

Stalham Baptist Church

Sunday 14th June SBC News

This Week's Online Service

"TODAY is the day"



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Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno 07733837687
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Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

Welcome to Sunday 14th June Online Service

Maggie Harpur will be leading and Ron preaching, continuing the series on 2nd Corinthians. This week 2 Cor 5:15-6:2

"TODAY is the day"

You can follow the service on the SBC website on Sunday

www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/ Then click on the icon pictured left.

Ron's Further reading

Phil 3:4-7, Deut 21:23, Mk 8:31f, Mt 11:28, Mt 23:37, Lk 15:11, Gn 6:5f

For Your Prayers

Please pray for **Norma Huxter** she is having surgery on her hand on Friday 19th June with a pre op on Monday 15th

Please also pray for the Deacons who have a Zoom Deacons meeting on Monday 15th at 6.30pm. Please pray for the local businesses restarting from Monday that they will manage to survive the loss of income due to the virus also pray for those returning to work that they will stay safe.

As we pray through the new Church Directory, please remember **Jerry, Simone, Elsa and Kalos Otieno.**

Talking to God

"True prayer is neither a mere mental exercise nor a vocal performance. It is far deeper than that — it is a spiritual transaction with the Creator of Heaven and Earth" (Charles Spurgeon).

Prayer for Parliament

Lord as our leaders struggle with decisions regarding the current pandemic and equality challenges, guide them Lord give them wisdom to serve the people of this country, help them act in honesty and clarity and set aside political ambitions. Help them create a society that reflects that we are all equal in the eyes of Jesus.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Saturday 6th Diana posted. "Just an update on baby Isabel. The blood test results are good. No infection markers. Will need to get the results of the Lumbar puncture to rule out Meningitis and they will keep her on antibiotics until then. But they are thinking that's probably a low outcome and what it is looking like is an allergy to the milk supplement as since Hannah has changed the supplement formula Isabel has stopped vomiting."

On Sunday Diana reported. "Isabel is home. The Lumbar puncture results were all normal, so all her symptoms were due to low blood sugar and dehydration. She wasn't processing the milk properly. I am thanking God for the prompt hospital investigation and that there was nothing serious. Thank you for all your prayers." On Sunday Pat posted "I have just spoken to Natalie. Oliver's ECG appointment has come through for next Saturday. He has been better these last few days and the "fit" episodes have reduced - they last about 10 seconds. Natalie is very hopeful that it is something minor and Oliver will grow out of it and the ECG will shed light on the cause."

To join the ever-growing WhatsApp Virtual Prayer Room and Devotion WhatsApp site 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

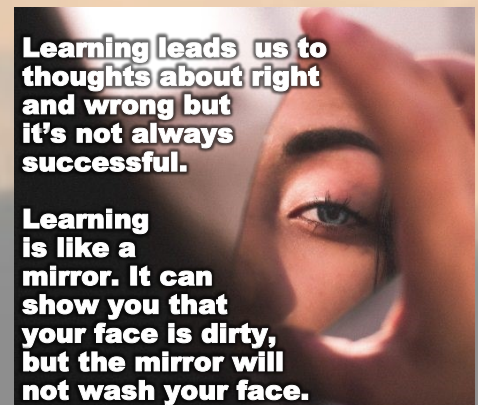
FOOD BANK

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

Learning leads us to thoughts about right and wrong but it's not always successful.

Learning is like a mirror. It can show you that your face is dirty, but the mirror will not wash your face.



Love never fails

Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope. Love compels us to fight against coronavirus alongside our sisters and brothers living in poverty. Love compels us to stand together in prayer with our neighbours near and far. Love compels us to give and act as one. Now, it is clear that our futures are bound together more tightly than ever before. As we pray in our individual homes – around the nation and around the world – we are united as one family. So, let us pause and find a moment of peace, as we lift up our hearts together in prayer.

Taken from [Christian Aid Prayers](#)

So, let us pause and find a moment of peace, as we lift up our hearts together in prayer by joining the next SBC “Call to Prayer” meeting that is on Thursday June 25th at 7.00pm.

As before Diana will email links to the meeting.

Coming out of Lockdown

As we reported in last week’s bulletin the deacons have been discussing issues around what and how we can all begin using the church again, in due course.

As a first step we are allowed to open for personal prayer from 15th June. The church is already open 10.00am to 12 noon Monday to Friday to support the Foodbank if anyone would like to pray quietly in the church you will be welcome. Jerry or Ron will be on hand to ensure all safety measures are met.

News From Cromer Food Bank

Dear Stalham Baptist Church Foodbank Supporters,
During May you contributed 439.4kg (966lb or 8.63 hundredweight) of food which helped towards a monthly total of 7306.55kg. 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 once things get back to normal, then please get in touch.

Thank you for your support and generosity which enables us to meet the needs of people in crisis across North Norfolk.

During June the following items would be very welcome:

Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Rice Pudding, Custard, Chocolates and Sweets, Deodorant - female and male, Shampoo, Nappies Sizes 5 and 6, Washing Up Liquid, Laundry Liquid – non bio and Household Cleaning Products.

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/>

Tim Project Manager

You can contact us by telephone Monday to Friday 9am until 3pm. The office is open Monday to Thursday 9am until 12noon (closed on Friday).

Quotes of the week

“Sacrifice is a notoriously hard concept to understand. Indeed, it is not a univocal concept, but is a name used for a variety of actions that attempt communication between the human and the divine or transcendent spheres. Contemplation of the abyss reveals the enormity and complexity of the evil that has been perpetrated upon a society. What would it take to overcome it? The images of cross and blood figure prominently in the Pauline language of reconciliation (cf. Rom 5:9; Col 1:20; Eph 2:13-16). Both cross and blood have paradoxical meanings that allow them to bridge the distance between the divine and human worlds, between life and death. The cross was the ultimate sign of Roman power over a conquered and colonized people. To be crucified was the most dishonourable and humiliating of ways to die. The cross stood as a sign of reassertion of Roman power and the capacity to reject and exclude utterly. Yet it was through the crucified Christ that God chose to reconcile the world. The apparent triumph of worldly power is turned against itself and becomes “Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God” (1 Cor 1:24). For John, the cross is at once instrument of humiliation and Christ’s throne of glory (Jn 12:32). Similarly, blood is a sign of the divine life that God has breathed into every living being, and its shedding is a sign of death. The blood of the cross (Col 1:20) becomes the means of reconciling all things to God. In its being shed, the symbol of violence and death becomes the symbol of reconciliation and peace. To understand sacrifice, one must be prepared to inhabit the space within these paradoxes. Sacrifice understood in this way is not about the abuse of power, but about a transformation of power. A spirituality of reconciliation can be deepened by a meditation on the stories of the women and the tomb. These stories invite us to place inside them our experience of marginalization, of being incapable of imagining a way out of a traumatic past, of dealing with the kinds of absence that traumas create. They invite us to let the light of the resurrection—a light that even the abyss cannot extinguish—penetrate those absences.”

Robert J. Schreiter, Ministry of Reconciliation: Spirituality & Strategies:

“Stepping back and connecting reconciliation to God’s story also helps us move away from dramatic visions of fixing the world, as if our job were to provide solutions to problems outside us. If Christians believe anything, it is that no one—including ourselves and the church—is separate from the brokenness as an untainted solution to the problems of our world. The new creation contends with the old. The dividing line between good and evil runs straight through each one of us. So the journey of reconciliation begins with a transformation of the human person.”

Chris Rice, Reconciling All Things: A Christian Vision for Justice, Peace and Healing

BMS World Mission

BMS World Mission is a Christian mission organisation that has long-standing relationships with UK Baptist churches. It works in around 35 countries on four continents. BMS personnel are mainly involved in church, development, education, health, justice and leadership ministries.

At any one time BMS supports between 350 and 400 personnel – long, medium and short-term workers, teams and volunteers, as well as a large number of supported national partner workers around the world, providing people, funding, training and expertise in the core areas of our work. As one of the world's oldest Protestant mission organisations (founded in 1792 by William Carey, the father of modern mission) BMS has long-lasting relationships with partner organisations, umbrella mission agencies and local church unions in the countries in which it works. This, along with a long-term approach, ethical policies and real cultural sensitivity, has made BMS a trusted name in mission worldwide.

Over the last four years BMS World Mission has transformed over 900,000 people's lives. They are now into their final year of their five-year plan and they are well on their way to transform one million lives. The chart below shows their progress the top line is their five year target. By necessity, their focus over the past few weeks has been providing emergency assistance to some of the most vulnerable people in the world in the face of Coronavirus. Thanks to generosity of churches BMS has continued serving across the globe; struggling families in Albania and Bangladesh have received food parcels, doctors and nurses in Nepal are able to treat patients safely because they have access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and infected people in Afghanistan are getting mental health support they need, so they don't flee in fear and spread the virus. Thanks to churches support there are people who entered the current crisis with the assurance that, whatever happens, they have eternal life in Christ Jesus. A year ago, they wouldn't have had that hope. The gospel has been taken to places like Bangladesh, Thailand and India and transformed lives forever.

BMS says "We will keep serving in the least evangelised, most marginalised and most fragile places.

God has called BMS to partner with Churches like SBC to bring the good news and life to people living in some of the toughest places in the world.

For more information, see the [BMS World Mission website](https://www.bmsworldmission.org/). SBC supports three couples working throughout the world below you can read about two of the couples current situation and watch their videos by clicking on the red links.

Meet SBC 's Supported Missionaries

Gareth and Bethan Shrubsole joined the Guinebor II hospital team in Chad in January 2020. Gareth has a non-medical senior role in the management of the hospital, working to oversee some of the operations of Guinebor II. Bethan works as a music therapist, with a project run by BMS partner TEAM, helping vulnerable women affected by abusive relationships or the sex-trade.

<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/people/bethan-and-gareth-shrubsole/>

Paul and Sarah Brown have recently moved to Chiang Mai, Thailand, where they hope to develop business as mission in their local context there. Before their move, they were working with NightLight International in Bangkok, which reaches out to women and children who have been trafficked or impacted by sex trafficking. NightLight provides for these women and children an economic alternative through teaching them how to make jewellery and bake cakes. Sarah completed her training at IMC in May 2011 in preparation for service in Thailand. During her training year Sarah met Paul and they were married in June 2011. They moved to Thailand in September 2012 when Paul had completed his training at IMC. Sarah formerly ran her own cake business and uses her creative and business skills to empower women. Paul, who formerly worked in accountancy, is helping with finance and administration, as well as mentoring young men. Their home churches are New Testament Church of God, Aylesbury, and Mile End New Testament Church, London.

<https://www.bmsworldmission.org/people/paul-and-sarah-brown/>

Pray for the work of BMS overseas

Pray for BMS Personnel overseas, their partners and local communities, especially those who are living in countries where the health services and infrastructure might not be adequate to deal with a global pandemic.

Pray that God will use His servants to accompany people pastorally and missionally through this valley of uncertainty, fear and even potential death. May we be a people of Hope in encouraging others in the face of crisis to lean on God's sustaining presence and unfailing providence.

