



Annual Gathering and AGM

“The Church is not the past, it’s what we do next”

Saturday 26th April 2025, 10:30am – 1.30pm
Westgate Baptist Church, 366 Westgate Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne,
NE4 6NX

A gathering of churches, ministers, pioneers and missional communities from across the NBA for worship & fellowship and to share together in what is happening around the NBA.

10.30am: Welcome

10.35: Worship (led by Westgate Baptist Church)

10.50: Missional Stories across the NBA

11.20: “The Church is not the past, it’s what we do next”: Lynn Green

12.05: Refreshments

12.20: NBA Update: RMTLs

12.35: AGM

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes of the 2024 AGM

3. Annual Report 2024

4. Finance Report

5. Council Update including Appointments (Trustees)
(please see attached sheet for information)

1. Revd Micky Munroe
2. Revd Karen Smith

3. Revd Dave Tubby
4. Annual Appointments recommended by Council:
 - a. Treasurer: Gavin Monument
 - b. Home Mission Rep: Roy Searle
 - c. BMS Rep: Paul Knight

Prayer/close

This event is open to all in our NBA church, voting delegates are required to book in at <https://www.thenba.org.uk/bookings> for free.

Information on elections to Council

Election

Trustee: Revd Micky Munroe

Member Church: Whitley Lodge Baptist Church

Bio: Micky is currently loving life living in Whitley Bay. Having a home so close to the sea is a constant joy for him. Since July 2022, he has been the senior minister of Whitley Lodge Baptist Church, before which he led Guiseley Baptist Church in West Yorkshire for 9 years.



His faith journey began in Northampton, where he was born. Following an invitation from his wife, he began attending a local Baptist church and, to cut a long story short, it was here he discovered a God who knew him, loved him, and gave his life purpose. He was baptised in 1995 and began to be nurtured in a loving Christian community. Ten years later, he followed God's call into full-time ministry, eventually becoming assistant minister at the same church, before moving up to Yorkshire with his wife, son, daughter, and labrador. Prior to becoming a Baptist minister, he had a long career in graphic design. The creative skills he gained from this are still useful to his ministry, and he helps a number of churches and organisations with design and marketing support.

He loves living and being a minister in the North East and firmly believes God is doing great things in the regional association. His biggest passion is to support others through nurture and discipleship, particularly those who step out to use their gifts and experience to further God's kingdom in this awesome part of the country.

Trustee: Revd Karen Smith

Member Church: Alnwick Baptist Church

Bio: Karen is a Newly Accredited Minister having just recently being called and sent to Widdrington Station by Alnwick Baptist Church (ABC). Karen has been part of ABC for a number of years serving in different capacities, particularly within missional communities and as part of the leadership team since 2020. Karen has worked as a graphic designer, outreach worker, prison chaplain and currently works as a healthcare chaplain for the Northumbria Trust alongside her pioneering role.



Karen is married to Matt, and they have lived in Widdrington Station since 2004, with the exception of a 4 year overseas posting in which Karen served within homeless communities. Since being baptised in 2008 and after attending an Alpha course at ABC she has delivered many Alpha courses in HMP Northumberland.

Karen has a heart to serve on the fringes, specifically within the North-East and seeks to serve communities where God is already at work.

Trustee: Revd Dave Tubby

Member Church: Heaton Baptist Church

Bio: Dave has been Minister of Heaton Baptist Church since 2018, having previously ministered in Birmingham for nearly ten years. He has previously served on the NBA Council for four years and has a passion for seeing the Good News of Jesus shared in our communities. He has a strong track record of charity governance within church and community settings, and is currently also a Trustee for Citizens Advice Newcastle. He loves strategic and collaborative working, is naturally interested in national Baptist matters, and is probably the only person in Newcastle who supports a team with red and white stripes (Brentford - who else could it be??). He is married to Rachel and has two teenage children.

**Annual appointments recommended by Council****Treasurer: Gavin Monument**

Member Church: Billingham Baptist Church

Bio: Gavin has attended Billingham Baptist Church since the age of 7, growing up through Sunday School and coming to faith at the age of 17. He was baptized at the age of 20 and became a church member. He was elected as a deacon in 2001 and then as church treasurer in 2003. He served on the Leadership Team until 2015 when he stood down from both roles due to work commitments. Despite this, he continued to support the church by producing the gift aid claims and the annual accounts for the church due to the absence of a treasurer. In 2021, he was elected back into the role of treasurer. In 2024, he was asked by Baptists Together to serve on their Financial Sustainability Working Group, which is working on the overall financial stability of their denomination, both at Didcot and regional associations.



In 2004, and completely by accident, he was nominated by the church to stand to serve on NBA Council. He decided to use the mistake as a fleece to see if he could serve God in this way. He was elected to Council in 2004 and served until 2010 when his work commitments became too much (he was at the heart of a major waste management contract negotiation at the time). In addition to serving on Council, he also served on the Resources Group and chaired that meeting for his final two years. He also served on the Home Mission grants committee and staffing group. At various points, he has acted as a Home Mission visitor and has enjoyed his time getting to know Blackhill, Durham City, and Wallsend Baptist churches. In 2020, he was asked by NBA Council to step in following the resignation of the previous treasurer, and he was elected to the role at the AGM in 2021.

In his work life, he qualified as an accountant in 2002 and has predominantly served in the public sector, holding a number of roles, including Assistant Head of Finance at South Tyneside Council. In 2016, he was asked to join the Department for Education as a contractor in their Operational Finance division, where they are responsible for the

collection of financial data from academy trusts and use that to produce the Department's annual report and accounts. With 3,000 separate accounts to consolidate, it is believed to be the largest accounts consolidation exercise in the world. He joined the team permanently in September 2017. Interestingly, academy trusts are charitable companies, as is the NBA, meaning he has extensive transferable skills and knowledge from work to support the NBA.

Home Mission Representative: Revd Roy Searle

Member Church: Portrack Baptist Church and friend of Alnwick Baptist Church

Bio: Roy is our longest serving minister within the NBA. Born in the North East, he has served in the region throughout the whole of this ministry. Pioneering as Portrack's first minister, he then served as Senior Pastor at Enon, Sunderland, where he oversaw the Oasis Frontline teams base for the North East. He is one of the founders of the now global, Northumbria Community, www.northumbriacommunity.org.



Roy has served the NBA as its Moderator, been a member of the both the BU Ministry and Mission Executives. He served until recently as one of our National Pioneer Ambassadors, where he worked with individuals, missional initiatives, churches, associations and the wider Baptists Together movement. He is a former President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. He helped to establish the Free Church Missional Leadership course and the opportunity for people to train for Baptist ministry at Cranmer Hall, Durham, where he was the colleges first Baptist Hub tutor. He has served as an associate tutor of Spurgeons College, London and Northern Baptist College, Manchester.

His ministry now sees him writing, mentoring younger pioneers and missional leaders, advising churches, charities and leadership teams in navigating the challenges and opportunities of a changing world. His book *Forming Communities of Hope in the Great Unravelling - Leadership in a Changing World*, which he wrote with his friend, the Canadian missiologist Alan Roxburgh will be published in May this year. Together with other leaders in North America, Australia and Europe, they have formed The Commons, <https://www.thecommonSCOoperative.com> Still a Companion in the Northumbria Community, he recently set up with three Baptist friends, the Northumbrian Collective, www.northumbrian.org which encourages people to *Listen Well, Think Deeply and Live Authentically*. He is also on the board of Renovaré <https://renovare.org.uk>.

Roy is a keen culture watcher and commentator / blogger on contemporary issues. Roy possesses a deep faith, is passionate about the North East and is well known throughout the NBA, the wider denomination and beyond. Innovative and creative, Roy is a natural ambassador for the NBA and for Home Mission as he envisions and enables people and ministries to think wider and realise their potential. He is a bridge builder and great connector of people. A leader, who likes to see people and organisations flourish and be a means of a blessing to the communities in which they live and serve.

Roy and his wife Shirley moved recently to Newcastle and enjoys spending time with his family and friends, playing tennis, pickleball, 5-a-side football, curling, golf, walking and where opportunity allows, sailing. A Geordie by birth, he has somehow ended up as a devoted Middlesbrough football supporter!

BMS Representative: Revd Paul Knight

Member church: Heaton Baptist Church

Bio: Originally from Lancashire, Paul has been married to Alison since 1978, the same year he entered Spurgeon's College. He left with a BA in theology in 1982. He has been in Pastoral Ministry since then, retiring in 2020. He has served Baptist Churches in Ipswich, Erith, Swindon, and Towcester. Since 2020, he has been a member of Heaton Baptist Church. He and his wife have three adult children and seven grandchildren.



He was converted at 17 years of age in a local Baptist Church and began being involved with youth, World Evangelisation Crusade, and the Good News Crusade. He has always had a heart for creative ways of doing mission in a local context, which has included working with Costa Coffee, Renewal Wellbeing Cafe, Jesus Saves Formula Ford motor racing, Trussell Trust Foodbank, and with new housing developments.

He has served as a Senior Minister in a dual-site Church with other accredited ministers, community, and youth workers. He believes ministry is best served in a plural, egalitarian, collaborative team that is accountable, humble, accessible, open to the average person, recognised, and coordinated properly.

In the past, he has been a BU Mentor, and since moving to the North East, he has served as a Moderator, become a volunteer in a local foodbank, and had the privilege of preaching in some NBA churches.

Notes on Voting

1. Each member church shall have the right to appoint one representative to General Meetings of the Association and additional representatives in accordance with the following schedule:
51 to 100 members -1
101 to 150 members -2
151 to 200 members -3
201 to 250 members -4
251 to 300 members -5 and so on
2. Each minister/pastor in post at a member church shall also be a representative.
3. Each representative shall have one vote.
4. The representative or representatives of a member church shall be entitled together to exercise the same powers on behalf of the member church as the member church could exercise.