

# Stalham Baptist Church

## Weekly News Bulletin

Sunday 12th April 2026



This week Barbara & Geoff are leading, and Jerry is preaching and will continue

the sermon series on the Sermon on the Mount, this time focusing on The Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:5-14.

### Sermon Structure:

The two sets of three requests:

1. Prayer for God's Name (v9), Kingdom (v10a), and Will (v10b).
2. Prayer for God's Provision (v11), Pardon (v12), and Protection (v13).

### Deacons Election at 12pm

WE ARE NOW RECORDING OUR LIVE SERVICE

The live service is now fully working and will be available a few hours after the service in the SBC Facebook you can find it in the <https://www.facebook.com/stalhambaptist/> or in the SBC Website

[www.stalhambaptist.org.uk](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk)

### Additional Readings:

- 1 Chronicles 29:10-13, Luke 11:2-4, Luke 16:10-12, John 14:13-14, James 1:2-4, 12-15.

### Virtual WhatsApp Prayer Room

**Friday April 3rd Jenny posted** "Please pray for our older daughter's father in law - Mike. He has stomach and liver cancer. Yesterday he was given the option of having chemotherapy, which could potentially give him 12 months, without it they predict 4-6 months. He now has to make a very difficult decision. He lives on his own and is a 2+ hour drive from Charlie and Paul. Thanks."

**Sunday April 5th Lorraine posted** "Happy Easter Everyone! Please can you pray for my friend Angie ... She has been in extreme pain for over a week ... been in hospital since Wednesday ... had lots of tests but still not found out why she is in so much pain ... Thank you"

**Wednesday April 8th Jane Skivington posted** "Please can you pray for Angela in Emily Faith 's mum , Louise. She was rushed into hospital yesterday. She's going for a brain scan this morning. They have managed to stem the projectile bleeds but needs to find out what is causing it. Thank you."

**Thursday April 9th Jane posted** "Please pray for Angela in Emily Faith 's friend Amanda who has cancer. Thank you x"

### Deacons Elections

We have 5 deacons nominations to be considered at our AGM. Diana Gordon & David Child for re-appointment, plus, Stuart Cato, John Vinter and Jean Bloomfield. There is no limit to the numbers serving on the Diaconate but each nominated person must receive 75% of the church members vote.

### Sunday School Helpers.

As you will see from the numbers of children and young people going out to their classes during the service, we have a growing Sunday School for which we thank God, but this does present us with a problem. We need more adult helpers in the junior class. The children range from 2-11 years old and we are looking for people who enjoy being around children and can help them with following the lesson and craft activities. You would not need to prepare anything in advance but will need to have a DBS check, which we will organise for you. If you would like to be part of our team, please speak to Jenny Payne or Jerry. Thank you

**Toddlers have now finished for this term and we will resume on Wednesday April 22nd.**

### Jerry's Podcast

This week's **podcast** will revisit Easter morning and reflect on "Why the Resurrection Matters" from 1 Corinthians 15:12-20. 1 Corinthians 15:13-19, ***"If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have***

Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington  
01692 434091

Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno  
01692 434091

Secretary: Diana Gordon  
07951949128

Ministry Team: The Whole  
Fellowship

### For Your Diary

#### Monday 13th April

7.00pm Zoom Deacons Meeting  
10.00am Bible Study in the Stables  
10.30-11.30 Prayers for SBC &  
Young People

2.00-4.00pm Warm Space in Stables  
**Tuesday 14th April**

9.30am -12 Coffee and Chat in the  
Schoolroom

#### Wednesday 15th April

9.30am - 12pm Table Tennis in the  
Schoolroom  
10-12pm Warm Space in the Stables  
All welcome

12.00pm Funeral of Vera Watts in  
the church

7.00pm Zoom Bible Study  
all welcome for more information  
speak to Diana

#### Thursday 16th April

10 to 12 pm Warm Space in Stables  
3.15 pm Messy Church in the  
Schoolroom

#### Friday 17th April

10.15 to 12.00pm Prayers for Revival  
& Israel at Three Windows,  
Brumstead Road

1.15 to 3pm Foodbank in Stables  
& Citizens Advice

#### Sunday 19th April

10.45 Sunday Service  
Welcome: Magda & Henry  
Flowers: Barbara Reynolds

#### Monday 20th April

11.00am Funeral Jane Byrne in  
the church

#### Saturday 25th April

8.30am Men's Breakfast in the  
Schoolroom



**WISHLIST**  
April 2026

### Items we're short of:

Tinned Meat  
Pasta Sauce  
Mug Shots  
Squash  
Long-Life Milk  
Cereals

**testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied."**

To listen to Jerry's 5 min podcast click [www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/) "Our Weekly Bible Commentary" Or go to WhatsApp SBC Prayers

### **EBA Weekly Prayer Focus**

Laindon Baptist Church was established around 120 years ago as a village church, but now finds itself situated on the outskirts of the "new town" of Basildon in a large residential area in the south of Essex. The church, which is currently in vacancy, is being led by a committed team of volunteers, including Rene Baker, their Church Secretary. There are 23 members, with around 20 in attendance weekly, including three or four children. Services are led by a willing team of church members, with occasional visiting preachers. On the first Sunday of the month, the fellowship enjoys a Bring-and-share lunch. A committed Pastoral Team keeps the fellowship connected, and the church makes good use of a Prayer Chain to encourage members to support one another prayerfully. The church is home to a thriving Girl's Brigade, which meets on a Monday evening, as well as CATCH – a weekly youth meeting for 8 – 15-year-olds and runs two Bible study groups: one online and one face-to-face.

Points for Prayer

- The appointment of a minister to encourage and disciple people so that they may realise their full potential in the church and in outreach.
- An increase in younger families attending the church to continue and encourage the work that is already taking place.
- Younger people to take up leadership/diaconate roles as the current elderly deacons become unable to continue.



**Helping those affected by the military conflict in Ukraine**

**At Stalham Baptist Church Schoolroom**  
**24th April - 2 to 4pm**  
**Enjoy a Fun Quiz and also Tea & Cake**

**North Norfolk Aid for Ukraine (NNAFU) is a community-led charity group.**  
**The group relies on public donations and volunteers.**  
**All donations will help fund regular aid convoys.**

### **For Your Prayers**

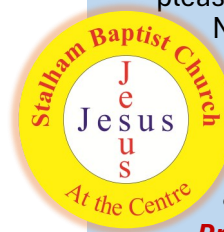
Pray for the family and friends of Vera Watts whose funeral is in the Church on the Wednesday 15th at 12.00pm.

Also pray for the family and friends of Jane Byrne whose funeral is in the Church on the Monday 20th at 11.00am

We pray for Church Pastoral Group 6, please pray for: Jan & Henry

Nicholson . Elspeth & Alex Pelling, John Higgs, Tanya Diggins and Eric Hurt

During April, please pray for the residents of Robert Smith Court and Granville Close.



### **Prayer to Bring Justice and Peace**

God of all creation, bring justice and peace to our world.

Teach us to be peacemakers. Guide us in our pursuit of justice and the common good. Inspire us to welcome all, forgive all, and love all. Direct us as we walk in the shadow of Jesus: the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Inspire us to perceive the world through Your eyes, that we might find hope and joy each day, supportive of each other, for the sake of your Kingdom.

### **Prayer for Peace in the Middle East**

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation now Iran and the USA have agreed a ceasefire, continue to pour Your power upon all Your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all.

### **Pray for Christians in Iran**

Christians in Iran, particularly converts from Islam, are actively gathering in secret "house churches" to pray, worship in Farsi, and support one another despite facing severe harassment, imprisonment, and risks of state persecution. These believers pray for safety, revival, and change in their nation, often engaging in fasting and clandestine worship sessions.

We also pray for the people of Iran who face severe danger, in the ongoing conflict.

### **Pray For the Sick & Afflicted**

"Merciful God, bring healing and comfort to those suffering in body, mind, or spirit. Touch with your healing power, restoring them completely, and let Your presence bring peace."

## Christ Has Risen

Easter Sunday was full of people calling out "He has Risen" with over 50 people at the "Son-Rise" service at How Hill starting at 6.30am in the chilled wind and the SBC service starting at 10.40am with over 120 people both to witness Jesus's victory over death.



Ron and David with their guitars and Gary Noyes from Ludham Parish Church.



The church choir, conducted by Stuart Cato sang The Lord of the dance well, a hymn written in 1963 by Sydney Porter the tune was written in the 19th-century.



If you have missed the Easter Sunday service that was brilliant catch it up in [www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/](http://www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/)

### Information From Barbara

13th April 10am Bible Study in the Stables. Continuing looking at the faith of the persecuted church - this time the witness of humility and the witness of perseverance- we start with a cuppa and the meeting lasts about an hour. Everyone welcome. 16th April 3.15 to 5pm in the schoolroom. MESSY CHURCH "Goodness". Activities, a

story, song and prayer then a meal. No charge, donations welcome.

## Prayer Meetings

The church prayer meetings held in the Upper room on the first and last Thursday in the month will now be taking place in the Schoolroom from 10.30am to 11.30am, next one will be 30th April.

We are also beginning an evening prayer meeting in the main church from 7 to 8pm during the lighter evenings. These will be every 2 weeks alternating with the zoom prayer meeting, the first one being on Thursday 16th April in the Chapel.

## Community Fridge

Open: Monday 2.00 –4.00 pm Tues-Fri 10-12.00 pm

## Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"Some people think God does not like to be troubled with our constant coming and asking. The way to trouble God is not to come at all." — **D.L. Moody**

"This prayer doesn't pretend that pain and hunger aren't real. Some religions say that Jesus didn't. This prayer doesn't use the greatness and majesty of God to belittle the human plight. Some religions do that; Jesus didn't. This prayer starts by addressing God intimately and lovingly, as 'Father' - and by bowing before his greatness and majesty. If you can hold those two together, you're already on the way to understanding what Christianity is all about." — **N.T. Wright, The Lord and His Prayer**

I cannot say "our" if I live only for myself.

I cannot say, "Father," if I do not endeavour to act like His child each day.

I cannot say, "Hallowed be your name" if I am playing around with sin.

I cannot say, "Your kingdom come," if I am not allowing God to reign in my life.

I cannot say, "Give us this day our daily bread," if I am trusting in myself instead of in God's provision.

I cannot say, "Forgive us our sins," if I am nursing a grudge or withholding forgiveness from someone else.

I cannot say, "Lead us not into temptation," if I deliberately place myself in its path."

— **An unknown author**



## Open Doors

60 years of serving persecuted Christians

7th April 2026 Share this Story.

### At least 33 killed in Easter attacks in Nigeria

Please pray for all those affected by a series of attacks in northern Nigeria over Holy Week.

At least 33 people have been killed and many kidnapped in fresh attacks over the Easter weekend in northern Nigeria. It comes a week after **at least 27 people were killed on Palm Sunday** in a predominantly Christian village in Plateau State.

On Easter Sunday, suspected Fulani militants launched simultaneous attacks on the Christian communities of Mbalom and Mbasombo, Benue State, killing 26 people. It transformed a day of celebration, peace and reflection into mourning and displacement.

On the same day, two churches in Ariko village, Kaduna



*Churches in northern Nigeria are having to spend increasing money on security, because of the fear of violence (representative image)*

State, were attacked. Seven people were killed and multiple people were kidnapped, according to Caleb Maaji, chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) for Kaduna State, although other reports say the death toll is five. The army reports that 31 people have since been rescued, but this has been denied by CAN as well as Kurtumi Unity Development Association, a local resident group.

On Monday, two people keeping watch on their community in Pwomol village, Plateau State, were killed in an attack by suspected Fulani militants. Another person was seriously injured. One of the attackers, identified as Suleiman, was later arrested and remains in custody.

### Heightened tensions

The attacks happened just days after at least 27 people were killed when unidentified gunmen opened fire on people in the streets of Angwan Rukuba, a mostly Christian community in the city of Jos.

Since then, tensions in Jos have remained high as alarming, unverified videos suggested more violence could be triggered. The city is a major hub for several church headquarters and regional offices in Nigeria, making it a strategic place for Christians.

“Jos is a city divided along a religious line – one side predominantly Christians and the other predominantly Muslims. In the north are Christian neighbourhoods and next to it are Muslims,” says Illia Djiadi, Senior Analyst for Freedom of Religion or Belief in sub-Saharan Africa for Open Doors. He adds that, when tensions are high, people cannot cross to another region.

While many services were able to take place during Holy Week, it was in the context of a curfew that was put in place following the Palm Sunday attacks. Restriction of movement and a climate of fear are affecting the church’s ability to function properly, and are having a significant impact on Christian communities. Many churches are having to spend increasing amounts of money on security forces, because of the escalation of violence.

Christians weren’t the only ones vulnerable to attack in Nigeria over Easter. In Zamfara State, bandits kidnapped more than 150 people from rural villages which are not Christian-majority. Most are women and children. Other

residents fled, leaving villages largely deserted.

### Arise Africa

Thank you for remembering your persecuted family in Nigeria and elsewhere worldwide over Easter. These attacks reinforce the importance of your prayers, and your continued support for **Arise Africa**. If you’ve yet to already, **please sign the petition**, which calls for protection, justice and restoration for believers in the region, and please share with your family, friends and church. Thank you.

### Please pray

- For peace for the grieving families and congregations, and for strength to hold onto Jesus
  - For the safety, well-being and imminent release of all those kidnapped, that the authorities will have the willpower and actions to bring the perpetrators to justice, and for the violence in northern Nigeria to cease
- For wisdom and strength for church leaders as they seek to care for their flocks and guide them through this hugely difficult time.

### Arise Africa petition

More than 110,000 of you have already signed the Arise Africa petition, calling for justice and restoration for the African church – help us reach our UK target of 200,000! Sign and share the Arise Africa petition and help start the healing.

For more informations click here or add to Open Doors <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/news/latest-news/>

**A PRAYER FOR IRAN**

BY THE RT REVD DR GULI FRANCIS-DEHQANI,  
BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD

Ever loving God,  
who hears us in our anguish and distress,  
and longs for us to be free.  
We pray for the people of Iran  
and the wider Middle East,  
at this time of fear and uncertainty.  
Be near to those who are anxious;  
bring comfort to all who are suffering.  
Guide those with the power to make decisions,  
and lead them in the ways of wisdom,  
compassion and moderation:  
that people of good will would seek  
harmony and reconciliation.  
Join us with our Christian brothers  
and sisters in all places,  
in praying for peace with justice,  
through him who is the prince of peace,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.