



Christmas Edition 2021

**VICTORIA** Baptist Church News



**“... for unto us a child is born ...”**

**Isaiah 9:6**



**This year's Christmas Day morning service will be at 10am, led by our senior minister, Chris Short**  
**The 10am service on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> will also be at 10am and will be streamed live on YouTube - again led by Chris**

**"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON..." JOHN 3:16**

As we approach this Christmas weekend we remind ourselves of the amazing grace revealed in the gift of God's own Son given for us. Perhaps it's hard, for those of us so familiar with the Christmas story, to put ourselves in the shoes of those who first came to terms with what God had actually done. For the first Christians it was breath-taking.

As Paul said: *"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived, what God has prepared for those who love Him..."* (1Cor. 2:9). What God has done in Jesus was beyond imagination, expectation and human conception. And yet the free gift of eternal life is offered to all who will simply 'believe in Him'.



As John said, *"This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His One and Only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love, not that we loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins."* (1John 4:9-10)

God has dealt with us in love. He has made a way for us to be forgiven, to be accepted and to live with Him forever, and He's done it all through His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's pray, as we celebrate this Christmas, that we might recapture some of that first wonder and gratitude to God for the miracle in the manger. And let me also take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas with grace, joy, love and peace for the year to come.

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***For the Christmas morning service, we encourage children to bring along a present to show Chris.***

## STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Please note that the office will be closed the week after Christmas. In the event of something urgent cropping up, the quickest way of notifying us is via an e-mail to [helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk](mailto:helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk). Alternatively, ring the church telephone number given below and contact the mobile number given on the answer phone message.

The office will next be manned on Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Jan.

**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

**Treasurer:**

Louise Hughes

**Finance Assistant:**

Julie Hanks

**Pastoral Team Leader:**

Tim Nunn

**01323 737974**

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[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*)

## Online Services

Because of the potential involvement of children on the platform, there will be NO live streaming via YouTube at the following services.

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Christingle at 4pm

Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day at 10am



We will be back to normal for the Boxing Day service.

Fri	24	4.00pm	Christingle
Sat	25	10.00am	Christmas Morning service
Sun	26	9.40am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live at VBC and online - Chris Short
Mon	27	}	
Tue	28	}	
Wed	29	}	Church/Office Closed
Thu	30	}	
Fri	31	}	
Sat	1	}	
Sun	2	9.40am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live at VBC and online - Francis Bates
			<b>This will be a Communion Service</b>
			No Evening Service
Mon	3		Church/Office Closed - Bank Holiday
Tue	4		
Wed	5		
Thu	6	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
Fri	7		
Sat	8	10.00am	Flow Cafe
Sun	9	9.40am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	All-Age Service with Jez Taylor
		6.30pm	Passion for Life - God's Word in Evangelism

**Two Weeks Ahead**

## Mask Wearing/Ventilation



Following the latest government announcement, please note that the wearing of masks is now mandatory in church.

Please also note that covid regulations state that the building must be kept well ventilated at all times. Hence, doors and windows are kept open every Sunday during services and other meetings.

Please also note that there will be NO refreshments after services for the immediate future. This is in response to the current situation regarding Covid. We feel it is the responsible action to take and trust you will understand the reasoning behind our decision.

## PRAYER DIARY: 27<sup>TH</sup> - 2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY

*The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17*

**Monday** Thinking of the Christmas carol “Joy to the World”, let us pray, Lord, that the peoples of your world would experience real joy at this time amidst the struggles that life and illness are causing this Christmas. We pray that people will turn to You, receive their king, and make room for You in their hearts.

**Tuesday** Looking at the Christmas carol “Like a candle flame”, it says “Can this tiny spark set a world on fire?” Heavenly Father, fill us with Your Holy Spirit to have faith to pray for a world-wide turning to You in the year ahead. God is with us, alleluia.

**Wednesday** In the carol “Once in royal David’s city”, it says that Jesus feels for all our sadness. Many of us are grieving over a loss or disappointment even for years after it happened. Father, help us to feel Your presence with us when our sadness overwhelms us.

**Thursday** Be comforted by these words from the carol “At this time of giving” as you meditate on them - *Earth could not contain the treasures heaven holds for you, perfect joy and lasting pleasure, love so strong and true.* Father, thank You for Your goodness and mercy to us.

**Friday** New Year's Eve. Father God we remember now how we have failed You in so many ways in the past year. We thank You that You build into our world order these natural ends and opportunities for new beginnings. We pray forgiveness for our past failings, and pray for Your grace and mercy so that we may draw closer to You in 2022.

**Saturday** With the world facing uncertainty as we begin this New Year, pray that God will work through world leaders to bring His purposes to be fulfilled, especially through vaccine distribution, climate change, intolerance of Christians in many countries, wars and refugee crises.

**Sunday** Those who look to the Lord are radiant, their faces are never covered with shame. Psalm 34:5

Pray for people worshipping God all over the world today. Some in underground secret churches, some in huge congregations in thriving churches, and some in churches where there are just a handful of worshippers. Pray that God will be there amongst all of us, teaching us and guiding us through His presence speaking through ministers and worship leaders. And pray that He will pour out His blessings on His church.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**

With no news sheet next week, we have provided you with next week's Prayer Diary too. And please remember this team in your prayers - those who produce the Prayer Diary for us so faithfully every week. They are a real blessing to so many!

**IN THIS FIRST FULL WEEK OF A NEW YEAR...**

*Father, let us dedicate all this year to You, for the service, small or great, You would have us do; not from any painful thing freedom can we claim, but in all, that we may bring glory to Your name.*

*You call us to a cross and its shadows come, turning all our gain to loss, shrouding heart and home, let us think how Your dear Son to His triumph came, then, through pain and tears pray on, "Glory to Your name!"*

*If in mercy You prepare joyful years ahead, if through days serene and fair peaceful paths we tread; then, whatever life may bring, let our lips proclaim and our glad hearts ever sing, "Glory to Your name!"* (L. Tuttiatt Jubilate Hymns)

**MONDAY** *"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God" 1 John 3:1. Rejoice in the status that we have as children of God, with Jesus as our elder brother, and in the privilege of being part of God's worldwide family. "Jesus, my shepherd, brother, friend, my prophet, priest and king, my Lord, my life, my way, my end – accept the praise I bring. "Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too."*

**TUESDAY** *"Therefore as God's chosen people...clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" Colossians 3: 12. May we deliberately choose to live differently as we return to the workplace or seat of education, as well as in the family home where it is often most difficult. May we be ever mindful of the changing situations facing many of our brothers and sisters in Christ at the start of another year. "Soften my heart, Lord, soften my heart, from all indifference, set me apart; to feel Your compassion, to weep with Your tears – come, soften my heart, O Lord, soften my heart."*

**WEDNESDAY** *"Dear children, let us not love with words alone but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3: 18. Many folks around us will be struggling to cope in the aftermath of a Christmas overspend. Pray for the work of our CAP Ministry Team as they seek to advise and assist those who find themselves facing crippling debt at this time of year. Pray that they will see that there is an answer to their predicament and that there is One who can bring them HOPE. "Jesus, hope of the nations; Jesus, comfort for all who mourn, You are the source of heaven's hope on earth. Jesus, light in the darkness, Jesus, truth in each circumstance, You are the source of heaven's light on earth"*

**THURSDAY EPIPHANY** *“Arise, shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you” Isaiah 60: 1.* Pray for those known to you whose lives are in darkness and who need to come into God’s light in this coming year. Commit yourself to pray for the prodigals who have turned their backs on their Christian upbringing and believe that God will work in their lives. Give thanks for the work done by our Men’s Fellowship as they are due to re-commence their programme today. *“O that the world might taste and see the riches of His grace! The arms of love that compass me would all mankind embrace.”*

**FRIDAY** *“The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world; Whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognise the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.” 1 John 4:4-6.* In human terms so many situations around us seem an impossibility to resolve. Pray for an overhaul of our political system and that we can again look to those in leadership to give a moral and ethical lead to our nation. We have a God who can do the seemingly impossible. Pray that your faith will be strengthened this year to believe He is the God of miracles STILL! *“Therefore, I will sing, and I will rejoice for His Spirit lives in me. Christ the Living One has overcome and we share in His victory”*

**SATURDAY** *“This is love: not that we loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” 1 John 4: 10.* Give thanks that the prophecies concerning the promised gift of a Saviour have been fulfilled in the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. May the message of the Christmas season be fully celebrated, not just in the babe of Bethlehem but also in the Christ of Calvary. Pray that the full gospel will be faithfully preached from our churches this year. *“Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell, joyfully came. Came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell, sharing their sorrow and shame; seeking the lost, saving, redeeming at measureless cost.”*

**SUNDAY** *“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire you will not be burned. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour” Isaiah 43: 1-3.* Pray that these verses will be especially proven this year for all of us who experience unexpected loss, news relating to our health or employment, or family circumstances. Give thanks that “since Jesus is with you, do not be afraid; since He is your Lord, you need not be dismayed: He strengthens you, guards you, and helps you to stand, upheld by His righteous, omnipotent hand.”



## LOOKING FOR a New Year's Resolution?

Perhaps you might consider volunteering to serve Jesus by practically helping people in our community. In February, we will be launching **Acts Of Kindness (AOK)**. AOK is an initiative at Victoria Baptist Church to serve our community in practical ways, demonstrating God's love in action... but it won't happen unless you consider being part of it!

Initially, it will run as a 'Pilot' serving two local initiatives endorsed by VBC - Networx and CAP. By volunteering you would be making yourself available to complete individual tasks – for example, delivering groceries, moving furniture or decorating a room.



All that is required of volunteers initially is to be willing to make yourself available for tasks, complete an AOK Volunteer Form and monitor a WhatsApp Group to choose tasks you are willing to complete. The AOK Volunteer Form and more information can be found on the VBC website.

There will be a short AOK presentation and the opportunity to ask questions 15 minutes after the end of the morning service on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January in the Small Hall**. We anticipate that the majority of 'tasks' will involve working as a pair of volunteers. If you are a teenager reading this, please feel free to volunteer, but you will need an adult to volunteer alongside you. If you were once a teenager, please consider involving your family/teenagers by volunteering as a pair – mother/daughter/father/son/grandmother/father combination.

## DAILY READING NOTES



If you have been receiving these from Joyce Kirkman, we are still waiting for them to arrive at the Christian Resource Centre. We have been assured that they will be delivered next week.

As you are probably aware, Joyce is no longer our link with the CRC so please direct any queries to the office.

## PIGEON HOLES

You may have noticed that the pigeon holes at the back of the church, for internal mail, are now back in use. Please make sure you check them regularly as we don't want Christmas cards - or any mail for that matter - hanging around longer than is necessary.



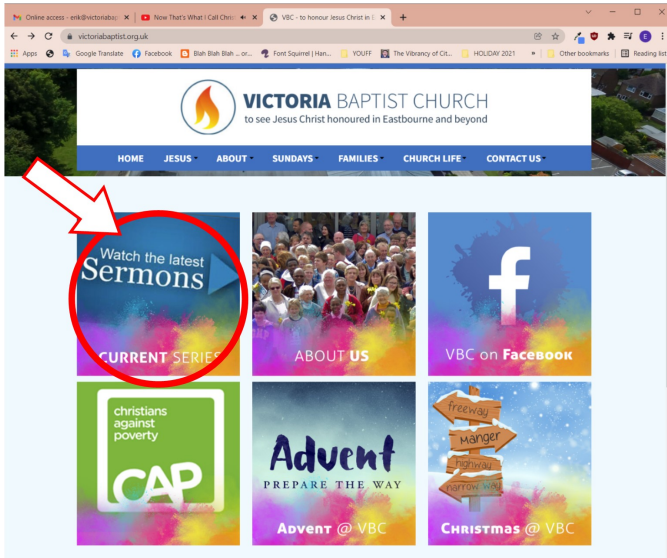


# Online Access

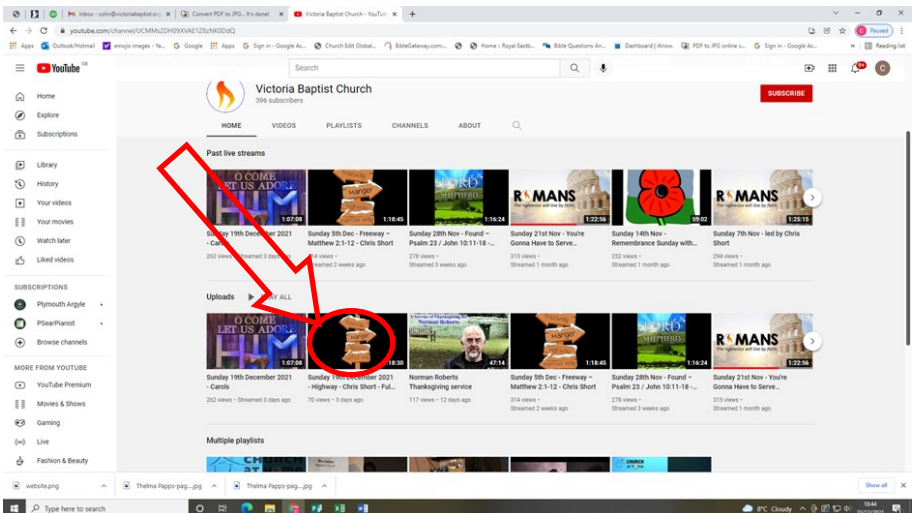
We have been asked to provide a reminder to those of you who might not have accessed our online services for a while as to how to access them.

Since the original instructions we issued back in March 2020, the process has been simplified.

- 1 - Go to our website [www.victoriabaptist.org.uk](http://www.victoriabaptist.org.uk)
- 2 - Select “Watch the latest sermons” as shown below.



3. Select the service you want to watch - that’s all there is to it!





Isaiah 9:6-7 New International Version (NIV)

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the greatness of his government and peace  
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne  
and over his kingdom,  
establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness  
from that time on and forever.  
The zeal of the Lord Almighty  
will accomplish this.

Let the heavens  
*Rejoice*  
And let the earth  
be glad.  
PSALMS 96:12

Stephanie  
Ng

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

*Some more greetings  
from VBC  
family and friends.*

Dear Church Family

Wishing you all a  
meaningful joyful  
Christmas. God bless.  
Stephanie Ng



May the LOVE of God, the PEACE of Christ, and the JOY  
of our Saviour's birth fill your hearts this Christmas  
time.  
With love, Thelma Papps x



Dear Church Family, wishing you peace and joy this Christmas and may you be filled with hope as we look forward to the new year. Deirdre Dean xx



With loving Christmas greetings to my friends at VBC. Thank you for your prayers, Nehemiah 8:10 - Shirley Ansell



Thank you everyone for welcoming us so warmly into the fellowship and for all your prayers for Mark. Happy CHRISTmas to you all. Mark and Joanne Venter.



Wishing all our Friends and family a very Happy Christmas and Blessed 2022.  
Love from the Simmons family





Wishing our lovely Church family a Very Happy Christmas and a positive 2022.  
Blessings to you all. From Rosie & Bernie Bass

Ruth with a  
Bethlehem lamb on  
Christmas Day, 2017



As the Angel said: "Fear not for I bring you tidings of great joy!"  
May the VBC family know that joy this Christmas and not be in fear.  
Blessings from Ruth Campbell



Wishing you all a peaceful and blessed Christmas time, and every blessing  
for 2022. Thank you for your support of Networx, through prayer and  
finance for our foreign friends in our town. Anna Reid





To our leadership team, and fellow members,  
May all have a peaceful celebration of Jesus birth. I pray that in 2022 our God  
and Father will give us strength and grace to stand firm on the Rock, and know  
the Peace of God that passes understanding every moment of every day.  
Love in Him, Daphne Brett



Dear Church Family  
I am slowly improving and hoping, now I have been given permission, that I will  
have my booster vaccination soon. Thank you for all the prayers you have said  
for me. I really hope that 2022 will be a healthier year for all of us.  
I send you all Christmas and New Year blessings.  
Take care - Sue Smalley

## Luke 15 - THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

There will indeed be much rejoicing I'm sure when the owner of this gorgeous sheep in the picture is reunited with their soft cuddly toy. There are plenty of offers to take him in but we thought it only right for the rightful owner to claim it!





## THIS NEW WAY OF LIFE

Another of Malcolm Robertson's messages from his booklet - "It's for you!"

On June 26<sup>th</sup> 1975, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II officially opened the New Covent Garden Market, and it was my happy privilege to be there. Before the actual opening ceremony, the Queen and her husband toured the entire market complex and showed tremendous interest in local and exotic fruits and vegetables of every kind. After the ceremony the Queen dined with members of the Market Authority, and special guests from every sphere of market activity were presented to her.



**IT'S  
FOR  
YOU!**

What a contrast between the old and the new. The old market had served its generations well, but what frustration and congestion it had created in recent years. Gone now are the old cobbled gangways, the endless task of loading and unloading thousands of packages on to the unique hand barrows, the chaos of hundreds of vehicles and irate drivers unable to move for hours on end, and in its place (although on a different site) a market of superb design, ample space, full air-conditioning, and in short, a world market of which London could be proud. Some had said, of course, that the market would never be the same - it would lack the character and atmosphere of the old and the envisaged extra business would never be realised, but the majority acknowledged that, as the official brochure put it, "it was obviously a move for the better" and when her Gracious Majesty cut the tape, for businessmen, salesmen, porters, drivers, buyers and the rest, she opened up a new way of life for them all.



This is precisely what Jesus Christ did when He died on the cross of Calvary and rose from His tomb on the third day. He opened up a NEW WAY OF LIFE FOR ALL MANKIND. The Scripture says that He came to give us more abundant life and everyone can exchange the old sinful life with its frustration and disappointment, and embark upon a new life of purpose and satisfaction by the simple and sincere acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. So, why not exchange the lesser for the better?



## Update from Bayo

Compliments of the season to everybody at Victoria Baptist Church.

Although, we are yet to complete and move to our new building, things are progressing and God is helping us and encouraging and uniting our faith as a Church. Please, do keep on praying for us.

I have attached a conference room picture showing how far we have equipped the room for now. We will be adding a fridge and side tables at the back to serve cakes, tea and coffee by the users. We are already getting phone calls and email enquiries from team leaders including local churches who would like to book the room for their away days. Thanks to the financial support from VBC.



The family are fine, Deneese and the children are settling better and better by the day. It was the end of first term in a new school for the children. It has been hard work but we thank God and we are able to reflect this Christmas, pray and carry on to next term.

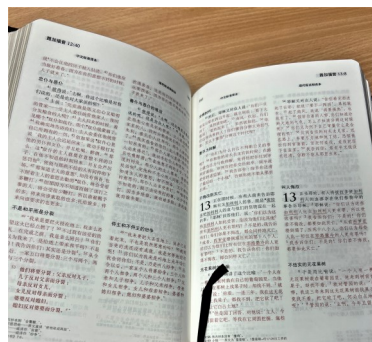
Our love to everybody and every blessing. Bayo



## Multi-Lingual!

The latest addition to our “library” is a Mandarin New Testament! We are building a bank of resources for people attending our church for whom English isn’t their first language. We currently have bibles in Polish and Arabic.

So if you know anyone attending who might benefit by following a bible written in their preferred language, please ask for further information.



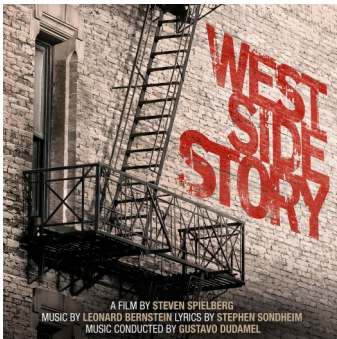
## Film Review - by John Demetriou

I recently saw Steven Spielberg's revival of the original 1961 *West Side Story* film musical and it certainly has a 'wow' factor typical of many of his productions, even though it is his first foray into that genre. It is based on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* with stirring songs, dynamic choreography and touches on various social themes still relevant today, some of which have spiritual implications.



Spielberg has remained faithful to the original lyrics of Stephen Sondheim and music of Leonard Bernstein but, with the help of his team, has added more colour, vivacity, authenticity and meaning to the sets, dances, characters and storyline. The latter covers subjects such as racial prejudice, the destructiveness of hate and violence, reconciliation and hope.

The narrative is about two teenage gangs competing for territory in the run down derelict west side of New York destined for redevelopment in the late 1950s, carefully recreated as a fitting background to the plot. On one side are the local white boys called the Jets while on the other the Puerto Rican Sharks, part of the new growing immigrant community. Tony, a former Jet member, recently released from prison and unwilling to rejoin the gang, falls in love with Maria, who has recently arrived in the city from her homeland to make a life for herself but is the younger sister of the Sharks' leader.



This, predictably, causes more friction between the gangs and eventual tragedy.

'For never was a story of more woe

Than this of Juliet and her Romeo', Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*

All the songs have something to say about the central themes but for me the standout one that gets to the heart of the story is 'Somewhere', sung after the main 'rumble' when both gang leaders are fatally stabbed (in the original film it was also sung at the end when Tony dies and his body is carried away by members of both gangs). It encapsulates the hopes and dreams of the two lovers that there is a better place to look for, away from hatred and destruction and a better way to live. This touches on a universal truth that God has put 'eternity into our hearts' and a desire for something better.



What is disappointing though, in the film, is that it does not tell us how, when or where? The song ends with the vague, 'Somehow, someday, somewhere' typical of much modern thinking. How different to the Christian response with its positive and assured answer to such problems:

- 'Somehow?' through the death of Christ on the cross for our sins.
- 'Someday?' the moment you decide to follow Jesus a change takes place within.
- 'Somewhere?' When we believe, we pass from the kingdom of darkness to God's glorious kingdom and have the hope of heaven to come.



Spielberg in the remake very cleverly parts ways with his predecessors who had the two lovers sing this song. Instead, he has the older Valentina, who runs the drug store, sing it. This is significant because she was married to Doc, a local 'gringo', and thus proves it was possible to rise above the racial bigotry. The fact that the actress who

plays her was in the original movie makes it even more poignant.

If you like musicals with catchy, well crafted songs, excellent choreography and thoughtful plot lines you will enjoy this one and when the song and melody of 'Somewhere' rises don't be misled but instead be thankful for all the sure and certain promises of a better life that come to us when we believe in Jesus Christ.

## COMMUNITY FRIDGE

If you have any leftover or surplus food items, please bring them along to church after we reopen on 4<sup>th</sup> Jan. We will put out a crate each day behind the planters, by the office doors, for you to put the items in. Please only drop off items that are in date and can be stored at room temperature - we can't accept chilled or frozen items.

The Foodbank collection will continue, with their crate remaining in our community corner.



*The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.*  
Zephaniah 3:17

# Miracles of Jesus

## Jesus - Master of the Storm!

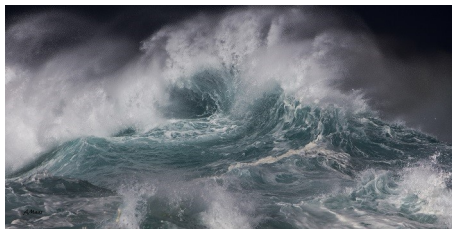
Mark 4:37-51

*“And a great storm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat. ‘Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?’ Jesus awoke and rebuked the wind and he said to the sea, ‘Peace, be still!’ The wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, ‘Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?’ And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?’”*



Lake Galilee was notorious for its storms. They came of the blue, **John Purkiss** literally with shattering and terrifying results. Lake Galilee is located 600’ below sea level. The hills to the west lead to the coast of the Mediterranean Sea while, to the north, Mount Hermon rises more than 9000’ to the north east. To the immediate north east lie the Golan Heights, a volcanic plateau 40 miles long, 16 miles wide, 2900’ above sea level with slopes leading down to Lake Galilee. Rainstorms sweep off the Mediterranean Sea, signalled by darkening rain clouds.

If the storms were rainstorms, the disciples would have recognised the developing rain clouds. As seasoned fishermen, they would have recognised what was happening and the boat could have sheltered in one of the harbours around the lake. But suddenly, without warning, the windstorm blew up, causing the veteran fishermen to be terrified. But who was in the boat asleep? Jesus!



“Be still!” Even the wind and storms obey him!

Storms are an inevitable part of life.

What can we learn from this miracle?

We can experience the storm of sorrow, no matter Christian or not. When sorrow comes, it tells us of the life to come. Our Lord changes the darkness of death into the sunshine of the thought of Life Eternal. It tells us of the love of God, and our hope for the future.

We can experience the storm of life’s problems, times when doubt looms ahead, times when we are at the crossroads of decisions when we do not know what to do, times when we can pray to our wonderful Lord.

“Lord, what wilt thou have me do?” ...

... To submit to Jesus' guidance is a way to peace at such a time.

We can experience the storm of anxiety. The chief enemy of peace is worry, worry for ourselves, worry for our family and those we love, when we have to hear the Master say, "Peace, be still!"

We can experience the storm of ill health. The doctor's office calls. "Would you come in urgently? I am sorry to tell you that the cancer we have identified is incurable. We will do all we can to help you through this situation."

We can experience the storm when we are not in control. In the middle of the lake when the storm was at its most powerful, I can imagine the disciples, who knew the lake like the back of their hands, were scared stiff with a sense of panic. All they waited for was the Master saying, "Peace, be still!"

If you are experiencing storms, the Master is there to give you peace. What a miracle!

## **CAP CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

"Thank you so much, it's such a wonderful thing that you and your team do."

"I can't thank you enough."

"Oh wow, thank you!"

"Thank you for the Christmas hamper I received, it will help so much."

"What a nice surprise."



These are just a few of the messages we received after preparing and distributing 23 hampers to CAP clients, past and current. Each hamper had everything needed for Christmas dinner, treats and more! Thank you to everyone in the church who gave generously to make this happen. For many of our clients, this will make all the difference for their Christmas, enabling them to eat well with one less worry.

A special thank you to Lesley Corke for organising, along with Deirdre Dean, Mandy Phillips and Ingelore Demetriou for their help in making up and distributing the hampers.

## FLOWER MINISTRY

A couple of dates are still vacant for February if you would like to donate - all January dates are now filled. Please see Chris McMahon for more details.

Please note that there will be no flowers on Boxing Day or on Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The flowers last week were donated by Rachel Wightwick

