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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

“I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand I shall not be shaken.”

Psalm 16:8

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

Do you have experience with the charity registration process?:

SEBA are hoping to be able to facilitate some online 'interactive' seminars, so if you or anyone at your church has experience of taking a church through the charity registration process, and would be willing to help participate in those seminars, please could you let Steph know admin@seba-baptist.org.uk

SEBA Zoom event to encourage the development of BUEN (Baptist Union Environmental Network):

Tuesday 17 November, 2pm

Open to anyone in our SEBA churches with a heart to learn more about how caring for God's world is part of the good news we are called to share. Please circulate widely within your church, it would be great to have someone representing every church in SEBA.

We want to encourage folk to share ideas, ask questions, so that together we can develop the resources to help our churches play their part in this kingdom initiative.

To join please contact Steph Tidy for the login details (admin@seba-baptist.org.uk).

BUEN - Spanish for 'good' - aims to inspire and enable the Baptists Together network of churches, associations and colleges to:

- recognise the goodness of God's creation
- share in God's mission to care for it and respond to the climate and environmental crisis in practical ways at local, regional and national levels
- work for justice for creation and people impacted by environmental change.

Online resources

We now have 2 items on the Online Resources page; an online meditation about Anxiety and online resources for an evangelistic pre-Alpha course. If you have something suitable, (it must be your own, original, resources) please send me brief description and a link, which will be reviewed before being added to the website. <https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/sebachurches-onlineresources.htm>

Live-Streaming:

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

South Eastern Baptist Women's Ministry:

The Autumn newsletter is now available to download - please [click here](#) to download it.



The Bread of Life project at Strood - see how you can get involved.

SEBA Training

All training events have been cancelled, until further notice

Update on First Aid certificates:

Here is the latest from the HSE. They are now suggesting you need to show you are planning for the future - with that in mind, would any churches needing either new, or to renew, First Aid at Work certificates, please contact Pam Kerley (pam.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk) to register their interest in obtaining the training once it becomes available, as we are looking at provisional dates with our trainer (clearly demonstrating the first criteria - as outlined below - if you are relying on the extension from the HSE):

"FAW or EFAW certificates that expired after 16 March 2020 can remain valid until 31 October 2020 or 6 months from date of expiry, whichever is later. All requalification training for these certificates should be completed by 31 March 2021.

To qualify for the extension, employers must be able to demonstrate that:

1. *they have made every effort to arrange requalification training as soon as possible and can explain in detail why they have not been able to do so. For example, they must show evidence that staff with expired certificates are*

booked on to EFAW or FAW requalification courses, if requested by an inspector

- 2. they have adequate and appropriate equipment and facilities to give first aid to any employee who is injured or becomes ill at work*
- 3. the level of first aid cover provided remains appropriate for their particular work environment"*

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

Sharing the Gospel in the New Normal (London City Mission):

Free Event for Church Leaders

Wednesday 11 November 2020, 7-8pm

During the pandemic Jesus' words 'We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us... The night is coming, and then no one can work' resonated as many gospel initiatives run by the Church were put on hold. Thankfully by God's grace we've seen new ways of reaching people take shape across London, and we'd love to share some of these insights with you and your church leadership.

Be inspired and encouraged and have the opportunity to put questions to our panel as they discuss how the Gospel has been shared in these unprecedented times. Book free tickets at www.lcm.org.uk/newnormal or email churches@lcm.org.uk

SEBA Zoom event to encourage the development of BUEN (Baptist Union Environmental Network):

Tuesday 17 November, 2pm

To join please contact Steph Tidy for the login details.

BMS Action Teams – Online Open Days:

Saturday 28 November, 11am – 12.30pm

and Saturday 9 January, 11am – 12.30pm

BMS Actions Teams is a Christian gap year programme for 18-23 years olds providing the opportunity to serve God around the world. It consists of one month's training, six months overseas, and a two-month UK mission tour.

If you know of people who'd potentially be interested in participating in this programme, then we'd love to see them (and their parents/carers) at one of our online Open Days happening on Saturday 28 November and Saturday 9 January 11 am – 12.30 pm.

These will be fun and engaging opportunities to hear more about the gap year programme and to explore if it's something they would like to apply for.

More information about the online Open Days, including how to book, can be found here: [BMS Action Team Open Days](#).

Advice, Resources & Information

Arts in Mission:

Karen Case-Green (Assistant Minister at Guildford Baptist Church) has written a paper for the Journal of Baptist Theology in Context on "Acts of the Imagination: The Missional

Potential of the Visual Arts in Post Christendom UK" - to read her paper, click here <https://www.jbtc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Journal-of-Baptist-Theology-Issue-2.pdf>

Information & support from the Baptist Union

Coronavirus Essential Guidance:

Please note, the Coronavirus essential guidance is being updated every Thursday, so do make sure you check out the page, each week https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/570475/Coronavirus_essential_advice.aspx

The following was updated since the last emailing:

- [Guidance on re-opening Baptist church buildings](#) (updated 5 November)
- [Advice for ministers – pastoral visiting](#) (updated 5 November)
- [Coronavirus advice: Children's, youth and families ministry](#) (updated 5 November)
- [Guidance on church worship](#) (updated 5 November)
- [Guideline Leaflet L18: Covid-19 Coronavirus Legal Issues](#) (updated 4 November)

You can also download sample health & safety posters, to be used in church here https://baptist.org.uk/Articles/587505/Sample_Posters_for.aspx

Please take time to read these documents.

Following the announcement of a lockdown in England from 5 November, the initial guidance from the Government states:

Places of Worship will be closed, unless they are being used for:

- Funerals
- To broadcast acts of worship
- Individual prayer
- Formal childcare or where part of a school
- Essential voluntary and public services, such as blood donation or food banks
- Other exempted activities such as some support groups

Racial Justice Blog:

Baptists Together has started a Racial Justice Blog, a new space to hear from and reflect on a range of Christian voices on issues of racial justice. The idea for this series of reflections was conceived by our Racial Justice Hub in the wake of the murder of George Floyd and the worldwide protests that followed.

In his introduction our Justice Enabler Wale Hudson-Roberts explains more:

At the heart of this new series of blogs will be a space to listen. Writers from many different perspectives will present their stories. Some will re-visit their own part in creating and maintaining discrimination. Others will recount their experience of being on the receiving end of the very same discrimination. These are all stories that need to be heard.

These blogs will encourage followers of Christ to grapple with fundamental issues of truth: what it is like living as a person of colour in the UK in 2020, and what is like from a white perspective to begin, under The Rule of Christ, to address the distortions created by unchallenged privilege and power.

It is unlikely that these blogs will make easy listening, but this is a matter of justice that is deliberately designed to challenge our intuitive preference for ease. Our hope, in the Racial Justice Hub, is that these blogs and the stories they tell will kindle and sustain new and continuing commitments to justice, both in our churches and in society more widely.

New blogs will be published every Thursday throughout Autumn 2020, all future blogs, plus those already produced, can be viewed via https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/350290/Racial_Justice_Blogs.aspx

The BU regular 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.

Baptist Union advice webinars:

There have been really helpful webinars over the last few months, as we've been dealing with life during a pandemic. The links to the videos of those webinars can be found at <https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338869/Webinars.aspx>

Jobs & Vacancies

Operations Manger - Guildford Baptist Church:

Our Operations Manager Graham Ball will be retiring at the end of the year, and so we are looking to appoint someone to fill this post from 1st January 2021.

The Operations Manager is responsible for the management of most of the non-pastoral aspects of the staff team, including the Millmead Centre building, Hospitality & Lettings, Administration, and some Financial matters, including payroll and HR.

Working hours and salary will be subject to discussion at interview and applicants should be members or willing to become members of Guildford Baptist Church.

Further details, job description, application form etc. are available on request from Graham: graham.ball@guildfordbaptist.org. Applications will close on Monday 9th November, 2020.

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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