

Stalham Baptist Church

Sunday 8th November SBC News

Remembrance Service

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



Welcome to this Sunday's Online Service

Ron is leading and is preaching, from John 15: 9-14

You can follow the service on the SBC website on Sunday

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



Ron's Reads

2 Cor 4:6, Jn 12:32

For Your Prayers

As we enter a second lockdown please pray for our fellowship and the wider community. Please pray for those who struggle with the lack of social contact who are unable to visit loved ones, those suffering through reduced income and the businesses having to close again when they had just started to recover.

Please pray for Ron and Jerry as their work loads continues to grow. We are blessed with servant leaders and they continues to go the extra mile for all.

As we pray through the new Church Directory, please remember **John and Pauline White**.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Monday 2nd Pat Dabbs posted an update on David Osborne. "He had the operation on Wednesday afternoon and was kept in overnight. He went home the next day and has been told the operation was a success. He is sore where the wound is but very bright and cheerful and is hopeful for a good recovery."

Prayer for Peace by Franky Dilch

Don McClean wrote in the song **The Grave**. "When the wars of our nation did beckon, the man, barely twenty, did answer the calling. Proud of the trust that he placed in our nation, he's gone but eternity knows him, and it knows what we've done." And Lord you know so many, many, like him and Lord, what we still do: Waging war on each other, slaughtering the innocent, crushing the poor in a rush to sweep up power displayed in ideology, wealth, status and possession of the world's resources - your gifts to all mankind. Lord bring your love to soften the stony hearts of those executing the plans of evil, greed and lust for dominance, help those with Your raging love embedded in them to have the courage to calm the storm in action and in prayer, bringing peace to your creation. Amen.

[The Grave find the lyrics at https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/donmclean/thegrave.html](https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/donmclean/thegrave.html)

Remember by Graham Cook

Remember Remember Ypres, the Somme, Mons, and Verdun. Remember the Western Desert, El Alamein, the Normandy beaches. Remember Dresden, Hiroshima and the Burma Road. Remember Korea, the Falkland Islands, Northern Ireland, Iraq. Remember the courage, the comradeship, the ingenuity, the spirit of working together for a common cause, the planning together for a better world that would come with peace. Remember the call to arms, the patriotic songs, the posters, the partings which were such sweet sorrow, the sound of the drum, the skirl of the pipe, the prayer that God would be on our side. Remember the carnage, the colossal, stinking, bloody horror; the ripped bodies on the wire, the platoons of which only three out of forty lived. Remember the widows of sixty years and more, the old men and women living now who never knew their fathers. Remember the love that was lost, the wisdom wasted, the minds that were twisted and the limbs distorted. Remember the wealth of nations being fired from guns, dropped as bombs: smashing schools, homes, factories, churches and hospitals; ruining crops, destroying trees, Remember the hope of a whole generation left to evaporate in the sands of a desert or sink forever in the oceans of the world. Remember this day the children who will die while the world spends its wealth on arms; the young who have no work while others in their generation are trained to fight; The ambulances that will not come while we argue about how many troop carriers we need; the research into disease left neglected while brilliant minds are used to study more effective destruction. Remember the one who asked us to remember him.

[Baptist Peace](#)

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 & OPEN FOR PRAYER

SBC is open Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 12 noon to receive donations for the food bank and for personal prayer. Since June 15th people have been welcome to pray quietly in the church at the time that the Food Bank donations are being received. Jerry or Ron will be on hand to ensure all safety measures are met.

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.

This Week

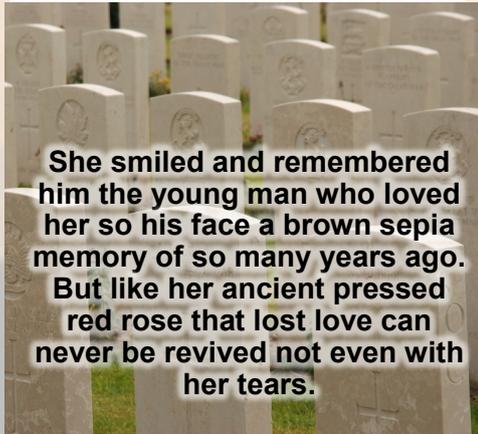
Monday 9th 7.00pm

Deacons Zoom Meeting

Thursday 12th 7.00pm

Zoom Prayer Meeting

Contact Diana for a link



She smiled and remembered him the young man who loved her so his face a brown sepia memory of so many years ago. But like her ancient pressed red rose that lost love can never be revived not even with her tears.

We Shall Remember Them

Wilfred Drake born in 1883 and lived in a house close to the Maids Head in Stalham High Street with his parents William and Louisa, his two sisters Ellen and Jessy. It is likely that the Drake family regularly attended Stalham Baptist Church which had opened in 1884 after relocating from Lessingham.

Wilfred became an assistant master in the council school where it was said he took, "A leading part in all sports and games." He was a member of Stalham Baptist Church and a teacher in the Sunday School.

By 1915 Wilfred had moved to Reading and was a master at Oxford Road Council School. He married Gladys Baseden that year.

He joined the 2nd Devonshire regiment and was a Lieutenant in the newly formed 23rd Trench Mortar Battalion seeing action at the Somme.

On the 16th August 1917 the battalion took part in the Battle of Langemarck which was part of the carnage of the Third Battle of Ypres. Heavy downpours of rain had turned the ground into a morass which was worse for the British and French, who occupied lower-lying ground and attacked areas which had been frequently and severely bombarded. Mud and flooded shell holes severely reduced the mobility of the infantry and poor visibility hampered artillery observers and artillery-observation aircraft.

Wilfred Drake died of wounds on the opening day of the battle aged 34.

At his memorial service held in September at Stalham Baptist Church a report stated, "On Sunday, at the Baptist Church, a service was held in the memory of Lieut W.W. Drake who was killed in action on 16th August. The service was conducted by Rev. B.E. Payne, who paid a glowing tribute to the memory of the deceased officer. Letters were read from his friends and fellow officers expressing their regret at his end, and admiration for his character. Buglers attended and sounded the "Last Post".

The service closed with the "Dead March" in "Saul" Private Jagger presided at the organ.

Reopening the Church

Last Sunday we reopened the Church and just over 30 people attended. The hard work put in by the Covid group meant that the church was Covid-safe. Pat, Alan, Diana, Barbara and Ron produced a brilliant uplifting service. It was so good to be back together. Unfortunately, we may have to wait to the 6th December to meet again but everything is now in place so we can start again.

Please pray that we will be able to re-open the church in December and are able to celebrate the Saviour's birth in the Chapel,

A Day of Prayer

The Evangelical Alliance is making next Friday the 13th a national day of prayer. You can get more information by clicking [here](#) to watch the informational video.

A Thank You from Ron

Thank you to all who have been displaying pastoral care to our fellowship in whatever way these past months and as we move into another month of lockdown please continue to pray for our church family and to phone/write/wave to one another etc helping, supporting and building one another up.

Church Reading Plan

This week we are looking at Philemon 1-25

How much of a chance was Paul taking sending a slave back to his master? If you would like to suggest a reading

or take part in "Testimony Tuesday" contact Diana, Jerry or Ron.

A Thank You from Gareth Shrubsole for the Money raised at Harvest time

That's great, thank you Geoff and Stewart and all of you at Stalham Baptist Church. Every pound raised makes a real difference as the work of Guinebor 2 Hospital could not continue without the support of BMS World Mission and churches like yours.

With our thanks again, and our best wishes at what we know is also a difficult time back in UK.

Talking of harvesting, we harvested our first two home grown tomatoes last week! It seems a small thing, but growing any kind of food in this climate and sandy soil is a challenge so I was pleased with that!

Weekly Prayer Focus

Cherry Hinton Baptist Church

Cherry Hinton Baptist Church seeks to share the good news in word and deed in our suburb of Cambridge.

On Sundays we meet for worship with around 20 adults in the building and 40 on zoom, while around ten children meet in the church hall and four pre-schoolers have a short zoom story time.

Groups for Preschool (Messy Play in the park - see picture above), Youth and Old people and some house groups (in the church building) have restarted in socially-distanced form, albeit in different places. Other activities remain on zoom either from preference (business meetings and some house groups) or from necessity (school assemblies).

Please pray for

- Church members as we all seek to grow as faithful disciples, and share our faith in our families, workplaces and local community through word and deed.
- Mary who usually runs our community choir whose cancer is no longer responding to chemotherapy, and for the rest of us as we walk this path with the third person in four years
- Sarah as she prepares for baptism, having found the solution to the God-shaped hole in her heart.
- Chris Tanton who has just been recommended for training as a Baptist Minister

Quotes of the Week

Poppy bedecked wreathes in hand the great and the good stand. The fallen feted to Nimrod marching flags.

Guns fire that silence so many, silence those around the one unknown.

The last post sounds!

While their white stones, in soldiers' rows, obediently to attention stand.

They no older or weary, the sun is going down.

Graves, long history's shadows, but still war each year fills the sacrificial ground.

But of course, we remember them and why?

Franky Dilch Warriors and War

"We owe an immeasurable debt to our veterans, to the fallen, and to the families who love them. Just as our servicemen and women have taken care of us, we must also take care of them. It is our sacred duty as a country to be there for our heroes when they need us most.

Justin Trudeau



Open Doors

Another step towards religious freedom in Sudan

In a landmark move, Sudanese Christian and Muslim leaders have signed a declaration to work together on promoting religious freedom in a country that has long been ruled by oppressive Islamic law.

You may have joined with us in celebrating the recent news from Sudan – that the transitional government in Sudan removed the death penalty for leaving Islam, then later committed to the total removal of Islamic law. Thank you for praying faithfully for Sudan for so many years. There's still a long way to go, but these changes are likely to make life much easier for Sudanese believers.

Your prayers for Sudanese Christians are making an enormous difference

Now there's more good news, praise God! Christian and Muslim religious leaders in Sudan have agreed to join forces to promote religious freedom, in a landmark move. "Religious leaders signed a declaration to promote peace and freedom of worship among all Sudanese communities and to encourage community dialogue among people of different faiths," reports VOA.

Declaration of cooperation for religious freedom

The declaration is intended to help increase religious freedom as the country transitions from three decades of oppression of Christians and other non-Muslims.

"In principle, Open Doors sees this as a very positive development," says Jo Newhouse, an Open Doors spokesperson for sub-Saharan Africa. "It is a crucial step forward for the church which, for years, has been denied space in society to live out Christianity in freedom.

"While the recent legal changes to protect freedom of



religion or belief are very important, strong voices of support from both Muslim and Christian religious leaders are crucial in bringing lasting change - because much of the persecution in Sudan happens on the social level. This initiative should be applauded and given all the support it may need."

Keep praying for Sudanese Christians

Of course, as Newhouse says, a great deal of the persecution faced by Sudanese Christians comes from stigma and local oppression, not just laws. Ex-President Omar Hassan al-Bashir's strict enforcement of 'one religion, one culture, one language' has permeated through Sudan's culture, and your prayers for protection and integration for Christians are still vital.

Most believers in the country will have kept their faith secret, out of fear, and it will take time and prayer to change engrained prejudices. This is particularly true for Christians from a Muslim background. Even though they no longer face the death penalty for converting, many fear being rejected or attacked by their families and communities.

For more information about Open Doors click [here](#)



Fighting stigma and advocating for change

From the Leprosy Mission

Towards our goal of **zero leprosy discrimination**, we work to end the stigma associated with the disease, so people affected by leprosy are understood, respected and included.

Leprosy is one of the most stigmatised diseases in the world. People affected by the condition are often marginalised in society. A leprosy diagnosis can lead to divorce, losing a job or business, or homelessness. Unsurprisingly, people often experience poor mental health as a result.

People affected by leprosy must be included in society. So they can access education and have the opportunity to earn a living, giving them independence and dignity.

We work with human rights organisations and people affected by leprosy to **tackle discriminatory laws and practices and improve the living and working conditions of people affected by leprosy.**

There are laws and policies all over the world that discriminate against people affected by leprosy, with more than a hundred in India alone. In most cases, these were enacted before leprosy treatment existed, when it was widely feared. Even where these laws are not actively enforced, their existence condones discrimination.

In India, we have built **awareness raising and education about leprosy** into our projects, to undo the stigma that exists. We've helped groups of people affected by leprosy to understand their rights and challenge discriminatory laws and the attitudes behind them, at local, district and state levels.

In 2016, the Lepers Act of 1898 was repealed. And in 2018, India's government pledged to remove all references to leprosy from the marriage acts for each major religion. Indian states are slowly repealing acts that discriminate against people affected by leprosy.

In Nigeria, we have been drawing attention to the poor coverage and quality of leprosy services, calling on the government to do more. In Mozambique, we've been working with local associations of people affected by leprosy to help their members register for benefits. And in Bangladesh, our partners petitioned local governments for disability cards and multidrug therapy.

You can read about [The Leprosy Mission's Global Advocacy Strategy](#) in more detail.

In the UK

We have engaged peers and Anglican bishops in the House of Lords to speak out in support of leprosy services, at debates on neglected tropical diseases. Along with local MPs, the Bishop of Peterborough and other supporters in the House of Lords, we continue to target the Secretary of State for International Development and other Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) ministers to include leprosy in their funding plans.

And we worked with the BOND Disability and Development Group to ensure the Department for International Development's strategy for disability inclusion includes the needs of people disabled by leprosy.

Sharidah's story

Sharidah lives in India. When she began to show signs of leprosy, her husband abandoned her. She also was forced to leave her village due to the stigma.

Through one of our projects in her area, she received advocacy training. She is now a Champion for Zero Leprosy, one of thousands in India who have been trained in fighting for the rights of people affected by leprosy and working to end stigma. And she's the Secretary of her local self-help group, coordinating advocacy activities for 4,000 people.

Her biggest success has been leading a campaign to secure a piped water supply to her leprosy community, liaising with the local government and taking direct action to make sure that the project was completed.

For more about the Leprosy Mission click [here](#).

Leprosy Mission

Usually this time of year we have a coffee morning for the Leprosy Mission, but sadly this won't happen now.

If you would like to give to the Mission, please can you send any gifts/donations to Henry, Three Windows, Brumstead Road, during the month of November, and he will send them on. Cheques can be made out to the Leprosy Mission.

Don't forget, Barbara Reynolds is happy to obtain gifts, calendars and cards through the Leprosy Mission brochure, saving you time and postage. and also making some profit for SBC as well as the Leprosy Mission itself.

Thank you from Barbara Mixer

