

VICTORIA *Life*

Sunday 14th September 2025

VICTORIA
Baptist Church Eastbourne
All Age



ALL CHANGE!

“We shall not all sleep, but we shall
all be changed”

1 Corinthians 15:51



All Change!

***For everything there is a season, and a time
for every matter under heaven:
Ecclesiastes 3:1 (ESV)***

This week is our All Age Service and we are exploring the idea of change. September is a time when lots of things change. Autumn begins, children change schools, students begin university, leaving home and family behind. We all experience change in our lives and how we manage that change can determine whether the change is positive or negative. Sometimes change is unwanted but necessary, sometimes we embrace it. When we have Jesus walking with us through times of change then it becomes more manageable. The biggest change we can experience is when we invite Jesus to be our Saviour. He changes everything! The Holy Spirit transforms us into the people God intended us to be.



The monthly evening service will be at 6pm tonight and, as always, will include a time of communion.

Next Week (21ST SEPT)

Next week's live@10 service will be led by Chris Short.

The fortnightly prayer meeting will take place at 6.30pm.



There will be a Baptismal class at 5pm in Chris' office. By all means have a word with him in advance, but do feel free to simply turn up.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for next two weeks

| | | | |
|--------|---------------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| Chris | off Tues | | |
| Colin | off Mon | Emily | off Mon |
| Kevin | off Sat | Simon | off Tuesday |
| Tim | in Wed & Fri | Julie | in Thursday |
| Nadine | in Mon & Thurs | Lucy | in Weds am, Thurs, Fri am |
| Sandra | off Thurs | Jez | in Wed & Fri |
| Phil | in Tues pm, Wed, Thurs pm | | |

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

Head of Family Ministries

Emily Jenkins

Children's Ministries

Simon Grimes

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Phil Papps

CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Treasurer

Mark Evason

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Ministry Assistants

Lucy Craggs (Women)

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Jez Taylor (Life Groups)

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk

(eg chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk)

VBC Bank Details

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

- Sun 14 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am All Age Service with the Family Ministries Team
 6.00pm Evening Service
 7.00pm Xcav8
- Mon 15 6.00pm Girls Brigade
- Tue 16
- Wed 17 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 8.15am Community Fridge
 10.00am Vicky Bees
- Thu 18 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
 10.15am Men's Fellowship with Josh Babarinde
 1.00pm Thanksgiving Service for David Laskey
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Roger Reed (MAF)
 7.30pm Bible Journalling
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 19 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 12.30pm Friends, Food & Fellowship
 5.00pm Kids Club
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 20 2.00pm Quicken Trust Celebrations
- Sun 21 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live @ 10 with Chris Short
 6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting
 7.00pm Xcav8



Wednesday 24th Sept - Members' Business Meeting, 7.30pm
 Wednesday 1st Oct - Ladies Italian Night @ 7pm
 Wednesday 15th Oct - Men's non-Curry night @ 7.15pm

Please sign up for the Ladies' and Men's events on
 the sheets in the Welcome Centre.

Welcome to Emily

Hello everyone! I'm so delighted to be joining the family here at Victoria Baptist Church.

My journey with Jesus began at a young age — I was taught about Him from childhood and made the decision to be baptised when I was 14. Since then, I've been learning and experiencing more of God's goodness. Opportunities such as Tearfund missions in Cambodia and various Christian events have deepened my faith and reminded me of the wonder of who God is. Throughout the years, I've loved being part of the church in different ways and seeing how God blesses communities through His people.



Work-wise, I've had the privilege of serving in roles that reflect God's heart for compassion and justice: with a homeless charity in Lancaster, a family charity in the north of Scotland, and most recently supporting victims of domestic abuse in Cambridgeshire.



Lancaster was also where I met Chris. We later married, moved to Scotland, and over the years God has blessed us with three amazing daughters who fill our lives with joy - Anna, aged 7, Eleanor, 5, and Faith, 2.

This summer we made the big move from Cambridgeshire to Eastbourne, following God's call to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness." It's been a leap of faith, but we are excited to see what He has in store here.

I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all and serving together in the work God is doing through Victoria Baptist Church and in the wider community of Eastbourne.

Emily Jenkins

PRAYER DIARY : 15TH - 21ST SEPTEMBER

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline." Proverbs 1:7

Proverbs is not a book I have ever heard preached on but it is an interesting read. Most of the book was written by Solomon and we will focus this week's prayers around the main five themes of proverbs. A proverb is a short concise sentence that conveys a moral truth.

Monday As we all know, since about the mid 1960's, schools and universities have increasingly taught knowledge without faith. Heavenly Father, we pray that people working in our education system will have their eyes opened by You to see the difference between knowledge and wisdom, that is, applying the facts we learn to life. We pray for a reintroduction of Christian principles in all schools that will enable pupils to find faith, teach them to attain wisdom and discipline, and learn how to do what is right, just and fair. We pray for divine wisdom in all daily life for the benefit and blessing of all humanity.

Tuesday Wisdom. Let's pray into the words of Proverbs 2:1-5. *My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,...* Lord, help us to be fully devoted to accepting the truths in the Bible, remembering Your commands. Help us to seek wisdom and understanding and insight. We rededicate ourselves to choosing Your way, we want to know and love You more.

Wednesday Relationships. Proverbs 11:14 *For lack of guidance a nation falls...* 11:16 *A kind hearted woman gains respect but ruthless men gain only wealth.* 11:5 *The righteousness of the blameless makes a straight way for them.* Father God, in every relationship with friends, family and colleagues help us to show love, dedication and high moral standards. Help us to use the wisdom You give us as we care for those around us as our act of service to You.

Thursday Speech. Proverbs 4:24 *Put away perversity from your mouth, keep corrupt talk far from your lips.* 10:31 *The mouth of the righteousness brings forth wisdom.* 25:11 *A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.* The bible shows us how important speech is for our benefit and for the benefit of the hearer. Lord, we pray that You will give us self-control in speech because we know that our words show our real attitude towards others and reveal what we are really like; our speech is a test of how wise we have become.

Friday Work. Proverbs 4:24 diligent hands will rule. 10:31 *A generous man will himself be blessed for he shares his food with the poor.* Father God, we pray that You will control the final outcome of our work according to Your will, work which You have prepared for each of us to do. However menial or unglamorous the work You have given us may be, help us to work as if we were doing our job for Christ Himself. May we willingly serve knowing we are Your hands on earth.

Saturday Success. Proverbs 22:6 *Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it.* We pray that You, God, will bless the spiritual devotion of our volunteer Sunday school teachers, and for Emily and Simon, as they use their time, talent and resources wisely in Your service and help them to always give You the glory. And for those of us who now have grown up children who at present have not committed their lives to You, give us faith and patience as we pray and trust in the promise of Proverbs 22:6

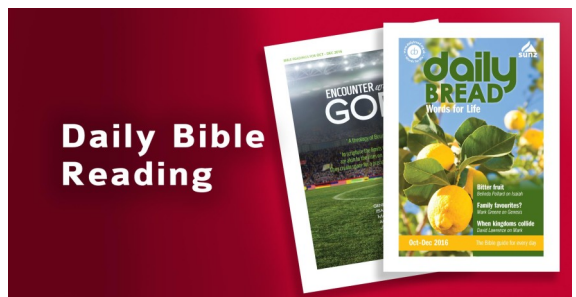
Sunday The word proverb means to govern, Heavenly Father help us to find time in our already packed schedules to not only read the book of Proverbs, but also to act on it. As we learn from Your word, we pray that our joy will increase, as we understand more and more that knowing God is the key to wisdom. Amen.

May God watch over and bless us all this week with His perfect peace, in Jesus' name.



BIBLE READING NOTES

Bible reading notes for Oct-Dec are in the pigeonholes for those who have ordered them. Please let Sandra know if you wish to continue receiving them - and, if you would like to start receiving them from January, she would also be happy to take an order.





INTRODUCTION TO BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE 6 WEEK COURSE

Louise BSL User and her BSL Interpreter welcome beginners and those interested in learning some basics in BSL to our 6 week introduction course. Including games, quizzes and resources, classes are relaxed, informal and fun!
A great way to embrace connection and improve your hand eye coordination.

**WHEN? EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 17TH SEPTEMBER TO
22ND OCTOBER 2025**

WHAT TIME? 10AM TO 11AM

**WHERE? HAVENS CONNECTION CAFE, ROOM 5
HILLCREST COMMUNITY CENTRE, BN9 9LH**

**MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE
COURSE COST £66 FOR 6 WEEKS**

**WELCOME TO STAY AFTER CLASS
AND ENJOY OUR BSL COFFEE MORNING
TO BOOK CONTACT LOUISEGIBSONBSL@GMAIL.COM**



BSL

When deafened friends died who had used lip-reading in communication with me, the Lord challenged me with Romans 10:13-15. In the middle of that short passage we are asked “...how can they hear without someone preaching to them?” His challenge set me on a path to gain understanding of the Deaf, and deafened communities, because most cannot “hear” and use a visual

language instead, called British Sign Language, or BSL. I wonder if you know that there is no church that is currently accessible to those who use BSL in East Sussex?

We had a conference in 2017 at VBC, and I learned a lot about those born Deaf and how discouraged they felt over the lack of accessibility at church events. This is because they are losing their hearing, and the reasonable adjustments provided in law, are not automatically provided in places of worship, so they just quietly disappear from meetings and no one seems to be troubled by their not attending or silent distress.

Sign language is a visual language that those born Deaf use, and those with hearing loss, and their loved ones, can learn to maintain a method of communication. Some of us at Victoria have learned the first level, so we could communicate a tiny bit with anyone from the Deaf community. They would then not feel so isolated. Some of you will be aware that we have a table during Flow Cafe where BSL is used.

Part of my recent re-commissioning, when I had been discouraged at the lack of progress, has been the affirmation of the verses in Romans, and the opportunity to attend a Level 2 BSL course at East Sussex College after 7 years of waiting. We are still hoping, praying and working towards churches welcoming members of the Deaf community to SEE the gospel, and become followers of Jesus. If you might be interested in the language, there are opportunities to learn at the college, but this short course might be an opportunity to explore this beautiful, graphic language too, especially if you have hearing loss, or have loved ones who are being deafened.



Please can I ask you to remember in prayer the needs of Deaf people to be reached with the good news about Jesus, and to pray this will be accomplished before too long. Please pray that I might grasp and remember all that I will learn, with the confidence to use it more as it takes longer to achieve this in our senior years.



Daphne Brett

EQUIPPED TO PREACH TRAINING COURSE

Do you sense God might be calling you to preach?

"Equipped to Preach" is a course of 8 x 2 hour sessions which take place once a month. It is presented by Andy Twilley (SEBA Regional Minister) and is designed to equip you to effectively preach God's Word.

For more information, please contact Andy andy@seba-baptist.org.uk

EQUIPPED TO PREACH

An 8 session training course designed to equip you to
effectively preach God's word

Following the success of this course in
2025, it will be run again in 2026.

If you would be interested in attending,
then please register your interest and
we will keep you posted as details
come together.

To register [click here](#) or to find out
more information contact Andy:
andy@seba-baptist.org.uk



The CAP 'Visit Team' **a FLEXIBLE, OCCASIONAL** **VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY**

It takes a team of people to make our CAP debt centre ministry a success and we currently have an opportunity for a few more men and women to join our 'Visit Team'. For each home visit to clients that Nadine and I undertake as debt coaches, we aim to have a volunteer accompany us to assist us and support the client so as to make the visit as beneficial as possible. Visits can last from 30 minutes to a couple of hours depending on the need, and are all in the Eastbourne district. You won't have to answer any questions about debt or finances as Nadine and I will deal with all those aspects.



Who would make a good member of the visit team? This role would suit someone with good relationship-building skills, an open and completely non-judgmental nature (and not easily shocked), an ability to maintain confidentiality, and a heart and resilience to serve. Team members need to be Christians with daytime availability and who understand that clients don't always keep appointments and that it is part of the role to be patient and understanding. There are also likely to be opportunities to share something of your own faith or experience of God in your life, in a way that is sensitive to the client's situation, and to pray with clients if they so wish.

Want to find out more? Please contact me via the church office or on 07851 501126 or drop me an email philpapps@capuk.org and we can chat further.

Phil Papps

CAP Debt Centre Manager at Victoria Baptist Church

Life groups @ VBC

Friendship, Faith and Fun at the heart of our community



After a successful meeting last Tuesday we are hoping to start two new groups, a daytime and an evening one. If you are thinking about joining a life group, or would like more information, please speak to Jez or email him at

jez@victoriabaptist.org.uk

CLT Election

You will be aware I'm sure that we currently have vacancies on the Core Leadership Team. We have three spaces and two people - Jo Brunson and Deirdre Dean - have been nominated to fill two of those spaces. Their profiles follow below.

At the church members' meeting on Wednesday week (24th), we will be voting for these ladies and you can vote for both of them, for just one of them, or neither of them. If they are both successful in being elected that will still leave us with one space. This will be addressed at some point in the near future so we would very much appreciate it if you would continue to give prayerful thought to either seeking nomination yourself, or consider nominating another member for the position. The important thing to remember now is that we do need a quorum at next week's meeting so please make every effort to attend and give your support to the church leadership.



Jo Brunson

I was brought up in a Christian family in a local village attending a church in Uckfield each Sunday. At the age of 11 I spoke with one of the church leaders about what it was to be a Christian. Later that day, while on a walk across our fields with my dad, I gave my life to Jesus. Through my teenage years I enjoyed attending Christian summer camps and later joined the organising committee, whilst continuing to support children's summer holiday clubs and youth groups.

When I was at university, I was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma and although this brought about challenges in completing my teaching degree, I always felt that God had a plan for me and was very close by my side. I was able to continue with my course alongside the chemotherapy, qualifying as a primary school teacher just a few months later.

In 2003, Dave and I were married at VBC before moving away from Sussex.

Over those years I have been blessed to be able to help in other churches with designing and managing a church website, leading all-age, family and reflective church services and being on a committee for selecting a new pastor.

Since returning to VBC with our three children, I have felt thankful to God for the care, support and love shown to our family. We very quickly settled and felt at home. Over recent months I have felt God prompting me to take on more of a role in the life of the church and I feel I could serve Him and the church in this way.

Deirdre Dean



I spent my childhood and early teens in Rhodesia, now known as Zimbabwe, where I was born.. My grandparents were missionaries and I was so privileged to be born into a loving Christian family and to be baptised by my grandfather at the age of 11.

My family came to the UK when I was 14 and we settled in Fife, Scotland. I went to Surrey University, enjoyed a wonderful career in hotel management and met my husband Christopher in London where we were both working. We emigrated to Canada where we spent eight years and where all our three children were born.

After we returned to the UK we spent a couple of years in Scotland and then found ourselves in Eastbourne. I became Chief Executive of Eastbourne Blind Society and after some years in hotels, Christopher became Administrator at Victoria.

We became members of Victoria Baptist Church over 30 years ago. I taught Sunday School for many years and was part of the team that started the Monday Vicky Bees group, seeing numbers grow from eight children to 55 at one point! I was also part of the BUGZ team - a monthly Saturday morning group for 8 to 11 year olds.

A number of us felt passionately at the time that we needed to nurture our young people and children and it was an answer to much prayer when Victoria appointed its first youth leader.

I have served on the pastoral team, and continue to be part of the welcome team, flower ministry and the worship group. I have led a Life Group for about 20 years. In retirement, I have become part of the team at Linking Lives which is a Christian charity whose aims are to match older people experiencing loneliness with volunteers from Eastbourne churches.

Serving on the CLT has been mentioned to me in previous years, but this year I felt God calling me to it and in obedience to that I'm standing for nomination.



Another in the series of thoughts inspired by quotations from the Book of Psalms. These were put together in a booklet - "Delight in the Lord" - some 30 years ago by Margaret Barham.

DELIGHT IN THE LORD



Margaret Barham

*"You have filled my heart with greater joy than
when their grain and new wine abound"*

Psalms 4:7

There is joy at harvest when the crops are plentiful but it is a joy that fades as the barns begin to empty again. The joy that God gives is greater than the joy of having plenty to eat and drink. It is a joy that lasts.

How may we have this great joy that God longs to give us?

By coming to God as a repentant sinner and receiving His forgiveness and cleansing.

By coming into His presence in prayer - coming

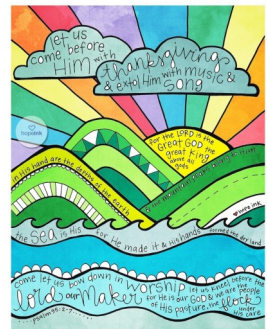
to God and telling Him all our problems and bringing our burdens to Him.

By allowing Him to have first place in our lives - letting Him fill our thoughts and our lives with His life.

As we daily open ourselves to God and seek to offer Him the sacrifice of obedience and praise: as we trust Him and live for Him, we shall know the light of His face shining on us and shall experience His joy rising up in our hearts. Because we know His joy and that His face is shining on us, we shall have peace and be able to rest in the Lord.

BIBLE JOURNALLING

The Bible Journalling sessions start again next Thursday 18th September at 7.30pm in the Garden Room. This is a great opportunity to meet together to study the Bible and connect faith with creativity. We spend time reflecting on God's Word and expressing our response in a creative way. Through our sessions, we hope to encourage a deeper understanding of Scripture and use our journalling as an act of worship to God. All are welcome.



Help Yourself!

Just one example of the abnormally large crop of grapes that have been cultivated by one of our members!

If anyone would like to help relieve her of some bunches, please contact the office for contact details.



Job Vacancy ...

... for a salaried frontline chaplains' role with the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team.

The role is working flexible shift patterns from 09:00 to 24:00 and shifts are 5 or 10 hours in length. Our service operates 365 days per year.

The contracted hours can be anywhere from 15 to 30 per week to suit the applicant and we invite the applicant to state their preferred working weekly hours on application.

The role has a starting rate of £13.40 per hour.

Closing date for applications is 6th October 2025.

Full details and application packs can be found on our website

<https://www.bhct.org.uk/join-our-team> or contact gail.whittington@bhct.org.uk

SEBA Safeguarding

SEBA (South Eastern Baptist Association) are looking for more Safeguarding Trainers. If you have experience in this area of church life, or know someone who might be interested, please contact safeguarding@seba-baptist.org.uk, or ring 07545 686143.

The required trainers will be self-employed and receive payment and expenses for every training session delivered. The training materials and administration for the training you will deliver is all handled by the Association.

Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
Tony & Janet Mottram -
celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary



*Thank you so much to the lovely
folk at VBC for the flowers that I
received this morning - very, very
kind of you Please send on my
thanks to Chris and all the team
FR xx*

