

# Stalham Baptist Church

Sunday 24th May SBC News  
This Week's On Line Service  
"We do not give up"



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

## Welcome to Sunday 17th May On Line Service

Diana will be leading and Jerry preaching, continuing the series on 2nd Corinthians. This week 2 Corinthians 4: 1-18

"We do not give up"

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.

## The Structure of Jerry's Sermon

- \* A Resolve to Remain Faithful to the Gospel v 1-6
- \* A Reminder that We are Jars of Clay v 7-12
- \* A Renewed Hope of Eternity 13-18

## Jerry's Further reading

**On Being Faithful:** Matt 25, Luke 16:1-13, & Rev 2:8-11

**On Paul's suffering and God's Strength in Weakness:** Isa 40:28-31, I Cor 1:26-29, I Cor 2:1-5, 2 Cor 6:1-10, & 2 Cor 11:16-12:10

**On Renewed Hope:** Lam 3:21-24, Rom 8:18-30, Titus 2:11-15, 1 Pet 1:3-9 & Rev 21

## For Your Prayers

Please pray that those businesses in Stalham and further afield will survive this crisis. Also pray for all those in our fellowship and wider community who are unwell, awaiting or undergoing treatment.

Please pray for all those involved in producing the online services which have been so successful. As we pray through the new Church Directory, please remember

**Magda Nicholls.**

## It's Another Day

"Every day, she takes a morning bath, she wets her hair,  
Wraps a towel around her as she's heading for the bedroom chair  
It's just another day."

The lyrics of "Another Day" written and sang by Paul McCartney in 1970.

Please pray for all those in our community and those we know personally who have been self isolating for some weeks bereft of social contact and many of them feeling the strain.

## Prayers from World Vision

Father, we seek Your wisdom daily. Be with people making decisions that affect the lives and futures of our families, communities, countries, and the wider world. We pray that they communicate clearly, truthfully, and calmly — with each other and with the public — and that their messages are received and heeded. May truth and empathy be the touchstones of people setting policies for our protection. Amen

Lord, we are so grateful for all the people who continue to work each day so that people are able to eat. We ask that You bless and protect them as they serve. Give them grace to handle disgruntled customers during supplies shortages. Keep their bodies healthy as they unload and stock boxes of supplies. Keep their cars and trucks running smoothly as they deliver needed supplies and food people have ordered online. And please protect them all from contracting the new coronavirus. Amen Read more about [World Vision](http://www.worldvision.org/)

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).

"Leadership comes at a cost.  
It's called servant leadership."

— Farshad Asl



## Food Bank

To the Stalham Baptist Church Foodbank Supporters.

During April you contributed 270.05kg (594lb) of food which helped towards a monthly total of 5350kg (11770lbs). We rely on donations, both food and financial, to operate and we are extremely grateful when people choose to support us, particularly at this difficult time. So thank you for thinking of us and enabling us to serve the people in crisis across our district.

If you would like to be involved in fundraising for us in the future or would like one of us to come to talk about the work of the Foodbank, then please get in touch.

Thank you for your support and generosity without which the foodbank work would not be possible.

During May the following items would be very welcome: *Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tea, Long Life Milk – Semi skimmed or Full fat, Tinned Fruit, Sponge Pudding, Custard, Tea, Fruit Juice/Squash, Deodorant - female and male, Toilet Rolls, Shampoo.*

Please note that we cannot accept any fresh food or items that contain alcohol.

Financial donations are always welcome. Please see our website for details.

<https://cromerdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/>

Kind regards, Tim Project Manager

Contact us at [info@cromerdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@cromerdistrict.foodbank.org.uk) or phone 07826376343

## Eastern Baptist Association Prayer Week

The EBA Regional Team would like to invite you to share in a week of prayer, for 5 days from 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May, across our Association.

We had a sense that in our current time, that this may be a good way to draw us together and to help us to have a shared focus as we journey towards Pentecost, as well as praying into a number of areas affecting us all, in church life and in society in general. This runs alongside Thy Kingdom Come, and so it can compliment anything you may be involved with in regard to that, but not to replace it.

Our plan is in three sections and you are invited to join one, two or all three of these. We will have a theme for each day and for this we will produce printable [resources and material](#) to download from our website or YouTube Channel.

So these are the options we invite you to join us in:

9am Zoom prayer meeting hosted by the Regional Team for 30 minutes from 26<sup>th</sup> May – 30<sup>th</sup> May

Making use of printable resources to share with your church

Downloadable resources available on the EBA Website (under the 'News' section) and the EBA YouTube channel

Here are our proposed themes for each day of the week:

Tuesday – Focus to pray in our homes, praying for children, families and those on their own. Each day will also have a family prayer activity.

Wednesday – Focus on our immediate community - taking a virtual or real prayer walk, what do we see, how can we pray for God's Kingdom to come?

Thursday – Focus to pray for our frontline workers

Friday – Focus to pray for the vulnerable both those at home and those who have no home. Those struggling with COVID 19 and those who have lost loved ones. Prayer for those affected by the pandemic across the world.

Saturday – Focus to pray for God's Spirit to break out, in our churches, in our communities, in our nation and across the world.

Find the links by clicking [Prayer Week](#).

Financial donations are always welcome. Please see our [website](#) for details.

## Jerry's Quotes of the week

**So Send I You** by Margaret Clarkson

**So send I you to labour unrewarded,  
To serve unpaid, unloved, unsought,  
unknown,  
To bear rebuke, to suffer scorn and scoffing-  
So send I you to toil for Me alone.  
So send I you to bind the bruised and  
broken,  
O'er wand'ring souls to work, to weep, to  
wake,  
To bear the burdens of a world a weary-  
So send I you to suffer for My sake.  
So send I you to loneliness and longing,  
With heart a hung'ring for the loved and  
known,  
Forsaking home and kindred, friend and dear  
one-  
So send I you to know My love alone.  
So send I you to leave your life's ambition,  
To die to dear desire, self-will resign,  
To labour long, and love where men revile  
you-  
So send I you to lose your life in Mine.  
So send I you to hearts made hard by hatred,  
To eyes made blind because they will not  
see,  
To spend, tho' it be blood, to spend and  
spare not-  
So send I you to taste of Calvary.**

## The Paradoxes of Servant Leadership by Brewer

**Strong enough to be weak  
Successful enough to fail  
Busy enough to make time  
Wise enough to say "I don't know"  
Serious enough to laugh  
Rich enough to be poor  
Right enough to say "I'm wrong"  
Compassionate enough to discipline  
Mature enough to be childlike  
Important enough to be last  
Planned enough to be spontaneous  
Controlled enough to be flexible  
Free enough to endure captivity  
Knowledgeable enough to ask questions  
Loving enough to be angry  
Great enough to be anonymous  
Responsible enough to play  
Assured enough to be rejected  
Victorious enough to lose  
Industrious enough to relax  
Leading enough to serve**

Material sent to [publicity@stalhambaptist.org.uk](mailto: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.

Church Website: [www.stalhambaptist.org.uk](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/stalhambaptist](https://www.facebook.com/stalhambaptist) Contact Stalham Baptist Church on 01692 582731  
<https://twitter.com/StalhamChurch> <https://www.instagram.com/stalhambaptistchurch>  
You can find SBC's Privacy Policy on <http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/privacy.php>

## SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND THE CORONAVIRUS: "YOUR PRAYER IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WEAPON TO REACH OUT TO PERSECUTED BELIEVERS"

**Open Doors 14 May 2020**

While many countries around the world are in the midst of or are starting to emerge from the worst of the coronavirus pandemic, countries across sub-Saharan Africa are just beginning to feel its impact – and many of the countries that are affected are places where Christians suffer some of the worst persecution in the world. Sulieman\*, director of Open Doors in West Africa, says, "We want to ask you to continue to pray... We have received calls from some pastors asking for help in the area of food. But also, believers in the [refugee] camps are now struggling with food support. Widows and orphans with small incomes due to lockdown are also unable to continue trading and we're getting continuous requests for food and for (other) support.

"In the midst of these coronavirus challenges and this situation, the attacks on Christians have not stopped... Therefore, we want to ask you to stand with us in prayer and support that we can continue to serve the persecuted Body of Christ, even in these very difficult times that we are all passing through."

### CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

The country has only one dedicated Covid-19 treatment centre with just 14 beds, a nationwide total of three ventilation kits, one oxygen concentrator and zero isolation units to treat milder cases to provide quarantine.

Schools, bars and places of worship have been told to close, and gatherings of more than 15 people have been banned. But recently published photos show daily life in Bangui



continuing as normal, according to Al Jazeera (Arabic news network). CAR has suspended all flights, which will impact relief aid distribution: 70 per cent of health services are provided by aid groups. Armed groups have been asked to better

implement ceasefire to prevent the spread, but there is continuing insecurity.

### ERITREA

There is now a ban on gatherings of ten or more people for any purpose. Up to two members of a household are allowed out to buy essentials at a time. Punishment is being meted out for any individual in violation of the current rules.

A UN special rapporteur on Human Rights in Eritrea urged the government to reduce the risk of Covid-19 spreading in its overcrowded jails by immediately releasing all political prisoners, low-risk offenders and others such as the sick and elderly who are particularly vulnerable to illness or death. Many prisoners of conscience – including Christians – are included in those held for many years now.

Please pray that any Christians released from prison will not have to return, and that the lockdown will be effective at curbing the spread of the virus.

### MALI

Commercial flights from countries affected by the virus have been suspended until further notice, with the exception of cargo flights. Schools have been closed and public gatherings limited. Mali already faces a critical humanitarian situation; women make up over half the number of people who are dependent on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs. Over 200,000 people have been internally displaced due to insecurity and inter-communal conflict.

**Please pray that aid would reach those who need it, and that God's presence will be tangible among everyone who is displaced and without a home in Mali at this difficult time.**

### PLEASE PRAY

Open Doors' director for East Africa, Yasin\*, also stated: "This season of the coronavirus pandemic is a very uncertain and difficult time for the persecuted church in our region in many ways. Your prayer is the most effective weapon to reach out to the heart of the persecuted believers wherever they are and in whichever condition they are. We know that you are praying already for the persecuted believers in Africa. I would like to encourage you to keep up your fervent prayer. The Word of God in James 5:6 says: 'Therefore, pray for each other, so that you may be healed.' The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Therefore, I would really like to encourage you with this word, to do that more and more... "Thank you very much for your support and prayers on this. God bless you abundantly. Amen!" To read the entire article click on [OpenDoors](#) \*Not their correct names.

### Fellowship News

There is loads of information about the Fellowship in the Fellowship and Public Forum areas on the SBC website. It is a really good way of staying in touch with things going on at SBC. Go to <https://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/> and then click on the forum logo.

A piece of fellowship news Happy birthday to Evelyn Eagling for her special 0 birthday on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Organ Donation

The **law** around **organ donation** has changed in **England**. This means that from 20 May 2020, all adults in **England** will be considered an **organ donor** when they die unless they had recorded a decision not to donate or are in one of the excluded groups. Those **excluded** will be people under 18, people who have lived in England for less than 12 months or who are not living here voluntarily, and people who lack the capacity to understand the change.

You can record your decision to opt in or out on the **Organ Donor Register** at <https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk/register-your-decision/>

**If the misery of the poor be  
caused not by the laws of nature,  
but by our institutions, great is  
our sin.**

**Charles Darwen**  
**Voyage of the Beagle**