

# Stalham Baptist Church

## Sunday 10th May SBC News This Week's On Line Service "That was Painful"



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**Ministry Team:** The Whole Fellowship

### Welcome to Sunday 10th May On Line Service

Barbara will be leading and Ron is preaching and continuing the series on 2nd Corinthians. This week 2 Cor 1: 23-2:13

#### "That was painful"

You can follow the service on the SBC website on Sunday

[www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/). Then click on the icon pictured left.

#### Ron's Further reading

1 Cor 5:1f, 11:29f Acts 5:1f, Lev 13:46, Mt 5:17f, 6:14f

#### For Your Prayers

Please pray for the residents and staff of **Sydney House** and the other local care homes.

Please pray for **Naomi and Flo** in the Reunion Island. Naomi says "Thinking of the UK a lot these days, hope all is well in Stalham.

We haven't been badly hit here, have been working from home and returning to the office on Monday. Blessings to you all!"

Also pray for **Kelli**, Eva and Ali's mum who gave birth to a baby daughter Lydia on Tuesday. As we pray through the new Church Directory, please remember **David and Eileen Neil**.

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

Please pray for **Ron, Jerry and the Deacons** as they lead the church through this crisis. Currently the Deacon meetings are held using Zoom.

#### "Serenity Prayer"

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed. Courage to change the things which should be changed, and the Wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.

Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace.

Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it.

Trusting that You will make all things right if I surrender to Your will.

So that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen

by Reinhold Neibuhr. (Thanks to Alan Wagner [Lighthouse Church](#) Durban)

#### Virtual Prayer Room

On Friday 1st May Maggie posted "Maureen would like to thank you very much for your prayers. She has not been admitted to hospital but is in a lot of pain. Please continue to pray for Maureen and John."

Jane asked for prayers for Anne West's friend Ann who has cancer and only has weeks or months to live. She is a strong Christian could we pray that she has peace and no pain. Also pray for her husband Tony a non-Christian as it is going to be very hard for him. On Wednesday Maggie posted a you tube link bringing churches together in song called "The Blessings over the UK" click [here](#) to see it.

#### Call to Prayer

Diana will be sending out invitations by email to join our next Zoom Call to Prayer on Thursday 14th May at 7.00pm

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](http://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](mailto:minister@stalhambaptist.org.uk).





## On Line Service

SBC will now be able to supply a DVD of the online service. If you would like to receive a DVD contact Ron.

### Prayers Skyrocketing

Many - if not - all - are saddened by the present circumstances. No one knows how long this strange season of uncertainty and despair will last. We, however, need constant reminders that God is still at work even in this time of distress. Writes Assistant Pastor Jerry Otieno. Ultimately, God is in control and we can trust Him to work all things together for good in the lives of those who love Him (**Rom 8:28**).

In past few weeks, I've been encouraged by the knowledge that God is actively stirring hearts and reminding people of who He is throughout this time of crisis. I recently came across a report by a Danish economist who found that in March 2020, Google searches for "Prayer" skyrocketed hitting the highest levels that they have in the past five years. She argued that the increased searches for prayer likely indicates an increased number of people actually praying and can be accounted for by the move from prayer in public to prayer in private .

Similarly, last Sunday the Guardian reported the results of a survey that revealed that the British public are increasingly turning to prayer and many more are tuning into online services. According to a new survey, **a quarter of adults in the UK have watched or listened to a religious service since the coronavirus lockdown began, and one in 20 have started praying during the crisis.** The findings of the poll reinforce indications of an increase in the numbers of people turning to faith for succour amid uncertainty and despair. **It also found that a third of young adults aged between 18 and 34 had watched or listened to an online or broadcast religious service, compared with one in five adults over the age of 55.** Furthermore, **one in five of those who have tuned into services in the past few weeks say they have never gone to church.**

Let us be reminded that God is at work in and through this pandemic. The church doors may be shut, but we rejoice in the fact that the gospel is not chained, and that God's word is still spreading. Let us therefore, continue praying for positive responses from people in our community who have been attending our church online. Let us trust God that many will be prompted by the Holy Spirit to start attending services at the chapel when all this is over. As we pray, the Lord help us to prepare our hearts to receive broken, grieving people. Finally, let us conduct ourselves in the world, with integrity and godly sincerity and do so, relying not on worldly wisdom but on God's grace. (**2 Cor 1:12**). **Click to read the articles [Guardian - Premier Christian News](#)**

### Riding the Wave

It is clear to me that during this strange season of isolation everybody is just riding the waves. So many people I know from all walks of life are up and down, including myself. Writes Lisa Ackroyd from the **[Norwich Soul Church](#)** (Fran Lenahan's daughter)

I love this photo as you have the big waves of emotions where you're tearful, frustrated, angry, even feeling like no one cares about you but then you come off the wave to something beautiful where we are appreciating this time to get to know ourselves better, spending time with our loved ones (my husband and son), doing things we wouldn't normally do. For me, I've taken on two courses (counselling skills and PTSD Awareness) and there are more I want to do in hopes of a job when this is over. I'm also building a stronger relationship with God.



## Quotes of the week

"Forgiveness takes intelligence, discipline, imagination, and persistence, as well as a special psychological strength, something athletes call mental toughness and warriors call courage." — **Edward M. Hallowell**

"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong."  
— **Mahatma Gandhi.**

"To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you." — **C.S. Lewis**

"I think that if God forgives us we must forgive ourselves. Otherwise, it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than Him." — **C.S. Lewis**

When anyone is in Christ, it is a whole new world. The old things are gone; suddenly, everything is new! **2 Corinthians 5:17 (ERV)**

"Grudges are for those who insist that they are owed something; forgiveness, however, is for those who are substantial enough to move on." — **Criss Jami.**

"As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison." — **Nelson Mandela**

"Keep in mind, hurting people often hurt other people as a result of their own pain. If somebody is rude and inconsiderate, you can almost be certain that they have some unresolved issues inside. They have some major problems, anger, resentment, or some heartache they are trying to cope with or overcome. The last thing they need is for you to make matters worse by responding angrily." — **Joel Osteen.**

When you are praying and you remember that you are angry with another person about something, forgive that person. Forgive them so that your Father in heaven will also forgive your sins." Mark 11:25 (ERV)

"This life is for loving, sharing, learning, smiling, caring, forgiving, laughing, hugging, helping, dancing, wondering, healing, and even more loving. I choose to live life this way. I want to live my life in such a way that when I get out of bed in the morning, the devil says, 'aw no, he's up!'" **Steve Maraboli.**

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