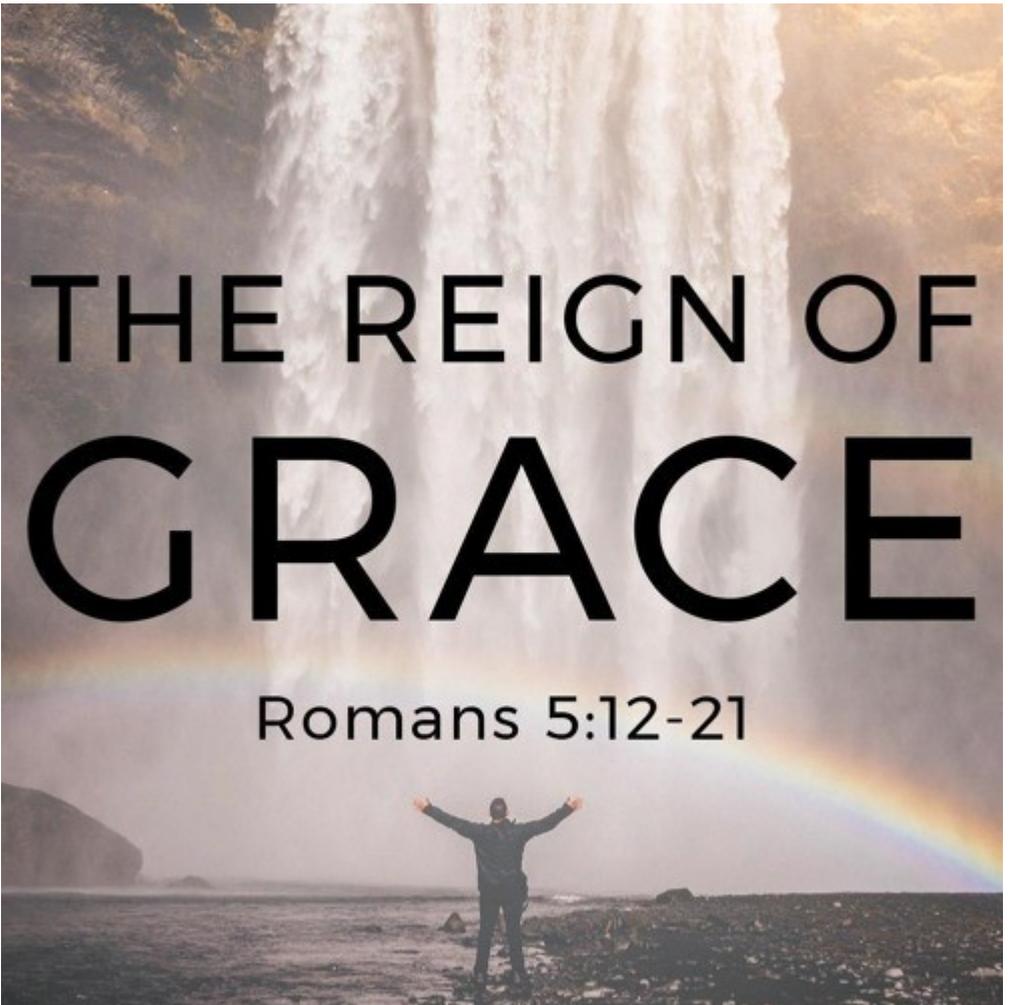




Sunday 24th October 2021

VICTORIA Baptist Church News



THE REIGN OF GRACE

Romans 5:12-21



**This week's message is brought to us by our Senior Minister, Chris Short
10am at the church and live online via YouTube.
At 4pm, in our afternoon service we will be continuing with our
Passion for Life series**

The Reign of Grace – Romans 5:12-21

Verse – “For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.” (Romans 5:19)

Jesus and Adam are the two most important people who ever lived. Adam is the head of the old creation. Jesus is the head of the new. Their actions had ramifications for everyone who followed them.

Adam had everything going for him. He knew that disobedience meant death but disobeyed anyway. We all lost with him. We lost our place in the Garden, we lost friendship and peace with God, inheriting a nature preferring our own wisdom over God's. Sin and death passed from Adam to us all.

Jesus faced a different choice. This time it was obedience rather than disobedience that meant death but he obeyed! Just as the consequence of Adam's sin was ruin for those who belonged to Him, so the consequence of Jesus' obedience was life, hope and peace for those who belonged to Him.

Paul draws this comparison in Romans 5:12-21 to show the certainty that nothing will ever be able to separate believers from the love of God and the fulfilment of His good purposes in their lives.



Next Sunday ... Healing Service - Sunday 31st Oct, at 4pm,
led by John Glover.

“Light in the Darkness and Healing at Halloween”



STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Chris is taking a week's annual leave but otherwise the staff days are as per normal; Sandra, Erik & Simon are off on Thursday, Colin on Monday. Julie will be in the office on Thursday and Tim on Wednesday.

Please note that Colin is taking a week off the following week - week commencing 1st Nov - so there will be NO news sheet at the end of that week, ie for Sun 7th Nov.

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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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 - and only for morning services. Your seat will then be reserved.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

There will be an area set up in the Welcome Centre for babies & toddlers (below the age of 3) to use at anytime during the service. The service will be live on the Welcome Centre TV.



The Week Ahead

Sun 24	9.40am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
	10.00am	Live at VBC and online - led by Chris Short
	4.00pm	Passion for Life
Mon 25		
Tues 26	6.45pm	Alpha
	7.15pm	Soaking in the Spirit (for ladies only)
Wed 27		
Thu 28	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship - with Jez Taylor
Fri 29	10.00am	Alpha Prayer Meeting - in the Small Hall
Sat 30	2.30pm	Thanksgiving Service for Jill McKay (please sign up in the Welcome Centre if you would like to stay for refreshments after the service).
Sun 31	9.40am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
	10.00am	Live at VBC and online - led by Neil Hilton
	4.00pm	Healing Service with John Glover



And further ahead ...

Thu 4 Nov, 7.30pm	Life Groups - "What's it all about?"
Fri 19 Nov, 12.30pm	Friends, Food & Fellowship
Wed 24 Nov, 7.30pm	Church Meeting - CLT elections



A Joyful Weekend

Those of you present at last weekend's baptisms could not fail to have been moved by the testimonies of the seven candidates. For those unable to be present, here are a few pictures of the two events, Katie's baptism in the sea on Saturday morning and the other six being baptised at church on Sunday.



Katie's baptism at Holywell on Saturday morning



Jas, Michael, Paul (above) Anakarina, Jess, Callum (below) on Sunday morning



PRAYER DIARY: 25TH – 31ST OCTOBER

“Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known among the nations what he has done...tell of His wonderful acts. Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and His strength; seek His face always” Psalm 145

Monday *“Blessed is the one who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners...their delight is in the law of the LORD.” Psalm 1.* In the aftermath of the tragic death of Sir David Amess MP, give thanks for those members who seek to uphold godly standards in both Houses of Parliament. Give thanks for his legacy of faithful service and pray for his family as they deal with the aftermath of his untimely death. Pray that all will be done to ensure the safety of all who seek to serve and be freely available in their communities.

Tuesday *“Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in His ways...may you live to see your children’s children” Psalm 128.* In this half-term week for many, remember those with additional responsibilities with grandchildren or with their offspring. Pray for good bridges to be built between the generations and especially within the church. Remember our students studying away from home and the link-ups made between life groups and our school leavers. Pray that our young people will have the courage to always stand firm in their faith and also to experience the loving support of others whilst away from home.

Wednesday *“The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth...He hears their cry and saves them” Psalm 145.* Pray for those who have come to realise that Jesus IS the Way, the Truth and the Life and are seeking to begin their road of discipleship. Pray that those attending the Alpha Course will discover them for themselves personally. Pray also for those recently baptised that they will stand firm in their daily witness for their Lord.

Thursday *“Praise be to the LORD my Rock...He is my loving God, my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield in whom I take refuge” Psalm 144.* On Sunday we have a visit from Neil Hilton. Continue to uphold Him and Jess in their ministry with Good News Brighton. Remember also others serving the Lord elsewhere: Bayo and Deneese in Battersea; Emma in Gosport; Darren and Emily in Sidley, Bexhill; Carl and Chrissie in Sovereign Harbour. Pray that each of these friends will know the daily strengthening and enabling that the Lord alone can give, especially in any particularly demanding situations which they cannot easily share with others for confidential reasons.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Friday *“I love the LORD for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy. When I was in great need, He saved me...” Psalm 116.* Pray for our Street Pastors as they are out on patrol tonight. Pray for their safety and for continuing good relations with many of the night-time community of our town. Pray, too, for the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team, together with the crews of our local RNLI and Coastguards with their often difficult and traumatic calls to those who are in trouble. Pray that all necessary resources will be made available to them as they work to save and safely maintain the lives of others week by week.

Saturday *“The LORD watches over you – the LORD is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all harm – He will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.” Psalm 121.* **Just a reminder that the clocks go back one hour tonight!** Pray for many of our older friends who live alone and who find that the longer and darker evenings can be an added source of concern. Pray for any known to you, that they might know the unseen presence of their Lord and Saviour and that they will be kept from all harm from malicious callers, especially those who plot to cause upset by scamming the most vulnerable. Remember the various support agencies, including the emergency services, Samaritans, Age UK, Victim Support and other local groups offering advice, support and solace to those who have become victims of crime in these times.

Sunday *“Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered...then I said ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD’ and You forgave the guilt of my sin. You are my hiding-place; You will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.” Psalm 32.* Pray for the services taking place today including our afternoon Healing Service. Pray that God’s healing and wholeness might be experienced afresh by those attending and that folk will experience the freedom from past sins/actions that has been won for us through the victorious death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pray also for the healing of past memories, affecting many still today, and remember all who are involved in any form of ministry on this Lord’s Day.

“Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place. He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace - no work too hard for Him. In faith receive from Him. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.” David J. Evans

CLT Elections

Please remember that nomination papers are available for members who wish to put someone forward. The nomination must be returned by Wednesday 27th October. Please note “A nomination must be made by a minimum of two Church members who shall have ascertained that their nominee is willing to stand. This nominee must be a Church member and baptised by full immersion, aged twenty-one or over who has been in membership for at least two years. ...

Treebourne

We have been asked, as a church, if we would be interested in getting involved in a project this autumn/winter which will help to transform our town and benefit its residents.

Treebourne is a non-political organisation with a simple mission: to plant tens of thousands of trees in Eastbourne over the next decade. More than 6,000 saplings have been planted in 2020-21.



This is in fact a worldwide trend with there being support for tree planning among significant figures in the Church globally. In its September 9th e-newsletter, the Diocese of Chichester urged churches to back the campaign to plant trees to mark the Queen's platinum jubilee, a campaign launched by Prince Charles this year. We, of course, do have land here at VBC on which some saplings could be planted. But this is not just aimed at churches, but also at members of churches who would perhaps like to plant saplings in their gardens. Treebourne can help and it will cost you absolutely nothing. They will provide the trees free of charge. They can also provide some volunteers to help plant them.



Maybe there are community groups or schools or businesses in your area who might be interested in helping plant these trees. It could be a great way of reaching out to the community. Younger generations are passionate about the environment, and this could be a way of engaging with them by

showing that Christians care deeply about God's creation.

This endorsement for the project comes from a representative of the Anglican Church:

"Across the world Christians are committing to tree planting as a way to honour God and to make a difference in their community. Treebourne is a great example of what's possible. I would urge every church in Eastbourne to get involved."

If you would like to find out more, do let us know in the office and we can put you in touch with the organiser for this area.



Help Needed

Bramber Bakehouse is a charity set up by two of VBC's Youth group some years ago. They are now looking for some **voluntary support**, with a gap in the team from 1st January.



Bramber Bakehouse is an amazing Eastbourne-based charity, providing a baking, well-being and employability programme for women survivors of human trafficking, equipping and empowering them on their journey to restoration and recovery. B-B was the recipient of the Queens Award for Voluntary Services earlier this year.

*We are looking for a **Company Secretary** to ensure the smooth and efficient running of Trustee meetings, providing assistance and support to the chair of the Board of Trustees. You will also oversee the legislative and regulatory requirements affecting the charity and its' activities, including ensuring all actions are in line with the charity's governing document. This is a voluntary role, requiring a commitment of 4 hours per month on average.*

For further details, please contact the Bramber team at hello@bramberbakehouse.co.uk, using the subject line Company Secretary.



Please let Anna Reid know if you can help provide any of the following items for NetworkX -

Adult Bikes

No longer needed mobile phones

A Smart TV

A small dishwasher for a lady with severe skin allergies

And of course - Homes!

Accommodation Required

Rented accommodation is required in the Eastbourne area for a family with two young children. The wife and children have just moved into the area to join her husband and Ray Dadswell would be delighted to hear from anyone who may be able to help. Ray can be contacted via Carol.



Wreath Making Evening



Sat 27th November

@ VBC

7:00-9:00 pm

Full instructions

£12.00 per person

Limited Numbers!

Tickets on sale each Sunday after the service, or contact the Office

marykirk

*Following on from the recent book review
featuring Dementia ... a poem*

MIDNIGHT

Midnight?

That's not my time

At least, not at my time of life

Cocoa's long been drunk

Teeth cleaned, and into the arms of

Morpheus

But when I was younger

Fifty years younger

Oh, how I remember

Or rather, I don't

Was I drunk?

Those years I can't recall

Those pints of ale ...

... Those laughs with my mates

Most of them gone too

All vanished, like butterflies in

winter

They may be there, but...

I remember them not

I ask, was I drunk?

Was I drunk?

But now

Dementia

...and now... I wish I were drunk.

Richard Kirk



*“Let us hold fast the confession of hope without wavering,
for he who promised is faithful.”*

Hebrews 10:23 (ESV)

This Sunday at 4pm , we will be focusing on “Sharing hope in today’s world.”

This session aims to help us to think about how we can speak of the hope of the gospel amidst suffering; to see that our humility and vulnerability can help us connect with people and lead to opportunities to share the hope we have in Jesus.

There will be a video presentation and time for discussion and prayer. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us. Those who have been able to attend so far have expressed how useful these sessions are.

If you are unable to make it this week, then here is a link to the video and a few questions for you to consider once you have watched it. Maybe you could discuss the questions with others.

<https://www.apassionforlife.org.uk/video-dl/>

[Sharing-hope-in-todays-world-LC4.mp4](#)

- Did the pandemic present you with any opportunities to talk sensitively about your faith with someone else? Share your experience.
- Can you think of a time when suffering in your own life or in the life of someone you know was made bearable because of the hope you have in Jesus?
- Why do you think it might be helpful for others to see that Christians also suffer?
- How does the analogy of the boat help us in thinking how we can journey with people who are suffering?
- How does knowing that Jesus chose to experience suffering in order to save us, help us in our own suffering and help us explain the gospel to others?

Finally, spend some time in prayer:

- Thank God for His great mercy that has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Christ Jesus (1 Peter 1:3).
- Pray for any people you know who are experiencing personal suffering.
- Ask God to help you to be more open about your vulnerabilities, as well as more compassionate and willing to journey with people, and sensitively share the hope Jesus offers.

FLOWER MINISTRY

The flowers for Harvest Sunday last week were donated by
Averil Huggins.

We are pleased to say that all blank dates left this year have now been filled -
but Chris McMahon will be looking to fill dates in 2022 before too long!



“Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers. They were really lovely to receive and the accompanying verse too, which was Psalm 28 v7 ‘The Lord is my strength and shield; my heart trusts in him and I am helped’ Very appropriate for me at the moment! “