

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 15th May 2022

Sunday's "Live" Service:

Maggie Harpur is leading and Ron is preaching from John 21: 19b - 22.
and 2 Peter 1: 1-4 "A Precious Faith"

Sunday's online service: Barbara and Geoff are leading and Jerry is preaching
from Ruth 2: 13-23 "There is a Redeemer"

12 noon Brief Special Church Meeting

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.



Structure of Jerry's Talk

Ruth returned to Naomi with the good news about:

1.) Provision, 2.) Protection and 3.) A Person - *A Kinsman Redeemer*.

Jerry's Reads

Leviticus 25, Deuteronomy 25:5-10, Job 19:25-26, Luke 5:30-32 and Titus 2:11-14

For Your Prayers

During May please pray for the residents of Teresa Court Flats and Portalfield. Please pray for those who are having to use the Food Bank as the cost-of-living crisis bites. Pray that our Government will focus on those who are becoming desperate to cover the costs that are ever rising. Lord **more than 2m** adults in UK cannot afford to eat every day, More than 2 million adults in the UK have gone without food for a whole day over the past month because they cannot afford to eat, according to a survey revealing the "catastrophic" impact of the cost of living crisis. Give our leaders the wisdom to understand these problems that they are likely never to have experienced.

Pray also for those in our community and fellowship who are waiting for routine operations and whose quality of life is deteriorating weekly.

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **David Child**.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Friday 6th May Jerry posted for Sandra "My cousin Jean, had another fall on Thursday. The hospital told her she was very ill, but she discharged herself to look after her disabled son of 61. Jean is 92. Thank you Sandra F." **On Saturday** Simone posted "Can you please pray for Anna. She's been really poorly yesterday and we had to take her back to hospital. She's been put back on her heart medication as the x-ray showed fluids in her lungs. They also had to put her on hourly feeds over night but she's coping really well and the medication is already working. So she's now back to 2 hourly feeds. Please pray for her to keep improving. She's mostly in good spirit."

On Sunday Geoff posted "Morning, thanks for all your prayers, Matt was able to bring Emma home yesterday evening. Still very sore and lots of healing to do but great to be able to get home with Matt and the girls."

On Tuesday Simone posted "Thank you all for your prayers. Anna has been improving very quickly and was allowed home yesterday. She is going to be kept on her heart medication until her next cardiac review in June. She's been doing so well now that we are allowed to take the feeding tube out and she is back to being completely breastfed and eating her normal food as before. Praise the Lord with us for he is good - all the time!"

On Wednesday Jerry posted for Henry "Please pray for my sister Doreen who has an operation today in N&N hospital about her breast cancer."

Luke 6: 46-49 (MSG) Building on a Rock

⁴⁶⁻⁴⁷ "Why are you so polite with me, always saying 'Yes, sir,' and 'That's right, sir,' but never doing a thing I tell you? These words I speak to you are not mere additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundation words, words to build a life on.

⁴⁸⁻⁴⁹ "If you work the words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who dug deep and laid the foundation of his house on bedrock. When the river burst its banks and crashed against the house, nothing could shake it; it was built to last. But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a dumb carpenter who built a house but skipped the foundation. When the swollen river came crashing in, it collapsed like a house of cards. It was a total loss."

As Christians how easy is it to read and understand Jesus's words fully but only pay lip

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.



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington
01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno
07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon
07951949128

Ministry Team:

The Whole Fellowship

For your Diary

Monday 16th May

9.00pm Deacons Prayer Meeting

Tuesday 17th May

9.30am -12 in the Stables
Coffee and Chat

Wednesday 18th May

9.30am -12 in the School Room
Table Tennis

7.00pm Zoom Bible Study
Details in online Diary

Friday 20th May

10.15 Prayer for Revival
Three Windows, Brumstead Road
1.15-3pm Foodbank in Stables

Saturday 21st May

10 to 2.00pm Tabletop Sale
In the Stables

Sunday 22nd May

10.45am Sunday Service
12 noon short Church Meeting
Flowers: Jane Skivington

Thursday 2nd June

12.30pm in the Stables
Jubilee Lunch

Sunday 5th June

1.00pm in the Church
Jubilee Stalham Fringe

Food Bank & Personal Prayer

SBC is open Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 12 noon to receive donations for the food bank and for personal prayer. Jerry or Ron is always in attendance.

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 minister @stalhambaptist.org.uk

Fundraising for Refurbishment Project

We have already had a number of fund raising events for the building fund and I know that many of you are planning even more, which is terrific! So that we have a cooperative approach to ensure people aren't doing things on the same dates please make sure you check the church diary and then ask Diana, Greg or Ron to book it in. (If you don't have online access then Greg, Diana or Ron can check the diary for you).

Church Database and Church Directory

We have been really pleased over recent months to welcome new people coming to worship with us on a regular basis. As a church we hold data in accordance with GDPR and have an electronic data base that is maintained by Greg Chapman. Being included on the church data base provides you with access to the church forum beyond what a member of the public can see. We also have an online church directory which provides contact details of those wishing to be included in the directory. This is, from time to time, printed out for those not able to access information on line. The directory contains as much information as people wish to provide. For further information you can either speak directly with Greg or Diana our church secretary.

Messy Church

Our first Messy Church "Lost...and found" will take place on Thursday 16th June from 3.15 to 5pm. Its free with fun activities and celebration in the church for all ages from tinies upwards – all children will need an accompanying adult - finishing with a barbeque in the car park.

Everyone welcome – for more information or to offer to help, contact Barbara: barbarageoff@gmail.com or 01692672120

Changing

As we are gradually reducing Covid restrictions we have gone back to physically taking up our offering during the service for those who wish to give to the church that way as we are aware many give in other ways.

We also will no longer open the side gate but the Stables will be open for access to the toilets .

Table Top Sale

Elaine is organising a fund-raising tabletop sale the for building fund on Saturday 21st May 10 to 2pm in the car park and Stables, refreshments will be available.

If you have any Brick - A - Brac Toys or Clothes you could donate or need more information have a chat with Elaine or email her at elainemsmith364@btinternet.com or text or phone her on 07796875785

Online Services

For a while we have been considering the future of our Online service and what changes may need to be made to it to meet our current needs. Shortly [once we finish our current series on Ruth] we will merge our Live and Online services so our worship leaders will only need to prepare one service, the sermon will be the same for both and the Online music will as far as possible be YouTube versions of the same songs and hymns used Live.

Recently we conducted a survey about the value of the Online service but the response was rather sketchy so we have a couple of further questions asking that you respond by either note or phone call to Diana, Jerry or Ron [as per details on bulletin front page]

If the two services merge will you still listen to the Online or want CD's/paper versions of the sermon?

As many have become used to two sermons per week would you still wish to have something apart from the Sunday sermon to follow? and what?

Also, we would be very grateful if people beyond the SBC fellowship who are still listening and finding value could simply send a simple message to Diana email secretary@stalhambaptist.org.uk telephone 07951949128 or **Whats App**.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

As part of the Stalham Fringe Festival celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Sunday 5th June starting at 1.00pm SBC will be hosting various singers and music groups including the Pan Afro Band and Drumming group and will be holding a 30 minute service of thanksgiving for the life and reign of our Queen at 2.00pm. Refreshments will be available.

Jubilee Lunch

Elaine is organising a Jubilee Lunch on Thursday 2nd June at 12.30 pm. There will be an auction to raise money for the building fund including a quick quiz and a fun picture quiz. If you have anything that could be donated to the auction have a chat with Elaine or email her at

elainemsmith364@btinternet.com or call her on 07796875785

Sponsored walk

Barbara and Ben Mixer did their sponsored walk last Saturday to raise money for the Building Fund. Thank you to all the folk that have sponsored them, could they hand the money to Barbara as soon as possible please so the money can be passed on to Stewart for the Building Found.

Printer Needs a New Home

HP Photosmart C5100 Printer/Photocopier, plus manual. Free to a good home but a donation to the building fund would be gratefully received. Speak to Diana, email, telephone 07951949128 or Whats App.

Volunteers

SBC is shaking off the shackles of Covid and re-establishing many of the things we did pre Covid plus some new ideas but we need more volunteers to build all the new projects. If you can help occasionally have a chat with Ron, Barbara R or Elaine.

Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"It is encouraging to see the changes that have taken place in Naomi because of what Ruth did. God used Ruth to turn Naomi's bitterness into gratitude, her unbelief into faith, and her despair into hope. One person, trusting the Lord and obeying His will, can change a situation from defeat to victory." **Warren Wiersbe**

"Jesus is a Redeemer, that is his name; he came into the world on this very business, to redeem his people, to redeem them from all iniquity (Titus 2:14), from this present evil world, from our vain conversations. He hath shed his precious blood to purchase us; we are bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:20). We are none of our own, we are his, the purchase of his blood; and we may be confident that he dearly loves us, for he dearly bought us; and if he had not dearly loved us, he would never have given himself for us (Gal. 2:20). That was the highest testimony of his love; he loved us and washed us from our sins in his blood (Rev. 1:5). He will redeem us from the wrath to come." **John Bunyan**

"Look at self and be distressed,
Look at others and be depressed,
Look at Jesus [Our Redeemer], and you'll be blessed!" — **Anon.**

"Where does your security lie? Is God your refuge, your hiding place, your stronghold, your shepherd, your counsellor, your friend, your redeemer, your saviour, your guide? If He is, you don't need to search any further for security." **Elisabeth Elliot**

"We must not offer people a system of redemption, a set of insights and principles. We offer people a Redeemer."

Paul Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands*:



EBA Prayer Focus 15th May 2022 Mill Road Baptist Church

Located in a vibrant and diverse area not far from Cambridge city centre is Mill Road Baptist Church. It is surrounded by shops, restaurants. Students and young professionals live in the area but generally there is a transient population with no one staying long or putting down roots. Outreach in this environment is both tough and difficult.

The church congregation has diminished and now there are about twenty people gathering together on Sunday mornings. The church has substantial premises and a large community hall that is used by various groups. The full-time minister left about a year ago as the church was financially on a knife-edge. Since then the church finances have improved with rental income from the premises having picked up after covid, and the manse rented out to provide regular income. But the church is nowhere near the point of thinking about appointing a new minister.

Many people in the church are busy juggling their lives, family and work so are unable to commit a lot of their time. A number in the church have restricted mobility, and others still remain nervous about coming out to meet in-person because of covid so watch the services on Zoom.

The weekly services are led by various people in the church and a number of visiting speakers. Rev Kate Gaze from Hardwick Evangelical Church has recently been appointed as the moderator to assist in seeking a new vision for the way forward.

The church is actively seeking God's will in understanding how it needs to change and adapt to serve the local community.

Please pray for:

- The deacons and leaders of the church and the moderator Rev Kate Gaze.
- That God will show the church the next stage of where He wants them to be and identify new opportunities of outreach and witness.
- The faithful witness to Jesus in the lives of all who are part of the church fellowship.

Foodbank

Dear Foodbank Supporters at Stalham Baptist Church

During April you contributed 250.95kg of food which helped towards a total of 4099.04kgs. We totally rely on donations, both food and financial, to operate and we are extremely grateful when people choose to support us. 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 either on zoom or in person when allowed, 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 would be much appreciated:

Cereal, Long Life Milk – full fat or semi-skimmed, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Fruit, Pasta Sauce,

Squash/Fruit Juice, Rice Pudding, Custard, Tea, Laundry Liquid/Powder.

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

Falklands War

Richard Dunkerley Memorial Service

For the 40th anniversary, the Stalham and District Royal British Legion has planned a memorial service for Mr Dunkerley at St Mary's Church on May 21 at 11am.

Stalham Town Council has arranged for the High Street to be closed off prior to the service.

Ex-servicemen, several standards from the Royal British Legion, Sea Cadets, TS Fearless Marine Cadets, Pipes and Drums from The Royal Naval Association and a contingent of Royal Marines, RAF, Army, Navy, police, fire and ambulance service, and Stalham High School, will march along the High Street, starting at 10.30am.

The Sea Cadets will line up outside the Church to provide a guard of honour and the Royal Marine Cadets will provide a guard of honour inside the church for the laying of the wreaths.

Free tea, coffee and refreshments will be provided after the service at The Swan Inn. (Source North Norfolk News)

Richard Dunkerley

Richard Dunkerley lived in Stalham. He went to Stalham Junior School and then on to Stalham High School. He used to visit Sea Palling beach with his family - the start of what was to become a love affair with the sea.

"He was not an outstanding student academically - he was your typical average student and he didn't have one of those personalities that make you stand out to school.

He just went to school and quietly got on with it." Said Rev. Richard Jackson at a memorial service in 2005.

After school he joined the Royal Navy undertaking training at HMS Ganges the shore-based training establishment on the Shotley Peninsula near Ipswich.

He served on HMS Ardent as a Cook Petty Officer First Class.

The Ardent was sent to the Falkland Islands at the outbreak of the Falklands war.

At midnight on the 21st May 1982 the Ardent, under cover of darkness, led an amphibious task force into Falkland sound and headed on to the Grantham sound, their task was to shell the airfield at Goose Green as a deception exercise to lead the Argentinian troops to think that the invasion was happening elsewhere and not at the San Carlos inlet. But the Frigate acting as a lone ranger was soon spotted by Argentinian





The Ardent Ablaze

motivated by religious persecution, but a significant number of those men, women and children were murdered because they follow Jesus.

Islamic militant attacks

The report revealing these figures has been put together by [SBM Intelligence](#), a Nigeria-based research firm. These 896 people were killed in attacks by Islamist groups such as Boko Haram and Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP), militant Fulani herdsmen, bandits and violent gangs – and this total is only civilians; it doesn't include members of those extremist groups or people killed because of their job (such as soldiers and police officers). The highest number of fatalities was in the north west of Nigeria, with high numbers elsewhere in the north and in the Middle Belt.

aircraft. The first attack saw two 1000lb bombs miss the ship. With two hours to dusk the crew were hoping to survive till darkness came. With an hour to go Ardent had endured 16 attacks. Attack no. 17 saw an Argentinian jet break through the defences and drop two 500lb bombs onto Ardent. The stern lifted, and the boat shuddered. The force of the explosions tore through the ship scattering the crew.

With many of the systems down the crew had difficulty in defending the ship as fire ripped through the Ardent.

Eventually the order was given to abandon ship, the Frigate HMS Yarmouth picking up the surviving crew members. Ardent continued to burn and sank the next day.

Richard Dunkerley was killed on board the Ardent on the 21st May 1982 . He was 23 years old.

At the memorial service, Rev Richard Jackson said. "He left a mum and dad, four sisters and one brother. He'd never got around to getting married but in time his sisters did and they themselves had children. He was never to know his nephews and nieces and they were never to have the pleasure of knowing their uncle Richard."

The Ardent Captain later said that losing 22 men weighed hard on him, but it was the parents who suffered the most at the loss of the young men – with the average age of those on board being between 22 and 24. Those mothers and fathers were never going to get another son.

Source Community Scene.

While the violence affects everyone, Christians are often particular targets because of their faith. Nigeria is [number seven on the Open Doors World Watch List](#), and more Christians are killed for their faith in Nigeria than the rest of the world combined. As one example, at least 20 people were killed or injured in an attack by ISWAP in mid-April. They targeted a market in Iware, Taraba State, because it was 'a gathering of infidel Christians'. A week earlier, Fulani militants attacked 10 communities in Plateau State, killing more than 150 people.

Why are more Christians killed in Nigeria than anywhere else?

"Nigeria is currently one of the scariest places to be a Christian," says Illia Djadi, an Open Doors analyst for sub-Saharan Africa. "The country has witnessed an explosion of violence in recent months. Attacks are happening almost on a daily basis. And what is happening in Nigeria is a sad illustration of what is happening across West Africa – the agenda, and the process and model of persecution, are being implemented elsewhere with impunity."

Violent groups are collaborating

There are also increasing signs that Islamic extremist groups have begun working together and widening the impact of their violence. David Landrum, Open Doors Director of Advocacy, says: "It would seem that the country is now having to face up to a powerful triumvirate — some would say, a three-headed monster — as Boko Haram, ISWAP, Fulani militants and so-called bandits are evidently acting in cooperation with one another."

This appears to be acknowledged by the government as well. Following the mass killings in Plateau State, Nigeria's Information Minister Lai Mohammed [told reporters](#) the attacks were a result of 'a kind of unholy handshake between bandits and Boko Haram insurgents'.

Meanwhile, the increase in violence has caused millions to flee their homes. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs [has reported](#) that more than 8.4 million Nigerians in the north eastern region alone are in need of humanitarian assistance, with half of them facing a food crisis.

[Source Opendoors](#)

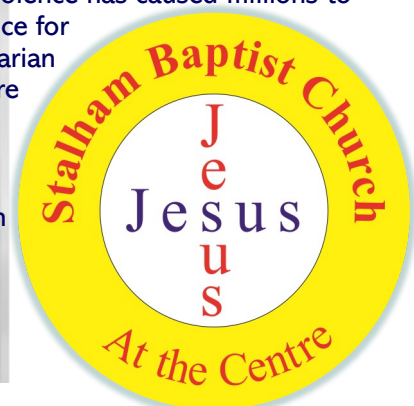


896 Nigerians killed in violent attacks in 2022

In the first three months of 2022, almost 900 Nigerian civilians were killed in violent attacks – including hundreds of Christians who were murdered because of their faith.

Almost 900 Nigerian civilians were killed in violent attacks in the first three months of 2022

It's difficult to get your head around how many Nigerians have been killed already in 2022. You might hear about individual events – like a [bomb and gun attack on a train](#) in north west Nigeria – but it's hard to get a sense of the scale. In the first three months of 2022, 896 Nigerian civilians were killed in attacks by extremist Islamic militants. Not all were



Jubilee Lunch

Thursday 2nd June

12.30pm

at Stalham Baptist
Church Stables

Come and celebrate the
Queens Coronation

In Red White & Blue

Don't forget Crowns & Tiaras

All Welcome

Also an Auction &

Quick Elizabeth II Quiz

Donations for the Building

Fund appreciated

**Book your table with Elaine or email her at
elainemith364@btinternet.com or text her on
07796875785**





TABLE

TOP

SALE

And Refreshments

**Raising money for Building Fund
Saturday 21st May 10 to 2pm
At Stalham Baptist Church
Stables**

**Wanted Donations of
Brick - A - Brac Toys Clothes**

**have a c h a t with Elaine or email her a t
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