

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 24th July 2022 Service

This Sunday Ron is leading and continues the sermon series on
9 Flavours 1 Fruit. This week's topic is "The Fruit of the Spirit is...Peace"

Galatians 5:22-23 Philippians 1: 4-7

Sunday we will celebrate the Lord's Supper

The online service will also be available from Sunday. Go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/

Then click on "Join Our Online Service"

Ron's Read

John 14: 27

For Your Prayers

During August please pray for the residents of Teresa Road and Campingfield Lane. Father God, we pray for our world today. We pray for peace and hope to abound. Many have been troubled by natural disasters, conflict, and the results of a global pandemic. In challenging times, help us turn to you as our source of strength and hope. Merciful Lord, we offer a prayer for your peace to be with all those who have suffered and continue to do so. Amen. Source [Compassion](#).
As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **Sandra and Mike Feek**.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Saturday 16th July Jerry posted. From Angela Cookson "Good morning. Update on Lee. He underwent surgery throughout the night and is now in recovery. His next operation is to repair his legs but apparently he has picked up an infection in one of his legs so they must deal with that. Thanks for your continued prayers." (A member of the army, Lee's parachute failed to open when he did a jump in France)

On Tuesday 19th Jenny Payne posted "Please pray, we may have to evacuate our house due to a field fire raging in the field opposite." Later that day she posted "Please pray for the two families who have lost their houses, two more are very vulnerable. One engine currently dousing the hedge opposite us in an effort to stop it crossing the road." Later she went on "Thank you all for your prayers, due to the wind direction the fire is now under control at our end of the houses. Please pray for the fire brigade working in this heat and those who have lost their homes. We are fine - no power, internet or land lines - but very thankful to our mighty God that we are safe."

On Wednesday 20th Jerry posted update from Angela "Lee improving daily. Infection responding to treatment and hopefully, with medical team, he will be stable enough to Medivac back to the UK soon. Thank you for your continued prayers."

1 Samuel 15: 22-31 (MSG) The Lord Rejects Saul as King

²²⁻²³ Then Samuel said, (to Saul) Do you think all GOD wants are sacrifices—empty rituals just for show? He wants you to listen to Him! Plain listening is the thing, not staging a lavish religious production.

Not doing what GOD tells you is far worse than fooling around in the occult. Getting self-important around GOD is far worse than making deals with your dead ancestors.

Because you said No to GOD's command, he says No to your kingship.

²⁴⁻²⁵ Saul gave in and confessed, "I've sinned. I've trampled roughshod over GOD's Word and your instructions. I cared more about pleasing the people. I let them tell me what to do. Oh, absolve me of my sin! Take my hand and lead me to the altar so I can worship GOD!" ²⁶ But Samuel refused: "No, I can't come alongside you in this. You rejected GOD's command. Now GOD has rejected you as king over Israel."

²⁷⁻²⁹ As Samuel turned to leave, Saul grabbed at his priestly robe and a piece tore off. Samuel said, "GOD has just now torn the kingdom from you, and handed it over to your neighbour, a better man than you are. Israel's God-of-Glory doesn't deceive, and he doesn't dither. He says what he means and means what he says."

³⁰ Saul tried again, "I have sinned. But don't abandon me! Support me with your presence before the leaders and the people. Come alongside me as I go back to worship GOD." ³¹ Samuel did. He went back with him. And Saul dropped to his knees before GOD and worshipped.

As Christians how easy is to forgive and continue to support someone who was part of the Christian community and begs for forgiveness, after they have abused the Word of God and become self-important around God?

To help you engage with the passage you can listen to Ron's short audio recording (less than 5 minutes) by visiting our [Scripture Reading Plan](#)



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Ministry Team:

The Whole Fellowship

For your Diary

Monday 25th July

9.00am Deacons Prayer Meeting
10.30 to 11.30am in the Church
Morning Prayers with Janet Nicholson

Tuesday 26th July

9.30am -12 in the Stables
Coffee and Chat

Wednesday 27th July

9.30am -12 in the School Room
Table Tennis

7.00pm Zoom Bible Study
Details in online Diary

Friday 29th July

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

Saturday 30th July

7.30pm in the Church
'Two's Company'

Sunday 31st July

10.45 Sunday Service
Flowers: Susanna Peg

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

Community Fridge Open

Mondays 2.00 pm - 4.00pm Tuesday to
Friday 10.00am to 12 noon

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.

A Big Thankyou

A big thank you to all who helped raise to date £607.63 last Saturday at Edna's table top sale. A great day with lots of stalls and light lunches tea and coffee. A special thanks to Edna Woolsey and Barbara Mixer for organising the event.

Another Big Thankyou

Sarah Henwood wanted to thank all those from SBC who attended Flicka

Henwood's, her mother, celebration Service at St Mary's Church on Wednesday that raised to date £1,250 for Stalham in Bloom Flicka was there Chairperson for many years.

North Norfolk Foodbank

During July, the following would be much appreciated:

Cereal, Long Life Milk – full fat or semi-skimmed, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Vegetables, Rice Pudding, Squash/Fruit Juice, Laundry Liquid, Shampoo & Conditioner, Deodorant, Baby Wipes

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

Music: Music: Music:

3 great music evening events coming up to raise money for the refurbishment. We have an evening with 'Two's Company' who will give a concert of Celtic and traditional folk songs. They will be with us on Saturday 30th July. Could you also encourage people to attend by going to <https://stalhambaptist.org.uk/twoscompany.php>, downloading a poster and displaying it.

'Out of Egypt' will be getting together for the first time in over 2 years to do an evening of Gospel songs, chat and testimonies. This will be in September. The final event is planned for October and is Greg's band 'Bar Room Blues'. So make sure you don't miss out and watch this space for more information!

EBA Prayer Focus 24th July 2022 Nansen Road Baptist Church

Nestled in a council housing estate in the south east of Ipswich is Nansen Road Baptist Church.

The church is home to a small but growing community of believers who are rooted in serving their neighbours and reaching out to the lost. One of their major outreach activities involves hosting a weekly foodbank, where people can come and purchase a bag of food for £2. The church complements this with the provision of hot drinks and cake, along with the chance for people to sit down and have a chat. Although this is being paused for the summer, emergency parcels will still be provided where needed.

Although the congregation are currently without a minister, they are supported by a moderator, Stu Clarke, who is a retired local minister, and a team of elders and deacons. As the restrictions imposed during the pandemic have begun to ease, the church has adopted a hybrid model of meetings, with Sunday services in-person and prayer and Bible studies continuing to meet online via Zoom. They have also recently begun to prayer-walk around the estate, focusing on the people, problems and needs of the area; how connections can be made and how God's love can be shown to them.

Two's Company

A concert of Celtic and traditional folk songs, arranged for voice, cello guitar, mandolin, various folk whistles and a variety of other folk instruments performed by husband and wife duo Ted and Penny Doe.

Saturday 30 July - 7:30pm

Free Entry - Donations taken on the night



A successful family event was held at Easter, with around 100 children attending with their families, enjoying craft activities, games and an Easter Egg trail which revealed the message 'Jesus is alive'. It is hoped that the church can build on this with events in the summer currently being planned in conjunction with local youth workers.

More recently, the monthly lunch club for older folk celebrated the Platinum Jubilee with a ukulele band and afternoon tea.

Prayer Points

- That although we are small in number, God will give us the motivation and energy we need as we serve him in this area.
- That we will continue to have opportunities to show God's love and build relationships with those in the community.
- For our prayer walk in July and for the activities that are planned for the summer, as we reach out to local families.

Quotes of the Week

"Don't pray that God would teach you how to love like He loves; pray that He would fill you with Himself and that He would love in and through you. Don't pray that He would teach you to have joy; pray that the living God full of joy would enter into you. Don't pray that He would teach you how to be peaceful; ask for the God of peace, the Prince of peace to infill you. Because if you try to imitate in your own strength, you will be a miserable replica. But if you allow the impartation of Jesus Christ to overtake you, suddenly it all works because it is Him imitating Himself, and He is very good at being God."

— Eric Ludy

"The word comfort is from two Latin words meaning "with" and "strong" – He is with us to make us strong. Comfort is not soft, weakening commiseration; it is true, strengthening love."

— Amy Carmichael, Kohila : the shaping of an Indian nurse

There is only one way of victory over the bitterness and rage that comes naturally to us--To will what God wills brings peace."

— Amy Carmichael

"O Thou who art my quietness, my deep repose,
My rest from strife of tongues, my holy hill,
Fair is Thy pavilion, where I hold me still.
Back let them fall from me, my clamorous foes,
Confusions multiplied;
From crowding things of sense I flee, and Thee I hide.
Until this tyranny be overpast,
Thy hand will hold me fast;
What though the tumult of the storm increase,
Grant to Thy servant strength, O Lord, and bless with peace."

— Amy Carmichael, Toward Jerusalem

Amy Beatrice Carmichael 16th December 1867-18th January 1951 was an Irish Christian missionary in India who opened an orphanage and founded a mission in Dohnavur. She served in India for 55 years without furlough and wrote 35 books about the missionary work there.

Opening our homes

Can we respond to the plight of UK children in care in the same way as we did for Ukrainian refugees?

By Rachel Gardner, Director of Partnerships at Youthscape and Ambassador for Home For Good

After the joyous celebrations of the Platinum Jubilee and the elation of being back at church together, many of us are looking to forget the bleakness of the pandemic. It's been a hard time for everyone, and I for one am glad things are getting back to normal. Seeing my children being able to see their friends again brings so much joy to our family. Yet, for thousands of children living in the care system the impact of the pandemic is as real as ever. We are still yet to see and understand the full impact of the pandemic on children and their families. **Evidence** shows that the UK's fostering and adoption service is in crisis. It's estimated that around 8,600 new foster carers are needed over the next year to meet the rising numbers of children coming into care, and currently there are almost 2,000 children in England who are still waiting for an adoptive family. On top of this, one in four children in care are aged 16 and over, and there is a bigger shortage of foster carers willing to care for older teenagers.

As a youth leader, I'm made aware of the need for a safe home and a supportive family to raise a young person on a daily basis. I've worked with many young people who have longed for both and yet not had either. Many children can end up waiting for years for a home where their needs are met. The disruption and uncertainty can be devastating for children in care and have a lasting impact on their lives, including their sense of worth and capacity to form strong and healthy attachments with others. When my husband and I learned we couldn't have birth children and said no to further fertility treatment, we discovered the wonder of growing our family through adoption. We didn't adopt our children because of some theological conviction or direct divine message. We didn't even adopt because we felt it would be the 'Christian' thing to do after infertility. We adopted our children because as we found out more about why they had come into the care system, we were overwhelmed with a desire to do our best to love and raise them to help them reach their full potential.

The compassionate response of the Church to the plight of Ukrainian refugees has highlighted that we

know the importance of a safe and stable home. It's also been a powerful reminder that there are some crises that require more from us than 'just' money or awareness, or even prayer! There are times when we have to respond in ways that take courage, perhaps stepping outside of our comfort zone, rethinking our lifestyles to make space in our hearts to open up our lives and homes to others.

I am convinced that the Church has a powerful part to play in this crisis because it can provide not just families for children, but whole support networks that can gather around families, supporting them practically and emotionally which can make a huge difference when families are encountering challenges.

Jessica* and Thomas* welcomed a foster child into their family in March 2020. As soon as he arrived, he became part of their church community. He would pop into church Zoom calls and learn people's names, and bump into members of the church family in the street, almost always getting offered ice cream! When Jessica and Thomas listed their support network to their social worker, it included almost all the names of their church family. When they celebrated having him with them for one year, the whole church came to a party to celebrate him being part of their church family.

Home for Good and **Festival Manchester** are giving churches the opportunity to step up and be there for and with some of our community's most vulnerable children and young people. Together, they are seeking to find 500 new homes for UK children and teenagers through fostering, adoption and supported lodgings.

Festival Manchester is the biggest Christian mission in the North West in a generation, which culminated in a huge Gospel-centred celebration in Wythenshawe Park at the festival weekend on 1-3 July. Organised by hundreds of churches, businesses and charities The Message Trust and Luis Palau Association, the festival was attended by over 65,000 people from across the North West, with almost 3,500 responding to the gospel.

In championing the role all of us can play in the lives of looked after children, Home For Good and Festival Manchester are helping and supporting us to be the change we need to see, to change the culture in the UK and find a home for every child who needs one. They would love to journey with you to support you in considering how you could be part of the solution.

I can't lie to you and say that adoption has been completely easy. It's a challenging and costly path. We give ourselves to care for these children. But as we've walked this journey, we've met Jesus who stands among the dejected, the hurting, the ignored and raises his voice to tell them that theirs is the Kingdom of God. We champion adoption, fostering and supported lodgings because we want to stand with all children and young people, believing that the path of hope and safety from harm should be

available to all. Every 15 minutes a child comes into the care system. Imagine if the Church could turn that statistic around and to help say that every 15 minutes a child finds a home? We all have a part to play – what could yours be?

To find out more about Festival Manchester's partnership with Home For Good, visit: homeforgood.org.uk/festival-manchester

*Names have been changed to protect privacy

Rachel Gardner is Director of Partnerships at Youthscape and Ambassador for Home For Good
[Source Baptist Times](#)

Treating the Symptoms not the Problem?

Written by Ron Skivington for the Community Scene Harvest 2021.

For our On-line services recently we have been following a series taken from the Old Testament book of Nehemiah. Nehemiah is an interesting character who was sent to Jerusalem to oversee the rebuilding of the city walls in 445 BC after they had been torn down nearly 100 years earlier, a task he completed in 52 days. To me however his far greater achievement came as the region's governor who laid the foundations for a renewing of the nation's spiritual life which had positive knock on effects into every other area. It leads me to ask the question "where are the Nehemiahs in our country today?"

In the history of Israel's Biblical kings, found in the Old Testament books of Kings and Chronicles, as each new king is announced it will say, for example "Asa became king, he reigned in Jerusalem for 41 years, he did right in the eyes of the Lord as David had done" or "Baasha became king and he reigned 24 years, he did evil in the eyes of the Lord committing the same sin Jeroboam had caused Israel to commit." The reason for such a comment was that the style of leadership by the king and his cronies was a significant factor in how the nation fared, its health and welfare and even actual survival or not was heavily influenced by what came from the top and especially related to whether those in power followed the ways and teaching of their God. Historically Israel's times of greatest blessings of peace and prosperity came when God was looked to for wisdom and guidance and their times of greatest distress followed years of ignoring God's wisdom and guidance.

Nehemiah, as a leader, set a high standard for his people to follow in that he wholeheartedly trusted in his God. He was a man who stood his ground, could not be bought, genuinely cared for and fought for the welfare of those under his care especially championing the rights and needs of the poor and marginalised in society, putting their welfare before his own ease and comfort. He didn't ask them to do something he was

not already doing himself or prepared to do first. He also put people in positions of power around him who were of a similar character, who therefore served the people rather than trying to fulfil their own ambitions and egos or plotted behind the scenes to serve their own agendas. Naturally such people did exist, looking to feather their own nests but Nehemiah was wise enough to keep them away from the key appointments.

As we move through yet more and more stages of the pandemic and its after effects as a nation we have, and will have, many serious issues to face, be they health related, economic, social, educational, climatic etc. with groups and factions all clamouring to be heard and it is a healthy part of democracy that we have the freedom to do that.

To my mind, and some may see me as naive, the most serious crisis we face is spiritual and unless that is realised and acknowledged none of the other very serious issues can ever be fully resolved.

If we only treat symptoms the underlying problems still exist and the underlying problem we have is to do with the human heart and its tendency to follow the Baashas of our day.

We need leaders in government, national and local, business, education, health sectors who can be described as "XYZ led well according to what was right in the eyes of the Lord."

We need to pray for those in powerful positions in all sectors of our society that they have a Godly wisdom, hearts of compassion, a sense of right and wrong and the courage of their convictions in serving us for we all reap from the seeds they sow. May they sow good seed. 1 Kings 15:9, 33

Timothy's Prayer

1 Timothy 2:1-7 (MSG)

Simple Faith and Plain Truth

2¹⁻³ The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation. This is the way our Saviour God wants us to live.

4-7 He wants not only us but *everyone* saved, you know, everyone to get to know the truth we've learned: that there's one God and only one, and one Priest-Mediator between God and us—Jesus, who offered himself in exchange for everyone held captive by sin, to set them all free.

Eventually the news is going to get out. This and this only has been my appointed work: getting this news to those who have never heard of God, and explaining how it works by simple faith and plain truth.

