VICTORIA *Life*

Sunday 3rd/10th May

Deuteronomy 30:11-20
Life and Death

John will be speaking on the topic of Life and Death, looking at issues at the beginning and end of life from a Christian perspective. He will focus on Deuteronomy 30:11-20 - Moses setting forward the choice between life and death.

John Wyatt is Emeritus Professor of Neonatal Paediatrics, Ethics and Perinatology, University College London and a Senior Associate at the Faraday Institute in Cambridge. He spent many years working as a paediatrician, caring for sick and premature infants, and as a medical scientist researching into the prevention of brain injury in new-born babies. He is a specialist in ethical dilemmas raised by advances in medical technology and has been engaged in speaking, researching and teaching in professional and church contexts in many countries around the world. He is the current President of the Christian Medical Fellowship.

This evening

There will be **no prayer meeting this evening**. We would like to encourage you instead to attend the Bible by the Beach celebration at the Congress Theatre, 7.15pm. This event is open to all, irrespective of whether you have been to any of the other sessions.

Next Week (10th May)

Next week's Live@10 will be led by Jez Taylor. He will be speaking on Acts 1:4-11. We remember Ascension Day this week (14th), an event often overlooked by many evangelicals. However, it is a significant event with its roots in the Old Testament that looks forward to the enthronement of the Messiah and the start of the Messianic rule. Without the Ascension of Jesus as a physical event, we would not have the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

Later in the day we will have our monthly Evening Service at 6pm.

Staff/Office Matters

Staff movements for the next 2 weeks - the office will be closed tomorrow (BH Mon)

Chris off Tues(5th), & Fri (8th). Looking ahead, he will be attending the Baptist Union Conference on the weekend starting Fri 15th.

Colin apart from his usual Monday day off, he is also off on Fri 8th.

All other staff will be working as per their usual routine over the next 2 weeks.

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

Finance Manager
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

Two Weeks Ahead

Sun 3	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
	10.00am	Live@10 with Prof John Wyatt - Chris leading Communion
	7.00pm	Sunday Evening Youth
	7.15pm	*Bible by the Beach* Celebration at the Congress Theatre
Mon 4		BANK HOLIDAY
Tue 5		
Wed 6	7.00am	Prayer Meeting
	8.15am	Community Fridge
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	1.00pm	Thanksgiving Service for Margaret Paraskeva
	3.00pm	Youth Alpha - "What does real love look like?"
	6.45pm	Alpha - "How can I resist evil?"
Thu 7	7.30am	Men's Prayer Meeting
	10.15am	Men's Fellowship - Malcom Johnson (Bluebell Railway)
	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Corinne Ayres
	6.45pm	Omega (contact Tim or Ruth Nunn for details)
	7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri 8	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	5.00pm	Kids Club
	7.00pm	Friday Night Youth
Sat 9	10.00am	Flow Cafe
Sun 10	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
	10.00am	Live@10 with Jez Taylor
	6.00pm	Evening Service
	7.00pm	Sunday Evening Youth
Mon 11	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
	7.30pm	CLT meeting
Tues 12		
Wed 13	7.00am	Prayer Meeting
	8.15am	Community Fridge
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	3.00pm	Youth Alpha-"Why would I want a relationship with God?"
	6.45pm	Alpha - "Does God heal today?"

Thu 14	7.30am	Men's Prayer Meeting
		Men's Fellowship - next meeting 21st May
	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Rev Tom Allen
	6.45pm	Omega (contact Tim or Ruth Nunn for details)
	7.30pm	Ukraine Prayer Meeting
Fri 15	10.00am	Outreach Prayer Meeting
	10.00am	Vicky Bees
	12.30pm	Friends, Food & Fellowship
	5.00pm	Kids Club
	7.00pm	Friday Night Youth
Sat 16	9.00am	Ladies' Breakfast with Beckie Mansford
Sun 17	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
	10.00am	NO SERVICE at VBC (see below)
	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
	7.00pm	Sunday Evening Youth

Dates for your Diary

Wed May 6th - **Margaret Paraskeva's Thanksgiving Service** will be here at 1pm. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Centre if you would like to join the family for refreshments after the service.

Fri May 15th - **Friends, Food & Fellowship**, 12.30pm. If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Centre if you haven't already done so.

Sat May 16th - **Ladies' Prayer Breakfast**, speaker Beckie Mansford.

Sun May 17th - there will be **no morning service at VBC on May 17th**. We would encourage you instead to join with people from Eastbourne churches at the "Thy Kingdom Come" event on the Wish Tower slopes at 11am.

Sun May 31st - **Bring and Share lunches** are being held whenever there's a 5th Sunday in the month - May, August and November. The next one will therefore be on May 31st - further details will follow, nearer the time. The other dates are Aug 30th and Nov 29th.

We are running a **Youth Alpha** course for young people (11-18 year olds) who want to know more about the Christian faith.

Contact: emily@victoriabaptist.org.uk

Meet new people and explore the Christian Faith together . Alpha is for anyone who's curious. No judgement, no pressure.

Try Alpha

Each session unpacks a big question in faith, life and purpose. And is designed to spark conversation Come along, see what you think

Thank you for your prayers! After being delighted with 8 youngsters turning up the first week, we then had 12 this week! It is not too late to join us - every Wednesday, 3-5pm - but we don't get fully underway before 3.45. Join us if you can.

Pastries and Prayers

Supporting Our Students

Did you know that some of our young people are about to step into one of the most significant seasons of their lives? Exam season is coming and with it comes pressure to succeed, fear of failure, and an intense workload that can feel overwhelming. There are students that are part of our church family, and this is our moment to stand with them. But don't worry, you can support them - **here is how**.

Prayer Team We are asking people to commit to praying for one student, within our church family, throughout the exam period. You will receive their exam timetable so you can pray specifically for their preparation, peace, and confidence each day. This is not a small task, GCSE students can be sitting 20 exams. We need your commitment for this. Your prayers can make a real difference as the students know that whilst they might feel overwhelmed to pray for themselves they have a church family who is praying for them.

Breakfast Club Team From **Monday to Friday, 11th-19th June (8:00–8:45am)**, we are running a breakfast club for Year 11 Cavendish students before their exams. This will be a space of welcome, calm, and encouragement, where they can be fed before they head into the day. There will also be a prayer post box where students can share their worries and we will commit to pray. *We do need volunteers to help host, serve, and create a peaceful, supportive environment at the Breakfast Club - 'Pastries and Prayers'.*

Sign-up sheets are available in the Welcome Centre

VICTORIA
Baptist Church Eastbourne
KINGDOM BUILDERS
Holiday Club
Reception to Yr 6
WE NEED YOUR LEGO
6 AUGUST 10am - 12:30pm THURSDAY
7 AUGUST 10am - 12:30pm FRIDAY
8 AUGUST 10am - 12:30pm SATURDAY
Do you have any LEGO you no longer need? Please can we have it for this years Holiday Club 'Kingdom Builders'.
Info: simon@victoriabaptist.org.uk
or 01323 737974

Prayer Diary 1 : 4th - 10th May

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God - that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us." 1 John 5:15

Monday Dear Father, we lift up to You those who have recently been baptised. We ask for Your protection over them, as they begin a new life, following in the footsteps of Your Son. We pray for You to work deeply within their hearts and souls to renew and refresh them each day. May their character grow each day to be more like our Saviour.

Tuesday Thank You, Lord, for always being a loving God who listens to our needs, whatever the situation we find ourselves in. Encourage us, Father, to commit to praying each day, individually, with a friend, or at one of the prayer gatherings held at the church. Bless the prayer team at VBC and equip them with Your word as they pray with others throughout the week and after the service on Sundays.

Wednesday Loving Father, we lift up to You all those preparing for exams this summer. May they know Your presence and Your peace at this stressful time in their lives. Pray for the proposed Breakfast Club scheduled to be held during the exam period. May there be a good response to create a peaceful, supportive environment for the students to achieve their full potential. Join the group and take up the exam journey for an individual student, praying into each day that the pupil sits an exam.

Thursday Dear Lord, in these financially fraught times, we lift up to You those struggling to make ends meet. Help them, Father, to leave their anxieties at Your feet. Grant them the strength to face each day with hope, trusting You will always provide for them. Father, even when our circumstances are challenging, may our faith in You never waver. We thank You for the CAP team and the work they do solving debt problems and turning people to you. Teach us, Father, to be content with what You have blessed us with, and to follow the plan You have put up on our hearts.

Friday Father God, we pray for an end to the violence in our towns and cities. The fallout from knife and gun crime brings lasting devastation to families and communities. We pray for Your protection over each and every one of us, and for the police and ambulance services who have to deal with traumatic events. We pray for those who educate students in schools and colleges against carrying knives. May they use Your Son, the Prince of Peace, as the one and only example to follow.

Saturday Father Almighty, we lift up to You those in our church who serve You by visiting church members who are unwell, frail or lonely. Father, continue to empower them with compassion, wisdom, and a love of You, so they can bring peace, joy and hope to those in need. Lord, deepen their emotional strength and protect them from burnout and fatigue. May they be a soothing balm and a light shining Your love into periods of darkness and difficulty in peoples' lives.

Sunday Dear Lord, as we join together this Sunday morning to praise and honour You, we pray for renewal of our bodies, minds and spirit. Fill us with Your peace and deepen our trust in You so that we can confidently leave the burdens and worries of the week at Your feet. May there be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the service, cleansing our hearts and refreshing our souls. Fill Jez with Your Word and may he tell of Your Son's character, and the glories of Your Kingdom, with passion and authority.

Fund Raising for VBC Youth

Next weekend (9th&10th) is a fundraising weekend for the youth. 10am-12noon Saturday morning is the **Youth Edition of Flow Cafe.** Please come and support the youth as they will be there to help and have a few extra games and activities available.

Sunday 10th, after church, the youth will be providing cakes and biscuits to have with your teas and coffees. There will be a donation pot available. The money raised from these events on both Saturday and Sunday will go toward the youth weekend away in July, at Carroty Wood, near Tonbridge, and also the cost of social events that happen throughout the year.

Thank you for your support with this.

Creative Writing

A reminder that the Creative Writing Group will be meeting as usual during Flow Cafe next Saturday, 9th, 10.30 in The Hive.

Erik Cornelisse has kindly agreed to share some of his work with us and all are welcome to come along and share in this special time.

The topic for the rest of the group is GOOD NEWS, so get those pens and keyboards moving, buck the media trend for doom and gloom and let's encourage one another with our words.

Any questions, please contact Helen Trimmings.

Bookclub will also be taking place at 10.30 in the Snug.

St Wilfrid's Hospice

Dear Members of Victoria Baptist Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of £188, raised from your Flow Cafe, which will help more people to live well until the end of their lives. At a time when the cost of our care is higher than our income, your generosity is more important than ever. It means that our expert teams can continue to support the physical, emotional, psychological, spiritual and practical needs of patients and their families and carers. And it provides nursing and medical care, social support, 24/7 telephone advice and pre- and post-bereavement support for around 2,300 people a year. Thank you.

Your kindness means that people like Julie can receive 'amazing' care at the end of their life. "Being at St Wilfrid's made such a difference," said her son, Graham. "It was so calm, which made us and Mum feel more settled, and everyone was so polite and professional. The staff were great – always there to listen, no matter how small or silly the questions were, they answered as much as possible. I am so grateful to St Wilfrid's for everything they did for Mum to ensure she was as comfortable as possible."

You can find out more about ways to get involved, and keep up to date with the work we do, by visiting our website at www.stwhospice.org or following us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Many thanks again for your continued support, it is greatly appreciated.

With every good wish,

Kayleigh Tippett

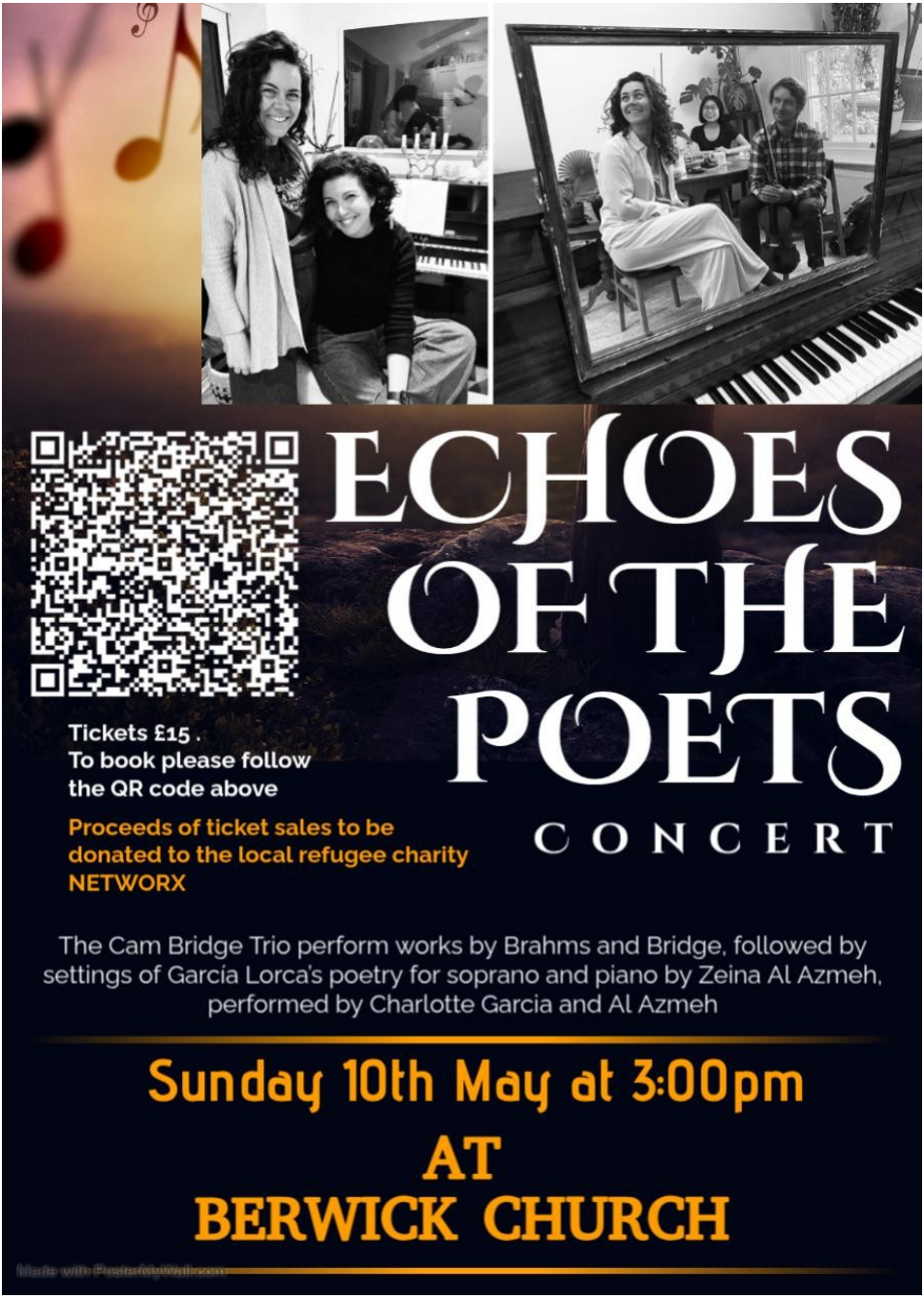
Community Fundraiser

01323 434224

kayleigh.tippett@stwhospice.org

Snooker Challenge

On Saturday 16th May, Kevin is undertaking a sponsored 12 hour snooker marathon from 12 noon to 12 midnight at the Glastonbury Snooker Club (below the Glastonbury Hotel on Eastbourne seafront) to raise funds for the Hope Lebedyn charity. If you are able to support this, he would be extremely grateful. There are a few slots left to join him for a game if you wish - specifically between 4&6pm, and 7&10pm. Alternatively, you are welcome just to go and watch anytime to show your support. Please be aware there are steps to access the venue.



Please note - proceeds of ticket sales will be donated to NetworX.

Prayer Diary 2 : 11th - 17th May

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are my ways your ways declares the Lord." Isaiah 55:8

This week we are focussing on prayer for our community and town. Each day, before you pray, just pause, be still and invite the Holy Spirit to be with you and ask the Lord to prompt you and guide your prayers.

I'd like to suggest that, each day this week, you take some time to go on a prayer walk, either physically if you are able, or mentally.

Start the week with a walk around your neighbourhood. As you walk, pray for the places you pass. Ask God to bless the people in the houses you walk past and those who pass you in the streets. If an ambulance goes by, pray for the paramedics and for the person they are on their way to help. Similarly, for police and fire fighters. Ask God to help you love your neighbour as yourself.

Later in the week, maybe go further afield. When you pass a school, pray for the staff and children, especially as exams are looming. If you see a shop, pray for those who are struggling to pay for food. When you come across a pothole (as you surely will) pray for those in the local council and ask God to guide them in their decision making and for wise stewardship of resources.

If you walk in a park, on the seafront or on the Downs, take the opportunity to thank God for His creation. Stop for a while to reflect on God's majesty and power, and on His love for us all. Pray for the Beachy Head Chaplaincy team and the coastguards.

Maybe take a walk through town and pray for those working in the offices, shops and cafes. Ask God's Holy Spirit to touch the hearts of people you see. Think of the Street Pastors who work in town at the weekends and ask God to keep them safe and bless the work they do, including their engagement with the homeless.

As you return home each day, take some time to pray for yourself, your family and your friends. Ask God to be present in your home and for the opportunities to share His love and speak His truth to loved ones who don't yet know Him.

An opportunity to support our Ukrainian community

PARCHE –

The "Church in Care Homes" is currently seeking an **Operations and Communications Assistant** to support our Mission & Operations Manager on a part-time basis. This is flexible role of **10 hours per calendar month**, which can be worked for example, across 2–3 consecutive days each month or spread out in blocks across the month. This is a home-based post and is paid at £13 per hour.

The role supports the running of the organisation, helping with administration, communications, and digital systems. Tasks may include:

- Helping with digital newsletters, social media, and website
- Creating promotional materials
- Preparing documents for meetings and external events
- General administrative, record keeping and clerical tasks

Given the limited hours, the successful candidate will work with the Mission & Operations Manager to prioritise key tasks. We hope that, subject to future funding and workload review, there may be scope for the hours to increase over time.

This role would suit someone organised, adaptable, and comfortable managing a varied workload with a degree of independence. The deadline for application is **21st May**. Please email a letter of interest with your CV to info@parche.org.uk. If you or someone you know may be interested, please get in touch via email to info@parche.org.uk or 01323 438 527 for further information or to request a full job description.

Community Allotment

We were delighted to be able to sell our first garden produce at the Community Fridge on Wednesday. You can see the radishes we produced in the picture here and we hope that we will have plenty more produce for the Fridge in the weeks to come.

Join our training!

An Introduction to Hearing Loss

Training to help build inclusive, hearing-friendly environments

Wednesday 13 May 2026 – 2:00pm (Zoom)
Tuesday 19 May 2026 – 7:00pm (Zoom)

BOOK NOW

openears
Hard of Hearing Christian Fellowship

openears.org.uk

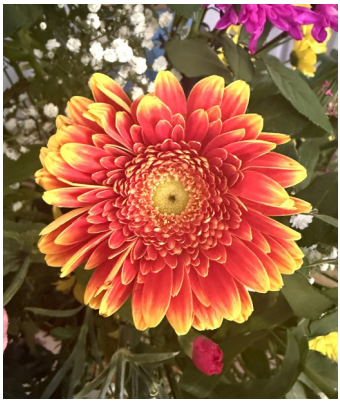
Flower Ministry

Last week's flowers were donated by
Nigel Collier in memory of Sue

I just want to say thank you for the beautiful flowers on behalf of the Church. Indeed, God who never slumbers, works when we do not even know. Delivery of the flowers was very timely - on our 40th Wedding Anniversary. We Praise God for that. C&MM

(Note – the flower team were not aware of the anniversary they were celebrating!)

Thanks so much for the lovely flowers and verse. A welcome gift on the hopefully speedy road to recovery. SF



I was delighted to receive a lovely bouquet recently as I celebrated yet another birthday! Many thanks to all the VBC family. JS