

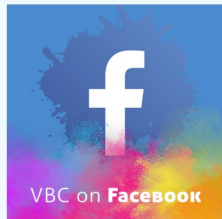
**Live in CHURCH and
ONLINE**



VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH
to see Jesus Christ honoured in Eastbourne and beyond

HOME JESUS ABOUT SUNDAYS FAMILIES CHURCH LIFE CONTACT US

**Live at Ten with
CHRIS SHORT**



Man Overboard – Jonah 2:8-9

“Salvation comes from the LORD” (Jonah 2:9)

This week we begin a new series in the book of Jonah. Of the twelve books called the minor prophets, Jonah is almost certainly the one we know best. If you’ve grown up in church, you’ll be very familiar with the story of Jonah, having heard it many times in Sunday School.

Even if you didn’t grow up in church, it’s likely you know something about Jonah (and the whale). You may also

recognise the name being associated with a person who brings bad luck. In the past, British sailors were notoriously anxious about ‘having a Jonah aboard’.

As much as we know about Jonah, there are probably quite a lot of things still to learn. Jonah is a tale of the unexpected. Almost everything in Jonah is unexpected. This morning we’ll begin with an overview of the book and a focus on its most famous verse. From the belly of the fish, Jonah comes up with a succinct summary of the message of the whole Bible: “Salvation comes from the LORD”. On the utterance of those words, he is vomited out to a whole new life.



This Evening



Alpha takes place at 6pm this evening. This week, the group will be thinking about “Who is Jesus?”

And Jez will be running the second session of the Bible Academy “Deep Dive” at 6.30pm

Next Week (5TH May)

Chris Short will be continuing his series on Jonah at the morning service, which will also be a Communion Service.

The third session of the Alpha course will be taking place at 6pm - the topic this week is “Why did Jesus die?”



STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the coming week are as follows:

Chris off Tues

Sandra off Fri

Colin off Mon

Erik off Thurs

Julie in Thurs

Kevin annual leave

Tim in Wed & Fri mornings

Jez in Wed morning

Simon off Tues

Nadine in Mon & Thurs

Phil in Tues am, Weds, Thurs pm

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

Erik Cornelisse - Youth

Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Phil Papps

CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Treasurer

Mark Evason

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Pastoral Team Leader

Tim Nunn

Life Group Coordinator

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk

(eg *chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk*)

VBC Bank Details

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Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

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Eldon Road, Eastbourne

BN21 1UE

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The Week Ahead

- Sun 28 9.30am Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short
6.00pm Alpha ("Who is Jesus?")
6.30pm Bible Academy "Deep Dive"
- Mon 29 6.00pm Girls' Brigade
7.30pm CLT Meeting
- Tues 30 Soaking in the Spirit (next meeting 7th May)
- Wed 1 8.30am Community Fridge and Cafe
10.00am Vicky Bees
6.30pm Boys Brigade
- Thu 2 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
10.15am Men's Fellowship with Rev Memona Shahbaz
2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Rev Memona Shahbaz
7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 3 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
10.00am Vicky Bees
1.00pm Thanksgiving Service for Daphne Fisher
5.00pm Kids Club
7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 4
- Sun 5 9.30am Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
10.00am Live and Online with Chris Short to include Communion
6.00pm Alpha ("Why did Jesus die?")
6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting

Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*



Brian Wightwick Sun 28 Trinity, Willingdon 10.30am
Jez Taylor Sun 5 Newhaven Baptist Church

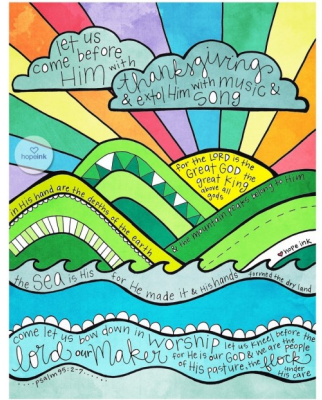
Advance Notice -

There will be NO service here at VBC on Sunday May 19th.
We want to encourage everyone to join us and other Eastbourne churches at the Bandstand that morning for this year's Thy Kingdom Come event.



BIBLE JOURNALLING

We hope to restart the Bible Journalling group very soon, but would like an idea of interest before making any firm plans. The group is most likely to take place in the evenings of the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. If you think you might be interested, please contact Sandra: sandra@victoriabaptist.org.uk



VBC Golf Tournament



The 3rd VBC Open will this year be held on **Friday 19th July**, again at **Willingdon Golf Club**. The first Tee time will be at **4pm**, so a good excuse to leave work early!

Ladies and gents of all ages are very welcome. We currently have 16 tee slots allocated to us so get your name down ASAP. Hopefully, we can increase this number if we are overwhelmed with people wanting to join us.

The cost will be £25 (as long as we have 12 or more). Do feel free to invite a non-church friend and e-mail Colin or Jez to confirm that you - and hopefully a friend - would like to take part. Sadly, no buggies will be available ... walking only!

Trophies will be presented to the winner but the real joy is simply in taking part - mind you, as the old saying goes, "Winning isn't everything ... but losing really stinks!"

VBC Centenary

Many thanks to those who responded to last week's appeal for volunteers to join a group to spearhead our centenary celebrations next June (2025). We still have space for a couple more people to join the team. Please let the office know if you would like to be involved - we are particularly looking for a couple of men to balance things up a bit!



19 **Victoria Baptist Church** 20
25 25

PRAYER DIARY 29TH APRIL – 5TH MAY

Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Monday Pray into the above verse so that you can come to the Lord this week with your head cleared of the worries and sins that can burden us and prevent us hearing God speak to us, know His forgiveness and peace so you can focus on prayer. Please pray today for any charities you know of that members of VBC are employed in. Many of them are Christian charities such as Linking Lives, Eastbourne. Eastbourne Blind Society is another. Please pray for opportunities to bring Christ to people in our community.

Tuesday Please pray for the work that Neil Hilton (former youth worker at VBC), and his wife, Jess, now do among vulnerable people in Brighton. Pray that many will give their lives to Jesus, that the community will become safer and happier. Pray too for safety and God's guidance for them both.

Wednesday The Community Fridge and Café happen today. God's eyes will be on all efforts to reach "the lost" so pray for Him to bless this project and be powerfully at work in the hearts of all who come along.

Thursday Bible academy level 1 happens alternate Thursdays, and Deep Dive on alternate Sunday evenings. Pray for all the participants to have their eyes opened by God. And pray that God will give Jez the words to say, and sensitivity to each person's spiritual journey.

Friday Vicky B's has been going for so many years! We must continue to bring before God it's valuable outreach and the volunteers involved. Pray for all that goes on with parents and children there.

Saturday We continue to pray for Ukraine through Sandra's weekly update. Sometimes she includes tragic personal stories of individuals who have come to the centre for aid. Please remember particularly the two brothers who we recently heard about, fighting each other a lot because of their trauma; and the young girl who arrived with severe head lice and was suffering neglect. They need our ongoing prayer, and we pray that God will restore their hearts and minds, and they will know His love.

Sunday Please pray for safety for all those meeting in secret, around the world, to worship God. They will risk everything to worship and pray together. Also, pray for churches that openly meet but risk being burnt down, or the members and pastors murdered by extremists. Please pray that those seeking the gods of other faiths will have a "Damascus Road" experience and give their lives to Christ in a mass revival. Think big in prayer. And may God show all Christian communities where He wants to lead us this Sunday morning. May God bless you. Amen.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

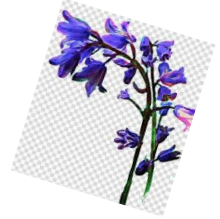


BLUEBELL WOODS (UPPER DICKER, E SUSSEX)

By
John Demetriou

While wandering through the fields unseen
I came across a splendid scene;
The woods bedecked with wondrous hue
Of birch and beech awash with blue.

The lilies' scent hung in the air
Transcending time and space and care,
Enchanted, I was drawn inside
To feast on such a wondrous sight.



I sat upon a broken bough,
An island in an azure slough,
Caught sight a gentle, gracious deer
Which startled, turned and bounded clear.



LADIES PRAYER BREAKFAST

The next breakfast will be held on Saturday 25th May, 9am-10.30am with the speaker being Christine Johnston. If you would like to join us for this event, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre.

Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
John & Ingelore Demetriou



Please pass on our thanks to whoever decided that we were worthy of receiving the bouquet of flowers, received yesterday. Also many thanks to the florists & delivery folk. It was a very kind show of support & it is really appreciated. Best wishes. God bless. B&DE



A vacancy has arisen for someone to join the rota for bunching the flowers on Monday mornings. If you would be interested - training given if necessary - please contact Chris McMahon for more info.