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Weekly update from the Association Administrator, Steph Tidy 01444-233431 admin@seba-baptist.org.uk

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New or updated items are [highlighted in yellow/or blue](#)

The Lord hears the needy and does not despise
his captive people.

Psalm 69:33

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

Could you be a Safeguarding Trainer?:

In the Baptist family locally and nationally we provide a range of safeguarding training resources for churches, designed to meet the needs of the wider church as well as the ministers, staff, helpers and volunteers who work with children, young people and adults at risk.

During lockdown, we have provided a 90-minute safeguarding update film and in SEBA we have had over 700 individuals access this training.

As we move along the Covid journey we are looking to return to face-to-face training in early Spring 2022. SEBA are looking to increase the number of trainers so that we can provide training across our region.

The training itself is written and updated by our National Safeguarding Team in conjunction with the members of the National Safeguarding Contacts Group. We work hard to ensure consistency of training content and delivery so that we can be confident that churches are receiving the right content, tailored for the needs of Baptist churches.

Would you be interested in becoming a trainer for SEBA?

It would be great if you are and in the first instance could get in touch with Wendy Mann (SEBA's Safeguarding Officer) either by [email](#) or phone (07545-686143). There is a helpful pack that sets out all the details of what it entails that can be forwarded to you. This explains about how to become a safeguarding trainer for the Baptist Union of Great Britain within SEBA. The pack would help you to consider whether you have the right skills, experience and passion to join our team of trainers, and gives you a good overview of our training approach.

Leading in Evangelism:

Wednesday 17 November 2021, 9.30am-3pm

Horley Baptist Church, RH6 8RG

We are living in times when evangelism can be something of an embarrassment to the church, and when our church members can lack confidence in sharing the gospel. Sometimes we, as church leaders, are not quite sure what to do in the challenging times in which we live and the pandemic has made things even more difficult.

This day, which will be led by John Valentine, aims to help us focus again on the gospel as the centre of spiritual power and life and growth, and to think about how we can best lead our churches in evangelism. This day is part of our training for Newly Accredited Ministers but we have capacity to include fifteen other ministers.

The cost for the day is £25 per person and includes a light lunch and refreshments.

For more information or to book your place, please [click here](#)
Book before 1 November 2021.

Working it out together - A series of three conversations resourcing pastors & leaders for what's next:

on Zoom - 23 September, 21 October & 25 November 2021, midday

As we emerge from a complex and challenging 18 months our churches face complex and challenging conversations and decisions. We want to open a space for ministers and congregational leaders in which we can hear from one another, reflect and learn together so that we can glorify God and see his Kingdom come across our region.

- Conversation 1 - 23rd September: Biblical priorities with Pieter Lalleman
- Conversation 2 - 21st October: Pastoral priorities with Graham McBain
- Conversation 3 - 25th November: Missional priorities with Kate Whiting

All these conversations are hosted by Rob Stevens (North Downs Network Minister) and start at 12 noon for an hour

If you would like to register to attend, please click [here](#) to book a place (the zoom access codes will be emailed to you a few days before hand).

SEBA Training

Core Leaders Training:

Saturdays 13 & 20 November 2021, 9.30am-12.30pm (9.15am for coffee)

Redhill Baptist Church, RH1 6AE

We are running face-to-face training for Elders & Deacons - the course (over two Saturday mornings) cover:

- Church Leadership
- Trusteeship
- Spiritual Life of the Core Team
- Working Together
- Decision Making
- Mission / Pastoral Care

The cost is £26 for the full course (£13 per Saturday) and includes the course materials. Attendance of both mornings is required to complete the course.

To book, click [here](#). For any queries, please email [Pam](#) or [Paul](#) or call them on 01580-766020. Click [here](#) to download a poster

Please book before 1 November (spaces are limited).

Safeguarding Training:

Until we are able to return to face-to-face training, the Baptist Union have produced an Excellence in Safeguarding Update film. To book onto the training, please go to our [new website](#) and follow the instructions

COP26 & Climate Change

BUEN (Baptist Union Environment Network) & COP 26:

A number of people have asked what is COP 26 and how do we pray for it? On behalf of the Baptist Union Environmental Network myself and Dave Gregory have put together [a prayer guide](#). Please consider circulating it within your church so we can maximise prayer as we move towards the COP 26 conference in Glasgow (being held from 31 October-12 November 2021). - *Trevor Beckett*

God & COP26 - Creation Hope webinar:

Tuesday 2 November 2021, 12 noon-1pm

If you're interested in COP26 and the climate crisis, do join Creation Hope webinar on Tuesday 2 November, 12 noon to 1pm, FREE event. Speakers are Dave Bookless, Director of Theology at A Rocha; Caroline Pomeroy Director of Climate Stewards joining LIVE from COP26; and Helen Stephens, Church Relations Manager for Eco Church with Polly Eaton from Tring Baptist Church (Eco Church Gold Award). Co-hosts are Jo Swinney and Louisa Lockwood. Find out more at [Eventbrite](#)

Creation Hope is run by the Methodist Church

#CountdownToCOP26 - The Joint Public Issues Team:

COP26 takes place in Glasgow at the end of this month! Take some time in the coming weeks to get up to speed with what COP26 is, what we're hoping will happen there and how you can get involved.

Got 3 minutes? Watch [our video](#) on what COP26 is and why our churches are getting involved.

Got 10 minutes? Read [our briefing](#) on what is happening at COP26 and the key issues on which we think world leaders and the UK should take action

Got 20 minutes? Send a [prayer boat and letter](#) to your MP, to ask them to be part of making COP26 a success.

Got longer? Join Hannah from JPIT and others [online at an event hosted by the New Room](#), Bristol, on Monday 25 October. They will be exploring COP26 in more depth and talking about how you can get engaged in the conference.

Want to know what our church leaders are saying on COP26? Read the [Glasgow Multi-Faith declaration](#).

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.

Sight Loss Friendly Church Taster Sessions:

various dates from 26 October 2021-24 January 2022

Every 6 minutes someone in the UK starts to lose their sight. Sight Loss Friendly Church (SLFC), from Torch Trust, the UK Christian sight loss charity, are pleased to announce further dates of our popular Tasters. These 30 minute Zoom sessions offer the opportunity to hear all the benefits of SLFC, meet the SLFC team and ask your questions.

Sessions available are:

- Tuesday 26 October at 2:00 PM
- Wednesday 10 November at 2:00 PM
- Tuesday 16 November at 11:00 AM
- Wednesday 12 January at 2:00 PM
- Monday 24 January at 2:00 PM

To register please visit <https://www.sightlossfriendlychurch.org.uk/taster>. For more information please email SLFC@torchtrust.org.uk

Spurgeon's Taster Days MA in Digital Theology:

15 November, or 6 December, 7.30pm-8.30pm

Welcome! You are invited to join a meeting: Exploring Digital Theology at Spurgeon's. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the meeting.

What have we learned during the Pandemic? Listen to Dr Pete Phillips on Missional Digitally and find out more about the MA in Digital Theology from Dr Jonas Kurlberg. Linda Campbell will share how to apply with Spurgeon's.

Register here: [Monday 15 November](#) 7.30pm-8.30pm, [Monday 6 December](#) 7.30-8.30pm

Working it out together - A series of three conversations resourcing pastors & leaders for what's next:

on Zoom - (first two have happened) Thursday 25 November 2021, midday

All these conversations are hosted by Rob Stevens (North Downs Network Minister) and start at 12 noon for an hour

- Conversation 3 - 25th November: Missional priorities with Kate Whiting

For more information and/or to book, click [here](#)

The Nativity at Wintershall:

15-20 December 2021

Wintershall Estate, Bramley, GU5 0LR

Walk with Mary, Joseph and the donkey on the winding, steep road to Bethlehem.

Register for the census and journey with other travellers, Roman soldiers and shepherds as you enter the stable to watch the miracle unfold. The Wintershall Nativity Journey is an unforgettable experience, bringing the true meaning of Christmas to life for the whole family.

For more information, please [download a flyer](#), which includes booking details.

Please note that some scenes are performed outside and some inside Holly Barn Theatre, your visit includes a 10 minute walk up a steep hill. Limited disabled parking is available for those who need it most next to Holly Barn Theatre but those parking there will miss the first scene. This must be prebooked by emailing admin@wintershall.org.uk.

Should a performance be cancelled due to covid they will offer refunds or credits to another event.

Holy Land tour:

11-19 May 2022

Postponed from this autumn to May 2022 there are a few spare places in the next Introductory Tour led by Rev David Ronco. This nine day trip is ideal for first time visitors exploring key Biblical sites in Galilee, Nazareth, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. As well as walking where Jesus walked the trip also provides unique opportunities to meet local Christians and understand how the Lord is working today through his church in Israel/Palestine. For more information visit www.baptistwinningisrael.org.uk or contact David on dcronco@gmail.com

Advice, Resources & Information

Information & support from the Baptist Union

Webinars

Discernment, dialogue and the Church Meeting:

Thursday 4 November 7-8pm

A way forward, hosted by Project Violet

Use [this link](#) to register for the event.

Whitley Lecture 2021 "Does This Cross Have Disabled Access?":

Wednesday 17 November 2021, 7pm

'Disability and sin often appear together in the Bible, which is awkward.' On 17 November 7pm the Whitley Lecture in partnership with the disability justice group will present an online lecture with Q&A 'Does This Cross Have Disabled Access? With David McLachlan, Sally Nelson and Debra Reid. Join [here](#).

Coronavirus Essential Guidance:

The last update to guidance was on 5 October, so 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

Report from recent Baptist Union Council:

If you haven't already done so, please take the opportunity to read the report [here](#).

Jobs & Vacancies

Vacancies to represent SEBA across the area:

SEBA have some vacancies on groups that you may be interested in (see list below).

- Three 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 Medway](#) and [West Sussex](#)- 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.