



Sunday 10th December 2023

**VICTORIA** Baptist Church News



**Live in CHURCH and online**



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

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ABOUT US



## **The SUNDAY SCHOOL present : The NATIVITY**

**Luke 2/ Micah 5:2**

"But you, Bethlehem, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old from ancient times." (Micah 5:2)



**SUNDAY  
SCHOOL**

*Exploring God's word together*



This week it's the turn of the Sunday School.

Mary and Joseph, Shepherds, Angels, Wise Men (in fact 3), Roman Solders, Innkeepers and a baby Jesus are all ready to show you our interpretation of the Nativity Story.

We hope you enjoy it as much as we have!

### **Next Week - Dec 17<sup>TH</sup>**

Dan Fairhead will be preaching at the morning service, continuing the genealogy series and focusing on Ruth.

Chris will be leading the evening Carols by Candlelight service at 6.30pm.



## Staff/Office Matters

Staff movements for the coming week (11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>)

Chris off Mon & Tues  
Sandra off Thursday  
Erik off Thursday  
Simon off Tuesday  
Julie in Thursday  
Kevin off Saturday

Colin off Monday  
Tim in Wed am & Fri am  
Jez in Wed am & Fri am  
Helen in Mon, Wed  
Nadine in Mon, Thurs

### 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

Helen Diplock

### CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

### Treasurer

Mark Evason

### Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

### Pastoral Team Leader

Tim Nunn

### Life Group Coordinator

Jez Taylor

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www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

### VBC Bank Details

*Account Name:*

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

*Account Number:* 00010297

*Sort Code:* 40-52-40

Staff contact details:

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

Sun	10	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	All-Age Nativity Service with Simon Grimes
		7.00pm	Xcav8
Mon	11	6.00pm	Girls Brigade Awards Evening & Christmas Party
Tues	12	6.45pm	Alpha - "What about the church?"
Wed	13	8.30am	Community Fridge and Cafe
		6.30pm	Boys Brigade
Thu	14	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
		10.00am	Alpha - "What about the church?"
			Men's Fellowship - next meeting: Jan 18 <sup>th</sup>
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship Christmas Celebration
Fri	15	7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
		10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		12.30pm	Friends, Food & Fellowship
Sat	16	7.00pm	Xpect
Sun	17	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live & online with Chris Short
		6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight

## The Week Ahead



### Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

Brian Wightwick	10 Dec	St Barnabas, Langney, 9.45am
Brian Wightwick	17 Dec	Broadway United, H/Pk, 10am

### Christmas Events

Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carols by Candlelight, 6.30pm
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christingle Service, 4pm
Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Reflection, 10am



### CHRISTINGLE

We will need to assemble Christingles for the service on 24<sup>th</sup> Dec, so if you have an hour to spare on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** at 2pm to help with this, please let me know. Many thanks, Sandra

## Christmas Post

Please get your post in by the end of this weekend. Brian Wightwick and his team will be emptying the postbox on Monday morning and sorting it all out for you to collect later in the week.

One last reminder if you have still to post yours -

- Only post cards to members of the church or to regular attenders
- When posting your cards, please bunch them and arrange them alphabetically by surname
- Please make a donation in lieu of postage



All proceeds will once again be shared between Community Fridge and CAP.



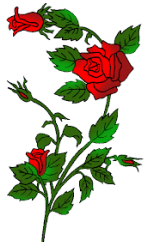
**Technical Greetings** - i.e. messages from those who would like to send their greetings via the news sheet - - have started to trickle in. These will be posted in the news sheet over the next two weeks, i.e. 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Dec editions.

To get your greeting published, e-mail me (Colin) using my office address and please attach a photo which I can use. I do have photos of most of you on the system so am happy to use that if you would rather, but you may prefer a couples or family photo.

## Thanksgiving Services

**Audrey Brown's** committal will be held in Watford sometime before Christmas, but there will be an opportunity to give thanks for her life in a service here at VBC after Christmas. The date is still to be confirmed.

**Maurice Fisher's** Thanksgiving Service will be held here on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm. If you would like to join the family for refreshments after the service, please use the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre.



## Mince Pies



The annual plea for mince pies! Please could you pop an extra box of mince pies in your shopping trolley this week with a view to donating them for refreshments after next Sunday's *Carols by Candlelight* and Christmas Eve's *Christingle* Service?

## PRAYER DIARY 11<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> December

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” Romans 15:13*

**Monday** Listen to the news and pray for all those nations who are hoping for peace in their lands. Pray for those who are being affected by the numerous conflicts around our world and for whom hope seems lost. Pray for peace-making politicians and for the United Nations as they seek to resolve huge issues.

**Tuesday** Pray for those who are looking forward to spending time with family in the coming weeks. Lift to God those who are lonely, who have lost loved ones, or who are estranged from friends and families. Ask God's mercy on those who have lost the ability to recognise their loved ones and pray that this will be a time of hope and love, regardless of circumstances.

**Wednesday** Pray in hope of God's healing hand on those who are sick or in hospital. Ask God to give us words of comfort and hope to those we are visiting, to those we send Christmas cards to, and to those who we speak to on the phone. Ask that, by His Holy Spirit, folk who need hope will be laid on our hearts and we act to reach out to them. *“The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His steadfast love.” Ps 147:11*

**Thursday** Hold in your hearts those who find this time of year a trial. Pray that physical needs for food and shelter will be met in their communities and by agencies such as Foodbank, NetworX and Winter Night Shelter. Pray for CAP clients known to us who need hope in tough times. Give thanks to God for those for whom this Christmas will hold much more hope because they are debt free. Praise God for those who have come to know the living hope of Christ in their lives.

**Friday** Give thanks for the hope that the ministries here at VBC give to different people - for Flow Cafe and Vicky Bees, for Community Fridge and for the forthcoming Carol and Christingle services. Pray that the words of encouragement visitors and members hear will flourish in hearts, heal hurts and stir the real message of the hope we have - *“For God so loved the world ...” John 3:16*

**Saturday** Praise God for sending His Son. Ask for help to focus on the hope He brings and for help to remember the real meaning of Christmas. *“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound ..” Isaiah 61:1*

**Sunday** Give thanks to God for the hope we have in His Word. Pray for those leading us as we study scripture together, especially pray for Chris and give thanks for his passion and skill. Ask that we are refreshed and inspired by messages he brings and be thankful that we can revisit the message of hope every year.

FUEL FOR PRAYER



# LOVE

(sometimes comes in boxes)

## THANK YOU !!

Every shoe box has now been collected and will be checked, sealed and sent to the children via lorry.

The lorries are met by the distribution teams where your precious gifts are given out to the children who are eagerly awaiting them. Then the fun begins as the children open the gifts.

They always thank the distribution team and ask us **to say a big 'thank you'** to all the kind English people who show they care. **THANK YOU !!**

From the distribution of the leaflets in September to the boxes arriving in a child's hands in December there is so much hard work and goodwill.

None of this would be possible without your kind support in gifts, time and effort. As we always say, we couldn't do it without you! **THANK YOU !!**

A very special thank you to all our Life groups who contributes, to Erik for organising the VBC effort, and also Anna Smith who asked her tutor group at Ratton School to donate, a fantastic response - **THANK YOU !!**

*Mick, Lyn and the team*



## Flower MINISTRY

The flowers last week were donated by  
**Hilary Irvine**



*I recently received a beautiful bunch of flowers left by one of those who undertake the deliveries. I was pretty fed up. Not only unwell, the rain had affected my doorbell which is not working. So, I was unaware of the delivery until I saw something strange through the glass of the door. Opening the door, I was greeted by the beautifully wrapped bunch of colourful flowers. So my thanks to the provider, displayers and distributors of this encouraging bouquet. DB*