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Weekly update from the Association Administrator, Steph Tidy



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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. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.”

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

SEBA Notices

SEBA Operations Manager:

We are pleased to announce that, following short-listing and interviews, we can introduce our new SEBA Operations Manager. David Sheldon has accepted the position, and started in his new role last week. Our apologies to Brighton Road, Horsham, for taking their Church Administrator!

Home Mission

Home Mission Grant Applications 2022:

The application packs for the 2022 Home Mission grant applications are now available from Revd Paul Kerley - for any churches wanting to apply, please email him, paul@seba-baptist.org.uk

For any churches have not previously had a Home Mission grant, please [download this guide](#), before requesting all the paperwork - and feel free to call Paul if you have any questions (01580-766020 or 07821-550038).

All application paperwork needs to be returned to Paul by 31 May 2021.

SEBA Training

Available now:

Safeguarding Question and Answer Sessions

If you have completed the online Excellence in Safeguarding Training (below) and have any questions that you would like answered this is an opportunity to ask them.

I am running 45 minute sessions on Zoom to talk through any questions you may have. There will be 9 participants each session.

These are the first dates and times:

- Tuesday 16th March at 2pm
- Tuesday 23rd March at 7.30pm
- Ministers only - Tuesday 30th March at 10am ***New Date***
- Tuesday 20th April at 10.30am ***New Date***

To book a place please email pam.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk with your preferred date and time.

The link to the session will then be forwarded to you.

More dates will follow.

Wendy Mann
SEBA Safeguarding Officer

Safeguarding Training:

As a temporary measure (until we are able to return to face-to-face training) the Baptist Union have brought out an Excellence in Safeguarding Update film.

The Safeguarding Update film covers the key points of both Level 2 and Level 3 training and is accompanied by a Resources Pack that you can download as a PDF. It lasts for 90 minutes and there is a break point in the middle.

This film is for everyone. If you have attended one of our training courses before, we hope that you find the film of help as an update and reminder. If you are new this will get you started in understanding Safeguarding in our Churches.

We ask Churches to pay an administration charge of £5 per person. To access this opportunity please let your church administrator/ treasurer know that you wish to undertake this training and they can then send a cheque addressed to 'South Eastern Baptist Association' to Pam Kerley, 58 Henley Meadows, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6EN or pay by BACS to Reliance Bank, Sort Code: 60-01-73 Account number: 00218212 Ref: 'SGT update'

Please then ask your church to download this form [[click here to download](#)] and when completed email it to pam.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk. *The form can also be downloaded via the Training page of the SEBA website.* On receipt of your booking fee and the completed form Pam will send you the link for the on line training, resource pack and a feedback form, which we need you to complete after you have watched the training video, and return to Pam so that we can note you have completed the update training, and send you your update certificate.

In addition to the training we will be running optional Question and Answer sessions which will last for 45 minutes and have 6 – 10 participants. This will be done over Zoom. Details of accessing these will be given if you contact Pam to register your interest in this additional Session.

Please do take this opportunity to access the training. The coronavirus pandemic continues to affect us all and we need to ensure that our Churches understand how important Safeguarding is in all the situations we find ourselves in.

Events (in date order)

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.

Gospel Pathways – Hope for Those in Financial Distress:

London City Mission online event for church leaders Thursday 25 March 7-7:45pm

This is the challenge we will be discussing at Hope for Those in Financial Distress. The free online live webinar will be a chance to put questions to our panel of missionaries and a Training Director, sharing the good news of Jesus and seeing God at work in an urban mission context. We'll discuss the opportunity for churches to minister into people's lives in the midst of a global pandemic, and we'll look ahead to how this might shape congregations and make our churches better equipped to reach our communities with the good news. Be inspired and encouraged and have the opportunity to put your questions to our panel as they discuss how they have seen the gospel shared.

Book free tickets at www.lcm.org.uk/hope or email churches@lcm.org.uk

If you have any questions, please contact Mark Dullaway at London City Mission mark.dullaway@lcm.org.uk

Online Easter Retreat:

29 March-4 April 2021

Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre is offering an online retreat this Easter.

The story of Easter has the potential to significantly transform our lives, yet all too easily this mystery at the heart of Christian faith is missed, especially in these momentous times we are living in. Take time with us to stop and ponder the significance of the last week in the life of Jesus.

Each day at 10am there will be a time of worship, reflection and sharing led by a CCHC Chaplain. The retreat is by donation and runs 29th March to 4th April (book for the whole 7 days or individual days within the week).

For more information and to book, please visit our website www.crowhursthealing.org.uk

Wintershall's Passion of Jesus:

Good Friday 2 April 2021 - 12 noon and 3 pm - Passion of Jesus Play recorded in

2019 in Trafalgar Square

watch through their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Wintershallplay>

The livestream lasts for 90 minutes. The livestream will be posted on YouTube afterwards for those who missed it. Wintershall are committed to returning to Trafalgar Square on Good Friday 2022 and will perform the Passion of Jesus play together with other towns and cities across the UK as part of their One Good Friday project.

If you require further information please contact them admin@wintershall.org.uk

Seminars & sessions over multiple dates

The Reading Room - a place for women in ministry/leadership to discover and talk about books:

13 April 2021, 11am - 'The Braid' by Laetitia Colombani

8 June 2021, 11am - 'Invisible Women' by Caroline Criado Perez

20 July 2021, 11am - 'Theology Brewed in an African Pot' by Agbonkhianmeghe E Orbator

The purpose of the reading room is to build community and learn together. Reading is a beautiful practice and books invite us to explore and to bring into question other worldviews. Our hope is that the reading room will broaden your resource base and creativity in a way that will help you in your own ministry. We recognise that everyone will have their own response to what they read, and we want this to be an activity and community that serves you in your ministry.

Each meeting will last for one hour. For more information, and details on how to join the zoom call, email Jane Day jday@baptist.org.uk

Click [here](#) for a flyer with more information

Sight Loss Friendly Church Taster sessions for the New Year:

Torch Trust, the Christian sight loss charity, are holding free 30-minute Taster sessions about becoming a Sight Loss Friendly Church (SLFC).

- Thursday 18th March 2pm
- Tuesday 23rd March 2pm

These interactive Zoom sessions offer an opportunity to hear about all the benefits of this free resource, as well as a chance to meet the SLFC team and ask questions. Visit sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk or email slfc@torchtrust.org for more information & to book your place.

Advice, Resources & Information

Operation Agri - Go for Growth in Uganda:

The appeal pack of dvd/memory stick plus other resources can be ordered from www.operationagri.org.uk or email admin@operationagri.org.uk

There is also a link to download videos.

We invite churches especially to support Operation Agri's 60th anniversary year. www.operationagri.org.uk

Information & support from the Baptist Union

Baptist Assembly online 2021 - registration now open:

Shane Claiborne to be keynote speaker at Baptist Assembly 2021 online.

Shane Claiborne is a prominent speaker, activist, and best-selling author. Shane worked with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, and founded The Simple Way in Philadelphia. He heads up Red Letter Christians, a movement of folks who are committed to living 'as if Jesus meant the things he said'. Shane is a champion for grace which has led him to jail advocating for the homeless, and to places like Iraq and Afghanistan to stand against war. Now grace fuels his passion to end the death penalty and help stop gun violence. Register now at www.baptistassembly.org.uk and view this message from Shane here <https://youtu.be/KJj8vZcpCdc>

To host on social channels you can download the video from <https://www.mediafire.com/file/r17pnvo0ljnopuj/ShaneClaiborneIntro.mp4/file>

BUGB Presidential Elections 2022-23:

The election for the 2022-23 BUGB President is now open. All churches (who are members of BUGB, which is all SEBA churches, bar one) are eligible to vote, as are all their Ministers & all Accredited Baptist Ministers in other roles.

Please do make use of those votes - click on this link to see the individual videos, plus their interview videos with Revd Diane Watts (Faith & Society Team Leader) https://baptist.org.uk/Groups/357620/Interviews_with_Presidency.aspx. You

can also download their candidate information [here](#). Details on the Role of the President can be viewed [here](#).

Voting closes on 31 March 2021. Details of how to place your vote will have been sent to all Ministers and Church Secretaries (if you cannot find your voting information, please contact Hilary Treavis at the Baptist Union htreavis@baptist.org.uk)

Coronavirus Essential Guidance:

There have been recent updates to the guidance, so please check out the following:

- [Guidance on re-opening Baptist church buildings](#) (updated 11 March)
- [Guideline Leaflet L18: Covid-19 Coronavirus Legal Issues](#) (updated 11 March)
- [Guidance on church worship](#) (updated 10 March)
- [Coronavirus advice: Children's, youth and families ministry](#) (updated 10 March)
- [Advice for ministers – pastoral visiting](#) (updated 10 March)
- [Further extension of the furlough scheme](#) (9 March)

Please do regularly check the essential guidance page, for any revisions and updates https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/570475/Coronavirus_essential_advice.aspx

Jobs & Vacancies

Worship Leader - Ashtead Baptist Church:

Ashtead Baptist Church is looking for an enthusiastic musician, with a passion for worship, to come and inspire and teach our present worship group that comprises members of various ages. This will not be a paid position, but we would be prepared to pay travelling expenses, in the initial stages. Ideally the required person should live close to Ashtead, and we would hope that this position could grow to be permanent with the candidate becoming a member of the fellowship.

Please email Paul Gyoury gyouryp@gmail.com to discuss this further.

Children & Families Worker - Victoria BC, Eastbourne:

Victoria Baptist Church in Eastbourne is looking to appoint a Children and Families Worker to coordinate children's activities within the church. This will include planning

and resourcing an engaging Sunday School curriculum. The successful candidate will also demonstrate the ability to organise, support and train volunteers, to maintain appropriate relationships with families of children who attend church activities, and to build on existing relationships with local schools. As part of our Family Ministries team, they will be expected to work closely with our Youth Worker.

The role will be 30 hours per week, the majority to be worked in normal office hours with some evening and weekend work on a regular basis.

If you are interested, please contact the VBC office helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk for further information and an application form.

Applications need to be received by the end of the day on Friday April 9th.

Trustee, Retired Baptist Ministers Housing Organisation (RBMHO):

RHBMO is currently looking to appoint new trustees to support the work of the organisation. Its primary charitable objective is to provide housing for retired ministers and their spouses who are unable to secure such accommodation from their own resources.

A profile of the role of the trustee and details of how to make contact are available on the BUGB website at: www.baptist.org.uk/jobs/

The closing date for expressions of interest is 31 March 2021.

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.
