

# Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday July 23rd

This Sunday Ron is leading and continuing the series in Hebrew 6: 1-3 on foundations. Reading Mathew 3: 7-17 "Baptism"

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

1 Cor 12:12-14, Heb 11:28f, Ex 12 &13, Rom 6:3-4, Jn 7:37f, Eph 5:18

## For Your Prayers

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember Iris Clark.

During July please pray for the residents of Lancaster Close, Ellis Close and Lyndford Road.

Almighty God, as a church we daily pray that "Your Kingdom Come" but we so often live in ways that prevent its coming. We spend too much of our time trying to build our own human kingdom, putting ourselves, rather than you, the centre our lives. Send your spirit to remind us that you are "First" and others are "Second" and we are "Third".

Creator God, we thank you for the example of leadership given to us by your Son, Jesus Christ, in his life on earth. We pray for the renewal of a spirit of humility and a sense of responsibility among our government and leaders around this world that the hungry might be fed, the homeless are homed, the oppressed might be freed to live in peace, and no longer it will be the rich that have the pleasure and the poor that gets the blame.

Mighty God, we thank you for your love and compassion for all in our fellowship and community who suffer in body, mind and spirit. We pray that your healing presence will calm their fears, ease their pain and bring light into the darkness of all who are unwell, struggling with poor mental wellbeing, and wrestling with their faith in You. We ask that You be with us, and all who need your loving touch at this time.

## Virtual Prayer Room

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** Jerry posted "From Iris Clark: I was wondering if I could ask for prayers as I should have been going to have my simple stent changed. But they couldn't do it as my kidney was swollen. So I am now in Norfolk and Norwich. Should have been done today, but nothing xxx"

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July** Jerry Posted "From Iris: At last good news. I had my procedure this afternoon, and all went well. I have had a tube put in my kidney, and it's draining well. I should be coming home tomorrow. Can I say a big thank you for your prayers? I really felt they were answered this afternoon when I had to transfer beds which meant I had to go up 2 steps thought I would never do it, but I did. Much love to you all."

## Prayer Meeting in Sanctuary Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> all Welcome

Diana writes. We had a great time of prayer in the Sanctuary a couple of weeks ago. The next one will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm. Everyone welcome. We will miss out August as lots of people are away but do hope to carry on monthly in between the virtual meetings we have for both prayer and Bible Study.

## Bible Reading Blog

### Matthew 14: 22 - 33 (NIV) "Jesus walks on Water"

<sup>22</sup> Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup> After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

<sup>25</sup> Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

<sup>27</sup> But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

<sup>28</sup> "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

<sup>29</sup> "Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!"



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington  
01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno  
07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon 07951949128  
Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

## For your Diary

### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July

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 25<sup>th</sup> July

Coffee and Chat

9.30am -12 in the Stables

### Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July

Table Tennis

9.30am to 12 in the Church

10-12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

7.00pm Zoom Bible Study

All Welcome to join in

Contact Diana for details

### Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July

10 to 12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

7.00pm Prayer Meeting in the Chapel

All Welcome to join in

### Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July

10.15 to 12.00pm Prayers for Revival &

Israel at Three Windows,

Brumstead Road

1.15 to 3pm Foodbank in Stables &

Citizens Advice Service

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July

10.45 Sunday Service

Welcome: Fran & Henry

Flowers: Eileen Neil

## Food Bank, Citizens Advice Service & 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**: if you need help, or know someone in difficulty, either contact the Food Bank on 07826 376343, or contact Ron Skivington at [minister@stalhambaptist.org.uk](mailto:minister@stalhambaptist.org.uk)

The **Citizens Advice Service** is open on Friday in the Stables, 1.15 to 3.00pm. Contact Food Bank on 07826 376343.

## Community Fridge Open

Monday 2 - 4pm

Tue to Friday 10.am to 12 noon

As Christians do Actions  
speak louder than words?

<sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

<sup>32</sup> And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

***As Christian how many times has your faith been eroded by your doubts and the material world around us, and what were the outcomes?***

Listen to Jerry's short blog based on this verse click [Jerry's Blog](#). Or go to [www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/) and click on "Our Weekly Bible Commentary"

## North Norfolk Foodbank

During July any of the following would be much appreciated:

**Tinned Fish, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce, Rice Pudding, Jam, Pot Noodles/ Mugshots, Cuppa Soup, any toiletries or household cleaning items and also reusable shopping bags**

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

Financial donations are always welcome.

## Vintage Market

Di Cornell is organising a Vintage Market on Sunday 20th August. SBC has regularly had a stall in the street. Fran has normally managed the stall but isn't able to this year. If you think you could arrange a stall to raise funds please have a chat with David.

## Sponsored Bike and Walk

The Norfolk Churches Trust sponsored bike and walk will take place on the 9th September. Forms and details of how to raise money for the Trust and SBC are at the back of the church. You can also register online at <https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride-walk/bike-ride-registration-form/>

Since the Bike Ride started, the Trust has raised over £4million! A tremendous effort by everyone who has taken part. 2023 will be the 40th anniversary of the Bike Ride and they want to make it a really special day. The total raised in 2022 was a magnificent £134,301.

## EBA Weekly Prayer Focus: 23rd July Westcliff Baptist Church

Westcliff Baptist Church is in an urban suburb of Southend-on-Sea, a city on the Thames Estuary in Essex. There are around 25,000 people living in Westcliff-on-Sea, around 10% of the overall population of Southend-on-Sea.

Rev Andrew Marshall has been the minister for almost four years. The fellowship is very diverse which reflects the local community. Around 100 adults and children are part of the Sunday worshipping community and, since COVID, they have adopted a different structure for Sunday worship. One notable success has been moving the refreshments from after to before the gathering. This change has helped to create a great atmosphere and 'buzz' as they approach their time of worship. Often there has been a reluctance to start the 'official' gathering because the depth of conversation that is happening over tea and coffee (and pastries/doughnuts)!

Once a month the morning gathering becomes 'Creative Church', a space with fun, laughter, teaching, crafts, and activities. Whenever there are five Sundays in a month,

the church leaves the building and goes into people's homes, the community, parks, and the beach.

During the week at Westcliff Baptist Church, there are many different things happening. Home groups (soon to be life groups), online prayer space, discipleship group, prayer & Pilates, a youth programme, and a wellbeing space. The church is also used by several community groups, including a chamber choir, self-defence classes, toddler groups and baby massage.

This is a season of growth at Westcliff Baptist Church and God is bringing new people into the fellowship.

Prayer requests:

- To continue seeing new growth and people giving their lives to Christ.
- To learn the rhythms of their community.
- To be relevant to the people they serve.

## Has baptism been on your mind.

Believer's baptism is a very special moment on the journey of faith. It is a moment when God's presence and blessing meets us, and when we make our personal commitment of faith in Jesus as Lord.

It signifies the end of our old life and of being born again to new life in Christ. It speaks of repentance and

cleansing, of being united with Christ in his death and resurrection, and of witnessing to the call of God upon our lives. Baptism is also about receiving God's Spirit for service in the church and in the world. Please speak to Ron if baptism is on your mind.



## Quotes of the Week

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."  
C.S. Lewis

"To put it simply: the Holy Spirit bothers us. Because he moves us, he makes us walk, he pushes the Church to go forward. And we are like Peter at the Transfiguration: 'Ah, how wonderful it is to be here like this, all together!' ... But don't bother us. We want the Holy Spirit to doze off ... we want to domesticate the Holy Spirit. And that's no good. because he is God, he is that wind which comes and goes and you don't know where. He is the power of God, he is the one who gives us consolation and strength to move forward. But: to move forward! And this bothers us. It's so much nicer to be comfortable."  
Pope Francis,

"Restoring hope is not a one-size-fits-all approach; it is a gentle dance, guided by the Holy Spirit, where we meet individuals where they are and lead them to where God intends them to be."  
Justin Ho Guo Shun,

**"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."**

**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.