



Sunday 11th February 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News

**“ Since we live by the Spirit, let us  
keep in step with the Spirit “**

**Galatians 5:22**



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## **Galatians 5:13-26**

### **Hearts on Fire – Life in the Spirit**

**“Since we live by the Spirit let us keep  
in step with the Spirit.” (v25)**

As we continue our series ‘Hearts on Fire’, we come to one of the great passages about the work of the Spirit in the life of believers, in Paul’s letter to the Galatians. The best known part of the passage is the section about the fruit of the Spirit, but as we’ll see, it is not the main thrust of the passage.

The first sign of the Spirit’s presence in our lives, that Paul gives us here, might take you by surprise. I hope you’ll join us as we consider together what it means to ‘walk by the Spirit’, ‘be led by the Spirit’, ‘keep in step with the Spirit’ since ‘we live by the Spirit’.

## **Sunday Evening**

Chris will be showing the last in the series of *Behold the Man* videos at 6.30pm in the church.



## **Next Weekend (17<sup>TH</sup>/18<sup>TH</sup>) ...**

... is our *Hope Lebedyn* weekend and Eddie Lyle will be speaking at our 10am service on Sunday, 10am. See page 6 for more details of next Saturday and the week following.

## Staff/Office Matters

Staff movements for this coming week are as follows:

Chris        annual leave  
Colin        off Monday  
Erik         off Thursday  
Simon       off Tuesday  
Julie        in Thursday

Sandra      off Thursday  
Kevin       off Saturday  
Tim         in Wed am & Fri am  
Jez         in Wed am & Fri am  
Helen       annual leave  
Nadine      in Mon & Thurs

### **Senior Minister**

Chris Short

### **PA to Senior Minister**

Sandra Taylor

### **Family Ministries**

Simon Grimes - Children

Erik Cornelisse - Youth

### **Church Administrator**

Colin McMahon

### **Caretaker**

Kevin Virgo

### **CAP Debt Centre Manager**

Helen Diplock

### **CAP Debt Coach**

Nadine Crawford-Piper

### **Treasurer**

Mark Evason

### **Finance Assistant**

Julie Hanks

### **Pastoral Team Leader**

Tim Nunn

### **Life Group Coordinator**

Jez Taylor

**01323 737974**

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

### **VBC Bank Details**

*Account Name:*

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

*Account Number:* 00010297

*Sort Code:* 40-52-40

Staff contact details:

*firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk*

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

# The Week Ahead

|      |    |         |   |
|------|----|---------|---|
| Sun  | 11 | 9.30am  | Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office |
|      |    | 10.00am | Live and Online with Chris Short            |
|      |    | 6.30pm  | "Behold the Man" with Chris Short           |
| Mon  | 12 |         |   |
| Tues | 13 | 7.15pm  | Soaking in the Spirit (ladies only)         |
| Wed  | 14 | 8.30am  | Community Fridge and Café                   |
| Thu  | 15 | 7.30am  | Prayer Meeting (for men only)               |
|      |    | 10.15am | Men's Fellowship with Mark Sawyer (RNLI)    |
|      |    | 2.30pm  | Women's Fellowship with Mike Wager          |
|      |    | 7.30pm  | Ukraine Prayer Meeting                      |
| Fri  | 16 | 10.00am | Outreach Prayer Meeting                     |
|      |    | 12.30pm | Friends, Food & Fellowship                  |
| Sat  | 17 | 4.00pm  | Service for Ukraine                         |
| Sun  | 18 | 9.30am  | Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office |
|      |    | 10.00am | Live and Online with Eddie Lyle             |
|      |    | 7.00pm  | Xcav8                                       |



## Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

|                 |        |   |
|-----------------|--------|---|
| Brian Wightwick | 11 Feb | Beulah Baptist, Bexhill, 10am               |
|                 |        | Polegate Free Church, 6.30pm                |
| David Laskey    | 11 Feb | St. Barnabas United Church, Langney, 9.45am |
|                 | 18 Feb | Broadway United Church, Hampden Park, 10am  |
| Francis Bates   | 11 Feb | Punnett's Town, 2.30pm                      |
| Erik Cornelisse | 18 Feb | Horam Chapel, 10.30am                       |

**Ladies' Dinner - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Mar @ Pomodoro's**

**Prospective Members - Sun Mar 24<sup>th</sup> 5pm in the Hive.**

## Advance Notice -

There will be NO service here at VBC on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. We want to encourage everyone to join us at the Bandstand that morning for this year's Thy Kingdom Come event.





# **AGM and Church Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7.30pm**

1. Introduction, Welcome and Prayer
2. Agreement of Minutes and Matters Arising
3. Appointment of Auditors
4. Safeguarding Statement
5. Membership Report
6. Omega Report
7. Property Matters  
Report on conversation with Baptist Union Corporation
8. Finance Report
9. Overview of 2023
10. Ethos Statement
11. Evangelical Baptists Request
12. Forthcoming CLT Elections (next Church Meeting)
13. **AOB- Items for consideration to be emailed to the church office  
by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February**
14. **DONM – 7:30pm, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

## Anniversary

To mark the 2nd anniversary of the war in Ukraine we are organising two key events.



### Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 4pm @VBC.

A service of prayer and worship. Eddie Lyle, former CEO and president of Open Doors and a trustee of Hope Lebedyn, will be leading the prayers. He will also be speaking at VBC the following day (18<sup>th</sup>). We also hope to be hearing from Bohdan, the pastor at the church in Lebedyn.

### 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Feb - a Week of Prayer for Lebedyn/Ukraine

Every day for one hour we will be holding a prayer meeting for Lebedyn/Ukraine. We will focus on different issues each day. A special area will be set up in the sanctuary. This will also be available during the day for anyone to come and pray (when the sanctuary is not being used).

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 9.30am**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 1.30pm**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> 11am**

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> (anniversary) 9.30am**

Please make every effort to attend at least one of the prayer times during the week. The Lebedyn Church is our sister church and at this difficult time they need upholding in prayer.



## HOLY SPIRIT DAY

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Apr 9.30am to 4.30pm here at VBC. In line with Chris's ongoing Teaching Series regarding the work and person of the Holy Spirit, we are setting aside a day to explore the work of the Holy Spirit together as a church. More details to follow nearer the time.



# A HUGE BIG THANK YOU !!

During my recent presentations from my time in India, people decided to donate some finance and we are now able to send **100.000\* rupees** to Avana Hospital, one of the places I visited. They provide compassion and quality health care, specialising in obstetrics, in this remote area.

Please pray for Sungti and Nadia as they run this amazing service in very challenging circumstances.

\*(£ 1000.00)

  
anava  
hospital

## LIVING Life

Contact  
Mick Trott  
for more  
details

We are taking Easter Eggs to Croatia.

This year, for every egg that is donated,  
a very generous donor will match it with another egg so:

**ONE EQUALS TWO !!**

please drop your donated eggs in at the Welcome Centre

**THANK YOU**



Hello from Neil, Jess, Joel, Sophie and Stephen Hilton!

\* Be Good News, share the Good News, and grow in Good News \*

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <p>9 years ago Neil left his youth pastor position at VBC so that we could start an adventure with God - pioneering a church community (Good News Brighton) in Moulsecoomb, an estate on the outskirts of Brighton.</p> <p>We are so grateful to have been supported with your prayers and continued friendship through all these years.</p> |
|---|--|

We are grateful for having the opportunity to develop Neil's role as **Community Chaplain** in Good News Brighton over the last 9 years. It is a privilege to serve the community of Moulsecoomb in such tangible and relevant ways - **being** Good News through our actions, and **sharing** the Good News of Jesus as we invite residents to **grow** alongside us in our faith.

What does this look like?

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  <p>John who looks forward to his weekly trip to McDonalds. Neil can't persuade him to try healthier food 😊</p> | <p><b>Enhanced Befriending</b></p> <p>Neil supports lonely and isolated people who are not suitable for volunteer-led befriending, as their needs are too complex. He advocates for his clients when they are "forgotten" by the authorities. He supports them to access health, social care and mental health services that are vital to their wellbeing. Neil is foremost a friend to those who have none. He mourns with them when they mourn, and laughs with them when they laugh. He has the privilege to speak of Hope, when there seems to be no hope.</p> |
|---|--|





"My wife died and I am very lonely and sad. I had a MAJOR BREAKDOWN. The shed is my salvation. Don't know what I would do without it."

### Good News Shed

Neil leads the Shed, alongside fabulous volunteers and supports the members' with their complex social and emotional needs. It is a safe and welcoming place for those who are isolated and disconnected from their community. The members find friendship, community, renewed confidence, and a chance to give back to the local community. We have started a waiting list as the demand is so high!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/118472308838456>



God has blessed us with an open door into people's homes and lives. We are in a unique position to share the **Good News** of Jesus into the lives of those around us, and to be Jesus' hands and feet as we serve our community.

### Community Support & Chaplaincy

Living in Moulsecoomb for 9 years, we have been blessed by God to have built strong connections with and the trust of local residents. Neil has naturally moved into a role of Community Support within the local Seniors Housing and the Bevy Community Pub in Moulsecoomb. This means that he is very often the first point of contact when challenging issues arise, such as domestic issues, ill health concerns, substance misuse, decline in mental wellbeing, and sudden bereavement. Neil is able to act as a gateway to help people in the community to receive the support they require.

Please join us in praying for:

- **God's wisdom** as He directs our 5 year strategic planning process
- **Finances** to support God's best plans for Good News Brighton
- Growing a team who love Jesus, to serve with us in Moulsecoomb

Bless you for sharing your time with us 🙌

[goodnewsbrighton@gmail.com](mailto:goodnewsbrighton@gmail.com)

<https://www.goodnewsbrighton.com/>

## PRAYER DIARY 12<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, Romans 15:13.*

**Monday** Pray for families who have children on half term this week. Pray that they might have rest and time together as a family. Think about those children who struggle academically and emotionally and do not look forward to going back into the school environment when classes recommence. Pray that they might find the support they need.

**Tuesday** Think about businesses and organisations and pray that they might be mindful of operating in a manner which is pleasing to God, with an ethical responsibility to their employees, their customers and the world around them.

**Wednesday** In your prayers, think about people who struggle with their mental health, often unseen or unknown by others they meet. Ask God that He might lead them to places of support where there is no judgement, just acceptance and love.


**Thursday** Consider those who are unwell, with life changing conditions, which not only have a serious impact on the patient but also on their families. Pray that they might find God's peace and love as they go through difficult times.

**Friday** *'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, as Christ forgave you.'* Ephesians 4:32. Pray for local communities, that they might foster a sense of acceptance and compassion to those who dwell there. Pray for peace in our town and in all towns across the country.

**Saturday** Bring to God charity workers and volunteers in our community who give their time freely to help others, such as the lifeboat crew, homeless shelters and foodbanks.

**Sunday** Take some time to sit in God's presence and savour His word. And thank Him for blessings in your life, however small they might be. Think about asking God to help you grow in your faith and to be with you for the week ahead.

FUEL FOR PRAYER



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

**FRIDAY 1 MARCH**

A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE!

I beg you, bear with  
one another in love

**Emmanuel Church  
Upperton Road,  
Eastbourne, BN21 1LQ**

**World Day of Prayer  
Service** prepared by the  
**Christian women of Palestine.**

**2.30pm: in the church**  
followed by refreshments in the hall

**All are welcome!**



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[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number 233242



# Flower Ministry

Last week's flowers were donated by  
a friend of VBC



*Dear All - Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers and verse that were delivered on Monday. The shades of pink, cream and green are a delight. In times of difficulty it is good to be reminded that we can trust in the Lord. God Bless, LH*



*Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers received from the church family they really bring such love into the room. Thanks to all concerned, I am so grateful, love to all. God bless JK*



*Thank you for the beautiful bunch of flowers I found on my door step this morning when I returned from the DGH pre op appointment. I am so blessed to have so many people concerned about me and so many prayers for my healing. Thank you for today's colourful and fragrant blessing. AR*