



Stalham Baptist Church

Weekly News Bulletin



Sunday 24th May 2026

This Sunday Ron is leading our service which includes the ordination of Jerry. Our sermon will be given by Gordon Hindmarsh and his text is 2 Timothy 3: 14-4:-2.

This Sunday we will not be taking up an offering but if you would like to make a donation for the on-going work of Stalham Baptist please use the donation baskets you will find around the church and in the Schoolroom

WE ARE NOW RECORDING OUR LIVE SERVICE

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

As you may be aware, we now record our services each Sunday and then post them on our YouTube channel afterwards. Please subscribe to our YouTube channel that we may begin to live-stream our services there.

Please click "SUBSCRIBE" once as you view.

If you are unsure, please speak to a member of the Media Team who are very happy to help. We are also live-streaming via Facebook.

Jerry's Podcast

This week, I'll be sharing a reflection on Pentecost Sunday, focusing on the theme of "Weaknesses and Witnesses" inspired by Acts 1:8:

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

To listen to Jerry's 5 min podcast click www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/

"Our Weekly Bible Commentary" Or go to WhatsApp SBC Prayers

EBA Weekly Prayer: Focus Hutton Free Church

Located in Essex, near Brentwood, Hutton Free Church was planted by Brentwood Congregational Church in 1850 and is proud to continue as a worshipping and witnessing Church of God today. It is a small, united fellowship led by its part-time Minister Rev Eric Fenwick (who also pastors at The Chapel and Schoolroom at Woodham Ferrers) The Church meets for worship fortnightly on Sunday mornings and has a regular Thursday afternoon "Parlour" Gathering which most of the fellowship attend. Here, over a cup of tea, they socialise, have quizzes and share stories and histories on subjects of interest to the group. It is a good opportunity to build unity and support one another.

They share their Church building with two other Churches. Emmanuel Church uses their hall for a weekly toddler group, and on Sundays, the "Grace Redeemed Church of God" meets in its hall whilst they are meeting in the Church. They greatly value the hospitality they are able to offer and have built strong and friendly relationships with both Churches, enjoying meeting people and children from different backgrounds to their own. They have seen a few people from "Grace Church" join them on a Sunday morning and become members.

They would value prayer:

- ◆ For the ongoing life of their Church. That by God's grace they will continue to worship together in the truth of Jesus. May God bless their passion to continue to be a witness for Him in their community.
- ◆ For God to bless their relationship with Emmanuel Church and Grace Church – may all these Churches see fruit from their working together.
- ◆ Of thanksgiving for the 15 years of ministry of their pastor Eric at Hutton and 25 years at Woodham Ferrers. Many years ago, Eric arrive for a 3 year period but God had other plans, filling Eric with such love for the Church that he has continued. Please pray for this love for one another to bless the Church and be an effective witness of God's love for others.

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 25th May Bank Holiday

10.00-12.00 Memories Café in the schoolroom

7.00pm Deacons Meeting

Tuesday 26th May

9.30am -12 Coffee and Chat in the Schoolroom

Wednesday 27th May

9.30am - 12pm Table Tennis in the Schoolroom

10-12pm Warm Space in the Stables
All welcome

7.00pm Zoom Bible Study

all welcome for more information
speak to Diana. All welcome

Thursday 28th May

10 to 12 pm Warm Space in Stables

10.30am Prayers in the schoolroom

7.00pm Prayers in Church

Friday 29th May

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

1.15 to 3pm Foodbank in Stables
& Citizens Advice

5.30pm Youth Worship in the
Schoolroom

Sunday 31st May

10.45 Sunday Service

Welcome: Maureen K & Henry

Flowers: Janet Nicholson

. **Community Fridge**

Open: Tues-Fri 10-12.00 pm

PSALM 42:1-2 NLT

AS THE DEER LONGS FOR
STREAMS OF WATER, SO
I LONG FOR YOU, O GOD.

I thirst for God, the living God.
When can I go and stand
before him?



Message from Diana

We're now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> and sign up Stalham Baptist Church.

How it works

Your daily shopping is turned into free donations! Easyfundraising partners with over 8,000 retailers who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the retailer.

Retailers pay us a commission because when you start your shop from the easyfundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and we turn that into a donation! No extra cost, no extra effort.

Lucia Bastos from Guinebor II Hospital in Chad

The Republic of Chad, is a sovereign nation located in north-central Africa the G2 Hospital (officially known as **Guinebor II Hospital**) is located on the northern outskirts of **N'Djamena**, the capital city of Chad. Lucia began her time with BMS World Mission in 2022 in West Africa. In January 2024, she joined the BMS team working at Guinebor II Hospital in Chad as their

Projects and Partnerships Officer.

Her responsibilities include managing relationships with international partners, foreign embassies, and local offices of INGOs or UN agencies.

Lucia, who can speak four languages whose home country is Brazil, had 15 years of mission experience before joining BMS. Her involvement with mission organisations has focused on equipping local Christian organisations and individuals with

managerial knowledge. She also developed strategic plans to achieve sustainable community development.

Lucia has a passion for encouraging Christians to find creative, godly ideas to make a positive impact in the lives of those around them, she engaged with all those in SBC with the work she does in Chad and with the power of her faith.

Lucia is going to write an article for the next Community Scene.

Repair Café

The Repair Café will open once a month on a Saturday between 9:30am to 2:00pm in the SBC Schoolroom. Starting on 25th July.

What we do:

We repair things that would otherwise be thrown away!

Our aims:

To reduce the amount of electrical, electronic and other waste that goes to landfill

To bring together and pass on valuable repair skills

To provide a pleasant, social hub where people can meet and chat

To reduce the climate-warming emissions caused by manufacturing new products

To promote a culture of sustainability in the local community

REPAIR

café
LET'S FIX



We pray for Church Pastoral Group 5, please pray for:

Geci & Peter Burt, Beryl Ashman, John Chaney, Lorraine Bingham and Hazel & Tim Manley.

During May - please pray for the residents St Johns Road and St Johns Gardens.

Prayers for Lucia Bastos

Pray for Lucia as she visits other Churches in the UK and also pray for the people working in G2 Hospital Chad.

Pray for those struggling

We lift those struggling today to You Lord. We know the burdens they are carrying are heavy, and they are going through a difficult time. Please surround them with Your comfort, grant them the strength to endure, and bring peace to their mind and heart. Guide their steps, remind them that they are not alone, and give them hope for the days ahead. In Your name, Amen.

Pray for those who are ill

Give them the courage to face each day, patience in their recovery, and the unwavering peace that only You can provide. Please grant wisdom and guidance to the doctors and caregivers attending to them. May they feel Your constant presence wrapping around them, lifting their fears, and bringing them renewed strength. In Your holy name, I pray. Amen."



WISHLIST
May 2026

Items we're short of:

Tinned Meat
Long-Life Milk
Tinned Fruit
Jam
Squash
Cuppa Soup

Items we don't need this time:

Baked Beans
Tinned Soup
Pasta

Thank you for your generosity

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.

How it works:

The Repair Café opens once a month on a Saturday between 9:30am and 2:00pm in SBC Schoolroom.

It is run by volunteers for the benefit of the local community

Visitors can bring along anything they can comfortably carry that needs repairing

You don't need to book ahead, just turn up

We can help repair a wide range of items, including electrical and electronic equipment, toys, furniture and clothes. We can also make simple bike adjustments.

What to expect:

When you first arrive, you'll be greeted by a front of house person who will introduce you to our reception team. They will log your item and issue a numbered work ticket.

When one of our fixers becomes available, they will pick up the next work ticket that matches their area of expertise

If all our fixers are busy, you'll be guided to our café area, where you can buy drinks and homemade cakes, and have a chat with other visitors

If possible, our fixers will make the necessary repairs while you wait. You are encouraged to chat to them - they'll be happy to explain what they're doing!

If we can't fix something on the day, we'll advise you on what your options are, including what professional services are available locally

We don't make a formal charge for our service, but we're very grateful for cash donations on the day. These help us cover our running costs.

Part of a global movement:

The first ever Repair Café was started in the Netherlands in 2009

There are now over 400 Repair Cafés in the UK, and around 4000 worldwide

The number is growing year on year, as people try to live more sustainably

For more information, visit www.repaircafe.org

BMS GUINEBOR II

Special delivery appeal Will you make sure that babies in Chad are born safely?

As you remember Jesus' birth in a lowly manger, remember too the many babies who will also be born in extremely difficult circumstances this winter. The maternal mortality rate in Chad is the second worst in the world. For every 100,000 live births, over 1,000 mothers die within six weeks of having their baby. Mothers and their newborns are dying from birth complications and infections that could easily be treated.

The statistics are heartbreaking, but your generosity could save the lives of mothers and babies who lack good healthcare. At Guinebor II Hospital in Chad, BMS World Mission workers provide essential medical care for newborns and their mothers. This winter, you can ensure that babies are born safely and provide mothers with the care they need to raise a healthy family. If you would like to donate contact.

<https://bmsworldmission.org/delivery>

Quotes of the Week by C.S. Lewis

C.S. Lewis was a staunch atheist in his early life, he abandoned that view in 1929.

He later became a prominent defender of the Christian faith.

"I was at this time living, like so many Atheists or Antitheists, in a whirl of contradictions. I maintained that God did not exist. I was also very angry with God for not existing. I was equally angry with Him for creating a world."

"The Christian thinks any good he does comes from the Christ-life inside him. He does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us; just as the roof of a greenhouse does not attract the sun because it is bright, but becomes bright because the sun shines on it."

"The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us."

"Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

"The great thing to remember is that though our feelings come and go God's love for us does not."



Open Doors

60 years of serving persecuted Christians

20 May 2026

Children kidnapped, captives executed – another wave of violence in Nigeria

Vulnerable communities in Nigeria have once again been devastated by extremist attacks. Almost one hundred people have been kidnapped, over half of them young children and in a separate incident, seven captives beheaded for attempted escape. Please pray.

Sign the petition

More than 150,000 of you have already signed the Arise Africa petition – help us reach our UK target of 200,000! Sign and share the petition and help start the healing. In a single day, multiple schools became the latest victims of extremist militant violence in northern Nigeria. As with previous occurrences of such aggression, many were kidnapped or killed and entire communities profoundly traumatised.

On 15 May, three schools were attacked by armed men in Borno state and around 50 children kidnapped, mostly between the ages of two and five. That same day, militants also invaded two

secondary schools in Oyo state. A teacher was killed and between 40 and 45 individuals kidnapped, including a principal and numerous students. When a tactical team of soldiers attempted to intervene, they were reportedly killed by hidden explosives.

The schools are located in predominantly Christian communities, but it is not yet clear how many of those kidnapped or killed come from Christian homes.

Captives killed

Alongside the traumatic events of 15 May come reports of prisoners in extremist camps being executed for attempting to escape their captors.

In the mountains of Borno state lies one camp populated by a faction of Boko Haram

militants known as Jama'atu Ahlis-Sunna Lidda'Awati Wal-Jihad (JAS). The camp currently holds over 400 captives, according to [Sahara reporters](#). On 12 May, when seven prisoners tried to flee, they were [reportedly beheaded](#) in front of the other captives to dissuade them from attempting the same.

A community leader from Gwoza has said that all the victims were Christian.

Repeated trauma

Christian communities in Nigeria have suffered under seemingly endless waves of violence and kidnapping since the end of last year. These events embed fear in vulnerable villages and limit how Christians meet together.

"These attacks disrupt the entire lives of Christians who live in fear."

Abiodun Musbau

"These attacks not only disrupt church activities, but the entire lives of Christians who live in fear. They can't go to church; they can't send their children to school. Life comes to a halt," says Abiodun Musbau*, a senior church leader in northern Nigeria. With such pressures on daily life come financial burdens too – many families spend all they have to pay off ransoms for their loved ones.

Please continue to pray for our brothers, sisters and all those affected by the events of last week, especially for those taken captive – in confidence that, despite such tragedy, "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles." (Psalm 34:17)

**Name changed for security reasons*

Please pray

- For the physical, emotional and spiritual well-being of the children who have been kidnapped, that the Lord would miraculously meet each and every need of these young ones

- That the Lord would grant deep and abiding peace to their parents and families and protect vulnerable communities

For the Holy Spirit to powerfully convict and transform the hearts of the attackers to release captives, end their destructive schemes and turn to Jesus.

The Leprosy Mission 

Kamal's Story

Abielle Hallas, The Leprosy Mission Great Britain

Kamal's smile is infectious as he plays with his little sister outside their home in rural Nepal. It isn't much – just two rooms, with a tin roof that leaks in the monsoon. His family don't have a lot of money. His dad, Romesh, ekes out a living as a builder, and mum Premila keeps a small arm to put food on the table. They're determined to give their children the best start in life.

They didn't know that leprosy threatened to tear everything apart.

It started when Kamal was seven. Strange patches had appeared on his face. His parents didn't know the problem was. As was usual, they visited a traditional healer.

But instead of recognising leprosy, he said that Kamal was cursed by a snake god.

Can you imagine the terror that gripped Kamal's parents? They did everything they could to lift the "curse". But nothing worked. Each day, they watched in desperation as their son's health deteriorated. His tongue became sore, and he struggled to breathe through his nose.

And all the while, Kamal wondered what he had done to warrant the pain he was in.

I'm sure you'll agree – no child should think that leprosy is their fault. No child should think they deserve to suffer.

As Kamal's health got worse, his parents knew they had to act. And so, Premila made the brave decision to go to the Leprosy Mission's Anandaban Hospital.

High in the hills above Kathmandu, this special place is a beacon of hope for people affected by leprosy across Nepal. For many, it's the only place they can get the free treatment they urgently need, and the compassion they deserve.

At Anandaban Hospital, kind doctors quickly diagnosed Kamal with leprosy. Left untreated, the disease causes permanent disability. But thanks to you, Kamal was cured in time. The disease won't steal his feeling or his mobility. Premila is so grateful!

And that's not the end of the wonderful difference you've made!

As you can imagine, the stigma Kamal had faced had taken its emotional toll. Ruth, the counsellor at Anandaban, gently explained to Kamal that he wasn't cursed. She even went to his village to dispel the myths and stigma surrounding the disease.

Thanks to Ruth's dedication, Kamal came home to a more understanding and welcoming community. He's so happy to be back home with his family and going to school again.

Like any mum, Premila wants her children to have a good life. One full of opportunity and joy. Now because of you, Kamal can enjoy his childhood and look to the future with hope. You can see just what it means from his beaming smile!

Thank you so much for your compassion for children affected by leprosy. Your incredible generosity will bring healing and hope to families when they need it most. And you'll make even more amazing stories and smiles like Kamal's possible!

For more information <https://>

www.leprosymission.org.uk/latest-news/

