

# Conference Programme

## WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL

- 10.00** Arrival and Registration
- 11.00** Keynote 1 - **Louis Kotzé**
- 12.30** Lunch
- 13.30** Plenary Sessions
- 14.45** Refreshments  
Bedrooms available at 3pm
- 16.30** Co-Labs
- 18.00** Dinner
- 19.30** Celebration 1 - **Joy Blundell**

## INFORMATION

- **ALL** main sessions take place in the Sports Hall.
- Refreshments are served in the bar area.
- Morning Prayer will be in Reading Room.
- A viewing gallery is available upstairs in Derbyshire Room 5.

For more information please download our conference app!



## WEDNESDAY STREAMS

### NEXT GEN

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 13:30

**Confessions of 2 young pastors // Nathan Benger & Ben Lloyd // Butterley 1**

A candid conversation with Nathan Benger and Ben Lloyd as they share the real story behind leading church at a young age. At 26, Nathan launched a brand new campus of IKON Church in Derby with his wife Debbie only to welcome their first child, Zion, just two months later. Meanwhile, Ben and his wife Hannah stepped into leadership at 24, taking on an existing and long-established church during the pandemic and guiding it through the significant transition of becoming a campus of IKON Church. In this honest and practical session, Nathan and Ben will openly share the challenges, lessons, mistakes, and breakthroughs from their journeys so far offering real insights you can apply to your own leadership journey, whatever that may look like.

#### CO LABS AT 16:30

**Emotionally Healthy Living and Leading // Nathan Blood // Butterley 1**

What role should emotions play in the life of a leader? What does it look like to be emotionally healthy? Let's consider how we can build foundations that help us both live & lead with good emotional health.

### CHURCH HEALTH

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 13:30

**Treasuring Both Old and New // Dan Backens // Sports Hall**

A healthy church is not obsessed with novelty nor is it stuck in lifeless practices. One key to a healthy church is to connect ancient church concepts and traditions with the context and needs of the present church. There is a powerful synergism when the old and the new come together in church.

#### CO LABS AT 16:30

**Intentionally Intercultural: Moving from 'Multi' to 'Inter' in Church Life // Howard Williams & Panel // Sports Hall**

Many of our churches are increasingly diverse - yet quietly wondering how to move from simply being multicultural to becoming truly intercultural. If you're carrying questions about how to lead well across difference - ethnicity, age, socioeconomic background, culture and lived experience - you are not alone.

This collab offers honest conversation, practical assessment tools and shared learning. Through panel insight and guided group work, we'll explore how to build churches that are genuinely interethnic, inter-generational and inter-socioeconomic - communities where difference is valued, heard and woven into leadership, relationships and mission.

**Leading like Deborah: an encouragement to women in leadership // Helen King & Panel // Butterley 2**

Acknowledging some of the challenges we face as women in church leadership (internal and external), we will take inspiration from Deborah - woman, wife, prophet and leader of the nation of Israel. A panel of women leaders will share their wisdom, experience and encouragement, and there will also be space for ministry. *Designed for women, but men also welcome.*

### FORMATION FOR KINGDOM ADVANCE

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 13:30

**Deep Roots - Strong Leaders // Paul & Joy Blundell // Derbyshire**

Every leader is being formed. The question is not whether we are being shaped but what is shaping us. Ministry pressure, expectations, church culture and busyness quietly shape leaders over time. Yet God is also at work by his Spirit, forming leaders whose lives are deeply rooted in Christ and able to carry his presence into a complex world. In this session we will consider why formation into the likeness of Jesus is the essential work of Christian leadership. As leaders allow Christ to shape their inner life it transforms not only who they become but the culture of the communities they lead. From those deep roots grows a church that forms people to live the life of Jesus in every sphere of society.

#### CO LABS AT 16:30

**Leading From Heaven's Reality // Guest Speaker // Derbyshire**

Leading from Heaven's Reality begins with discovering the Father's heart. As we grow in the revelation of how deeply we are loved, chosen, and affirmed, our identity as sons becomes secure. We no longer serve to earn approval; we serve from approval. From that place of rest, leadership shifts from striving to overflow and our lives begin to reflect heaven's culture. As we mature in this reality, we become spiritual fathers and mothers who honour those who have gone before us and intentionally release those coming after us. We create environments where sons and daughters are trusted, empowered, and celebrated. This is an invitation into a journey—learning to lead from identity, to serve from rest, and to build with joy—so that Heaven's reality is expressed through us on the earth.

**Cultivating Roots for Kingdom Fruit // Paul Blundell // Main Conference Hall**

What does it look like to lead from a life being shaped by Christ? This seminar builds on the plenary by helping leaders explore how formation transforms both themselves and the churches they lead. We will reflect on what is shaping us, how our leadership culture shapes others, and how the Holy Spirit and intentional practices can form people to live like Jesus in every sphere of society. Participants will leave with practical steps to nurture their own growth and create churches that send people courageously into the world.

### PROPHETIC

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 13:30

**The Role and Responsibilities of New Testament Prophets and moving in prophetic grace as a Believer // Patrick Sparrow // Chapel**

The purpose of this presentation is to explain and contrast the role of the Old Testament prophet with the function and responsibilities of prophets in the New Testament, while also encouraging and activating the prophetic grace available in every believer's life.

#### CO LABS AT 16:30

**Preparing to Prophesy // Darryl Mallet // Chapel**

This practical session will help leaders grow in confidence as they step out in the prophetic. Through brief teaching, guided activation, and safe practice, we'll equip and encourage everyone in the room to hear God's voice and share it with others. Come ready to worship and step out in faith as we seek to strengthen, encourage, and build one another up through the prophetic.

**1:1 Prophetic Slots (Pre-Bookings Only) // Pat Sparrow & Mike Taylor // Reading Room**

# Conference Programme

## THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL

- 7.00 Morning Prayer
- 8.00 Breakfast
- 9.30 Keynote 2 - **Dan Backens**
- 10.45 Refreshments
- 11.15 Plenary Sessions
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Co Labs
- 14.45 Refreshments
- 15.15 Team Leader Cohorts
- 16.30 Prophetic Ministry & Free Time
- 18.00 Dinner
- 19.30 Celebration 2 - **Paul Benger**

## FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

- 7.00 Morning Prayer
- 8.00 Breakfast
- 9.15 Keynote 3 - **Rachel Mawston**
- 10.15 Refreshments
- 10.45 Celebration 3 - **Jonny Lee**

## TEAM LEADER COHORTS THURSDAY AT 15:15

COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION	//	COMMITTEE ROOM
ADMIN	//	BUTTERLEY 1
YOUTH	//	READING ROOM
KIDS	//	WRITING ROOM
WORSHIP	//	UPPER LOUNGE
SMALL MISSIONAL CHURCH COMMUNITIES	//	DERWENT ROOM

## THURSDAY STREAMS

### NEXT GEN

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 11:15

**"Insert TITLE here?" - Pt. 1 // Dan & Jo Hargreaves // Butterley 1**

This generation is being asked to answer the question of identity earlier, louder, and more publicly than ever before. But in the noise of expectation, pressure, and constant comparison, it's easy to become a version of yourself that works... rather than one that's true. In this session, we'll explore what it means to understand who you actually are beneath the adaptations. Drawing on both Scripture and psychology, we'll look at how identity is formed, how we begin to lead ourselves well, and why so many of us end up living from a version of ourselves shaped more by fear than truth. This isn't about becoming someone new. It's about recognising who you already are, and having the courage to live from there.

#### CO LABS AT 13:30

**"Insert TITLE here?" - Pt. 2 // Dan & Jo Hargreaves // Butterley 1**

We've learned how to present ourselves, curate ourselves, and adapt quickly to what's expected and often we can do all of that really well, especially in public. But underneath it all, many of us aren't actually sure who we are. In this interactive session, we'll slow things down and get curious about the different ways we've learned to adapt, in our thoughts, our behaviours, and even in how we relate to God and others. Through guided reflection and conversation, you'll begin to notice your patterns, name what's been shaping you, and explore what it looks like to lead yourself from a place of God given authenticity.

### CHURCH HEALTH

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 11:15

**Healthy Churches Don't Drift // Steve Mawston & Andrew Cherrie // Sports Hall**

In this honest and practical seminar, Steve Mawston reflects with a Senior Pastor on a recent church health review: what it felt like to invite external insight, what the process revealed, and how it ultimately clarified and strengthened the church's future. Discover how courageous assessment can build confidence, deepen formation, and sharpen leadership clarity.

#### CO LABS AT 13:30

**Build Moments Not Monuments // Jonny Lee // Sports Hall**

Some leaders are tempted to build monuments—platforms, titles, legacies that elevate self rather than Jesus. In Acts, leaders built moments that became momentum (true mobilising). Kingdom leadership resists self-promotion and pursues Spirit-led participation. God builds the Church; we steward the moments in the structure and in people. Some practical 'hows' for mobilising growth.

**Both Chairs: Navigating Healthy Leadership Transition // Stuart Bell & Howard Williams // Butterley 2**

Leadership transition is one of the most significant - and vulnerable - seasons in ministry. Every ministry area, team and department will face moments of transition, handover and succession at some stage. In this interactive seminar, Alive Church's Founding Pastor and current Lead Pastor share honest reflections from "both chairs" on what has worked, what has stretched us, and what we've learned along the way. With space for Q&A, group discussion and practical tools, this session is for any leader preparing for, navigating, or discerning a leadership transition.

### FORMATION FOR KINGDOM ADVANCE

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 11:15

**The Coffee, The Cake and The Change // Louis Kotzé // Derbyshire**

Faith is meant to be lived in community! Explore how shared life, mutual responsibility, and true Christian fellowship can bring Kingdom transformation to hearts, communities, and culture.

#### CO LABS AT 13:30

**From Formation to Flourishing: Releasing the Church into Everyday Kingdom Impact // Louis & Natasja Kotzé, Lena Katende and Joy Blundell // Derbyshire**

What does it look like for a church to move beyond internal activity and genuinely advance the kingdom across workplaces, neighbourhoods, and communities? In this interactive Co Lab, Joy will host an interview-style conversation with Louis and Natasja Kotze and Lena Katende from the Hatfield team in SA; drawing out the theological convictions, cultural shifts, and practical decisions that have shaped their approach to outward-facing mission. Together we will explore how deeply formed leaders cultivate churches that equip workplace disciples, initiate community transformation, and pursue shalom in everyday life. This session will include practical reflection exercises and open Q&A, helping you discern what needs to shift in your own context so that your church is not simply busy, but faithfully present and fruitfully sent.

### PROPHETIC

#### PLENARY SESSION AT 11:15

**Cultivating a prophetic posture in life and leadership // Rachel Mawston // Chapel**

What does it look like to lead from a prophetic posture — not just in moments, but as a way of life?

This session will explore how cultivating a prophetic lifestyle shapes your leadership and strengthens your church. We will cover:

- Preparing and delivering prophetically focused messages
- Sharpening discernment for the times we are living in
- Moving in both planned and spontaneous prophetic ministry — on and off the platform

Practical and empowering, this stream will equip you to steward the prophetic with wisdom, clarity, and confidence.

#### CO LABS AT 13:30

**1:1 Prophetic Slots (Pre-Bookings Only) // Steve & Rachel Mawston // Reading Room**