



Sunday 26th November 2023

Victoria Baptist Church News

the **HANDS**
that **ROCKED**
the **CRADLE**



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

latest
ons

CURRENT SERIES



ABOUT US



VBC on Facebook

THE HANDS THAT ROCKED THE CRADLE – TAMAR

Matt. 1:1-6 / Gen. 38:1-7, 11-26 –

“Judah recognised them and said, “She is more righteous than I...” (Gen. 38:26)

Although it is not the first Sunday of advent until next week, this week commences our Christmas Series. The New Testament begins with the genealogy of Jesus. Matthew traces the genealogy of Jesus from Abraham to David, from David to the exile, and from the exile to Joseph, “the husband of Mary who was the mother of Jesus, who is called the Messiah.” (Matt. 1:16).



Uruk-cylinder
seal

A strange fact about this genealogy is the number of women named in it. Strictly speaking, none of them are necessary to get from Abraham to Joseph but Matthew includes a number of female names, in addition to Mary at the end - Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Uriah’s wife (Bathsheba). Why does he do that? Apart from Ruth, it can hardly be for their virtue!

This Christmas, God willing, we’ll consider why each of them is important and how they illuminate the plan of salvation that has come to its head in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. This week, we’ll begin with Tamar and see how grace breaks in to even the darkest places and can soften even the hardest hearts.

BEHOLD THE MAN - please note the last in the series has been postponed. Watch this space for details of the rearranged date.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the coming week

Chris	off all week - workshop in Keswick		
Sandra	annual leave	Colin	off Monday
Erik	away in India	Tim	in Wed am & Fri am
Simon	off Tuesday	Jez	annual leave
Julie	in Thursday	Helen	in Mon, Wed
Kevin	off Sat	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

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne

BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

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*)

Sun	26	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and on-line with Chris Short
		7.00pm	Xcav8
Mon	27	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Tues	28	6.45pm	Alpha - "How can I resist evil?" Soaking in the Spirit (next meeting 5 th Dec)
Wed	29	8.30am	Community Fridge and Cafe
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		6.30pm	Boys Brigade
Thu	30	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
		10.00am	Alpha - "How can I resist evil?" Men's Fellowship (next meeting 7 th Dec)
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Pete Martin
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri	1	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect
Sat	2		
Sun	3	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and on-line with Chris Short including communion
		6.30pm	Church Prayer Meeting
		7.00pm	Xcav8

The Week Ahead



Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

- Brian Wightwick 26 Nov Polegate Free Church, 10.30am & 6.30pm
- Brian Wightwick 3 Dec Polegate Free Church, 10.30am & 6.30pm
- Erik Cornelisse 31 Oct-30 Nov India mission trip

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

- Sat 9th Dec Christmas Flow Café, 10am
- Sun 10th Dec Nativity for All Ages, 10am
- Sun 17th Dec Carols by Candlelight, 6.30pm
- Sun 24th Dec Christingle Service, 4pm
- Mon 25th Dec Christmas Reflection, 10am



Christmas Post

Continuing with the long-standing VBC tradition of the Christmas postal service, our post-box will be available in the Welcome Centre for the next couple of weeks for you to send your cards to other people in the church. For the benefit of newcomers to the church, you are asked to:



- Only post cards to members of the church or to regular attenders
- No cards to be posted to people who have moved on to another church or to another part of the country - these will not be delivered I'm afraid
- When posting your cards, please bunch them (elastic bands will be available on top of the postbox) and arrange them alphabetically (by surname)



- Please make a donation in lieu of postage, using the envelopes on top of the post box if paying by cash or cheque. Alternatively, we may be able to use the card machine if you want to pay by card - or use the church's bank details (with a reference of Christmas Post) if you are paying by bank transfer.

All proceeds will once again be shared between Community Fridge and CAP.

The postbox will remain in place until Sunday 10th Dec so that is your last date for posting. Brian Wightwick and his team will then sort out all the cards on Monday 11th - and if they do their usual great job of bunching them all up, the cards should be available for you to collect later that week.

Alternatively, if you prefer the more technical approach, we will again be using the news sheet to post your greetings.

Send a brief greeting to the church family via e-mail (using my (Colin) address) and please attach a photo which I can use. I do have photos of most of you on the system so am happy to use that if you would rather but you may prefer a couples or family photo if appropriate.

I will aim to publish these e-mail messages in the news sheets dated 17th & 24th so you do have sometime to sort out what you want to say!





CHRISTMAS



ALL WELCOME

BRIC A BRAC **CAKES**
REFRESHMENTS **CARDS** **CLOTHES**
TOMBOLA **COMPETITIONS** **JEWELLERY**
BOOKS **HANDMADE GIFTS**

WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 10AM-12NOON
 Eastbourne Road, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 5HB

Closer to home, please contact Pam Virgo if you are interested in coming along to the event advertised here. Her e-mail address is given at the foot of the advert below.

We have a number of church members living at Bernhard Baron Cottage homes and I'm sure they would love to see you if you were able to go their coffee morning as advertised here.



CHRISTINGLE

We will need to assemble Christingles for the service on 24th Dec, so if you have an hour to spare on **Saturday 23rd December** at 2pm to help with this, please let me know. Many thanks, Sandra

BriarPatch

2nd December 2023



Christmas Fair

Victoria Baptist Church
 Eldon Road
 Old Town
 Eastbourne
 BN21 1ue

Handmade Gifts

Awesome cakes

Stunning Crafts

Balloon Modelling



Nikki Burgers

Free cup of Tea or Coffee
 with this flyer

10 am till 4 pm

Free Entry

briarpatchcraftfaire@gmail.com

DIRECTOR



**SUSSEX
GOSPEL
PARTNERSHIP**

THE SUSSEX GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP IS SEEKING TO APPOINT AN EXPERIENCED AND STRATEGICALLY-MINDED DIRECTOR WHO SHARES OUR VISION TO SEE A GROWING GOSPEL CHURCH IN EVERY SUSSEX COMMUNITY.

THE DIRECTOR WILL LEAD AND SERVE A NETWORK OF ANGLICAN AND INDEPENDENT CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER IN GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP TO:

ARE YOU READY TO LEAD AND DEVELOP A PARTNERSHIP OF 60+ BIBLE-CENTRED CHURCHES IN SUSSEX?

 **STRENGTHEN** LOCAL CHURCHES BY ENCOURAGING AND EQUIPPING GOSPEL SERVANTS

ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT TRAINING OTHERS FOR GOSPEL MINISTRY WITH THE WORD OF GOD?

 **BUILD** LOCAL CHURCHES BY EVANGELISM, CHURCH PLANTING AND REVITALIZATION

ARE YOU GIFTED IN PROVIDING ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND EXECUTIVE MINISTRY OVERSIGHT?

 **RENEW** LOCAL CHURCHES BY RAISING UP A NEW GENERATION OF DISCIPLES AND GOSPEL WORKERS

This is a full-time post with a salary and pension contribution level commensurate with the responsibilities involved and the experience required. The commencement date is to be agreed with the Trust Board, but ideally no later than the start of April 2024. The post-holder will ideally live and work in central Sussex and the role will involve significant and regular travel around Sussex. There is a genuine occupational requirement for the successful applicant to be an evangelical Christian and the post is only open to candidates who currently have the right to live and work in the United Kingdom.

For more information go to: [Sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk/apply](https://sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk/apply)

Closing date: Friday 5th January 2024

PRAYER DIARY 27TH Nov - 3RD Dec

MONDAY *“The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honour, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.” 1Tim 5:17.* Remember all who were involved in ministry yesterday and pray that those of us who were hearers will take the message we heard to heart. Pray for all involved in ministry of the Word next Sunday, the beginning of Advent, as they begin preparation. Remember Erik as he returns to the UK and commit those with whom he has ministered to the Lord.

TUESDAY *“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be...” 1Peter5:2.* Remember those who have been commissioned from VBC to minister elsewhere - Bayo and Deneese in Battersea; Emma as she serves in Gosport; Darren and Emily, newly settled in Lymington. Remember also Neil and Jess in Moulsecoomb, Brighton, and Carl and Chrissie in Sovereign Harbour.

WEDNESDAY *“Keep watch over all your flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the Church of God ...” Acts 20:28.* Pray especially regarding decisions made at the recent Church Members’ meeting. Uphold our staff and volunteers, together with members of the CLT, as they seek to lead us throughout the coming Christmas season.

THURSDAY *“Stand up in the presence of the aged and show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD.” Leviticus 19:32.* Give thanks for the work undertaken by those who have a concern for the older members of our church and congregation. Remember especially the many widows (and widowers) in our membership for whom a sense of aloneness can be overwhelming at times. May they always have the assurance of our love and prayers, together with the Lord’s abiding help and presence, especially during the long winter evenings.

FRIDAY *“I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow”. Jeremiah 31:15.* Several friends have suffered a bereavement in recent times. Pray that they might be assured that their loved ones are with Christ “which is far better.” May we continue to be supportive of them throughout their ongoing grief journey, as they adjust to life without their loved ones. Remember all who minister to the grieving, including hospice staff, bereavement counsellors etc.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

SATURDAY *“Give proper recognition to those who are really in need ...” 1Tim 5:3 and subsequent verses.* Remember friends currently in local residential care/rest homes including Bernhard Baron, Beechwood Grove, Ingham House, Elstree Court, Chaseley Trust, Saffrons, and Tweed, and those who care for them. Remember those who have no immediate family and who appreciate the contact that the local church can give. Remember too the work and ministry of the PARCHE team.

SUNDAY *“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young ... fan into flame the gift of God ...” 1Tim 4:12 and 2Tim 1:6.* Give thanks for our young people who have been studying away from home. Pray for their ongoing education/training and pray also that they will be well grounded in faith, making good, lasting and supportive friendships Continue to uphold all who work with our children and young people week by week - may they know the backing and encouragement of the whole church family, and also have the necessary helpers needed to run their groups efficiently, both on Sundays and in their midweek activities.



I am currently looking for a couple to take over the running of a Monday afternoon life group. If you sense God’s call to support - even if you don’t feel you have the necessary skills (I can teach you!) - do please let me know.

CHURCH ACCOUNTS

The accounts for 2022 were e-mailed to all members earlier this week. If you do not have access to e-mail, please ask at the office if you would like to receive a copy. The contents will be discussed at the next church meeting in the new year.



BIBLE BY THE BEACH

BIBLE
BY THE BEACH

*This is your last chance to take advantage of a discount price for next year’s BBTB. The discount rate - if we can get 10+ people signed up - is only available until the end of the month so do speak to **John and Ingelore Demetriou** if you are interested. There is also a sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre..*

Date: 3rd - 6th May 2024;

Location: Congress Theatre, Eastbourne



BIBLE

BY THE BEACH

VACANCY

P/T EVENT MANAGER

Bible by the Beach is a charity which provides an annual, weekend Christian conference based in Eastbourne but focusing on the whole southeast region and beyond. The conference takes place early May each year.

We have an exciting opportunity for an experienced part-time Event Manager to join our small team to help deliver this annual event.

The key responsibilities of this role are-

- **Managing** the whole event in conjunction with BBtB Trustees.
- **Act** as clerk to the Trustees
- **Develop relationships** with local venues, churches and other organisations and draw up contracts for use of.
- **Liase with heads of departments** (Youth, Children, Speakers, Musicians, Technical etc.) to ensure smooth running of the event.
- **Oversee** all aspects of Publicity and Marketing of the event.
- **Give financial support** to the Charity and the event.

There is a genuine occupational requirement for this role to be filled by a committed Christian who agrees with the Bible by the Beach Statement of Faith.

For this position you will be **based at home** and living within proximity of Eastbourne, the hours are flexible with an average over the year of 28hrs per week but will be heavily weighted towards the run-up to the event.

The Salary is £31,000pa pro rata. = £15.90 per hour

For further Information and an application pack contact Vanessa Redhouse at vanessaredhouse@gmail.com or via telephone 0794 1966855

Applications must be returned by 5.00pm on FRIDAY 8th December 2023.



CAP Christmas Hampers for Clients

Dear Friends, we have been blessed this year to be able to serve many more CAP clients. We now have around 60 clients or families on our radar.

As a church family, we would like to be able to bless these people with a Christmas gift hamper again and so are looking for your support once more. Following feedback from last year, we hope to make it simpler for life groups but we still want to give you the opportunity to help.

Sign up in the usual place in the Welcome Centre to help with packing or delivering on Thursday 21st or Friday 22nd December. Why not pray together about this, get a few people from your life group to team up to help? We need people at church packing, and pairs to go out in cars to deliver the gifts in the early evening.

Donations of money would be gratefully received as we anticipate that each hamper will cost between £30 and £60. This can be handed into the office. Alternatively, we welcome BACS transfers - the bank details are on p3 of this newsheet, please mark any donation *CAP Christmas*.



We would also welcome donations of longer date food items, which can be brought to church and left in the collection area by the blue welcome centre wall. These need to be in by the 17th December. Chilled and frozen goods will be bought in a big order.

We will provide Christmas messages and cards to go in the boxes but if your life group would like to donate a handpicked gift for clients, and deliver to a specific family or person, please let us know and sign a personal card. Any questions please contact Lesley Corke.

Thank you for your support with this big project and making Christ's Christmas message come alive for our clients.

Very best wishes

Helen, Nadine and Lesley

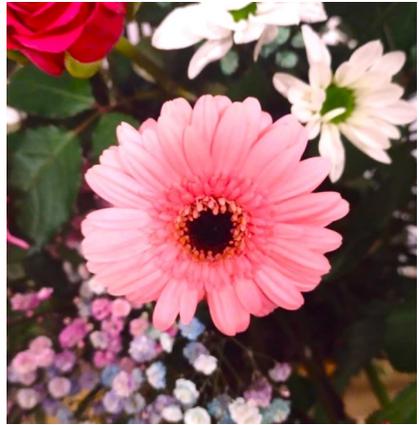
Suggested items for donation

Christmas crackers, Christmas sweets, soft drinks, Christmas or sponge pudding, custard, Christmas chocolates, mince pies, Christmas cake, Christmas biscuits, biscuits for cheese, toiletries gift set, Christmas napkins, chutney, jam or sauces, tinned fruit or vegetables, tea, coffee.



FLOWER MINISTRY

The flowers last week were donated by
Nigel & Sue Collier



Thank you so much for the lovely flowers left at my front door yesterday. They are beautiful and the text very appropriate and comforting. I am sorry to have missed you. Peggy



*The flowers are beautiful. Gave the plumber a surprise, he said a lovely lady dropped them off! Am very grateful for all the love and prayers for both of us this month. And it's an extra blessing to share the flowers with mum and dad.
Thank you. Paula C xx*