

Stalham Baptist Church

Sunday 19th April SBC News

This Week's On Line Service "From Doubting to Believing"



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Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

Welcome to Sunday 19th On Line Service

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



Then click on the icon pictured left.

Jerry will be preaching from John 20:19-31.

The title of the sermon is "From Doubting to Believing" vs 27.

Below is the structure of his sermon:

- (1) v19-24 The Absentee Thomas (2) v25-27 The Doubting Thomas
(3) v28-29 The Believing Thomas

Jerry's Further reading

On the resurrection: Mt. 28:1-20; Mk. 16:1-20; Lk. 24:1-49; 1 Cor 15:1-58

On Absenteeism: Heb 10:19-25

On doubting: James 1:5-8, Ps 42:11; Isaiah 40:28-31; Matt 11:4-6

On believing: Rom 10:9-19; Heb 11; 1 Peter 1:8-12; Isaiah 41

For Your Prayers

Please remember in your prayers **Daphne Duck** who 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.

As we pray through the new Church Directory, please remember **Barbara and Ben Mixer**.

Also pray for all the 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.

Virtual Prayer Room

Geoff Reynolds posted. "Please pray for Colin, a friend of ours, who writes amazing poetry which B has shared with some of you. He is autistic and is having a tough time at the moment."

On Saturday Stewart asked for prayers for his brother who had been diagnosed with Prostate Cancer which had spread to his bones.

The next day Henry and Jan sought prayers for their daughter Jo and staff at Hellesdon Mental Health hospital where Jo works as one of the patients had contracted the virus.

Elaine and Diana posted pictures of the sunrise on Sunday with the message "He has Risen" for those who would have been at How Hill for the Sunrise service. They were great to see.

On Thursday Doreen requested prayers for Andrea who has cancer and is having an operation in the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Throughout the week thanks were given to the Lord by many that are isolated and have eventually managed to get a home delivery slot from a supermarket.

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

If you are reading this newsletter as a PDF you can click on the red highlighted links and you will be taken to the relevant websites.

Don't forget you can also follow what's happening at SBC on twitter <https://twitter.com/StalhamChurch> and on Facebook www.facebook.com/stalhambaptist

FOOD BANK

SBC is open Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 12 noon to receive donations for the food bank or for anyone who wants to sign up to help in the community with food or medicine deliveries. It is manned by either Ron or Jerry. Also, The Good News paper and the Community Scene Magazine are available at the back of the church. The Food Bank is open on Fridays in the Stables from 1.15 to 3.00pm. 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.

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.

On Line Services

A big thank you to all those who have contributed to the online services. As a church with an average Sunday congregation of around 70 we are blessed with people who have come together to create some outstanding on line services which have reached out to the local community, around the UK and places throughout the world.

News Stand

Our Daily Bread. If you normally take a copy of "Our Daily Bread" from the back of the church I'm sorry to say that I've been contacted by the suppliers to say that their mailings have been disrupted and they could only send me 1 copy of the booklet. If you can go [to ourdailybread.org/subscription](http://ourdailybread.org/subscription) they will email you a reading for each day and send you a booklet when their office reopens. If you don't have computer access, I'll gladly copy some pages from my one booklet and send them by post to you. Barbara Reynolds 01692 672120.

Flower Rota. Because of the current crisis the Flower rota has been suspended if you are on the rota, we will not need flowers until SBC opens for services.

A big thank you to all those who have been donating to the Food Bank the numbers of people needing help is growing rapidly.

Weekly Prayer Focus Dereham Baptist Church

Dereham Baptist Church, in Norfolk, is a community of more than 200 people which has been at the heart of Dereham for more than 200 years. The church has two ministers, Nigel Bayley and Dave Ward, and has a proven track record of making a difference to the quality of people's lives in the community.

Outreach – some under the charity umbrella of 'Love Dereham' – covers a CAP Job Club, CAP money courses, community lunches, English classes to other nationalities, plus a weekly coffee shop, monthly meals, a craft club, youth club and toddler group. A toddler group also meets in another venue and this is linked with a 'Little Fishes Sunday' for the parents to attend an informal gathering with a gospel message. There is a Saturday evening service which is held in Portuguese which is attended by 40-50 people and has its own minister, Pastor Marcos Hernandez.

The outreach had to stop abruptly, like everything else, with the government advice a few weeks ago and there was a steep learning curve to get services online and ensuring everyone was connected by email if at all possible – and also linked into small groups with a few designated 'runners' able to do errands. The new Dereham Baptist Church YouTube channel is putting out messages daily, which is greatly helping people to feel strengthened and connected.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh6BkWnmvynOuzGKVx_mbVQ

Prayer points:

- That all our people stay well and feel supported and connected, especially those on the fringes

- That the gospel message is conveyed to people who wouldn't normally come to church

- That God continues to speak to his people and draw us closer to him at this difficult time
- That the Lord gives us wisdom when we are using unfamiliar technology!

- That God will clearly guide us as to what DBC should look like as we return from isolation



Jerry's Quotes of the week

"For John, as for all the early Christians, the resurrection of Jesus was the immutable fact upon which their faith was based; and their faith in large part depended on the testimony and transformed behaviour of those who had actually seen the resurrected Jesus. Their Master was not in God's eyes a condemned criminal; the resurrection proved that he was vindicated by God, and therefore none less than the Messiah, the Son of God he claimed to be."—**D. A Carson**

"Those who doubt most, and yet strive to overcome their doubts, turn out to be some of Christ's strongest disciples." -**Selwyn Hughes**

"The most wonderful thing in this story of Thomas is that Jesus came to him. But he did not come right away. Jesus let Thomas wrestle with his unbelief first. It exposed weaknesses in Thomas's faith. It made him think hard about what he believed and why. I'm sure it made him more desperate and humbler. But when the time was ripe, Jesus rescued Thomas from his scepticism.

And Jesus does the same for all of his doubting sheep. Take heart. The Lord is risen! Yes, he really is. "Do not disbelieve but believe."— **Jon Bloom**

"A faith without some doubts is like a human body without any antibodies in it. People who blithely go through life too busy or indifferent to ask hard questions about why they believe as they do will find themselves defenceless against either the experience of tragedy or the probing questions of a smart sceptic. A person's faith can collapse almost overnight if she has failed over the years to listen patiently to her own doubts, which should only be discarded after long reflection. Believers should acknowledge and wrestle with doubts — not only their own but their friends' and neighbours'." —**Timothy Keller**



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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