

# Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday August 27th

This Sunday Diana and Dan are leading and John Applegate will be preaching from Ephesians 2: 6-10 "Our Place with Christ"

Jerry will be leading at the Lord's Table.

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"

## For Your Prayers

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **Christine and Robert Emerson**. During September please pray for the residents of **Heron Gardens and Bramblewood**.

Please pray for the people of **war-torn countries** and ask God to influence the leaders who are playing their strategic games where death and destruction is a brutal calculation in a means to an end that He will warm their hearts and open their eyes to the savagery of their actions for humanity and their own salvation.

Lord as we look back over the last weeks that have highlighted the simmering racism in our country and the response of the government, let us remember Eleanor Roosevelt's words "Pit race against race, religion against religion, prejudice against prejudice. Divide and conquer! We must not let that happen here." Please Lord help us not to get drawn into that trap as a nation. Let us listen to the words of Martin Luther King Jnr who said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Help us Lord as Christians to stand tall and speak out against racism and not be thought of in the way Martin Luther King described "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

## Prayer for Escape

Lord. I have reached my Christian retirement. Sitting contented in front of Your gentle glowing log fire I bathe in the warmth of Your love and grace. When the world's troubles interrupt my comfort zone, I pray from my armchair. My work done I feel blessed Lord, fulfilled, Your servant.

In my Christian youth I was restless in your embrace, energised, constantly trying to feed those whose hunger could only be fed by You.

In Isaiah 43:19 (ERV). You told me *'Because I am doing something new! Now you will grow like a new plant. Surely you know this is true. I will even make a road in the desert, and rivers will flow through that dry land.'* And I grew like a new plant and followed your road into the desert of others' despair and need, but the rivers of Your word and love were soaked up by the aridness of people's hearts.

Those days long gone my Christianity matured, wrinkled in the heat of the desert sun. My energy eroded by sandy winds of failure.

Dear Lord, who was tortured to death on the cross for me, energise me, provide a pin to burst the comfort bubble surrounding my life, let me escape and become again the messenger that boasts of your Love and Salvation, without fear of ridicule, ambivalence, and hate. Prayers from F.Dilch

## Virtual Prayer Room

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August** Julia Maile posted "Hi. Please can you keep Thomas in your prayers. He became dizzy and blacked out on the way to Norwich this morning.

He is in the N&N while they sort out why. Best guess at present is a problem with his heart but maybe a chest infection. Thank you, Julia and Thomas."

Later on Saturday Julia posted "Hi. The cardiologist has just phoned me, which was very nice of him. He said they think the most likely cause was Thomas' heart going very slow so he fainted. They are now monitoring his heart and will keep Thomas in to see his consultant on Monday. If that is the case he will probably have a pacemaker. Jx"

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August** Jenny posted "Please could you pray for Ros Wilson, known to some of our musicians, she is in N&N having had a heart attack yesterday. Thanks."

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



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington

01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno

07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon 07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

## For your Diary

### Monday 28th August

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

### Tuesday 29th August

Coffee and Chat  
9.30am - 12 in the Stables

### Wednesday 30th August

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

### Thursday 31st August

10 to 12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables  
7.00 - 8.00pm prayers in the Sanctuary  
All Welcome to join in

### Friday 1st September

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 3rd September

10.45 Sunday Service  
Welcome: Jill & Elinor

Flowers: Sussanah Pegg

## 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 10am 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.

## Bible Reading Blog Romans 3: 1-8 (NIV) God's Faithfulness

3 What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? 2 Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God.

3 What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? 4 Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written:

"So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge."<sup>1</sup>

5 But if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say? That God is unjust in bringing his wrath on us? (I am using a human argument.) 6 Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world? 7 Someone might argue, "If my falsehood enhances God's truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?" 8 Why not say—as some slanderously claim that we say—"Let us do evil that good may result"? Their condemnation is just! **As Christians do we always think God will be true to His Word??**

Ron brilliantly unravels the words of Paul's words to the Romans and asks questions of where we are today. Well worth a listen.

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

### Ladies Breakfast

The next Ladies Breakfast will be on Saturday 2nd September 8.30 to 10.30am in SBC's Stables. Breakfast includes cereal, fruit Juice, pastries, and a cooked breakfast. The Guest Speaker is Hazel Manley.

No fixed charge, but all donations are appreciated, all profits will go to a charity.

Book a place or more information by contacting Elaine on 07796 875785 or email [Elainesmith364@btinternet.com](mailto:Elainesmith364@btinternet.com)

### Leprosy Mission Donations

After last Sunday's brilliant service taken by Daisy Mansfield from the Leprosy Mission if you would like to make a donation to be sent to the Leprosy Mission please put it in a separate envelope marked Leprosy Mission and place it in the offering bag or you could also donate on line to Stalham Baptist Church sort code 20-99-21 Account Number 00821705 with the ref. Leprosy Mission or LM and Stewart will send it to the Leprosy Mission from SBC.

### EBA Weekly Prayer Focus: 27th August Whepstead Baptist Church

Located five miles to the southwest of Bury St. Edmunds is the village of Whepstead, home to the fellowship of Whepstead Baptist Church. Although the Church does not have its own Minister, it is faithfully served by a group of retired Ministers and Lay Preachers.

The Sunday congregation averages about twelve to twenty in the fellowship. There is a Junior Church with craft based activities which is well received. Following the service, there are refreshments and an opportunity for chat and fellowship.

The weekly Prayer and Praise meetings on the premises were disrupted by COVID. Zoom meetings meant that they could meet both on a Sunday and a Thursday evening. The Sunday services are back to normal, though they have retained Zoom midweek, as it suits those who would not venture out on an evening.

Whepstead gives thanks that in July they celebrated a baptism of a husband and wife. Sharon Steven, part of the Church Leadership, said; "One of our most faithful ministers took the baptism and it was such a lovely time of worship and thanksgiving together."

Harvest weekend is always a popular outreach event for the fellowship. As that weekend approaches, the congregation are looking forward to welcoming villagers and those connected with the fellowship to worship together.

2024 will be an important year for Whepstead Baptist Church. They will be celebrating their 180th anniversary. Planning has begun to mark this occasion with a "Church Weekend" of activities.

Please pray for:

- The upcoming Harvest Festival.
- The plans for the 2024 celebration.
- Give thanks for those who faithfully lead services and the fellowship.

Whepstead church added "We send greetings to our fellow churches and ask God's blessing upon you all."

### North Norfolk Foodbank

During August 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.

### Zoom Meetings

Because of folks being away on holiday during August there will be no Zoom meetings for Bible Study & Prayer. These will re-commence in September.

### Quotes of the Week

"I love to walk. Walking is a spiritual journey and a reflection of living. Each of us must determine which path to take and how far to walk; we must find our own way, what is right for one may not be for another. There is no single right way to deal with late stage cancer, to live life or approach death, or to walk an old mission trail."

"A long walk is a slow remembering of how profound and wonderful life is; God is everywhere and in everything. Wherever I look I am looking at God."

"I am fighting to stay alive not because I fear death, but because I love life."

*Quotes from Edie Littlefield Sundby, from The Mission Walker: I was given three months to live...*

**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.