

Stalham Baptist Church

Weekly News Bulletin Sunday March 5th 2017



Pastor: Rev. Ron Skivington

Secretary: Geoff Reynolds

01692 672120

Ministry Team: Whole Fellowship

Today Roy Adams is leading and John Applegate is preaching.

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.

Monday	6 th	Church Open for Prayer Marvellous Monday Deacons Meeting	10.00am -12 noon 3.00 – 4.30pm 7.30pm	Church Schoolroom Stables
Tuesday	7 th	Coffee and Chat Christianity Explored	9.30 – 11.30am 7.15pm	Stables Three Windows Brumstead Road
Wednesday	8 th	Over 60's Table Tennis Funeral of Lillian Williamson Study Group	9.30am -12 noon 1.30pm 7.30pm	Schoolroom Church Stables
Thursday	9 th	Lunch Club Pop up Café Filling Station prayers	12.15 2.30pm - 4.30pm 7.30pm	Stables School Room Stables
Saturday	11 th	Prayer Powerhouse	8.00am - 9.00am	Church (Side Door)
Sunday	12 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 Barbara** at the back of the Church.

Please pray for the family of **Lillian Williamson** whose funeral is this Wednesday and also for the family and carers of Jenny Jerram.

As we pray through the Church Directory, please remember **Joyce Neale**. In March pray for the residents of **Wodehouse Close and Lyndford Road**.

Lowestoft London Road Baptist Church. We give thanks for the opportunity we have to work with Lowestoft Community Church in several of the town's schools. Together we are running three, weekly prayer spaces, a series of RE lessons and taking in a touring Youth For Christ Team during this spring term, which we would appreciate your prayers for, as well as the weekly Christian Union at a local secondary school.

We also give thanks for the great work being done on the local Whitton estate, our church youth football academy (Message On The Ball) which shares the Christian faith with young people through football, and the miraculous healing of a church member just before Christmas. Please pray for our midweek groups and outreach opportunities, especially in the coming weeks in the run up to Easter and as we share the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection with all ages. Please also pray for Rev Neal Smith as he goes on sabbatical, that the Lord would speak to him and he would be refreshed and inspired. Please also pray for the leadership team and wider congregation during this time.

Dates for your diary:

March 13th Filling Station 7.30pm at Hickling Barn.

" 15th **Prayer for the Persecuted Church** at 10.30 am-11.30 am at 6 St. John's Gardens.

Bulletin Online: If you can't wait to read the SBC Bulletin you can download it in full colour before Sunday on www.stalhambaptist.org.uk/bulletin.php

Bulletin Help: Please keep a regular supply of news thoughts and quotes coming to keep our bulletin fresh. Talk or contact David on 07799262645.

Deacon Election: We are heading towards the Deacon Elections. Please be praying about and considering deacon nominations, all of which have to be with the Secretary by Sunday 2nd April. Henry completes his 3 year term this year and is available for re nomination. This has to be done in same way as for a new nomination. You can find nomination slips at the back of the Church.



Over 60s Table Tennis: Meet every Wednesday in the Schoolroom 9.30am to 12noon. A great social event with some exercise as well. Tea coffee and chocolate biscuits always available. There is no annual fee or joining fee just a £2 donation when you attend, for more information speak to Alex Pelling or give him a call on 07763116911.

Sudan: Czech aid worker released!

In our bulletin for the 19th February Open Doors asked for your prayers for three Christians in Sudan. This report was released on the 27 February 2017.

A Czech aid worker, Petr Jašek (pictured right) detained in Sudan since December 2015, has been pardoned and freed by



President Omar Bashir - after the Czech Foreign Minister Lubomir Zaoralek visited Sudan this weekend to seek his release.

He flew back to Prague with the Foreign Minister yesterday (Sunday 26 Feb).

World Watch Monitor heard from some of his friends, who wept with relief at the news.

On 22 January he was sentenced to 23-and-a-half years after being found guilty of various charges, including spying. He was also fined 100,000 Sudanese pounds (around \$15,000) for undertaking NGO work without a permit.

Two other men sentenced with him - a Sudanese church leader, Hassan Taour, and a Darfuri graduate, Abdulmonem Abdumawla - were each sentenced to 12 years, their major 'crime' being 'aiding and abetting' Jašek in his alleged spying. One of the years was for 'spreading rumours that undermine the authority of the state' (even though the legal maximum penalty for this is six months in prison).

Lawyers for the men have lodged appeals for their release. Please continue to pray for these two men

Persecution in Nigeria

I awoke one night and saw that the streets were brightly lit by the many churches that had been set ablaze. In the weeks that followed, we heard gun shots every night. It felt like war. The following morning I saw corpses on the streets."

This was Rebecca's terrifying experience in 2009, as Boko Haram attacks began on Maiduguri, the city where she lived in Borno State in the north east corner of Nigeria.

Eight years on, while Boko Haram have been pushed back by the Nigerian army in some areas, their attacks on Christians and all who refuse to conform to their radical brand of Islam continue. In August 2016, Boko Haram's new leader Abu Musab al-Barnawi vowed to eradicate Christianity in Nigeria. He said that militants will blow up 'every church that we are able to reach... killing all of those who we find from the citizens of the cross'. The group have killed thousands of people, leaving many desperate widows and orphans behind, and forcing an estimated 2 million people to flee their homes.

You can read the rest of this story and many more about the persecuted church on <http://www.opendoorsuk.org/news/>

You could also join Eileen and David Neil on the 15th March for **Prayers for the Persecuted Church** at 10.30 am-11.30 am at 6 St. John's Gardens.

JOHN WHITE'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Bible; 66 Books, 1,189 Chapters, 31,173 Verses, 774,746 Words, written over some 1500 years, and all this for you! Why? Because our Heavenly Father thinks you are worth it. [2 Timothy 3 vs.16]

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

Martin Luther King Jr. 1929 -1968 was an American Baptist minister and activist who was a leader in the Civil Rights Movement.

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

Next Week's Service Sunday 12th March

Flowers: Cynthia Meale

Welcome: Maureen and Cyril

Refreshments: Alan and Sheena

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