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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

"Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge."

Psalm 62:8

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

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).

If Wendy (SEBA's Safeguarding Officer) can support in anyway please do get in touch with her safeguarding@seba-baptist.org.uk 07545 686143

SEB Women's Ministry

Newsletter:

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

'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

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)

- We have had a huge response to the Excellence in Safeguarding Training Update which has been very positive. This will continue to be available to all who require training for safeguarding going forward. For us to be able to manage this we will be changing the booking system. After May 31st you will not be able to book training through Pam, whilst we transfer the access to an on line booking system. *This means there will be no availability for booking the training during the whole month of June (this does not affect the viewing availability of the training video, for those who have already booked it).* Anyone who has already signed up, paid and received the link to

the film but has not emailed the feedback form back to Pam needs to do so by **Friday 11th June** in order to be able to receive a confirmation certificate.

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.

Walking The Parables of Jesus:

Wintershall (Bramley, GUILDFORD, GU5 0LR)

Friday 2 (10am-2.30pm) & Saturday 3 (10am-12.30pm & 2-4.30pm) July 2021

(each session on 3 July is followed by a 'bring your own' picnic, in the grounds)

Our powerful biblical outdoor drama takes you back in time to just after Jesus' death recreating his life changing teachings.

Walk from scene to scene through the beautiful grounds of the Wintershall estate with its lakes and ancient woodland, witnessing the re-enactment of the remarkable and unforgettable Parables of Jesus.

Tickets: Adult: £20 / Student (19-25): £12 / Child (3-18 yrs): £10

Family (2 adults and 2 children): £50

Click [here](#) for a flyer.

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

Providing hope in the midst of anxiety and depression:

Hope in Depression is a Christian charity on a mission to provide education, support and, most importantly, community for people suffering with depression and/or anxiety – and for their supporters. To this end, the charity has developed the highly acclaimed Hope in Depression course, which has already helped hundreds of people – with over 95% of attendees reporting an improvement in their mental health as a result of attending.

Typically delivered over six weeks – either in person (as Covid restrictions allow) or online via Zoom – courses are delivered by local church partners, who integrate them into their programme of activities. The format is similar to that of the Alpha Course, with each two-hour session including videos, small-group discussions, plenary discussions and the opportunity to share stories and experiences.

Hope in Depression is aware of increasing levels of anxiety and depression in society – not least because of the Covid pandemic – and it's looking to ramp up its provision. In support of this, the charity is actively looking to expand its network of church partners, and SEBA have been asked to encourage local Baptist churches to prayerfully consider their involvement. Church partners used to have to pay a fee to run the course, but it's now free of charge as part of the charity's Covid relief strategy; all that's needed is a willing course leader and enough facilitators for the number of attendees. Full training is provided – also free of charge.

If this is something you would like to explore further, Lisa Owens – the charity's founder and CEO – would love to hear from you! Lisa is planning a short Zoom call with any interested church leaders, to provide more information and answer any questions. To register your interest, please e-mail lisa.owens@hopeindepression.org.

For more background information, please visit the charity's web site: www.hopeindepression.org.

Introducing the YMCA DownsLink Challenge!:

YMCA DownsLink Group is a charity working to prevent youth homelessness across Sussex and Surrey. Through our youth advice centres, community and school counselling services, family mediation and other youth focussed services, we provide support to 10,000 children, young people and families each year.

On Saturday 17th July, we're inviting you to take on the 16-mile YMCA DownsLink Challenge from Horsham to Shoreham-by-Sea to help us put young people experiencing homelessness back on the path to independence.

Following the Downs Link pathway which links the North and South Downs (and which gave our charity its name!), the route contains tree-lined embankments, wide open fields and lovely views. You are welcome to walk or run the route, or take part in your own space with our remote option!

Secure your place at www.ymcadlg.org/ymca-downslink-challenge/

Virtual Holiday Club from 4Front Theatre:

Are you planning a Holiday Club this year?

If so, you may have some concerns about how to do so in a post-COVID world, even with social distancing measures and restrictions relaxed, there will no doubt still be obstacles to navigate. I'm writing to let you know we've released an online resource which we hope will be invaluable to local churches organising IN-PERSON events across the UK – Virtual Holiday Club!

Virtual Holiday Club is an online resource featuring dramatized bible stories, crafts, songs, games and competitions. Streamed live on YouTube from Monday 9th – Friday 13th August, our virtual holiday club is available to watch for FREE from home or your church building.

Following the success of last year's VHC (which over 15,000 children and families tuned in to – you can check out a highlight reel here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i80WXJY4qgI>) we're bringing it back bigger and better than ever, but this year we're looking to partner with local churches for IN-PERSON events.

We have designed a church pack full of all the information and details you will need

to run a local holiday club alongside Virtual Holiday Club. The pack is £15 and is available to download from our website <https://www.virtualsundayschooluk.com/products/virtual-holiday-club-church-pack>– you can even get a shoutout for your church LIVE on the show!

Virtual Holiday Club has been designed by the team at 4Front Theatre. We are a charity that aims to produce shows and performances that are entertaining and thought-provoking for people of all ages, yet ultimately, we exist to create theatre that puts faith at the 4front.

During the past year we have also produced Virtual Sunday School, a free weekly resource available for free on our YouTube Channel, we now have over 6K subscribers and our videos receive over 1k views each week. Check out our YouTube channel here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMu2bG8L2dp7ywUZVa9uXDA>

Kent Workplace Mission:

You can download their [2020 Annual Review](#), along with their [2021 AGM Minutes](#)

Information & support from the Baptist Union

Coronavirus Essential Guidance:

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

- [Guidance on church worship](#) (updated 27 May)

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

F/T Families & Children's Pastor - Milford Baptist Church;

Salary: from £25,000.

This is an exciting period for the church as we develop a new vision for a new decade. We've reviewed and renewed our Church Values to reflect this. Throughout the Covid 19 lockdown and restrictions our volunteers have maintained contact with 19 mostly unchurched families via weekly craft packs for the children, as well as meeting with the young people, with social distancing, whenever this was possible. What is clear is that children, youth and families are at the heart of our new vision.

We are seeking someone with a passion for Jesus and a real desire to work with children and families:

- As a member of the Church Leadership Team, to play a key part in devising and delivering a strategy for the growth of the families and children's ministry
- To develop and foster relationships with families in the community and create opportunities for them to find and grow in faith
- To support and engage parents and carers in the life of the church
- To nurture families and children in their spiritual walk
- To network with the local community through other local churches, schools and other agencies to provide outreach activities and develop new ones.

It is an occupational requirement that the post holder be a Christian.

For more information about our church or to download a copy of the application information pack and an application form, please visit our website: <https://www.milfordbaptistchurch.org.uk/>

Closing date for applications: 25th June 2021

P/T Digital Lead - Horley Baptist Church:

Applications are invited for the part-time 1 year position of Digital Lead at Horley Baptist Church.

The Digital Lead is a key role in the organisation, responsible for inspiring and supporting the church to have a strong digital presence.

Over the past year we have discovered the enormous potential of online engagement, and we are looking to employ for 1 year an energetic, gifted, and evangelistic individual to join our ministry team, and empower the church to reach out to the unchurched with the message of Jesus through digital media.

If you would like to apply for this role please read the [Job Description](#), fill out the [Application Form](#) and send it along with your CV to admin@horleybaptist.org.uk, by Friday 4th June 2021.

P/T Church Administrator - Haywards Heath Baptist Church:

This post is key in enabling growth in the ministry and mission at Haywards Heath Baptist Church (HHBC), in line with our vision.

The purpose of the role is administration and to enable the delivery of operations of

the church in close co-operation with the Minister, Staff team and the Officers of the Church.

The postholder will ensure effective administration within the church, fulfil administrative procedures that enable the church to align with the regulatory environment the church now operates within.

This position requires professionalism and the ability to work in an ever-changing environment, where flexibility, multi-tasking, sound decision making, self-motivation and discretion are essential. The post-holder will need confidence and proven organisational, communication and interpersonal skills. It is important to have technical competency with IT systems and the ability to learn skills required to use software packages and comfortable to generate social media content etc.

The role is part time (20 hours per week), preferably over 5 days.

As this is a new role for the church this appointment is for an 18-month fixed term. The expectation is that the role will become a permanent position.

Please click here to download a [recruitment pack](#) and [application form](#) - reply to lydia@hbbchurch.org.uk

Closing date for applications: Friday 11 June 2021, midday
Interviews will be held w/c Monday 21 June 2021

P/T Children & Families Worker - Freedom Church, Bexhill:

Freedom Church is seeking to employ a Children & Families worker, part-time up to 18hrs/week, Salary in the region of £19,000-£21,000 per annum (pro-rata).

Our desire and mission at Freedom Church, Bexhill reflects the heart of Jesus to bring real freedom and wholeness to us all — spiritually, emotionally, and physically. We are excited about the time of Church growth and renewal we are entering into, and we are seeking to invest in our children and their families to ensure further growth. We are seeking a pioneering person of initiative who can help us establish and then grow a thriving families ministry. This person would work as part of our ministry team alongside our Lead Pastor and Community Pastor.

The role would focus initially on leading and resourcing our Sunday School as well as gathering, training and inspiring a team of volunteers. The ideal candidate should also have a passion to run mid-week activities to reach out to local, non-church

children and families.

Experience and/or relevant qualifications would be desirable.

It is an occupational requirement that the post holder is a Christian.

To download a copy of the job description/person specification, please click [here](#).

For more information about our church please visit our website: <https://www.freedomchurchbexhill.com/> or email Jenny for a job description: jenny@freedomchurchbexhill.com

Closing date for applications: 1 June 2021

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.
