



Sunday 10th November 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News



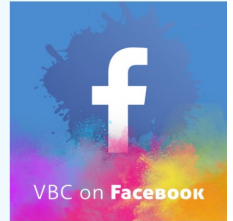
**Live in church**



**VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
to see Jesus Christ honoured in Eastbourne and beyond

HOME JESUS ABOUT SUNDAYS FAMILIES CHURCH LIFE CONTACT US

**Live and online  
WITH  
CHRIS SHORT**



***“Can a mother forget the baby she is nursing and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!” (Isaiah 49:15)***

This Sunday is an All-Age Remembrance Service. At the end of the service, we'll join the BBC to share in the two minutes silence commemorated across the nation.

Traditionally, Remembrance Day has been a time to honour those who gave their lives in earlier wars that we might live in freedom – as the words of the Kohima Epitaph say: *“When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today.”*

Sadly, people around the world are still making that sacrifice. As we remember those who gave their lives in the past, we also remember our friends in the Ukraine and those suffering in Israel, Gaza, Lebanon and the Middle East. We remember too, those who have left their homes and been separated from loved ones because of war.

As we remember all these, we'll also remember the God who remembers us and has promised an end to all wars, all mourning and even death itself.



## **Next Week (17<sup>TH</sup> Nov)**

Chris Short will be leading the 10am service, the penultimate in his series on Jacob. The fortnightly Prayer Meeting will be at 6.30pm.

# STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the coming week are as follows

Chris	off Tues		
Colin	off Mon	Phil	in Tues am, Wed, Thurs pm
Kevin	off Sat	Simon	off Tues
Tim	in Wed & Fri mornings	Julie	in Thurs
Nadine	in Mon & Thu mornings	Lucy	in Wed am, Thurs, Fri am
Sandra	off Wed & Thurs	Jez	off Wed, in Fri

## Senior Minister

Chris Short

## PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

## Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

## Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

## Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

## CAP Debt Centre Manager

Phil Papps

## CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

## Treasurer

Mark Evason

## Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

## Ministry Assistants

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Lucy Craggs (Women)

## Life Group Coordinator and interim Youth Leader

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

*firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk*

(eg *chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk*)

## VBC Bank Details

*Account Name:*

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

*Account Number:* 00010297

*Sort Code:* 40-52-40

**01323 737974**

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE

[helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk)

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

- Sun 10 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office  
 10.00am All-Age Remembrance Service with Chris Short
- Mon 11 6.00pm Girls' Brigade
- Tues 12 Soaking in the Spirit - next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> Nov
- Wed 13 7.00am Prayer Meeting  
 8.30am Community Fridge  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 6.30pm Boys' Brigade  
 7.00pm Ladies' Meal - Pomodoro e Mozzarella
- Thu 14 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)  
 Men's Fellowship - next meeting Nov 21<sup>st</sup>  
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Simon Grimes  
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 15 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 12.30pm Friends, Food & Fellowship  
 5.00pm Kids Club  
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 16
- Sun 17 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office  
 10.00am Live @ 10 with Chris Short  
 7.00pm Xcav8!

**The Week Ahead**

**Preaching Engagements** *Please remember in prayer*

- Francis Bates Nov 10 Polegate Free Church, 10.30am  
 Tom Duncanson Nov 10 Pulborough Brooks Baptist Church



**Ladies Prayer Breakfast** - Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov, 9am-10.30am.

We can now confirm that Laurence Gamble will be speaking

*(see sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre)*

Please be aware of a **change of date** for one of the Ladies' Prayer Breakfasts. The one scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> (2025) has been moved to June 21<sup>st</sup>.



**Victoria**  
Baptist Church

Christmas Craft workshop  
Make a wreath, table decoration,  
mince pies and a Holy family  
£5 per activity

Saturday 7th December  
7-9pm

Please sign up in the Welcome Centre. Places are limited.

Refreshments will be provided and we will sit and enjoy some homemade mince pies at the end of the evening.

Please see Sandra Taylor or Lucy Craggs for further information.



# Seeing CHRIST IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

with the help of Tim Keller Part II:



## How to obtain wisdom?

Last time we introduced what Biblical wisdom refers to in Proverbs, this time we will look at how we get it? The first thing to understand is that it is **'Step by step'**. There are no quick fixes and be wary of those in the world or church who offer them. Prov.3:6, reference to *'ways'* reminds us it is a daily step by step practice of the following

five principles found in Ch. 3 and elsewhere in Proverbs.

1. **Knowing God.** We need to daily determine to know God better and find ways to do that as it reminds us in v3 about God's instructions, *'bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.'*
2. A sober acceptance of yourself to avoid pride and stay in touch with reality, using **self-examination.** *'Do not lean on your own understanding'* (v5). Realising our shortcomings prepares us to accept God's love and guidance. God delights to use such people.
3. Appreciate the importance of **having good friends in the church** to counsel, discuss and mentor you and them. That is the value of joining a 'Life Group'. No lone rangers; God has put us in the community of the church. As it says at the beginning of Chapter 3:1, *'My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments'*. Be willing to listen to the good advice of others.
4. In addition to knowing God better, **put what He teaches in His Word into practice** *'in all your ways'* (v6) and learn how to live as a Christian - just as Peter encouraged his hearers to discipline their lives with good practices so they might be fruitful and *'see clearly'*. (2Peter1:5-8).
5. Learn to **find God in trouble** as it reminds us in vv 11-12 *'My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of His reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom He loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.'* God uses the trials of life for our benefit. That doesn't mean it is easy; it is very hard and at times we don't understand the injustices of life and what God is doing, as Job experienced, or the writer of Psalm 73 who was troubled with *'the success of the wicked'* while he stayed obedient to God and suffered for it. In Prov 30:1-4 it mentions a wise man called Agur who faced such difficulties and asked questions of God. *'The words of Agur son of Jakeh - an oracle. The man declares, ...*

... Surely I am too stupid to be a man. I have not the understanding of a man. I have not learned wisdom, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One. Who has ascended to heaven and come down? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His son's name? Surely you know?'

Thankfully Jesus, the 'Wonderful Counsellor', helps us as He experienced suffering that He didn't deserve - for us. In John 3:13-14 He says, 'No one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up.' Jesus pointed Nicodemus to that answer - using the same words Agur used in Prov.30:4, 'Who has ascended to heaven and come down?' - to help him make the connection. The one Agur was looking for 'from heaven' is Jesus and His suffering on the cross. If we see things from that perspective - as the troubled man in Psalm 73:16-17 found help when he 'went to the house of God' - and apply the lessons of the cross in our daily lives, it will help us make better sense of our difficulties and we will be following God's wisdom.

To hear and benefit from the full sermon by Tim Keller go to:

<https://gospelinlife.com/sermon/training-in-wisdom/>

*John Demetriou*

Bernhard Baron Care Home  
Care Home  
Care Home

WEDNESDAY  
20TH NOVEMBER  
AT 10AM-12NOON

# Christmas FAYRE

ALL WELCOME

ENTRY £1  
CHILDREN FREE  
TO INCLUDE A CUP  
OF TEA OR COFFEE

Bernhard Baron Care Home  
Eastbourne Road, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5HB  
T: 01323 483613 www.bbch.co.uk

*A number of VBC members reside in Bernhard Baron Care Home, very near the traffic lights at Polegate. They would be delighted to see you, I'm sure, if you were able to make it to their Christmas Fayre. It will be an opportunity to see some familiar faces and an early opportunity to get into the Christmas spirit!*

## ENDURANCE AND PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER

The popular slogan, “God will not give you more than you can handle,” is not only a misinterpretation of scripture but can be a stumbling block to sufferers who are in situations they really cannot ‘handle’.

When I hear this misleading slogan offered as some sort of consolation in prayer or conversation, I cannot help but counter it by using 2 scriptures in Corinthians; one where Paul is speaking about enduring our temptations to sin and another quite different one where he is speaking about enduring troubles.

In 1 Corinthians 10:13, Paul is talking specifically about the temptation to sin: “No temptation has overcome you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so you can endure it”.



By contrast, in 2 Corinthians 1:8-9 Paul speaks about his inability to endure troubles that he really cannot handle - they were so bad that he despaired of life! Surely we have all been there at some time in our lives. Sometimes our life situations are simply that - unendurable and despair-inducing. “We do not want you to be uninformed brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death.”

In temptation to sin, we are not tempted “beyond what we can bear.” In other troubles, we may be faced with things “far beyond our ability to endure”.

Mercifully, God offers us a “way out” when tested by the enticement to sin. What then does He offer us when our hardships are indeed more than we can handle?

I believe Paul gives us the answer to this as he continues in 2 Corinthians 1:9b: “But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.” In troubles which are ‘more than we can handle’, we need to press into God and keep on pressing into Him.

But not only that. Paul goes on to say how important the prayers of others are at such times: “He has delivered us from such a deadly peril and He will deliver us again. On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favour granted us in answer to the prayers of many.” 2Corinthians1:10-11

I once met a man after church who was facing untold hardships. Someone had offered him the popular slogan above as a way of comfort but it had had the ....



..... opposite effect. It had sent him spiralling further downwards into despair and confusion as he tried to reconcile his intolerable and horrific suffering with God 'not giving him more than he could handle'. When he heard the 2 scriptures above, his sense of relief and release was immediate and immense.

Paul told Timothy to be a worker "who correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:15). May God help us to do the same, that we may encourage and uphold one another in our times of need.

*Joanne Venter*



Following the **CAP** feature in last Sunday's service, we would like to thank you so much for your enthusiasm and responses - we were so encouraged.

As far as the Christmas hamper work is concerned, see below for the particular needs that we currently have. Please check the sign-up sheets in the Welcome Centre and sign up where you feel you can help out.

- we still have spaces for packers, as well as car drivers for the deliveries. Having a team mate for the drivers would also be helpful in case parking is tricky, or we can pair people up.
- Deliveries will be done during daylight hours on Thurs, Fri & Sat, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Dec, and will be grouped by area with each pair asked to deliver 6 or so parcels.
- We are aiming to include a full Christmas dinner with treats in each hamper and we will make up about 45. Last year, we sent out around 40 parcels, costing about £40 for single clients and £60 for families.
- Gifts of sweets or toiletries would be much appreciated. We will have a welcome centre collection point within a couple of weeks or so.
- If you are able to give financial gifts, please use the bank details given on page 3 with the reference "CAP Hampers". If you prefer to use cash, please give to the office or to Phil or Lesley. Don't forget to indicate if we can collect gift aid on your donation.



## PRAYER DIARY 11<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> Nov

*“He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear, He burns the shields with fire. Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”*  
**Psalm 46: 9-10**

**Monday** Today is Remembrance Day. Spend some time today thanking God for the sacrifice of those who have given their lives or their health in order to protect us. Pray for those who continue to suffer from the after-effects of war. Thank God that our country is at peace, and pray for areas of the world where there is conflict.

**Tuesday** Pray for those in Ukraine who are suffering the effects of war. Think of our friends in Lebedyn who are serving God faithfully under such difficult circumstances. Thank God for all that they are doing in their community. Pray especially today for the team. For strength and protection this week.

**Wednesday** As our friends in Lebedyn travel around the region, delivering food, aid and support to those in need, pray for their safety. Pray, also, for those they are serving: the elderly, vulnerable, refugees, orphaned and bereaved. Thank God for the work of the bakery which blesses so many people.

**Thursday** Pray that God will bring people to Him through the church services held at the centre in Lebedyn. Ask Him to soften people’s hearts to accept Him as their Saviour as they accept the aid given to them.

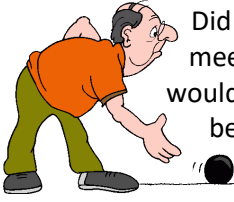
**Friday** Pray for the children and young people engaging in their various activities at the centre. Thank God that so many are eager to study His Word and learn more about Him. Pray for those who have repented, that God will continue to work in their lives.

**Saturday** Pray for God to make **“wars cease to the ends of the earth”**. So many people are suffering throughout the world as a result of war. Ask God to **“break the bow, shatter the spear and burn the shields with fire.”** Pray that He will soften the hearts of those who are responsible for conflicts, and that God will bring His peace.

**Sunday** *“Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”* As you prepare for church this morning, spend some time being still in the presence of God and waiting on Him. Thank Him for His blessings and His goodness and be ready to exalt Him today as we worship together as a church family.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**

# BOWLS



Did you know Victoria Baptist Church has a bowling club which meets on Monday afternoons at 2pm? We need more players and would welcome new people. Even if you have never played bowls before instruction would be given. Please consider joining us if you are free at that time and contact Sam Blundell for more information.

# DONATIONS

We have been asked a few times recently where people can make donations to the church on a Sunday morning - or indeed at any time of the week. There are two boxes in the sanctuary, attached to the walls, and one upstairs, on the table at the back of the sound desk.



And for those of you who prefer to use debit/credit cards, we do have machines available to take your payments. Ask Colin or Sandra if you wish to make a donation this way.



**BIBLE**  
BY THE BEACH

**In all things**  
*God at work*

02 - 05 MAY 2025  
EASTBOURNE

[www.biblebythebeach.org](http://www.biblebythebeach.org)

**Rebekah Fairhead** is organising a group booking for Bible by the Beach. Please get in touch with her by 24<sup>th</sup> November if you'd like to be included in the group booking which means you pay a slightly reduced price.

**Flower MINISTRY**

The flowers last week were donated by  
Hanny Balmer in memory of George



*We very much appreciated the bunch of flowers delivered to us on Monday - the timing of this was perfect, we give thanks to God for His goodness. And we give thanks to our church family too for remembering us in this way. R&CP*



*Thank you so much for the lovely surprise I received with the bunch of flowers delivered to me on Monday. They are really beautiful and the autumn colours complement my lounge. I will enjoy them in the days to come. Thank you again. Blessings to everyone. SS*