



Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup> 2022

**VICTORIA** Baptist Church News



Jesus said,  
"Let the little children come to me,  
and do not hinder them, for the kingdom  
of heaven belongs to such as these."

MATTHEW 19:14



## All-Age Service Live @ 10 with Erik Cornelisse

### Meeting Jesus

This week we will continue our summer series on people that Jesus met. The Bible is full of them and there are some incredible stories of children and young people who loved and served God. We will be looking at some of them that were around in the time of Jesus, some even met Him. From the well-known story of people trying to keep children away from Jesus (Matthew 19) to the wonderful, unnamed, little boy who gave all (John 6) and, we also look at an older teenager – Timothy (2 Timothy 3).



We pray these stories will encourage us and remind us that we are never too young to hear from, and connect with, our loving Father. As we explore these amazing stories together, we pray that we will all be inspired to go deeper in faith and grow in our relationship with God.

### Next Week

During Chris' sabbatical, we have a variety of preachers on Sunday mornings, some external and some from our fellowship here at VBC. Next week, Alistair Wickens will be bringing God's Word to us, continuing the *Meeting Jesus* series.

### Creche



Creche facilities are available on the lower floor - in the Hive - for Sunday morning services. If you are a visitor, please speak to someone on the Welcome Desk and they will be able to give you directions. Please note that parents are asked to remain with their children. The service will be transmitted to the Hive.

# STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff are **IN** as follows -

Chris - on Sabbatical until Sept 12<sup>th</sup> \*  
Sandra - every day except Thurs  
Colin - every day except Mon  
Erik - every day except Thurs  
Helen - Tues, Wed & Thurs

Simon - every day except Thurs  
Jez - Wed and Fri  
Julie - in on Thurs  
Tim - Wed & Fri  
Kevin - annual leave for 2 weeks

\* In Chris' absence, contact the office or Tim Nunn for pastoral issues (or use the referral form on the website) - and Sandra Taylor, the CLT, or the staff team for other issues.

## 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

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## 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	14	9.30am 10.00am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office All-Age Service Live at VBC with Erik
Mon	15		
Tue	16		
Wed	17	8.30am	Community Fridge and Breakfast Club
Thu	18	7.30am 7.30pm	Prayer Meeting (for men only) Prayer for Ukraine
Fri	19	10.00am	Outreach Prayer meeting
Sat	20		
Sun	21	9.30am 10.00am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office Live at VBC and online with Alistair Wickens
Fri	26	12.30pm	Friends, Food & Fellowship

## Carol Dadswell

It has been confirmed that the Thanksgiving Service for Carol will be held here at VBC on **Thurs 25th Aug at 3pm**. Please sign up on the sheets in the Welcome Centre if you plan on staying for refreshments after the service.

And Ray sends his thanks to everyone for their messages and cards, and the assurance of their prayers at this unsettling time.



## DRIFTWOOD

*Another of Malcolm Robertson's messages  
from his booklet - "It's for you!"*

One of the staggering features of the British Columbian coastline is the somewhat bizarre and grotesque sea wall that has been formed by giant tree bodies of Canadian pine being piled high by gigantic Pacific rollers during windstorms.



**IT'S  
FOR  
YOU!**

These massive trees, cut down by lumberjacks many miles inland, have floated down the Canadian rivers and having been parked in huge floating compounds to await careful and skilful attention by the saw mills, have slipped the boom, and in a new

found freedom have floated many miles to the open sea, there to be scuffed by the rocks and impregnated by the sand so that now, useless and decaying, they lie like coffins in a graveyard, having missed completely the purpose for which they were felled.



God, in His infinite wisdom, has created mankind in His own image and has given him certain guidelines wherein he can find a freedom that will satisfy himself and bring pleasure to the Almighty - guidelines wherein he can lead a life of commitment, purpose and fulfilment, at the end of which there will be no regrets and an acknowledgement that life has really been worth living.

Alas, many today have slipped the boom and in a new found freedom outside the Will of God, have found their lives wrecked on the storm-tossed oceans of life, so that now, like wasted pines, they prepare to write their own epitaph of wasted years, seemingly beyond any hope of salvage.



But God, like an Omnipotent Coastguard still mans his rescue station and any call, no matter how trivial or desperate, brings immediate response. No S.O.S. to Jesus ever went unanswered!

# PRAYER DIARY: 15<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST

(based on Psalm 37)

**Monday** “Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.” God is revealing much that is evil in these days when the rich get richer and the opposite happens to those financially struggling. As we see this happening, let us ask God to help us **not to fret but to pray** – for those in need to have their genuine needs met. Let us pray for all those involved in provisions like food banks and our community fridge events etc. Let us also pray that those who “will soon wither” might have an encounter with Jesus as Saviour and Lord so they genuinely give to those in need.

**Tuesday** “Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.” As we are experiencing this period without rain, let us seek God’s guidance so we have His help to save water where possible, as we pray for rain to water the land. Farmers need ‘safe pasture’ just now, more than any of us. Let us pray for farmers who are most desperate for rain to save existing crops, and those whose livelihoods are dependent on the sowing of winter crops just now. As we non-farmers seek to “do good”, can we support farmers by getting provisions direct from them? Pray that we will all be guided how we can do good to assist our brothers and sisters in these times.

**Wednesday** “Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will do this. He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.” Praise God that He shines light on our paths and is willing to guide us day by day. Let us pray for all those struggling to see the way forward in their particular circumstances, and also those for whom circumstances are changing - children starting school soon; those changing schools or going to university; or those older ones moving into residential care. All need God’s help and guidance on the ‘way’ forward. May all who believe in Jesus, ‘shine like the dawn’ in His righteousness as their way leads them onward - young and older alike.

**Thursday** “Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.” As we come before our heavenly Father to pray, let us have a few moments of stillness to just enjoy Him. Then, as we pray, let us uphold our brothers and sisters in Lebedyn for whom this verse seems so appropriate. Let us uphold all Christians, also in Ukraine, seeking to serve their communities. Also, pray for our persecuted brethren around the world. About 70,000 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria in 2020, and many in other countries too.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**

**Friday** “Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret - it leads only to evil” We are also told in Ephesians 4:26 - “In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry.” This verse in Psalm 37 gives us the reason why - “it leads only to evil.” In these days when evil appears to be flaunted in our faces, and is applauded so often in the media, there is much for Christians to be angry about. Our Father God has broad shoulders - so share with Him all those things that make you angry and ask for Him to show you if there is anything He would want you to actively work to change, thanking Him that He knows about it, and can be trusted to repay and resolve evil in His time - which may not be our timing!

**Saturday** “For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.” Genesis 50:24 Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land He promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.” Let us praise God who keeps His promises and oaths. We can praise Him that the prophecies about the Jews returning to the Land He gave them are coming true, so we can look forward to Jesus’ return. Let us praise God that Jewish and Arabic peoples in Israel now have a Bible college where they study the Bible together. Let us thank God too, that a group of Jewish and Arabic believers are producing New Testaments online, and in print; making these available in Israel for the first time. We can also pray for all the congregations where Jews, Arabs and Gentiles worship together. May God create unity as cultural norms are swept out of the way, and grant His blessing.

**Sunday** Hebrews 3: “See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness”. We can thank our trustworthy God who is “The Truth” in these chaotic days where everything is being shaken, including the Church. As we see ‘sin’s deceitfulness’ abounding and being put centre stage, let us ask God to show us any deceitfulness in our own hearts, so we can repent of any sin or unbelief; and then we can pray for any brothers and sisters who are struggling with such things, praying they will stay close to Abba. Pray none of us turn away from our “Living God” in these testing times.

## **I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH**

For those of you who enjoyed Jez’s first book, “On This Rock”, the second instalment is available on Amazon and copies will be now available here at VBC. It is called: “I will build my Church.”

Thanks for your support.



## FLOWER MINISTRY

The flowers on display last week were donated by Ian Doling, in memory of Joy



*"Thank you for the beautiful flowers delivered this morning. Isn't wonderful how the Lord looks after us? I was feeling sad this morning and a little sorry for myself as today is the 4th anniversary of my husbands death...."*



If you are interested in getting involved in any of the four main aspects of the Flower Ministry - donating, arranging, bunching or delivering, please see Chris McMahon for further information.