

Stalham Baptist Church

Weekly News Bulletin 15th December 2019

Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington 01692 582731
Assistant Pastor: Jerry Otieno 07733837687
Secretary: Diana Gordon 07951949128
Ministry Team: Whole Fellowship



Todays Pat will be leading and Jerry will be preaching from John 1:19-34.

“John the Baptist’s Top 3 Advent Tips”

Today is the Third Sunday in Advent and we will be celebrating the Lord’s Supper.

We would like to offer a very big welcome to any visitors who have joined us this Sunday. Would you kindly sign our visitors’ book at the back of the Church, and you are very welcome to join us for refreshments in the Stables at the end of the service.

The Structure of Jerry’s sermon:

1. v20 “I am not the Christ” - (All about Jesus, not us!)
2. v23 “Prepare the way for the Lord” - (Time of preparation)
3. v29 “Behold the Lamb of God” - (Opportunity to point others to Christ).

For Your Prayers

Please pray for the family and friends of **Jackie Bones** whose funeral is at SBC on Thursday 19th at 11.30am. Please pray also in December for the residents of **Dunkerley Court, Baker Street, Bakers Court and Sutton Terrace**. Prayer cards have been given to **Nicholson’s Stalham Green and Cherry Blossom Café Stalham High Street**. As we pray through the new Church Directory, please remember **Angela Holman**. As part of our weekly worship we have a **Prayer Team** available to anyone who would like the support of others in prayer. You can find today’s prayer team **Diana and Maggie** in the prayer tent at the back of the Church.

Prayer for the new Government

Lord bring your wisdom to our new government. Guide them to look to work for all sections of our society. We pray you can help them close the rifts created since 2016 and calm the division between people.

Virtual Prayer Room

On Saturday 7th Doreen requested prayers for Barry and Val. Barry had been diagnosed with lung cancer on the previous Wednesday and was waiting for further tests. On Tuesday Julia Maile posted “Please remember David in your prayer. He is expecting to have an “ablation” done on his heart tomorrow. afternoon. Essentially they burn or freeze away all the bits that don’t work properly - or as many as they can. Please pray for peace as he is worried about the outcome.” On Wednesday Maria Marsh said “Please can you pray for my friend Georgie who is currently in hospital with her daughter Pippa who is nearly two. I just received a message saying that while at nursery Pippa had a seizure that lasted 57 minutes.” Later in the day Maria posted. “Thank you all for your prayers they are waiting to see a neurologist to see if there is any damage due to the length of time Pippa was in seizure.” Also on Wednesday Julia Maile posted “Thanks everyone. Expecting David to come home on Thursday and surgeon is hopeful the good results will last.”

To join the ever growing WhatsApp Virtual Prayer Room text Jerry on 07733837687. You will need a smart phone.

Empanda Christmas Food Collection

Janet Nicholson is collecting food and gifts for the young homeless people at Empanda in Stalham. Last year the young people were incredibly grateful for SBC’s help. The donations were shared by the boys in Stalham and a girl’s hostel in Sheringham. The manager at Tesco’s in Stalham, Stuart, is again donating as he did very generously last year. Empanda in Stalham has support staff available 24 hours a day. Young people moving in go through a selection process which involves looking at what help they need to live independently and whether or not they are a risk to other people in the Project, with each case being looked at individually and there are no blanket restrictions. Young people moving into the building must be able to work towards independent living and be committed to getting back into education, training, employment or volunteering when they’re ready to do so. Janet has placed a box at the back of the church if you can help.

Next Week at SBC

Monday

Church Open for Prayer

10.00 to 12noon

Christmas Carols

7.00pm in the Swan Inn

Tuesday

Coffee and Chat

9.30 to 11.30am In the Stables

Prayer for Revival

9.30am Three Windows Brumstead Rd

Wednesday

Over 60s Table Tennis Club

9.30am to Midday

Thursday

School Holidays Start

Jackie Bones Funeral

11.30am in the Church

Friday

Food Bank and Citizens Advice Service

1.30 to 3.00pm In the Stables

Saturday

Getting together to PRAY!

8.00 to 9.00am In the Church

Phoenix Male Voice Choir

7.30pm in the Church

Sunday

Service 10.45am

**Thinking about
peace!**

Perhaps

**the World needs
a Stable Influence**

If you have a T-loop facility on your hearing aid, and wish to use this, you will get the best reception in the church if you sit close to the walls as the ‘loop’ is transmitted from the conduit around the edge. We hope this will enable you to enjoy our services more.

News Stand

Henry has a new mobile phone number, you can now reach him on 07423597662.

A big thank you to all those who organised the Leprosy coffee morning the total donations amounted to £302.40. There are further monies to come when all the boxes have been collected and counted.

Another big thank you to Di Cornell who organised Stalham Christmas Fayre that SBC supported. The school hall was packed with stalls and was at times full of people. The SBC stall organised by Fran raised £ 56.50 The teas, coffee and cakes raised £120.70 and at times the Church was full of people. So a big thank you to all those involved from SBC.

Edna Woolsey says she is giving a donation to SBC rather than sending cards and wishes everyone blessings and a happy Christmas.

Candlelight Service

SBC Christmas celebrations start with the Candlelight service tonight beginning at 6pm. This is a very traditional carol service with all those much-loved carols. The music will be played by the SBC musicians that include guitars, bass, organ, drums and violin and will feature solos by some of the younger members of SBC and carols by the church singers.

This atmospheric service in the candlelight, Christmas decorated Church, captures, rekindles and creates memories old and new.

Christmas Carols at the Swan Inn

Tomorrow at the Swan Inn High Street Stalham at 7pm. Carol singing was banned by Oliver Cromwell in 1647 along with Christmas celebrations, leading to pro-Christmas riots in many cities, including Norwich. In Victorian times carols were sung in pubs and it wasn't until the 1880's that they were first sung in churches. Last year the Swan was packed with local people enjoying traditional carols in a traditional setting. Pat was playing the electronic organ and Simone played the violin or fiddle which would have been the instrument used in Victorian times.

Norwich's Phoenix Male Voice Choir

Heralding Christmas in Stalham!

Heralding Christmas on Saturday 21st December at SBC (7.30pm) is Norwich's Phoenix Male Voice Choir and the city's Singing Men hope that you will be able to join them in Stalham on the last weekend before Christmas for a seasonal evening of male voice choral song. Advance Tickets (£8) are available from St George's St Music Shop in central Norwich by telephone 01603-626414 or in person, and from TicketSource <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/phoenix-male-voice-choir/phoenix-male-voice-choir-presents-heralding-christmas-stalham/e-lrzoMa> All remaining tickets will be available at the Stalham Baptist Church doors on the evening from 7.00pm. **Entrance to the concert via the Stables.**

Cromer Food Bank

During November SBC contributed 5.05kg of food which helped towards a monthly total of 3654.75kg. We totally rely on donations, both food and financial, to operate and we are extremely grateful when people choose to support us. So, thank you for thinking of us and enabling us to serve the people in crisis across our district.

During December the following items would be very welcome - ready for us to be able to give essentials and Christmas goodies to clients: Tinned Ham, Tinned Fish, Tinned Potatoes, Biscuits, Crisps, Chocolate treats, Sponge Pudding, Custard, Jam, Fruit Juice, Squash, Long Life Milk – Semi skimmed or Full fat, Washing Powder and Liquid, Toilet Rolls, Children's Toothbrushes and Toothpaste, Nappies sizes 5 and 6.

Sunday Service December 22nd

Flowers: Christmas Flowers

Welcome: Henry and Jan

Refreshments: Gloria and Elaine

For Your Diary

Monday December 16th

Christmas Carols

7.00pm in the Swan Inn

Saturday December 21st

Phoenix Male Voice Choir

7.30pm in the Church

Sunday December 22nd

All Age Family Service

10.45 in the Church

Christmas Day

Celebrate Christ's Birth

10.00 in the Church

Jerry's Extra Reads

Deut 18:15-22, Mal 4, Matt 3, 11:1-19, Mark 1:1-11, Luke 1:5-25, 57-66; 3:1-13, John 3:22-36, Heb 9:11-10:18

Jerry's Quotes of the Week

"The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, who look forward to something greater to come. For these, it is enough to wait in humble fear until the Holy One himself comes down to us, God in the child in the manger. God comes. The Lord Jesus comes. Christmas comes. Christians rejoice!" — **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

"If we are deeply moved by the sight of his love for us, it detaches our hearts from other would-be saviours. We stop trying to redeem ourselves through our pursuits and relationships, because we are already redeemed. We stop trying to make others into saviours, because we have a Saviour."

Tim Keller, Counterfeit Gods

"Remember that the man who truly repents is never satisfied with his own repentance. We can no more repent perfectly than we can live perfectly. However pure our tears, there will always be some dirt in them; there will be something to be repented of even in our best repentance. But listen! To repent is to change your mind about sin, and Christ, and all the great things of God. There is sorrow implied in this; but the main point is the turning of the heart from sin to Christ. If there be this turning, you have the essence of true repentance, even though no alarm and no despair should ever cast their shadow upon your mind." **C. H. Spurgeon, All Of Grace**, "He [Jesus] came to be the perfect lamb, the ultimate, lasting sacrifice. This baby's coming was to accomplish and establish peace between the God of all creation and his image-bearers who habitually rejected him." -**Russ Ramsey**

Material sent to publicity@stalhambaptist.org.uk or telephoned to David Child on 07799 262645 may be used in any of the church's print or electronic media. Deadline for the print edition of the Bulletin is Wednesday 7:00pm.

Church Website: www.stalhambaptist.org.uk www.facebook.com/stalhambaptist Contact Stalham Baptist Church on 01692 582731 <https://twitter.com/StalhamChurch> <https://www.instagram.com/stalhambaptistchurch>
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