



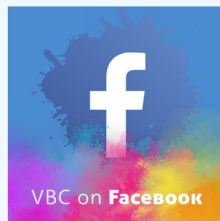
**Live in CHURCH and  
online**



**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 Runaway PROPHET – JONAH 1:1-4**

Last week we began a new series, with an overview of the book of Jonah. This week we're looking at the surprising opening words. Jonah was sent where no other Old Testament prophet was sent; he responded as no other Old Testament prophet responded. Tarshish, it is believed, was on the Atlantic coast of Southern Spain. It was as far away as it was possible to go from where God had sent him.



Jonah had a call that he refused to obey. He had a place to go, a people to preach to, and a message to proclaim. His rebellion surprises us until we consider our own. We also have a place to go, a people to preach to, and a message to proclaim. How are we getting on with that?

Are we accepting God's call on our lives or are we also heading in a different direction? If we are, the only hope we have is that the God of Jonah will be as patient and persevering with us as he was with the runaway prophet.

### **THIS EVENING**



Alpha takes place at 6pm this evening. This week, the group will be thinking about "Why did Jesus die?"

The fortnightly church prayer meeting will be at 6.30pm.

### **NEXT WEEK (12<sup>TH</sup> MAY)**

Erik will be leading an All-Age service at 10am.

The fourth session of the Alpha course will be taking place at 6pm - the topic this week is "How can we have faith?" And Jez will be running the next session of the Bible Academy "Deep Dive" at 6.30pm

# STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the coming week are as follows:

|        |                |        |                            |
|--------|----------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Chris  | off Fri        | Kevin  | off Sat                    |
| Sandra | off Thurs      | Tim    | in Wed & Fri mornings      |
| Colin  | off Mon & Tues | Jez    | in Wed & Fri mornings      |
| Erik   | off Thurs      | Simon  | off Tues                   |
| Julie  | in Thurs       | Nadine | in Mon & Thurs mornings    |
|        |                | Phil   | in Tues am, Weds, Thurs pm |

## 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

Phil Papps

## CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

## Treasurer

Mark Evason

## Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

## Pastoral Team Leader

Tim Nunn

## Life Group Coordinator

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

*firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk*  
(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](mailto:helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk)

[www.victoriabaptist.org.uk](http://www.victoriabaptist.org.uk)

- Sun 5 9.30am Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' office  
 10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short  
 6.00pm Alpha ("Why did Jesus die?")  
 6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting
- Mon 6 Bank Holiday - Office Closed
- Tues 7 7.15pm Soaking in the Spirit
- Wed 8 8.30am Community Fridge and Cafe  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 6.30pm Boys Brigade
- Thu 9 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)  
 Men's Fellowship - next meeting May 21  
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Neil Hilton, Good News Brighton  
 6.30pm Bible Academy - Bible Basics Course  
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 10 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 5.00pm Kids Club  
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 11 10.00am Flow Cafe  
 10.30am Creative Writing and Bookclub  
 7.00pm Boys Brigade Annual Display & Awards - all welcome
- Sun 12 9.30am Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' office  
 10.00am Live and Online - All-Age service with Erik Cornelisse  
 6.00pm Alpha ("How can we have faith?")  
 6.30pm Bible Academy - Deep Dive Course

**The Week Ahead**

**Preaching Engagements** *Please remember in prayer*



Francis Bates

Sun 12 Punnetts Town, 3pm

**Advance Notice -**

There will be NO service here at VBC on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>.  
 We want to encourage everyone to join us and other Eastbourne churches at the Bandstand that morning for this year's Thy Kingdom Come event.





## BIBLE JOURNALLING

The Bible Journaling group will begin on 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm and will run monthly on the third Thursday to begin with. If you think you might be interested, please contact Sandra:  
sandra@victoriabaptist.org.uk

## VBC GOLF TOURNAMENT

In case you missed this last week, let me repeat the notice about the VBC Open to be held this year on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July** at **Willingdon Golf Club**. Ladies and gents of all ages are very welcome. The cost will be £25 (as long as we have 12 or more). Do feel free to invite a non-church friend and e-mail Colin or Jez to confirm that you - and hopefully a friend - would like to take part.

## Flow Café

Flow café takes place next Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 10am here at VBC. Join us for the usual coffee, cake, chat, bacon or sausage sandwiches and crafts. This month our proceeds will be going to The Old Bank Wellbeing Trust.

EXHIBITIONS

Emmanuel Church, Eastbourne presents  
**Methodist Modern**  
Art Collection

# NEW VISION

19 May 2024 - 13 June 2024  
Tuesday to Sunday  
11am - 4pm

**Emmanuel Church**  
48A Upperton Road | Eastbourne | BN21 1LQ

The Methodist Modern Art Collection is one of Britain's most important collections of modern religious art, comprising of paintings, prints, drawings, reliefs and mosaics. The artists include **Edward Burra, Elisabeth Frink, Maggi Hambling, Graham Sutherland** and many other famous names from the British art world of the last 100 years.

Following the opening of its new church building in Upperton Road; Emmanuel Church, Eastbourne is proud to be hosting an exhibition 'New Vision' featuring many pieces from this amazing collection.

**Free Entry**  
emmanueleastbourne.org.uk  
01323 502003



## Sussex Gospel Partnership



The SGP's annual women's convention will be held at All Saints, Crowborough on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June. It will be a day of teaching, praise, seminars and testimony for all ages. Kimberley Davis is the keynote speaker, speaking from the book of Hebrews and explaining why it is a better story! For more information, **and to book**, please go to <https://southernwomensconvention.co.uk>. - the tickets will be £12. A group of us are going and have space in cars if you need a lift. Hope you can join us!

## CLT Elections

As discussed at the recent church members' meeting, there is still a place vacant on the leadership team and we are happy to accept nominations if you feel we have a suitable candidate. We anticipate having a vote at the next meeting (June 26<sup>th</sup>) so do please give the matter some prayerful thought - and ask the office for a nomination form if necessary. Nominations for a vote at the June meeting must be submitted by Wed 29<sup>th</sup> May.

## Sign-up Sheets

It is sometimes difficult to keep up with future events which have to be signed up for so the occasional reminder might be of help to some of you. Currently, two items are waiting for signatures of intent!

**Friends, Food & Fellowship (Fri May 17<sup>th</sup>)**

**Ladies Prayer Breakfast (Sat May 25<sup>th</sup>)**

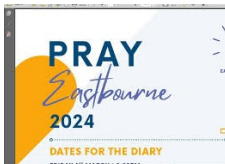


## Ladies Prayer Breakfast

The next breakfast will be held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 9am-10.30am with the speaker being Christine Johnston. If you would like to join us for this event, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre.

## Pray Eastbourne 2024

Details of this town-wide initiative can be found at the **Pray Eastbourne 2024** website [www.prayeastbourne.co.uk](http://www.prayeastbourne.co.uk) They also have a facebook page and, clicking on the following link will take you to a [3.5 minute youtube video](#) to introduce prayer walking. If you are interested in finding out more, we do have a booklet available in the office giving extensive information about this summer's event.



## PRAYER DIARY 6<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> May

*All scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

**Monday** When we view the world through social media it often seems as though God is far away, and people are lovers of themselves. In your prayers today think about how Christians can send a positive message to others on this ever-growing platform. Think about how our children and young people are influenced by what they see and hear, and how we as Christians can guide them to help them make wise choices.

**Tuesday** Bring to God in your prayers the cries of the hungry, for those who are in Gaza, the Ukraine, Nigeria, Sudan and Democratic Republic of the Congo. Pray that food and medical aid might reach those in need. Think about closer to home where many families face food insecurity.

**Wednesday** *Lamentations 3:22-23 Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning, great is Your faithfulness.* Bring to God those who are recovering from addictions, where shattered lives need new beginnings. God can soften even the toughest heart. Pray that those who cry out to Him will have their needs met and will grow in God's love where He has planted them.

**Thursday** *Psalms 147:3 He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds.* Bring to God in your prayers those who are mourning the loss of a loved one, that they might find God's comfort and peace.

**Friday** *Philippians 4:11-12. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.* Let us be content and not rush after the materialistic desires of this world. Pray that God will enable us to be bold and brave and set a Godly example.

**Saturday** *Psalms 55:22 Cast your cares on the Lord, and He will sustain you. He will never let the righteous be shaken.* With God's help we can rise above our problems. Pray that God can sustain you, and your friends and families, as you face challenges big and small.

**Sunday** On this Sabbath day remember we are all God's precious children. Let us pray that we might fix our eyes on Him as He guides us through the week ahead.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**

## Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by  
**Trevor & Elizabeth Hayward**



*Thank you Church family so much for the flowers for Bernie and me. My bees love them too as they smell gorgeous. Much appreciated. B&RB*



*A big thank you to my church family for the lovely bouquet of flowers following my recent house move. The text - "Sing to the Lord His praises" was so appropriate as I love singing hymns! Thank you again. DP*



A vacancy has arisen for someone to join the rota for bunching the flowers on Monday mornings. If you would be interested - training given if necessary - please contact Chris McMahon for more info.