

Stalham Baptist Church *Weekly News*

Sunday April 28th

This Sunday Barbara & Geoff are leading and Jerry is looking at Luke 4:1-21.

The topic is "Jesus, Full of The Holy Spirit".

The sermon will explore the role of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' ministry.

(1) Led by the Spirit vv 1-2 (2) Enabled by the Spirit. vv 3-13

(3) Empowered by the Spirit vv 14-21.

The online service will also be available from Sunday.

Go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/

Jerry's References

Deut 8:3; 6:13; 6:16; Isaiah 61:1-2, Matthew 6:13, John 3:30-36,
Acts 10:37-38, I Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 4:15, James 1:1-8, 13-17.

For Your Prayers

We pray for Church Pastoral Group 3, please pray for: Luke & Maria Marsh, Teresa Ince-Jones, Kelly McClenaghan, Ruth Hayword, Magdalena Brooks and Graham & Rebecca Gotts

During April please pray for the residents of St Benets Road & St Benets Close.

Jesus, You never had to come to earth and suffer for us, yet You did so willingly. You suffered all the temptations we face today and never gave in to them. Please give us Your strength to overcome our temptations just as You did, Lord. We need Your help and Your grace in this moment of temptation. In Your name, amen.

Dear Lord, as the dawn breaks and a fresh day unfolds before me, I come before You with a heart full of hope and a spirit eager for Your guidance. Lord, may your spirit fill me with joy, give me wisdom in choices I make, influence the words I speak, and inspire the work that I do.

Grant me the grace, Lord, to embody the love and compassion of Jesus in all my interactions, whether they be with familiar faces or those I encounter for the first time. Help me to see others through Your eyes, extending kindness, understanding, and forgiveness as effortlessly as You do. In my endeavours, both big and small, let me not lose sight of what truly matters. Protect me from the distractions and temptations that seek to divert my gaze from Your eternal truth, promises, and love.

Thank You, Lord, for the gift of this new day. May it be a testament to Your unending grace in my life yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.

Gracious God, we lift up those around us, before You. You know their suffering, and You are aware of our deep concern for their situation. We ask for Your healing touch to be upon them. Grant the medical professional's wisdom and skill, and may Your divine presence provide comfort and strength to them and their loved ones during these challenging time. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Source www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer

Ron's Bible Reading Blog Isaiah 43: 8 - 13 (NIV)

⁸ Lead out those who have eyes but are blind,
who have ears but are deaf.

⁹ All the nations gather together
and the peoples assemble.

Which of their gods foretold this
and proclaimed to us the former things?

Let them bring in their witnesses to prove they were right,
so that others may hear and say, "It is true."

¹⁰ "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD,
"and my servant whom I have chosen,
so that you may know and believe me
and understand that I am he.

Before me no god was formed,
nor will there be one after me.

¹¹ I, even I, am the LORD,
and apart from me there is no saviour.

¹² I have revealed and saved and proclaimed—
I, and not some foreign god among you.

You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "that I am God.



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Ministry Team: The Whole
Fellowship

For your Diary

Monday 29th April

9.00am Deacons Prayers

10.30 to 11.30am in the Upper room
Prayers for SBC and young people

2.00pm Warm Space in the
Schoolroom

Tuesday 30th April

9.30am -12 Coffee and Chat in the
Schoolroom

Wednesday 1st May

Table Tennis

9.30am to 12pm in the Schoolroom
10-12pm Warm Space in the Stables
7pm Zoom Bible Study.

All are welcome. Contact Diana for
more information

Thursday 2nd May

10 to 12pm Warm Space in the
Stables

Friday 3rd May

10am Bible Art in the Schoolroom
all welcome

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 5th May

10.45 Sunday Service
Welcome: Jill & Elinor

Flowers: Jane Skivington

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.

Don't get ANGRY
and HURT by people just put
them on your
PRAYER LIST

13 Yes, and from ancient days I am he.
No one can deliver out of my hand.
When I act, who can reverse

As Christians do we always stand up and witness for Jesus?

To listen to Ron's 5 min blog click [Ron's Blog](#). Or go to www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/ and click on "Our Weekly Bible Commentary" Another powerful blog from Ron, stating the world need witnesses for Jesus as we live in a problem littered world with little understanding of how to deal with it.

North Norfolk Food Bank

During April any of the following would be much appreciated: Long Life Milk, Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Fruit, Squash, Fruit Juice and shampoo. Please note that we cannot accept any fresh food or items that contain alcohol.

Personal Prayer, Food Bank, and Citizens Advice

SBC is 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

EBA Weekly Prayer Focus 28th April Central Baptist Church Chelmsford

Central is a large Bible-believing Baptist church in Chelmsford City Centre, with people of all different ages and nationalities seeking to share the good news about Jesus with others. The Staff Team has recently been expanded so that the Lead Pastor, Phil Marsden, has now been joined by Grant Hopkins as Associate Minister and Clare Hogg, as Minister in Training.

The church is active and growing with new 'First Sunday' lunches attracting up to sixty for lunch each month, and over twenty baptisms celebrated last year alone. The churches diversity (over twenty nationalities) has helped make it a welcoming place for asylum seekers and others arriving from overseas, particularly from South/East Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Sunday morning services are contemporary, with lively band-led worship, clear biblical teaching, and an informal family feel. There's a large youth and children's programme, seventeen small groups and a variety of social events that play a key part in helping the church grow as family.

The city-centre location enables the provision of services to the wider community. These include two clubs for people who are isolated and in need of friendship, and a budget coaching service for people who find it difficult to manage their finances. Coffee Central is a midweek coffee shop, providing customers with the opportunity to talk to someone and the church is jointly involved in city-wide ministries such as Food Bank, CAP-debt advice, and an emergency homeless charity.

Please pray for:

- Phil who has just returned from sabbatical and that the new Ministry team will rapidly gel together.
- Our Leadership Team, as nominations are sought for the

election of five new trustees.

- The twenty plus different nationalities represented in the church will be united in work, witness and worship.

Prayer Meeting

The Church Prayer Meetings are in the upper room with heating and are on the 1st and last Thursday of every month at 10.30am. The next one is on May 2nd

Fire Assembly Point

Change of Fire Assembly Point: Now that we have more numbers attending the service, and increasing events taking place in the school room, the fire risk assessment officer considered that our current assembly point outside Trett Philips was inadequate. The Staithe Surgery have given permission for us to use their car park as an assembly point should the need arise"

David StJohn's Current Mission

After leaving University David went to Nanning in China in 2017 and enjoyed 7 years of teaching English and immersed himself in Chinese culture. Having decided to return to the UK in the summer he took a year off work, and settled in at home, completed some teacher training, and visited some families in Uganda to spend some time volunteering He then headed to South Africa to complete a Discipleship Training School (DTS) with Youth with a Mission from January to July this year.

David says "On April the 13th, our team of 12 flew out to South Asia for 6 weeks of outreach.

We are doing lots of children ministry in the local slums. The local brothers have been working in the slums since 2006, and now run a school in

the slum where they are allowed to share and sing about their faith. They also look after the children by feeding them a meal a day and teaching the children sanitary habits. Yesterday we combed the children's hair, cut their nails and washed their hands and feet with soap.

I wanted to communicate that I plan to give the finances already given to me by SBC to the building of a church in a slum. A blue building is the 1st church

that they have built, and a brick walled area is the location for their second church - a very small and simple, but it will hold 40 people on Sundays.

The pastor told me that it costs 700,000 rupees in total to buy the land and then construct the building, they already have some of the materials needed, but the whole project is being completed by volunteers and by faith."

If you wish to support the church building project David is currently working with in South Asia, please either give Stewart a donation or place it in the offering in an envelope marked Southeast Asia. Or you can pay directly to the SBC Bank Account Sort Code:20-99-21 Account Number: 00821705 and add Southeast Asia.

Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"Sin gets its power by persuading me to believe that I will be happier if I follow it. The power of all temptation is the prospect that it will make me happier."—John Piper

"Christ is born; the Spirit is his forerunner. Christ is



Fire Evacuation In the event of a fire everyone should make their way to the fire assembly point which is outside the Staithe Surgery. For more information speak to Daniel.

baptised; the Spirit bears him witness. Christ is tempted; the Spirit leads him up. Christ ascends; the Spirit fills his place."— St. Origen

"Satan tempts us to bring out the worst in us, but God can use these difficult experiences to put the best into us. Temptation is Satan's weapon to defeat us, but it can become God's tool to build us."— Warren Wiersbe

"The Holy Spirit was the divine power by which Jesus overcame his human limitations [such as being limited in knowledge and bound by physical space and human strength], rose above his human weakness, and won out over his human mortality." — Gerald Hawthorne.

Thankyou For Kjell's Prayers Mary Says

On November 7th, 2020, David posted on the Virtual WhatsApp Prayer room "Mary who lives at Robert Smith Court Stalham has requested prayers for her great grandson who lives in Germany. Kjell is 8 and has been found to have a goose egg size tumour on his brain and is awaiting treatment." Later he posted Mary said "Please continue to pray for Kjell and his parents, he is seeing a neurosurgeon this afternoon please pray a solution can be found."

On December 5th 2020 David posted "Ross, Kjell's great aunt who lives in Durban SA says he is doing well and making good progress so far and his reflexes are good thank you for all your prayers. Kjell's family in Germany said to say thank you and appreciate all your prayers. God bless. Ros." Jenny posted "please could I ask for prayers for tomorrow morning when I will see the consultant radiologist to plan the treatment I need. Thank you all."

Throughout 2022 regular prayers were posted in the virtual prayer room. On the 4th June David posted "Please pray for Kjell who we have prayed for when he was having tumours removed from his brain and was progressing. Last night he was rushed to hospital, had a tumour removed from his head and is in a lot of pain."

On September 11th Mary Johnston Kjell's great grandmother posted Prayer Request for Kjell My name is Mary Johnston and I live at Robert Smith Court. I am not a Baptist but a Roman Catholic and attend Sacred Heart church in North Walsham but I have visited SBC occasionally. I did speak to you last October and

asked you for prayers for my great grandson KJELL who lives in Germany. He is 9 years old. He was diagnosed with a tumour on the brain last October. He has had two operations to try to remove the tumour. As the tumour is right next to the brain stem 10 per cent of it cannot be removed. He has now developed a cyst on the remaining tumour. This has had to be drained every month. The cyst cannot be removed either due to its position on the brain stem. He has had radiotherapy, chemotherapy and has had a special immunotherapy. Yesterday 6th September he had yet another scan, the results today show that the tumour has increased in size. He now has diabetes and cannot walk.

On Friday 16th September 2022 David posted "Kjell passed away at midnight please pray for his family who were at his bed side." Diana posted "Sad to hear this. He is resting

in the arms of Jesus. Heartfelt prayers for his family."

Kjells mother Michell Gerdes-Lampe has set up a charity in Germany called Kjell Wunderland to raise money to help children with cancer on their brains.

On Tuesday April 16th Robert Smith Court raised £170 for the charity with a soup afternoon and watched a heart touching YouTube produced by Michell and her husband Christian. Four months before his passing his parents say in the video "we fondly remember the day of Kjell's first communion he was incredibly excited he was allowed to read out an intercession and he was just really happy he sang along so loudly in the church."

Michell has successfully launched the charity Kjell's Wunderland in Germany to help other parents and their seriously ill children. Saying "We simply said everything what we have gone through can't have been in vain so we have done a lot of work in collecting many contacts and built a network that we think is valuable for other families to use."

They have also brought on board an organization called Kloppenburg that coordinates hospice and palliative care networks.

A big thankyou to all those who prayed for Kjell.



Kjell in his red walker used to get in the church to for his first communion and the effect of his medication



Kjell before his illness



Open Doors

Five ways you can pray for Iran

As tensions rise in the Middle East after recent events, here are five ways you can hold the church in Iran in your prayers.

God is at work in Iran in so many ways - please pray with our brothers and sisters there as tensions rise across the Middle East

Recent events have once again shone a spotlight on the nation of Iran, and their role in the Middle East. For the beleaguered Christians in Iran, their ever more extremist government presents many challenges. So, as we pray about the situation in the Middle East, here are some ways in which you can pray for the Christian witness in the country.

Pray for the growth of Christianity among disadvantaged groups

Christianity has been growing in Iran as Christians have been helping vulnerable groups. Stories have been shared of drug addicts turning to Christianity in a search for peace and a new path for themselves. Some have even formed house churches.

An Open Doors partner and church leader in a neighbouring country to Iran says, "We've been serving

among drug addicts and have witnessed how God amazingly transforms their lives and uses them. However, we recently heard that the government has found out about the activities that many Christians do in many cities, serving among addicted groups.

“Please pray with us that God would protect the believers who preach the gospel in such environments, especially when they gather in the house churches,” our partner adds. “Please pray that God would keep using the weakest ones to show His glory.”

Pray for the effect of forbidden media

Christian satellite TV channels and an active presence in social networks – especially Instagram – have given people the opportunity to learn about Jesus. This increase in social media engagement has, in turn, led to an increase in the number of people coming to Christ. Again, the government is extremely concerned about this. They have prohibited the possession of satellite dishes (although many people still own them nevertheless) and the authorities do all they can to stop access to satellite broadcast channels and internet sites which they disapprove of, including Christian media – in particular, Christian sites focusing on evangelisation are blocked. Part of their goal is to slow down the growth of the church. Iran has bought state-of-the-art surveillance systems from China and is able to monitor its citizens, including their movements, purchases, tele-communications and online activity. But even a Christian's public and private online presence (including email) while located outside of Iran could lead to the Iranian government's identification of their faith.

However, Iranian Christians report that contact with the wider world is nonetheless growing rapidly through such media as satellite TV and Internet, despite all restrictions and monitoring by the government.

Please pray for the continued effectiveness of this ‘forbidden media’.

Pray for more freedom for Christians

In Iran – officially an Islamic republic – the only official religion is Shia Islam. Some Christians are permitted to publicly follow Jesus in very limited ways: they must belong to historical churches, and they are not allowed to worship in Farsi, the national language of Iran. And converts from Islam are certainly not allowed. The punishment for converting Muslims or for converting from Islam can be the death penalty, though this has rarely occurred. At the same time, attendance at mosques is falling – interpreted by many as lessening support for the Iranian regime.

Pray that the recent waves of protest and the increasing dissatisfaction with the regime will lead to an opening up and a change in the spiritual landscape of the country.

Pray for Christians in prison

Many Christians are in prison in Iran.

Both leaders and ordinary members of Christian convert groups have been arrested, prosecuted and have received long prison sentences for ‘crimes against national security’.

Simin* attended a house church in Iran, for which she was arrested. In prison, she was even told that she may never see her daughter again.

She eventually escaped to another country where she and her family had to make a new life. She was helped by Open Doors partners' training which helps women process the pain of persecution. Through an online ministry, Simin now teaches the Bible to women in Iran and prepares

them to lead house churches.

Praise God that, reportedly, at least nine Christian prisoners serving long prison sentences because of their faith were paroled and released last year. But please remember others who remain in custody.

Four Iranian Christians were recently arrested in a raid on a house-church gathering. Pray for their safe and expedient release and that they would see God's hand continue to move in their lives. One of the believers arrested is a refugee from Afghanistan. Pray that that God would bring comfort and peace in unexpected ways to this believer far from home.

Pray too for your brother Esmaeil Narimanpour, a new convert in Iran. After being forced into ‘re-education’ sessions with an Islamic cleric, he has now been arrested. Pray that he would continue to seek and trust God in these trials.

Pray for safety, strength and justice for all Christians in Iran's prisons, and for their families as they wait for their release.

Pray for peace

“You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed” (Matthew 24:6). Jesus shared this with His followers, along with warnings about persecution, before He died.

Pray for peace in Iran and over Iran. Pray for wise governance, that the Iranian authorities will put the safety of their people above any desire for retaliation or escalated conflict.

And pray for the peace of Christians in Iran, that they will cling to the promises of Jesus and the hope that they have in Him. Pray too that their peace will overflow into the lives of their families, workplaces and communities, and draw many to the love of God.



Thoughts From Charlie Chaplin

Charlie Chaplin died aged 88.

He left us 4 statements:

- (1) Nothing is eternal in this world, not even our problems.
- (2) I like to walk in the rain, because no one can see my tears.
- (3) The most wasted day in life is the day we don't laugh.
- (4) The six best doctors in the world...

1. sunshine,
2. Rest,
3. Exercise,
4. diet,
5. Self-esteem
6. friends.

Keep them in all stages of your life and enjoy healthy life...

If you see the moon you will see the beauty of God.....

If you see the sun you will see the power of god..

If you look in the mirror, you will see God's best creation.

Believe it then.

We are all tourists, God is our travel agent who already made our itineraries, bookings and destinations...

Trust him and enjoy LIFE.

Life is just a journey!

Live today!!!!