

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 30th October 2022 Service

This Sunday Barbara and Geoff are s leading and guest speaker David Osborne will be preaching

The online service will also be available from Sunday. Go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/
Then click on "Join Our Online Service

For Your Prayers

Please pray for Simone, Jerry, Elsa and Kalos as their beautiful little girl Anna has gone to the Lord.

During November please pray for the residents of **Dunkerley Court, Kingfisher Close, Lawins Loke and Railway Mews.**

Prayers for our new Government.

- Pray for politics of wisdom, integrity, self-sacrifice and policymaking for the good of all.
- Pray for effective and gracious Christian presence and influence in political debate.
- Pray for the wise explanation of God's truth in the public square.
- Pray that the wisdom of the Bible would be listened to in what it says about human flourishing across all policy areas.
- Pray that the Christian groups in each of the main parties would grow in influence and the positive contribution that they can make.

Source [Christians in Parliament](#)

Also pray that SBC will find the volunteers to help through the winter period as more people will need warmth, food and friendship.

Lord we pray that the hostilities between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and also Armenia and Azerbaijan will not become full on wars.

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **Fran Lenehan**

Virtual Prayer Room

On Friday 21st October Jerry posted "Just an update on Lee. Unfortunately, Lee was considered by his medical team to be too poorly for a the long journey to go for the planned home visit yesterday, which was disappointing as Katy had also kept the children off school as a surprise, but prayers and hope he will be well enough for a home visit later."

On Monday 24th Simone posted "Update on Anna. : She had been doing exceptionally well in her recovery. Thanks for all your prayers.

Unfortunately she most probably has caught a virus and has been struggling with her breathing. We took her to N&N to be checked this morning and she has been put on a high flow oxygen and iv fluids as she had become tired. Her breathing is still increased. Please pray for her to get better soon. Simone."

On Tuesday at 3.57am Simone posted "Please pray for Anna. She has deteriorated a lot and needs a breathing tube in. But her heart rate is very low so they re currently doing chest compressions."

At 5.57am Simone posted "Our lovely Anna has gone to be with the Lord."

Reading Romans 8: 31-39 (MSG) More Than Conquerors Listen to Jerry's Take on this reading on his blog

³¹⁻³⁹ So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture: They kill us in cold blood because they hate you.

We're sitting ducks; they pick us off one by one.

None of this fazes us because Jesus loves us. I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely *nothing* can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.

As Christians what do we think, when all around us the darkness is closing in there seems no way of finding any light, do we think absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love?

Listen to Jerry's blog on the passage with a short blog (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 31st October

9.00am Deacons Prayer Meeting
10.30 to 11.30am in the Church
Prayers for SBC and young people
2 to 4pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

Tuesday 1st November

Coffee and Chat
9.30am -12 in the Stables
Bible Study
7pm at Geoff and Barbara's

Wednesday 2nd November

Table Tennis
9.30am -12 in the School Room
10-12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables
7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting
Details in online Diary

Thursday 3rd November

10 to 2pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

Friday 4th November

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

Saturday 5th November

6.30 Bar Room Blues in the Church

Sunday 6th November

10.45 Sunday Service
Flowers: Julia Maile

Welcome: Maggie & Henry

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

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.



“Warm Space” Christianity in Action

The Warm Space is now in action and a big thankyou to all the volunteers who have help kick start this project.

As the winter weather bites more and more people in our community will need help just to stay warm.

Please spread the word that everyone is welcome to come along for a tea and coffee some company and on Thursday afternoon some soup.

Opening times:

Monday 2.00 to 4.00pm alongside Community Fridge

Wednesday 10.00 to 12.00pm alongside Community Fridge

Thursday 10.00am to 2.00pm alongside Community Fridge to 12.00noon. Soup will be served from 12.00 to 2.00pm

Bar Room Blues Concert Cancelled

Due to one of the members of the group being unwell the concert has been postponed. We will publish the new date ASAP.

The Good News

Good News for Everyone [formerly Gideon's UK] has asked that if anyone is interested in helping the distribution of Bibles or New Testaments to places like schools and hotels then please contact: Jenny Jacquier. Tel. Number: 01263 512019.

You can help by either attending meetings as a Friend or by direct donations to the organisation via Jenny.

Thank you for any help that you can give.

Craft Fayre

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

Edna is looking for any flowers, Christmas decorations and old artificial Christmas trees that can be cut up to make Christmas wreaths. If you can help give Edna a call on 01692 582633

EBA Prayer Focus 30th October 2022 Salem Baptist Church

Romford lies just inside the M25 on the eastern edge of greater London. Salem Baptist Church has been a presence in Romford town centre since it was founded in 1836 and is one of the oldest Baptist churches in this part of Essex.

The current pastor – Rev Claudiu Nitisor — has been at the church for the past five years and seen new people joining and attending in that time.

During covid the building was closed, but everything is now back to normal. The church has a full programme of activities with meetings on Sunday mornings and Re-Energize Services on Sunday afternoons which are focussed on children aged 5 - 12 with games, craft, singing, Bible story and refreshments. It is all about fun and making new friends. There is also a prayer meeting on Tuesdays and a video night on Thursdays.

The congregation at Salem is drawn from the local area and has a range of older and younger people, children and teenagers. There is a focus on young families and their children.

Find out more about the church at salembaptistchurch.org.uk
For Prayer:

- Please pray for more people to come along and be involved in the church.

- Pray for leaders to step up and take on new roles and share responsibilities.
- Pray for more musicians to become part of the Sunday worship team.
- That people will be led to know Jesus as their own Saviour.
- For pastor Claudiu and his wife Dana as they minister to the church and the local community.

Shoe Box Appeal

The Shoe Box Service is on 20th November at 3.00pm at St Mary's Church Stalham.

North Norfolk Food Bank

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**

Energy Needs

If you are, or know someone who is, struggling with their energy bills Cromer Food Bank offers a scheme called Energybank that can help. Contact the Food Bank on 07826376343, or contact Ron Skivington at minister@stalhambaptist.org.uk

Citizens Advice Bureau can also give advice and possible assistance. Click [here](#) for a link.

Quotes of the Week

“When we honestly ask ourselves which people in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is a friend who cares.” — **Henri Nouwen**, Out of Solitude: Three Meditations on the Christian Life

“You can't stay in your corner of the Forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes.”

— **A.A. Milne**, Winnie-the-Pooh

“Reach out and help others. If you have the power to make someone happy, do it. Be a vessel, be the change, be the difference, or be the inspiration. Shine your light as an example. The world needs more of that.” — **Germany Kent**

“Sometimes, before even attempting to achieve something we feel afraid because we don't know what will be the result of our efforts. We don't know whether we will go all the way or whether dissatisfaction with the results would make us abandon our goals midway.” — **Dr Prem Jagyasi**

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

⁴⁰ “*The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’* **Matthew 25:35-40 NIV**





Working on our relationship with God.

Central Swansea, at the time of writing.

Have confidence in God.

Something to read

I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

- Psalm 34:4.

Something to read

Then Jesus laid His hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.

- Mark 8:25.

Something to think about

This verse is taken from the account of Jesus giving sight to a blind man. What always strikes me as strange is that Jesus needs two attempts to heal the man and I've often wondered why! There may be many possibilities, but I want to think of two.

The first is that the man's sight is so bad that there is a lot of work to do and Jesus needs to have a second attempt to complete the work. The second is that the man himself was not really sure that this healing was going to work so was unwilling to recognise the incredible work Jesus had done.

Both of these ideas have lessons for us of course. There are times when we are so far away from God that we need to work hard to get back into a relationship. Not that God is holding back from us, but the further away we have allowed ourselves to go, the harder we may have to work to reach God's arms which are reaching out for us.

The second idea is that we need to recognise what incredible work God has done in us and all around us, and what incredible work God can do through us. In all things we must strive to grow closer to God and to recognise signs of God's presence and glory all around us.

Something to do

Think of the things where our lack of trust or commitment is distancing us from God and ask for these things to be broken down. Of course, to do this we have to work with God and want these things broken down so that we can get closer to the Lord.

Something to pray

Lord Jesus give me clear vision to see you at all times and a willingness to trust you. Amen.

Today's contributor is Canon Ian Rees, Rector of

Something to think about

I think this verse is another great challenge, primarily because it reminds me of the amount of times I fail to seek the Lord as I should! And I wonder how many of us can relate to that?

We will talk about God's promises to us, love for us and the new life that God brings to us and yet, sometimes, we try to rely on our own will or strength to do something. With that often comes a lack of confidence leading to hesitation and anxiety and, all the time, God must be waiting, frustrated, at our failure to turn to him.

This verse is a reminder that in all things we can trust God and that in all situations we can turn to the Lord and pray for strength and power, comfort and protection, wisdom and love. I think that the church today is often lacking in confidence and we are nervous about speaking out for justice and peace for fear of whom we might offend.

Well, we can be confident because God has done all that is needed for us to be so – confident in sharing the good news of Jesus, confident in standing up for what is right, for seeking to protect those who are less able to protect themselves and confident to tell people they are special and they are loved, just as each one of us in God's eyes, is special and loved.

Something to do

Think of something in your life, and then in your church, where a lack of confidence in God's strength, power and love is holding something back. Pray for God's power to overcome that lack of confidence and move forward with trust.

Something to pray

Lord Jesus you promise to be with me always. Help me to remember that promise and that nothing is too big or too small to bring before you. Amen.

Today's contributor is Canon Ian Rees, Rector of Central Swansea, at the time of writing

Click [here](#) for more information about Christian Aid

Brazil election: What the results of the first round mean for indigenous communities and the environment 4 October 2022

On Sunday Brazilians voted in a presidential election that hinges on a decision between two main candidates. The country's current far-right leader Jair Bolsonaro is being challenged by left-wing former president Luiz Inacio 'Lula' da Silva, and the identity of the winner is of vital importance to Brazil's indigenous peoples.

As neither Bolsonaro nor Lula achieved an overall majority in the first round of voting, a run-off between the two will be held on 30 October.

Bishop Dom Roque, from our Brazilian partner CIMI (the Indigenist Missionary Council), says: "The second round will involve a huge debate between the two candidates. We trust that, during the run-up to the vote, it will be possible to discuss the country that we have and the country that we want."

Deforestation has increased radically under Bolsonaro. While Bolsonaro has been in office, legal protection of human rights and the environment has been eroded. Since winning the presidential election in 2018, Bolsonaro has dismantled existing environmental agencies and the Indigenous Affairs Agency (FUNAI), leading to increased deforestation and the loss of indigenous lives.

Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon broke all records during the first half of this year. This has been particularly devastating for the Yanomami, an indigenous people living in the Amazon in northern Brazil.

Lula, on the other hand, has proposed to reverse spiralling deforestation rates by encouraging environmental protections and a transition from ranching to farming on degraded pastureland, setting Brazil back on course as a global player in the fight against climate change.

Lula has pledged to protect indigenous lands. Bolsonaro's government is the only regime since 1985 that has not officially recognised any indigenous lands. The current president has gone even further, proposing new laws that threaten to take away indigenous ancestral rights to land and to allow mining on indigenous lands.

Bishop Dom Roque explains: "We have already gone four years without recognising a single inch of indigenous land. On the contrary, the invasion, subdivision and destruction of indigenous lands that had already been officially registered has been a constant."

In contrast, Lula's party has proposed to revoke these life-threatening decrees, and create an

indigenous department within government, to ensure that their rights to land, health, bi-lingual education and cultural preservation as enshrined in the Brazilian constitution are upheld. Lula tweeted in April: "Indigenous peoples have the right to claim what they believe in and cannot be subjected to violence. This country has a

lot of land and it is not necessary to destroy indigenous territories to mine or plant food crops."

Illegal gold mining threatens lives.

Indigenous communities, like the Yanomami and the Ye'kwana, play a crucial role in protecting the Amazon rainforest, defending against climate change and keeping the forest standing. Recognition of indigenous lands is extremely important as land means life to indigenous peoples – without it, they have no water, food, livelihoods, culture or future.

But instead, [indigenous communities face violence for protecting their lands](#). They are being forced to flee their homes and are suffering irreversible damage from mercury poisoning, which is used in the extraction of gold by illegal goldminers. Protection from the government against illegal gold mining is vitally needed.

The election is a crucial moment for Brazil's indigenous peoples.

CAFOD's partner organisations in Brazil view the current situation with extreme concern.

Mauricio Ye'kwana, from CAFOD partner HAY, which works to protect the rights of the Yanomami and Ye'kwana and the Amazon rainforest, told us that indigenous organisations will become even weaker if Bolsonaro remains in power: "The tendency is to intimidate and persecute indigenous peoples' organisations, especially those who are fighting and reporting illegal mining and the invasion of indigenous lands."

Mauricio also emphasises the importance of international action, saying that the international community must continue its pressure on Brazil to consult with indigenous people, and avoid purchasing gold from Brazil. Dom Roque told us: "It is dark but we want to sing, to cherish the dreams, the hope and the certainty that we must have peace, overcome the backwardness and be able to invest in a country that needs to believe in education, in the paths of solidarity and respect of differences, and above all in the valuing of this great wealth that are the original, indigenous, riverside and African descendant peoples in this Amazon region."

After decades of struggle the Yanomami and Ye'kwana finally gained official recognition and registration of their land in 1992. Thirty years later, they face yet another fight in this crucial election year that could determine their future, and that of the Amazon rainforest, for generations to come.

[Watch this video celebrating 30 years since the official registration of Yanomami indigenous territory](#)

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For more information about CAFOD click below.

<https://cafod.org.uk/>

