

# Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 25th September 2022 Service

## Harvest Festival

This Sunday Jerry is leading and preaching,  
reading from John 15: 1-12, "Bearing Fruit for God"

The online service will also be available from Sunday. Go to [www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/)

Then click on "Join Our Online Service"

### Jerry's Reads

Isaiah 5:1-7, Luke 13:6-9, John 15:1-27, Heb 12:6, 10-11.

### For Your Prayers

During October please pray for the residents of **Broadbeach Gardens**.

Lord, USA President Joe Biden in his speech to the UN on Wednesday stated that 193 million people in the world were suffering acute food deprivation and parents have to decide which child to feed. **We pray Lord in a world that produces more than 1 1/2 times enough food to feed everyone on the planet** that those in power will ensure that everyone is fed.

**Prayer from Tearfund.** We thank you, God, for the gift of food – for how it brings us together and nourishes us. We pray for those without, whose harvests are poor and whose store cupboards are empty. Help us work together to share the world's resources so that everyone can be fed. Lord of the Harvest, hear our prayers.

Lord give wisdom and boldness to our leaders, inspire them to prioritise the needs of people living in poverty – to not to revert back to the status quo. Lord, use their gifts and talents so they can make a difference and enact laws that create a fairer world.

Bring your wisdom Lord to those who surround Vladimir Putin as the war in Ukraine appears to be turning against him and his rhetoric becomes aggressive and threatening.

Dear God, please give us strength when we are weak, love when we feel forsaken, courage when we are afraid, wisdom when we feel foolish, comfort when we are alone, hope when we feel rejected, and peace when we are in turmoil. Amen.

When evil darkens our world, give us light. When despair numbs our souls, give us hope. When we stumble and fall, lift us up. When doubts assail us, give us faith.

When nothing seems sure, give us trust. When ideals fade, give us vision. When we lose our way, be our guide! That we may find serenity in Your presence, and purpose in doing Your will. — John D. Rayner

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

### Virtual Prayer Room

**On Friday 16th September** David posted "Kjell passed away at midnight please pray for his family who were at his bed side."

Diana posted "Sad to hear this. He is resting in the arms of Jesus. Heartfelt prayers for his family."

**On Wednesday 21st September** Jerry posted from Janet N " Please pray for Peter Bane, who has had a fall and had stitches on his face. Thank you."

To join the WhatsApp Virtual Prayer Room that gives support with the power of prayer WhatsApp site text Jerry on 07733837687. You will need a smart phone.

### Reading John 4:34-38 (MSG) Harvesting the Field

<sup>34-35</sup> Jesus said, "The food that keeps me going is that I do the will of the One who sent me, finishing the work he started. As you look around right now, wouldn't you say that in about four months it will be time to harvest? Well, I'm telling you to open your eyes and take a good look at what's right in front of you. These Samaritan fields are ripe. It's harvest time!

<sup>36-38</sup> "The Harvester isn't waiting. He's taking his pay, gathering in this grain that's ripe for eternal life. Now the Sower is arm in arm with the Harvester, triumphant. That's the truth of the saying, 'This one sows, that one harvests.' I sent you to harvest a field you never worked. Without lifting a finger, you have walked in on a field worked long and hard by others."

**As Christians do we look at the field and convince ourselves that this isn't the time to harvest?**

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.

If you are reading this newsletter as a PDF online you can click on the red highlighted links and you'll be taken to the relevant websites.



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

### For your Diary

#### Monday 26th September

2.30pm "Warm Church" Meeting  
in the Stables

7.00pm Deacons Meeting

#### Tuesday 27th September

Coffee and Chat

9.30am -12 in the Stables

6.30pm Harvest Supper

in the Stables

#### Wednesday 28th September

Table Tennis

9.30am -12 in the School Room

#### Thursday 29th September

2.00pm Messy Church planning  
meeting in the church

7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting  
Details in online Diary

#### Friday 30th September

10.15 Prayer for Revival

Three Windows, Brumstead Road

1.15-3pm Foodbank in Stables

#### Sunday 2nd October

10.45 Sunday Service

Flowers: Susannah Pegg

#### Sunday 9th October

Church Meeting 12pm

#### Friday 14th October

6.00pm 24 hour Snooker building  
fund raiser at Edna's home

#### Saturday 15th October

8.30am Men's Breakfast

in the Stables

#### 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



## Harvest Supper, Quiz and Auction

Starting at 6.30 pm on 27th September in the Stables. The cost will be £6.00. Please let Elaine know if you are joining us on 07796875785 or [elainemsmith364@btinternet.com](mailto:elainemsmith364@btinternet.com). We will again be supporting the BMS appeal which this year is called "Good land" helping transform the village of Ghusel in Nepal.

## Monday Club

We hope to restart our Monday after-school Club for primary school children, but to ensure we can run it properly, we need more volunteers to help. Please speak to Jerry for more details.

## Warm Church

As several have mentioned the possibility of us as a church creating some sort of "warm space" over the winter months we are holding a meeting on Monday 26th 2.30pm in the Stables [kitchen end] to discuss the best ways forward. All welcome.

## Men's Breakfast

There will be a Men's Breakfast on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October in The Stables at 8-30am. No fixed charge, donations appreciated, all profits to BMS to benefit our 24/7 Partners at Guinebor2 in Chad.

Cereal & fruit juice will be followed by a cooked breakfast, similar to the one pictured, with plenty of tea/coffee and toast available too.



This is a new opportunity for the menfolk of SBC to gather together in fellowship with one another and also to invite a friend or neighbour to come along with you. Jesus was often seen sharing in hospitality.

To book your place(s) email [geoffreynolds51@gmail.com](mailto:geoffreynolds51@gmail.com), phone 01692 672120 or speak to Geoff.

(It helps catering to have at least an idea how many folk are coming, thanks!)

## 24 Hour Snooker Marathon

Would you like to take part in a 24 hour snooker marathon at Edna's to raise money for the building fund? Snooker will start at 6.00pm Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and finish at 6.00pm Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>. The 24 hours will be broken up into 6 hour blocks. Refreshments will be available. If you would like to take part have a chat with Edna or Henry on 01692-581529.

## Baptism

Gracie Nicholson will be Baptised on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October. It has been a long time since our last Baptism. If you have Baptism on your mind have a chat with Ron.

## Craft Fayre

Edna, Barbara Mixer and Henry are planning a craft fayre for December 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> in the Schoolroom to raise money for the building fund.

They are still in the planning stage so if you have any ideas have a chat with them.

## EBA Prayer Focus 18th September 2022 Potter Street Baptist Church

Sat on the western edge of the EBA's Essex boundary is Potter Street Baptist Church in Harlow. The church is located in a fairly poor neighbourhood and seeks to engage its community with a range of activities throughout the week.

These include children's groups such as Tots at Play and both Boys' and Girls' Brigades, lunch clubs, coffee mornings, events for seniors, and a healthy collection of house groups. Thankfully the pandemic has not affected the attendance of any of these activities, as they began to restart earlier this year. Earlier this summer a group went to Devon for the church's

annual holiday, with 40 already booked to attend next year's trip to Eastbourne.

As the church considers the likely effects of the cost of living crisis, they are looking into new ways to serve their neighbours, grateful for the high level of participation among members. Potter Street has been led for 21 years by Revd. Alison Taylor, who also has oversight for the congregation at nearby Church Langley – an Anglican-Baptist LEP. They have been greatly encouraged recently by a significant answer to prayer, which has resulted in them being able to work more closely with the Anglicans at Church Langley.

Together the churches are looking to appoint an experienced children, families and young people's worker, who can expand the existing work with local families, such as those 40 or so who recently attended the church's holiday club. This year's theme was 'People Jesus Met' which proved popular among the largely unchurched attendees.

## Prayer Points

- As we work more closely with Church Langley in ministry and mission, pray for God's guidance for the future.
- Pray for the search for a new youth, families and children's worker.
- Pray that we might grow disciples that make disciples.

## Church Meeting

The next church meeting will take place on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 12.00pm following the morning service.

## Food Bank

During September, any of the following would be much appreciated:

Long Life Milk – full fat or semi-skimmed, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Vegetables, Pasta Sauce, Rice Pudding, Pot Noodles/ Mugshots, Squash/Fruit Juice, Laundry Liquid, Washing Up Liquid, Shampoo, Deodorant, Toilet Rolls

## Quotes of the Week

"The gardener never stops caring for his vine, and God never stops caring for his children. His disposition toward us is always mercy and love. There is often more of his blessing in things we regard as evil than things we regard as good. Pain may be better for us than pleasure. Loss may enrich us more than gain. Sorrow may equip us more fully than joy. The vine must be pruned if it is to bear fruit that is abundant and sweet."—Tim Challies

"There will be times when it will feel like God is killing you. There will be times when it feels like he's pruning you far too harshly. The blades will be very sharp. But Jesus wants you to see that the person holding them is unfailingly kind and good." — Sam Allberry

"God is a gardener and we are branches under his care. He looks after us with all the attentiveness of a gardener who longs to see his vine bear fruit. He tends us, he nourishes us, and when necessary, he prunes us. And though we do not welcome those times when pains cut deep into our souls, we have this confidence: No hand but his ever holds the shears. If it is our loving gardener who does the pruning, we can be sure there are never any unwise or careless cuts. Though we may not know why this branch has had to be trimmed or that one removed, we do know the one who wields the blade. We know his faultless wisdom, his perfect vision, his steady hand. We know he makes no mistakes." —Tim Challies

"It is of no use for any of you to try to be soul-winners if you are not bearing fruit in your own lives. How can you serve the Lord with your lips if you do not serve Him with your lives? How can you preach His gospel with your tongues, when with hands, feet, and heart you are preaching the devil's gospel, and setting up an antichrist by your practical unholiness?"—Charles Spurgeon.





*Leprosy defeated, lives transformed*

## A statement on the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II - 1926-2022

*"I share with my colleagues around the globe a deep sadness on the passing of Her Majesty the Queen.*

*The Queen has been a much loved and respected figure in the countries in which we serve across Asia and Africa. Throughout her reign, she was someone who modelled patience and kindness, always putting the people she served ahead of her own importance. This is a beautiful characteristic and one to be admired and replicated if we are to make this world a better place.*

*Like our former Patron, Diana Princess of Wales, the Queen always took an active interest in the issues faced by people affected by leprosy, supporting leprosy work throughout her reign. In her actions she demonstrated a passion for alleviating poverty and a need to reach out to the most marginalised people on earth.*

*What inspires me most of Her Majesty's extraordinary 70-year reign, however, is her deep Christian faith. Some have even described her as England's greatest evangelist. Jesus was always at the very heart of her Christmas messages that were watched each year by millions around the world. Her Majesty was a true model of servant heartedness to both her country and the Commonwealth. But first of all she was a servant of Jesus Christ.*

*We offer our deepest condolences to her family and pray for the future of our monarchy."*

Peter Waddup Chief Executive of the Leprosy Mission

## A new lifesaving Trauma and Emergency Centre for Nepal's flagship leprosy hospital

A new centre housing an A&E department, maternity unit, paediatric department and a critical care unit has opened at Anandaban Hospital in Nepal, after an overwhelming response to The Leprosy Mission's UK Aid Match appeal in 2019, has made plans for the state-of-the-art facility a reality.

The UK public took the [Heal Nepal campaign](#) to find and cure new leprosy patients in Nepal and care for them at Anandaban Hospital to their hearts.

So much so that enough money was raised to make the long-term dream of a Trauma and Emergency Centre at Anandaban possible. This was in addition

to running the medical outreach and patient care programme which the UK government awarded UK Aid Match funding for. The three-month appeal saw every pound donated matched by the UK government.

Money from the American Leprosy Missions and US Aid also helped pay for the construction of the new earthquake-proof building. A generous grant from the Haverstock Charitable Trust in Guernsey paid for the construction of four wards, while Guernsey's Overseas Aid & Development Commission paid for an eco-friendly waste water system.

On Sunday, 18 September, the Minister of Health and Population for Nepal, Mr Bhawani Prasad Khapung, opened the new Trauma and Emergency Centre.

He said: "This has been a great occasion, enabling me to learn about Anandaban Hospital. I'm very impressed by this new facility. This hospital is fundamental not just for people affected by leprosy but for all the people of the area. I am extremely grateful to the donors for their support."



## On the frontline during times of crisis

Sian Arulanantham, Head of Programmes at The Leprosy Mission was in Kathmandu for the 13th Annual Neglected Tropical Disease Conference. She was delighted to attend the special opening ceremony.

Sian said: "It will be such an emotional day for patients, staff, visitors and all involved. Anandaban Hospital and its amazing staff have been a God-send to both leprosy patients and the vast surrounding community in recent years.

Before the devastating earthquakes of 2015, Anandaban was a little hospital tucked away in the Himalayas. It was a place where people with a much-feared disease were sent to. Somewhere where they are loved and cared for.

Amid the devastation that followed the 2015 earthquakes, however, the hospital's team were on the frontline. They worked day and night sharing their clinical skills and compassion helping 18,000

earthquake victims. The incredible effort saw the Nepali government designate Anandaban an emergency response centre.

Then came Covid and, once again, the medical team were at the forefront. They rolled out the vaccine to almost 10,000 people in 2021, either at Anandaban or by providing outreach to the surrounding communities.

Anandaban Hospital will always be The Leprosy Mission's flagship specialist leprosy hospital. Helping people affected by leprosy, some of the world's most marginalised people, is the reason it exists.

## Meeting the needs of the community

"Excitingly, however, we are now able to meet the clinical needs of the surrounding community. Anandaban is located more than an hour's drive from the nearest government hospital. So we are delighted that the new Trauma and Emergency Centre houses a maternity unit as well as a paediatric unit. With many women left to give birth without medical care at home this is such an essential and lifesaving facility.

It is frightening for us in the UK to comprehend not having access to emergency medicine. Staff working in the new 24-hour A&E department will undoubtedly save countless lives. There are also emergency wards and a critical care unit as well as an X-ray department.

The new facility will provide many thousands of people in Nepal with the medical care they deserve. At the same time, the new facility will strengthen leprosy services making them more sustainable. We can never thank the UK public enough for making this incredible centre possible."

Article 25 designed and managed the construction of the new Trauma and Emergency Centre. The humanitarian architecture charity began work on the centre in the aftermath of the 2015 earthquakes. The earthquakes, which killed 9,000 people, caused extensive damage to the buildings on the Anandaban Hospital site.

Although building work began in May 2019, there have been unavoidable delays. This was a result of Covid-19 lockdown restrictions preventing construction workers from being able to travel to the site.

Gemma Holding is Managing Director of London-based Article 25. She said: "The Trauma and Emergency Centre is designed and constructed to rigorous safety standards. This is necessary so that it

can withstand and continue providing medical services and injured people in an earthquake zone.

There is natural ventilation in the patient rooms and the building uses rainwater



harvesting. The new building is completely accessible for wheelchairs and hospital trolleys.

We are thrilled to continue our work in Nepal with the Leprosy Mission and have begun designing Anandaban Research Centre. This new facility will enable groundbreaking research to continue to help end leprosy globally."

Photo credit: Tom Bradley

## Leprosy Mission Christmas catalogue.

Once again, this year I'll be happy to send in orders for items from the Leprosy Mission Autumn/Winter [Christmas!] catalogue. They've contacted me to suggest I ask folk to look at the catalogue online via <https://www.theleprosymissionshop.com/interactive-catalogue> though I have asked for some printed catalogues too as I know we're not all online [and I prefer browsing a paper copy!] If you have been sent a catalogue and would be happy to give it to me once you've decided on your own items this may speed up the process! Orders sent via me [Barbara Reynolds -the church "trading partner"] will save you postage and also make a donation towards church funds (in many cases 20% of your order.) They do ask that I send in requests for items totalling £50 or more so I'll gather your orders together until that total is reached. I'll put order forms at the back of the church [for using with the online or printed catalogue] and let's see how this new system works!

## Prayers For Ukraine

God of Mercy,  
We pray for Ukraine.

For all of humanity distorted by war.

For all the lives lost, homes seized and peace broken.

May the Spirit of comfort and compassion envelop all who dwell in fear.

May the Spirit of wisdom and humility enliven our global leaders.

May we affirm the dignity and rights of all.

May we seek peace.

Amen.

### A CAFOD prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,

that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,

for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world

that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways

so that peace and justice

become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world. Amen.