



Sunday 21st January 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News



**Live in CHURCH and  
online**



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

HOME

JESUS

ABOUT

SUNDAYS

FAMILIES

CHURCH LIFE

CONTACT US

**Live at Ten with  
CHRIS SHORT**

the latest  
ons

CURRENT SERIES



ABOUT US



## **John 14:15-27 – Hearts on Fire – Advocate 2.0**

***“I will ask the Father and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – the Spirit of Truth.” (John 14:16)***

Last time we began a new series about the person and the work of the Holy Spirit. We began with Paul’s prayer for the Ephesians (Eph. 3:14-21). We saw that the role of the Holy Spirit is to apply to our hearts the salvation that Jesus accomplished and the Father has planned. It is only through the Holy Spirit that we can experience the joy and confidence of this great salvation.

This week we’ll look at some of the things Jesus taught about the Holy Spirit. We’ll see together the importance of recognising that the Holy Spirit is a person rather than a power. We’ll consider the difference this makes to our prayers and expectations in the Christian life. We’ll also ask why we need ‘another advocate’ when the one we have already appears to have done everything we need. Is something lacking in the work of our first advocate? And finally we’ll see how the peace that Jesus promised His disciples, is the peace only the Holy Spirit can give.



## **THIS AFTERNOON**

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

**BAPTISMAL CLASSES ...** are continuing 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 5pm and find out more then!



## **NEXT WEEK (28<sup>TH</sup>)**

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

# 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 Thursday & Friday  
Kevin          off Saturday  
Tim             in Wed am & Fri am  
Jez             in Wed 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

**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	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
		5.00pm	Baptismal Class
Mon	22	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
		7.30pm	CLT Meeting
Tues	23		Soaking in the Spirit (next meeting 30 <sup>th</sup> )
Wed	24	8.30am	Community Fridge and Café
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		6.30pm	Boys Brigade
Thu	25	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
			Men's Fellowship next meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Rev. Tom Allen
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri	26	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		1.00pm	Thanksgiving Service for Audrey Brown
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect
Sat	27	9.00am	Ladies Prayer Breakfast
Sun	28	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and Online with Chris Short
		5.00pm	Baptismal Class
		7.00pm	Xcav8



## Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

Brian Wightwick 21 Jan Trinity, Willingdon, 10.30am

Brian Wightwick 28 Jan Broadway United, 10am

Francis Bates 28 Jan South Street, 6.30pm

**Ladies' Prayer Breakfast - Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Jan @ VBC: 9am**

**Cynara Ribeiro will be speaking**

**Men's non-Curry night - Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Jan**

**Ladies' Dinner - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Mar @ Pomodoro's**

**Church Business Meeting & AGM - Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7.30pm**



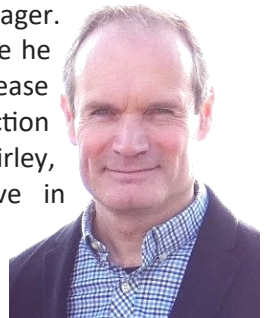
## CAP DEBT CENTRE Manager - Helen Diplock



After 3 and a bit years, I am sadly stepping away from our church's CAP debt centre. I have truly loved serving our community and bringing clients into debt freedom. My family and I have been incredibly blessed and supported during this period, thank you to all in our church who have supported us. Many have asked what I'm doing next - alongside returning to the civil service, I will be enjoying a bit more time to myself and the family, especially given Rosie's

needs! I will carry on with the Community Fridge, alongside Sandra.

Phil Papps has been appointed as the new Debt Centre Manager. He will be a wonderful addition to our VBC team and I'm sure he will lead our Debt Centre onto new and greater things! Please keep Phil in your prayers as he goes through the CAP selection process and CAP training in March. Phil, and his wife Shirley, recently joined VBC membership having returned to live in Eastbourne.



I will stay on until the end of March, so there is no gap between Phil and I, and to provide maximum continuity for our clients.

## Living Life

Contact  
Mick Trott  
for more  
details

We are taking Easter Eggs to Croatia.  
This year, for every egg that is donated,  
a very generous donor will match it with another egg so:

**ONE EQUALS TWO !!**

please drop your donated eggs in at the Welcome Centre

**THANK YOU**

deadline: March 24th

A poster for an Easter egg donation drive. It features several colorful Easter eggs (purple, yellow, blue, pink) and a small truck with a cross on its side. The text is in various fonts and colors, including yellow, white, and black. The background is a dark wood texture.





## Thank You ...

... for the gifts that arrived for Hope Lebedyn from the Christmas Day service.

A tremendous amount of £1,783.52 was collected - plus 75 euros (approx. £65) - and we must thank you for your continued support and prayers for the work, and the team in Ukraine who are doing such an amazing job at this terrible time.

Please note that we will be having a service here at VBC on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4pm, to commemorate the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. Please join us to express your solidarity with our friends in Lebedyn and to continue supporting them prayerfully for all the work they are doing, both spiritually and practically, within the community.



## FUNERALS

A reminder of forthcoming dates -

Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Jan - a Thanksgiving Service at 1pm, here at VBC, for **Audrey Brown**. Please note that the family would be delighted if you would wear **purples** and **pinks** if possible - Audrey's favourite colours! It's not too late to sign up on the sheet in the Welcome

Centre if you would like to join the family for refreshments after the service.


Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Feb - funeral of **Stan Foster** - Basingstoke Crematorium

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb - funeral service for **Norman Stening-Rees** - Eastbourne Crematorium,  
1.30pm

## Thank You ...

... to all who braved the cold and supported Flow Café last Saturday. We raised £226 for NetworX, so thank you for your generosity. We hope to see you all again, along with your friends and family, on 10<sup>th</sup> February when we will be raising money for Good News Brighton (Neil and Jess Hilton).






# 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 Gather Movement  
gathermovement.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.

07706 181568 | [martynereif.org.uk](http://martynereif.org.uk)

  
**Churches Together  
Eastbourne**

## ALPHA CONTINUED...

The Alpha ladies are continuing to meet from Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January in the Garden Room, 9-11am. We will be studying the book of Mark. We always start with tea and coffee! If any ladies would like to join us to study God's word and pray together you are more than welcome. Please speak to or contact Lucy Craggs



## PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS' MEETING

Please note that if you are thinking about membership here at VBC, the next meeting for prospective members is on Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

Richard Kirk and/or Chris Short can give you any further information you need.

## PRAYER DIARY 22<sup>ND</sup> - 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

***“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching “. Hebrews 10:25***

**Monday** Lord, You instructed us “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” Matt 28:19. Thank You Father for the witness Erik showed in his recent trip to India. We pray for Your protection and guiding hand over those on mission serving You in other parts of the world.

**Tuesday** “Righteousness and justice are the foundations of Your throne” Psalm 89:14. Father, we lift up to You all those suffering injustice, those who have had their civil liberties removed and those condemned for speaking out their faithful truth. We especially lift up to you our own sub-postmasters, wrongly convicted of fraud, whose lives have been devastated, and only after many years have been cleared of any wrong doing. May they be comforted by the knowledge of Your Son, who loved us so much, took our sin, and died on the cross so we could be forgiven and have eternal life in Your presence. Father, fill us with the courage of Your Son’s example to speak out when we see injustice happening around us.

**Wednesday** Dear Lord, we lift up to You our world divided by conflict. We especially bring before You the people of Ukraine who continue to suffer the brutal effects of the Russian invasion. Father, have mercy on this nation, change the hearts of the Russian leaders and bring peace and reconciliation to this exhausted country. May Your Son, the Prince of Peace, reign over this country.

**Thursday** Heavenly Father, we are blessed to be part of a loving church family. We lift up to You the Omega group, who meet regularly on alternate Thursday evenings, reaching out to 18 to 35 year olds. We pray for it to continue to grow, bringing personal spiritual growth and deepening friendships. Fill Felix and Eszter Smith and the other leaders with the Holy Spirit so they can truly explain to the group the wonders of Your kingdom. We pray for the group to reach out to their friends and colleagues and for the group to continue to grow.

**Friday** Father, in this election year, we pray that by Your Grace You grant us leaders who are good and wise, righteous and just. Give us leaders who defend the poor and vulnerable and bring justice to all. Please grant us leaders who help the needy, stand firm against the oppressor, and lead us into a world where everyone can worship You freely and without intimidation.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**



**Saturday** Pray for the Ladies Prayer Breakfast taking place today, particularly for any guests attending, and for relationships to strengthen. May the message from Cynara Ribeiro bring these ladies closer to You and to one another.

**Sunday** Lord, as we gather today to worship You, we lift up in prayer those seeking to know You fully through the gift of Baptism. We pray for those attending the Sunday baptismal classes. May the work of the Holy Spirit, through Chris' teaching, reach into the hearts of each individual and promise them a new life, full of Your grace which awaits them as they are reborn through the act of baptismal immersion.



@thematthew25mission  
www.matthew25mission.org

# WE'RE HIRING!

**JOB ROLE:  
ADMINISTRATOR**

**APPLY NOW**

To apply, please send your cv to  
manager@matthew25mission.org



## Matthew25

*a local charity, dedicating  
themselves to help support  
vulnerable and marginalised  
communities in Eastbourne.*

Brodie Hall, Seaside, Eastbourne

### Application Deadline

26th January

### Interviews

Week beginning 29th January

*See VBC office for more details*

## RESPONSIBILITIES & DUTIES

The administrator will:

- maintain accurate and up-to-date accounts.
- provide the Charity Manager and treasurer with financial activity data at agreed intervals
- liaise with the charity's accountant on all relevant matters.
- oversee payroll and pension arrangements in conjunction with the charity's accountant.
- ensure the timely submission of financial data to the charity's accountant for the preparation of annual accounts.
- be responsible for the charity's day-to-day banking arrangements.
- assist with funding applications as appropriate.
- administer the Gift Aid arrangements on specified donations.
- undertake such other tasks as reasonably required by the Charity Manager and as are appropriate to the role.

## Accommodation Required

We recently had contact (see below) with a former member of the VBC family who was enquiring about accommodation in Eastbourne for her son. Do please let us know in the office if you can help in any way. We would love to be able to help the family out in this situation.



*Supported accommodation required in Eastbourne area for adult with a moderate learning disability. If you have been wondering what to do with a spare room?!, and feel this is something that vocationally may interest you, please contact the office for further details. Daytime support not required.*

## CHRISTMAS CARDS



There are still a few Christmas cards in the pigeon holes at the back of the church. We'll give you till the end of January to collect yours before taking action on those remaining!

## Keys

Another plea that fell on deaf ears was the request before Christmas for keys to be returned. A big thank you to the 2 individuals who did return their no-longer needed keys but we still have a good number of you who have keys that are no longer used. It is very frustrating having to buy new keys when we know that some of you have the very keys we need!

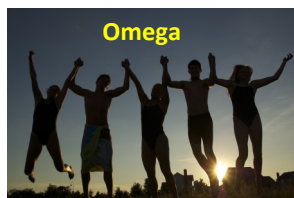


## Men's non-CURRY NIGHT

Apologies for the fact that the menu has not yet been attached to the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre for the next men's night out on Wednesday week (31<sup>st</sup>). We are hoping it will be in place this weekend but its appearance has been beyond our control.

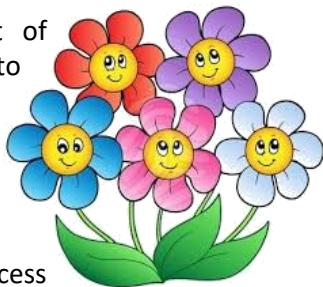
## Omega

Please contact Eszter or Felix Smith for more details about this new group for 18 to 35 year olds. Our next meeting is on Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Feb, 6pm.



## Flower Ministry

Mainly for the benefit of newcomers, we thought it would be a good idea to explain the various stages involved in the VBC Flower Ministry - in the hope that some of you may well be inspired to volunteer your services and join one (or more) of the teams.



Rotas are drawn up every 6 months and the whole process can be broken down as follows -

**Stage 1 - Donations** - we have a list of Sunday dates for 2024 waiting to be filled! Speak to Chris McMahon to find out what dates are still available and the money can be given to Helen Dickson, Chris McMahon or dropped in to the office. The amount you give is entirely up to you but, to give you an idea, most people give between £30 and £50.

**Stage 2 - the Arrangers.** On a Friday or Saturday the person on duty buys the flowers and arranges them at the church. These are the flowers you see on display every Sunday.

**Stage 3 - the Preparers (or Bunchers).** This is a Monday morning task, usually carried out between 9am & 10am or thereabouts. The display is split into bunches, generally 4 - nicely wrapped with a text/message accompanying each bunch - and they are then ready for the final stage.

**Stage 4 - the Deliverers** - the bunches are usually ready for distribution by mid-morning on the Monday and the person responsible for that day takes them to the relevant addresses to deliver them (Car essential!).

The list of recipients is produced in the office with a variety of reasons qualifying people for a bunch - eg special birthday or anniversary, bereavement, special achievement, health issues, moving home, encouragement, new baby, appreciation etc.



Whilst it's always nice to see the display on a Sunday morning, there is a bigger picture behind the scenes and for many years now, the ministry has been much appreciated.

Volunteers are always very welcome - and even if you are pretty useless at arranging flowers, you might be able to help with distributing the bunches on a Monday morning. Or you might simply want to donate the money required - no horticultural expertise needed there!

Please contact Chris McMahon for further information.



# Flower Ministry

Last week's flowers were donated by  
Gavin & Pearl Rendall



*I always admire the flower displays each Sunday and to my delight I received a lovely bunch of them this week. Thank you so much! DP*

