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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

“For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6

### 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](mailto:admin@seba-baptist.org.uk)

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## SEBA Notices

**SEBA Office:**

Please note, the SEBA office will be closed from midday on Wednesday 23 December, and will open again on Monday 4 January.

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**Staff holiday:**

Please note:

- Revd Paul and Pam Kerley are on annual leave from today until 29 December.
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**Home Mission Focus:**

Revd Paul Kerley has started up the Home Mission Focus newsletters again, and the one for January is available now to download ([click here](#)).

If anyone would like to receive the SEBA Home Mission Focus that he sends out each month (by email), giving updates on our own Home Mission supported churches as well as other Home Mission supported churches around the 13 Baptist Association please can you [email Pam](#), and she will add you to the distribution list.

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**South Eastern Baptist Women's Ministry:**

Their Christmas letter is available to download, from the SEBA website <https://docs-eu.livesiteadmin.com/1d1909c2-379f-4c73-943d-9de6d740f152/sebwm-christmas-letter-2020.pdf>

## SEBA Training

**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 email [pam.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk](mailto:pam.admin@seba-baptist.org.uk) your name and your church and your own email address. On receipt of your booking fee and your name and email address 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.

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#### **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](mailto: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.*

### **Shine a Light:**

*Monday 21 December 2020*

On the darkest day in the calendar (December 21st) we are hoping and praying that as many people around the UK as possible will display a light in their window. Continue to light it until Christmas Day. This is part of CPO's #ShareTheLight campaign this Christmas.

To celebrate and thank those who have been lights to our nation this year. and support those who have suffered: physically, emotionally, mentally, financially, spiritually.

You can sign up to this and they will send you a message Monday 21st December to remind you to 'Shine a Light'.

<https://www.sharethelight.co.uk/register>

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### **BMS Action Teams – Online Open Day:**

*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 our online Open Day happening on Saturday 9 January 11 am – 12.30 pm.

This will be a 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](#).

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**Spurgeon's College Live Virtual Open Day:**

*Saturday 23 January 2021, 10am-12 noon*

Ministerial/leadership training courses, Pastoral supervision course, Counselling courses, Lay training courses are just a few of the courses Spurgeon's College will be offering from September 2021.

Join us from the comfort of your home on Saturday 23rd January

There will be online presentations as well as academic and professional staff to answer your questions.

Please register via our website <https://www.spurgeons.ac.uk/open-events/>.

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**Emotional Rollercoaster training:**

*Wednesday 10 February 2021, 10am-1pm*

The online training offers therapeutic responses, approaches and activities to explore emotional health - it is especially relevant for supporting children who may be experiencing emotional distress, particularly during this difficult time of lockdown and COVID-19. During our time together will be looking at the following:

- What is emotional health?
- How can we handle big emotions?
- What does effective Emotional First Aid look like?
- How can we learn to reduce stress for ourselves and others?

TLG has over 21 years' experience equipping churches to understand and walk alongside children and families who are struggling with their emotional and mental wellbeing. We have taken this knowledge and turned it into our comprehensive 'The Emotional Rollercoaster' resource to equip your Church to support children in your community during this difficult season.

To book yourself on the training, click here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-emotional-rollercoaster-south-eastern-ba-private-event-tickets-130001936291>

## Advice, Resources & 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 21st January 2pm
- Tuesday 26th January 2pm
- Tuesday 23rd February 7pm
- Wednesday 24th February 2pm
- 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](http://sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk) or email [slfc@torchtrust.org](mailto:slfc@torchtrust.org) for more information & to book your place.

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### **Kent Workplace Mission:**

Their latest newsletter is available to download ([please click here](#)) - also, Jacky, their Team Support Coordinator is taking early retirement in May next year - they will be advertising the role mid-January, but if you are interested (or know anyone who is) and would like more information about the role, please email Jacky on [admin@kentworkplacemission.org](mailto:admin@kentworkplacemission.org)

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### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021 (CTBI):**

WPCU in 2021 has been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. The theme that was chosen, "*Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit*", is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the printed version of the resources will not be available to order.

- For more information visit: [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021](#)
- To download resources visit: [Resources for the Week of Prayer 2021](#)

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### **Equipped to Minister:**

Equipped to Minister is a training course for members of local churches which aims to equip them to preach, to pastor and to serve in local churches. The course follows a

curriculum agreed by all Baptist Colleges in the UK and the Baptist Union. It is therefore acceptable to the Baptist Union, when accompanied by satisfactory Association ministerial recognition outcomes, as a pathway of training for those seeking Union recognition as preachers or lay pastors.

This course is currently being delivered digitally by a team of experienced trainers who provide both digital and written material. The course is flexible. Participants can choose to attend individual modules, the modules they are interested in or the whole course. Students book in for a module at a time and therefore can take a break from the course if necessary and return later to attend the modules they have yet to complete.

Course dates are available to [download here](#)

Details about the course and how to apply are available on the Spurgeon's College website - <https://www.spurgeons.ac.uk/equipped-to-minister-course/> or email [admissions@spurgeons.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@spurgeons.ac.uk)

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## Information & support from the Baptist Union

### **Coronavirus Essential Guidance:**

Please note, the Coronavirus essential guidance has been updated to reflect the introduction of tier 4 Covid alert level of 'Stay at Home' in England. Please do make sure you check out the page, regularly, for any revisions and updates [https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/570475/Coronavirus\\_essential\\_advice.aspx](https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/570475/Coronavirus_essential_advice.aspx)

The following has been updated:

- [Guidance on church worship](#) (updated 20 December)
- [Coronavirus advice: Children's, youth and families ministry](#) (updated 20 December)
- [Guidance on re-opening Baptist church buildings](#) (updated 20 December)
- [Advice for ministers – pastoral visiting](#) (updated 20 December)
- [Guideline Leaflet L18: Covid-19 Coronavirus Legal Issues](#) (updated 16 December)

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### **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](https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/350290/Racial_Justice_Blogs.aspx)

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The BU regular Wednesday, 7pm prayer broadcasts can be viewed here [https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer\\_broadcasts.aspx](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

### **Children's & Families' Worker - Eden Church, Edenbridge:**

The Eden Church, Edenbridge are seeking a children's' and families worker to engage and lead activities with parents/carers and younger children. This position is initially for six months, on a 3 days per week basis, but with scope to extend to a permanent role. Please contact Jessica Martin (Trustee) for further details [jessicaamartin07@gmail.com](mailto:jessicaamartin07@gmail.com).

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### **Chaplain - Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust:**

£31,364-£37,890 pa

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust provides mental health and learning disability services across Sussex and Hampshire. We treat over 100,000 patients per year, and employ 5000 staff. We are seeking to appoint a Christian chaplain to join our team, in this demanding but hugely rewarding role, to serve in the Mid Sussex region.

This is an ideal opportunity for someone looking to further their vocation to mental health chaplaincy. This full time (37.5 hour) appointment will be based in the hospitals at Mill View, Hove , Langley Green, Crawley and Meadowfield, Worthing and work will involve supporting service users in the community and liaising with faith communities.

You will be:

- An ordained minister of a Christian Church with experience of spirituality and mental health and the interaction between the two

- A person of patience, warmth and hope
- A team player, capable of initiative and independence
- Happy to work alongside people of all faiths and none to offer person-centred care
- A champion of Equality and Human Rights.
- A person with lived experience of spirituality and mental health

Experience within mental healthcare, or a similar environment is not essential. Training will be given to support the new chaplain in his or her work. You will be working with people across the age spectrum, some of whom will be in hospital for long periods.

You are welcome to contact Father Simon Hobbs, Spirituality Team Leader, to discuss this post on 07789 272508 or by email at [simon.hobbs@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk](mailto:simon.hobbs@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk)

For more information, and to apply for the role, please go to <https://www.indeed.co.uk/viewjob?from=appshareios&jk=f6c422de16897178>

Enhanced DBS clearance is required.

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### **Children & Families Worker - Victoria Baptist Church, 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 ([colin@victoriabaptist.org.uk](mailto:colin@victoriabaptist.org.uk)) for further information and an application form. Applications need to be received by the end of the day on Thursday December 31st; but enquiries need to be made by Thursday December 24th.

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### **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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@seba-baptist.org.uk)

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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](mailto: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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