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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

“Carry each other’s burdens,
and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.”

Galatians 6:2

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

Don't miss out!

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.

Click on this link to join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81050356614?pwd=M0ZVQ0xoNmZ4ZVh3TTFYeGIUaFpmZz09>

Or log on with:

Meeting ID: 810 5035 6614 Passcode: 552237

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.

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

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.

Joint Public Issues Team - EU Settlement Scheme

'Coffee Break' session - for Church & Community Leaders:

Friday 27 November 2020, 11am

Click here to register

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jpitsettled-coffee-break-session-eu-settlement-scheme-tickets-127152503561>

More information under '[Advice, Resources & Information](#)'

BMS Action Teams – Online Open Days:

Saturday 28 November, 11am – 12.30pm

and Saturday 9 January, 11am – 12.30pm

BMS Action 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](#).

Wintershall - Nativity Winter Walk:

18-21 December 2020

Experience the real Christmas story, as you walk through the beautiful grounds of the Wintershall Estate. Join Mary and Joseph travelling to Bethlehem, meet the Shepherds watching their sheep, spot the Angel as you climb the hill and help the Wise Men find the star. This is a truly unique and magical experience for families.

With pre-booked timeslots, and following Covid 19 guidelines, immerse yourselves in the Nativity, while staying safe. The walk should take 1 ½ hours for a mile long walk through fields and woods across the hills at Wintershall. There is free parking and

hot drinks and refreshments will be available. Tickets are £35 per family group of up to 6 people.

Click [here for a flyer](#)

Advice, Resources & Information

Joint Public Issues Team - EU Settlement Scheme:

There are over 3.5 million EU nationals who call the UK their home. As churches we want to create a society which welcome everyone, valuing the contribution and presence of everyone in our congregations and communities. We want to honour the instruction in Leviticus to make our communities welcoming spaces:

When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt.

Leviticus 19:33-4

But in order for EU citizens to stay in the UK after we leave the EU, they have to apply for a new immigration status, referred to EU Settled Status, by the 30th June 2021.

There has been some concern from campaigners that it may be more difficult for some more vulnerable EU citizens to apply for this scheme: people may not realise they need to apply, or may lack the necessary documentation. The process is also online, which can be more difficult for some people.

We've produced a booklet aimed at church leaders and those who work in the community which signposts some of the available support and outlines the process of application, including information about who in your community or congregation might need support.

Click here to download the booklet <http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/EU-Settled-Status-booklet-final.pdf>

Further support can be found via the charity Settled <https://settled.org.uk/en/>.

The EU have produced booklets in several different European languages aimed at

EU citizens applying to the Settlement Scheme. Find them here.

We're also running a 'coffee break' session with Settled later in the year, aimed at providing church and community leaders with the information they need to support someone who might need to apply.

The session will be at 11am on Friday 27th November and last for a maximum of half an hour. Settled will answer any questions you might have, outline the process of applying, and let you know how best to support someone through an application.

Click here to register for the 'coffee break' session <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jpitsettled-coffee-break-session-eu-settlement-scheme-tickets-127152503561>

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 12 November)
- [Guidance on church worship](#) (updated 12 November)
- [Guideline Leaflet L18: Covid-19 Coronavirus Legal Issues](#) (updated 11 November)

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.

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

Church Operations Manager - Haywards Heath Baptist Church (HHBC), West Sussex:

£29,000 (*pro rata*)

Part-time, 18 month fixed contract, 20 hours per week

Closing date: Tuesday 8 December noon

We are seeking an Operations Manager to join our team. Along with our Minister and staff team, this post is key in enabling growth in the ministry and mission at Haywards Heath Baptist Church (HHBC), in line with our vision. As a faith-based organisation

and place of Christian worship, our beliefs are foundational to everything we do. The post-holder will be expected to share these beliefs, join in the spiritual life of the church and work actively to support our ministry and vision. As such, there is an occupational requirement for the post holder to be a practising Christian in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.

Role Summary: The purpose of the role is to manage the delivery of operations of the church to ensure alignment with the regulatory environment the church operates within.

This position requires professionalism working in close co-operation with the Minister, Staff team and the Officers of the Church. The post holder will need confidence and proven organisational, financial, IT, communication and interpersonal skills.

Applications: Click [here to view the recruitment pack](#) including an application form, or for more information please contact lydia@hbbchurch.org.uk

The deadline for receipt of completed applications is Tuesday 8 December
Interviews will be held Thursday 17 December

Trust Officer - London Baptists (formerly London Baptist Association):

Full Time (35 hours p.w.) Salary circa £35,000 p.a.

We seek to recruit to this important role for Baptist churches in Greater London. After 14 years' service, our current Trust Officer, Jackie Penistone, is retiring in the spring and we plan for a detailed handover.

Working for the London Baptist Property Board (LBPB), and liaising with London Baptists' staff, this role provides advice and guidance to churches on a range of issues, including Charity Commission governance issues, building/redevelopment matters and other premises topics.

The role encompasses providing technical advice on complex matters as well as a range of administrative functions. Ideally holding a qualification in a relevant area, knowledge of charity law and regulations, plus building/development issues is required, plus communication skills - written and verbal. The postholder will need to be in sympathy with the Christian aims and objectives of the LBPB.

Application pack from London Baptists Administrator, Norman Kincaid (norman.kincaid@londonbaptist.org.uk); completed applications to be returned by Wednesday, 2nd December 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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