

Stalham Baptist Church

Easter Sunday "He Has Risen"



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington 01692 582731
Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno 07733837687
Secretary: Diana Gordon 07951949128
Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

Welcome to Easter Sunday's On Line Service

Ron will be leading and preaching today's service. You can follow the service on the SBC website www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/.

This Sunday's Ron's extra reads are;

John 20:1-8, (News That Jesus Has Risen From Death)

2 Corinthians 3:7-4:6, (Take the Veil Away)

Luke 2:10-11 (Good News)

For Your Prayers

Sadly, **Daphne Duck** died on Saturday 4th April, her funeral will take place on the 22nd at St Faith's [private service] please continue to pray for her son Brian.

Please pray for all those working hard to bring services to the fellowship and the wider community.

Also pray for all those volunteers working to support those isolated by the virus by collecting shopping and medicines.

We have been unable to distribute prayer cards this month but please pray for our community and those isolated in it, those whose income has been reduced and also for the business that they will manage to survive this crisis.

Geoff Reynolds SBC BMS Rep. writes. Please pray for the missions we support Paul and Sarah Brown, Beth and Gareth Shrubsole and Nathan and Rose. We had notification that because of Covid 19 some BMS workers were being brought home.

Of our Partners: Nathan has remained in country, but Rose and the youngsters have returned home.

We have no definitive news of the others, but I have requested an update from BMS and have emailed all our partners assuring them of our daily prayers for their safety and wellbeing at this difficult time. I await replies from them, hopefully there will be more news to inform your prayers better next week.

Prayer For Easter

Dear God, thank You for the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus. We want to celebrate Him every day of our lives. In a world that grows increasingly dark, help us hold up His light. Give us the courage to speak as boldly as Mary Magdalene did, and never be ashamed of proclaiming Your Good News. In Jesus' Name, Amen. - Liz Curtis Higgs

Virtual Prayer Room

On Sunday 5th Diana posted. "I have shared it in Stalham News Facebook page (Jerry's video welcome for last Sunday's Service) which has 2k members. Pray that through these on line mediums that when things return to normal the residents of Stalham and the wider community will be drawn to worship with us on a regular basis."

Also, on Sunday prayers were sought for Daphne Duck who passed away peacefully on Saturday morning and her son Brian.

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

How We Are Coping

Under the present restrictions the church meetings we are used to aren't able to happen, but you can keep in touch by listening to the services on the website

<https://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/>

and we intend to maintain a weekly online bulletin. We can arrange paper copies of both the bulletin and sermons and CDs of the services. Contact Ron if you wish any of those options.

Thank you to our pastoral group leaders [and in fact the whole congregation] for keeping in touch with one another, in many ways fellowship amongst people is being strengthened even though we are apart.

The Food Bank will be open from 1.15 to 3.00pm on Fridays. If you need help, or know someone in difficulty, either contact the Citizens Advice Service 0344 411 1444, the Food Bank on 07826376343, or contact Ron Skivington at minister@stalhambaptist.org.uk.

The food bank is desperate for donations at the moment. There is a collection point at SBC at the back of the church which is open Monday to Friday 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

Many are already looking out for friends and neighbours around Stalham as people self-isolate which is a sign of the strength of our community however some may fall between the cracks; SBC is helping coordinate deliveries of food and medicines. Can you help? There is a list at SBC, open Monday to Friday 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Or contact Ron Skivington on 01692 582731 or email him at minister@stalhambaptist.org.uk Updates can be found on both the Stalham News and Stalham and surrounding villages Covid 19 community support Facebook pages.

Good Friday Service

Go to [https://](https://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/)

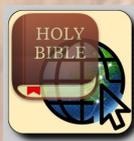
www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/

For the service which will be replaced on Sunday with the Sunday Service.

WEBSITE A BIG HIT FOR SBC

The SBC website has had hundreds of hits over the last week as many follow the online services including people in South Africa, Vietnam and Reunion Island. The recipients in Durban South Africa have shared the services with others in their local church and have sent David YouTube videos of their pastor Alan Wagner delivering sermons for their fellowship. You can find them on <https://youtu.be/jTD1qm4kWgk> <https://youtu.be/OVImpHahIYM> <https://youtu.be/ta3DxGiGPMY>

We have also received emails from local people who are not regulars at SBC saying how much they are enjoying the services. Follow the on line services by going to <https://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/> and clicking on the box pictured left saying Holy Bible followed by "Join Our On Line Service."



SOCIAL MEDIA

Our engagement with social media means that many people outside of the church are informed about what we do. Writes SBC Secretary Diana Gordon. The online services are posted on our Facebook page and in our twitter feed. The statistics from Facebook for the service posted on 5th April (as at 7th April) were:-

1,912 people reached. This means that this number of people saw this post in their Facebook 'news feed'. They may not have opened it but it was there to see. **909 people viewed the video.**

346 people 'engaged' with the post. This means that they did something else. Either clicked on the link to watch the whole service or made a comment or pressed like.

6 shares. This means that 6 people sent in on elsewhere We have 148 people who 'follow' us on Facebook, 13 of which were new between 1st and 7th April.

Its brilliant that we now have 50 people registered on the church Forum. There's room for more! And I would encourage you to join. You will be given access to both the Fellowship area, where you can post, and the public areas. Even if you don't make a post you can see what others in the fellowship are saying.

NEW DEVOTIONAL WHATSAPP GROUP

Jerry writes. Just to let you know that we've created a new WhatsApp group aimed at providing a platform where we can share devotional, social inspiration or other vital information that we wouldn't have otherwise shared on the Prayer Group.

Its open only to members of the congregation on WhatsApp. Please send me a message if you would like to join or have any questions about the group. Many thanks Jerry.

THE STOCKDALE PARADOX

Around the world thousands of Christians are imprisoned tortured and killed for their belief in the resurrection of Jesus.

Which we will celebrate this Sunday.

Admiral James Stockdale was captured by the Vietcong during the Vietnam war and was imprisoned for seven years. During which time he was regularly tortured and had no reason to believe he would be freed.

Known as the Stockdale Paradox he stated "You must never confuse faith that you will prevail in the end — which you can never afford to lose — with the discipline to confront the most brutal facts of your current reality, whatever they might be." As we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord pray for those incarcerated for their faith in Jesus, around the world. That they will never falter and with Your strength Lord be able to face the reality of their situation and prevail and be freed.

Opportunity in a Crisis

On May 25th, 1961 J.F. Kennedy made a speech to Congress. In which he said, "The Chinese use two brush strokes to write the word 'crisis.' One brush stroke stands for danger: the other for opportunity. In a crisis, be aware of the danger—but recognise the opportunity."

Coronavirus has been a reset button for many that has led to a reevaluation of society's goals and aspirations in life. Those workers that were often seen as unimportant are now seen as essential but of course they always were essential. Celebrity culture is fading. The worship of materialism is seen as hollow. A vacuum in people's lives is forming, now there is the opportunity in this crisis. Billy Graham wrote. "Only God can satisfy our inner hunger, and He will, as we turn to Him and by faith open our hearts and lives to Christ's transforming power. God doesn't want us to wander through life, constantly wondering who we are or why we're here. Instead, Christ came into the world to bring us back to God, and He will, as we commit our lives to Him."

Help fill the vacuum growing in people lives - send an invitation to watch and listen to SBC's online sermons and help them be filled with Gods love.

Quote of the week

Who am I amongst the throng at your Calvary crucifixion?

Those laughing ridiculing "If you're so special do something about it."

The Roman soldiers, doing their "It's just a job" efficiently, ignoring the pain that they inflict on others, then making a bit of money on the side.

The great and the good who are neither great nor good with so much to lose. Their power, and influence threatened by your message, relieved and cheering at their about to fail machination of your torturous death.

The "Not fussed one way or another, just a day out, doesn't mean anything to me" spectators.

The "I'm not really sure if I believe this Man is the Son of God and He loves me and is dying for me," watcher.

Or those who love you, traumatised weeping at the base of the cross at your suffering and sacrifice for us. Forgive me Jesus for not joining them much much sooner. *Franky Dilch*
The long road to here.