

# Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 9th October 2022 Service

This Sunday Ron is leading and preaching,  
reading from John 5:39-40, 6:30-36, 41-51 The Theme is "Believing"

This Sunday. Gracie Nicholson is going to be Baptised  
Church Meeting at 12noon. No Teas & Coffee this week

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"

## Ron's Reads

Lk 24:27f

## For Your Prayers

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

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **Teresa Jones-Ince**

*Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer.*

Lord of all, we pray for the healing of the nations, for the forgiveness of past sins and for the opportunity of new beginnings. We bring before you countries broken by war, hatred and suspicion, for those driven out of their land and homes by violence. We pray that animosity may be exchanged for trust and love. Strengthen those you have called to speak out, who challenge injustice, apathy and untruth, for those who campaign for the well-being of your people and your world. As we remember that Christ suffers with all humanity, may we all continually be filled with your vision for peace. Source St Andrew Holy Cross.

Father, we give thanks for the fellowship of SBC, for groups that meet to pray for healing, local, UK and world events, for our own prayers, the WhatsApp virtual prayer room and those taking part in bible studies. We give thanks for those who volunteer to keep so much happening at SBC.

We pray for those who are sick or struggling at this time whether in body, mind, or spirit: for the exhausted, the weary, for those who can no longer cope on their own. We pray for families and individuals who are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis and those are now facing mortgage rates that are rocketing. We pray for the broken-hearted and the lonely. We pray that we can help those in the community with the "Warm Church" project and show "Christianity in Action" and we pray they can find their way to Your love.

## Virtual Prayer Room

**On Thursday 6th October** David posted "Please pray for Anna who is due to undergo heart surgery on the 10th at Great Ormond Street Hospital . Pray also for Jerry and Simone and the family.

On the same day David posted "Please pray for Gracie who is being baptised on Sunday.

## Reading Romans 13:1-7 (NIV) Governing Authorities

13 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup> Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup> For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup> This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup> Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honour, then honour.

*As Christians are there times when we should stand up and challenge authority when people are suffering?*

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

**Monday 10th October**

7.00pm Deacons Meeting

**Tuesday 11th October**

Coffee and Chat

9.30am -12 in the Stables

7.00pm Bible Study at Jenny Payne's

**Wednesday 12th October**

Table Tennis

9.30am -12 in the School Room

**Thursday 13th October**

7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting

Details in online Diary

**Friday 14th October**

10.15 Prayer for Revival

Three Windows, Brumstead Road

1.15-3pm Foodbank in Stables

**Saturday 15th October**

8.30am Men's Breakfast  
in the Stables

**Sunday 16th October**

10.45 Sunday Service

Flowers: Jane Dalton

Welcome: Magdalena & Dan

**Thursday 20th October**

3.15pm Messy Church in the Chapel

## 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 07826 376343, or contact Ron Skivington at minister [@stalhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:@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.

## Can You Help with "Warm Church" We are hoping to launch it on Monday 17th

We hope to open the stables over the winter months as a warm space so people can come and have a cuppa, enjoy a chat, make new friends, play board games even.

It will be open to all who wish to come but we need volunteers to help make drinks and be a friendly face.

We will open alongside the Community Fridge on Monday afternoons and Wednesday & Thursday mornings. On Thursday we will extend the open time as we will serve soup between 12.00-2.00pm.

If you can help staff it or occasionally provide soup, please speak to Ron or Diana.

### Men's Breakfast with John Leaf



There will be a Men's Breakfast on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October in The Stables at 8-30am. John Leaf will be the guest speaker. There will be 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.

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!)

### Have You a Favourite Verse?

Do you have a favourite short verse you would like to share. Fran says "this is my favourite verse that I kept repeating to myself when I did the Comino Pilgrimage walk, in 2018"

**Isaiah 40:31 (New International Version)**

<sup>31</sup> but those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

Email your favourite short verse to David  
[davidfchild@gmail.com](mailto:davidfchild@gmail.com)

### 24 Hour Snooker Marathon

The 24 hour marathon has been cancelled as we did not have enough people to cover the 24 hours.

### Craft Fayre

Edna, Barbara Mixer and Henry are planning a craft fayre for December 8th-9th-10th 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. Or give Edna a call on 01692 582633

### EBA Prayer Focus 9th October 2022 Wymondham Baptist Church

Wymondham is a market town to the south-west of Norwich and is presently led by its Minister, Paul Smith. There has been a Baptist Church in Wymondham for around 400 years but this small church has been led to take a very contemporary approach to engage its local community, particularly through the vision the Lord give them to establish the Roots Community Cafe. The EBA and Home Mission recently produced a video on how vision turned into reality in order to help inspire others to discover the vision the Lord has for their church and to be prepared to be both creative and courageous as they are led by him.

There is a short trailer to introduce Wymondham Baptist Church <https://youtu.be/fq9YvqMikJU> and an eleven minute feature video. <https://youtu.be/gmO86FKifA8>. The continuing work of Roots Community Cafe and the ministry of Wymondham Baptist Church is supported by Home Mission and there is a page on the Baptists Together website with more information and group study notes to help stimulate prayer and discussion as to the vision God has for our own churches. [https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/631926/Creativity\\_and\\_Courage.aspx](https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/631926/Creativity_and_Courage.aspx)

Paul Smith Writes:

"Following on from the launch of our vision we are excited to see God continuing to build us as his people for the community around us. In recent months we have seen exponential growth with our membership expanding and the attendance to our Sunday morning service increasing in number on a near weekly basis.

Our community cafe, Roots, is well supported and is a fantastic outreach for us and we have recently re-established our Cafe church sessions that we host at six week intervals instead of a more traditional morning service after we paused them due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Going forward we are excited to see new plans we have for our physical buildings to bring us to a better place to carry out our vision and ministries. We are seeking funding opportunities in order to be able to go forward. This will present a huge challenge to us but we believe it is the direction God is leading us in."

Prayer points

We, like so many other smaller churches struggle with our volunteer base as we seem to pull from the same small numbers every week.

We would like to see some younger people join us who would have the time to help take us forward.

Our prayers are that we stay in step with God and that we don't go off on our own path, especially with regards to the building project.

We continue to see growth and have wisdom in discipling those who choose to join us.

### Quotes of the Week

"...Their problem was not that they failed to believe in God; it was that they did not know God; *it was that they did not know God*. It took only one generation for that knowledge to be lost. But it's also true that what can be lost in one generation can also be restored in one generation"

— *Colin S. Smith,*

"The habit of trusting God - could there be such a thing? Could such a habit be a lifeline when tribulations swept over you? Could you hang on to it during the worst of the storm without seeing any evidence that it was real? And then when the strongest waves and winds of sorrow had passed, could you realise that what you had held in your hands all along was genuine, that it was your means of rescue?"

— *Jamie Langston Turner,*

"Worry is the only CURRENCY that steals your total dependence on God, it is the transaction that leaves you in the debt called DEFEAT; it is the broken wall that keeps you defenseless against your enemies"

— *Dr Ikoghene S. Aashikpelokhai*

"Thank you God for this new day. Thank you for the gifts and talents you have given me. Right now, I want to stop for a moment to give you praise for what you have done, what you are doing, and for the blessings ahead. Amen."

— *Germany Kent*



# Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Appeal

Why not prepare a standard size shoe box to pack for a boy or girl and fill with fun toys, hygiene items school supplies? A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out is eternal. Be part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift. After sharing the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus said "Go and do likewise." That is the mission of Gospel. So let's not pass by on the other side.

For more information: Contact Magda Nicholls on 01692 580002 Go to [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/) for more information.

Details of the collection of boxes at St Mary's and the date of the service has of yet to be finalised. At the back of the church is a leaflet with lots of information.

## Samaritan's Purse Who We Are

After sharing the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus said "Go and do likewise." That is the mission of Samaritan's Purse – to follow the example of Christ by helping those in need and proclaiming the hope of the Gospel.

Samaritan's Purse is an international relief and development organisation that works through local churches to proclaim and demonstrate the love of God amongst communities in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. We are part of the global

Samaritan's Purse family that has been providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world since 1970. Samaritan's Purse also has offices in the [USA](#), [Canada](#), [Germany](#), [Australia](#) and [Korea](#).

You may have come across our Operation Christmas Child initiative, which thousands of churches, schools and businesses across the UK are already part of. Alongside sending shoeboxes overseas, we respond in a distinctly Christian way to issues facing people in the places where we work: issues like [water and sanitation](#) and [sustainable livelihoods](#) along with [disasters and emergencies](#).

## OUR DISTINCTIVES

We believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We're

committed to seeing this Gospel shared in the form of both words (that can change spiritual circumstances) and acts of mercy (that can change physical circumstances).

Where possible, we work through local churches – seeing them as God's chosen instrument to bring hope to a hurting world. We work to raise them up to bring lasting hope to people in impoverished communities around our world.

We choose to work in partnership – which is why we are always looking to inspire and encourage others to join with us in being part of God's global mission. We know that each individual can bring their own talents, gifts and unique contribution – no matter how small – to this great work to which we have been called.

## OUR VISION

Our vision is to see transformation – of both individual lives and whole communities. We long to see people restored in their relationship with God and with each other and for their circumstances to be turned around.



## OUR GLOBAL MISSION STATEMENT

Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organisation providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and

famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ. The organisation serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

For more information go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/>





# Open Doors

60 years of serving persecuted Christians

05 October 2022

## Iran: “We are hopeful for change” – Open Doors stands in solidarity with protestors

As thousands of women and men in Iran take part in protests after the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, Iranian Christians ask the global church to be their voice and to pray for the nation.

In the wake of the protests in Iran surrounding the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, Open Doors – along with members of the Iranian Christian diaspora in the UK – condemns the ‘systematic oppression of women and the widespread violation of human rights in Iran’.

Mahsa was detained by the country's morality police for wearing ‘improper’ hijab and fell into a coma on 13 September while in police custody. She died in hospital three days later.

Article18, a charity dedicated to the protection and promotion of religious freedom in Iran, says it stands in solidarity with the bereaved family of Mahsa Amini.

In a statement issued alongside the Hamgaam Council of United Iranian Churches and the Pars Theological Centre, Article18 said: “We, like many of the people in Iran who have protested in the city streets with unparalleled courage following Mahsa’s death, consider the imposition of mandatory hijab on the people of Iran – representing a range of religious, ethnic and cultural identities – an obvious violation of human rights, and demand an end to this and other discriminatory laws.

“‘We are all Mahsas’, and ‘Women, Life, Freedom’ are among the slogans of the brave women and men of Iran, reminding us that we are all together, regardless of ethnicity, religion, language or belief, in this fight against the shared pain of injustice, oppression and religious dictatorship, as well as our hope for life, freedom and equality.”

“Christians are joining in the demonstrations”

The case at hand unveils a broader issue of Iran’s gross violations of international norms on freedom of expression, women’s rights and freedom of religion or belief, which affects many religious groups in Iran, including

Christians.

Since the Iranian government has shut down the internet, Iranian Christians are asking the global church as the body of Christ to be their voice.

Henrietta Blyth, CEO of Open Doors UK and Ireland, says: “The Iranian regime has one of the worst human rights records of state persecution in the world. Christians in Iran will only be able to enjoy their religious rights if the rights of the whole population of Iran are honoured. Christians both in and outside the country are joining in the demonstrations. Everyone is supporting Iran’s struggle for freedom. We are hopeful for a change.”

“Persecution is on the rise in Iran but despite this, we also see the growth of the church,” she adds. “Iranian Christians are not alone.”

The restrictions on religious freedom in Iran affect Christians there in many ways, including harsh limitations on places of worship. Christian gatherings in private homes have been denounced as ‘illegal groups’ and believers caught at these gatherings are frequently arrested for ‘crimes against national security’, often resulting in long prison sentences.

### What’s it like to be a Christian in Iran?

Open Doors urges the Iranian government to respect the right to freedom of religion or belief for all, which involves ceasing to impose the obligation on women to abide to an interpretation of religious clothing that might not align with their own religion or belief.

### **Please Pray**

Lord Jesus, pour out Your peace and justice on Iran today. Comfort Mahsa Amini’s family as they grieve and seek answers about her death. Protect protestors from violence – help them to make their voices heard and so bring about greater freedom of religion or belief in the country. Help the church in Iran to unite in prayer and be a beacon of hope to their communities during this turbulent time. Amen.

### **Join Us For IDOP on 6th November**

Register today to join us for this year’s International Day of Prayer (IDOP) for the persecuted church webinar, hosted online with our friends at the Evangelical Alliance, Release International and CSW. We’ll hear updates from the Middle East, China and Cuba, and pray to the Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) Ministerial that took place in July.

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/resources/prayer/idop/>

