to prioritise time in the Word and in prayer--please pray for God to continue to strengthen us to do this!

### Ministry Update



Tyndale faculty with the graduating class of '25.



Over the last couple of months, David has had the privilege of being invited to speak in several contexts. He was the chapel speaker for the Tyndale Open Day at the end of April. In May, he took part in the European Leadership Forum in Poland, where he gave three seminars: one on the spiritual dangers of academia (for the Academic Network, which he co-led), on the lessons



*David speaking at Tyndale Open Day, at the European Leadership Forum, and at the Pentecostal Council of Churches.*

## Meet Abraham



Abraham is a student from Kenya who just graduated this month. He grew up in a poor family, and his schooling as a child was paid for through Compassion International--he was actually sponsored by a Dutch family, something which is very meaningful for him now. Abraham came to Tyndale to grow his Bible knowledge and sharpen his ministry skills, to make him more effective for service in Kenya. He graduated with a Master's of Evangelical

Theology, a degree which involves writing a thesis. David had the privilege of being his supervisor for his project. His topic addressed an area of need in the church in Kenya: he observed that while there is a healthy, biblical awareness of the reality of spiritual warfare, it is often divorced entirely from sanctification. In other words, Christians will seek to be freed from demonic oppression through their prayers and those of others, or through exorcisms, with little thought to the role of on-going, unconfessed sin in their own lives. Abraham's project first sought to confirm that this is a widespread issue in Kenyan churches (it is), and then to demonstrate that a biblical understanding of spiritual warfare will acknowledge sin as the primary way in which Satan seeks to bind Christians (without denying other ways he may also operate). As part of his project, Abraham designed a four-week curriculum on spiritual warfare, which he piloted through an online Bible study with some selected leaders. This was very well received, and Abraham plans to continue to develop this resource for use by Kenyan churches when he returns home. We thank God for this gifted and godly young man, and pray that God will use him greatly to build His church in Kenya.

to be learned from 19th-century British evangelicals (for the Politics and Society Network), and one on the importance of Christian organisations having clear position statements on questions related to sexuality and gender. Finally, in June he was invited to give an address on Christian leadership to a gathering of pastors and leaders of African Pentecostal churches in the Netherlands. We thank God for continuing to open these doors for wider ministry--please pray for wisdom and grace to make the best use of them.

We were sad to see off the graduates of the 2025 class at Tyndale--please pray for God to direct them each in their next steps! We are very encouraged that we have 22 new students enrolled for the coming academic year--perhaps a record, and certainly the largest cohort in recent memory. We thank you for your prayers for Via church. We continue to be encouraged in our times together, though we sense that we need God's direction for the next steps. Please pray for a leadership day-away which will be taking place at the end of July.

## Family News

At the end of May we received the very sad news that David's sister had passed away unexpectedly. We appreciate your prayers for David's extended family, in particular for the funeral in the US at the end of June, and for the non-Christian members of the family especially. Cathie, Annie and Josiah continue to be wonderfully busy with schooling and activities. All three have suffered from infections over the last month--please pray for complete healing and restored strength. We are looking forward to a slightly more relaxed summer here, including a bit of time away as a family.



*Cathie, Annie and Josiah singing in the Tyndale Easter cantata*

## Give thanks

- For a good end of semester at Tyndale and productive classes
- For continued outside ministry opportunities that have been well received
- For receiving approval for Annie and Josiah to be home-schooled for another year
- For a strong awareness of God guiding and providing in all our circumstances

## Please pray

- For comfort for David and his family in the loss of his sister
- For complete recovery from recent infections
- For guidance for the next steps for Via church
- For a refreshing and productive summer break
- For the seminars David will be giving for the Cambridge Scholars Network in July
- For us to stay close to the Lord each day

*From David, Cathie, Annabelle and Josiah*



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