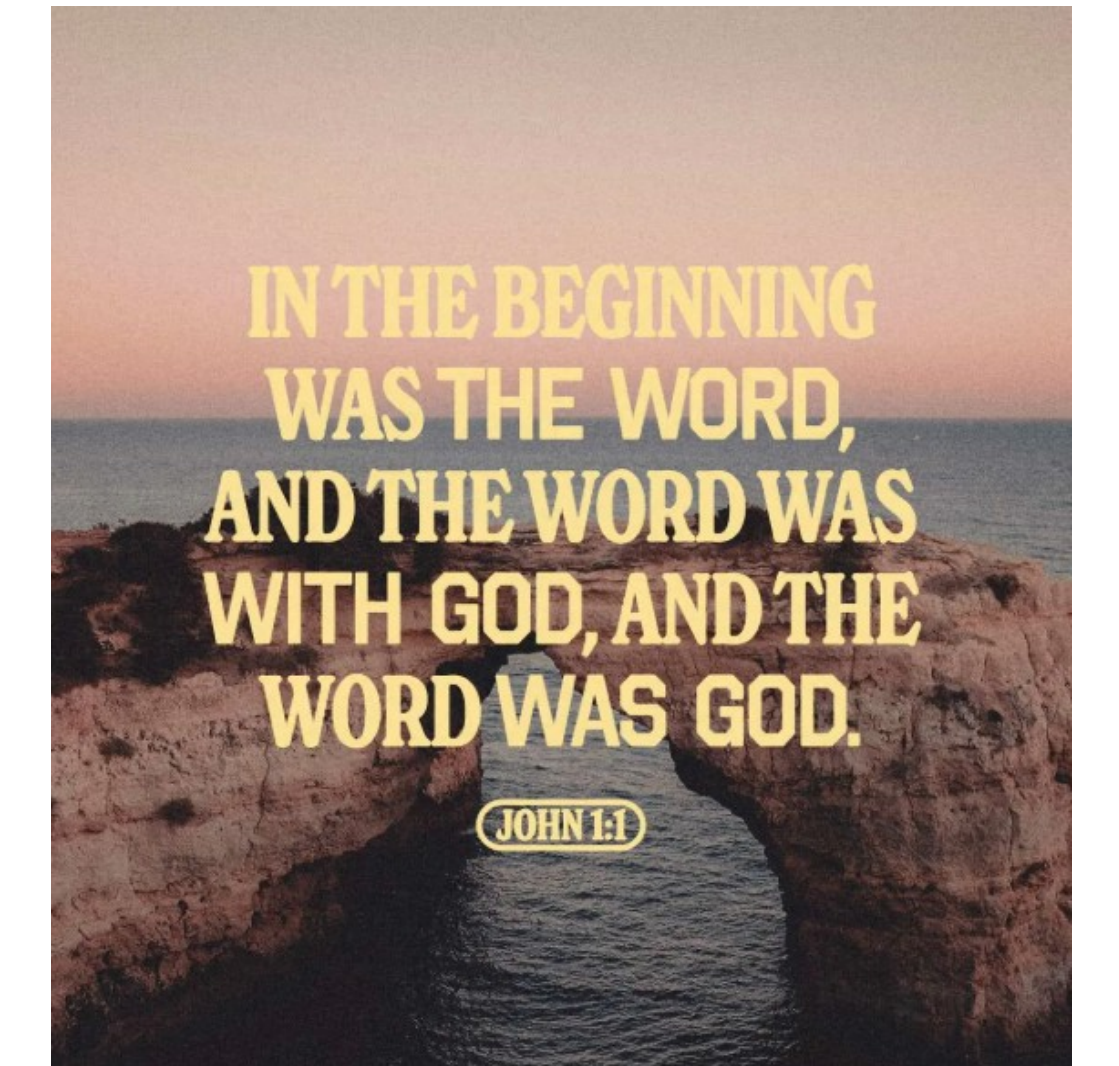




VICTORIA

Life

Sunday 9th February 2025



**IN THE BEGINNING  
WAS THE WORD,  
AND THE WORD WAS  
WITH GOD, AND THE  
WORD WAS GOD.**

**JOHN 1:1**



We are joined today by **Joth Hunt**, who is the South East Baptist Association Regional Minister. Joth joined the SEBA Team in the summer of 2022, as Regional Minister Team Leader.

Joth and Sue have an adult son, Tim. Joth supports Liverpool FC, enjoys watching national league football, meeting up with friends, running at the local park run, walking by the sea and drinking quality Fairtrade Coffee!



### **The Word**

In a world of many words, we face the challenge of knowing what words are trustworthy, certain and true. When John writes about 'The Word' he does so with the person of Jesus in his heart, on his mind and on his lips. As we move into times of uncertainty as followers of Jesus, we can be certain and secure in 'The Word' who was the beginning, divine in every way, who speaks life and light rather than death and darkness and who became flesh and dwelt amongst us – the person called Jesus. It is this word, Jesus, that John encourages us to declare to the world.

### **TONIGHT**

The second of our monthly evening services takes place this evening at 6pm, followed by refreshments.

### **NEXT SUNDAY (16<sup>TH</sup> FEB)**

The baptismal service takes place at 10am next Sunday, led by Chris Short.

We have our fortnightly prayer meeting at 6.30pm.

# STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for this coming week

Chris	off Tues	Phil	in Tues am, Wed, Thurs pm
Colin	off Mon	Simon	off Tues
Kevin	off Sat	Julie	in Thurs
Tim	annual leave	Lucy	in Tues am, Wed am, Thurs
Nadine	in Mon & Thurs am	Jez	working from home
Sandra	off Thurs		

## Senior Minister

Chris Short

## PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

## Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

## 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

## Ministry Assistants

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Lucy Craggs (Women)

## Life Group Coordinator and interim Youth Leader

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 9 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office  
 10.00am Live @ 10 with Joth Hunt  
 6.00pm Evening Service  
 7.00pm Xcava8!
- Mon 10 6.00pm Girls Brigade
- Tue 11 7.15pm Soaking in the Spirit (ladies only)
- Wed 12 7.00am Prayer Meeting  
 8.30am Community Fridge  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 6.30pm Boys Brigade
- Thu 13 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)  
 Men's Fellowship - next meeting Feb 20<sup>th</sup>  
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Lesley Dawson (Matthew 25)  
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting  
 evening Omega 18-35
- Fri 14 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting  
 10.00am Vicky Bees  
 5.00pm Kids Club  
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 15
- Sun 16 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office  
 10.00am Baptismal Service, Live @ 10 with Chris Short  
 6.30pm Prayer Meeting  
 7.00pm Xcav8!

**The Week Ahead**

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

Erik Cornelisse Feb 9 Newhaven Baptist Church, 10.30am



- Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Feb** Baptism Service  
**Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb** Hope Lebedyn Anniversary Event, 4pm  
**Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Feb** Members' Church Meeting  
**Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Mar** Men's Curry Night



**ADULTS ONLY**

**'The creative adult is  
the child who survived'**

Le Guin.

It's time for the adults to get Messy, being creative!

**On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 7-9pm** we are holding workshop groups to enjoy activities such as painting, mosaic making, floristry, caricature portraits and cake decorating. The theme is 'New Life' as we look forward to celebrating Easter. We hope you, your friends and family can join us. More details to follow but please save the date!



Once again we are delighted to announce another **debt free** client! This brings the total to 35 debt free clients since this ministry began at VBC. This client has in recent years had periods of homelessness and rough sleeping, long term ill health and a range of other challenges. During the time we have worked with him he has recently got suitable accommodation and is now free of a sizeable number and amount of debts. He couldn't quite believe it when I told him he was debt free! What's more he now feels able to work again and starts a new job on Monday! He was so grateful for the help he has received, including the Christmas hamper the church gave him and said 'thank you for your prayers too'. He hopes we will be able to continue to help others like him in the future. Pray for him as he starts work, and that his sense of hope will continue to grow. Please also continue to pray for our other clients - we have some really stuck cases and some with very significant 'pastoral' needs. Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers.

*Phil Papps, CAP Debt Centre Manager, VBC*

# WORDS OF WISDOM

for those who care for the aged

As I was preparing for our Life Group session, I looked into other versions of the Beatitudes. Pope Francis wrote a new set - very interesting I think - and I also spotted this one, but can't remember where I saw it:

BLESSED are they who understand  
my faltering steps and shaking hand.  
BLESSED are they who know that my ears today  
must strain to catch the words people say.  
BLESSED are they who seem to know  
that my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.  
BLESSED are they who looked away  
when coffee spilled today.  
BLESSED are they with a cheery smile  
who stop to chat for a while.  
BLESSED are they who never say,  
"You've told that story twice today."  
BLESSED are they who know the ways  
to bring back lovely yesterdays.  
BLESSED are they who make it known  
that I am loved, not left alone.  
BLESSED are they who know the loss  
of strength I need to bear the cross.  
BLESSED are they who ease the days  
on my journey home in so many loving ways.

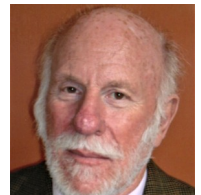
*Erik Cornelisse*

## Family News

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that two members of our church family have gone to be with the Lord during the past week. First of all, Tony Waters passed away last Friday (31<sup>st</sup> Jan) after never fully recovering from his health problems of last summer. Tony was 85; details of his thanksgiving service will be confirmed shortly but you can put the provisional date of Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm, in your diaries.



And then on Monday (3<sup>rd</sup>), Winnie Watkins passed away, following a spell of bad health in recent weeks. Winnie was 91. No details of her funeral have yet been announced.



# Interested in learning SIGN LANGUAGE?



Offering British Sign Language level 1 (no exam) to those interested in supporting family members using sign language already, those starting to learn or those wanting to pick up a new skill

## **WHERE?**

Victoria Baptist Church  
Eldon Road

## **When?**

Monday from 3pm

Tuesday 10am

Thursday from 2pm

## **COST TBC**

Dependent on interest

Maximum class size 16 people

All days and times are dependent on interest

Starts from Spring

If you have a preference, or any other questions,  
please feel free to contact Mel

**[melissa\\_james71@hotmail.com](mailto:melissa_james71@hotmail.com)**





*All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before Him, for dominion belongs to the LORD and He rules over the nations.*

*Psalms 22 :27,28*

**Let us pray for situations around the world.**



**Monday** Africa – Lord we pray for the people who live in the vast expanse of Africa. We pray against exploitation, corruption, conflict and climate emergencies. Prompt us, Lord to remember the people behind these headlines. We pray for those struggling to survive as land is appropriated and as weather events denude their livelihoods. We pray for those living in conflict areas and ask that warring factions will seek peace. We pray that the injustices imposed by developed nations will be righted and that those nations striving to build will not be hampered by greed.

**Tuesday** Asia – We thank you, Lord God of the nations, that we hear news of Your Word flourishing in places far away. We pray for emerging church communities and ask that they will be allowed to flourish without persecution. We thank You for Your faithful servants that serve and spread the good news of Christ. We ask for protection for Your people from the impact of rising sea levels and urbanisation. Help us to stand up for righteous living and to do all we can to help prevent destruction of Your creation.

**Wednesday** North America – Lord we pray into this place, love for Your neighbour. We ask that wealth and influence will be used wisely, that the poor and marginalised will be cared for and valued. Lord we pray for those affected by recent fires and pray that discernment will prevail in the use of resources and in international relations.

**Thursday** South America – Lord God we give thanks for the huge forests, plains, mountains and rivers of this place. We look to see how Your creation has been perfectly balanced and weep over the erosion of the natural resources and the destruction of ways of life. We pray against corruption, trafficking and drug production. We ask that Your kingdom comes and Your will is done over this continent.

**FUEL FOR PRAYER**



**Friday** The Middle East and Europe – Lord, for the increasingly secular world in which we live, we ask Your mercy. We ask forgiveness for the way in which we have developed at the expense of others. We ask that peace will be restored in Ukraine and continue in Gaza. We pray for all those who have lost loved ones and their homes and we ask that from our plenty we will be generous and welcoming. Help us to look outwards and see that many folk around the world do not have the education, healthcare and services that we enjoy. We pray that barriers will be dissolved to realise that You alone are Sovereign.

**Saturday** Cold places – For the beauty and majesty of the Antarctic and Arctic we thank you, Lord. Help us Father God to look to these wildernesses not as opportunity but as evidence of Your great goodness and powerful creation. Help us to see how beauty and danger, desolation and wonder coexist in this world. Let us see Your provision, Your perfect plan and let these places serve as hope on this earth.

**Sunday** Our own islands and town - God of Heaven we give thanks for our home and all the blessings we have in this country. We pray for our streets, the Downs and neighbourhoods here in Eastbourne and for places further afield. We pray for our schools, hospitals and our government. We pray for the people in towns and cities who are struggling to provide for their families. We lay before You the crisis of mental health that is evident everywhere and pray for people who are in despair: help us to see with Your eyes, Lord and to speak Your love into the situations we come across.

***Declare His glory among the nations, His marvellous deeds among all peoples.***

***Psalms 96:3***



The trustees and the team in Lebedyn invite you to a service to mark 3 years of the war in Ukraine. We will be meeting here at Victoria Baptist Church at 4pm on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, for a service of prayer, worship and updates on the work of the team in Lebedyn.

We are planning to hear (via Zoom) from Bohdan about the work he and the team are doing, and how we can continue to support them at this time. We want to thank God for all He is doing through the team and to show our support and love for our friends in Ukraine who are working so hard in such difficult circumstances.

Please join us if you can. If you are unable to come to the service, then you can join us online - details to be published nearer the time, but please contact the office if you think you will need this facility.

# Seeing CHRIST IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

(with the help of Tim Keller) Part 6 Dealing with Anger

One of the subjects Proverbs deals with that causes much trouble and harm in the world is anger. To be wise therefore means we must learn to control it. Here are some Biblical principles found in Proverbs and the rest of scripture to help us.

1. **Uncontrolled anger hurts our health, communities, ability to make good choices and our outlook on life.** It is like a drug addiction and can get out of control. “Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly. A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones” (Prov.14:29-30).

2. **Wrong anger is caused when our ego and pride are hurt and we turn good desires into ultimate ones, places only God should occupy** - eg we get angry with someone who embarrasses us because we have made the desire to be popular key to our happiness, as Haman did with Mordecai in the Book of Esther 3:1-6.

3. What is misunderstood and surprising about anger is that **it is basically a good attribute that is misused.** In the Bible, anger is a characteristic of God and Godly people - eg *‘God is angry with the wicked every day (Ps7:11)*. In the New Testament Jesus was angry with the greedy money changers in the temple, He was angry with death at Lazarus’ grave (Jn. 11:33), Paul was angry with false teachers disrupting the church eg Gal. 5:12. There is a righteous anger that springs from love and wants to defend those we care for, who are under threat. In fact, an absence of righteous anger or an indifference to unjust situations or wrongdoing, eg exploitation of vulnerable people or failing to discipline our children when they do wrong, suggests a lack of true love!

4. What we must learn therefore is **to control our anger.** Not, as sometimes taught, by giving vent to it or, the opposite, trying to stifle it. Both are wrong and lead to misery. The wise and Biblical way is ‘to be slow to anger’ and follow God’s example (Ps.103:8, Prov.15:18) and Paul’s instruction to ‘Be angry and sin not’ Eph.4:26

5. How then can we be slow to anger?

- a. Don’t hide it but admit it is there.
- b. Analyse it by talking to yourself about it as Solomon instructs us. *‘Do not say, “I will do to him as he has done to me; I will pay the man back for what he has done”’* (Prov.24:29). The Bible often uses that approach when we face difficulties. Realise that most things on reflection are NOT WORTH GETTING ANGRY ABOUT.



c. Lastly, learn how, with God's help, you can transform a hurtful situation into a triumph by remembering what Christ did for you and following His example. At one time we turned our backs on God, were against Him and He, the innocent one, *'went like a lamb to the slaughter'*, onto the cross on our behalf. What did He do there? He didn't retaliate or get angry with mankind but, instead, cried, *"Father forgive them for they know not what they do"* (Luke 23:34). That is why in Proverbs and other places in the Bible we are told, *"A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger"* (Prov.15:1). *"If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink, for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you"* (Prov.25:21-22). We need to distinguish between the sin and the sinner and insist on the way of truth and love without paying back. God give us grace to do so.

You can hear a full account of this sermon at: <https://gospelinlife.com/sermon/the-healing-of-anger/>  
John Demetriou



## **Good News Brighton**

Many of you will be aware that we support the work of Good News Brighton, led by our former Youth Minister, Neil Hilton, with Neil & his wife, Jess, pioneering new forms of church to reach and disciple local people in Moulsecomb.

After 10 years of almost continuous involvement in this work, Neil feels in need of a recharge of his batteries and is planning to take a Sabbatical. However, Neil and Jess work mainly in the community, and therefore do not have a specific congregation that can help fund a Sabbatical, as a traditional church minister would. They are therefore reaching out to the wider body of Christ to help fund the Sabbatical. If you feel this is something you would like to help with, please go to their "GoFundMe" page at <https://gofund.me/858250f9>. Alternatively, you can donate via the VBC church office with your envelope clearly marked Good News Brighton.

A more in-depth summary of their work and plans for the Sabbatical can be found on the GoFundMe page.

**Flower Ministry**

The flowers last week were donated by  
**Ted & Pam Twaddell**

