



VICTORIA *Life*

Sunday 22nd June 2025

**LIKE A WISE MAN
WHO BUILT HIS
HOUSE ON THE
ROCK**





Matthew 7:24-27 – Solid Rock

“Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house upon a rock.” (v24)



This week we come to our second of three baptism services and the final session in our series on the Sermon on the Mount. Please pray for Lee Branch, Luanda Hoxha and Megan Edwards as they prepare to give their testimonies and be baptised. Please pray that their family members will feel welcome among us.

The Sermon on the Mount concludes with the picture of two men building two houses. Both houses are subject to a great storm. One stands the test, the other is smashed to pieces. Throughout His sermon, Jesus has been telling us what it takes for us to build lives that stand the test, in bad weather and, more importantly, when we stand before God. He came into the world that we may have life, our response to Him determines whether we will.

I hope you will be able to join us, for what promises to be a great celebration.

Next Week (29TH)

Another baptism on Sunday next week when Chris Short will be leading our morning service at 10 and Lucy Craggs will be preaching.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for next week

Chris	off Tues		
Colin	off Mon	Phil	in Wed, & Thurs pm
Kevin	off Fri, Sat	Simon	off Tues
Tim	in Wed am & Fri am	Julie	in Thurs
Nadine	in Mon & Thurs	Lucy	in Wed am, Thurs, Fri am
Sandra	annual leave	Jez	annual leave

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

Ministry Assistants

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Lucy Craggs (Women)

Life Group Coordinator and interim Youth Leader

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

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(eg *chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk*)

VBC Bank Details

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE
helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk
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- Sun 22 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live@10 with Chris Short - including Baptisms
 5.00pm Baptismal Class
 7.00pm Xcav8
- Mon 23 6.00pm Girls Brigade
- Tue 24 7.15pm Soaking in the Spirit (ladies only)
- Wed 25 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 8.15am Community Fridge
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 6.15pm Boys Brigade
 7.30pm Members Business Meeting
- Thu 26 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
 Men's Fellowship - next meeting Sept 4th
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Brian Wightwick
 evening Omega 18-35 (for timing/venue contact Tim Nunn)
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 27 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 5.00pm Kids Club
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 28
- Sun 29 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live@10 with Chris Short. Lucy Craggs will be preaching
 7.00pm Xcav8

Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

- Erik Cornelisse Jun 22 Horam Chapel 10.30am
 Erik Cornelisse Jun 29 Horam Chapel 10.30am





VBC Open GOLF

A few weeks ago we advertised one of the highlights of the sporting calendar - the VBC Open Golf Tournament.

The recent Centenary Celebrations have, quite rightly, taken priority in everyone's thoughts in recent weeks but it's now time to get out on the driving range, or the nearest course, and get some practice in for the big event. No excuses that the weather has not been very kind either!

To remind you - this will be held on **Friday 18th July** with the first tee-off scheduled for **3pm**. Please give the matter some serious thought and feel free to invite colleagues, neighbours or friends - a real opportunity to use it as an outreach event. We would love to see some more women giving it a go too. Over the first 3 years we have been competing for the trophy, we have so far had just 2 ladies taking part. It would be so encouraging if a few more would join us.

The current holder of the trophy is Stephen Dickson and we look forward to a 4th different name being engraved on it for posterity. We will be on the prowl after the service on the next couple of Sundays in the hope that we will be able to encourage/inspire/cajole some of you to join us. If you have any queries, please see either Colin or Jez.

BUMPER CROPS?

A number of gardeners are reporting that this is turning out to be a good season for vegetables and fruit. Those of you with allotments will no doubt testify to this and we were hoping that you might consider passing on any surplus you have produced to the Community Fridge team here at VBC. We appreciate that some of you are already in the habit of donating in this way but it may not have crossed the minds of other gardeners among you that such produce would be a very welcome addition to our weekly Community Fridge. The event is held on a Wednesday morning with people queuing up from 7.30am - and sometimes even earlier - to enjoy the opportunity of getting food at a very affordable price. We would need to have your donations delivered by Tuesday afternoon.

Please give the matter some thought and just bring along what you can spare. Many thanks.

Sandra Taylor



PRAYER DIARY : 23RD - 29TH June

'I rescued the poor who cried for help, and the fatherless who had none to assist them. The one who was dying blessed me; I made the widow's heart sing. I put on righteousness as my clothing; justice was my robe and my turban. I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame. I was a father to the needy; I took up the case of the stranger.' Job 29:12-16. This week our prayers are focused on those who face poverty and hardship, particularly remembering the ministry of Christians Against Poverty (CAP).

Monday Heavenly Father, we thank You for all the resources You have provided in this world and we pray for a more just distribution of global wealth. We lift to You those in economic poverty, especially in our town and ask that You will enable more people to become debt free through the ministry of CAP. Thank You for the 37 clients who have become debt free so far!

Tuesday Jesus, we pray for those facing aspirational poverty, who experience an overwhelming sense of hopelessness about their current circumstances or about the future. We especially pray for young people who need hope and for the elderly with the challenges that older age brings. We pray they may find positive role models, healing from problems in the past and a hope for the future that includes finding the ultimate hope in You.

Wednesday Thank You Lord for the community of the church and the depth of relationships we can have as Christians. We pray for all those facing relational poverty, with the epidemic of loneliness that we see around us. Help us to play our part and to be bold in inviting people to belong to the community of the church and pointing them to a personal relationship with You.

Thursday Father, we grieve at knowing so many in our town and world are lost in spiritual poverty. Thank you that CAP always seeks to share the love of God and offer prayer to all clients. We ask that by Your Spirit You will enable conversations about faith to open up and that many will be set free from spiritual poverty and find Jesus, the way, the truth and the life. We pray that the 'quiet revival' will sweep through our town, and that we may see spiritual poverty diminish in Eastbourne.

Friday Almighty God, You demonstrated Your mercy on us all by sending Jesus and showing us what mercy is like. Help us to follow in the example of Your Son and show mercy to all around us, especially the poor. Deliver us from our prejudices, judgmentalism and blindness and help us not to count the cost. Help us do to others what we would have them do to us, and so bring glory to Your name.

Saturday Lord, ultimately it is only Your power that changes the deep seated needs in our world and in our hearts. We pray for more of Your power at work, more of Your kingdom coming, more defeat of sin and death. Help us say with Paul *'For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile'* (Romans 1:16). We ask that Your power will be evident through the ministry of CAP and in the lives of clients who face so many challenges, needing a power that is beyond themselves.

Sunday As we celebrate at Victoria Baptist Church today, we thank You that once we were without hope but now we have hope because of God's amazing love and His gracious work in our lives. Lord may that hope take deeper root in our lives today. We pray that we may be carriers of that hope, always ready to share the hope we have in Jesus. We pray that everyone who faces poverty - whether economic, aspirational, relational or spiritual - may know the hope of the gospel. Give us eyes to see, ears to hear and hands to help, offering others hope as we live vibrantly through the power of your Spirit.

BAPTISMS



What a fabulous service last Sunday and a powerful and very moving testimony from Golda as she was baptised. We pray that God will bless her mightily and that she will be very aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit as she begins her course of treatment.

Please keep praying for our baptismal candidates - 3 today and another one next Sunday - that their lives will be transformed through a public demonstration of their love for Jesus - and that their testimonies will be a real source of inspiration to those in the congregation, or watching online

CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM



There are 2 vacancies for the CLT and we will be having an election at the church meeting on Wednesday September 24th. Nomination forms are available from the office and will need to be submitted by August 27th at the latest. Information regarding the Roles and Responsibilities for this role are also available from the office and we would encourage anyone willing to stand to read through it before making a commitment.

Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
Joyce Kirkman
in memory of Henry



What a lovely surprise to receive the flowers on Monday. They are so much appreciated .J&H C.

Connie D was 98 last Sunday and her daughter, Gill, would like to thank the Flower Ministry team for all their efforts, not just in delivering to her mum but for the ministry as a whole which has had a real impact on so many people.



*Just to say thank you for the lovely bunch of flowers left outside on Monday, they continue to look amazing.
T&J M*