



Sunday 28th January 2024

Victoria Baptist Church News

HE SAVED US, NOT BY THE  
RIGHTEOUS DEEDS WE HAD DONE,  
BUT ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY,  
THROUGH THE WASHING OF NEW  
BIRTH AND RENEWAL BY THE HOLY  
SPIRIT.

*- TITUS 3:5*



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

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## **Titus 3:1-8 – Hearts on Fire – Supernatural**

**“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour.” (Titus 3:6)**

How familiar are you with the book of Titus? If you're not familiar, you're missing a treat. I remember trying to read Titus, as a young Christian, and never getting past the first chapter. 'Appointing elders' and 'silencing the circumcision group' didn't seem the most scintillating spiritual stuff. However, chapters 2 and 3 are pure gold.

If you want to understand the gospel, there's no better place to begin than in Titus 2 & 3. Four verses in chapter 2 (v11-14) give us as succinct, yet comprehensive, an account of the gospel as we can find anywhere. Chapter 3 shows us the difference it makes.

This week we're going to look at the second of those passages and, together, learn how the power that will transform the whole world, when Jesus returns, has already performed that work in our hearts.

If you're able to make it, I hope to see you there.



**BAPTISMAL CLASSES ...** the last in this series is happening next week (4<sup>th</sup> Feb) at 5pm in Chris' office as usual.

## **Next Week (4<sup>TH</sup>)**

Ron Cross from Open Doors will be speaking at our service next Sunday, 10am.



**OpenDoors**

Serving persecuted **Christians** worldwide

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

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## 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*)

Sun	28	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and Online with Chris Short
Mon	29	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Tues	30	7.15pm	Soaking in the Spirit
Wed	31	8.30am	Community Fridge and Café
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		6.30pm	Boys Brigade
		7.00pm	Men's non-curry night
Thu	1	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
		10.15am	Men's Fellowship with Helen Diplock
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Rev. Colin Crook
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri	2	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		1.30pm	Norman Stening-Rees funeral at EB Crem
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect
Sun	4	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and Online with Ron Cross from Open Doors
		7.00pm	Xcav8

**The Week Ahead**



## **PREACHING ENGAGEMENTS** *Please remember in prayer*

Brian Wightwick	28 Jan	Broadway United, 10am
Brian Wightwick	4 Feb	Trinity Willingdon, 10.30am
	4 Feb	Beulah Baptist, Bexhill, 4pm
Francis Bates	28 Jan	South Street, 6.30pm
Chris Short	28 Jan	Bernhard Baron, 5pm

**Ladies' Dinner - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Mar @ Pomodoro's**  
**Church Business Meeting & AGM - Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 7.30pm**  
**Prospective Members - Sun Mar 24<sup>th</sup> 5pm in the Hive.**

## **Advanced 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.



## 27 Jan 2023 – A coincidence, or was it!?

The loss of my wife, Veronica, was a devastating blow to me. Although she had Parkinsons in addition to a weak heart condition, the end, when it came it came, was a shock. A friend said to me, 'You know you will see her again' and I tried to believe that. But I lacked that assurance. My faith has known its highs and lows over the years. During a very low period (about 30yrs ago) I had placed all my Christian books in a suitcase in the loft and almost forgotten them. For some strange reason, I cannot explain, I decided to get them down and give them to BookAid, soon after Veronica had passed away. I had forgotten what was in the case and was surprised to find a small booklet given to Veronica at her baptism, at age 14, on the 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 1952. Lying in bed that night, suddenly the significance struck me – WOW! Baptism symbolising going down into a grave and coming up to a new life, and now the Lord was showing me so clearly what He had done for Veronica exactly 71 years later to the day. He knew my unstable faith, unlike Veronica's which was firm to the end, and graciously chose a wonderful way to tell me that He had 'done all things well'!



Coincidence? I don't think so !

*Brian Simmonds*

## FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED THEIR DRIVING TEST!



**Four lovely ladies living in Polegate** would love to come to the

Women's Fellowship on Thursday afternoons 2.30 – 4 p.m.

They need transport to and from Victoria Baptist Church.

While they sit at home all on their own, they could be with their friends enjoying the reading of the Bible, prayer time, listening to an

encouraging speaker, or a testimony about how Jesus has saved and helped someone, even an update on missionary work. **Could you be a driver**

(if more than one responds, perhaps on a rota) during term time? It would be a 'labour of love' and such a blessing, making the sacrifice of time. (You could bring your laptop or a book and sit comfortably in the warm Welcome Centre between runs, unless you would like to join the meeting!!

Please contact Avril Coombe, or the Office.

## Accommodation needed

Christian lady seeks an unfurnished studio flat to rent with reasonable access to Eastbourne town centre. If able to help, please reply to the Church Office.



## PRAYER DIARY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY - 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

**“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philipians 4:6**

**Monday Anxiety** - Lord we pray for those who are overwhelmed by anxiety and mental health issues. We pray against this grip by Satan to disrupt the peace that you desire for us. We pray for those anxious about money and thank you for CAP and the relief it offers. We pray for those anxious about where food, shelter and other necessities will come from and we ask you to prompt us to be your hands and feet and pray for and support the work of Networx and Community Fridge.

**Tuesday Situations** – we ask Father God for those facing seemingly impossible situations to know Your peace. We particularly think of those with medical dilemmas and those facing surgery and we give thanks for the skill of medical teams in our land and pray for swift healing for loved ones and for Your peace to descend in the the chaos of appointments, interventions, tests, and treatment.

**Wednesday Prayer** – thank You, Father for the gift of prayer. Forgive us when we forget to come to You with our worries and petitions. Thank You for the prompting of Your Holy Spirit to pray and for the people laid on our hearts. We ask You to uphold the prayer team here at VBC and to strengthen them when they are praying for us all. We give thanks for the many opportunities we have to pray, for the ladies prayer breakfast and for the peace we know from Your presence along side us.

**Thursday Requests** – we have so many Lord but we know You have more. We thank You for the way in which Your Son intercedes on our behalf and on behalf of those we pray for. We pray for peace in our world, especially in the Middle East, Ukraine and in South America. We give thanks for the faithfulness of the prayer for Ukraine group and for the links we have with Lebedyn and pray for Bohdan and the team and all the folk they are helping in the bitter cold of the winter there.

**Friday Peace transcending understanding** – we learned last week of how our everlasting peace has been assured by the death of Christ and continues to be with us and help us forever by the Spirit. Help us to have compassion on those who are yet to understand this Gift of God and to be diligent in spreading the news of God's love. Pray for the Alpha and Baptismal classes and for many other people God has placed in our lives, including our friends and families.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**

**Saturday Guard your hearts** – We have heard so much in the media about fake news, scams, and untruths told. We have heard about cover ups and atrocities in all parts of society. We fear AI and the subversive nature of social media, and worry for our children. Lord protect our hearts. Protect the minds of young people in our community from pornography, their bodies from addiction and their hearts from hardening with the constant news feeds of violence and attrition of truth.

**Sunday Christ Jesus** Rest in His presence. Be still and know that He loves you and be thankful for the Peace of God in our hearts and lives. Extend that peace to those in our fellowship we meet up with at church today. Give thanks.



**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

With warm appreciation to Kings Church for their hospitality and support for this event.



Keynote Speaker  
**ROGER SUTTON**  
UK Gather Movement  
gathermovement.org

**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 | [martynereff.org.uk](http://martynereff.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.



## Flower Ministry

Last week's flowers were donated by  
**Stephen & Helen Dickson**



*Thank you so much to all my friends at VBC for the beautiful bouquet delivered to me recently. They really gave me a lift! I am well settled now into my new home but miss being with you all at church. AP*



*Thank you for the Church flowers and the glamorous deliverer who clambered around the kitchen to find a vase!. As you know, since the amputation, I have been unable to get out into the garden, so these flowers are most welcome. ID*



*We have been very fortunate to receive a splendid bouquet of flowers from the church. Please could you pass our gratitude to anyone involved in this most kind expression of support, not least, the person who thought of us in the first place. Many thanks & God bless. BE*