

Stalham Baptist Church

Weekly News Bulletin Sunday October 28th 2018



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington 01692 582731
Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno 07733837687
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Ministry Team: Whole Fellowship

Today Diana is leading and Jerry is preaching.

This Week's Topic is "**Our Christian Identity Part 2**" which will be covering 1 Peter 2: 9-17.

We would like to offer a very big welcome to any visitors who have joined us this Sunday. Would you kindly sign our visitors' book at the back of the Church and you are very welcome to join us for refreshments in the Stables at the end of the service.

This Sunday's Sidney House Service is at 3.30pm, all welcome.

Today's Sermon

Jerry will continue to explore the Six metaphors that Peter uses to illustrate who we are as disciples of Jesus. Each carries with it a corresponding responsibility / obligation.

This week Jerry will consider the second three in verses 9-17.

Here is the structure of the sermon:

4. God's Special People Chosen to Witness v 9-10
5. Foreigners and Exiles Called to Holiness v 11-12
- 6 Slaves of God Called to Submission v 13-17

For Your Prayers

As part of our weekly worship we have a **Prayer Team** available to anyone who would like the support of others in prayer. You can find today's prayer team **Maggie and Diana** in the prayer tent at the back of the Church.

Please pray during November for the residents of **Weavers Close and Spinners Court**. As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **David and Eileen Neil**. Also please pray for those we know who are unwell at home, in care homes or in hospital.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Friday 19th Jenny asked for prayers for her older sisters' partner John. He had been knocked off his motorbike and sustained multiple injuries including two broken ankles and several cracked vertebrae. At the time of her request, John was in theatre.

Jerry requested prayers on Saturday for Julie, who had recently joined the congregation, who was undergoing an eye operation on Monday.

On Sunday Doreen sought prayers for Andrea who was suffering from complications after an operation for a hernia.

Victoria posted an update on Phoebe from Miriam. "She still is keeping us on our toes and is still in high dependency." She went on to say "Phoebe is running out of veins for the blood tests and she is becoming traumatised by the whole thing so tomorrow they are taking her to theatre to ideally fit a pick line which can stay in for a few weeks."

Victoria asked for prayers for the them all; Paul, Miriam and their children Martha, Susannah and Timothy.

On Tuesday Doreen posted an update on Andrea saying she had a chest infection which needed antibiotics and is still on oxygen.

Prayers were said for Jane and Elspeth as they followed up the prayer cards on Wednesday.

Many people have said how important these prayers have been when in times of trouble.

Please continue to pray for those in need of support, they are always greatly appreciated.

To join the ever growing WhatsApp Virtual Prayer Room text Jerry on 07733837687. You will need a smart phone.

Busy Week at SBC

Monday

Church Open for Prayer

10.00 to 12noon

Monday Club

3.00 to 4.30pm In the Schoolroom

Tuesday

Town Hall Table

9.00 to Midday

Coffee and Chat

9.30 to 11.30am In the Stables

Prayer for Revival

9.30am

Three Windows Brumstead Road

Wednesday

Over 60s Table Tennis Club

9.30am to Midday

In the Schoolroom. All Welcome

House Group

50 Brumstead Road 7.00pm

Talking Jesus

In the Schoolroom 7.30pm

Thursday

Pop Up Café

3.00 to 4.30pm In the Schoolroom

Friday

Food Bank and Citizens Advice

1.15 to 3.00pm In the Stables

Alpha Course

2.00pm In the Church

Saturday

Getting together to PRAY!

8.00 to 9.00am In the Church

Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning

10.00 to 12.30pm In the Stables

Sunday

Sunday Service 10.45am

Church Meeting at 12.30pm

Joint Eastern Region Churches service at

Park Baptist Church 7.00pm

“I tried to end my life” how a young man survived stigma, loneliness and suicide

For millions of people worldwide, mental illness can be a lifelong consequence of experiencing the stigma and discrimination of leprosy.

Mohan's story

Mohan Kanda from Andhra Pradesh, India, suffered from polio when he was aged two and he grew up with impairments in his leg.

By the age of 16 both his parents had died, and he was left to fend for himself. Then as a young man aged 21, he was diagnosed with leprosy. It was another three years later before he was cured. By then his hands had developed irreparable damage caused by leprosy. Loneliness and stigma from leprosy drove him to try and end his life on many desperate occasions.

Telling his story at the recent Neglected Tropical Disease NGO Network meeting in Addis Ababa, Mohan said, “I felt the need to hide myself away when my leprosy started to show, and people started to shun me. Even my beloved sister told her four children to stay away from me. No one understood how terrible this was. I tried to kill myself many times. Once I tried to catch a snake, so it would bite me, but it also ran away. Even this snake reminded me of how people ran away from me.” Mohan concluded, “leprosy has the ultimate power. It destroys relationships. I thought I would be discriminated against for life.” Thankfully, in 2016, Mohan was referred to The Leprosy Mission (“TLM”) where he attended a Vocational Training Centre (“VTC”) in Tamil Nadu. Since then he has been studying computing and learning English and Tamil.

Mohan said, “I can't forget that day; it was a turning point. At first, I was afraid of stigma and that I wouldn't fit in, but I started to feel more comfortable when I was offered help and treated as a normal human being. At first I wasn't confident because I didn't know how to use a computer keyboard and I typed very slowly.

Because of my clawed hands one finger would hit two keys which made me frustrated and afraid. I thought that the VTC was my last chance to turn my life around, but the instructors helped me to develop my own style of typing.

The Leprosy Mission made me understand that I was a valuable person. I was not useless and worthless. Ideas of suicide had always been with me, but since I've come to the VTC, I forgotten them. Now I'm confident, I can live, I can earn a living, I can do something worthwhile. I want to be a role model for other people with leprosy and I will fight against leprosy stigma on their behalf until my last breath. The impact and consequences of leprosy stigma are for life if no help is available. They can affect the whole family, and everyone associated with the leprosy-affected person.”

Leprosy is a 21st century disease. 210,6711 people were newly detected with leprosy last year, over 12,000 of whom have visible impairments.

Saturday's coffee morning is raising funds for people like Mohan please support this mission.

News Stand

Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning on Saturday November 3rd, with St. Mary's Church. This will be in the Stables from 10.00am until 12.30 mid-day. Please can you make a note of the date and come and support those whose lives are blighted by this terrible disease. Please can you consider baking a cake to sell? Please speak to Barbara M, Eileen or David. Thank you.

Barbara M asked could all those who have Leprosy boxes please bring them to the coffee morning.

Men's breakfast on the 10th November at 8.30 in the stables. Guest speaker from the Food Bank. Please bring a food item to donate to the Food Bank. For what to bring see notice at back of church.

Next Week's Service

Flowers: Jan Slade

Welcome: Alex and Elspeth

Refreshments: Robert and Christine

For Your Diary

Saturday November 10th

Men's Breakfast in the Stables 8.30pm

Sunday November 18th

St Mary's Church

Combined Christmas Shoe Box Service

Sunday December 2nd

Yuletide Street Fayre 1.00pm to 5.00pm

Monday December 10th

Christmas Carols in the Swann Inn 7.00pm

Sunday December 16th

Candlelight Carol Service
in the Church 6.00pm

Jerry's Quotes of the Week

“The privileges belonging to Israel now belong to the church of Jesus Christ. The church does not replace Israel, but it does fulfil the promises made to Israel; and all those, Jews and Gentiles, who belong to the true Israel are now part of the new people of God.”

Thomas R. Schreiner

“However, Christian exiles are not passive.

We do not smirk at the misery or the merrymaking of immoral culture. We weep. Or we should. This is my main point: being exiles does not mean being cynical.

It does not mean being indifferent or uninvolved. The salt of the earth does not mock rotting meat. Where it can, it saves and seasons. Where it can't, it weeps. And the light of the world does not withdraw, saying “good riddance” to godless darkness. It labours to illuminate. But not dominate.”-

John Piper

“22 For the one who was a slave when called to faith in the Lord is the Lord's freed person; similarly, the one who was free when called is Christ's slave. 23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of human beings.”

1 Cor 7:22-23.

Thought For The Week

“All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.”

J.R.R. Tolkien,

Material sent to publicity@stalhambaptist.org.uk or telephoned to David Child on 07799 262645 may be used in any of the church's print or electronic media. Deadline for the print edition of the Bulletin is Wednesday 7:00pm.

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