



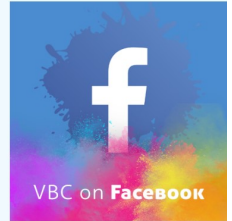
Live in CHURCH



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

HOME JESUS ABOUT SUNDAYS FAMILIES CHURCH LIFE CONTACT US

Live and online  
WITH **LUCY**  
**Craggs**



## What does it mean to be blessed?

This morning we will look at what David means by the blessedness of man in Psalm 32. David experiences a breakthrough after confessing his sins to God. He is forgiven, the slate is wiped clean. As we read through this Psalm of confession, we can see past our sins to every spiritual blessing we receive in Christ and rejoice with David!



*Lucy*



The Sunday fortnightly Prayer Meeting will be at the usual time of 6.30pm tonight.

And a reminder that this coming **Tuesday (20<sup>th</sup>)**, we have been called to a day of fasting and prayer as a show of support for Mark and Joanne Venter. There will be a prayer meeting from 7pm to 9pm. If you need more details, do contact the office for a copy of Chris' letter explaining the situation.

## Next Week (25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST)

Chris Short will be continuing his series on Jacob, the Wrestler.

# STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the coming week are as follows:

Chris off Tues

Colin off Mon

Sandra off Thurs

Kevin off Sat

Tim in Wed & Fri mornings

Nadine in Mon and Thurs mornings

Phil in Tues am, Weds, Thurs pm

Jez in Wed & Fri

Simon off Thurs, Fri & Sun

Julie in Thurs

## Senior Minister

Chris Short

## PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

## Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

## 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 and interim Youth Leader

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

## 01323 737974

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BN21 1UE

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

Sun 18 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office  
10.00am Live and online with Lucy Craggs  
6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting

Mon 19

Tues 20 Day of Prayer and Fasting  
7.00pm Special Prayer Meeting

Wed 21 7.00am Prayer Meeting  
8.30am Community Fridge and Breakfast Club  
7.00pm Bible Study Workshops with Jez Taylor

Thu 22 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)  
7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting

Fri 23 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting

Sat 24

Sun 25 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office  
10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short

## **Preaching Engagements** *Please remember in prayer*

Francis Bates Aug 25 Halland Chapel, 11am

Erik Cornelisse Aug 25 Horam Chapel, 10.30am



## **Flow Café**

There will be no Flow Café in September, but we will be back on October 12<sup>th</sup>, when we will be raising money for MacMillan Cancer Support. This is the same weekend as our Harvest celebrations.

## **Members' DIRECTORY**

An updated list of members' contact details is due to be sent out to you shortly so please let the office know as soon as possible if you would like to make any changes to your details.

## PRAYER DIARY 19<sup>TH</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> Aug

*“We love because He first loved us.” – 1 John 4:19*

**Monday** Give thanks to God for opportunities over the summer to spend time with loved ones among our friends and families. Praise God for the time spent together at home or in the fresh air, in relaxation and for times of rest on holidays. Pray for those for whom times at home are a challenge and pray for peace to fall on those situations.

**Tuesday** Take a little time to reflect on the miracle of new life in families. Pray for a wonderfully made baby or young child you know and for their parents as they adjust to a new way of life with their precious gift. Pray for siblings, step families, single parents, adopted families and the wider families. Give thanks for love and pray for provision no matter the circumstances or how the family is made up.

**Wednesday** Lift to our loving heavenly father those who are struggling with old age. Pray that our elderly family members know they are loved and that they are supported physically and materially. Pray for those who find this a lonely time because of the loss of a life partner or because of family far away or separation due to disharmony. Ask God for compassion to help us see the needs of our grandparents.

**Thursday** As the exam results are arriving, pray for our young people. Pray that they know that we are not measured by data but by the hairs on our head and the precious love of God. Pray for those who are excited and looking forward to new opportunities ahead and lift up those who are disappointed and are rethinking their future. Pray that whatever the youngsters are doing they will be safe from the taunts, temptations and troubles of the world in which they live. Ask God for strength for our teenagers to stand firm in goodness and love.

**Friday** Pray for the new season ahead for families. Ask for wisdom for those who are off to pastures new, for peace for those worried about new schools, colleges, nurseries or jobs. Ask that God will watch over their changes and challenges and give thanks that He has such good plans for us. Pray, too, for those who may be fearing an empty nest or those who find change a challenge.

**Saturday** In our communities there are many types of families. Ask God to open our eyes to see differences with love and compassion. Pray that we will love our neighbours as Christ would. Pray for those families that are broken and where children spend time with different parents. Pray for people who have caring responsibilities thrust upon them. Ask that God will strengthen those who are struggling alone and those who are grieving.

**Sunday** Give thanks for our church family and for the peace and joy that comes from being part of God's kingdom. God so loved the world that He sent his only Son – for us - that we might become heirs of Him today and in heaven. Pray for the children and young people at Victoria and for those who work with them. Pray that our church family will be a true reflection of God's love in this community and that we will welcome all as Christ has welcomed us.

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## Farewell



As many will know, this is my last Sunday at Victoria. Following my beloved Jean's death last year, I'm having to leave the flat where we lived for twelve years and move on, leaving Eastbourne. I will live much nearer to my younger daughter. I shall miss my friends at VBC very much indeed, and I would value your continued prayers as I enter a new phase in my life. I will always treasure fond memories of our time here, and the love and friendship Jean and I have always been shown. I will continue to pray for the work of the church, and ask God's blessing on every one of you.

***Barry Soden***

## Reserved

Many of you will have noticed that some months ago we started putting RESERVED signs on some of the seats for our Sunday morning services. Please note that they are there for a reason! There are some on the left-hand side (as you enter the sanctuary) where we encourage families with babies and toddlers to sit if they don't want to take advantage of our facilities downstairs.

And on the right-hand side, the back row, we also keep the seats reserved, predominantly for wheelchair users - at our peak we have had 4 wheelchairs at a service. These seats are very near an exit in the event of an evacuation being necessary and so I would ask you not to use these seats when there are plenty of others available. We can usually gauge by 10.05 or so whether they will be needed and then - and only then - are we happy to release these seats to latecomers.



Finally, at all-age services, front rows on either side of the middle sections are reserved for the Brigades. Your cooperation would be much appreciated!

## The Salvage Operation

Arriving at the Recycling Centre, a mother grabbed her bulging bags and ascended the metal steps to the huge household skip. Belinda was told to sit in the car. She watched her mother and to her amazement she saw something hanging out of the over-full bag. She couldn't believe it. It was *Ragdoll* – her very own rag doll! The child jumped out of the car, scrambled up the metal steps, grabbed the scruffy cast-off with two hands and pulled her out, just as the unwanted items were jettisoned into the waste recycling receptacle.



The little girl threw her arms round her special treasure and squeezed her tight. Then she looked hard at her. Her wool hair was all tangled and matted. Her face was dirty and her tiny hands were so torn and tattered. Belinda stuffed the doll's worn-out hands into the little patch pockets of her check dress, to hide them. Her back was all dusty because she had been laying in a dirty loft for a couple of years. With a wet-wipe from the car, the youngster cleaned up the doll's stained clothes and her face and hugged her again and kissed her chubby cheeks.

The doll wasn't a pleasant sight – tattered and stained. She was thoroughly messed up. Nobody would look at her twice! But Belinda loved her, whatever she looked like. She cuddled her and whispered sweet nothings into her ear. She was so very happy to find that her 'precious', who had been lost, had now been found. She took her home and tucked her up in her own bed – what a find! She would never let her go. Salvaged!

And **so were we once**, fit only for garbage collection but we were found, salvaged, cleaned up and dearly loved. "Whoever comes to me I will never cast out" says Jesus. The greatest delight and utmost pleasure of Jesus is to save us, salvage us from destruction and find a place for us in His heart and a home for us in His church.

This describes many of us who attend the Women's Fellowship – a group of ladies much loved by Jesus, being changed by his matchless grace. Would you like to join us? Our new programme has some interesting speakers every Thursday at 2.30pm, from 5<sup>th</sup> September until Christmas, meeting in the Small Hall.

If you need a copy of the programme, please see me.

**Avril Coombe**

## WALK FOR MENTAL HEALTH



Join our caretaker, Kevin, and a group of other people, in a 32 mile (50km) walk on Sat Sept 14<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness of men's mental health. The event is open to all (a £15 entry fee to cover support vehicles, logistics, and first aid services). The group is meeting at 6.15am to watch the sunrise before starting the walk at 7am. See Kevin for more details and to ask about how you can donate.



**Flower Ministry**

The flowers last week were donated by  
**Stephen & Helen Dickson**



*A huge thank you to the flower ministry team for the lovely bunch of flowers - and encouraging Bible verse - delivered to us on Monday morning. They were so much appreciated. J&F A*