

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 27th June 2021



Today we will be meeting "LIVE" at SBC

Ron will be leading and preaching from Colossians 3:1-4, 9-17

"Peace through the word"

Sunday's online service Ron will be leading and Jerry preaching from Nehemiah 5: 1-13 "Responding to Injustice when Creed is Greed"

You can watch the online service on the SBC website from Sunday morning, go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/ Then click on the icon pictured right.



Structure of Jerry's sermon:

Four steps to take when responding against Injustice?

1. **Recognise Injustice 5:1-5.**
2. **React, get angry 5:7a.**
3. **Reflect, think before you speak 5:6**
4. **Resist, Push back against injustice 5: 7b-13**

Jerry's Reads

Exo 22:21-27, Lev 25:1-55, Psalms 146:5-10, Isaiah 10:1-34; 58:1-14, Micah 6:8, Zech 7:9-11, Matt 25:36-46 and James 2:14-26; 5:1-6.

For Your Prayers

Please pray for Peter Bane and Dorothy Dickenson whose wedding takes place on Saturday.

Please continue to pray for those in the fellowship who are understandably still anxious about coming to live services.

Please pray for those in South Africa where they are experiencing a 3rd Covid wave that has been made worse by the first vaccine doses being declared ineffective against the prevailing variant and then another batch being recalled by the FDA. Also for those in Brazil the country has experienced over 500,000 deaths. Pray for our friends at the Lighthouse Church in Durban SA and Geci's family living in Brazil.

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **Eric Hurt**.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Saturday 19th June, Jenny posted "Lots to thank God for - Paul (son in law) is now recovered from Covid and back having hugs with the girls. Paul (my brother) has been approved to start an expensive treatment for his As which involves him self injecting the drug weekly. He seems quite positive about this treatment. Gill (my sister-in-law) has a new cancerous growth which the oncologist is confident has been caught early. She will now have a new course of chemotherapy and has been referred to the Royal Marsden Hospital for a new trial therapy. The down side for both Paul and Gill is that both these treatments compromise their immune systems a concern during the pandemic. Thank you all so much for your prayers. Jenny."

On Sunday Julia posted "Hi, David had a telephone call yesterday to say he will have his surgery next Saturday 26th. Short notice but less time to worry! We will be isolating from Wednesday. Your prayers for a peaceful week and successful surgery will be appreciated. We thank you for your prayer support and continue to remember you all in our prayers. Julia x."

On Tuesday Jerry asked for prayers for Elspeth, Gloria, Doreen and Jan as they visit folk today that God would open hearts to His love. Thank you.

Later that day Jerry posted "Thank you for prayers, had long chats with folk who can't get out much and prayed for a young man who was very open. Doreen and Jan."

On Thursday Jerry posted on behalf of Norma "Please pray for David. We're waiting for the doctor to ring back as he has to go to the eye clinic at Colchester Hospital as we think he has Iritis again. His eye is quite sore. He's had this condition several times before but the doctor wants to make sure it is that and nothing more serious. Will let you know once he has been examined and given the right treatment."

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord God, thank you that I do not have to take up arms to contribute to the fight against poverty. Help me to courageously give, act and pray for my global neighbours, since they are not my enemies but my fellow citizens of this world that you've given us to enjoy and protect. Grant peace to war-torn places, so that there might be an enjoyment of life rather than a destruction of it. Amen. Source Christian Aid.

Food Bank & Personal Prayer

SBC is open Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 12 noon to receive donations for the food bank and personal prayer. Jerry or Ron will be on hand to ensure all safety measures are met.

The **Food Bank** is open on Fridays in the Stables, 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 miniister@stalhambaptist.org.uk

Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington
01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno
07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon
07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole
Fellowship

If you are reading this newsletter as a PDF online 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

For your Diary

Monday 28th June 9.00am

Deacons Zoom Prayer Meeting

Wednesday 30th June 7.00pm

Zoom Bible Study

Contact Diana for a link.

Friday 2nd July 9.30am

Visit from Year 3 Academy children

Saturday 3rd July 2.00pm

Wedding of Peter Bane and Dorothy Dickenson

Sunday 4th July Service

Flowers: Wedding

Saturday 10th July 10am to 12

Official opening of the Community Fridge

Sunday 11th July 12 noon

Church Meeting

Wednesday 14th July 7.00pm

Bethan and Gareth Shrubsole our link missionaries are home from Chad and will be visiting us and making a presentation in the church.

Contact Diana to book a place.

Church Open

The Church is now open on Sundays and a Covid secure system is in place requiring masks to be worn and a booking system requiring those attending to book each week by contacting Diana by email secretary@stalhambaptist.org.uk WhatsApp or telephone 07951949128.

Church Meeting Sunday July 11th

The Church meeting will start at 12 noon in the Sanctuary all in the fellowship are welcome but only members can vote. The meeting will incorporate a "Special meeting" to agree an addition to the constitution regarding electronic meetings. You would only need to book if you were just intending to come to the Church Meeting.

Church Reading Plan

This week we are looking at **1 Samuel 17**. How often in life have you been faced with an apparently insurmountable problem which you eventually decided to dump completely into His hands? Then did you trust God enough when He suggested a solution that seemed impossible, to execute? If you would like to suggest a reading or take part in "Testimony Tuesday" contact Diana, Jerry or Ron.

Donations

If you would like to donate to SBC you can go on line at <https://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/donate.php> where you will find details of how to pay by BAC's, SMS or debit or credit card. You can also put cash or cheques through Henry Nicholson's door at Three Windows Brumstead Road Stalham

Barbara Goes From Blue to Green



Taken from the

WhatsApp virtual prayer room

On Sunday Geoff posted "Barbara goes back to N&N for an outpatient appointment with the consultant. Please pray for a good journey in the ambulance and good news on progress. Expecting casts to be removed, knees inspected (stitches out) and then replastered. Thanks for all your prayers for progress so far." On Monday Geoff updated "All good, surgeon happy. Nurse took about 25 stitches out of each leg.

Got recast. Back in 4 weeks."

Cromer Food Bank

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

During June, the following would be much appreciated:

Long Life Milk – full fat or semi-skimmed, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Sponge Puddings and Custard, Jam, Squash, Instant Snacks – Mugshot, Pot Noodle, Cuppa Soup, Crisps, Sweets and Chocolate, Male and Female Deodorants, Shampoo and Conditioner, Household Cleaning Products – Sprays, Cloths, Kitchen Roll.

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

EBA Prayer Focus 27th June 2021

Epping Green Chapel

Epping Green Chapel is in the village of Epping Green next to the village pond. The village is in a rural location in the west of Essex on the border with Hertfordshire. The current

Pastor, Rev Paul Walker, leads the Church along with his wife Jane and a team of Deacons.

The village has around 200 inhabitants and is located centrally between the market town of Epping and the new town of Harlow. The Chapel is near a busy road used as a by-pass on the way to London.

The Chapel has been holding Zoom meetings during the bad weather but is now holding open air services on a Sunday morning in the Chapel car park, unless it rains!! As the chapel is on a main route, cyclists and locals pause or even stop to join in. A real blessing came when some neighbours stopped and responded to a Gospel message – they are now attending the online Alpha course run by the fellowship.

With no shops in the village, last year the Council asked the Chapel to be a base for recycling bag collection. It may not sound exciting, but every day people come to collect their bags from outside the Chapel collection point and the raised profile is leading to some great conversations. The Chapel is also now a Foodbank base and locals are finding a welcome and point of contact.

Rev Paul Walker also leads the NHS chaplaincy teams for Essex. He is hoping to soon recommission chaplaincy volunteers across the county. As well as continuing to visit the hospital wards since lockdown, Paul has continued with the weekly hospital radio messages which have now also been requested to be recorded as weekly videos, posted on the staff internet, Facebook pages and village groups! Please pray for the work of Epping Green Chapel and their Minister, Rev Paul Walker

Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"In order that men should resist injustice, something more is necessary than that they should think injustice unpleasant. They must think injustice absurd; above all, they must think it startling."- **G.K Chesterton**

"The community of the cross should concern itself with social justice as well as with loving philanthropy. It is never enough to have pity on the victims of injustice, if we do nothing to change the unjust situation itself. Good Samaritans will always be needed to succour those who are assaulted and robbed; yet it would be even better to rid the Jerusalem-Jericho road of brigands." — **John Stott, The Cross of Christ.**

"Greed is an internal sin, a species of covetousness or longing for that which you haven't been given. It's less visible as moments of active sin, and more evident in its long-term corrosion of our souls. It's also a sin of faithlessness; greed is the opposite of trust in God's provision, a grasping for security instead of resting in him." - **Justin Lonas.**

"To consider persons and events and situation only in the light of their effect upon myself is to live on the doorstep of hell." **Thomas Merton.**

"Christians cannot regard with equanimity the injustices which spoil God's world and demean his creatures. Injustice must bring pain to the God whose justice flared brightly at the cross; it should bring pain to God's people too....If we love people, we shall be concerned to secure their basic rights as human beings, which is also the concern of justice." — **John Stott, The Cross of Christ**

"Jesus warns people far more often about greed than about sex, yet almost no one think they are guilty of it. Therefore we should all begin with a working hypothesis that "this could easily be a problem for me." If greed hides itself so deeply, no one should be confident that it is not a problem for them." — **Tim Keller**

Paul and Sarah Brown

Trusting God June 2021

We are thankful to God that in every situation, He is sovereign, present and continues to be gracious. Since Songkran (which is the Thai new year festival in mid April) parts of Thailand have been on an unofficial lockdown due to the pandemic. It coincided with the Thai schools being on summer holiday, schools normally resuming in May, however, they are now due to restart at the beginning of June. We continue to learn to do things differently and more creatively. Discussions are at an advanced stage, with us hopefully transitioning from serving with the New Life Centre Foundation (NLCF) to the Thai Karen Baptist Convention (TKBC), after our return from home assignment in November. BMS have a long-standing partnership with TKBC, our work with them will continue to strengthen this ongoing relationship and work within the Karen community. Last year we planned to attend the Business as Mission (BAM) Global Congress, which was due to take place in Thailand but was cancelled because of the crisis. It finally took place in May online, it was pulled together brilliantly. It was wonderful to hear from those that are new to BAM, set up for several years and some that have been going for 20+ years. A number of people, that we have networked with, since starting this BAM journey were guest speakers: including Annie Dieselberg from NightLight International, Bangkok, where we served for 6 years, BAM trainers from the course that we completed on our last home assignment and the key organisers' Mark and Jo Plummer, who served in Chiang Mai but returned to the UK last year. It was fantastic to hear from innovative, small and large BAM businesses, share their struggles of working in an overseas context, dealings with laws, governments, burnout, COVID and finding the right work-life balance. Through it all, God has been faithful, to ensure they are making a huge impact in communities, discipling and making the Lord known through business. Thailand is in an official state of emergency until the end of July. We have been working from home only going out when necessary, this third wave has been much worse, the numbers of infections and deaths have been far higher. Nationally there have been about 2,000 new cases per day. After nearly three months with zero cases



Chiang Mai, it saw an unprecedented local spike with 2,600 cases, that was identified within just 14 days. Hospitals filled up fast, therefore a makeshift field hospital with 500 beds was set up. A number of field hospitals have been set up in other provinces around Thailand. At NLCF staff and residents are finding ways to occupy their time by preparing food, staying in and staying safe.

Yes, this is cake! – you may have seen this cake on the Arise Cake Creations YouTube channel, we were asked if we could reproduce it for a full step-by-step tutorial, for a cake decorating website, run by the same renowned cake decorator, who led the course that Sarah attended called Train the Trainer back in June 2019. As, God opens up opportunities to train others, an area that we are very passionate about. We seek to find ways that we can use and pass on these skills, that God has given us and share the gospel in creative ways. We often wonder what God is doing. Right now we are taking stock, we believe this is a perfect time to reconnect with God and deepen our relationship with Him. The question we should be asking is not, should we be doing more, although that is not a bad idea, but more importantly why we are doing it? Is it to express our love to God? God's love to others or is it for some other reason? These questions are having a profound effect on us for now and the future, we don't want to miss the plans and opportunities that God has for us. Please pray for: -Burma, a bordering country, many of the tribal groups we work with have family and relations there, specifically the Karen people. Although it is not in the news much anymore, the atrocities are a continuing daily occurrence since the military coup. -Thailand, as it tries to control the spread of COVID and the rollout of the vaccination programme over the coming months. -Sarah, is continuing to struggle with pollution particularly after heavy rain and storms, which causes asthma attacks. We are so greatly blessed by your messages of encouragement, support and for reaching out to us. As you continue to support BMS, it allows us to remain serving in Thailand especially during these uncertain times. We continue to be reminded of Corrie ten Boom's quote: "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." In our prayers Love & Blessings Paul & Sarah.

If you would like to support Paul and Sarah Brown by prayer and committed regular giving, visit [bmsworldmission.org/partners](https://www.bmsworldmission.org/partners) or call 01235 517617 for a 24:7 Partners leaflet. PO Box 49 129 Broadway Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 8XA Tel: 01235 517700 .

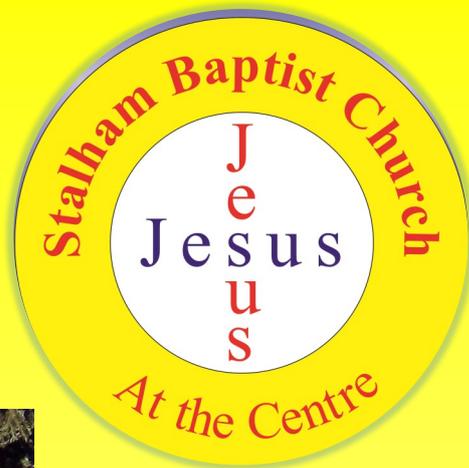
SBC supports three BMS missionary partners including Paul and Sarah Brown. For information about Paul and Sarah click on the link below.

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



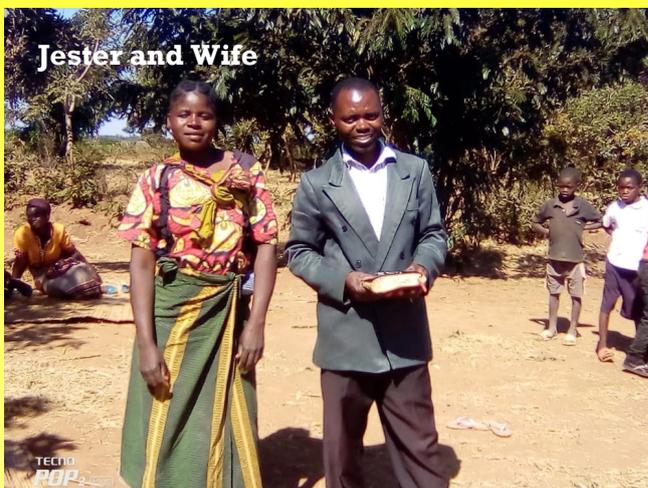
Prayer Request From SaltMalawi

SaltMalawi is a UK registered charity working to relieve poverty and suffering, to enhance education and to advance the Christian faith, in Malawi and also in parts of Mozambique. They support the growing Church of the Disciples of Jesus (CDJ), founded by Julian and Caroline Lott. SBC has prayerfully supported SaltMalawi and SBC's Stewart Marsh went to Malawi to share some farming knowledge and ideas with locals there. In our newsletter for 6th June Geoff Reynolds wrote Hi everyone. We have a prayer request from John Seda and the team in Malawi. The CDJ trustees in Dedza are planning a 2-day campaign of preaching and village meetings, this coming Saturday and Sunday, to restart the church at the village of Biskit. Here CDJ once had a thriving church which went through many



will be

difficulties when the leader, Samwell was seriously ill for a long time. Subsequently Samwell passed away and the church failed to survive, due to its location and other leadership issues. The leaders of the 6 Dedza churches now plan to hold a series of meetings with the chiefs and the people of Biskit with this focus of re-establishing the church.



Jester and Wife

John has asked that we pray for the success of this campaign and that the Lord will use them mightily as they preach the Gospel and pray with people for healing and deliverance as God touches the hearts of the people. There have been a number of individual visits over recent weeks in preparation for this time and John asks that we 'pray hard' for this important 2-day visit.

with John preparing for our long trip to Nsanje on 23rd June. Please pray for us all!"

Biliat also said; "The GVH (Group Village Head), to whom all village chiefs in the group report, has encouraged us to arrange to make more visits to the villages around Kanjanja!"

Please pray for Brother Jester and the new Christians in Kanjanja, for the Chief and for the GVH and his encouragement to other group villages to be open to receive the Gospel. Also for protection for Josaya and Isaiah Banda as they return to the village this Sunday, that more people will be set free and drawn into the Kingdom.

In this newsletter Geoff forwards an update from SaltMalawi.

Here is the report of Biliat's team visit, to a new potential church plant, last weekend. It is quite amazing on top of John's report of his team visit to Biskit the previous weekend!

Biliat reported on a long awaited trip last weekend, together with Thomas, Josaya and Isaiah Banda, to a remote village called Kanjanja, 22km West of Makosana (Biliat's home). The team camped out there for 3 days, getting to know the villagers and to preach the gospel. This trip came about because relatives of Isaiah Banda, from Khoswe village, live in Kanjanja village. One day last year, Isaiah went to visit them and, while there, shared the Gospel with a man named Jester. Since then, Jester has been passing on the Good News to the village and regularly calling for the church to come and tell more to those gathering with him. So finally, Biliat was able to make the arrangements to go.



Kanjanja Children

Biliat says; "We saw wonderful things as we preached the Gospel from Genesis to Jesus, how man was created for a relationship with God, the consequences of sin and disobedience. The 2nd day, we

showed them how Jesus came to give his life to save us from our sin and to reconcile us to God. At the end people were able to confess their sins and repent, together with their Chief!! We saw people set free and were healed. They received Christ and joined the church! This coming Sunday (tomorrow), I am sending Josaya and Isaiah to visit again. I

Thanks Brian

PS Reference the trip to Nsanje this has been in preparation since April, when the leaders of Nsanje churches (far South of Malawi) asked for help in putting on a women's and Church Leaders Teaching Conference at Nthondo Centre Church. John and Betha with Biliat and Grace, will go together and lead these meetings. They will need prayer and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

For more information click <https://www.saltmalawi.org/>



Kanjanja new Christians