Stalham Baptist Church Weekly News Bulletin Sunday January 29th 2017

At the Centre

Pastor: Rev. Ron SkivingtonSecretary: Geoff Reynolds01692 672120Ministry Team: Whole Fellowship

Today Ron will be leading and preaching Genesis 15:1-16 Are you a star or pavement gazer?

We would like to offer a very big welcome to any visitors who have joined us this Sunday. Please take a "Welcome" booklet and also would you kindly sign our visitor's 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.

We will be having a Church Meeting after today's service at 12.30pm

What's on this week?

Monday	30 th	Church Open for Prayer	10.00am -12 noon	Church
Tuesday	31 st	Town Hall Free Stall Coffee and Chat Christianity Explored	9.00am – 12 noon 9.30am - 11.30am 7.30pm	Town Hall Stables Three Windows Brumstead Road
Wednesday	1 st	Over 60's Table Tennis Brumstead Road House Group	9.30am -12 noon 7.30pm	Schoolroom 50 Brumstead Road
Thursday	2 nd	Lawrence Wakelam Funeral Filling Station Prayers	3.00pm 7.30 pm	Church Stables
Friday	3 rd	Prayer for Revival	7.00pm	Church
Saturday	4 th	Prayer Powerhouse	8.00am - 9.00am	Church (Side Door)
Sunday	5 th	Sunday Morning Service	10.45am	Church

For your Prayers:

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 **Daphne and Elaine** at the back of the Church.

Please pray for the Tuesday stall and the family of Lawrence Wakelam whose funeral is on Thursday 2nd Feb 3.00pm.

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **David and Gillian Meale.** In February pray for the residents of **Bullmere Close and Calthorpe Close**.

Dates for your diary:

February9thLunch Club AGM will be at 2.00pm."11thFocus Meeting 10am – 12noon

Pop up Cafe: In the past SBC have run fun mornings for children. As pop up cafe is attracting families with children we thought it may be a nice idea to do a fun afternoon alongside pop up cafe...We plan to do this at half term Thursday 16th February. We are looking for volunteers to do fun activities with the children. Please speak to Ron if you can help in anyway.

There is no Pop up Café Thursday 2nd February.

<u>Men's Breakfast:</u> Thank you to all those who came to the Men's breakfast and bought friends. £26 was given to the Missionary fund. Steve English pictured right gave an entertaining talk about his journey to Jesus and his work as a cartoonist. Next meeting: 25th March, Shaun Cussion speaking, cereals, small cooked breakfast. Further dates: 13th May, 8th July, 16th September, 11th November 2017.



Town Hall Stall: We are having a stall in town hall Tuesday 31st January from 9am. These have been a great success in **"reaching out."**

Happy Birthday: Love and Congratulations to Liz Austrin who celebrates her 80th birthday on February 3rd.

Project Schoolroom:

Next Focus morning will be 11th February 10-12. As prayer is a vital component in finding the way forward that will be part of the morning along with discussion around the suggestions people have made

<u>Coffee and Chat:</u> Have recently donated £300 to the Stalham Pre School. Grateful thanks to all who



Peters Cat by Steve English

continue to give unwanted gifts for the sale table.

<u>Christianity Explored</u>: We are going to run an 8 week "Christianity Explored" course starting on Tues Jan 31st at 7.30pm at Three Windows, Brumstead Rd, Stalham. We will be looking at the book of Philippians and a DVD and thinking about what it means to follow Jesus. If you are interested please come along. For more information speak to Janet Nicholson.

<u>From the Open Doors Website:</u> In December's prayer diary we asked for prayer for Uzbek Christian Tohar Haydarov (33) who was imprisoned in March 2010. We are delighted to announce that he has been released, after serving just six years and 10 months of his ten-year sentence. Tohar's release came unexpectedly for everyone



involved. The Uzbek authorities didn't alert anyone and sadly there was nobody to pick him up from the prison. He was finally reunited with his family once he made it home. **"God has heard the prayers of many Christians,"** an Uzbek Christian said. "We are thankful for everyone who prayed for him and sent letters to him while he was in prison." Tohar received a warning that he should 'not get into trouble' after his release. The young Baptist was arrested in March 2010 and sentenced to ten years in prison with labour for drug possession, a false claim according to Christians close to him, who suspected he was being punished for his religious activities. During the investigations, he was probably beaten and forced to sign papers.

Tohar's release is very surprising because in May 2016 he was denied amnesty while many other prisoners were released. "We are very grateful Tohar has been granted parole, one contact says. "We have prayed for him for years and we need to continue our prayers. After six years in such

difficult circumstances he needs to be restored and re-establish his relationships with his loved ones. We know from other ex-prisoners that the process can be hard." Uzbekistan is one of the harshest dictatorships in Central Asia. The regime will do everything possible to stay in power – all forms of opposition and deviations from the norm are ruthlessly attacked. **Christianity is regarded as an alien and destabilising factor.** Christian converts from a Muslim background also experience additional pressure from their families and communities. http://www.opendoorsuk.org/

JOHN WHITE'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Makes for sad reading, everyone else is to blame! Jeremiah 22 vs. 8-9, 1 Kings 9 vs.8-9. Joel 2 vs. 17, but then hope when.....Joel 2 vs. 18-32.

Quote of the Week

Ghandi's Seven Dangers to Human Virtue.

They were published in his weekly newspaper, Young India, on October 22, 1925 Interpreted now by many commentators as the seven dangers to human liberty...

1. Wealth without work 2. Pleasure without conscience 3. Knowledge without character

4. Business without ethics 5. Science without humanity 6. Religion without sacrifice 7. Politics without principle

For next week's bulletin please kindly give or send items to David Child 07799262645 <u>bulletin@stalhambaptist.co.uk</u> before 7pm on Wednesday. Contact Stalham Baptist Church on 01692 582731

Next Week's Service Sunday 5th February Flowers: Liz Austrin Welcome: Alec and Elspeth **Refreshments:** Ben and Barbara M

Church Website: www.stalhambaptist.co.uk www.facebook.com/stalhambaptist