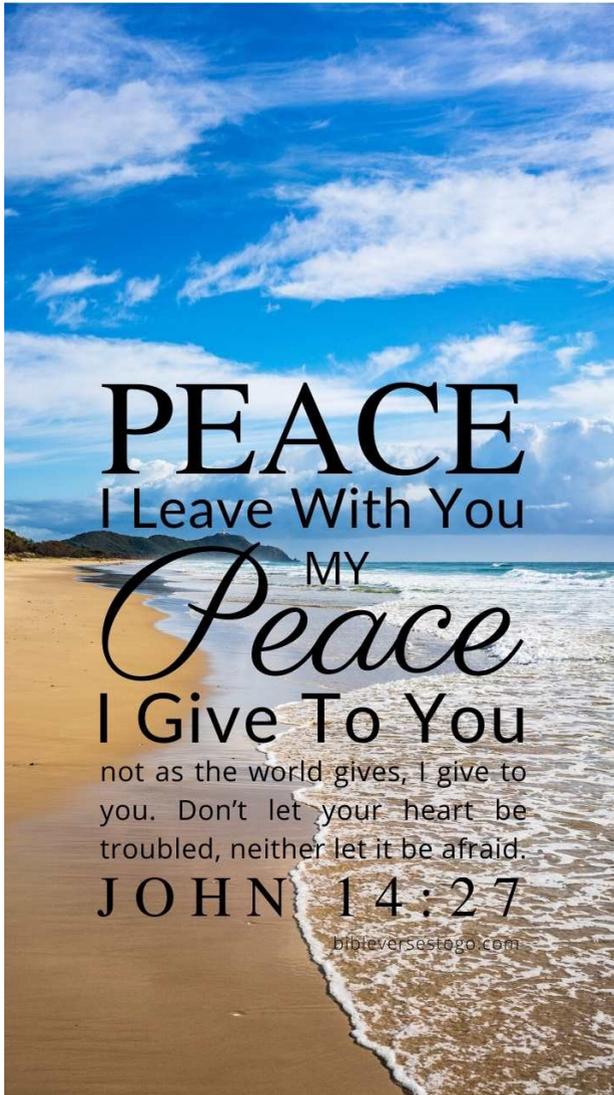




Sunday 12th June 2022

Victoria Baptist Church News



PEACE

I Leave With You

MY
Peace

I Give To You

not as the world gives, I give to you. Don't let your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

JOHN 14:27

bibliversesoto.com



10am - live at VBC and online with Jez Taylor

Peace in a TROUBLED WORLD

When we look around the world today it is easy to become fearful and anxious, there is so much going on and so much pressure to live in a particular style or behave in a certain way. People spend a lifetime searching for happiness and peace through a wide variety of methods eg: family, work, fame, money, alcohol, success etc. God, however, reminds us that the peace we desire can only be filled by Him. Today in our all-age service, we will discover what biblical peace is and how we can achieve it and live contentedly in a troubled world.



CRECHE



Please note that the crèche will again be in the Welcome Centre during this morning's service and is likely to continue there for a while until we are able to get the snug refurbished following the recent leaks.

PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS MEETING

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in Church Membership **today (Sunday) at 5pm**. It will be held downstairs in the Hive and will last for approximately 45 minutes. For more details please contact

richard@victoriabaptist.org.uk

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

No out-of-the-ordinary absences this week apart from Erik taking Wednesday off as well as Thursday.

Other movements -

Days off - Colin (Monday), Chris (Tuesday), Sandra, Simon (Thursday)

Days in - Jez & Tim (Wednesday), Julie (Thursday), Helen (Tues, Wed & Thurs)

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

Erik Cornelisse - Youth

Church Administrator

Colin McMahan

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Helen Diplock

Treasurer

Louise Hughes

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Pastoral Team Leader

Tim Nunn

Life Group Coordinator

Jez Taylor

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne

BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

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)

Sun	12	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	All-Age Service with Jez & Sandra Taylor
		5.00pm	Meeting for Prospective New Members
		7.00pm	Xcav8
Mon	13	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Tue	14	6.45pm	Alpha - "How can I resist evil?" with Ollie Meakins
		7.15pm	Soaking in the Spirit (for ladies only)
Wed	15	8.30am	Community Fridge (until 10am)
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		5.15pm	Boys Brigade (ages 4-8)/ 6.15pm (ages 8-18)
Thu	16	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only) Men's Fellowship - final meeting before Summer break, Thurs 23 rd June
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Rev. Colin Crook
		7.30pm	Prayer for Ukraine
Fri	17	10.00am	Vicky Bees
		10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		12.30pm	Friends, Food & Fellowship
		3.00pm	VBC Open at Willingdon GC
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect!
Sat	18		Alpha Away Day
Sun	19	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live at VBC and online with Chris Short
		7.00pm	Xcav8

The Week Ahead



- Wed 29 June Church Members Meeting (see page 11)
- Wed 13 July Men's Curry Night (see page 10)
- Sat 30 July Social Events
Hampden Park Picnic, 12.30pm.
Details to follow.

Small Hall/Snug

Please note that the small hall is out of action for the foreseeable future owing to urgent repairs to the ceiling being needed. Please keep clear and ensure that your children do not use it at all until you are given the all-clear.

We have also had water problems in the Snug so that too is out of action for a while, I'm afraid.



Exams

Please note that we are helping out Cavendish School by providing spaces for 2 of their students taking GCSE exams. If you see a DO NOT ENTER sign outside the halls or downstairs, please take note and keep well clear! Seek advice from the office if your need is urgent. All morning exams are finished before 11—only a couple more weeks to go..

A message from SEBA (South East Baptist Association)

(Please let us know in the office if you would like to attend)

After serving for 13 years as our Regional Minister Team Leader and for a total of 20 years within the area, first as Minister of Rye Baptist Church (for most of the 1980s), then as the Missioner for the Sussex Baptist Association and then more recently as a Regional Minister for SEBA, Stuart is taking a well-earned retirement.



To thank God for all he has done through Stuart and to say farewell to both Gill and Stuart we will be holding a celebration service at Crawley Baptist Church on Sunday 17th July at 5.30pm with tea and cake available from 4pm, to which you are warmly invited.

*Because there is limited space available, we are asking that people don't just turn up on the day - in case you arrive and find we can't accommodate you. So, we are asking that one person, from each church, coordinate numbers and complete the booking form on our website - we need to know numbers, by **Thursday 21st June**, to let the church's catering team know how many people are attending.*

PRAYER DIARY: 13TH–19TH JUNE

Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."

Monday As a new working week begins, pray again for those working in health and social care. Pray that those on the frontline will keep well in the light of all the stress on the services and the long waits that patients face. Pray for that those seeking help will be considerate of the the staff and of other members of the community that need attention. Give thanks for the health care we have in this country. Pray, too, for those you know who are in hospital or receiving treatment at this time.

Tuesday Continue to pray for our Queen. Give thanks for her servant heart and that we were able to celebrate last weekend and that the traditions and values of our country will be upheld. **Luke 16:10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."**

Wednesday As world wide issues continue to be a concern, pray for the integrity in leadership. Pray that those with influence will use it with compassion and justice. Pray for positive discussion and reasonable negotiations in working for peace and in issues of human rites. Ask for God's guidance to be given, in all the decisions. **Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.**

Thursday Ask God to open your eyes to the beauty of the environment. In Genesis we read that God saw that is was good. Give thanks for His bounty, ask Him to prompt you to take care of the natural world and to do what you can at all times to slow the destruction of His perfect creation.

Friday Sit quietly and bring to God all those you know who work in the church. Pray for our own team here at Victoria, for the church national leaders, and those serving abroad. Pray that they will all work for the Lord and not be people pleasing, that they will serve with integrity.

Saturday Pray for your own heart. Ask God to show you any areas that need light shining on or cleansing. Ask His continued help as He finishes the work He has started. **Psalms 25:21 May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in You.**

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Sunday As we come together to worship once more, give thanks for the freedom to gather. Pray that the cares of the week will be put aside for us all and that we can worship with integrity. **But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” John 4:24**

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.

INVITATION



You are all invited to attend the Grand Opening of Battersea Chapel next Saturday (18th) from 2pm.

Battersea Chapel is of course where our former member Bayo Babalola and his family moved to just over a year ago and Bayo & Deneese would very much appreciate your support, either by attending this service, by prayer or by both!

Please let the office know asap if you are able to attend and we will pass on the numbers to the office in Battersea. It would also be helpful to know who is going so we can try to do a car-share. We have had interest from people who would very much appreciate help with transport.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Christine Diamond is looking for some helpers for the forthcoming PARCHE afternoon tea event on 12th July.



VBC Open



As the big day approaches - the VBC Open at Willingdon Golf Club next Friday (17th) - do please have a word with Jez Taylor if you have had a change of mind or a change of plans. There are still 3 spaces left for this highly prestigious tournament and they will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

June CAP Update

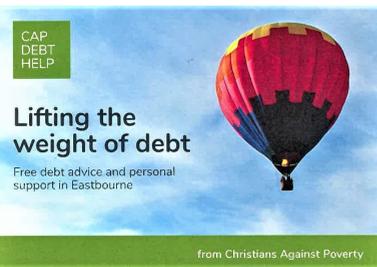
May saw another of our clients going debt free, which was fantastic. This client has been working with us for some time, so to see him become debt free was fantastic.

Over the spring we saw a rush of clients, who are now working well with us.

A significant proportion of our clients are currently struggling with housing - within temporary accommodation, facing eviction, moving to new homes that aren't necessarily suitable. Thankfully, two of our clients did get permanent Housing Association and Council housing earlier in the spring, which is a huge answer to prayer.

All of our clients are struggling with the rising cost of living, and we continue to support our current and past clients with food shops. For example, God prompted me to message a debt free family over half term, to check in with them. That morning the mum had been worrying about her empty shelves, so it was great to turn up with bags of both staples and fresh fruit and vegetables for the family to enjoy over half term.

This week I have a challenge for all of you! I have a stack of postcards advertising our debt service, and I'd like to see them all gone from the church office, and out in the town where they can be seen!



Please take some, and drop them around town or pin them to noticeboards. Whether that's in your workplace, at the doctors, your barbers or favourite cafe! If you know someone who needs our help, we also have smaller cards you can pass to them discretely.

Prayer requests

CAP Head Office: are very busy at the moment, and are recruiting new debt advisers. Pray for discernment and wisdom for all the team in Bradford. They have also asked for prayer for successful recruitment. This is the biggest single factor in improving the service, even though it takes the longest time to have an impact due to training requirements.

Housing: pray that God would be with the housing team at the Council - they're also struggling to recruit and retain staff which is having an impact on the service ...



... they're able to provide and their morale. Pray that each of our CAP clients in temporary accommodation may be placed in the perfect home for them soon.

christians
against
poverty

CAP

Health: a significant proportion of our current CAP clients are living with a mental or physical illness. This can affect every aspect of their life, so please pray for healing, for faith, and that working with our CAP team brings healing as well.

Pray that all our clients would:

- be surrounded by people who will encourage, empower and champion them
- rediscover hope and the strength to keep going, even when times are tough.

Piano



Following on from the recent advert for a redundant drum kit - which has now found a good home - this week we have news of a redundant piano which we are happy to pass on to someone who can make good use of it. We won't be charging for it but, if you are interested, we would ask you to sort out transporting it to its new home. Please contact the office if you are interested.

COMPETITION FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

It has been decided that the "Prayer Zone" banners, currently situated at the front of the church, below the screen and the cross, are going to be replaced. The idea is to purchase one big screen, roughly the same width as the current screens, and to add a picture - a photo of somewhere in or around Eastbourne is what we are looking for. The other priorities are that 1) it needs to be in landscape format and 2) it needs to have as high a resolution as possible to avoid blurring. Any queries concerning the photo itself should be directed to Richard Kirk.



Men's CURRY NIGHT



After a successful Curry Night in April with 25 in attendance, we are going 'on the road' to secure a bigger venue which happens to be owned by a Christian. Please consider inviting friends as the educational and entertaining talk from one of our VBC members, George John (FRCS, Urologist) which was postponed last time, will be going ahead. Potential 'car sharing' from VBC will be arranged nearer the time. To be explicit – you will be paying for your own meal!

Venue: The Royal Indian Restaurant, 21A, South Road, Hailsham.

Date: Wednesday 13th July.

Time: 7.30pm.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS!

Esther Elliston and her fiancé Kenneth Undi are getting married next Saturday (18th) at the Old Chapel Centre in Alfriston at 2pm. They would love to see people from VBC at the service so do feel free to pop along and offer your support on this exciting day. We wish them God's richest blessings as they embark on this new adventure together.



Two days prior to Esther and Kenneth's wedding, there are big celebrations in the **Laskey** household - **David and Margaret's** Diamond Wedding anniversary on Thursday 16th! They were married at Sudbury Methodist Church - in the District of Willesden and the County of Middlesex - with David, aged 26, employed as a Local Government Officer and Margaret, 23, as a Secretary. Their lives have changed significantly in those 60 years with David of course spending many years in the ministry. Needless to say, we wish them every blessing on their special day and indeed, for many years to come.



FOODBANK COLLECTIONS

Every Tuesday morning, the Foodbank collects from VBC, but recently the crate has been looking depressingly empty. Eastbourne Foodbank is really struggling to meet demand at the moment - sadly we are the busiest foodbank in the country.



We would love to see the Foodbank crate bursting with food again. Please could you pop in an extra item or two in your next shop, or go through your cupboards and see if there's anything you won't use that you can pass on.

The Foodbank needs more of everything, but particularly:

- TINNED VEGETABLES - PEAS / CARROTS / SWEETCORN
- TINNED FRUIT
- BISCUITS
- TINNED TOMATOES
- TINNED RICE PUDDING
- TINNED MEAT PIES / MEATBALLS / HOTDOGS
- TOILET ROLLS

Let's see if we can make the crate overflow ahead of the next collection!

CHURCH MEETING

Wed 29th June, 7.30pm

Agenda



1. Introduction, Welcome & Prayer
2. Agreement of minutes and matters arising
3. Membership Report
4. Finance Report
5. Property Matters
6. Children's Work Report - Simon Grimes
7. Update Regarding Ownership of Church Buildings & Manse properties
8. Passion for Life Events - Review
9. AOB - items for consideration to be emailed, or phoned through, to the church office by Monday 27th June.
10. DONM - 28th September 2022

Teach Us to Pray

During the Ukrainian war I have found myself asking, 'how do I pray and what do I pray for?' Suddenly I was unsure what God's will in this situation was. It made me take another look at prayer and realise I needed help and guidance just like the first disciples who were in a similar predicament and asked, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." Luke 11:1. Prayer is not easy and like a lot of things that are difficult and important we need instruction if we want to do it right, meaningfully, effectively and, above all, glorify God in it. Thankfully, the Bible has much to teach us on this subject through godly examples and direct instruction.



The first thing I learnt was, when we come to pray we must pause and remember who God is, especially His power and holiness, and not come lightly or in a glib manner. Therefore it is always good and helpful, whatever our condition, to start with praise and a humble spirit.

Secondly, following on from this, we must consider how we as sinners can come into a holy God's presence and have access to Him.

'Who may ascend the hill of the Lord?

Who may stand in His holy place?' Psalm 24:3-4

It is only through Christ and His sacrificial death for us that we have direct access to God as 'our Father'. We need to grasp this truth when we pray so we '*can approach the throne of grace with confidence and with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith*' (Hebrews 4:16 & 10:19) - otherwise we are defeated before we start and in danger of not being heard - James 1:6-7.

Thirdly, we can then bring our requests as Paul reminds us in Philippians 4:6 but what are they so they are in line with God's will? If we look at 'spiritual requests' as found in the Bible we won't go wrong. For example:

- The spread of the gospel eg Acts 4:29-30
- The spiritual growth and well-being of fellow-believers eg Eph 3:14-19
- Taking the promises of God and applying them to our and other situations we know of eg Isaiah reasoning and pleading with God based on His covenant relationship with Israel in Isaiah.63:15 - 64:12 when they were in trouble.

..... contd

- Use scripture, especially the Psalms. God loves his children to quote back at Him His words in context. Jesus and the apostles often referred to Old Testament scriptures in their teaching and prayers.
- Pray against the 'devil's schemes' eg Eph 6:11,18

Fourthly, there are times when we honestly don't know what to pray for. It could be a difficult decision, loss of job or terrible threat as in a war. In such circumstances we can be honest with God, admit our fears, lack of wisdom and ask Him to guide and help us. Remember the example of that godly King Hezekiah when Jerusalem was besieged by the



mighty, fearsome Assyrian army and all looked hopeless. Hezekiah took Sennacherib's threatening letter in to the temple and laid it before God, asking for His help, 2 Kings 19:14-19. And so should we with our dilemmas.

Fifthly, the situation might be so bad words fail us eg sudden illness or death, and all we can do is 'groan' before God as Jesus did at the grave of Lazarus, Jn.11:33. That is still acceptable because it is the Holy Spirit in us praying to God the Father in a way He understands. *'The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.'* Rom. 8:26-27.

Lastly two warnings:

- Be careful not to demand or claim things from God that would be an aberration of our position before Him. He is sovereign and we need to approach Him as Hebrews reminds us with 'reverence and awe' Hebrews 12:28.
- Secondly, be cautious with personal requests. Some are legitimate such as 'our daily bread' but it is sobering to remember God's ways are not our ways and not everything we want is for our good or in God's plan. There is that sobering warning in Psalm 106:15 regarding Israel when they craved meat from God in the wilderness: *'God granted their request but gave them leanness of soul.'* Paul wanted his 'thorn in the flesh' removed but God said no for his greater good, 2Cor.12:7-9.

This is not an exhaustive list of how to pray but just some signposts to help us. True prayer is hard but with God's help and instruction Christians can learn to 'pray in the Spirit' and know that *'the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much'* James 5:16.

Jubilee BBQ

The sun shone and the food was great as more than 130 of us gathered for our bbq on Bank Holiday Friday. And judging by the way that many people didn't seem to want to leave in a hurry, it would seem that the fellowship was pretty good too!

As we did last year, we employed outside caterers to provide the main course with an ice cream van appearing after a while to provide the dessert. The novelty this year was the presence of a Coffee van, seen in the pictures. This is a relatively new venture for Anthony and Julia Smith, former members at VBC, and, given their connections with many people here, they offered a generous discount - which came as quite a shock given that Anthony used to be our treasurer!



Apart from these food & drink outlets, we were also delighted to have the young people running a Mocktail Bar plus various activities aimed mainly at the children - face painting, treasure hunt, and a variety of outdoor playthings. And of course, thanks to Erik having connections in high places, we were highly honoured to enjoy the presence of HRH!





Overall, a highly successful event. The Lord blessed us in so many ways and we thank Him for an afternoon which will, I'm sure, be one of the highlights of 2022.



FLOWER MINISTRY

The flowers on display last week were donated by
Christine Johnston



The flowers on display the previous week (shown below) were donated by
Nola Gibson



Many thanks for the lovely flowers delivered to me on Monday - and for the way the person delivering them cheered me up!

Thank you for the beautiful Church flowers which were so appreciated. I am not sure why they came but we are enjoying them very much!!

