

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday 19th March 2023

Mothering Sunday

This Sunday Diana is leading and Ron is preaching from
Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12 "The Servant Will Suffer."

Today we will celebrate the Lord's Supper

The online service will also be available from Sunday.

Go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/

Then click on "Join Our Online Service"

Ron's Reads

2 Tim 3:12, 1 Pet 2:19f Acts 8, Jn 12:38

For Your Prayers

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **Jane and Ron Skivington**.

During March please pray for the residents of Bank Street, Dace Terrace and Market Row.

The Easter Community Scene is now being distributed please pray for all the volunteers delivering the magazine and that it will reach out to the community and be well received.

Pray also for Barbara & Ben, Magdalena, Tom and Henry who have been harvesting the Daffodils also Edna and Eileen who have been bunching them up.

Lord, when we look around at what is happening in our church we thank you in our prayers for your blessings, we also thank you in our prayers for all the many amazing volunteers You have blessed us with.

Loving God,

Thank you God for the love of our mothers;
thank you God for their care and concern;
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;
thank you God for all that they give us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Source Church of England

Virtual Prayer Room

Monday 13th March Jane posted "More good news about Lee. He managed to get upstairs and have a shower all by himself. Praise the Lord"

Tuesday 14th March Daniel posted "Hi could I ask for prayer please.

I have to go to the VTE clinic at the N&N tomorrow as I've got a blood clot in my right leg. Please pray that the blood clot has stopped clotting & the medication I will have to go on doesn't lead to any side effects. God bless Daniel."

Wednesday 15th Daniel posted "Just a quick update. Had scan & no DVT found just clot in superficial vein which I'm now on 6 weeks of medication. Thanks so much for your prayers & thoughts

Also on Wednesday Lorraine posted "Please pray for my friend Mavis, she has fallen had an op and now had to have the clips out because they have become inflamed. She is in terrible pain "

Later that day Jane posted "Can you please pray for Sam, Christine and Robert's grandson. He was rushed into hospital with suspected sepsis. Thank you" Ruth Haywood then posted "We are now at the hospital with Sammy, he is talking a little more now and we are next in line to see the doctor."

Thursday 16th Ruth posted "Sammy is eating although reluctantly. We are trying to keep his spirits up. We will be in hospital for at least 48 hours. Sam has managed to get a few hours' sleep in bless him."

Bible Reading James 1: 19-27(MSG)

Act on what you Hear

¹⁹⁻²¹ Post this at all the intersections, dear friends: Lead with your ears, follow up with your tongue, and let anger straggle along in the rear. God's righteousness doesn't grow from human anger. So, throw all spoiled virtue and cancerous evil in the garbage. In simple humility, let your gardener, God, landscape you with the Word, making a salvation-garden of your life.



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington
01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno
07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon
07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

For your Diary

Monday 20th March

9.00am Deacons Prayer Meeting
10.00am Kitty Kits [bread making course] Stables

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

Tuesday 21st March

Coffee and Chat

9.30am -12 in the Stables

Wednesday 22nd March

Table Tennis

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

7.00pm Zoom Bible Study

All Welcome to join in

Contact Diana for details

Thursday 23rd March

10 to 2pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

7.00pm Lent Talks in the Church

Friday 24th March

10.15 to 11.30am

Prayer for Revival at Three Windows,
Brumsted Road

1.15 to 3pm Foodbank in Stables

Sunday 26th March

10.45 Sunday Service

Welcome: Maggie & Henry

Flowers: Magdalena

Saturday 1st April

8.30 am Mens Breakfast

In the Stables

Sunday 16th April

12 Noon SBC AGM & Special Meeting

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

²²⁻²⁴ Don't fool yourself into thinking that you are a listener when you are anything but, letting the Word go in one ear and out the other. Act on what you hear! Those who hear and don't act are like those who glance in the mirror, walk away, and two minutes later have no idea who they are, what they look like.

²⁵ But whoever catches a glimpse of the revealed counsel of God—the free life!—even out of the corner of his eye, and sticks with it, is no distracted scatterbrain but a man or woman of action. That person will find delight and affirmation in the action.

²⁶⁻²⁷ Anyone who sets himself up as “religious” by talking a good game is self-deceived. This kind of religion is hot air and only hot air. Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God the Father, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight, and guard against corruption from the godless world.

As a Christian, how easy is it, at times, to be angry and express your feelings, mouth operating before brain engages? Does this reading stop you though from dealing with situations by speaking directly in a controlled manner. How many times has the message gone in one ear at out the other or we have gone along with it but in truth “when all was said and done there was more said than done?

Listen to Jerry's short blog based on this passage that answers those questions click [Jerry's Blog](#).

Or go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/ and click on “Our Weekly Bible Commentary”

A Thankyou from Rita Rudrum

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who were praying for me during my recent operation. Everything is going very well and I hope to be back with you all very soon.. My love to you all Rita”

Teas and Coffee in the Schoolroom

This Sunday, teas and coffee will be in the Schoolroom as



the Stables are being repainted during the weekend.

Daffs even more amazing Galore?

In the early morning's chill Barbara, Ben Magdalena, Tom and Henry have been harvesting 100's of daffodils and Edna & Eileen have carefully bunched them up. Henry says as of Thursday “ We now have raised £850 so far in three weeks.” You can buy bunches of daffs for 50p outside Edna's house in St. Johns Road and also at the Community Fridge

AGM and Deacons' Elections

This year's AGM will take place on 16th April **There will also be a Special Meeting to update the fellowship on the refurbishment project** 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. **Nominations would need to be presented two weeks before the AGM.** 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.

Weekly Prayer Focus: 19th March Springfield Park Baptist Church

Springfield Park Baptist Church serves the Springfield estate on the edge of the city of Chelmsford in Essex. The estate is home to a broad demographic of people and backgrounds, and this is reflected in the make-up of the church.

This year marks a season of transition for the congregation, as they begin to explore new opportunities and ways of reaching out into the community, following the appointment of Rev. Naomi Spriggs as minister around 18 months ago.

A community day is being planned for later in the year, involving the local Street Pastors, while the youth group

LENT TALKS

You are invited to talks relating to Jesus' life and death in 'Holy Week'

*Each session will include tea/coffee and 'cake',
worship in song and prayers, a talk and discussion.*

Thursday 23rd March 7.00pm Stalham Baptist Church
"RIDICULE"

Speaker: Rev. Ron. Skivington, Stalham Baptist Church

Thursday 30th March 7.00pm Stalham Baptist Church
"SACRIFICE"

Speaker: Rev. Helen Lynch, St. Mary's Church

All Welcome

For enquiries call Keith 07891 365232 or 01692 583292

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.

are preparing for a day of cleaning local resident's cars and providing bacon rolls whilst they wait.

It is hoped that the existing connections can be developed with the church's toddler group (recently renamed 'Toast Club' by the children who attend, due to the steady supply of free toast), through summer holiday and lunch clubs.

As part of the church's regular activities, a coffee hub is held weekly, alongside a repair hub, where (mostly) men meet to help one another fix faulty appliances. Alternate activities and lunches are also held at the twice monthly 'Whet Your Whistle' group, which is open to all.

Prayer Points

- Please pray for the development and recruitment of new leaders, particularly a Church Secretary and for support with children's work.
- Pray for the Youth and Community worker, Alison.
- Pray that the church would increase its confidence in God as it seeks to step out in faith and reach its community effectively.

The Leprosy Mission Easter/ Spring 2023 catalogues

are now available at the back of the church. They include the Fairtrade chocolate Easter eggs. Orders sent via Barbara Reynolds (Stalham Baptist's "trading partner") will save you postage, make a donation towards church funds (in many cases 20% of your order) and enable the leprosy mission to assist folk with this awful disease. You pay the same prices seen in the catalogue and can also order anything you see on their website www.tlmtrading.com

Please give your order to Barbara along with payment by cash or cheque to me [Leprosy Mission request this.] Happy Shopping!

Tesco Community Grants

Tesco Community Grants support thousands of local community projects and good causes across the UK. The scheme is open to all registered charities and not-for-profit organisations. SBC's refurbishment of the Schoolroom has been accepted. **From the first week in April** when you're shopping in Tesco Stalham ask for, or collect, a blue token when you pay. Place the tokens in the cabinet pictured to the left. Three charities compete for grants, the charity with the most



tokens will be awarded £1500, the others a smaller amount. All your counters will count to help SBC to raise more money for the refurbishment of the schoolroom.

North Norfolk Foodbank

During March any of the following would be much appreciated:

- Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Fruit, Long Life Milk – full fat or semi-skimmed, Tinned Meat, Rice Pudding, Biscuits, Pot Noodles/ Mugshots, Cuppa Soup, Squash, Toilet Rolls, Cleaning Sprays.

Please note that we cannot accept any fresh food or items that contain alcohol.

Quote of the Week

"When God Created Mothers"

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into His sixth day of "overtime" when the angel appeared and said. "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one." And God said, "Have you read the specs on this order?" She has to be completely washable, but not plastic. Have 180 moveable parts...all replaceable. Run on black coffee and leftovers. Have a lap that disappears when she stands up. A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair. And six pairs of hands."

The angel shook her head slowly and said. "Six pairs of hands.... no way."

It's not the hands that are causing me problems," God remarked, "it's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have."

That's on the standard model?" asked the angel. God nodded.

One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say. 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word."

God," said the angel touching his sleeve gently, "Get some rest tomorrow...."

I can't," said God, "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick...can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger...and can get a nine year old to stand under a shower."

The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed.

But tough!" said God excitedly. "You can imagine what this mother can do or endure."

Can it think?"

Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek.

There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You that You were trying to put too much into this model."

It's not a leak," said the Lord, "It's a tear."

What's it for?"

It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

You are a genius," said the angel.

Sombrely, God said, "I didn't put it there."

— Erma Bombeck, When God Created Mothers



Stalham Baptist Church Stables



**Bacon Rolls - Cakes
Toasties and much more
All Proceeds to E.A.C.H
East Anglia's Children's Hospices**

Warm Spaces – a quiet revolution

Why Warm Welcome spaces can go beyond just a short-term practical response to our deep systemic challenges. By David Barclay

Across the UK, through the depths of winter and the Cost of Living Crisis, a movement has been born. It's a quintessentially British kind of movement, powered by an army of volunteers, endless cups of tea and ordinary conversations. As millions of people in the sixth richest country in the world have found themselves unable to heat their own homes, thousands upon thousands of designated 'Warm Welcome Spaces' have emerged. And together they are changing the social landscape of our country.

The Warm Welcome campaign began last summer when senior faith leaders met with former prime minister Gordon Brown to discuss the growing Cost of Living Crisis and the increasingly dire outlook for low income households. In what was almost a throwaway comment, Gordon Brown mentioned that he'd heard of plans for 'train station waiting room-style heated spaces' for those unable to pay their energy bills. The room went quiet as the impact of that mental image sunk in. Every person left the meeting determined that something better had to be created.

Through conversations in the following days and weeks the concept of a 'Warm Welcome Space' emerged – somewhere that was free to enter, safe, warm and welcoming. Instead of being prescriptive beyond these basic elements, we decided to trust that local groups knew best what people in their community might need. We build [a website](#), held an [online launch event](#), and then watched in awe as first hundreds and then thousands of groups of every shape and size signed up and got involved – churches, mosques, gurdwaras, libraries, schools, community cafes and many many more. (Three hundred and forty-eight Baptist churches registered as Warm Welcome spaces)

For a significant number of these organisations, Warm Welcome has provided a brand and a banner under which to grow and expand their existing activities – extending hours, running new sessions, reaching new parts of the community. For others it has been a catalyst to try something new – film nights, homework clubs, community meals.

The collective impact of these Spaces has been enormous. One woman told the BBC that before she found her local Warm Welcome venue, the only way she could keep warm at home was by staying in bed all day. Spaces are described by many who use them as a 'lifeline'.

But as well as providing a place of refuge for the cold and hungry, Warm Welcome Spaces have been hubs of community, helping people make connections and build friendships. In doing so they are creating the longer-term social support networks that can sustain people all-year round. They are also often providing the space for intergenerational contact and connection that is increasingly hard to find elsewhere.

For many of the Warm Welcome Spaces, the experience has been transformational for their own organisation too. Libraries have reinvented themselves as community



hubs, attracting families and young people like never before and demonstrating beyond doubt their immense value to the social fabric of their place. Many churches now have more people attending their Warm Welcome provision than coming along to their Sunday services, inspiring them to reimagine who they exist to serve and how.

The long-term prospects for Warm Welcome now are fascinating. As well as providing a unifying banner for Warm Spaces, the campaign has raised almost £300k to give out in £1000 microgrants targeted at Spaces in areas of highest deprivation. In doing this, it has created a unique vehicle for funders who want to invest in hyper-local leadership and resilience but at a significant scale. The Government's promise to develop

a strategy for community spaces and relationships as part of its Levelling Up programme surely can't fail to focus on what could be done with this now 7000-strong network which is supporting hundreds of thousands of people each week. And imagine what a programme of work on energy efficiency for Warm Welcome buildings could do, creating huge environmental benefits on our national race to Net Zero while boosting the financial resilience of crucial local assets.

There are also the first signs of Warm Welcome providing a catalyst for systemic change. In Birmingham, Warm Welcome Spaces found a number of people were struggling with issues of damp and mould in their homes. So, they organised themselves to work with the Council, ensuring that all Spaces have access to a senior Council Director who can fast-track cases for a response. This kind of organising for change is creating a blueprint for other Spaces to work together to listen to and act on the issues facing local people, ensuring that Warm Welcome can go beyond just a short-term practical response to our deep systemic challenges.

The campaign will change gears at the end of this winter, signposting those who want to carry on running activities to other sources of support. But with the Cost of Living Crisis not showing any signs of abating, preparations will begin immediately for a Warm Welcome campaign that is bigger and better next Winter, nurturing a movement which feels like it is just getting started.

The outlook for Britain may be bleak in many ways, but Warm Welcome shows that we still have plenty to be hopeful about. When faced with crisis and despair, the community response to the Cost of Living Crisis has been nothing short of heroic. Now it's up to the rest of society to follow where local people are leading.

David Barclay is a Partner at [Good Faith Partnership](#), which exists to connect leaders from faith, politics, business and charity on issues of common concern. He has previously worked as community organiser at the Centre for Theology and Community on the Just Money campaign and founded the Buxton Leadership Programme

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