

# Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News



Sunday November 19th

This Sunday Maggie and Jerry are leading and Jerry is beginning a new sermon series "The Characters of Christmas"

This Sunday will begin with Herod.

"The Grinch who hated Christmas"

The sermon will consider Herod as:

(1) The Great (2) The Paranoid (3) The Grinch

The reading is Matthew 2: 1-18

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

We pray for Church Pastoral Group 3, please pray for: Luke Marsh, Maria Marsh, Teresa Ince-Jones, Kelly McGlenaghan and Ruth Hayward.

During November please pray for the residents of Lower Staithe Road, Albion Drive, Old Market Road including Market Mews and Chapel Court.

Lord, we pray that our government's new cabinet will coalesce and focus on the needs of the whole of the people of the UK.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the opportunity to come together in your name during this Christmas time. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus during these testing times, we ask for strength so that we may keep our eyes open to those who are struggling in our communities, moving our hearts into action to do your will. We ask that those who follow Jesus will bring about your kingdom through acts of love and compassion, and that the Church will be bold and empowered to bring the endless love of Jesus to those in need. We pray that those tormented by doubt and worry this Christmas may be guided by your light to courageously step forward and find the solutions to their problems and begin their journey from desperation to hope. In Jesus' name, Amen.

We pray for those who are struggling in our community this Christmas. May they find hope and light in their darkness. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. We think of everyone who is facing financial difficulties during this cost-of-living crisis. May all who are in poverty, access the support they need. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. We thank you, God, for the hope that we can have in you. May our actions be a sign of hope for all. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Source Christians Against Poverty <https://capuk.org/>

## Bible Reading Blog

### Romans 12: 1-8 Place Your Life Before God (MSG)

**12** <sup>1-2</sup> So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

<sup>3</sup> I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.

<sup>4-6</sup> In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvellously functioning parts in Christ's

## For your Diary

### Monday 20th November

7.00pm Deacons meeting

10.30 to 11.30am in the Church

Prayers for SBC and young people

2 to 4pm Warm Space in the Stables

### Tuesday 21st November

9.30am - 12 Coffee and Chat in the Stables

### Wednesday 22nd November

Table Tennis

9.30am to 12 in the Church

10-12pm Warm Space in the Stables

2.00pm Esther Curson's

Thanksgiving for Life Service at SBC

### Thursday 23rd November

10.30 to 11.30am Prayer Meeting in the Chapel. All Welcome to join in

7.00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting

Contact Diana for details

### Friday 24th November

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 25th November

8.30am Men's Breakfast in the Stables

### Sunday 26th November

10.45 Sunday Service

Welcome: Henry & Teresa

Flowers: Jane Skivington

## Personal Prayer, Food Bank, & Citizens Advice

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.

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.

body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't.

<sup>6-8</sup> If you preach, just preach God's Message, nothing else; if you help, just help, don't take over; if you teach, stick to your teaching; if you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy; if you're put in charge, don't manipulate; if you're called to give aid to people in distress, keep your eyes open and be quick to respond; if you work with the disadvantaged, don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face.

**As a Christian how easy is it just to mould into the environment you live in?**

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

### Edna's Christmas Craft Fayre

To be held at Eureka, St John's Rd, Stalham on Thursday 7th Dec and Friday 8th Dec 10.30-3.30pm. Come and see lots of Christmas ideas, presents, gifts etc. If anyone can make some table decorations, they would be most welcome. All proceeds to Stalham Baptist Church.

### Norfolk Wherry Brass Band

The Norfolk Wherry Brass Band will be visiting SBC on Friday 8th December at 7.30pm they will be playing a selection of Christmas music. Entry is by donations to be shared between the band and SBC in memory of Marie Read. There will be refreshments during the interval.

### Gracie's Hand Made Bracelets

Thank you to everyone who bought one of Gracie's bracelets Sunday 5th or placed an order. So far, she has raised £30 for the Nephrotic Syndrome Trust (this is without any money raised from the orders that were placed).

Gracie will be selling the last 8 bracelets this Sunday and taking any more personalised orders that people have. Bracelets are £2.50 each with £1 from every bracelet sold going to the Nephrotic Syndrome Trust.

If you placed an order on 5th Sunday, Gracie should hopefully have your bracelets ready for Sunday November 19th so please bring your money that day.

### Norfolk Food Bank

During November any of the following would be much appreciated:

**Tinned Meat, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Tomatoes, Squash/Fruit Juice, Pasta Sauce, Jam, Long Life Milk, Cereal, plus 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. Once again thank you so much for your generous donations.

### Shoebox Appeal Service This Sunday

The Shoebox service at St Mary's will be this Sunday at 3.00pm.

### EBA Weekly Prayer Focus 19th November Quay Church Woodbridge

Woodbridge is a vibrant market town on the banks of the River Deben in Suffolk and home to Quay Church based in refurbished buildings in the town centre. The lead pastor is Doug Waller and Guy Mansell is the families pastor at this lively and growing church supported by a strong

leadership team and a wide range of talented volunteers. The church is doing well and is full on Sundays. There is a morning service with children's and youth activities, an evening youth club each week, plus monthly songs of praise service.

Quay has a real family feel and an energetic programme of activities for youth, children and parents. Partnering with families and intentionally supporting parenting for faith is key to this.

With an expanding church community they are looking to take on more staff, plant further congregations, and also explore a potential additional building to provide a community hub that can offer extra space, more activities and counselling services.

There have been a number of recent baptisms, a youth weekend away, and a new Alpha course which begins in the new year and is the first since covid.

The congregation at Quay is drawn from the local area but there is current consideration being given to exploring church planting in surrounding areas.

These are very exciting times for Quay looking at the next steps forward and they ask for prayers to know guidance to develop the work, to strengthen the fellowship, and to bring new people to know Jesus.

Please pray for:

Wisdom and guidance for the future.

All that is happening with new staff and an expanding church community.

The children's and youth work and for recent baptisms. Alpha starting in the new year and that it will be fruitful. Thanks for God's hand of blessing and that it may continue.

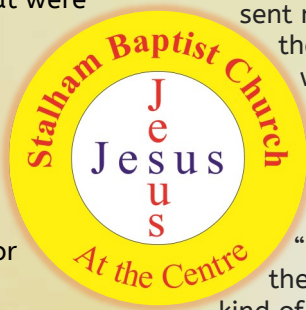
### Jerry's Quotes of the Week

God did everything necessary to get Herod's attention. He sent messengers from the East and a message from the Torah. He sent wonders from the sky and words from Scripture. He sent the testimony of the heavens and the teaching of the prophets. But Herod refused to listen. He chose his puny dynasty over Christ. He died a miserable old man. - Max Lucado

"Matthew 1-2 is setting up Jesus, "the Messiah, the son of David" (Matthew 1:1) as a different kind of leader for Israel after their time of extended exile. Unlike Herod, and even David (both of whom have certain affinities to Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar), this Messiah doesn't slaughter or oppress helpless Israelites, but rather tends them as a true shepherd (and ultimately suffers with them).-J. Richard Middleton,

"Herod the Great, as he was known in Israel did not know about the most important birth that ever occurred. He is like the king of England who wrote in his diary on the 4th of July 1776, the day of the declaration of Independence, that nothing important happened that day. Little did he know. Ask famous politicians today about Jesus Christ and all they will say will add darkness to the subject. They seldom, if ever, know anything about Christ."-John Butler

"King of my life I crown Thee now-  
Thine shall the glory be;  
Lest I forget Thy thorn-crowned brow, Lead me to Calvary."-Hussey



**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.