

Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News

Sunday January 21st

This Sunday Maggie and Jerry are leading and Jerry will be kicking off a new 11-week sermon series entitled "Who is Jesus?" that will run until Easter

Sunday. The title of this week's sermon is "Jesus the Christ", and the reading is from Matthew 16:13-20.

Jerry is exploring (1) Jesus' Question vv 13-14

(2) Peter's Answer v 15 (3) Jesus' Blessing vv 17-20

The online service will also be available from Sunday.

Go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/ Then click on "Join Our Online Service"

Jerry's Readings

Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:16-24.

For Your Prayers

We pray for Church Pastoral Group 5, please pray for: **John Chaney, Lorraine Bingham, Hazel Manley and Tim Manley.** During January please pray for the residents of **Horse Barns, Wayford Road and Stepping Stone Lane.**

Lord, we have prayed often that You would break into the stony hearts of the wealthiest people in the world. You have blessed them Lord and we thank You. A staggering new poll has revealed that support for higher taxes on wealth is popular with dollar millionaires from across G20 countries. It comes as 250 millionaires and billionaires have signed a new letter demanding world leaders increase their taxes, to coincide with the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. The polling is part of the "**Proud to Pay More**" report, published alongside the letter, which profiles some of the world's wealthiest people on why they support higher taxes on themselves. We pray Lord that this will be the beginning of the world lifting up those in poverty.

Virtual WhatsApp Prayer Room

Sunday 14th January. Penny Moseley asks that we pray for her sister Sylvia who has been diagnosed with cancer. The doctor recommends speedy treatment, but no appointments have come through to her yet.

Tuesday 16th January. Sylvia's appointment is on 23rd January - Penny says this is a great relief and answer to prayer. Please pray that all will go well, and Sylvia won't feel too poorly.

Ron's Bible Reading Blog

1 Peter 2: 11-24 Living Godly Lives in Pagan Society (MSG)

¹¹⁻¹² Friends, this world is not your home, so don't make yourselves cozy in it. Don't indulge your ego at the expense of your soul. Live an exemplary life in your neighbourhood so that your actions will refute their prejudices. Then they'll be won over to God's side and be there to join in the celebration when he arrives.

¹³⁻¹⁷ Make the Master proud of you by being good citizens. Respect the authorities, whatever their level; they are God's emissaries for keeping order. It is God's will that by doing good, you might cure the ignorance of the fools who think you're a danger to society. Exercise your freedom by serving God, not by breaking the rules. Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God. Respect the government.

The Kind of Life He Lived

¹⁸⁻²⁰ You who are servants, be good servants to your masters—not just to good masters, but also to bad ones. What counts is that you put up with it for God's sake when you're treated badly for no good reason. There's no particular virtue in accepting punishment that you well deserve. But if you're treated badly for good behaviour and continue in spite of it to be a good servant, that is what counts with God.

²¹⁻²⁵ This is the kind of life you've been invited into, the kind of life Christ lived. He suffered everything that came his way so you would know that it could be done, and also know how to do it, step-by-step.

He never did one thing wrong,
Not once said anything amiss.

They called him every name in the book, and he said nothing back. He suffered in silence, content to let God set things right. He used his servant body to carry our sins to the Cross so we could be rid of sin, free to live the right way. His wounds became your healing. You were lost sheep with no idea who you were



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Secretary: Diana Gordon 07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole Fellowship

For your Diary

Monday 22nd January

9.00am Deacons Prayer Meeting
10.30 to 11.30am in the Church
Prayers for SBC and young people
2 to 4pm Warm Space in the Stables

Tuesday 23rd January

9.30am -12 Coffee and Chat in the Schoolroom
7pm Bible Study – Revelations – at Barbara and Geoff's 01692672120

Wednesday 24th January

Table Tennis
9.30am to 12pm in the Schoolroom
10-12pm Warm Space in the Stables
7.00pm Zoom Bible Study
All are welcome.

Thursday 25th January

10 to 2pm Warm Space in the Stables

Friday 26th January

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 27th January

8.30am Men's breakfast in the Schoolroom
10.30am Norwich St John v SBC FC at Thorpe Andrew School

Sunday 28th January

10.45 Sunday Service
Welcome: David & Julia Maile
Flowers: Barbara Reynolds

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

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 Mondays 2.00 pm - 4.00pm
Tuesday to Friday 10.00am 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.

or where you were going. Now you're named and kept for good by the Shepherd of your souls.

As Christians do we always appear as good citizens?

To listen to Ron's short blog click [Rons Blog](#). Or go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/ and click on "Our Weekly Bible Commentary" Ron's blog explores Peter's advise to Christians in a pagan society and brings his words into the world we live in.

Grand Schoolroom Opening

160 people met in SBC on Saturday 13th at 11am for a short service of thanksgiving to celebrate the completion of the schoolroom refurbishment. The fellowship included councillors from NCC and NNDC, MP Duncan Baker, Mayor of Stalham Kevin Bayes, people from Stalham and outlying villages and representatives of some of the grant aid organisations. Ron said "We believed if this was the right thing to be done God would be guiding us," then gave a big thankyou to all the Grant Aid organisations and their Trustees for their very generous awards of financial support for our "SBC Community Rooms project" also thanking the Grants Administration Teams for their help during the 14-month application process with answers to numerous questions and advice. Jerry Otieno said a prayer and Norfolk CC Cllr Margaret Dewsbury of the Norfolk Social Infrastructure fund who donated £250,000 spoke passionately regarding the refurb saying it was going to be a brilliant opportunity for the community and that SBC was reaching out and has been reaching out to the community to support them with a range of activities. She then cut the ribbon and everyone went into the schoolroom for savouries, cakes, teas and coffee.

Click here to read [EDP article](#)

Click here to read [Network Norfolk article](#)

World Leprosy Day 2024 is 28th January

Barbara and Geoff are leading worship that Sunday and will be including references to The Leprosy Mission and using some of their resources. If you have a collection box do please bring it along so Stewart can include your donation in what is sent to TLM.

Thanks to everyone who bought from the TLM Christmas catalogue; purchases from the mission raised almost £400 for them and £75 for SBC.

A Please from Monica

The "Welcome" a board at the front door to the sanctuary has been renewed. We should be grateful if only Blue Tak is used for fixing posters to it.

EBA Weekly Prayer Focus 21st January Arbury Road Baptist Church

Arbury Road Baptist Church is located in the northern part of Cambridge in one of the less affluent areas of the city. The church has been around for over 90 years and for the last eight years has been led by Rev Matt Rowe, and since 2021 has been joined by Community Pioneer Kimberley Rayson. Most of the congregation live in the locality and over recent times an increasing number of people from different nationalities have been joining the church to worship. Alongside this there has been a growing number of children and young people within the church which has been a blessing to the church family and the church are trying to nurture and empower these young people within the life of the church.

Having faced some significant challenges in its history, it is wonderful that the church is slowly growing once

again. This brings with it some great opportunities but also a number of challenges, especially where resources are often scarce.

Matt says "The pandemic led to some big thinking and decisions on what we do, why we do it and what kind of church we want to be. We have set out a 'community dream' of how we want to serve and reach out to the community in North Cambridge and it has been exciting to see how God has been at work in all the church is doing". Following the covid pandemic the church have continued to stream services online recognising the power of the digital age that we are now in. Alongside Sunday services there is a busy weekly programme that includes a focus on mental health and wellbeing.

Wonderfully Made is re-new wellbeing style weekly drop-in craft space where it's OK not to be OK. Faithful Friends meet at the Arbury Community Centre cafe, to eat and drink together, read the Bible, talk about faith and pray. And SPACE2BU is an after-school drop-in space for young people addressing mental health and emotional well-being.

For a number of years the church has had a missional heart for the community and makes an active effort not just to invite people into the church, but to take the church to those in their community, joining in with what God is doing around them. As part of this Arbury Road has good relationships and often works with other local churches including the local Anglican Church and Community Church. Please pray for:

- The continuing mission of the church.
- For the resources to provide more opportunities for young people.
- For new leaders to be raised up to serve in the church.
- That the church will reveal the hope and life of Jesus to all in North Cambridge.

Quotes of the Week

"Our knowledge of Jesus must never be second-hand. A man might know every verdict ever passed on Jesus; he might know every Christology that the mind of man had ever thought out; he might be able to give a competent summary of the teaching about Jesus of every great thinker and theologian— and still not be a Christian. Christianity never consists in knowing about Jesus; it always consists in knowing Jesus. Jesus Christ demands a personal verdict. He did not ask only Peter, he asks every man: "You—what do you think of me? "— William Barclay. "It was not enough for Christ to claim to be the Messiah. He proved by His credentials in fulfilling the divine prophecies that He was indeed the Messiah. He is irrefutably the unerring fulfilment of the messianic prophecies. Not one of them fails to fit His life and ministry. Every Old Testament reference to the Messiah validates Christ's breathtaking claim, "I am He" (see John 4:26)." —*Henry Gariepy*.

"Christ be with me, Christ within me
Christ behind me, Christ before me
Christ beside me, Christ to win me
Christ to comfort me and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger
Christ in the hearts of all that love me
Christ in the mouth of friend or stranger."

Prayer of St. Patrick 390-461 A.D.



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.