

# Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday May 21st

This Sunday Jerry is leading, and preaching from Matthew 6: 5 -13

“A Prayer to the King part 1”

Jerry will explore

The first three requests of the Lord's prayer concern God's:

1) Name v9, (2) Kingdom v10 and (3) Will v10

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

Psalms 2:5-12; Daniel 2:35, 44; Daniel 7:17-18, 27, Matthew 6:33, Luke 11:2-4, 1 Peter 3:15, Revelation 19:11-21; 22:20.

## For Your Prayers

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember Shirley Westgate. During June please pray for the residents of Rivermead and Strawberry Fields.

Lord we are blessed that within our fellowship so many bring their individual talents to SBC. We pray that as a fellowship each of us will be open to the opportunities to share Your message with the community.

Loving God, we pray for all those still in the queues awaiting for NHS appointments and operations. We pray for all those who are sick; guide them and strengthen them through their illness. We pray also for those who care for the sick and the ageing, those engaged in the caring professions and for family members who look after loved ones, especially for children who care for parents.

Father God, we pray for Your world and its peoples with all their needs, questions and longings. So often we struggle to understand the reasons behind acts of war, terrorism, genocide and those persecuted for their faith; and yet we know that in the midst of such events Your love is shown in the acts of bravery, selflessness and compassion which follow. We pray for all who suffer in such dreadful circumstances and for those who are tasked with defending, rescuing, providing the medical and community support and, eventually, in the long task of reconstruction.

## Virtual Prayer room

**Saturday May 13th** Simone posted for Dan StJohn “Hi there, everyone, Just got back from Kazakhstan.

We had a beautiful time encouraging the team there now about 60 adults from all over the world involved in church planting and supporting local believers to run social projects for trafficked women and vulnerable/ disabled children .

Also got to spend time with Uighur believers we worked with who are now leading small house churches in their communities so encouraging.

May not be around next two weekends but see you soon xxx  
Dan, Abigail and Matti.”

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

## Access to Toilets

The door from the church to the schoolroom is now sealed off as the work has started in the School-room so access to the toilets will be through the Stables or side gate.

## Bible Reading Blog Acts 10.22 (MSG)

### Peter at Cornelius's House

<sup>23-26</sup> The next morning he got up and went with them. Some of his friends from Joppa went along. A day later they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had his relatives and close friends waiting with him. The minute Peter came through the door, Cornelius was up on his feet greeting him—and



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01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno  
07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon  
07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

## For your Diary

### Monday 22nd May

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

### Tuesday 23rd May

Coffee and Chat  
9.30am -12 in the Stables  
Potter Plus Bible Study Group  
7.00pm details page 2

### Wednesday 24th May

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

### Thursday 25th May

10 to 12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables  
7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting  
All Welcome to join in  
Contact Diana for details

### Friday 26th May

12.00pm The Wedding of  
Daisy Robinson & Vin Damasceno  
in the Chapel  
10.15 to 11.30am

Prayer for Revival at Three Windows,  
Brumstead Road

1.15 to 3pm Foodbank in Stables

### Sunday 28th May

10.45 Sunday Service  
Welcome: Julia, David and Maggie  
Flowers: Susannah Pegg

## Food Bank & Personal Prayer

SBC will be 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](mailto:minister@stalhambaptist.org.uk)

then down on his face worshipping him! Peter pulled him up and said, "None of that—I'm a man and only a man, no different from you."

<sup>27-29</sup>Talking things over, they went on into the house, where Cornelius introduced Peter to everyone who had come. Peter addressed them, "You know, I'm sure that this is highly irregular. Jews just don't do this—visit and relax with people of another race. But God has just shown me that no race is better than any other. So, the minute I was sent for, I came, no questions asked. But now I'd like to know why you sent for me."

<sup>30-32</sup>Cornelius said, "Four days ago at about this time, mid-afternoon, I was home praying. Suddenly there was a man right in front of me, flooding the room with light. He said, 'Cornelius, your daily prayers and neighbourly acts have brought you to God's attention. I want you to send to Joppa to get Simon, the one they call Peter. He's staying with Simon the Tanner down by the sea.'

<sup>33</sup>"So I did it—I sent for you. And you've been good enough to come. And now we're all here in God's presence, ready to listen to whatever the Master put in your heart to tell us."

*As Christians do we back away from meeting or visiting people because of their lifestyle, though they may be desperate to hear the message but fear being judged?*

Listen to Ron's short blog based on this verse [click Rons Blog](#), if you are reading this on a computer or phone. Or go to [www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/) and click on "Our Weekly Bible Commentary"

## Edna's Birthday

Following the morning service on 28th May, there will be tea, coffee and cake in the Stables to celebrate Edna's 90th birthday. All are welcome but Edna has requested no presents please but however if anyone wishes to donate money to SBC Building Fund ( Schoolroom Refurbishment ) that would be most welcome, thank you. For more info have a chat with Jan Nicholson.

## It's all Happening at SBC for the Stalham Fringe

This Sunday SBC is hosting three performers for the Stalham Fringe.

1.00 pm Two's Company

2.00 pm Prima Duo

2.45 – 3.45pm Pan Afro Band

Hazel and Simone are giving away Bible Art that has been created over the last few months. They are also giving away Christian booklets as we used to do at the Town Hall free table. Jenny will be providing refreshments. Starting at 11am the High Street will be hosting local dancers and singers, choirs, bands etc. There will also be performers in St Mary's Church, the Town Hall.

Come and support Hazel and Simone and watch the acts in SBC and the performers in the High Street.

## Potter plus Bible Study group.

We're starting the fortnightly meeting again on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7pm in our house [Cameo Cottage, Church Lane, Potter Heigham, NR29 5LR.] Our first session will begin with a cuppa, then we'll look at "The Bible Course"

by Andrew Ollerton which includes a video and some time to chat and pray, finishing by 9pm.

EVERYONE is welcome [you don't have to live in Potter Heigham or even anywhere nearby] – I'm leading the first one but Jenny will also lead and we may have some meetings at her house in Ashmanagh.

3 cars can park in our driveway and there's also a car park round the corner at the Methodist Chapel in Green Lane.

If you'd like any more information grab me for a chat, drop me an email or give me a ring,

Barbara Reynolds

[barbarageoff@gmail.com](mailto:barbarageoff@gmail.com) 01692672120

## Question of the Week

There's an advert on TV for deodorant, the actor states "you have to look after yourself before you can look after anyone else." Would Jesus agree with that?

## Just a Reminder

If you shop in Tesco's the slot for SBC's refurbishment is open on the Tesco's Community Grant collection point. SBC could be granted up to £1500 if we receive the largest amount of the blue tokens you can collect as you pay at the till area.

## EBA Weekly Prayer Focus: 21st May Hospital Chaplaincy

There are currently thirteen Baptist ministers serving as Healthcare Chaplains across the EBA in a variety of settings which include Acute and Mental Health trusts.

Our hospitals can care for around 500 up to 1300 inpatients and some of our larger trusts have up to 10,000 staff in various medical professions and support roles.

Chaplains are NHS employees but also require accreditation from their denomination or faith group. There are no typical days in Chaplaincy as every shift is different and brings new challenges but a Chaplain's role will generally consist of:

### Staff support

- End-of-life care
- Teaching
- Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings, Funerals and Communion
- Taking hospital services
- Support of relatives
- Involvement in Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT)
- Overseeing multi faith provision
- Acting as a facilitator between patients and hospital staff, or family and patient, or family and staff, as required
- Engaging in regular service audit and appropriate research

### Please pray for:

- The new Healthcare Chaplaincy Standards soon to be released, that they will embed and affirm the contribution Chaplains make and open new doors.
- Patience and wisdom in seeking to meet the urgent needs of patients and staff, while also caring for ourselves.
- Our NHS in East Anglia in a time of unprecedented pressure and limited resources.
- New volunteers to join our Chaplaincy teams post



**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.

Covid

- The many supportive conversations happening every moment of every day across our region with patients, families and staff.

### North Norfolk Foodbank

During May any of the following would be much appreciated:

- Long Life Milk – full fat or semi-skimmed – Tinned Fruit – Tinned Meat – Tinned Vegetables – Tinned Tomatoes – Pasta Sauce – Rice Pudding – Biscuits – Pot Noodles/Mugshots – Squash – Cereal – Coffee – Plus any toiletries or household cleaning items

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

### Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"Prayer is beyond any question the highest activity of the human soul. Man is at his greatest and highest when, upon his knees, he comes face to face with God" *Martyn Lloyd-Jones.*

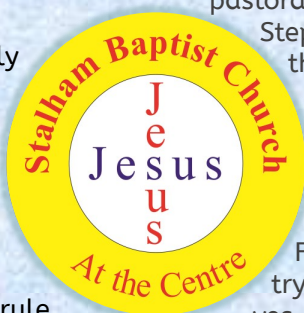
"How is God's name hallowed amongst us?"  
Answer: "When our life and doctrine are truly Christian"- Martin Luther (Greater Catechism).

"Before we can pray, 'Thy kingdom come, we must be willing to pray, 'My kingdom go'. *Alan Redpath.*

"Your kingdom come" is a prayer that God's rule will come to others through us. It is a prayer for Christ to work His revolutionary power in a fallen world. Your kingdom come in my family, my job, my city, my nation. This is a big prayer that depends on a big God. And when truly prayed, it makes for a big life. Is your life, is my life, big enough to pray, "your kingdom come"?" *Kent Hughes.*

"Prayer is a mighty instrument, not for getting man's will done in heaven, but for getting God's will done on earth, *Robert Law.*

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I asked myself: am I adding value to turning up into this space? Or is it just for selfish gain? The key was knowing I was representing a movement of people of different views, and that the invitation was about the wider Baptist movement having a space at this particular table. When I reached Westminster Abbey, it was really interesting to hear from others there. Everyone had their story. I chatted with someone in front of me who was part of the Girlguiding movement; I was next to someone else who had been given an MBE for community work; and there was another who'd received an MBE for working in a deprived area using karate to socially transform. Immediately my viewpoint started to change: those organising the Coronation were saying: 'I see you, I hear you, and I want to honour you for the work you're doing.' Regardless of what I think of the monarchy as a whole, there was something really powerful in that. Being given an invitation into that space meant those people and the movements they represented felt recognised and valued. Going into Westminster Abbey was surreal. Twenty-four hours earlier I had been talking to a minister about a pastoral situation. Here I was now making small talk with

Stephen Fry, Nick Clegg and others while waiting for the service to start. When it did, I was fortunate to have a really good seat in the nave opposite the Royal Family: I was just to the right of Archbishop Justin Welby when he preached the sermon; and when the King and Queen were crowned and sat on their second throne, I had a direct view.

For all the pomp and ceremony, the service was trying to put God in the centre. I had mixed emotions – yes, I do want God to bless people, so I want God to bless the King to enable him to do a good job and be a voice for the voiceless. The whole commitment to serve made the words so powerful.

And yet it was all surrounded in gold and crowns. It was committing to serve, but from a place of privilege. There was this whole element of inclusivity, yet communion was restricted to the King and Queen. Of course, I understood for practical reasons there was no way you could serve communion to 2000 people in a service like that. But it had a two-tone effect – the words about sacrifice were amazing; the symbolism felt excluding. Naturally I have the lens of a Free Church, and a specifically Baptist, perspective on this; but following the service I chatted briefly with NHS nurses who said they felt seen and heard, and didn't share my thoughts about communion. It's

## There was definitely an effort to try and honour God in that space'

Baptists Together President Hayley Young reflects on being at Westminster Abbey to witness the Coronation of King Charles III

*I had to think long and hard about attending the Coronation of King Charles III. As the current President of Baptists Together, I had been invited to represent our movement. Yet I'm not a royalist: I don't believe the King is appointed by God; I'm uncomfortable about how the Royals are born into huge privilege; and the whole expense of the day during a cost of living crisis sat uneasily.*

Given all this, I checked whether I could transfer the invitation to someone else. However, this wasn't possible, and I therefore had to wrestle with the decision to accept.

If you're offered a space at the table, what do you do? Several factors swayed me: I'm a massive fan of history and I understood the significance of the event.



another perspective.

It made me think about the [Building a Bigger Table](#) presidential theme: what does it mean to invite all different people from all walks of life? Ultimately, people's desire is to be seen and heard. That was a really powerful image to take away. I guess one of the things with Building a Bigger Table is you don't know who you're going to be next to. At the Baptist Assembly last year, I encouraged people to look at the people around them, and think about would they ever be seen with these people in any other area? The argument is often we wouldn't – but we've got Jesus in common and that unites us.

**Hayley can be briefly spotted around 1 min 20 for around 10 seconds as guests waited for the Coronation service to begin**

I'd love to say we were at the Coronation for the purpose of Jesus, but that wasn't the case. Yet it challenged my own prejudice. I was next to someone from the Privy Council – he was the fourth generation of his family to be at a coronation. I had to rid myself of the prejudice and the preconceived ideas of what I imagined someone to be like, and just relate in this space. The whole thing of Building a Bigger Table is trying to let go of this prejudice, meet with the people next to us, and learn from each other.

At the end there was some milling about until the high-profile royals left – and then within 45 minutes I was on the train back home, dressed in my best, and with the images and words of the service at the front of my mind. It was a lot to process. What had I just witnessed? It felt like a really long service, particularly as we had to be there at 8am, but then it was gone. I'm not quite sure how you process all that.

Overall, it was amazing. It was an honour to be in that space, representing our movement. It was a huge privilege to witness something of history.

Ultimately I believe God is in everything – and there was definitely an effort to try and honour God there.

**Hayley Young is President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain 2022-23.**

**She becomes the Regional Minister Co Team Leader at the Southern Counties Baptist Association from July, having served as the Transitional Strategic Leader (Regional Minister) of the Northern Baptist Association**

Source Baptist Times for more information click [HERE](#)



**Jen, a loving mum in Malawi, dreams of her children being able to have**

**the education they deserve.**

Her hard-working boys have earned places at top colleges – but Jen cannot afford to send them both. 'My heart longs to see our children finish school,' says Jen. 'These dreams are very important to me, because by doing so, I'll be sure that I am creating a good future for the children.'

**"My heart longs to see our children finish school." - Jen.**



## A terrible dilemma

Her oldest two boys have gained tertiary education places, which is very rare for young people from her rural area. One has a place at a prestigious polytechnic and one at a well-known college – it's even on one of Malawi's banknotes.

Jen works hard to provide for her children. But she can barely scratch a living from the soil. Soaring costs of food, fuel, fertiliser, school uniforms and school fees are crushing dreams and keeping her family in poverty.

Now, Jen has had to make a choice. One no mum should be forced to make. Rising costs mean Jen can pay for only one of her sons' college courses.



### Help this strong and determined mum provide for her family's future

Jen desperately needs to earn more, so that her oldest son Mathews can study as well. His place at a prestigious college is reserved for a year, so Jen remains hopeful that he'll be able to start his course.

The erratic weather is affecting Jen's profits. 'The result is that our harvest is very little,' she says.

But Jen remains resilient. 'We say, let's work hard so that the money will help the children go to school,' she smiles.

**"We say, let's work hard so that the money will help the children go to school." - Jen.**

### Crops with amazing potential

Jen and her husband have two acres of pigeon peas, but they are struggling with the effects of the climate crisis. The rainfall is unreliable, and there are more storms, flooding and stronger winds.

The pigeon pea is a tough plant, able to withstand a lot – just like Jen. But to make the most of her crop, Jen needs to plant good quality seeds and sell for the best price possible, and not to unscrupulous middlemen.

### This Christian Aid Week, you can help dreams come true

Your gift could help farmers like Jen plant better seeds, secure a fairer price for their crops, and build happier futures for their children.

Please give today, and help this strong and determined mum provide for her family's future.

For more information click [HERE](#)