




# Welcome

#wearevictoria

Sunday 18th February 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News



YOU PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME IN  
THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES; YOU  
ANOINT MY HEAD WITH OIL;

*My cup  
overflows.*

PSALM 23:5

**Live in CHURCH and  
online**



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

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JESUS

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**Live at Ten with  
Eddie Lyle**

latest  
ons

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ABOUT US



## **LIVING IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD**



Eddie Lyle is President of Open Doors UK and Ireland but comes to us today in his capacity as Trustee of Hope Lebedyn and as their Ambassador at Large - not in his Open Doors capacity. Eddie is a respected Bible Teacher and passionate advocate for the persecuted church. His vision is to see every church in the UK on its knees in prayer and on its feet in action in support of its persecuted family. He is married to Christine and they have a son, Adam.

Eddie will speak about Living in the Goodness of God. He will explore Psalm 23:5 as if he were speaking to Christians in Ukraine who are living through the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the war. His talk will also seek to draw out the lifestyle lessons that our brothers and sisters can teach us through the example of their courageous faith, and how this bible verse speaks to us today in Eastbourne.

## **Sunday Evening**

The Church Prayer meeting this evening (6.30pm) will be focusing on the Lebedyn team who have been so inspirational these past two years and have been a real witness to the love of God through challenging and distressing times. Please join us to support the work they are doing.

## **Next Sunday (25<sup>TH</sup>)**

Chris will be leading a baptismal service next week at 10am.



## **HOLY SPIRIT DAY**

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Apr, 9.30am to 4.30pm here at VBC. In line with Chris's ongoing Teaching Series regarding the work and person of the Holy Spirit, we are setting aside a day to explore the work of the Holy Spirit together as a church. More details to follow nearer the time.

## STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for this coming week are as follows:

Chris            off Tuesday  
Colin            off Mon & Fri  
Erik             off Thursday  
Simon          off Tuesday  
Julie            in Thursday

Sandra        off Thursday  
Kevin          off Saturday  
Tim            in Wed am & Fri am  
Jez            in Wed am & Fri am  
Helen        in Mon am & Wed am  
Nadine        annual leave

### **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

**01323 737974**

Eldon Road, Eastbourne

BN21 1UE

[helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk)

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

# The Week Ahead

Sun	18	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and Online with Eddie Lyle
		6.30pm	Ukraine prayer
Mon	19	2.30pm	Ukraine prayer
		6.00pm	Girls' Brigade
		7.30pm	CLT meeting
Tues	20	9.30am	Ukraine Prayer
			Soaking in the Spirit (next meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> )
Wed	21	8.30am	Community Fridge and Café
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		1.30pm	Ukraine Prayer
		6.30pm	Boys' Brigade
Thu	22	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
			Men's Fellowship (next meeting 29 <sup>th</sup> )
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with John Demetriou
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer
Fri	23	10.00am	Vicky Bees
		10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		11.00am	Ukraine Prayer
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect
Sat	24	9.30am	Ukraine Prayer
Sun	25	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Baptismal Service with Chris Short
		7.00pm	Xcav8



## Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

David Laskey	18 Feb	Broadway United Church, Hampden Park, 10am
Erik Cornelisse	18 Feb	Horam Chapel, 10.30am
Jez Taylor	25 Feb	Downsview Baptist Church, Woodingdean,

**Ladies' Dinner - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Mar @ Pomodoro's**  
**Prospective Members - Sun Mar 24<sup>th</sup> 5pm in the Hive.**

## Advance Notice -

There will be NO service here at VBC on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. We want to encourage everyone to join us at the Bandstand that morning for this year's Thy Kingdom Come event.





## Journey to King's Cross

### EASTER 2024 AT VICTORIA, KEY EVENTS:

#### 23rd MARCH - Messy Easter

1:00pm Crafts for all the family

#### 29th MARCH - Not so Good Friday!

10:00am A Funeral Service for Jesus

#### 31st MARCH - HE DID WHAT ?!

6:15am Churches Together Sunrise Service (Place tbc)

10:00am - Easter Celebration

7:00pm - Service of Light (like Carols by Candlelight)



It is finished!

## Maundy Thursday

For those available, there will also be a **Maundy Thursday** communion service, led by Rev.Tom Duncanson, at 2.30pm in the sanctuary (Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March). This service - a time of contemplation and reflection - will be open to all and we would be delighted to see as many of you as possible attending.



## LIVING Life

Contact  
Mick Trott  
for more  
details





## AGM and Church Meeting Agenda

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7.30pm

1. Introduction, Welcome and Prayer
2. Agreement of Minutes and Matters Arising
3. Appointment of Auditors
4. Safeguarding Statement
5. Membership Report
6. Omega Report
7. Property Matters  
Report on conversation with Baptist Union Corporation
8. Finance Report
9. Overview of 2023
10. Ethos Statement
11. Evangelical Baptists Request
12. Forthcoming CLT Elections (next Church Meeting)
13. AOB - Items for consideration to be emailed to the church office  
by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February
14. DONM – 7:30pm, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**WEST END HAS FAITH**

*An evening of music and faith with singers from London's West End*

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**Saturday 9th March, 7.30pm**  
Tickets £10 online or on the door  
[www.allsaintseastbourne.church](http://www.allsaintseastbourne.church)

**All Saints' Church**  
21 Grange Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4HE



## Flow Café

We had a great morning last Saturday and there was a lovely buzz about the place. As well as crafting, playing games, chatting, and eating cake and bacon rolls, we managed to raise £300 for Good News Brighton.

Thank you to all who came along and gave so generously. Next month, Flow Café will be supporting St. Wilfrid's Hospice.

## Coffee time

We are very blessed in that we have a faithful number of teams of people preparing and serving refreshments after the service each week. Unfortunately, we are still having to use paper cups most of the time, which has an impact both on our finances and the environment. If you feel you could help out by washing up after coffee on a Sunday, please let me know. The more people who volunteer, the less often they will have to do it. Could I also remind you to try and bring your own reusable cup to church on a Sunday to help us out?



## A New Look

Those of you unable to attend, or watch online, last Sunday's service, will not have seen the unveiling of our new screens. The old screen was left in position for the first song, showing the same picture as the two new screens - the contrast was quite stunning!



After this first song, the old screen was then gracefully retired and rolled up to its resting place, never to be used again except in a dire emergency! The screen, and our first projector, had been with us since 2002 with the projector being upgraded in 2011/12. We look forward now to enhanced visuals for many years to come!

# A Quiet Place

I wonder how many of you saw this year's Wildlife photographer of the year award winners on the BBC website with their stunning images: [Wildlife Photographer of the Year People's Choice Award winner - BBC News](#). I was trying to write a poem for our Creative Writing group meeting last week on the subject of 'A quiet Place' and when I saw the winner of a young polar bear finding solace on an iceberg in the Arctic Ocean it gave me the inspiration to write the following piece. Our quiet place might not be so dramatic but as Christians we need to learn to live with solitude to be of service to our Lord for it is there the reality of our faith is tested and we come away stronger to face the world.



## A Quiet Place

A quiet place is hard to find  
where I can find some peace of mind  
to still the clanging sounds I hear  
that clash and bang and hurt my ear.

And yet for some the slightest sound  
brings tears of joy like treasure found;  
when locked away in solitude  
a friendly voice aids fortitude.

A quiet place to contemplate  
away from crowds that complicate,  
so I can hear the word of God  
and find the strength to carry on.

We benefit from being there,  
like breathing in some fresh sea air.  
It helps us view the world anew,  
our place in it, and what to do.

*(C) 7/2/24 John Demetriou*



Dear VBC family,

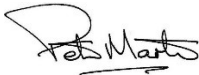
As we mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine this weekend, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Victoria Baptist Church for their prayer and financial support to Hope Lebedyn. The church's commitment has been both amazing and humbling. Pastor Bohdan has truly valued the care of what he calls their "Sister Church". It has given him and the team encouragement and support when things have got tough knowing that they are not on their own.

During 2023, VBC, together with individual members, raised £15,000 which is incredible. It has helped to provide necessary funding to the team, enabled the camp weeks to proceed and supported those in need through aid. The faithful commitment to gathering every week for prayer as a church has produced many positive answers which I know has encouraged not just those in Lebedyn, but those who attend the meetings.

We continue to pray for peace and for the work that is done so faithfully. Thank you as a church for your continued encouragement and support. It is so appreciated.

***"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."***  
***Eph 6:18***

On behalf of the Hope Lebedyn Trust



Peter Martin  
Executive Chair of Trustees  
[HopeLebedyn.org](http://HopeLebedyn.org)



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

*"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16*

As the second anniversary of the war in Ukraine approaches next Saturday (24<sup>th</sup>), our focus this week will be on our sister church and mission centre in Lebedyn.

### **Monday The Team and the Centre**

Please pray for individual members of the team - Pastor Bohdan and Pastor Sergey, and Alla and the children; Farmer Sergey, Valentin and Luba (youth work), Svetlana (children's work and young mums), musical Sergey, and his wife Lyuda, who has health issues, Victor (site manager) and Sasha (ICT). Pray that issues about being conscripted into the army will be resolved. Pray too for continued protection over the facilities, including the cars and minibus they use.

### **Tuesday Family Life**

Pray protection over the minds of the young people and children experiencing the trauma of war. Pray for their schooling, which so many have missed out on. Pray for strong internet so learning can be done remotely. Pray too, for wisdom in supporting the increasing numbers of refugees arriving in Lebedyn. Pray for the families who have lost loved ones or whose loved ones are away fighting.

### **Wednesday Children's and Youth Ministries**

Please pray for safety from bombs and missiles so that all the ministries can take place. Pray for fun and friendship at the Friday and Sunday youth clubs. Pray for the leaders as they plan Easter and other holiday camps. Pray for the teenagers who are so keen to study God's word. Thank God for the amazing puppet ministry that has led so many children to know Jesus. Pray for wisdom in discipling new Christians in difficult circumstances, especially those who have had to flee with their parents and are no longer connected to the church.

### **Thursday Other Ministries**

The church does such a lot to support the community. Please pray for safety as they seek to fulfil their mission to serve Jesus and the community. Pray for supplies of bread flour for the bakery and for the young mums who attend services and receive aid. Pray too, for the English classes, the seed distribution, computer classes, sewing ministry, hospital visitation and general aid distribution. Please pray for strength to continue these tiring ministries. Pray for energy, rest and enthusiasm.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**

### **Friday Individuals and partners of Hope Lebedyn**

There are so many stories of God answering prayer and helping people, that there are too many to mention. But please pray for Dima, who is a prisoner of war missing for 18 months. Pray for his wife Luda. She wants news, she has heard nothing since last April. Pray for Vlada, a young woman who has serious mental health issues caused by war. She is close to giving her life to Christ. Something in her past is blocking her.

Pray for Pastor Andrew in Samatoivka right on the Russian border as he seeks to serve his village in extreme circumstances. Pray too, for Mission Eurasia as they seek to source aid from Europe, and also our partners in Germany sourcing aid. Pray that applications made to UK and US trusts will bring more financial support for the charity.

### **Saturday Peace and World Leaders**

Today is the anniversary of the war. Please pray for peace and for the wisdom needed to create peace. Pray for both the Russian and Ukraine governments and their leaders. Pray that international support will not dry up in the light of other conflicts. Pray that, in the long term, reconciliation will be possible and forgiveness will reign and not hatred.

### **Sunday Unity, Strength and Witness**

As we worship today, pray for Eddie Lyle, President of Open Doors who is speaking at VBC.

Pray for unity between the Orthodox and Evangelical churches in Ukraine. At present there is mistrust as the Orthodox church is pro Russian. Pray for the health of the team so they may continue to serve. War weariness is a big issue. Pray for developing team spirit and a deeper relationship with Jesus as they serve Him. Pray for the board of trustees of Hope Lebedyn and all the supporters as they seek to raise awareness and funds to help the church in Lebedyn.



## Flower Ministry

Last week's flowers were donated by  
the Women's Fellowship



*Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers I received on Monday. They really gave me a real lift. MB*

*Beckie and I would like to thank you all for the flowers and prayers during our recent illness. B and D*



*Thank you so much, Church Family, for the beautiful flowers which are giving us so much pleasure as our lives are more restricted now. Thank you all. God Bless. H&J*

**Please note - all dates have been allocated until the end of March but there are plenty of dates available throughout the spring and summer to anyone who would like to donate the flowers one week.**

**Please contact Chris McMahon for details.**