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Weekly update from the Association Administrator, Steph Tidy 01444-233431

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New or updated items are **highlighted in yellow**/or blue



“Do not be overcome by evil,
But overcome evil with good.”

Romans 12:21

Prayer requests

Prayer requests are now sent out in a separate emailing, every Wednesday afternoon. If you would like your name added to the list for prayer, please email me admin@seba-baptist.org.uk

Racial Justice webinars

The Revd Wale Hudson-Roberts, Baptists Together Racial Justice Enabler, writes: *The Covid-19 crisis has written large the pre-existing and ongoing inequalities that exist within this country, especially along the lines of race and ethnicity. The 'Hostile Environment', the 'Windrush Scandal', the Grenfell Tower Fire, anti-immigration sentiments of 'Brexit', and more recently the anti-racist protests, are evidence that institutional racism remains at the heart of Britain, often resulting in the loss of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) lives.*

It can be argued that the church has yet to have a comprehensive conversation around racial justice matters, despite the magnitude of their impact. This lack of engagement has resulted in confusion, frustration and anger, which in part explains the Black Lives Matter protests.

In light of the murder of George Floyd and the wave of anti-racist protests, Baptists Together and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) have organised a number of events over the coming year, including a series of Racial Justice webinars. The aim of these webinars is to resource churches, associations and colleges to theologically engage with racism and advocate against racism in church and society.

Power, Privilege and Pandemic: The toxic case of Brexit

Tuesday 23 June - 19:30 - 20:30

Speakers: Rosemarie Mallett and Anthony Reddie

Although issues of sovereignty and economics, were deemed to be central to Brexit, there was always an anti-immigration sentiment to the 'leave' campaign. Far Right political parties such as UKIP and the BNP threw their weight behind the leave campaign, ramping up the anti-immigration invective. After the vote, there was a marked spike in reported racial and religious hate crimes in England. The church remained more or less silent on these matters. What should be the churches theological response to this issue?

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580798/Power_Privilege_and.aspx

The Hostile Environment

Tuesday 7 July - 19:30 - 20:30

Speaker: Robert Beckford

This webinar explores how the Conservative-led Government implanted a policy that created distrust and increased discrimination and deprivation among those with an insecure immigration status in this country. This populist policy, which tapped into the growing anti-immigration status in this country, aimed to build on the 'fortress Britain / island nation' attitude. What should be the churches' theological response to this issue?
https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580839/The_Hostile_Environment.aspx

Grenfell Tower Fire

Tuesday 21 July - 19:30 - 20:30

Speakers: Bevan Powell and Richard Reddie

The Grenfell Tower fire took place on 14 June 2017, where at least 72 residents died. The tower was in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, one of the wealthiest local authorities in the country, containing some of the most expensive houses in the world and with the highest gap between rich and poor anywhere in the country. Grenfell was populated by poorer, mainly ethnic minority residents. The council was criticised for neglecting its poorest residents.

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580847/Grenfell_Tower_Fire.aspx

Tearing Down the Symbols of White Supremacy

Thursday 23 July - 19:30 - 20:30

Speakers: Anthony Reddie and Eleasah Louis

Monuments to controversial colonial figures around the world have become the focus of renewed scrutiny after the anti-racism protestors in the UK have torn down symbols of white supremacy. What do these monuments represent for people of colour? And why has the Black Lives Matters protest targeted such symbols? This webinar is being organised by the Sam Sharpe Partners.

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580860/Tearing_Down_the.aspx

In the Midst of Life, We are in Death: Black Women therefore Must Breathe

Friday 28 August - 14:00 - 15:00

Speaker: Cheryl Townsend Gilkes

Professor Cheryl Townsend Gilkes is the Professor of African-American Studies and Sociology and Director of the African American Studies Program at Colby College (Waterville, Maine). She will be exploring why black women must breathe. This webinar is being organised by the Sam Sharpe Partners.

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580868/In_the_Midst.aspx

The Windrush Scandal

Tuesday 1 September - 19:30 - 20:30

Speaker: Rosemarie Mallett

The Windrush Scandal has its roots in the hostile environment. By 2013, the Windrush Generation of Caribbean men and women who came to Britain between 1948 and 1972, and had lived most of their lives in this country, were being treated as undocumented immigrants and threatened with deportation. This resulted in the loss of jobs, and many were denied medical treatment and benefits and faced destitution. Sadly, very few church leaders from historic denominations have made a significant intervention in relation to this issue.

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580854/The_Windrush_Scandal.aspx

COVID-19 and BAME

Tuesday 29 September - 19:30 - 20:30

Speakers: Dr Chi-Chi, Dr Vivienne Lyfar-Cisse and Wale Hudson-Roberts

Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Britons have been severely impacted by the Covid-19 virus. Figures show that while BAME people make up only 14 percent of Britain's population, they account for 35 percent of all coronavirus patients in intensive care. Other figures show that Black Britons are four times more likely than white ones to die of the virus. A report released by Public Health England suggests that institutional racism and bullying at work have meant that nurses from Black, Asian and minority backgrounds are afraid to speak up about issues that put them at a higher risk of Covid-19.

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580856/COVID_19_and.aspx

The Sam Sharpe Lecture 2020

Monday 12 October - 19:00 - 20:00

Speaker: Bishop Wilton Powell, OBE

This year's Sam Sharpe lecture will be delivered by Bishop Wilton Powell, OBE - Former National Presiding Bishop of the Church of God of Prophecy.

With Lecture Facilitator: Dr Dulcie McKenzie. This webinar is being organised by the Sam Sharpe Partners.

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580797/Sam_Sharpe_Lecture.aspx

Further information

More information about these webinars, including links to join each one, will be available from www.baptist.org.uk/multiculturalevents. Please do check this website link regularly as details and the links to view the webinars are being finalised. Recordings of each webinar will also be available afterwards using this same link.

We warmly commend you to take part in these webinars, and ask you to publicise them to your church members.

SEBA Notices

Live-Streaming:

Don't forget the Sunday services live-streaming is available via <https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/sebachurchesstreamingservices.htm>

Prayer Broadcasts:

Join in the Baptist Union's prayer broadcasts, Wednesday & Sunday evenings, at 7pm - click here to find the link to the latest, and also videos of the previous broadcasts

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer_broadcasts.aspx

South Eastern Baptist Women's Ministry:

Newsletter:

The latest edition of the SEB Women's Ministry newsletter is now available, please [click here to download a copy](#).

SEBA Training

All training events have been cancelled, until further notice

Events

Please note - with all events advertised below, whilst we are publicising them, the views and comments expressed are not necessarily approved by the Association - unless they have been organised specifically by the Association.

Spurgeon's College - Virtual Open Days:

Following the success of our Virtual Open Day in May, which can be still be viewed on our website, we are pleased to announce a further Q&A sessions with our teaching staff:

- Postgraduate Virtual Open Day Q&A session on 24 June 2020 between 5.00-6.00pm . Please email admissions@spurgeons.ac.uk to book an appointment to speak to a member of the teaching staff.

A Day to Stop, Look and Listen (Baptists Together):

Thursday 25 June from 10-3pm

In these extraordinary times, 'A Day to Stop, Look and Listen' is an invitation to do just that in the presence of God. Guided by Regional Ministers Geoff Colmer and Beth Powney, the day will consist of a series of five session with a break for lunch. Each session will begin with a 10- to 15-minute introduction with the rest of the time set aside for you to reflect and pray as you choose. The timing of each session is as follows:

- 10.00am Session 1 - Stop and look at God
- 11.00am Session 2 - Look back on your life with God
- 12.00pm Session 3 - Look and listen for God with all your senses
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 1.30pm Session 4 - Look and listen to God in Scripture
- 2.30pm Session 5 - Look back at the day with God
- 3.00pm Finish

You are welcome to attend the whole day or for just a part, though please aim to arrive at the start of one of the sessions to appreciate that session's guided

activity. You will find it helpful to have a Bible and a notebook.

To take part in the day (watch and comment on YouTube) click on this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01whlqxZIDg&feature=youtu.be>

Helpful links:

Covid-19 Crisis Counselling Support Service (Association of Christian Counsellors):

for those who work within a NHS setting (medical & ancillary staff) impacted by Covid-19 & those bereaved at this time (due to Covid-19 or other reasons)
Visit ACC's Website www.acc-uk.org or if you don't have access to a computer, please ring 024 7644 9694.

Baptist Union webinars:

There are new webinars each week, on Wednesdays. The webinars are usually scheduled for 1pm (please do check, in advance, though). The links for the upcoming webinars, along with the video for the completed webinars can be found at

<https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338869/Webinars.aspx>

Upcoming webinars:

- The Lifecycle of an Emergency - *24 June*
With Simon Barrington from Forge Leadership Consultancy.
- The Apostle Paul's Lockdown Ministry - *1 July*
With Simon Jones from Spurgeon's College and Andrew Clarke from the Baptist Union of Scotland.
- What would the Celts do? - *8 July*
With Roy Searle and Lesley MacLean from the Northumbria Community.

Previous webinars are also available to view, as a video (there are links on the above mentioned page - or you can click on the titles below, which will take you direct to the video)

- [Evangelism Off the Streets](#)
- [Supporting those facing domestic abuse](#)
- [Helping the grieving during the pandemic](#)
- [The church gathered and scattered](#)
- [Support for Church Treasurers](#)
- [Mental Health & Social Distancing](#)
- [Addressing the current pressures on Leadership](#)
- [Gathering up the crumbs](#)
- [Contemplative Practices During Lockdown](#)
- [Leadership in a time of crisis](#)
- [Handling sudden or multiple deaths](#)
- [Church Governance](#)
- [Finance and Employment](#)
- [Managing Stress and Anxiety](#)

Advice, Resources & Information

Moving forward

Are we asking the wrong questions?

A reflection from missional listener Ben Lucas on the kind of questions we might want to be asking at this time

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580250/Are_we_asking.aspx

Ready for the new 'normal':

The document below was shared at last week's Churches Together in Surrey Zoom meeting. It's a discussion paper for a pandemic recovery and resumption

plan, which you might find helpful.

<https://urc.org.uk/images/Communications/New-Normal-2020.pdf>

Song books:

Fleet Baptist Church are having a bit of a sort out and wondered if anyone could find a good home/s for:

- Baptist Praise and Worship 1992 edition
3 music copies
182 word copies (mainly all have see thru cover)
18 large print with covers
- Mission Praise
95 word copies
14 large print

Please contact Ros, their Administrator, if you are interested, on
ros@fleetbaptist.org.uk

Worshipline:

For churches who are interested in setting up a system (for members who do not have the internet) to allow them to access services via the phone, do check out <https://www.worshipline.co.uk/> it is newly set up - but is already being used by one SEBA church.

Information & support from the Baptist Union

If you have not already done so, please do check out the Baptists Together information pages - any updates to advice will be found there
<https://baptist.org.uk/Groups/337630/Coronavirus.aspx>

The BU regular Sunday and Wednesday, 7pm prayer broadcasts can be viewed here https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer_broadcasts.aspx - you will also find the link to the upcoming broadcasts available on this page, on the day of the broadcast.

Practical Resources:

We are looking at compiling a resources list for the churches once lockdown eases and churches look to running in a 'changed time' (it is possible this may be produced at a National level).

During the pandemic, a number of churches have been live-streaming, often recorded off the Minister's phone or ipad, but when we move into the next stages and churches open again, some will consider live-streaming their services as a new 'permanent' option, as a part of their Sunday worship. Obviously, we do have churches who were live-streaming before the pandemic - and we would really value your advice.

We would love to hear from you on what equipment you'd recommend (what's required, specs (including for different sized venues) and idea of costs) - what you have found necessary for producing good-quality live-streaming and what isn't worth purchasing.

We've also had inquiries as to whether there are any places you would recommend for providing PPE and sanitising equipment.

If you have any advice to contribute, please contact me admin@seba-baptist.org.uk - thank you.

Jobs & Vacancies

Finance Coordinator - African Pastors Fellowship:

APF is seeking to appoint a part-time Financial Coordinator with effect from 1st August 2020. The vision of APF is to empower Christian leaders and enable effective ministry that delivers community transformation through local African churches.

The successful candidate needs to have a professional qualification in a relevant

financial discipline and/or experience of financial management, preferably in the charity sector; a clear sense of vocation to work within a Christian organization, an understanding of the nature of APFs ministry in Africa, the ability to work independently and good IT skills (we use Xero, Google and Office software).

Salary: £18,000 pro rata for 40-hour week

Hours: 8 hours per week (i.e. £3600.00 per annum), hours could be worked flexibly by arrangement.

The post may suit a self-employed bookkeeper and we are open to that possibility.

Place of work: We have an office in Faversham

To apply: Send a copy of your CV together with a covering letter explaining why you are applying for this job and outlining the key skills and experience you would bring to Revd. David Stedman, ceo@africanpastors.org not later than **Friday 26th June**. Interviews will place on Friday 3rd July.

Vacancies to represent SEBA across the area:

SEBA have some vacancies on groups that you may be interested in (see list below).

- Two SACRE vacancies - on the panels, who provide input into how Religious Education is taught and collective worship is undertaken in our schools - the vacancies are in LEA areas of [Surrey](#) and [Medway](#) - click on the area for the role description. If you would like more information about the role of a SACRE representative, our current East Sussex SACRE rep, Peter White, is more than happy to have a chat - if you would like his details, please contact Steph Tidy (admin@seba-baptist.org.uk)
- up to two Trustee vacancies for the Kent Workplace Mission - the KWM work in Kent, Medway, Bromley & Bexley supporting people of faith, at work; developing chaplaincy ministries in workplaces and helping local Christian communities to actively engage with their local economic community. For more information, [go to their website](#)

If you are interested in being involved in this way, please email Steph admin@seba-baptist.org.uk

If you would like to add a church-based, or Christian charity vacancy to the weekly emailing, please let me know admin@sebabaptist.org.uk

Please note, we cannot post vacancies for Church Minister positions, as these should go through Revd Stuart Davison, and the Settlement system.



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