

# Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday September 10th

This Sunday Maggie Harpur and Jerry will be service leaders and Jerry will continue the Sermon series on Love. This week's topic is "What is Love? Part 1" and the reading is 1 Cor 13:4-8.

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

1 John 3:16, 4:10, Rom 5:8, Rom 12:10, Eph 4:23, 1 Thess 5:14, 2 Tim 2:24.

## For Your Prayers

As we pray through the Church Pastoral Group 2 please remember Maggie Harpur, Monica Payne, Frank Payne and Eileen Neill

During September please pray for the residents of Heron Gardens and Bramblewood.

Pray that the Harvest Community Scene which is being distributed will reach out to the community.

Merciful God we recognise that the work of helping people through life can leave Christians vulnerable to spiritual attack.

We pray Lord for Dr Richard Scott, a medic since 1983, who began discussing religion with his vulnerable patient, including sharing his own faith, before clasping his patient's hands in prayer. A complaint was made and Richard Scott was taken to a tribunal. The tribunal found that though patient B did consent to undertake a spiritual discussion, Dr Scott "then overstepped the boundaries". In a 41-page ruling following the tribunal hearings, which began on August 21, the MPTS concluded Dr Scott's conduct constituted misconduct.

But the ruling continued: "However, in the context of these events, it did not find that Dr Scott's conduct could be considered deplorable or disgraceful.

Therefore, it concluded that although this amounted to misconduct, Dr Scott's actions did not cross the high threshold required to be considered serious misconduct.

The tribunal is currently sitting to consider if Dr Scott should be given a warning letter – which would be his second.

Lord, we pray for Christians who have the courage to gently pray with those in distress and risk being accused of misconduct.

Faithful God, forgive us for those times when we treat ourselves with less kindness than you do. We want to believe in ourselves the way you believe in us and so as we go out to live the coming week show us more of the life you have designed especially for us to live.

When evil darkens our world, give us light. When despair numbs our souls, give us hope. When we stumble and fall, lift us up. When doubts assail us, give us faith. When nothing seems sure, give us trust. When ideals fade, give us vision. When we lose our way, be our guide! That we may find serenity in Your presence, and purpose in doing Your will. – John D. Rayner

## Virtual Prayer Room

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August** Julia posted "Thank you for your prayers. Thomas is safely back home. David has had his medication altered, which should help, and he is having an urgent (3 months) angiogram. Thanks again. Jx"

Also on Thursday Jerry posted "Update from Susannah: Thank you so much for all your prayers. My sister doesn't feel any pain. She can go back home tomorrow."

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** Doreen posted "Please could you pray for my good friend Louise. She is going to Papworth to have investigations into her arteries/heart. Many will know Louise who lived in Stalham for many years. Thank you xx"

Also on Saturday Robert posted "Update on Annie: Annie has a coil in her brain to stop the bleeding. She had to have this done twice, as the first one failed to work.

She is now out of Intensive Care, and in the HDU.

She may be returned to the N&N, but this is only a possibility.

She's quite confused, and we still don't know what was done about the heart



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington

01692 582731

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno

07733837687

Secretary: Diana Gordon 07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

## For your Diary

### Monday 11th September

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

### Tuesday 12th September

Coffee and Chat

9.30am -12 in the Stables

### Wednesday 13th September

Table Tennis

9.30am to 12 in the Church

10-12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

### Thursday 14th September

10 to 12pm Warm Spaces in the Stables

7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting

All Welcome to join in

Contact Diana for details

### Friday 15th 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

### Saturday 16th September

8.30am Men's Breakfast in the Stables

### Sunday 17th September

10.45 Sunday Service

Welcome: Maureen K & Jane

Flowers: Jane Dalton

### Thursday September 21st

3.15 Harvest Messy Church

## 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

Mon 2 to 4pm Tue to Friday 10am to 12 pm

problem.”

Later that day Robert posted “Update on Annie: She is now unresponsive, has high blood pressure, and has developed a cough.”

**Monday September 4<sup>th</sup>** Doreen posted “Please continue to pray for Louise, she is having a procedure done this morning at Papworth xx”

**Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>** Doreen posted “Louise says thanks for the prayers and she is hoping to go home today xx” On the same day Robert posted “Annie update: Sadly, no progress.”

**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**

## Bible Reading Blog (MSG)

### When the Sheep Get Scattered Ezekiel 34: 1-6

**34** <sup>1-6</sup> God’s Message came to me: “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherd-leaders of Israel. Yes, prophesy! Tell those shepherds, ‘GOD, the Master, says: Doom to you shepherds of Israel, feeding your own mouths! Aren’t shepherds supposed to feed sheep? You drink the milk, you make clothes from the wool, you roast the lambs, but you don’t feed the sheep. You don’t build up the weak ones, don’t heal the sick, don’t doctor the injured, don’t go after the strays, don’t look for the lost. You bully and badger them. And now they’re scattered every which way because there was no shepherd—scattered and easy pickings for wolves and coyotes. Scattered—*my sheep!*—exposed and vulnerable across mountains and hills. My sheep scattered all over the world, and no one out looking for them!

*As Christians when we look at the world and our leaders where are the shepherds found?*

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”

Ron’s blog is a brilliant talk about Ezekiel’s verse written around the Iron age 600BCE. Ron brings it crashing into our current world and deserves to be listened too.

## Harvest Supper, Auction and Quiz

Tempus fugit, only three weeks to the Harvest Sunday Service followed on Monday 25th September by the Harvest Supper, Quiz and Auction in the Stables at 6.30pm.

To Book please leave a message on 07796 875785 Or email [elain smith364@btinternet.com](mailto:elain smith364@btinternet.com)

### Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival is on Sunday 24th September. Can you donate flowers, tins of food and fresh produce so we can decorate the stage with them? All the donation of tins etc. will go to the Foodbank and the fresh flowers and produce will be auctioned at Monday’s supper. Money raised from the auction will be donated to the BMS World Mission for Gulu, Uganda. See page 3

### Decorate a Window

Would you like to decorate a window for the Harvest Festival. Be as creative as you like, put your name on the list at the back of the church.

### Men’s Breakfast

The next Men’s Breakfast is this coming Saturday

September 16th starting at 8.30am. There is no set charge, but donations are welcome.

Our speaker is Stewart Marsh talking about Salt Malawi. Book your place by contacting Geoff Reynolds on 01692 672120 or email [geoffreynolds51@gmail.com](mailto:geoffreynolds51@gmail.com)

## Message from North Norfolk Foodbank

*Dear Foodbank Supporter,*

During August you contributed 221.3kg of food. As we rely on food and financial donations to operate, we are extremely grateful when people choose to support us. So, thank you for thinking of us and enabling us to serve people in food crisis across North Norfolk.

In 2022/23 we fed 6816 people, which was an increase of 53% on the previous year. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are able to provide clients with everything they need, with 72,741kg of stock coming in, up 34% on the previous year.

Once again thank you so much for your generous donations.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Claxton (Foodbank Administrator)

You can contact us by telephone on 07826 376343

Monday to Friday 9am

until 3pm. The office/warehouse is open Monday to Friday 9am until 12noon.

During September 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.

## Big Thankyou

Henry would like to thank you all for your prayers, cards, phone calls and good wishes for which he is extremely grateful.

## EBA Weekly Prayer Focus:

### 10th September

## The EBA Council & Regional Team

At this time of change in the life of the EBA, we would like to invite you to pray for the Association Council and the Regional Team.

The EBA council are the trustees of the association. They each serve in a voluntary capacity and our moderator, Fiona Heddle acts as the chairperson of council. We currently have 11 trustees, some of whom head up EBA task groups. You can find out more about who is involved and their areas of responsibility [here](#). The next EBA council meeting is on Monday 18 September.

The Regional Team is also undergoing change following the retirement of Beth, Graeme feeling called to move on and the appointment of our new team leader David Mayne. Claire Blatchford and Gale Richards are continuing to serve as Regional Ministers among all this change and we are grateful for the gift that they are to the association.

**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.

Our company secretary Hayley Beckett keeps the association organised and running. Diane Forsyth serves as the Safeguarding lead for the EBA and the Central Baptist Association. We are grateful for Diane and Hayley and their administrative ability, knowledge and the pastoral heart that they bring to their roles.

Graeme will serve as one of the regional team until 10th October. Please pray for him and the family who are making the move to Wiltshire and for his oldest daughter who is moving into a supported living placement near Colchester on the 18th September.

David will take up his role as our new team leader on 1st November and his induction service will be on Wednesday 29th November. Please pray for David and his family as he makes the adjustment to regional ministry and the time away from home that it involves.

Please pray:

- As we navigate change, that our constant focus would be that God's kingdom would come and his will would be done throughout the EBA.
- For our trustees and team as they have to make difficult decisions about the future of the EBA and the makeup of the regional team in the light of falling Home Mission giving. There are also important decisions to be made about the manses the association owns and the location of them. Please pray for God's wisdom in this.
- For the regional team as the personnel change and they enter a new period of building an understanding as a team.



## Refurbishment

Maggie Harpur received an email from Annie at NCC saying "Thank you so much for the completed monitoring report. It is great to hear about the progress being made and we are delighted to hear that the project is on track. It's also super to see the Council get a mention in the Harvest edition of the Community Scene Magazine, thank you! It was great to read about all the ideas you have for using the new space, adding to the amazing list of services and support already on offer. I hope that the project will continue to run smoothly and share your excitement about the project completing! Do keep in touch as we always love to hear your news. All the best."

The pictures were taken on Wednesday and show the serving hatch for the new kitchen and the steel work for the upper floor.

## Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good thing, therefore, that I can

do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again." -- Stephen Grellet, but often attributed to William Penn.

"When one has once fully entered the realm of love, the world – no matter how imperfect – becomes rich and beautiful; it consists solely of opportunities for love." — Søren Kierkegaard, Works of Love.

"What does Love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what Love looks like." — St Augustine of Hippo.

"In the New Testament, Love is more of a verb than a noun. It has more to do with acting than with feeling. The call to love is not so much a call to a certain state of feeling as it is to a quality of action.—R. C. Sproul.

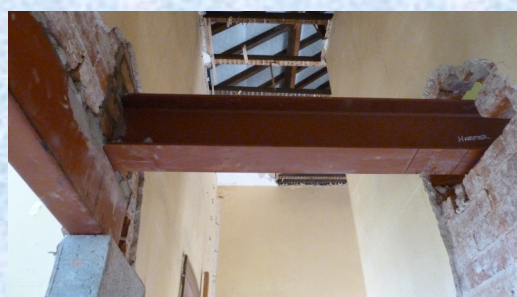
## BMS World Mission Harvest Appeal

Wildfires. Famines. Climate change. And years of civil war that left farmers rebuilding their lives from scratch.

Life in Gulu, Uganda isn't easy. But the people who live there can see a brighter future ahead. Hear how BMS World Mission's local partner has found a life-changing solution to the challenges facing farmers like Barbara in the *Days of Plenty* Harvest video click [HERE](#)

Then, learn how you're invited to join in, making incredible change happen.

Barbara loves her children and would do anything to see them grow up healthy and strong. This harvest, your church is invited to come alongside hardworking farmers like her to bring lasting hope to their families.



## HELP FOR THE JOURNEY

### WALKING WITH THOSE FORCED TO LEAVE HOME

We walk with those forced to leave home, in a time where more people than ever before have been displaced – whether within their own countries or having crossed borders. This unprecedented displacement is a sign of the world's fragility.

The UNHCR estimates that 82.4 million people worldwide are displaced, whether internally or having crossed borders. That number has never been higher. And because of the war in Ukraine, it is only increasing. There are many reasons for flight, including war, conflict, persecution, natural disasters, deep-set destitution, and

repression. Our mission workers and partners have seen examples of all of them.

Your support is helping refugees from Ukraine and elsewhere find refuge in the face of desperate situations.

We aim to counteract this fragility by improving services in their origin countries, establishing partnerships of humanity in places of transit and enabling networks of Christian welcome in destination countries.

As part of building up communities in fragile countries, BMS mission worker and agricultural expert Ruby\* created a 'food forest' in the rural mountains of Afghanistan before the evacuation in August 2021. In communities where the winter snow melt can mean the difference between having enough to eat in the spring, or utter despair, this forest of apple, pear, plum and walnut trees attracted the attention of families in the surrounding villages, coming to ask about how to look after fruit trees, feed and prune them.

As part of our mission to establish partnerships of humanity, we're working with a new partner on the Greek island of Lesbos, home to the Mavrovouni Refugee Camp, which was constructed after the fire in Moria Camp in September 2020. The first project of this partnership is the construction and running of a women's centre, which includes everything from showers to laundry services, a hospitality area and a "shop" to distribute clothes and hygiene items.

After years continued catastrophe, we've enabled networks of Christian welcome through our long-standing partners in Lebanon. They've been working alongside local churches to help them implement relief projects for vulnerable individuals and families. Families like that of Imane, a Syrian refugee in Beirut. "The food prices are out of this world," she says. But thanks to the voucher she has received from the church, "I was able to buy many things I couldn't afford anymore." The church has also provided Imane, and others like her, with hygiene kits and provisions to help them survive a harsh winter.

*\*Name changed for security reasons.*

For more information about BMS World Mission click [HERE](#)

## Mental health charity offers grants to 'be alongside'

New grant scheme offers seedcorn funding for local befriending and drop-in projects

A national mental health charity has launched a scheme offering a helping hand to churches and other organisations keen to improve the care offered to people experiencing mental health difficulties.



The Association for Pastoral Care in Mental Health, which operates under the name Being Alongside, is giving away up to £20,000 over the next two years to expand the number of drop-in café style projects and befriending schemes across the country.

Local organisations can submit applications for up to £2,000 each to support the establishment of such projects, to help cover the costs of expenses like room hire, publicity and refreshments.

The grants could also be used to fund research into the needs of the local area, and how those experiencing mental health difficulties can best be reached.

Being Alongside Chair Ben Wilson said, 'Since APCMH was founded almost 40 years ago, much has changed in society's understanding of mental health and the value of holistic care.'

There are now a far wider range of organisations working with churches and other faith groups, to address remaining stigma and share good practice on welcoming and including those experiencing mental health challenges.

But there are few avenues for direct financial support to help get new schemes off the ground.

We hope this scheme will help nurture emerging projects and in turn offer more spaces for people to be alongside each other."

The focus on drop-in and befriending services reflects the impact that Being Alongside's branches and affiliates have made with similar initiatives, such as the Battersea Befriending Network, filling a gap left between statutory and other services.

Projects interested in applying for funding are invited to submit an application by completing the simple form on the [Being Alongside website](#)  
Source Baptist Times

## Dan StJohn

By popular demand Dan played the song "The Goodness of God" again last Sunday. Everyone joined in and when they got to the verse "Your Goodness is Running After Me" members of the fellowship of all ages were up and walking round the church like the Sunday before.

SBC is so blessed with babies, children, mums & dads, and people into their 90s. Between 60 to 100 all enjoy listening to the word of God and being part of a fellowship that is always welcoming; enjoying each other's company and an uplifting morning

## Newsletter

Next week David is away please send information for the bulletin for the 17th Sept. to Barbara & Geoff at 01692 672120 or email [geoffreynolds51@gmail.com](mailto:geoffreynolds51@gmail.com)  
A thank you for their help.

