



Sunday 14th January 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News

**Christ has no body but ours,
no hands, no feet on earth but ours,**



be HIS hands and feet

**“Be devoted to one another in love.
Honour one another above yourselves”**

Romans 12:10

Live in CHURCH and
online



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

HOME

JESUS

ABOUT

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Live at Ten with
ERIK CORNELISSE

latest
ons

CURRENT SERIES



ABOUT US



BE THE HANDS and FEET OF CHRIST in 2024 - GO TELL !!



There are a fair few stories about a statue of Christ that was damaged, ranging from WWII bomb damage at a German cathedral, vandalism at a church in the USA to sectorial violence in Soweto. They all have the same premise: the hands of the statue are missing. Rebuilding it, the sculptor offered to replace the hands. The people of the church refused declaring, ***"Christ has no hands but ours to do His work. If we don't feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, entertain the stranger, visit the imprisoned, and clothe the naked, who will?"*** Let's think about this on **Sunday 14th** at our all-age service.

May God grant us open eyes, open minds, open hands and open hearts, so that we can continually be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ here on earth.

BAPTISMAL CLASSES ... are starting today (Sunday) at 5pm in Chris' office. If you want to find out more, do have a word with him if you get the opportunity - alternatively, just turn up at 5 and find out more then!



Next Week (21ST)

Chris Short will be continuing his series - *Hearts on Fire* - next Sunday at 10am.

In the afternoon, Erik will be leading a session combining a report on his **recent trip to India** with the fortnightly prayer meeting. Erik will be speaking at 3pm with the **Prayer Meeting** starting immediately after, **not** at its usual time of 6.30pm.

Staff/Office Matters

Staff movements for this coming week are as follows:

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

Sandra off Thurs
Kevin off Saturday
Tim in Wed am & Fri am
Jez in Wed am & Fri am
Helen in Mon, Wed
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

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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*)

Sun	14	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	All-Age service with Erik Cornelisse
		5.00pm	Baptismal Class
		7.00pm	Xcav8
Mon	15	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Tues	16		Soaking in the Spirit (next meeting 30 th)
Wed	17	8.30am	Community Fridge and Café
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		6.30pm	Boys Brigade
Thu	18	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
		10.15am	Men's Fellowship with Erik Cornelisse
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Erik Cornelisse
		6.00pm	Omega (see page 5)
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri	19	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		12.30pm	Friends, Food & Fellowship
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect
Sat	20		
Sun	21	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and Online with Chris Short
		3.00pm	Erik's India Report/Church Prayer Meeting

The Week Ahead

Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*



Brian Wightwick	14 Jan	Bernhard Baron Care Home, Polegate, 5pm
	21 Jan	Trinity, Willingdon, 10.30am
David Laskey	14 Jan	St Barnabas, Langney 9.45am
Francis Bates	14 Jan	Punnetts Town, 2.30pm

Ladies' Prayer Breakfast - Sat 27th Jan @ VBC: 9am

Men's non-Curry night - Wed 31st Jan

Ladies' Dinner - Wed 13th Mar @ Pomodoro's



Omega

This is a newly-created group designed for young people between the ages of 18 and 35. We meet twice a month (first and third Thursdays), starting at 6pm either playing volleyball, doing some craft work with Angie, or helping in the kitchen with the cooking.



At 7pm, we then gather together to eat the food that the kitchen group has been preparing, before taking part in some Bible study from 8-9pm. This involves getting together in discussion groups, reading God's Word and talking about practical things coming out of the discussions. We then clear up and go home!

All the meetings we have had so far have been really encouraging - a chance to develop new friendships, to take part in a variety of activities, to have a meal together and to draw closer to God through our time of reading God's Word.

We would love to see even more people attending - you don't have to be attached to VBC and you don't even have to be a Christian! Give it a try, we'd love to see you there!

If you want to find out more, please contact the group leaders - Eszter Smith or Felix Smith (contact details via the office if required). The next meeting will be on Thursday (18th Jan) at 6pm, here at VBC as usual.

Men's Non-CURRY NIGHT



Wednesday 31st January, 7pm

Venue - **Gr/eat** (Greek Restaurant) 215-217 Terminus Rd, Eastbourne BN21 3DH

This time, in order to assist the restaurant, we are asking you to make your choice of main course beforehand and indicate your preference on the sign up sheet in



the Welcome Centre. The main courses will be attached to the same clipboard.



An updated **MEMBERS DIRECTORY** will be sent out later this month. Please ensure that we have your up-to-date contact details - if you're not sure what we have, please check the previous directory issued in October - or check with the office.

PRAYER DIARY 15TH - 21ST JANUARY

“There are different ways of serving but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to everyone for their particular service”. 1 Corinthians 12: 5-6

Monday *“she opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy” Proverbs 31:20* Pray for all who work in the caring professions within the NHS, our local Hospice, the various residential and care homes and all who visit as carers. Pray, too, for the work done by PARCHE. With a change in the weather, pray for those aiding the homeless and destitute.

Tuesday *“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord.”* Ephesians 6:7 There are many who serve our fellowship “behind the scenes” whose service can often go unnoticed or taken for granted. Give thanks for our caretaker, Kevin, and for those who maintain and keep an eye on our properties. Give thanks for the many who exercise a prayer ministry and pray that all of us will be able to fulfil our God-given tasks.

Wednesday *“Carry each other's burdens and in this way, you will fulfil the law of Christ”* Galatians 6:2. Uphold the work of our Life Groups as they minister to the needs of their members. Remember those now unable to attend a group regularly through frailty, advancing years or because of parental responsibilities or work patterns. Give thanks for modern means of keeping in touch by text, e-mail or phone to maintain these vital links.

Thursday *“Be faithful unto death and receive your crown of life”* Revelation 2:10. Remember the service offered by those working to support and encourage the increasing number who are in the final lap of their earthly race. Pray especially for those with dementia, those with a terminal illness and for those with the need to depend on the support of others. Remember those who care for loved ones at home.

Friday *“It was He who gave gifts to mankind ... to prepare all God's people for the work of Christian service ...”* Ephesians 4:12. Pray for all who have been given responsibility for the building up of God's people here at VBC - those who preach/teach on Sundays; those in children's and youth work; those who disciple new Christians through Alpha; those who minister in practical ways through our CAP and Community Fridge.

Saturday *“We are partners working together for God, and you are God's field”* 1 Corinthians 16:11. This week includes the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Remember the work and ministry given in many of our local, smaller churches, and the support given by some of our retired ministers. Pray, too, for the local churches in our Old Town group, and especially the newly occupied Emmanuel Church on Upperton Road, settling into their new building.

Sunday (see foot of page 7)

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Stan Foster

We were sad to receive the following e-mail earlier this week, from Nigel Foster. Stan's funeral will be held at Basingstoke Crematorium on Thursday 1st Feb,

Dear Friends at Victoria

I am writing to let you know that my Dad, Stan Foster, passed away yesterday (8th Jan) after a short illness...he was 91. He was able to live in his flat at Lady Susan Court in Basingstoke until the last few days, when following a fall he was transferred to a palliative care bed at Alton Community Hospital, where he died. I had the privilege of being with him when he went to be with our Lord Jesus.



He only had a small family (I am his only child), but he also had two granddaughters (both now married, with a first great granddaughter due in May). We are all Christians so it's wonderful for us to know he is now in a "better place"!

Stan worshipped at Victoria from 1971 until moving to be close to us in Basingstoke in 2019, and for many years he served as one of your organists. I'm not sure how many of the fellowship will know and remember Stan, but Victoria Baptist had a very special place in his heart, and I know he read with interest the news and magazines that you sent through to him.

Do please share this news with your Church family, in whatever way is most appropriate.

*With kind regards (and fond memories of growing up and being baptised at Victoria)
Nigel Foster*



FUNERAL DETAILS

The Thanksgiving Service for Audrey Brown will be, as previously advertised, on Fri 26th Jan at 1pm. Please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Centre if you would like to join the family for refreshments after the service.

We can also confirm that the funeral service for Norman Stening-Rees will be at Eastbourne Crematorium on Fri 2nd Feb, at 1.30pm.

Sunday *"Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless"* 1 Corinthians 15:58. Pray for any feeling discouraged; any struggling alone and missing the support of a partner; others disappointed by lack of apparent results or success; those whose children depart from the Christian pathway. Pray that all who gather for worship today will benefit from the fellowship shared.

Flower Ministry

The first donation of flowers for 2024 were from
Friends of VBC



What a way to celebrate my 90th! Such beautiful flowers, so bright, so inspirational. Thank you so much to my church family! WW



Thank you so much to the church for the beautiful flowers that were delivered this morning. They are absolutely beautiful and thank you also for the helpful verse from scripture. Very best wishes JP





PRAY Eastbourne 2024

Do you have a vision to see our Father's Kingdom Come in Eastbourne? This afternoon is for you.

**SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY
1PM-4.30PM**

King's Church, Edison Road, BN23 6PT



Keynote Speaker:
ROGER SUTTON
UK Oyster Movement
oystermovement.org

With warm appreciation to Kings Church for their hospitality and support for this event.

PROGRAMME

13.00 - Doors open
Catch up with friends. Light refreshments available. Local Christian agencies will have displays of their ministries to peruse.

14.00 - Welcome and Worship

14.30 - Vision
Roger Sutton will share a vision to see every UK town or city transformed through a vibrant church unity movement.

15.00 - Prayer
Praying for our town led by local Christian leaders.

16.30 - End
As part of the afternoon plans for the Thy Kingdom Come bandstand event in May and also prayer walking the wider Eastbourne area during 2024 will be shared.
An offering will be taken to cover event expenses.

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Churches Together
Eastbourne