

Sunday 16th June 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News



"Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord

and went to Nineveh."

Jonah 3:3



Jonaн 3:1-10: Revolution

"Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned." (Jonah 3:4)

This week we're continuing our series in the book of Jonah. God has chased down Jonah. The runaway prophet, who set out for Tarshish, has finally arrived in Nineveh. He's been baptised, he's been granted a new life and he's ready to announce the message God gave him to deliver.

In this chapter, we'll see what kind of message it was, what kind of reception he received, and the way Nineveh was overturned. It's a chapter about judgment, repentance and grace. It's a chapter that challenges us to speak an unpopular message as clearly as possible. It's also a wonderful chapter

to consider as we approach an election. If we want to see our own society transformed for the better, this chapter tells us where to look and what to do. I hope you'll be able to join us and that you all have a happy Father's Day.

This Evening

Please note an earlier start time for tonight's Alpha session. It will start at 5.30pm and NOT 6pm as previously advertised. This week's topic is *"How does God guide us?"*

The fortnightly Prayer Meeting will be held as usual at 6.30pm.

Nexт Weeк (23rd June)

Chris Short will be continuing his series in the book of Jonah at our 10am service on Sunday.

PLEASE NOTE There is no Alpha next Sunday (23rd).

The last in the *Bible Academy Deep Dive* series will be at 6.30pm





Staff/Office Matters

Staff movements for this coming week are as follows:

Chris	off Tues		
Sandra	annual leave	Tim	annual leave
Colin	off Mon	Jez	annual leave
Erik	off Thurs	Simon	off Tues
Julie	in Thurs	Nadine	in Mon & Thurs mornings
Kevin	off Sat	Phil	in Tues pm, Weds, and Thurs pm.

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 Phil Papps

CAP Debt Coach Nadine Crawford-Piper

> **Treasurer** Mark Evason

Finance Assistant Julie Hanks

Pastoral Team Leader Tim Nunn

Life Group Coordinator 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

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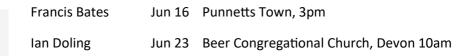
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- Sun 16 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
 - 10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short
 - 5.30pm Alpha (How does God guide us?)
 - 6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting
- Mon 17 6.00pm Girls Brigade
- Tues 18 7.15pm Soaking in the Spirit (ladies only)
- Wed 19 8.30am Community Fridge and Cafe 10.00am Vicky Bees
 - 6.30pm Boys Brigade
- Thu 20 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only) Men's Fellowship with Brian Wightwick - Communion
 - 10.15am and Members. Last meeting of the summer, next meeting 05/09/24.
 - 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Myrtle Martin and Hazel Delamare (Runaperu)
 - 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
 - 7.30pm Bible Journalling
- Fri 21 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 - 10.00am Vicky Bees
 - 5.00pm Kids Club
 - 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 22 Alpha Away Day @ Ellel Glyndley Manor
- Sun 23 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
 - 10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short

No Alpha this evening

6.30pm Bible Academy Deep Dive

Preaching Engagements Please remember in prayer





- 26th June Church Members' Meeting with CLT election (see P6)
- 29th June Gardening Working Party (10.30am-12noon)
- 17th July Ladies Evening Out at Pomodoro e Mozzarella, 7pm
- **19**th July VBC Open at Willingdon Golf Club, 4pm

Prospective Members

Please note that this meeting, for anyone interested in Church Membership, will **not** be at 5.30pm as advertised last week, but at **5pm** - same date though, Sunday 7th July. The meeting will be held downstairs in the Hive and will last for approximately 45 minutes.



For more details please contact richard@victoriabaptist.org.uk



Sunday Bees is in need of helpers

We need people willing to be helpers in our Sunday Bees class Sunday Bees is our Sunday group for 2 ¹/₂ to 4 year olds

Contact Simon

Вів**Le** Reading Notes

If you have ordered Daily Bread or Encounter with God from Sandra, then you can find the next issue (Jul - Sept) in your pigeon hole.



FLOW CaFÉ Sands Thank you to those who came along to Flow Café on Saturday. Stillbirth & neonatal death charity We raised £200 for Street Pastors. Next month - Sat July 13th all proceeds will go to SANDS - a charity supporting bereaved parents and helping to fund research into saving babies' lives.

Church Members Meeting Agenda

Wednesday 26th Jun, 7.30pm

At this meeting, we will be having an election for the vacant space on the CLT. We have two nominations for this role - Andrew Phillips and Sarah D'Amato. We would ask you to read their profiles - featured in last week's news sheet - before praying for guidance as to which of these two you feel should fill the vacancy.



- 1. Introduction, Welcome and Prayer
- 2. Agreement of Minutes and Matters arising
- 3. CLT Election
- 4. Membership Report Richard Kirk
- 5. Finance Report Ian Doling
- 6. Property Report Chris Short
- 7. Ethos Statement Chris Short
- 8. Youth Work report Erik Cornelisse
- 9. Charitable Status Update Andrew Phillips
- 10. AOB: Items for consideration to be emailed to the church office by Monday 24th June
- 11. DONM: 7:30pm, 25th September 2024

Update from Capernwray

Dear Everyone at VBC

I hope you are all doing well. I'm currently in my last few weeks of Bible School at Capernwray and I have had such an amazing time. Whilst here I have learnt so much more about the Bible and what a true relationship with Christ looks like. I have also made so many amazing friends from all over the world, and I'm sure some of them will be lifelong. It really has been a life-changing experience and I would recommend it to anyone. I want to thank all of you at VBC, and especially those who were so generous to help me fund all of this!



Also, as some of you may already know, Capernwray has

been so kind as to offer me a job, which I can joyfully tell you I have accepted. Again, I want to thank you all so much, as without many of you I never would have had this opportunity. The only downside to this is it means I'll be moving up there permanently, and might struggle to make the 6-hour drive down every Sunday! I will certainly miss the church very much but will hope to visit often. I won't forget all of your kindness in a hurry. Thank you all again so very much!

Callum Short



Christmas Banquet at Capernwray - Callum with the male students. There are far more female students there - but Callum is just about coping!

Prayer Diary $17^{TH} - 23^{RD}$ June

Reflections on the Book of Psalms

Monday *"Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; His love endures forever."* (*Ps 118:1*) Father, we have so much to thank You for, words can never express fully our gratitude for all the blessings You pour out upon us day by day. Let us express our thanks not just in words, but by our actions too, sacrificing our time, our energy and resources in serving You.

Tuesday "You care for the land and water it; You enrich it abundantly." (Ps 65:9) What a beautiful, awesome world you created, Lord and yet we witness so much devastation in so many parts of the world as the greed of man leads to deforestation, to the destruction of so much of the natural habitat, and the resultant near-extinction of so many animals and plants. We pray that it is not too late to reverse the changes brought about by climate change and that the world can be restored to its former beauty.

Wednesday "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble." (Ps 46:1) When times are tough, let us cling to the fact that You are indeed our refuge and our strength. We pray that this verse serves as a reminder to all of those struggling, whether that be physical, mental, financial or indeed spiritual struggles. Bless them we pray.

Thursday *"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity."* (*Ps 133:1*) We thank You for our church family, for Chris and the leadership team, for the staff team, and for all the volunteers. We thank You for the sense of unity that prevails as we all strive "to see Jesus Christ honoured in Eastbourne and beyond."

Friday *"Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed." Ps 82:3* We thank You for the work in our town of the Community Fridges, the CAP Debt Centre here at VBC, FoodBank, Matthew 25, and other organisations and churches who are reaching out to the poor and needy in our community. Give them all the strength and resources they need to continue the amazing work they do.

Saturday "You have searched me, Lord, and You know me." (Ps 139:1) We thank You, Lord, that you know everything about us and that You still love and accept us even though we so often fail You. Forgive us for our wrongdoings and thank you again for Your protection, Your love and Your guidance despite our many failings.

Sunday *"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." (Ps 150:6)* As we gather together today for our time of worship, let us praise God on the keyboard, the drums and with stringed instruments too! Let us raise our voices in praise for who You are, for what You are, and for all that You mean to us.

8th - 11th Augušt Thurs - Sat (+ Sunday) 10.00am - 12.30pm reception - year 6 games, crafts, songs, snacks & more!

OF

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LUKE'S

STORY



per child

for the 3 days

SCAN ME for details and an application form

For queries contact Simon Grimes simon@victoriabaptist.org.uk 01323 737924 VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH ELDON ROAD, EASTBOURNE BN21 1UE

The Master's Men

A series of articles was written some time ago by the recently departed, and much-loved, John Purkiss. This is the second in the series - we had John's thoughts on Peter a couple of weeks ago - this is the second, featuring Andrew. The third article, on the apostle John, will appear shortly.

Andrew has a very unusual distinction of being the patron saint of three different countries: Russia, Greece and Scotland. Information about Andrew in



the New Testament is a bit sparse but details in Scripture paint a picture of a very kind man. Where did he come from? He was a native of Bethsaida.

John 1:44 "Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida."

He was a fisherman by trade and it was when he was doing his day job and mending his nets, that Jesus called him to be a fisher of men.

Mark 1:16–18 "As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and his brother, Andrew, casting a net into the lake for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will make you fishers of men.' At once, they left their nets and followed Him." Andrew began by being a follower of the disciple John the Baptist and, according to John, Andrew was one of the first to attach himself to Jesus, along with John. In the early church, Andrew is frequently called by the title, "First Called." No sooner did Andrew discover Jesus for himself than he went to find his brother, Peter, to bring him to Jesus. Andrew and Peter lived together.

Mark 1:29 "As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew." No doubt, all their lives, they shared everything, and now Andrew wished to share with his brother the greatest discovery that he had ever made. It was here the greatness of Andrew begins to emerge.

Peter had acquired the leadership of the inner circle – Peter, James and John who were with Jesus at the most intimate moments. Andrew was not in the little group, although he must have been on its fringes! He is regularly described as Simon Peter's brother. He is so called in the list of the twelve.

Matthew 10:2 "These are the names of the twelve apostles: Simon (who is called Peter), his brother, Andrew, James, son of Zebedee, and his brother, John, Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew (the tax collector), James, son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the betrayer."

In the incident of the feeding of the five thousand, it was Andrew who brought the lad to Jesus. John 6:8 "Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up. 'Here is a boy with five barley loaves and two small fish. How far will that go amongst so many?'"

People might not know who Andrew was, but everyone knew who Peter was, and the best way to identify Andrew was to call him the brother of the famous Peter.

Andrew was one of the first two disciples to attach themselves to Jesus and yet he was not one of the inner circle! Was it not Andrew who brought Peter to Jesus, and yet it is Peter who seems more important and Andrew is only his brother? Andrew must have been one of those rare people who are prepared to take second place. He did not seem to care, as long as he was near Jesus. It was of no importance to Andrew if he did not get the credit! In the first three Gospels, there is no mention of Andrew, other than in the list of the twelve. It is in the Gospel of John that Andrew appears. On three occasions, Andrew emerges from the background, introducing someone to Jesus.

John 1:40–42 "The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother and tell him, "We have found the Messiah (that is the Christ)."

On the second occasion, we meet Andrew introducing the lad with his lunch. On the third occasion, we meet Andrew bringing the Greeks to Jesus.

John 12 : 20 "Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship. They came to Philip with a request. 'We would like to see Jesus.' Philip consulted Andrew and Andrew brought them to Jesus."

Andrew could have been the first foreign missionary!

There is something very attractive about Andrew. As mentioned, he is well content with being in second place as he glorified Jesus in all he did. He did not glorify himself. All his life he brought people to Jesus. What a wonderful missionary!

Living Life ...

... is holding a cream tea at the old TJ Hughes site in the town centre on: Saturday 13th July 2024 from 11am. Tickets are £5 each person and are non refundable. All profits will go towards our projects at home and overseas.Tickets can be purchased from the old TJ Hughes Mon-Sat 10-3pm (closed Tuesday) or the Salvation Army shop in Pevensey Rd.

Camping Weekend

A few people have booked to camp at Peel House Farm on the weekend of 28/29/30 June . If you would like to join them, please use the link below to book:



Tariff information: https://peelhousefarm.com/home-2/tariff-2022/





The flowers last week were donated by Margaret Reilly







Thank you for the wonderful surprise of these beautiful flowers which have brightened my day. FH





We still have a vacancy for someone to join the rota for bunching the flowers on Monday mornings. If you would be interested - training given if necessary - please contact Chris McMahon for more info.