

#### Women In Ministry

## Meet Donna Taggart

Founder & Pioneer

STORMONT CHRISTIAN INITIATIVE



ON THE COVER
DONNA TAGGART with husband

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Publishing
3-in-1 Walking in the Light Publications

3-IN-1 WALKING IN THE LIGHT MINISTRIES

c/o 901 N Brustcher Street NEWBERG, OR 97132

USA

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### The Ministry

Stormont Christian Initiative was launched in February 2008 by Donna Taggart and MP Jim Shannon and has gone on to Host two Events of Excellence at Parliament Buildings, Stormont, Belfast. One event was hosted in the Great Hall to celebrate Israel's 60th birthday and the second in the Long Gallery to gain understanding from those in Parliament of how we as believers can best prayerfully support our Christian Politicians; this Event also provided a Middle East Update and prayer for Israel.

Since those early beginnings SCI has had believers join with them from Israel, Europe, India, USA, Iran, UK, ROI, Africa, South Africa to list but a few! In 2009 the Lord placed on Donna's heart to launch another event called The Global Day of Echad which was held on the Stormont Estate, in May 2009. Donna continues to move forward progressing with this challenging ministry, against all the odds.

I have had the pleasure to know Donna and her family personally for over 20 years and she is a woman of integrity and unfailing passion to get God's message across. With another event at Stormont planned for next year, read Donna's remarkable and defining inspirational testimony of how, through a constant battle with MS, this woman of substance continues to fight the good fight!



**AK Chenoweth** 



Donna Taggart

Ministry: Stormont Christian Initiative

Co-Founder

Location: Northern Ireland, UK

# Introduction

Pioneered Messianic Ministry in Ireland 1994-present
Founder/Director Israel Network Ireland 2001
Pioneered and Co-Founded Stormont Christian Initiative 2007
Certified Rep CFI-UK Kesher Course
Personal Ministry to the born again believer of healing in the bloodline.

Donna Taggart, Founder of Israel Network Ireland, had been in the Ministry of Pioneering Messianic-Hebraic outreach in Ireland, North & South for approximately fifteen years when the Lord spoke to her in January 2007 telling her to Hold A Night for Ireland to Honour Israel and the next day the Lord said at Government. Firstly this was a profound sentence to hear from the Lord and secondly there wasn't a Government in residence in Northern Ireland at that time!

In May 2007 the first ever Night for Irlenad to Honour Israel was held in Stormont and the story continues to unfold as each month passes. In February 2008 this ministry was launched and has gone on to Host two Events of Excellence in Stormont, one in the Great Hall to Celebrate Israel's 60th birthday and the second in the Long Gallery to gain understanding from those in Parliament of how we as believers can best prayerfully support our Christian Politicians, this Event also provided a Middle East Update and prayer for Israel. With a new event on the horizon in 2015 we interview Donna and hear her inspirational story of how God's strength is continuing to enable her to work against all the odds...



### Donna Taggart

# Interview



#### 1. How did you come to know the Lord Donna?

I first came to the Lord in the Bethshan Elim Church at the age of 10, on the Shankill Road, but I didn't know to call on Him from my heart till I faced rock bottom and was suicidal at the age of 25 when my first love and I had to go through a divorce due to the illness of chronic Eczema and Asthma. It proved too much for him to live with and watch so he was placed on a daily heart monitor due to the over whelming stress!

#### 2. How did you first get involved with Messianic Ministry in Ireland?

Ha, that's a funny one! the Lord said to me that He wanted me to pray for Ireland, and I argued for days and days saying, no Lord you called me to pray for Israel 'remember Lord', you said in Ezek 33 v 7 'I have MADE YOU a watchman for the house of Israel' well I'm seriously not praying for Ireland, I couldn't care less what happens to Ireland, with all due respect but sorry Lord! When I eventually gave in, as you do, then the ministry of Israel Network Ireland was birthed!

INI became the first port of call for the Jewish Believers to come into Ireland, and we brought many Jewish Believers into the North of Ireland to teach us the relevance of the Jewish Feasts and High Holy Days of the Jewish Annual Calendar etc, but then we took them into the South also and held many things like Conferences, Healings etc in the South.

The Lord showed me a 'green door' in a vision in the early days and said we are the door which God has opened for Jewish Believers to Teach in Ireland. When any visiting Jewish Believers came into Ireland by my Invitation the Lord said I was to treat them as the 'Children of a King,' they were to have the best of everything! So from then on no matter what I've done in ministry I first need to know if it 'God's Will' then I can rest assured it's 'His Bill' and treat His visiting children as the 'Children of the King,' King Yeshua/Jesus!

#### 3 Not many people have heard of Messianic Ministry what is a Messianic believer?

A Messianic Jewish Believer is specifically a person who is Jewish by birth and has accepted Messiah Yeshua's/Jesus Blood Sacrifice on the cross of Calvary as his/her personal sacrifice and therefore the Jewish Messiah as his/her personal Savior and has invited the Holy Spirit to dwell in his/her physical body. A Messianic Believer is anyone who is not Jewish but has gone through the same steps above! Now known as a Messianic Believer. Jewish by birth means they are Now a Jewish Believer, Gentile or Goyim by Birth means they are now a Messianic Believer, but BOTH are now part of the ONE NEW MAN that is spoken of in the book of Revelation.

#### 4 In your own words why do you believe the church needs to get back to its Hebraic roots?

This question gave me pause for thought, so my answer would have to be that ....

since the early days of this ministry I have changed so much in my knowledge and understanding; now I more fully comprehend what Jesus did on the cross and what He aimed to achieve by 'His Divine Exchange', which is quite simply 'A One Knew Man!'

Understanding of our Hebraic/Messianic Roots leads us to a greater intimate knowledge of the Life and Sayings of Messiah Yeshua/Jesus and the many ways he was teaching his disciples.

With out this revelatory understanding we lose so much of the very point that Messiah Yeshua/ Jesus came to earth to explain to us; the chance to understand the 'one new one' Messianic theology. The Church has led to many various denominations but very, very view really understand what following Yeshua/Jesus is actually about. That is why there is such confusion for people who read the bible, go to Church EVERY sunday but learn next to nothing about the Founder of our Faith. Faith in Messiah doesn't necessarily mean we MUST keep the Feast and Festivals but it's our duty to Acknowledge WHY GOD Separated a people, Land and Word unto Himself.



Junior Minister Robin Newtown MLA, Jim Shannon MP and Donna Taggart celebrate the first event for SCI @ Stormont.

So I would say although the Church has had many good points over the Millennia, now that we are in the 21st Century and our time on earth is so close to the return of this AGE, that the Church should seriously pull back from its lack of knowledge and representation of Idol worship [which God hates] and again embrace it's original Hebraic roots for which it's Founder paid such a high, Blood Price for each believer. For example pull back from celebrating Easter [which is an insult to Abba/Father and embrace the original Passover-Pesach in Hebrew and Saturday instead of Sunday Worship originally Shabbat in Hebrew to List but a few. Jesus has given us His plans but many, many of us have decided He got it wrong and that their way is better! God says Himself in the Old Covenant/ TNKH through the 10 Commandments that he gave to Moses on Mt Sinia and again in the New Covenant through Yeshua 'Thou shall have NO other Gods before Me.'

So yes, every day is a good day to Worship God whether it is Saturday or Sunday but let's understand the Truth of what is in scripture and not get caught up with all the pagan idol worship which truly shows a SERIOUS lack of knowledge and decision! Hosea 4 v 6 My people are perish for lack of knowledge. God was speaking to the Jews at that point but the same now applies to the Believers in Jesus.

## For over 20 years of ministry you have Founded and Co-Founded 2 Messianic ministries one is called Stormont Christian Initiative – what does this ministry represent and what is its vision?

The first founding Ministry is Israel Network Ireland, and the vision was/is to bring Messianic Jews into Ireland, North and South, to teach on the Jewish Festivals & High Holy Days. This is the foundation that led to the birthing of Stormont Christian Initiative; we first had to lay the foundation North & South in Ireland.

Our next step was when God said to me 'Hold a Night for Ireland to Honor Israel! I dropped what I was doing and said 'That's a GREAT idea Lord'Then minutes later He said at Government!! I thought in shock NOW that's not possible Lord because we have no Government in Northern Ireland! So for a few days I mediated over this and well the rest is history! [Name website here Karin Please, I can remeber it, at mo]

However, very quickly it became more evident that the lies of satan were taking hold and I had great pain and trouble walking but ultimately we continued to believe that God wanted us to hold the Global Day of Echad in the grounds of Stormont in 2009. GDE means Global Day of 'One' but that's a composite of one not a singular; for example a man and woman become 'one' through marriage but remain separate individuals. Just as God is 'One' but He is seen as the composite of one as taught through Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The One New Man is One yet we also become a super natural creation by being the Temple of the holy Spirit when we invite the Holy Spirit to live in us!

- 6. You have hosted a series of events at Parliament Buildings, Stormont. The last Event was held in the grounds at Stormont in 2009 and was called 'The Global Day of Echad' much fruit came from this, ushering in the 'one new man' concept. I had the privilege to attend it and it attracted many hundreds of people from all over the UK, Ireland, North & South, Africa, South Africa, the Middle East, Israel and India, in fact you were interviewed for an Indian TV Station. Firstly what does 'Echad' mean and what is the 'one new man' concept?
- 'Echad' means 'One' in Hebrew. [Q 5. Outlines some of this] The Hebrew prayers that Yeshua/Jesus and also the Apostles grew up with as children, used the word Echad on a daily basis. So the word Echad would be very familiar to Jewish Believers and some Non-Jewish Believers. The most Sacred Prayer in Judaism is 'The Shema' which in English is 'Hear O' Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One' and in Torah is Deuteronomy 6:4 and in Hebrew is Prayer is Shema Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai Echad.
- The concept of the new Man is found in scripture and is what Yeshua/Jesus came to Teach that the dividing wall into the Holy of Holies was now torn in two and through Lords crucifixion it made the one new man a possibility for the first time in history.
- 7 Since 2006 you were diagnosed with the debilitating illness MS, how difficult has it been to overcome this and continue to serve the Kingdom?

When I was diagnosed on 4/12/2006 on my actual 44th birthday with MS. I said to the Nurse who was with me to see the Dr 'Thank You' that's a fantastic Birthday Present! I came out of the hospital office and laughed I thought it was so hilarious because I had just won the victory of suffering 43 years of Chronic Eczema and Asthma: I wasn't being hysterical I was seriously laughing because I felt I had learnt how to fight and WIN this battle too with the Word of God, so I was really laughing!!

However, in May 2007 I proved to be the FIRST woman ever to go to Government [in any nation the world over, so I've been informed] who celebrated 'The 40th Anniversary of the Recapture of Jerusalem' which had Messianic Jews teach and worship through the whole event and lead a packed Government Hall in wonderful Celebration.

but the diagnosis of MS in 2007 only became a really serious problem after my planting of the Global Day of Echad in the grounds of Government/Stormont in 2009 and yet it was only in June 2013 when I totally lost the power of both my legs and it became time to explain to the whole family that I was having to buy myself a wheelchair. Firstly I sat my husband and my children down with the Bible and 'The Word' that I had believed God had given to me and explained the diagnosis that I had been given all those years ago. Although they had asked me many times over the last numbers years when I was so obviously struggling with mobility but I had always said 'don't be concerned about it,' this too will pass, it is only a season.

But they now had 'MANS' diagnosis this became so much harder as I was now dealing with their witnessing me struggle in the flesh and also with my constant believe that this was lies from the evil one and that my God has never lied! Which only my daughter really understood. She was the only one who knew the diagnosis from day one and always stayed in the spiritually mind set when all around was crumbling! But here we were seven years on, seven years older and a little wiser, still believing God's Word and not walking! I am witnessing the truth of God's Word as the hospital have said the MRI scan had shown all the way done my spine white patches meaning the MS was sadly but very evidently taking over the whole spine.

However, since that time I, with God's help, am sitting up on the edge of this seat and typing this Interview for Karin and tomorrow we will have our first Serving Team Meeting to plan for another Global Day of Echad in Stormont in 2015. But I will aim to do this one day at a time because no two days are ever the same.

8. Your ability to continue with some daily tasks is inspirational and your persistence and steadfastness of faith amazing in the face of such life changing adversity – how important is prayer in this situation?

Firstly, we need to settle in our 'SOUL' which is the 'House of our Mind, Will and Emotions' that Gods Word doesn't lie and therefore is the absolute truth. So then we need to find a word by the leading of the Ruach Kodesh [Holy Spirit] were our stance is going to be and then once we have determined that, then we do not move from that point. Because I was diagnosed with MS I needed to have a word from God that involved my ability to walk and be set free from the enemies grasp! The Words the Ruach led me to were Luke 4:18 and Zechariah 10:12

Luke 4: 28 V 18

.....He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners to set the oppressed free.

Zechariah 10:12

I will strengthen them in the LORD; and in his name they shall walk, declares the LORD.



(Right) Jim Shannon MP& Donna Taggart Co-Founders celebrate with the mass at the inaugual 'Global Day of Echad', Stormont.

This always, always proves to be the hardest part for believers. If God doesn't answer their prayers immediately or at least really soon [months] then they start believing mans [Drs] reports etc and that God didn't answers their prayers! So that's why it says in Ephes 6'stand,' and then STAND AGAIN. Means You stand for a longer time and like me currently I am still having to Stand spiritually because as I write this for me standing physically is not a possibility! Standing means you stand until God answers what you got that He said to you in His Word. For me as I write this, it is now 2014 I was diagnosed in 2007 and had to move into a wheelchair in July 2013. However I was in Musgrave Hospital in Dec 2013/through Jan 2014 and God wakened me every night at 1.30am and I lay in one position till 7am next morning, this happened each night for five nights.

But if you have settled in you 'Soul' that Gods Word is your final authority then there is no alternative option. That doesn't mean you can't take the drs medication or tabs or even Hospital stays but it does mean that no matter what happens in your physical body it can and will only eventually go one way, GODS WAYI! It is written we are more than Conquerors in Christ because He Loves us, that gives me daily hope because some days are horrendously difficult! It has been on days like these that I have spoken to friends like Karen and others who are in International Ministries and they have lifted up my arms in the battle many times! So God Bless You Dave & Karin for your GPN! It really is a Network of Prayer for 'Such a Time as This!' Esther 4

9. Can you offer any advice Donna to others having to deal with setbacks and discouragement whilst trying to overcome an illness like this?

A] One MUST get an ETERNAL perspective on this journey called life. In Gods dominion there is NO TIME or seasons, these were created for Earth. [Genesis] So that explains why are prayers can take years to be answered. So we need to FIRMLY and CONSISTANTLY establish in our gb-nmbelieve what the word says in Hebrews 11 v 1: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. This can cause a roll coaster ride of emotions if this proves to be a painful season like cancer or something but still one must firmly believe that God's Word will prove true in the end! It is Written 'We are more than Conquerors in Christ, because He Loves us' Psalm 34:19

Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

10. Your husband Burt has committed to seeing you and your ministry continue to evolve and grow, how important is his support in this and as a couple have you been strengthened during this test?

My husband Burt, has proved to be my physical legs and energy in this past year, when I had to move to a wheelchair. He has had to take on areas that I never expected a husband to have to do for me. Because I couldn't stand at all, my husband has had to bathe me, dress me and my son has had to take me into the bathroom for Burt to take over etc but it seemed in this season I was to lose all sense of being myself I was totally dependent on another person for absolutely everything.

I was victim for 43 years of chronic eczema and approximately 33 years of chronic asthma, when I needed a home nebulizer just to breath daily at home and could only eat Jacobs Crackers and drink Tea! So spending the following season in a wheelchair in terrible pain and spasticity [bone stiffness and legs locking called scissors] was not something that had ever entered my mind! I thought the 43 years of Eczema and Asthma was the end of my suffering and that I would now be free to serve out my last years on earth in the knowledge and victory of the WORD and the eternal Salvation of my Jewish Messiah, how wrong I was! But through this I have come to understand that

It is written 'MANY are the afflictions of the righteous BUT the Lord delivers him out of them ALL.'

Psalm 34:19 KJV

I should clarify at this point because I struggled for many years with this scripture through lack of knowledge, I kept saying to God I'm not righteous so how is that explained? So He led me understand that on the Cross, Jesus divinely exchanged my SINFULNESS for His Awesome Righteousness. And that was written before Jesus had even been born! But the same God the Father is never changing, He is the same yesterday, today & forever! But the righteousness in the Old Testament was achieved by a BLOOD SACRIFICE and talking to an unseen God! The problem today is that God is still UNSEEN but we for the most part do not believe that we need a BLOOD SACRIFICE and keep praying to Him.

However, please do not make the mistake of BLAMING God for all this grief, the blame lies entirely at the enemy's door! People all too often blame our loving God for every cancer or illness that they or a loved one has or had to go through but having been faced with FULLY STUDYING the WHOLE Word of God from Torah [the first five books of the Old Testament] then Tanakh [all other books after the first five books] and then Brit HaDasha, [the New Testament] I learnt that sickness Never Ever comes from our Father in Heaven and that again, It is written 'My people PERISH for lack of knowledge' I had to also learn that the word 'PERISH' means 'to die slowly.' when I checked this word on the online dictionary.

While the enemy puts us through these dreadful situations we MUST TOTALLY stay believing that the word of God will VERY DEFINITELY come true and that what the enemy puts upon us will not overtake Gods Word [and the clause is THAT NO MATER WHAT MAN SAYS GODS WORD IS THE FINAL AUTHORITY AND THAT SETTLES THE MATER.] that's were OUR mind's must get parked.

This is ALWAYS were most people get 'off the ride' so to speak, they still believe in God's Word, but when this part of the pain or disability gets far too hard for them to bear and they fail to stay in faith that God will ever heal them. But dear ones this exactly we are encouraged in His Word to 'STAND'.

So please, please don't get off this rollercoaster ride of emotional turmoil just now, because if you HAVE sought for a 'Rema Word' at the beginning of this Rollercoaster Ride/Diagnosis then God will honor His Word BUT in HIS TIME! But He will do exactly what He promised if we will only choose to wait/stand 'Staying in FAITH!'

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Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

#### Rightly Divide the Word:

Drugs from Drs, hosp, etc are not us having lack of Faith it just means that we praise Him for all the help we are getting from them but we are staying in Faith that GOD'S WORD, His Promises will eventually prove true! The only thing one must be careful off is that we do not allow the drugs or medication to hinder either our Prayer or Praise, it is so important folks that we do not let the drugs take over we do this by continually seeking God for His Protection over our minds and bodies, NO MATTER HOW HORRENDOUS THE PAIN because especially with cancers the enemy loves to have us in such horrific pain that the drugs null our minds and lull us into sleep. Now if we have excepted the Blood Sacrifice of Jesus then if we die we are assured of eternal life so we have the victory but what of God's plans for our lives when we stand before Him and he says that if we had off waited just a little while longer we would have WON the war and reached a multitude of souls for His Sons Name! Would that not make you want to keep fighting this battle called life!

So we need to understand that while the enemy is running amuck trough our lives that God is not blind to this fact nor is He surprised but He has His plans going on in the background which I couldn't see at the time but I do now and it's incredible how God has changed the enemy's plans for the good in my life!

Burt had an accident in his work one day and he came home because the equipment broke and wrecked his lower back! I was using the 'rollater' at this point.

So this now meant Burt was at home full time! The work admitted full responsibility and gave him early retirement! He always said during our young years that I would love to retire at age 58/59 and here he was age 58 and retired! All of a sudden I was wheelchair bound and Burt was with me 24/7! Now he was at home to make all the meals and attend to the many other needs we had as a family!

It really is proving an awesome experience but horrendously hard for me personally and for my loving husband, physically hard also. Not a task you think his retirement will hold!

So although I am currently still wheelchair bound but I choose to believe it is only a matter of time, according to my Faith in His Word when I'm operating under Hebrews 11: 1. {Above} and the Rema Word [God's Word] He gave me back in 2013! Luke 4: 18 & 19.

The GP has just decided (at time of writing), to start lower one of the drugs I have been taking since last October due to the unexpected, swollen abdominal and breathing side effects but that's another story!

Anyway folks I guess this a story that will unfold bit by bit or as they say 'a work in progress!'



LANDMARK - Donna and husband Burt celebrated this year becoming Grandparents for the first time. (Donna with her Grandson below)



## STORMONT CHRISTIAN INITIATIVE



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\*Please note that the official website is undergoing an update, some pages are currently under construction. Therefore some info may be out of date at this time...

