



Sunday 3rd October 2021

VICTORIA Baptist Church News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

- Romans 5:1-2 -



Justified?



**This week's message is brought to us by our Life Group Coordinator, Jez Taylor
10am at the church and live online via YouTube.
At 4pm, our afternoon service will include an interview with Steve & Sherree**

Romans 5:1-11

Justified? So what?

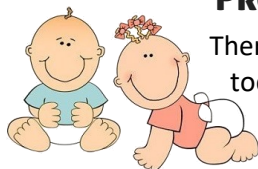
Have you ever had an enemy at work or school or college? Someone whose presence made you feel uncomfortable? What was it like when the air was cleared? When that time came was there a sense of relief and joy? I hope so!

Have you ever experienced times in your life when you felt it was all hopeless and you might as well give up? Many of us have, it is not a nice feeling.

Finally, have you ever felt unloved? Lost and alone, no one cares whether you live or die? Sounds dramatic but in today's world there are many who experience acute loneliness and isolation. In today's word from Romans 5 Paul explains that when we put our faith in Jesus, not only are we released from God's wrath but we will experience PEACE, HOPE and LOVE. But what do these mean and how can they help us in our Christian experience and walk with the Lord? If we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us we can and will experience all three. It is what God desires for us, yet we often miss out because of our own efforts to make them happen.



Pre-SCHOOL CHILDREN



There will be an area set up in the Welcome Centre for babies & toddlers (below the age of 3) at anytime during the service. The service will be live on the Welcome Centre TV. The good news is that Sunday Bees (for ages 3 and upwards) is starting up today!

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Pretty much back to normal this week with Chris having Tuesday off, Erik, Simon & Sandra off on Thursday and Colin on Monday. Summer seems to be well and truly over! Tim and Jack will be working in the office on Wednesday and Julie on Thursday.

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

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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)

BOOKING SEATS FOR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Please remember that you only have to book in advance for a seat if you want to be socially distanced. Your seat will then be reserved.

The Week Ahead

| | | |
|--------|---------|---|
| Sun 3 | 9.40am | Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office |
| | 10.00am | Live at VBC and online via YouTube - with Chris Short Communion included |
| | 4.00pm | Afternoon service - <i>interview with Steve & Sherree Francis</i> |
| Mon 4 | 6.00pm | Girls Brigade - first meeting back |
| Tues 5 | 7.15pm | Soaking in the Spirit (for ladies only) |
| Wed 6 | 10.00am | Vicky Bees |
| | 5.15pm | Boys Brigade (ages 4-8) |
| | 6.15pm | Boys Brigade (ages 8-18) |
| Thu 7 | 7.30am | Prayer Meeting (for men only) |
| | 10.15am | Men's Fellowship - Harvest Theme with Farmer Brown and Operation Agri |
| | 2.30pm | Women's Fellowship - Harvest with Richard Brown |
| Fri 8 | 10.00am | Alpha Prayer Meeting - in the Small Hall |
| | 10.00am | Vicky Bees |
| | 5.00pm | Kids Club |
| | 7.00pm | Xpect |
| Sat 9 | 10.00am | Flow Café |
| | 10.30am | Creative Writing (see page 5) |
| Sun 10 | 9.40am | Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office |
| | 10.00am | Live at VBC and online - Harvest Celebration led by Erik |
| | 4.00pm | 40 years Celebration of St Wilfrid's Hospice |



AND FURTHER AHEAD ...

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Tues 12 Oct, 6.45pm | Introduction to Alpha |
| Thu 14 Oct, 2.30pm | Celebrating the life of Rosemary Ward-Jackson |
| Sun 17 Oct, 10am | Baptismal Service |
| Sat 30 Oct (afternoon) | Thanksgiving Service for Jill McKay |
| Wed 24 Nov, 7.30am | Church Meeting - CLT elections |

Man Gave Names to all the Animals

It is interesting to note that God made 'man' (includes women) with the ability for verbal communication and one of the first tasks God gave him was to name the animals in all their variety thus showcasing the creative capability with which man was endowed and reflected God's image.

The Creative Writing group at VBC brings together people of different abilities, backgrounds and churches who love to use words in different formats to express ideas, opinions, tell a story, write a song, describe a scene or event etc and do it in an interesting, unique and well constructed format, whether it be in prose or poetry. All in a supportive atmosphere.

We meet monthly during Flow Café (so we can stock up with drinks and cake) in the Snug on the lower floor from 10.30-12 noon. We share what we have been writing on, do some writing tasks, look at different techniques and invite writers to share their works. On the next page you can see how one of our group described Harvest in a fresh, poignant and thoughtful manner and for our next meeting on Saturday 9th October, Erik Cornelisse, Youth Worker at VBC will be sharing from a book of poems he has written.

If this sounds interesting to you or you want to know more, please feel free to come and join us or contact me for more information.

John Demetriou



Dr Jay

Regular readers of the Eastbourne Herald may have spotted a recent article concerning the exploits of one of our members!

“Dr Jay is the pen name of George John. He released his second book of memoirs ‘Life Stories & Hilarious Anecdotes’ to critical acclaim during the summer. It reached number one in both Amazon’s biography and medical charts, as well as attracting a string of five-star reviews”

VBC Creative Writing group, advertised above by John Demetriou who leads the group, also gets a brief mention at the end of the article. Follow the link below to see the article in full and to learn some more about George and his literary background.

<https://www.eastbourneherald.co.uk/arts-and-culture/books/east-sussex-doctor-is-best-seller-with-his-hilarious-medical-tales-3377584>

HARVEST AUDIT

Give

Coffee, tea, hot chocolate, Marmite
Activate
Kindness, be more Christ-like

Pack

Noodles, pasta, jars of sauce
Unwrap
Patience that endures

Donate

Toothpaste, soap and toilet rolls
Download
Increasing Self Control

Pack

Apples, pears, courgettes, tomatoes
Stock up on
Joy that overflows

Gather

Beetroot, onions, aubergines and chard
Cultivate
Goodness in your heart

Send

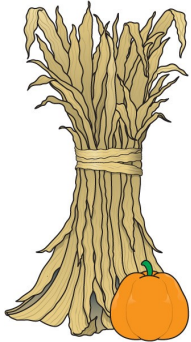
Cereals, biscuits, soup and beans
Let
Your Gentleness be seen

Add

Sugar, flour, salt and honey
Top up
Faithfulness regularly

Sort, bag, dispatch

Do this in Peace and Love and then
Refresh, refill and
Give again



©helentritr

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS!

Hi VBC friends. Just thought I'd write a short update for you on the completion of my first month as the Minister at Gosport Waterfront Baptist Church...

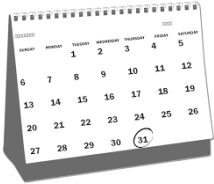
But before I tell you about all that, please can I request PRAYER URGENTLY?! We are STILL 'still here' in Eastbourne! But myself and 2 deacons are viewing another potential manse on Saturday afternoon at 3pm (Sat 2 Oct). We have had so many frustrations and disappointments with properties. The house stuck in the probate process is still on the table but it could take months to complete, and we are all desperate for me to be in Gosport full time, asap. The house we are now viewing has no forward chain, fits all the requirements, and is in a good location. We have been advised that we are in a strong position should we make an offer on it, which we are highly likely to. There are 3 other viewings but offers aren't being taken until Monday morning. Potentially, it could be a very quick completion with this one if all goes well, so please pray, thanks! I think I prefer it.



We have now had four Sunday services in the newly refurbished chapel in Grove Road and things are going really well. We have had 9 'new' adults and 2 children visiting, with one couple deciding to come into membership with us, who are young (ish) and energetic, with a call to evangelism and worship. They will be a real blessing and strength to the church and the team we are developing. Another young woman, with two small boys, is not yet a Christian but is very interested and listening intently every week. Please pray she decides to follow Jesus! A few are folks who attended different local churches before lockdown but are seeking God for something fresh.

We had a lovely Harvest celebration last Sunday, with a huge amount of donations for the local foodbank and a financial collection for BMS missionaries. It was a real blessing to see a small church make such a huge contribution to both. The church is small in number but big in heart! I've been preaching a series called 'Activ8', looking at the growth of the Early Church in Acts chapters 1-8, and what we can learn from it as we proclaim the good news and grow together in Gosport. I've also been busy with visiting church members on Saturdays and Sunday afternoons, getting to know people. Potentially there are 3 other worship leaders, which is a great blessing.

My induction service, along with the 'official' opening/dedication of the refurbished chapel, is planned for Saturday 6th November. Although I had hoped many of you could attend, I'm sorry to say that space is a real issue, so I am only able to invite a handful of guests. We will be livestreaming the service though, so perhaps those who would like to 'be there' could gather at VBC to watch the 2pm service. I'm sorry to disappoint those who wanted to come along, and I really appreciate your support for me, and enthusiasm, thanks. Sorry we just can't accommodate everyone. Having a lack of space already is a 'nice' problem to have though! I am so grateful for your ongoing support, prayer, messages and encouragement. Love and blessings, Rev. Em xx



Calendars

Some of you will be aware of the fact that Rosemary Foss distributes calendars every year in various languages. This is to support a charity she is involved in.

The cost of producing the calendars ranges from £1.20 to £5, depending on which calendar you want. There are no fixed prices, but donations are welcome.

Options are as follows: Postcard calendars, picture calendars, wall calendars and children's daily tear off calendars.

Languages are: Dari, Pashti, Punjabi, Hindi and Tagelog.

If you would like to order one of these calendars, could you please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Centre by 12th October.

Harvest Service

Please bring whatever you are able for our Harvest Festival Service next Sunday (10th) to Church by midday on Sat 9th. We gratefully receive not only dried goods/drinks; but also toiletries etc. and would also like some foliage or plants. All Harvest Festival donations will go to Foodbank.

Thank you.

Bev Ebdy





SUNDAY SCHOOL

Exploring Gods word together

WE NEED YOU!



Sunday School needs helpers and leaders!
If you feel you are able to help (once a month) with this ministry please let me know.
Simon
simon@victoriabaptist.org.uk

Let's get inviting.

Alpha 2021



This October, VBC is running an Alpha Course.

Alpha is a course which explores the foundations of Christianity. It's relaxed, low key, and gives guests the chance to ask questions and explore the Christian faith. Dinner is also included

Do you know anyone that you'd like to invite? Why not attend the first few sessions with them?

Alpha 2021 starts Tuesday 12th October, 6.45pm, VBC.

To book or for more information, please email tim@victoriabaptist.org.uk

SHOEBOX APPEAL



Hello everyone. Christmas is just around the corner and we are now preparing for the Shoebox appeal. If you would like to participate this year, then just talk to Mick or Lyn, they will have the leaflets that you will need to fill a shoebox. Our cut off date is much earlier this year as we are anticipating problems at the borders so, much prayer needed please. The cut off will be **21st Nov**. We have already prepared nearly 400

boxes at the shop and we are in need of another 900 at least so that we can give to all those children who would otherwise go without.

Thank you and God bless you all. Mick & Lyn Trott

PRAYER DIARY: 4TH – 10TH OCTOBER

Matthew 5:1-12

Monday *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."*

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for Your amazing Grace and Love. Thank You for Your willingness to die for me, knowing all that I am, yet loving me more than I can ever fully understand. We can trust that You do understand how we feel, that You have experienced loss and You know what it is to feel alone and so downhearted that You don't know where to turn. Be the Rock to which we cling in times of anxiety and despair, when we cry out to You with hearts that are sore. Be the whisper of hope that lingers in the air. Be the Love that lifts us from isolation to reach out to someone else. Be our strength to know that You know everything and have heard our cries and You hold us tightly under Your loving arms. Help us to be reassured of Your Love so that we can be there for someone else.

Tuesday *"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth."*

Dear Father, help us to realise that meekness is not weakness. In Your majesty, You humbled Yourself to submit to the will of the Father, to take all our wrongdoings, our hatred, our judgement and our selfishness and You willingly went to the Cross for us.

Wednesday *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."*

Dear Lord, we pray for organisations such as Tearfund that work with local churches and Christian organisations in countries where there is much need for aid and support due to climate change, natural disasters, political conflict and violence. Please bless and protect those who work to support others in politically unstable or dangerous regions and we pray that Your Love and Light will shine through the work that is done in partnership.

Thursday *"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."*

Dear Lord Jesus, forgive us for the times that we have spoken rashly, where we have judged too quickly or where we have held onto our own way of anger. Help us to realise that You are merciful to us every day and we need Your Spirit to work in us with Your gentle loving whisper that casts out fear so that we can smile again in Your love and be merciful to ourselves and others.

Friday *"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."*

Dear Lord, help us to reflect on these words and show us how to be pure in heart.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Saturday *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."*

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for our family, friends and colleagues who are peacemakers, those who are the first to bring peace to a difficult situation. May Your truth shine out as they seek peace and may they know Your Peace.

Sunday *"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

Dear Lord Jesus, we pray for those who face persecution for their faith. Help us to realise how much we have been given to freely worship openly and help us to pray for Your Loving Spirit to break through in countries where there is fear from harm because of persecution. In all the words of the Beatitudes, we know that you embody each one of these aspects. You were persecuted in our place and we can now know Your amazing Grace and Love. Help us to show that gentle, joyous, patient, self-controlled, peaceful, kind, faithful, good LOVE to those around us. When we make mistakes, pick us up and help us to know You love us still and You always will. AMEN.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF ST WILFRID'S HOSPICE

Forty years ago in October the churches in Eastbourne were very active in the founding of St Wilfrid's Hospice. We are now very pleased to give thanks to God for the wonderful work that has been done over those forty years. Next Sunday (10th) at 4pm a Thanksgiving Service will be held at Victoria Baptist Church. Staff and friends of the Hospice, along with one or two people who have benefitted from the work of the Hospice, will be taking part. We trust that many will come to give thanks to God for St Wilfrid's and to pray for the on-going work that is so vital for people at very challenging times in their lives.



CHOIR UPDATE

For those of you following the identification of the choir members saga, only one new name to add this week - 32 "maybe Jill Colkett". That leaves the following yet to be identified - 12,14,16,22,24,25,32,43,49,50 plus surnames for 17 & 51. Many thanks to those of you who have tried your best to identify these faces from 40 or so years ago. I

think we've done really well to get as far as we did!

Leaves!

Erik would be delighted if you could pack up a rubbish bag full of leaves - dry leaves! - and pass them on to him sometime this week.



FLOWER MINISTRY

The flowers last week were
donated by
Thelma & Chris Papps.



If you are aware of somebody in the fellowship who would benefit from receiving a bouquet one Monday morning - for whatever reason - please let the office know.