



Sunday 12th November 2023

Victoria Baptist Church News



“What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you?”

James 4:1

Live in CHURCH and online



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

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Jez TAYLOR**

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THE PROBLEM OF THE HUMAN HEART

James 4:1-10

It is a sad fact of life that war is part of human existence. There have been few periods in history, if any, where there has been global peace. We currently live in a time of several major conflicts - in Ukraine, Israel/Palestine, Yemen, Sudan, Darfur... the list goes on. The cost to humanity is tremendous and we can be easily desensitized by it all. As we meet this Remembrance Sunday to remember those who fought for freedom and a future, and paid the ultimate price, we remember the sacrifice of Christ, the one who made the biggest sacrifice for our eternal future. If we really want peace and freedom we cannot rely on politics, weapons, armies, or even religion, to bring about peace. Our hearts are the problem, the cause of war, and, until we solve the problem of the human heart, we will always have war. Jesus provides us with the solution - Faith in Him.



BEHOLD THE Man - 6.30pm tonight.

Session 11 - The Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand

In this penultimate session of the course, Dwight shows how Jesus went around Israel proclaiming, explaining, illustrating and demonstrating the Kingdom of Heaven. Dwight explains the Jewish use of evasive synonyms, and highlights the fact that Jesus taught the Kingdom as a present reality, not just a future hope.

NEXT Sunday

Chris Short will be continuing his series on "The Essential Jesus".

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for the coming week

Chris	off Tues/Evangelical Baptists Gathering Thurs		
Sandra	off Thursday	Colin	off Mon & Fri
Erik	away in India	Tim	in Wed am & Fri am
Simon	off Tuesday	Jez	in Wed am & Fri am
Julie	in Thursday	Helen	in Mon
Kevin	off Sat	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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Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk

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

The Week Ahead

Sun	12	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	All-Age Remembrance Service with Jez Taylor
		7.00pm	Xcav8
Mon	13	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Tues	14	6.45pm	Alpha - "Why & how should I read the Bible?"
			Soaking in the Spirit (next meeting 21 st Nov)
Wed	15	8.30am	Community Fridge and Cafe
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		6.30pm	Boys Brigade
		7.00pm	Ladies' Italian Night
Thu	16	7.30am	Prayer Meeting (for men only)
		10.00am	Alpha - "Why & how should I read the Bible?"
		10.15am	Men's Fellowship with Dr George John
		2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Rev Paul Tabraham
		7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting (Lower Floor)
Fri	17	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
		10.00am	Vicky Bees
		12.30pm	Friends, Food & Fellowship
		5.00pm	Kids Club
		7.00pm	Xpect
Sat	18		
Sun	19	9.30am	Pre-Service Prayer Meeting in Chris' Office
		10.00am	Live and on-line with Chris Short
		6.30pm	Church Prayer Meeting
		7.00pm	Xcav8



Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

Francis Bates	12 Nov	Halland Chapel, 11am
Brian Wightwick	12 Nov	Broadway United, Hampden Pk, 10am
Brian Wightwick	19 Nov	St Barnabas, Langney, 9.45am
Erik Cornelisse	31 Oct-30 Nov	India mission trip

Christmas Events

Sat 25 th Nov	Christmas Messy Church, 1pm
Sat 9 th Dec	Christmas Flow Café, 10am
Sun 10 th Dec	Nativity for All Ages, 10am
Sun 17 th Dec	Carols by Candlelight, 6.30pm
Sun 24 th Dec	Christingle Service, 4pm
Mon 25 th Dec	Christmas Reflection, 10am





CHURCH MEMBERS' BUSINESS MEETING

Wed Nov 22nd, 7.30pm

1. Introduction, Welcome & Prayer
2. Agreement of minutes and matters arising
3. Membership Report - Richard Kirk
4. Finance Report - Mark Evason
5. Family Services
6. Report on Evangelical Baptist Meeting - Chris Short
7. VBC Assets - proposal
8. **AOB – Items for consideration to be emailed to the church office by Monday 20th November**

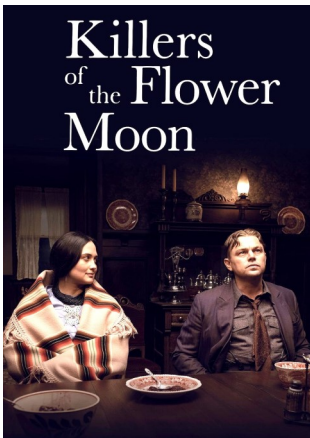
Life groups @ VBC

Friendship, Faith and Fun at the heart of our community



Since last week's advert for two new groups, we have had the first meeting of a new daytime group. They are planning to meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 2.30pm and anyone interested in joining should contact Paula Burr.

We are still looking so start up another evening group so if you feel that God is calling you to support this, please see me. There are several people looking for groups and currently our existing groups are full. Many thanks. Jez.



Film Review by John Demetriou

Director: Martin Scorsese.

Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro, Lily Gladstone

NB this article contains spoilers!

This is film making at its finest; taking a little known historical tragedy and faithfully bringing it to public attention using all the resources of good story telling and cinematography to get its message across, touching on Biblical truths in the process.

Scorsese's film deals with the Osage Nation tribe who were moved by the US government from their ancestral homeland to what appeared to be land of little value in

Oklahoma at the end of the nineteenth century. It so happened though, that there was a lot of oil beneath that land and its discovery in the early twentieth century made the Osage Nation some of the wealthiest people in the country per capita.

Unfortunately, where there is a lot of money, greed, covetousness, prejudice, hypocrisy, deceit and murder follow and that is what the film depicts. It focuses on a spate of Osage murders that occurred in the 1920's, centring on one particular family of four sisters. The murders were not properly investigated by corrupt local officials, allowing the guilty to stay free till federal agents (forerunners of the FBI) turned up to undertake a more thorough investigation, arrest and help convict the perpetrators.

The film is a thoughtful study of evil in all its nefarious forms, where local cattle baron William 'King' Hale (played by De Niro), like Shakespeare's Richard III, '*Can smile and murder while he smiles.*' He manipulates his impressionable nephew Ernest Burkhardt (DiCaprio) recently returned from the First World War who '*loves money and women*' to marry Mollie (played by Lily Gladstone), one of the four Osage sisters, to get her oil money and do other heinous deeds in the process. All this, while Hale conveys himself publicly as the Osage people's best friend.

The story cleverly intertwines different film genres - western, gangster, thriller, whodunnit, romance, historical drama - to weave its tale. It fills in the back story through clever means, e.g. by Ernest reading a history book about the Osage, and old black and white film reels, subtly dripping hints of what is really occurring or fore-shadowing what is to come, building the tension and keeping the audience engaged through the film's three and a half hours.

The acting is masterful, not only by the main characters but also by the minor ones whose performances are all memorable.

The cinematography and music are also of a high standard in keeping with the tone of the film. At times, depicting the vastness of the landscape, the big changes in society at the time, and at others showing intimate close ups of people and the detail inside their homes or the Osage customs. In one memorable scene, 'King' Hale's land is on fire, a scam to claim the insurance money, and the camera lingers over those putting it out in the dark, making them shimmer among the flames like a scene from hell in Dante's Inferno, to capture the sombre mood.

The film's ending is deft and surprising, depicting a radio show before a live audience, dramatising how the FBI solved 'The Osage Murders'. As it concludes, a grey haired man, played significantly by Scorsese himself, comes to the microphone. There is no background music or corny radio sound effects as previously and he pauses for effect before recounting what happened to the main characters after the investigation and especially Molly to show her worth. The film then switches to an aerial view of the Osage performing a tribal ceremony to show their ongoing value also.

I would not be surprised if the film receives numerous awards in different categories, such is the excellence of the film craft here. Regardless of that though, Scorsese is to be commended for highlighting, in a sober and moving way, the truth found in Scripture that, 'The love of money is a root of ALL KINDS OF EVIL' (1Tim. 6:10) and one we all need to be on our guard against to avoid its pitfalls.

John Demetriou



BIBLE BY THE BEACH

This year's theme is 'God has Spoken' focussing through the Bible readings and seminars on the relevance of what Jesus and the Bible have to say for our lives. The main speaker is Dr Richard Pratt who is involved in providing accessible training for Christian leaders around the world. In addition, there is a vibrant children's and youth work.

As in previous years we hope to take advantage of a discount price if we can get 10+ adults of £110 per person for the whole period if we book before 30th Nov.

*For more information follow the web link at: [Bible by the Beach - Bible by the Beach](#) and/or **speak to John and Ingelore Demetriou**. If you can't make it for the full weekend there are other offers available such as day passes.*

*If you are interested in taking advantage of the Early Bird offer please **put your name on the list in the Welcome Centre before the end of the month.***

Date: 3rd-6th May 2024

Location: Congress Theatre, Eastbourne

Brian's BULGARIAN DIARY

Mon 6th Nov

Yesterday's service at the local Evangelical Church went well. I was asked to preach following the communion part of the service which took place half way through proceedings. The congregation are now well settled into their new building and have completed works in one area which was not available to them until now. Numbers are on the increase and it is good to see some families with children in attendance. My interpreter, Stefan, commented afterwards that it is relatively easy for him to translate for me, which meant for a seamless sermon!



As ever, the worship group led the musical parts of the service sensitively and although we didn't know any of the songs this time, we did conclude with "These are the days of Elijah..." and so could join in with the English sub titles!

This week will draw my time in BG to a conclusion. There is the evening service on Tuesday, a bible Study at the Baptist church on Wednesday and a meeting with newly-weds Danny and Sisi in Sofia on Thursday before we catch a 21.00 flight home to LGW.

Wed 8th Nov

Yesterday evening saw me speaking for the final time at the Evangelical Church, this time with a short overview of the Kings of the Bible (not all 40+ of them!) but Saul, Ishbosheth, David and Solomon culminating in the King long-promised, King Jesus. There's a tremendous amount we can learn from these four particularly, not least drawing the comparison in the life of David when he "enquired of the Lord and met with success and other occasions when he failed to do this and met with disaster.

This evening we went to the Baptist Church for their evening service. This time I shared with them from Psalm 116: 15: "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints," sharing with them how helpful we had found this verse when adjusting to life following Mum's recent "home call". The congregation were most appreciative, not least as death is often a topic not readily mentioned here (as elsewhere).

Tomorrow we journey by car to Sofia (about 3 hour trip). Our return flight is at 21.00 hours (local time), arriving at LGW at 22.30 (BST time). (Thursday evening)

Thank you for your prayerful support during this time away and I look forward to catching up with you before too long. Prayerful blessings from Kazanlak, Bulgaria

1277 days!

Vicky Bees 

and why we need you!!

Did you know that there are, on average, 1277 days from a child's birth to when they start nursery at 3 years of age? 3 years when their development is at it's peak, and they are often exclusively with their family members. This is often the time when families will reach out to find opportunities to build relationships and for children to have positive play experiences.

At Vicky Bees we are seeking to do this, but also to present Jesus to these families. We need people who can talk to parents, to build relationships, who can pray and maybe offer practical skills, to make those 1277 effective.

At Vicky Bees we pray, then play,
We talk, and walk alongside families.
We build with bricks, and then with lives.

We sing, have stories, and
discover what Jesus has done.

And then we pray again.

Why not come along one Wednesday or Friday morning, and see how you can be involved in making those 1277 days effective in God's kingdom?

Email simon@victoriabaptist.org.uk

PRAYER DIARY 13TH - 19TH NOVEMBER

'The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; do not be afraid; do not be discouraged'. Deuteronomy 31:8.

Monday. For your prayers think about community rooms that help keep people warm which are opening or have opened again this year for winter. Pray that people in need will seek out these spaces and that there will be kind words and support for them there.

Tuesday. Pray for those who are seeking a church to attend, that they will find a 'home' amongst fellow believers in which they feel they belong.

Wednesday. Bring to God those who once had a strong faith in Him and now are struggling with their Christian walk, that they might find clarity in their belief in God and be strengthened and renewed.

Thursday. Think about people and communities that have been affected by the recent floodings and how it has impacted their homes and businesses, which might continue for some time. Ask God to help them as they move forward in their lives.

Friday. In your prayer time, think about families displaced due to war and natural disasters. As we sit in our homes remember them as they live in refugee camps, without home comforts and basic amenities that we often take for granted.

Saturday. Let us persist in prayer for loved ones who do not know the Lord, that they too will know Jesus in a personal and real way.

Sunday. Thank God for the changing of the seasons, for the colours autumn brings. Remember that as the weather cools, illnesses increase and put added pressure onto our medical services. Pray for all those who work in hospital settings.

COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

LOST PROPERTY



Any takers?



Hosted by
Tom
Duncanson

FUEL FOR PRAYER

DIRECTOR



**SUSSEX
GOSPEL
PARTNERSHIP**

THE SUSSEX GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP IS SEEKING TO APPOINT AN EXPERIENCED AND STRATEGICALLY-MINDED DIRECTOR WHO SHARES OUR VISION TO SEE A GROWING GOSPEL CHURCH IN EVERY SUSSEX COMMUNITY.

ARE YOU READY TO LEAD AND DEVELOP A PARTNERSHIP OF 60+ BIBLE-CENTRED CHURCHES IN SUSSEX?

ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT TRAINING OTHERS FOR GOSPEL MINISTRY WITH THE WORD OF GOD?

ARE YOU GIFTED IN PROVIDING ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND EXECUTIVE MINISTRY OVERSIGHT?

THE DIRECTOR WILL LEAD AND SERVE A NETWORK OF ANGLICAN AND INDEPENDENT CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER IN GOSPEL PARTNERSHIP TO:



STRENGTHEN LOCAL CHURCHES BY ENCOURAGING AND EQUIPPING GOSPEL SERVANTS



BUILD LOCAL CHURCHES BY EVANGELISM, CHURCH PLANTING AND REVITALIZATION



RENEW LOCAL CHURCHES BY RAISING UP A NEW GENERATION OF DISCIPLES AND GOSPEL WORKERS

This is a full-time post with a salary and pension contribution level commensurate with the responsibilities involved and the experience required. The commencement date is to be agreed with the Trust Board, but ideally no later than the start of April 2024. The post-holder will ideally live and work in central Sussex and the role will involve significant and regular travel around Sussex. There is a genuine occupational requirement for the successful applicant to be an evangelical Christian and the post is only open to candidates who currently have the right to live and work in the United Kingdom.

For more information go to: Sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk/apply

Closing date: Friday 5th January 2024

Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
Hanny Balmer in memory of George



Just wanted to say a huge thank you to the flower team - who do a great job week by week - and the church for the beautiful flowers I received earlier this week. It is lovely to see the colour and beauty of the flowers in a somewhat wet, grey and soggy Eastbourne at present! Many thanks.. AP

