

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 12th February 2023 Service

This Sunday Barbara & Geoff are leading and Jerry is concluding his sermon series in Haggai. Haggai 2:20-23. "The Promises"

The online service will also be available from Sunday. Go to

www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/

Then click on "Join Our Online Service"

Structure of Jerry's talk:

God's promises for Zerubbabel *involved two things:*

1. God's Power vv 21-22 and
2. God's Plans v 23.

Jerry's Reads

Isaiah 40:15-17, Jeremiah 22:24-27, Ps 20:7, Matt 1:12, Luke 3:27, John 6:27, Ephesians 1:3-5 and 11-14, Hebrews 12:25-27.

For Your Prayers

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember Frank and Monica Payne.

During February please pray for the residents of Baker Street, Bakers Court and Sutton Terrace.

Pray that help can rapidly reach Turkey and Syria after the two earthquakes struck. The devastation is unimaginable. A father who recovered his 12 year old daughter dead in the rubble when asked, bizarrely, by a reporter how he felt said "the world has collapsed on my head, its all I can say."

A Prayer of Confession based on [Luke 12:49-56](#)

Forgiving God,

In our imperfection, we have prioritised the absence of conflict over the presence of justice.

We have stayed silent when we have had the opportunity to speak out, fearing disagreement more than sin.

Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

The prophets of the Old Testament criticised those who cried "peace, peace!" When there is no peace.' We know we can be tempted to do the same – favouring the comfortable status quo over the disturbance of the Holy Spirit.

Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

Too often, we have robbed your message of its transforming power – quick to present it as one of niceness, rather than one which comforts the disturbed and disturbs the comfortable.

Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

Help us to live in the tension of the now and the not yet – safe in the promise of ultimate peace and rest, while learning to live with conflict in the present.

Amen. Source [ALL WE CAN Methodist relief and development](#)

Virtual Prayer Room

Saturday 4th February Jerry posted on behalf of Norma "Please, would you all pray for David. He almost collapsed on the floor at tea time last night, I just about managed to stop him from going down, and I was able to get him on the settee. We're not sure what is wrong. I spoke to 111 three times and a hospital doctor rang and booked him an appointment for 8.30 a.m. this morning.

Our son David is taking him to Broomfield hospital to be checked out as I'm unable to drive at the moment.

I'll update you as and when he has been seen at the hospital. God bless, Norma." Later in the day Jerry posted from Norma "Hi everyone, David is back home. He had an ECG and blood tests at Broomfield hospital. They said the blood tests were all to do with the heart. The hospital advised David that they are writing to the doctor and they want him to have a 24-hour heart monitor. So we are still none the wiser as to why he was so nauseous and why he was so weak, faint and feverish.

I'll let you all know when we have the result of the 24-hour heart monitoring. Thank you all for your prayers. They obviously seem to be effective and answered positively, for which we thank the Lord. God bless, From Norma (& David) "

On Sunday DJ Steve posted an audio message "Hi everybody, just like to say thankyou for your prayers I'm not too good at the moment but I'm going to keep positive and tomorrow I'm going to be speaking to my advocate, can you pray for me that the phone call goes well. All the best DJ."



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington
01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno
07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon
07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship
For your Diary

Monday 13th February

7.00pm Deacons Meeting
10.30 to 11.30am in the Church
Prayers for SBC and young people
2 to 4pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

Tuesday 14th February

Coffee and Chat
9.30am - 12 in the Stables

Wednesday 15th February

Table Tennis
9.30am to 12 in the School Room
10-12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

Thursday 16th February

10 to 2pm Warm Spaces in the Stables
10am to 12 Bible Art in the Schoolroom
3.15 Messy Church
7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting

All Welcome
Details in online Diary

Friday 17th February

10.15 to 11.30am
Prayer for Revival at Three Windows,
Brumsted Road

1.15 to 3pm Foodbank in Stables
6.30pm Valentine's Supper & Quiz in
the Stables

Saturday 18th February

8.30am Men's Breakfast in the Stables

Sunday 19th February

10.45 Sunday Service
Welcome: Magda & Eileen
Flowers: Jane Dalton

Food Bank & Personal Prayer

SBC is normally open Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 12 noon to receive donations for the food bank and for personal prayer. The **Food Bank** is open on Friday 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

On Monday Jane posted "Good morning can you please pray for Kevin he should be in theatre now for a 6-12 hour op to replace his aorta and his aorta valve. Thank you." also on Monday Jerry posted "Please continue praying for David Huxter, who is still not feeling too good with an upset tummy, and he thinks he needs antibiotics. He also isn't sleeping too well and has got a continuous cough. He needs to have 24 hr heart monitor and is still waiting for the monitor to be delivered." Later that day Jane posted "Kevin's op has been postponed sorry. Thank you for praying."

On Tuesday Jerry posted "Update from Norma: We're back from the surgery. David saw an Urgent care nurse practitioner, and she gave him antibiotics as there was a crackle in his chest and a nasal spray for his nose. She has also referred him to the hospital for an appt for 24 hr ECG monitor. So good result today at the surgery."

Bible Reading John: 20-29 (MSG) To Believe

¹⁹⁻²⁰ Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." Then he showed them his hands and side.

²⁰⁻²¹ The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were awestruck. Jesus repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you."

²²⁻²³ Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

²⁴⁻²⁵ But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We saw the Master." But he said, "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it."

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were again in the room. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came through the locked doors, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you."

²⁷ Then he focused his attention on Thomas. "Take your finger and examine my hands. Take your hand and stick it in my side. Don't be unbelieving. Believe."

²⁸ Thomas said, "My Master! My God!"

²⁹ Jesus said, "So, you believe because you've seen with your own eyes. Even better blessings are in store for those who believe without seeing."

If one of the disciples doubted the Resurrection of Jesus until he had physically touched the Lord, how as Christians do we go about convincing those we meet, that doubt or tell us that Jesus is only a myth, that faith in Jesus will bring them salvation or do we just change the subject?

Listen to Ron's short blog based on this passage click [Ron's Blog](#).

Would you like to Join?

For those of you who are new to our fellowship we have both a fellowship mailing list and the church forum. If you want to be added to our mailing list and also have access to the church forum please speak to Greg or email him at webmaster@stalhambaptist.org.uk

Fire Evacuation

In the event of a fire everyone should make their way to

the fire assembly point which is outside Trett Phillips Residential in the High Street. For more information speak to Daniel.

AGM and Deacons' Elections

This years AGM will take place on 16th April following the church service. This is the time that we consider the Deacons elections. There are 3 deacons standing for re-election - Diana Gordon, David Child and Henry Nicholson. The leadership team also encourage nominations to the Diaconate from others in the church. Requirements are that you are a member of the church and have been baptised as a believer. If you think this could be you or if you would like to nominate another please speak to Diana. Please also pray for the elections and the continuing strengthening of the leadership team.

Men's Breakfast

There will be a Men's Breakfast on Saturday 18th February in The Stables at 8-30am.

No fixed charge, donations appreciated, all profits to the BMS Afghanistan appeal.

Cereal & fruit juice will be followed by a cooked breakfast.

Shaun Cushion will be speaking. This is an 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, phone 01692 672120 or speak to Geoff. (It helps catering to have at least an idea how many folk are coming, thanks!)

Breakfast Info from Geoff

Hi Gents, thanks for your generous support for in our first three "new generation" breakfasts. Just so you know we take just the bare cost of the ingredients out of your donations and I thought you might like to see the first part of my mission report to the recent church meeting:

"I'm going to start with a slight sideways mention.

Yesterday we had the 3rd in a new series of Men's Breakfasts which have been well attended with 20 plus gents sharing the meal together each time. Some of these are regular congregation members but the number has included invited family and neighbours which I think is really good.

There is no specific charge for breakfast but a donation box is available and I'm happy to say well used. As organiser of the breakfast and our mission rep I decreed all monies over the cost of food will go to a mission project. To date: From the first £90-56 went to the work of the Shrubsoles (in Chad), from the second £87-58 to the work of the Mahons (in Peru), and from yesterday's £102-96 will go to support the Browns (in Thailand). " This time I've chosen the BMS Afghan appeal for the donations.

We had, as one of our BMS Partners, a family working in Afghanistan until a couple of years ago. Their prayers continue for their former workmates from BMS and partner organisations helping the folk in the country areas where most are poor and badly cared for. This has only increased since the Taliban takeover with most women & girls denied the right to work and be educated. This makes life hard for the BMS and partner workers several of whom are women.

This is why I have chosen to send our donation to those trying to continue the work to help those struggling to



look after their families at this difficult time. More details are available on the Baptist Missionary Society website should you wish to take a look. Regards, Geoff.

EBA Prayer Focus 12th February 2023 EBA Week of Prayer

This week would have seen the EBA Annual Gathering happening on Saturday. Like so many events this year this has had to adapt and change. Back in May the EBA team facilitated some Zoom discussions with about 50 of our ministers entitled "What do we think God is saying" and out of those discussions have come five themes, one for each day this week. On our website you will find resources for each day which will include a Biblical reflection, prayer points and an interview to promote further thought and discussion around each of the topics. We invite you to join us each day as together we pray into each theme.

EBA Prayer Zoom Meeting Time: 9.30am

To join Zoom Meeting: Please email secretary@easternbaptist.org.uk or speak to your church secretary who should have the details

We have also added an evening gathering – Wednesday 8pm

Understandably this isn't always possible so we would encourage you in your prayer times this week to reflect on these five themes.

Monday – Discipleship is more than programmes

Who am I praying for to come to faith? How is someone I know going to come to faith?

Tuesday – Discipleship is relational

How do I make the best of God given opportunities with my closest friends and neighbours?

What am I able to bring to my small group?

Wednesday – Discipleship happens where God places us

I am Jesus's representation here and now therefore what am I doing and who do I meet Monday to Saturday?

How am I showing Jesus to these people who I spend time with?

Thursday – Discipleship in Lockdown makes new connections

During this time who has my church made new connections with?

How can I help grow these connections and disciple these individuals?

Friday – Discipleship means still listening to God and going deeper with God

How well am I rooted in God? What fruit for Jesus am I producing? Am I prepared to go where God is calling me?

It's Daffodil Time

If you are reading this in the UK it may well be snowing, raining, blowing a gale or a beautiful winter blue sky and sun or all those things in the same day.

However, we may well be picking daffodils in a few weeks.

Last year Edna, Barbara M and Henry organised the harvesting of the lovely spring flowers to raise money

for SBC which raised the amazing £1173. If you could spare an hour or two and as Wordsworth wrote "I wandered lonely as a cloud. That floats on high o'er vales and hills, when all at once I saw a crowd, a host, of golden daffodils." Once you have spied them you can pick them. If you can help contact Henry on 01692-581529

Bible Art

Don't miss the next Bible Art session on 16th February 10am to 12. as its Half Term children and adults are welcome.

For more information contact Simone on 07436837210

Learn to use a Defib Free

Broadland First Responders are very happy to train groups of local people in resuscitation and the use of the defib for free and that can be bowls clubs, the Church, Rotarians, WI etc.

The sessions last no more than 90 minutes and they are designed to be friendly and relaxed and we can accommodate those who can't get on their knees to do the chest compressions !!

Contact George Cooper on george@vistatraining.co.uk

Foodbank

Any of the following would be much appreciated:

Tinned Tomatoes, Long Life Milk – full fat or semi-skimmed, Tinned Vegetables, Pasta Sauce, Rice Pudding, Pot Noodles/ Mugshots, Squash/Fruit Juice, Laundry Detergent, Deodorant, Toilet Rolls, Cleaning Sprays.

Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"The power of God will take you out of your own plans and put you into the plan of God." --Smith Wigglesworth.

"With the goodness of God to desire our highest welfare, the wisdom of God to plan it, and the power of God to achieve it, what do we lack? Surely we are the most favoured of all creatures."--A W. Tozer.

"We must make a great difference between God's Word and the word of man. A man's word is a little sound, that flies into the air, and soon vanishes; but the Word of God is greater than heaven and earth, yea, greater than death and hell, for it forms part of the power of God, and endures everlastingly."-- Martin Luther.

"The MORE you Trust in the Arm of the FLESH, the less you're going to see of the POWER of GOD."--Paul Washer.

"Our high and privileged calling is to do the will of God in the power of God for the glory of God."-- J. I. Packer

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 or online you can click on the red highlighted links and you will be taken to the relevant websites.

Valentine Supper and Quiz

Don't Forget to Book your place for the Valentine Supper and Quiz



In the SBC Stables Starts 6.30pm

**Jacket potato with a choice of fillings,
selection of puds tea/coffee**

£7.50

Contact Elaine on 07796875785 or elainemith364@btinternet.com

How to Donate to the Earthquake appeals

Source **Independent**

Emergency services, volunteers and members of the public in [Turkey](#) and [Syria](#) continue desperately searching through rubble for survivors after two powerful [earthquakes](#) hit the region on Monday. The death toll from the disaster has already soared above 16,000, although officials fear this [could rise to around 20,000](#) after houses, apartment blocks and offices [were completely flattened by the quakes](#) and subsequent tremors.

Amid the horror, despair and grief there are occasional moments of hope and joy, including a [newborn baby girl rescued from under a collapsed building](#) with her umbilical cord still attached. But amid the freezing cold winter conditions, rescuers are warning that time to recover the remaining survivors is running out, with fears that hundreds of people could still be trapped under the debris.

The UK government has already sent a team of search and rescue experts to help the authorities in Turkey.

Here's how you can help

Thousands of people have been left homeless by the quake and will struggle to access shelter, water and food. They require emergency aid, particularly in war-torn Syria, which is already in the grip of a humanitarian crisis due to more than a decade of war.

On Wednesday afternoon the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) announced it had launched a campaign. The DEC is an umbrella group of UK charities that coordinates and launches collective of appeals to raise funds to provide emergency aid and rapid relief to people caught up in disasters and humanitarian crises around the world.

"DEC charities and their local partners are among the first responders, working with locally-led relief efforts. Immediate priorities are medical treatment for the injured, shelter for those who have lost their homes, as well as blankets, warm clothes and heaters for safe spaces," it said in a statement.

"They are also ensuring people have enough food and clean water." You can donate to the DEC campaign [here](#).

The British Red Cross has launched appeals for both Turkey and Syria. Those who are able to are being asked to donate [via the Red Cross website](#).

Alternatively, you can donate by calling 0300 004 0339 or by downloading a postal form [here](#).

Recommended

The humanitarian organisation is working with partners in the region to provide emergency aid to those most in need. "The Turkish Red Crescent (Kizilay) has launched a crisis response operation and mobilised teams in more than 10 regions across

the country, while the Syrian Arab Red Crescent is delivering assistance and support to those in need in the regions of Hama, Aleppo and Lattakia," it said in a statement.

"Together, we're providing emergency first aid and evacuating people to safety."

Actionaid has also launched a campaign calling for donations.

Money donated to the charity will be used to provide "food, medical aid, warm clothing, heaters and cash for those who have lost their homes and are out on the streets." You can donate to Actionaid's campaign by [following this link](#).

A man carries the body of a family member who died in a devastating earthquake that rocked Syria and Turkey at a cemetery

Oxfam is also calling for donations.

"Our teams in Türkiye (Turkey) and Syria are working with partner organisations to assess the types of immediate and longer-term support that are needed to help people in the aftermath of Monday's devastating earthquakes," the charity said in a statement.

"The emergency response is expected to include water and sanitation, shelter and food support as well as longer-term rehabilitation and reconstruction."

You can donate [here](#).

Save the Children is also working with partners across northwest Syria and Turkey.

"Together, we're assessing what children and their families need, so we can deliver emergency relief," the charity said in a statement.

"But we urgently need your help.

"You can help us get families the food, warm blankets, winter clothes and shelter materials they need to survive.

"You can help us set up safe spaces for women and children, and get psychological support to children so they can start to process their terrible experiences."

You can donate [here](#).

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is also working in

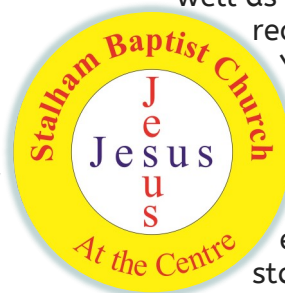
northwest Syria and Turkey to provide life-saving medical care.

"In the first hours of the disaster, our teams treated around 200 wounded and we received 160 casualties in the facilities and the clinics that we run or support in northern Idlib," says Sebastien Gay, MSF head of mission in Syria. "Our ambulances are also deployed to assist people."

You can donate to MSF [here](#).

Unicef said in a statement it is "preparing to support the humanitarian response in coordination with partners. "The immediate focus is on ensuring affected children and families have access to safe drinking water and sanitation services – critical in preventing illness in the early days of a crisis," it said.

You can donate [here](#).



INDEPENDENT