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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



“Remain in me, as I also remain in you.
No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain
in the vine.”

John 15:4

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

"Digital company wins contracts to support prayer and mental health as lockdown triggers surge in accessing faith online"

Lockdown has driven innovation in many sectors – but a digital impact company is at the forefront of perhaps one of the most surprising new developments of all; the thriving relationship between faith and technology.

Digital impact company Better Story has won contracts with two national charities to improve mental and spiritual health, as surveys show that since lockdown one in four (26%) British adults* have prayed for an end to the Covid-19 crisis and for people working on the frontline and a quarter** (24%) of UK adults also say they have watched or listened to a religious service.

Better Story was founded by Baptist Minister the Rev Dan Doherty who trained in IT and videoconferencing before working as a minister and charity CEO. Part of his time is now spent leading the Better Story team who are inspired by their faith to tell stories of the world becoming a better place.

Better Story combines story-telling, video-making, graphic design and app development to help organisations share their messages, and has been commissioned by national charity Hope Together to create a digital resource to help new people understand and engage in prayer and is also working with national charity, The Ugly Duckling Company, to create an digital tool to help young people improve their mental health.

Dan said: *"There was a joke on Twitter a couple of weeks ago that 'the Church had broken the internet' one Sunday morning because of the surge in use by people accessing church online.*

"These are the kinds of phrases we could never have imagined a couple of months ago. But the desire to connect is strong and many churches are embracing the opportunities that a digital presence brings.

"A survey commissioned by the charity Tearfund showed that one in 20 people who are accessing services online have never gone to church.

“With that in mind we are working with Hope Together to help people new to prayer to understand and engage in prayer by creating an animated ‘prayer journey’ and interactive ‘prayer wall’ website. The resource will be available online by mid-July and hopefully also in pop-up shops throughout the country, giving people the opportunity to access free resources to continue their spiritual journey.

“We are excited to be able to help people explore spirituality and faith at a time when Covid-19 has led to many of us asking the bigger questions about life.”

A report by children and young people’s mental health charity, Young Minds***, also found that 32% of young people surveyed felt that coronavirus had made their mental health much worse, whilst more than 50% agreed it had made their mental health a bit worse.

Dan continued: *“We are also working with The Ugly Duckling Company to create 10:10, an innovative resource designed to help young people discover and experiment with ideas that can enable them to develop a happier and full life.*

“It uses film, expert content, group discussions and creative exercises to help young people explore ideas such as purpose, thankfulness, kindness, forgiveness, healthy relationships and coping strategies to help equip them to look after their mind, body and soul.

“The impact of lockdown and coronavirus has been so far-reaching and to be part of giving people tools to find a way through it is hugely rewarding for us. It feels as if churches and faith organisations are just scratching the surface of where the relationship between faith and technology can lead and we are delighted to be part of that journey.”

For more information contact:

Rev Dan Doherty

Mob: 07944473725

Email: dan@betterstory.co.uk

Web: www.betterstory.co.uk

*<https://mediacentre.christianaid.org.uk/embargo-0900am-sunday-10-may-2020brits-praying-for-end->

[to-coronavirus-crisis-for-frontline-workers-and-the-worlds-poor-new-poll-reveals/](#)

**https://www.tearfund.org/en/media/press_releases/many_brits_look_to_faith_during_lockdown/

*** <https://youngminds.org.uk/about-us/reports/coronavirus-impact-on-young-people-with-mental-health-needs/>

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.

Online events

Renew Wellbeing online training:

As you may know we at Renew Wellbeing are offering our training online free during lockdown for any church interested in setting up a Renew Wellbeing space.

We believe this is a key time for the church to be taking a lead in hosting such places of welcome and peace. Renew spaces are simple safe sustainable ways to attend to mental and emotional wellbeing together with prayer habits right at the centre.

Check out what's on offer at www.renewwellbeing.org.uk

We would love you to invite your churches to use the last weeks of lockdown to consider this approach before busyness takes over.

We have an introductory webinar every Monday at 11am and then church teams can help themselves to the next 3 sessions. If they wish to progress then session 5 is with an area coordinator in zoom to help them get started. All zoom invites and sign up with mandy@renewwellbeing.org.uk

Ruth Rice and the Renew team

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 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)

- [A Day to Stop, Look and Listen](#)
- [The Lifecycle of an Emergency](#)
- [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](#)

Racial Justice webinars:

Upcoming

- **The Hostile Environment**
Tuesday 7 July - 19:30 - 20:30
 Speaker: Robert Beckford
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
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
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
https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/580868/In_the_Midst.aspx
- **The Windrush Scandal**
Tuesday 1 September - 19:30 - 20:30
 Speaker: Rosemarie Mallett
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
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

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

Webinars already run can be viewed as a video - click on the title below to access each one.

- [Power, Privilege and Pandemic: The toxic case of Brexit](#) (Speakers: Rosemarie Mallett and Anthony Reddie)

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.

Advice, Resources & Information

An Update from MAF:

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) have put together a 7-minute recording which could be used for online meetings, informing supporters of what they are doing, worldwide, at this time. Also Alan Goldring, MAG's Regional Coordinator for the South East of England is willing to join a Zoom meeting (church meeting, housegroup or prayer meeting) to give a short update, live, and answer questions, if that would be helpful.

Please contact Alan direct for either the 7-minute recording, or to arrange for his to join a meeting, on Alan.Goldring@maf-uk.org 0208 367 8747 or 07900 691358

Information & support from the Baptist Union

Important changes to the job retention scheme and furlough grant claims:

The government have now announced that the job retention scheme is changing with effect from 1 July 2020 and will come to an end on 31 October 2020. If you have used the furlough scheme for one or more staff in the last few months, there is also a new opportunity to use flexible furlough to bring staff back on a part time basis, although there will be reductions in the proportion of pay you can reclaim for all furloughed staff month by month between August and October.

This new guidance note provides more detail on the changes

<https://baptist.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c5e0520fcc236382bf5be8d5c&id=7b85fd6958&e=a6870d81da>

If you have questions, please contact Rachel Stone (HR & Safeguarding Team Leader - BUGB) at HR@baptist.org.uk.

Baptist Building - Empowering Change Fund:

Grants for small churches with big ideas

What is the fund?

Baptist Building Fund has been in existence for almost 200 years and during that time has made many loans to churches all over the UK for building projects. From time to time when churches close the Fund receives the sale proceeds if the original trust deed specifies the Fund as a beneficiary. The Fund recycles most of these proceeds to create new loans to enable other churches to develop their work.

The Fund has now become Baptist Building CIO and as part of the new development, the trustees have decided that in future part of those sale proceeds should be earmarked to establish a fund (The Empowering Change Fund) to enable grants rather than loans to be made to qualifying churches to help fund specific building projects which will directly further the mission and ministry of the church.

Who can apply?

The grants are aimed at helping small churches mainly in rural or deprived urban areas. The following criteria will be applied:

- The church must be in membership of an approved Baptist Association in the UK
- The church should have a regular weekly attendance of no more than 50 adults and a maximum annual income on general fund of £50,000. Evidence of reserves will be taken into account in considering applications.
- The church should have a clear ongoing mission strategy and the proposed building work should form an essential component of enabling that mission strategy to become a reality.

What level of grants will be available?

The maximum grant will be £25,000 and there will be a minimum level of £5,000. The church will be expected to fund at least 30% of the proposed project costs. The grant cannot be used to pay off any debt in existence prior to the proposed project.

What sort of work will be funded?

The work could include (the list is not exhaustive):

- the alteration of the building to improve access;
- alterations to interior to improve use of building and allow new activities;
- adding toilet facilities for the disabled or baby change;
- addition of or improvement to kitchen;
- environmental projects;
- improvements to heating systems;
- improvements to frontage to increase visibility;
- improvements to storage facilities eg to store playgroup equipment.

For more information, click [here to download a copy of the fuller details](#), including how to apply

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.

Jobs & Vacancies

Discipleship Year 2020/21

Children and Youthwork Internship (part-time):

Is God calling you to join us?

This is an exciting opportunity to join in and help our church as we explore and anticipate God's provision, as we seek someone who feels called to join us.

The Setting: Canterbury Baptist Church

Canterbury Baptist Church (CBC) is a welcoming and thriving city-centre community representing the breadth of God's kingdom with many generations and nations worshipping and serving God together. We are a church that seeks to take the life-changing message of Jesus Christ to all with the goal that they become His loyal disciples. More details about us and the job description please email the church office office@canterburybaptistchurch.org.uk

The Role

We need at least one children's and / or youth intern to play a key role in the day-to-day life of CBC, working closely with the Minister, Trustees and church to serve our families.

This opportunity will build upon and extend the work among our children, youth and families: in particular Sunday children's and youth teaching, Little Seeds (our Tuesday morning pre-school group), The Boys Brigade and Girls Association, Family connect (our social and outreach events) Gather and Alive (city wide events). For more details of what this entails, please see the job description.

What we offer

1. Discipleship Year Training (DY)

In addition to the opportunities arising from serving, we are a placement church for the Canterbury New Wine Discipleship Year details of which can be found at <https://www.new--wine.org/missionareas/discipleship-year/canterbury>.

You will have one day a week (8 hours) training alongside interns from other churches in Canterbury.

Your time at CBC, as your placement church would be 12 hours per week.

2. Help towards costs

1. If the intern does not already have local accommodation there is a possibility of providing accommodation, if that is necessary.
2. We will pay the intern's fee of £1,000 for the DY year

3. Additional Specialism

There is the opportunity for an interested intern to also develop or explore a specialism in your discipleship. The particular area itself would be chosen by consultation between the intern and CBC, but given the current ministry of the church, this could be for one of the following:

Worship; preaching; evangelism; local mission; cross-cultural mission; overseas mission; science, the environment and faith; art and faith.

4. Time set aside for part time work

Since the post is part-time (ministry with training would be 22 hours a week), the intern will be encouraged to seek part time work. As it will need to fit around their role at CBC, any post taken should be done with the agreement of the church.

Application Process

Do prayerfully consider joining us by emailing a CV and covering letter expressing

how God has brought you to this point, to office@canterburybaptistchurch.org.uk, by 17th July 2020. Please head your application 'C&Y Internship'. Thank you.

Assistant Chaplain (Band 6) - Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust:

Full Time (37.5 hours per week)

Salary: £36,070 to £42,712 pa. Inclusive of HCAS [15%]

Job ref: 396-2286-CC-OJA

An Assistant Staff Wellbeing Chaplain is required at Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust to work with the Staff Wellbeing Chaplain in the ongoing development of support initiatives as part of our Health & Wellbeing Strategy for staff. This is an exciting opportunity to work in a multi-disciplinary setting, taking a significant role in equipping and inspiring staff to care for their wellbeing and enhance their quality of life.

You will be a graduate or equivalent, in good standing with your relevant professional body or network, with some training in two or more of the following areas: spiritual / pastoral care, theology/ religious studies, counselling, coaching, organisational behaviour or change management or other appropriate areas. With demonstrated experience of developing supportive relationships and working with different cultures and traditions you will be able to take initiative, prioritise, manage and deliver agreed outcomes across a range of activities. You will be a good communicator and team player, committed to the wider aims of the Department of Chaplaincy, Pastoral & Spiritual Support and the Health & Wellbeing strategic agenda. Experience of working in a healthcare, educational, charity, or business setting would be an advantage.

Interview Date: 30 / 31st July 2020 [to be confirmed]

Click [here for more information](#)

Closing date for applications: 05/07/2020 23:59

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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