

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 28th August 2022 Service

This Sunday Barbara is leading and Jerry continues the sermon series on 9 Flavours 1 Fruit. Considering the 6th flavour "Goodness" and readings from Galatians 5:22-23, Romans 7:14-25

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

Then click on "Join Our Online Service"

The Structure Of Jerry's Talk

The talk will look at three points, namely;

1. The Meaning of Goodness, 2. The Source of Goodness, and
3. The Struggle with Goodness.

Jerry's Reads

Amos 5:14-15, Luke 18:18-23, Romans 8:28, Romans 12:19-21,
2 Thessalonians 1:11-12, Titus 3:1,4-8 & James 1:14-18.

For Your Prayers

During September please pray for the residents of St Benets Road, St Benets Close and Robert Smith Court.

Lord, as we, as a nation, stumble through the various crises that are putting more and more people into poverty, waiting for NHS operations, waiting for ambulances in emergencies and then queuing in A&E, finding places in care homes, struggling to secure homes to live in, we pray that more and more people will take an interest in politics and voice their views and it will be heard by those leading the country.

Please pray that the families from Ukraine will settle into Stalham and find peace in our fellowship and community.

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember Hilary Hinton.

A Prayer for Mercy from Crosswalk

"Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer." Lord, like David in Psalms 4, we cry out to you as our authority and the author of true mercy. Thank You for being a God of compassion and love. Life is hard enough without constantly being afraid of a God who's out to get me.

Help me see what you want me to see when You don't lift the consequences of my actions. Help me to pay it forward to others when you do. Be that constant voice inside my head and the soothing arms around my heart. Mercy is a gift. Never let me forget to mirror to others the compassion You've shown me.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Monday 22nd August Jerry posted "Please pray for Dorothy Bane. Please pray that Dorothy's eye surgery for the removal of a cataract on her right eye will go ahead on 24th August at Cromer hospital and that her blood pressure will be ok. Thank you."

On Tuesday 23rd Geoff posted "Please pray for Abbie and Ella traveling home from Kazakhstan today. Ella broke her arm in an accident. May their journey go well and they get home safely."

Galatians 3: 1-4 (MSG) Trust in Christ, Not the Law

3 You crazy Galatians! Did someone put a spell on you? Have you taken leave of your senses? Something crazy has happened, for it's obvious that you no longer have the crucified Jesus in clear focus in your lives. His sacrifice on the cross was certainly set before you clearly enough.

2-4 Let me put this question to you: How did your new life begin? Was it by working your heads off to please God? Or was it by responding to God's Message to you? Are you going to continue this craziness? For only crazy people would think they could complete by their own efforts what was begun by God. If you weren't smart enough or strong enough to begin it, how do you suppose you could perfect it? Did you go through this whole painful learning process for nothing? It is not yet a total loss, but it certainly will be if you keep this up!

As Christians how easy is it to slip into thinking, when everything else has failed, I will ask God for help?

Listen to Ron's blog on the passage with a short audio recording (less than 5 minutes) by visiting our [Scripture Reading Plan](#)

Then click on [Public Area](#) then [Scripture Reading Plan](#).



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington
01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno
07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon
07951949128

Ministry Team:

The Whole Fellowship

For your Diary

Bank Holiday Monday 29th August

7.00pm Deacons Meeting
10.30 to 11.30am in the Church
Prayers for SBC and young people

Tuesday 30th August

9.30am -12 in the Stables
Coffee and Chat

Wednesday 31st August

9.30am -12 in the School Room
Table Tennis

Thursday 1st September

7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting
Details in online Diary

Friday 2nd September

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

Sunday 5th September

10.45 Sunday Service

Flowers: Barbara Reynolds

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.

Harvest Festival

Can you decorate a window?

Harvest Festival is on Sunday 25th September with the Harvest Supper on Tuesday 27th. If you could help by decorating a window, please sign the list on the noticeboard at the back of the church. It would be good to have as much variety as possible. Again, this year all the tins and fresh produced decorating the stage will be donated to the Foodbank and the fresh flowers and produce will be auctioned at Tuesday's supper.

Harvest Supper, Quiz and Auction

Starting at 6.30 pm the cost will be £6.00 please let Elaine know if you are joining us on 07796875785 or elainemsmith364@btinternet.com. Elaine could do with a helping hand and also with some desserts. We will again be supporting the BMS appeal which this year is called "Good land" helping transform the village of Ghusel in Nepal. More details on page 4.

Gunton Baptist Church Invitation

After hosting friends from Gunton recently at SBC they have reciprocated by inviting us to share lunch and fellowship with them on Saturday 10th of September from 12.30 for a 1.00pm lunch. If you would like to go please let either Diana or Ron know by the 28th August.

National Day of Prayer on 16th September

Please put this date in your diary and remember to join with others in praying for our Nation. The church will be open between 10am to 4pm for folk to come in and pray, more details later. 2 Chronicles 7: v14 says "If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Please put your name on the chart on the table at the back of the church if they can man the church for a 1 hour slot between 10am to 4pm. Jan Nicholson.

Barbara Mixer Yard Sale

On Monday 29th August (Bank holiday) Hickling are having a Yard Sale. Barbara Mixer is going to enter, and the money raised will go towards Stalham Baptist Church Building fund. You will find them in Mallard Way NR12 0YU. If anyone has anything they would like to donate for the Sale, please contact Barbara on 01692 598502.

EBA Prayer Focus 28th August 2022

Oasis Community Church

Brightlingsea is a coastal town in Essex situated between Colchester and Clacton-on-Sea, at the mouth of the River Colne. Brightlingsea is a self-contained town with a strong community spirit and varied population. And this is where you will find the Oasis Community Church which meets on Sundays in the local community centre.

During lockdown the church continued to meet weekly on Zoom but are now back to meeting in-person again. There has been steady growth over the past few years and about 25 people now gather each Sunday morning to worship together. There is a variety of backgrounds and ages represented, and a few children who attend, but plans are in hand for new outreach to children and families.

Services are usually led by a variety of guest speakers from different backgrounds, together with nurturing and developing talents from within the fellowship. The leadership team provide spiritual

support and practical assistance.

The church has been without a pastor for a while since the previous pastor retired but are actively in the settlement process looking for someone new. There is a 24 hour prayer clock on the first of each month to pray specifically for a new minister and the needs of the church and the town.

During the week there is a prayer meeting one week and Bible-based house groups on alternate weeks. The prayer triplets, which first met on Zoom during lockdown as a way of keeping people together, continue to meet monthly.

The recent Brightlingsea Regatta drew large crowds to the town and the church had a marquee in a prominent location which featured a team from Christian charity "Tough Talk" demonstrating powerlifting.

Please pray for:

- The church and leaders as they seek a new pastor and meet regularly to pray about this.
- For growth in the fellowship and the development of plans to reach out to children.
- That people will be released into their ministries and their talents will be unlocked.

Music-Music: Dates

'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 on Saturday September 17th doors open at 6.30pm. Entry will be free and donations for the Schoolroom Refurbishment gladly received.

On Saturday November 5th Greg's band 'Bar Room Blues' will be performing, doors open at 6.30pm, again entry will be free.

Monday Prayers

Please join those on a Monday at SBC from 10.30 to 11.30am praying for SBC and young people.

Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"For God is good - or rather, of all goodness He is the Fountainhead." — **Athanasius of Alexandria**,

"What quality do we see in someone when we say—

"He is a really good man," or "she is a really good woman"? I think one key thing would be integrity—an absence of any kind of guile or deception. Truly good people are WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get). They are in reality all they appear to be. Their words and behaviour on the outside matches what is going on inside. There is no sham or pretence. When they do good, it is not just some kind of playacting to get a good name, or a good photo-op, or a good sound bite. Good people do what they do simply because it is the right thing to do."

--**Christopher Wright** *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*, pg 98.

"You are writing a "gospel", a chapter each day, By the deeds that you do, by the words that you say; Men read what you write, whether faithless or pure, Say, what is the "gospel" according to you?— **Paul Gilbert**

"Good" people are those who resist the temptation to take the easy way out of a tough situation. Even when it is difficult or dangerous to do the right thing, they do it anyway. They persevere in doing what they know to be right, no matter what the consequences. For that reason, good people are usually also courageous, and sometimes they do indeed pay a heavy price for their integrity.

--**Christopher Wright** *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*, pg 101.

"Only God is good. We can make good works, we can be called good folks, We can do good, but we cannot be good."

--**Mac Canoza**

**"Be the reason someone smiles.
Be the reason someone feels
loved and believes in the
goodness in people."**



Out of Egypt – A Band with a Mission

'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 on Saturday September 17th doors open at 6.30pm. Entry will be free and donations for the Schoolroom Refurbishment gladly received.

The following article was published in the Harvest Edition of Community Scene in 2019

Out of Egypt is a Gospel Band that formed in October last year, initially, coming together to take part in a concert held at Stalham Baptist Church. It seemed a waste to work so hard for a single night, so they decided they'd ask for invitations to play at nearby churches of any denomination, with any money raised shared between the host and Stalham Baptist Church

Since forming, the band has played at a mid-week inter-denominational Christian meeting, a number of school assemblies, Stalham Fringe Festival, a prison and a church. They've been approached to play at a sheltered housing scheme on the Suffolk border and there is talk of playing at a mission week in Essex next year.

Their first CD "Cry Holy" was recorded in April as a demo to send to people considering booking them, it is also available to buy at their concerts. Snippets from it can be heard on their web site, (www.outofegypt.org.uk) as can an interview broadcast on Faithful Radio, a locally based Internet radio station.

At an Out of Egypt concert you can expect much banter from the band with humour at each other's expense and to be encouraged to sing along with traditional songs. For less familiar songs you'll be taught the words.

You'll learn a bit about the songs you hear. With an old spiritual it may be the Bible verses that inspired it. While, for another, it could be what Gary, the band's guitarist, had in mind when he wrote it. For example, of "Egyptian Sand" he says, "I wrote it about 20 years ago. It's about how hard it is to be a Christian."

An important date for the band is Saturday 12 October. "It's our anniversary concert. We'll be celebrating our first year together," says Greg. "We plan it to be a good example of what we have to offer, with songs old and new, Bible readings and testimonies."



Left to right in the photo are:

Simone Otieno: (Fiddle - Backing Vocals) is a classically trained violinist. She says "Playing with 'Out of Egypt' means I can improvise and try new things, whilst still being able to play songs that are about God and faith."

Greg Chapman: (Harmonica, Banjo, Slide Guitar, Backing Vocals) played semi - professionally in the 70's, returning to the music circuit 9 years ago, playing with a blues band as well as 'Out of Egypt'. He says "I have always loved the early spirituals and gospel songs and like to encourage audience participation to make them feel part of what we do."

Diana Gordon: (Vocals) played guitar and sang at local gospel missions in her youth. She returned to her love of singing when she moved to Norfolk 7 years ago. She says, "It has been a joy to return to singing gospel and I feel blessed to being able to sing with Out of Egypt".

Gary Cunningham: (Guitar, Vocals) writes songs and he spent several years on tour in the UK, Europe and the USA with Christian bands. He says, "One thing I picked up is that people all over the world have the same questions about God, the Bible and Jesus". He is looking forward to the future with 'Out of Egypt' and says "I have gone back to my roots and it feels good."

Steve Smith (Bass) plays in another band and also plays drums in the church. He says, "It's the fellowship we have with each other that I enjoy when playing with Out of Egypt."

Many of the band members are an integral part of SBC's Sunday services alongside other musicians keyboard, guitar, saxophone, drums and other singers.

For more information about Out of Egypt go to www.outofegypt.org.uk





It is estimated that 75% of all blindness is avoidable. That means 3/4 people who are blind don't need to be.

Put simply, millions of people around the world are needlessly blind because they can't get simple surgery or treatment that could save their sight. And too often, if you live in a poor community, going blind means losing your chance to go to school, earn a living or live independently.

CBM works across the world's poorest countries to prevent avoidable blindness and restore sight.

People living in poverty with disability are the world's poorest people. We transform the lives of people with disability, their families and communities in the poorest places of the world.

Every year, we help over 20 million people living with and at risk of disabilities in more than 48 countries worldwide.

To find out how our work changes lives read some of the [stories of our work](#).

"The eyelashes are always scratching my eye and it makes it difficult to do any work. It is very painful... But when you pull out your eyelashes, they multiply. At first there is one hair, then they double."

Dinknesh Story

Dinknesh lives in a tiny village nestled in the hills of northern Ethiopia, East Africa, where spikey cacti line the fields. The 38-year-old lives with her husband and their three children in a small traditional home. Dinknesh cooks over the fire outdoors. Beyond the low stone wall behind her home, there is a pit latrine, and a field where a few goats



are grazing.

In this rural environment, flies are everywhere. They carry bacteria that causes a condition called trachoma. Trachoma is an extremely painful disease and the main cause of blindness by infection globally. It is one of a group of diseases known as Neglected Tropical Diseases, or NTDs, which primarily affect the world's poorest people.

After years of repeated infection, trachoma slowly caused Dinknesh's eyelids to turn inwards and scrape against the eye. Every blink became agonising. Dinknesh resorted to pulling out her eyelashes with a werento- a small pair of tweezers. She found it too painful to pull out her own eyelashes so her sister would help. But the relief is short-lived: "When you pull out your eyelashes with a werento, they multiply. At first there is one hair, then they double," says Dinknesh

Cooking also became a major challenge as the smoke irritated Dinknesh's eyes: "I can't see or do anything if there is smoke. To prepare food is difficult," she told us.

The turning-in of eyelashes can be surgically corrected before it causes permanent damage to the eye and, ultimately, blindness. But in this remote, rural community, access to treatment can seem impossible.

But thanks to CBM supporters, a treatment team visited Dinknesh's community, bringing a skilled surgeon and team to reach people like her. They set up at a CBM supported government health post, less than a kilometre from her home. Dinknesh was surprised when the health extension workers in her community told her the surgery would be performed at the local clinic – and delighted to hear that she would not have to pay, as most healthcare is not free in Ethiopia.

"I did not expect to receive healthcare for free, so I am very happy! I know somebody paid for my surgery: May God bless them."

Just thirty minutes after the operation, Dinknesh leaves the clinic with a bandage over her eye and walks home. It is a minor procedure, but the impact for Dinknesh is huge.

Four days later, her sister tells us: "Before, I would feel sad when I'd have to pick out her eyelashes. But now she is doing well and doesn't need me to do that anymore. I am so happy".

"I am feeling better already", says Dinknesh. "I am so thankful for what has been done for me".

For more info about CBM click [HERE](#).