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Weekly update from the Association Administrator, Steph Tidy



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To move to a specific section, click on the link

[SEBA Notices](#) / [SEBA Training](#) / [Events \(in date order\)](#) / [Seminars](#)

[& Sessions \(multiple dates\)](#) / [Helpful Links](#) / [Advice, Resources &](#)

[Information](#) / [Jobs & Vacancies](#) / [vacancies for SEBA](#)

[representatives](#)

New or updated items are **highlighted in yellow**/or blue

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen ”

Ephesians 3: 20-21

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

Safeguarding Note

Coronavirus – safeguarding considerations for Baptist churches as restrictions start to relax:

As we begin to move out of Covid restrictions the Baptist Union have written a very helpful guidance note for Churches (click [here](#) to download the guidance).

This short note looks at safeguarding considerations for churches as we start to see restrictions being relaxed and the return to limited face to face contact in small groups.

As we start to think about the re-opening of our churches and our work within the community we will still need to review our safeguarding approach to make sure that we are in step with the latest government guidelines. The note gives you some things to consider as you take steps forward.

If I can support in anyway please do get in touch with me.

safeguarding@seba-baptist.org.uk

07545 686143

With many thanks

Wendy (Regional Safeguarding Officer)

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.

SEB Women's Ministry

Newsletter:

The latest newsletter is available to download - click [here to download it](#)

Zoom Quiet Morning:

We will be holding another Zoom Quiet Morning on April 24th at 10.00am. The title is "He restores my soul". The format will be similar to last time with some extra time in the breakout rooms for sharing and praying. All are welcome - We look forward to seeing you and spending some quiet time together in the presence of Jesus.

Click [here to download a poster](#)

Please contact Corinne for the Zoom link: Tel: 01303 812603 / email: cch65@hotmail.com

'Sitting At Jesus' Feet' - Weekend Retreat:

Friday 15-Sunday 17 October 2021

Oast Houses Christian Retreat Centre, nr Northiam, East Sussex

A retreat weekend for those who, like Mary, wish to sit at Jesus' feet and fix their eyes on him.

The cost is £160 per person, payable on booking.

Click [here to download a flyer](#)

Click [here to download a booking form](#)

SEBA Training

Mental Health training:

Ministers were emailed last week with details of Mental Health training available (from free video resources, to full Mental Health First Aid) - for more information, please check out <https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/training.htm>

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 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 (+ optional 45-minute Q&A session, via Zoom, for those who would appreciate the opportunity of the extra support)

For more details about booking, please go to the [training page](#) on our website.

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.

Join the Baptist Assembly service:

Sunday 16 May 2021, 10.30-11.30am

Online

Speaker: Shane Claibourne

Churches are encouraged to join together with the Baptist Assembly Sunday morning service to share together in worship as one whole Baptist family.

To register your church to take part, please click on this link to register https://www.baptist.org.uk/PaymentGroup/Registration.aspx?group_id=358303

Seminars & sessions over multiple dates

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

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

Advice, Resources & Information

Churches Together England - new logo quest:

CTE are looking for someone to design their new Forum logo - the inspiration for the logo should be the theme for the 2022 Forum - Reconciling Hope - a broken Church for a broken World. For more information, and the chance to win £200, check out their [website](#).

Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre:

Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre are re-opening their Café, Howard's Well from 4th May. Howard's Well will be open Monday to Friday 8.30am-3.30pm and now includes the option of a cooked breakfast before 10.30am. There will be an optional public act of worship daily at 10am in the large chapel. We are also accepting residential bookings from 18th May. Please see our website for more information and to book a stay www.crowhursthealing.org.uk

Sailor's Society - Sea Sunday 2021:

Seafarers have helped all of us cope during this difficult year. Thanks to them, our fears about running out of the essentials at the start of the pandemic were short-lived. They refilled our empty supermarket shelves, and put an end to panic buying. Seafarers are in great need of your prayers this year. During the coronavirus pandemic, they've felt more isolated and have been called upon to make more painful sacrifices than ever before.

The UN has called their situation a “humanitarian crisis”. In an extreme version of lockdown, at the height of the crisis some 400,000 seafarers were stranded at sea long after their contracts ended, as covid restrictions prevented them from travelling home to their loved ones. Many of these are still waiting to go home.

They’ve had to continue working, without any rest days, breaks or often even the opportunity to set foot on dry land – for up to 17 months. A similar number have been unable to travel to work to make money to feed their families.

Sea Sunday 2021 is on July 11, but you can mark the day on any Sunday of the year. With so many churches still in lockdown, they've made a short, narrated presentation about the situation facing seafarers, which you can share with your church on social media or add into your service, whether it's online or in a church building. <https://www.sailors-society.org/sea-sunday-2021>

Important changes to the registration of marriages!!!!

The Civil Partnerships, Marriages and Deaths (Registration etc.) Act 2019 - the Act had successfully completed its passage through Parliament and attained Royal Assent on 26 March 2019.

The House of Lords approved the draft Registration of Marriages Regulations 2021 on 23 March 2021 - and the new regulations will come into force on 4 May 2021; meaning as from 4th May 2021, the registration of marriages will become electronic

If you are the Authorised Person at your church, you should have been receiving the regular newsletters, however, if you haven't, details of how to access the training information, can be found

here [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/970238/Authorised Person Newsletter 14th Edition March 2021_V1.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/970238/Authorised_Person_Newsletter_14th_Edition_March_2021_V1.pdf)

All of the newsletters can be accessed

here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/authorised-persons-newsletters>

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/r17pnvo0ljinopuj/ShaneClaiborneIntro.mp4/file>

Coronavirus Essential Guidance:

The guidance was updated last week, and the following has been added/amended:

- [Guidance on re-opening Baptist church buildings](#) (updated 16 April)
- [Safeguarding considerations for Baptist churches](#) (updated 15 April)
- [Guidance on church worship](#) (updated 15 April)
- [Advice for ministers – pastoral visiting](#) (updated 15 April)
- [Coronavirus advice: Children's, youth and families ministry](#) (updated 15 April)

Please do keep checking back on the essential guidance page, to ensure the advice you are using is the most up-to-date

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/570475/Coronavirus_essential_advice.aspx

Jobs & Vacancies

Full-Time Children's, Youth and Families' Worker - Pembury Baptist Church:

For this role we are hoping to find:

- A prayerful follower of Jesus
- A person of integrity able to relate to all ages
- A leader with initiative able to inspire others
- Someone organised, committed and able to delegate/work well alongside others
- Someone with relevant experience

Deadline for applications: 23rd May 2021

For more information and to download the job description and application form:

<https://www.pemburybaptistchurch.org/Connect/Vacancy>

Pastoral Care Assistant St Barnabas House hospice, Worthing:

Hours: 20 hours per week

Salary: £12,080 - £13,002 p.a depending on depth and variety of experience in a similar role (F.T.E. £22,650 - £24,380)

Closing date: Thursday 6 May

Interviews expected: Monday 17 May

St Barnabas House provides specialist palliative care to adults in the Worthing, Adur, Arun and Henfield areas through a range of services, including in-patient care and community living well services.

We are looking for a theologically and pastorally competent person, who is grounded in their own faith tradition. You will need to be theologically inclusive, to assist in the provision of spiritual and emotional support to patients who are under the care of the hospice, together with their families and carers.

This role will include:

- Assessing the spiritual, psychological and religious needs of patients, their family members and carers, planning interventions accordingly
- Providing spiritual and pastoral support and advice to patients, their family members and carers
- Providing religious services within the hospice
- Participating in and, where appropriate, taking responsibility for events linked to the hospice's provision of bereavement support
- The provision of emergency chaplaincy cover to Chestnut Tree House

For informal conversation please contact Stephen Gurr (Lead Chaplain) on 01903 706374.

Check out <https://www.stbarnabas-hospice.org.uk/jobs/pastoral-care-assistant/> for an application form, job description and staff benefits.

An enhanced DBS will be sought, if you are successful in this role. The safe recruitment of staff at St Barnabas Hospices is the first step to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults in our care. As an employer we expect all staff and volunteers to share our commitment to safeguarding.

Baptists Together Hong Kong Response Co-ordinator:

Last year the UK government made a pledge to the people of Hong Kong after the introduction of new security laws following pro-democracy demonstrations. That promise came into effect at the end of January 2021 and it is estimated that between 130,000 and 300,000 people from Hong Kong will be arriving in the UK over the next year. Whilst many of those arriving will be leaving Hong Kong as economic migrants there will be some who will need to leave for their own safety. As Baptists Together we want to respond in a way that is both welcoming to Baptist ministers needing to leave Hong Kong, as well as encouraging our churches to become centres of welcome for those arriving in the country.

We have secured three years of funding from the Baptists Together Strategic Mission Budget for a Response Co-ordinator. This person will be responsible for: liaising with church leaders seeking to leave Hong Kong, connecting them with local Baptist congregations; encouraging Baptist churches to be places of welcome for migrants from Hong Kong; networking and enabling training for the migrant ministers and the churches involved in offering welcome.

This is a post within the Baptists Together Faith and Society Team for approximately 14 hours per week (0.4fte) at £24,500 pro rata.

Click [here for the full job description](#)

Please apply by sending a copy of your CV along with the names of three referees and a covering letter that explains why you are applying, to Rachel Stone at: opportunities@baptist.org.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday 7 May 2021.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 21 May 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.



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