



Sunday 31st October 2021

VICTORIA Baptist Church News



Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

(John 20:21)



**This week's message is brought to us by
former Associate Minister, Carl Slezacek**

10am at the church and live online via YouTube.

4pm this afternoon - Healing Service led by John Glover.

Mission

To those of you who were expecting to see and hear our former youth worker, Neil Hilton, preaching this morning, he sends his apologies - but having recently been in close contact with someone who has tested positive with Covid, he didn't want to risk bringing it over here to us!

So at very short notice, we are delighted to have Neil's former colleague and our former Associate Minister, Carl Slezacek, stepping into the breach. Carl will tell us more about what he's currently involved in with the Sovereign Missional Movement, I'm sure, but he will be focusing on Mission, looking specifically at why Jesus is our motivation for mission (Romans 12:1-2) and how Jesus is our model for mission (John 20:21).



BST

Please don't forget that Sunday (31st) 2am sees the end of British Summer Time. Clocks go back one hour and we all gain a much-welcomed hour's sleep!

THIS AFTERNOON ... Healing Service - at 4pm, led by John Glover.

"Light in the Darkness and Healing at Halloween"



STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

The usual staff days off this week - Chris on Tuesday, Sandra, Erik & Simon on Thursday - but Colin is taking the week off so please direct queries to either Sandra or Kevin. Julie will be in the office on Thursday and Tim on Wednesday.

Please note that there will NOT be a news sheet next week.

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*)

Mask Wearing

In the light of fluctuating COVID figures locally, the CLT would encourage you to revert to wearing masks on Sundays and at other meetings when moving around the building. It is down to the discretion of individuals as to whether they remove them when seated and for singing. Please continue to sanitize your hands on entry to the building.



Sun 31	9.40am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
	10.00am	Live at VBC and online - with Carl Slezacek
	4.00pm	Passion for Life
Mon 1	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
	7.30pm	CLT meeting
Tues 2	6.45pm	Alpha - "How can I have faith?"
	7.15pm	Soaking in the Spirit (for ladies only)
Wed 3	8.30am	Community Fridge (until 10.30am)
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	5.15pm	Boys Brigade (ages 4-8)/ 6.15pm (ages 8-18)
Thu 4	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
	10.15am	Men's Fellowship - with Dr John George & Dr. Tina George
	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship - with Dr. Tina George
Fri 5	7.30pm	Life Group - "What's it all about?" with Jez Taylor
	10.00am	Alpha Prayer Meeting - in the Small Hall
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	5.00pm	Kids Club
	7.00pm	<u>No Xpect!</u> (see e-mail to parents from Erik)
Sat 6		
Sun 7	9.40am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
	10.00am	Live at VBC and online - led by Chris Short
	4.00pm	Interview with Helen Diplock
Mon 8	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Tues 9	6.45pm	Alpha - "How do I pray?"
	7.15pm	Soaking in the Spirit (for ladies only)
Wed 10	8.30am	Community Fridge (until 10.30am)
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	5.15pm	Boys Brigade (ages 4-8)/ 6.15pm (ages 8-18)
Thu 11	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship - with Rev. Jill Preece
Fri 12	10.00am	Alpha Prayer Meeting - in the Small Hall
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	5.00pm	Kids Club
	7.00pm	Xpect
Sat 13	10.00am	Flow Café
	10.30am	Creative Writing
Sun 14	10.00am	Family Remembrance Service
	4.00pm	Passion for Life

Two Weeks Ahead

AND FURTHER AHEAD ...

Fri 19 Nov, 12.30pm

Friends, Food & Fellowship

Wed 24 Nov, 7.30pm

Church Meeting - CLT elections



Creative Writing



The next meeting will be on Saturday 13th November at 10.30am in the basement room called 'The Hive' during Flow Café. The theme is 'Autumn' and one of our members will be sharing what she learnt from a recent writing retreat at Ashburnham. If you love writing and enjoy meeting with others of like mind for encouragement and stimulus you are welcome to join us. For more information, contact John Demetriou (contact details available from the office).

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

PRAYER DIARY: 1ST – 7TH NOVEMBER

"... make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" Ephesians 4:3

Monday Father, as the world's leaders and scientists meet in Glasgow for COP26 we pray for Your intervention and guidance to deliver an action plan to save Your precious planet for generations to come. Please pray for all those already facing droughts, floods and storms, may God may give them strength and hope for the future as they toil to adapt to the world's changing climate.

Tuesday Lord, we lift up to You the people of Afghanistan who are now facing extreme persecution by the Taliban, especially the Christian community. Pray for those facing starvation this winter, women and girls barred from schooling and jobs and those with UK passports unable to escape the country. Father, we pray for Your presence, Your wisdom and Your grace to be poured out on this stricken country.

Wednesday Heavenly Father, thank You for the beauty of the autumn colours, but as the days shorten, we do lift up to You those who feel lonely and anxious especially in the dark evenings. Surround them with Your love so that they may experience the comfort and peace that Your presence brings to all who know You.

Thursday Father, we ask for Your presence at the Life Groups meeting being held today. We lift up to You Jez Taylor, the coordinator, and all the Life Group leaders and thank You for their love of You and their commitment to shepherd their groups. We pray that, through You, they may bring knowledge and wisdom to the members of their group, encouraging a deepening of their faith in the Risen Lord. We pray for Life Groups to lovingly accept and welcome new members joining their walk with You Lord.

Friday Dear God, we lift up to You those whose hearts You have motivated to offer themselves as candidates for election to the CLT. We thank You for empowering them with the energy, enthusiasm and vision to grow the work of the Holy Spirit in our church, Eastbourne and beyond. We pray that the elections will bear rich fruit.

Saturday Please pray for those who are struggling financially as prices rise and incomes shrink. Thank You Lord, for Helen Diplock and her team providing advice, prayer and assistance through the CAP ministry. Prompt us Lord to be more sharing with our money and food with those in need.

Sunday Loving Father, we come together today to glorify You in worship. We pray that as one body we can truly come before You, confessing our sins, and share communion. As the Lord Jesus told us "It is more blessed to give than to receive and to love your neighbour as yourself. Let us make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace".

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Help Needed



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

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

1) 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.



2) A couple closely associated with the church have been given less than 2 months notice to move out of their rented home owing to issues their landlord has been having with the council. Needless to say this has come as a real blow to them both, with the timing of having to move just before Christmas not the ideal way to begin the festive period. They say “*we are clean, tidy, no children living at home and have no pets. We did not want to move but have no choice*” If anyone can help with their immediate problem of finding somewhere to live, they would be so grateful. Contact the office if you feel you may be able to help.



Eastbourne CRC Finds New Purpose



Since 1949 there has been a Christian Resource Centre operating from 91-93 Seaside. The sale of Christian Books, Bibles and other resources flourished through many turbulent times. However in recent years it has become increasingly more difficult to sustain a retail operation. **The Eastbourne Christian Resource Centre will continue retail operations through the Christmas period and into January before finally closing its doors on 31st January 2022.**

However, a plan has been agreed with Kingdom Way Trust (KWT) to ensure that the furtherance of the Christian Gospel and advancement of the Christian faith in this part of town continues into the future. KWT indicated that they were looking for a suitable premises as a weekend drop-in venue for homeless and vulnerable people in the town. In addition, KWT needed additional space for private appointments; collaborative work with other agencies; support and recovery groups; Alpha Courses; a meeting place and hub for the benefit of those they work with. And so the CRC Trustees have agreed in principle to pass the freehold of the property onto KWT, subject to Charity Commission approval.

A sad end to over 70 years of the Christian Bookshop, as it used to be called, with VBC having had close links with it through the work of Henry & Joyce Kirkman running the book stall here. But a positive step in the CRC Trustees passing over the premises to KWT to use the premises for their own outreach purposes.

Choice

In my ear a small voice, "We all have a choice.

We all have free will, to do good or for ill."

"We were never made perfect; we were born out of conflict.

Sin was never our choice." "But it was," said the voice.

"We could never do better because sin was our fetter.

It's like chains that bind us, in prison confines us.

Is there just no way out? No forgiveness about?

It's a highway to hell, when for you tolls the bell.

There's no stairway to heaven, there is no antigen."

"But there is," says the voice, "and it's still about choice."

"I chose darkness not light; can I still choose what's right?"

"I am not your nemesis, and way before Genesis,

Before you were in the womb, you were then my heirloom,

My precious delight, never out of my sight,

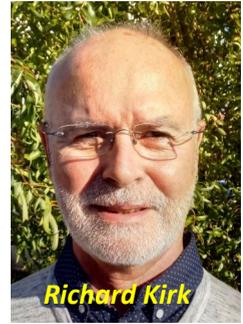
No more wrong, just do right, come into the light."

"But how do I get there, I don't know how to pray?"

"Just be trusting in Me, for I am the way."

So, I asked for His grace, and His Spirit He sent.

When I got to my feet, on His cross I was leant.



Our next Flow café is on November 13th, when our chosen charity will be Street Pastors. There will be an opportunity to look round the Street Pastors Bus and talk to some of the team.

As always, we will have delicious cakes, bacon or sausage sandwiches and tea and coffee on offer, along with children's crafts, Bible journaling, crochet and card making - something for everyone!

Please come along and support this amazing charity. We look forward to seeing you.

MIRACLES OF JESUS

A Very Private Miracle – MARK 1:29 – 31

“And immediately, when they had come out of the synagogue, they went along with Peter, James and John into the house of Simon and Andrew. Peter’s mother-in-law was in bed with an attack of fever.”

They spoke to Jesus about her. He went up to her, took her hand and raised her up. The fever left her and she began to serve them.

Following the synagogue service, Jesus and three of His disciples made their way to Peter’s home in Capernaum, maybe to enjoy a Sabbath lunch. They find Peter’s mother-in-law bedridden with a fever. (Luke 4 : 38 “a high fever.”)

According to Jewish custom, the main Sabbath meal came immediately after the synagogue service at the sixth hour, that is, 12 o’clock midday. Jesus could well have wanted to rest after the exhausting synagogue service. His power was appealed to and He spent Himself for others.

This event tells us something about Jesus. He did not require an audience to exert His power. He was prepared to heal in a little cottage, as in the great crowd in the synagogue – never too tired to help – the needs of others always took precedence over His desire for rest.

Jesus had unique methods of healing. There were many exorcists in the time of Jesus. They worked with elaborate incantations and spells. In the synagogue, Jesus had spoken and the healing was complete.

This miracle tells us something about the disciples. They had not known Jesus very long, but they shared all their troubles with the Master. “I must tell Jesus!”

There is a lesson for each one of us today. We can share our joys and our sadnesses, our hopes and fears. The hymn, “Take it to the Lord in prayer” is so true.

What about the star of the story, Peter’s wife’s mother? She had been healed so she began to serve others. In today’s culture, the kettle was on the boil. Jesus helps us as we help others. Word had already spread about the events in the synagogue – now another miracle – Peter’s mother-in-law.

Mark just says, “Jesus healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast our many demons.” (v 34) What a remarkable day it had been! In just twelve hours, Jesus had revealed His sovereign authority as demonic powers had been quelled and the sick made well. ...



John Purkiss

... But the episode next morning helps us to understand Jesus' priorities. He had taken refuge in a remote place to spend time with His Father in prayer.

When Peter and his fellow disciples found Jesus, they were bursting with excitement (v 37). "Everyone is looking for you" but what about Jesus' response? (v 38) "Let us go on to the next town, that I may preach there also for that is why I have come."

Towards the conclusion of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation, the Archbishop of Canterbury turns to the representatives of many countries and asks, "I present to you, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, your undoubted sovereign. Will you pay her homage?"



The events described in Mark 1 presents our undisputed sovereign Lord, King of Kings. "Will you pay Him homage?"

To my mum

Following recent references in the news sheets on the subject of Dementia, the following letter has been submitted by Nancy who, together with her dad, Bradley, is watching on as her mum endures the battle against this all-too-prevalent illness.

To my Mum Kathleen Greening – An Aide memoire



When you were young you felt called to be a missionary and planned to go to Peru but God changed that to Brazil when you met my Dad at a conference.

After Bible college and becoming engaged, you sailed to Brazil and studied Portuguese before getting married. Ten months later I came along to join the Greening clan.

You worked so hard as a missionary for many years – leading the Sunday School, the Choir, doing children's stories on the radio, women's meetings to name a few.

You are an inspirational Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma plus being a great support to Dad over so many years.

Now with dementia you still have a lovely smile and don't complain even though this is such a trial you bear it with faith and courage.

You are much loved.

Your daughter, Nancy Houston

FLOWER MINISTRY

The flowers last Sunday were donated by
Colin & Chris McMahon



"Thank you so much for the flowers and the Bible verse to uphold us at this difficult and stressful time. Life sometimes challenges people with these 'curve balls' and it is hard when facing these situations. ... We value your prayers for strength for us both."



"Just wanted to say thank you for the flowers brought to me today. Funnily enough, I was admiring them in the service yesterday so it was a real blessing to receive some of them which are now gracing the lounge and cheering us up"