




VICTORIA *Life*

Sunday 7th September 2025



A SWARM OF VICKY BEES

Be patient until the
coming of the Lord.

JAMES 5:7



A SWARM OF VICKY BEES

James 5:7-11 – Be Patient

***“Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near.”
(James 5:7-11)***

Have you ever wondered why, when we visit the doctor or are admitted to hospital, we are referred to as ‘the patient’? It’s to do with suffering. The Latin root of the word patient (pati) means ‘to suffer’ or ‘to endure’. A patient is one who suffers with an illness and endures treatment. Before the days of anaesthetic, the latter was often as unpleasant as the former!



When James tells us to ‘be patient’, he’s not talking about the kind of patience we need as we wait for the WiFi to connect, or when we’re sitting in traffic, or waiting in line for the next customer service representative to answer our call. He’s talking about enduring the very real and painful hardships of the Christian life – whether it be unjust treatment, unanswered prayer or unfulfilled expectations.

Patience is one of the hardest things God asks of us. It is painful, it requires power, and it comes with a promise. These are the things we’ll consider together as we conclude our series ‘A Swarm of Vicky Bees’.

NEXT WEEK (14TH SEPTEMBER)

Next week’s service will be an All-Age Service led by the Family Ministries Team. The evening service will take place at 6pm.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for next two weeks

Chris	off Tues		
Colin	off Mon	Emily	in Wed, Thu, Fri
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 7 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live@10 with Chris Short
 6.30pm Church Prayer Meeting
- Mon 8 Girls Brigade restarts next week (15th)
 7.30pm CLT meeting
- Tue 9
- Wed 10 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 8.15am Community Fridge
- Thu 11 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
 Men's Fellowship next meeting 18th September
 2.30pm Women's fellowship with Rev Tom Allen
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 12 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 1.00pm Thanksgiving Service for Eileen Barton
 5.00pm Kids Club
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 13 10.00am Flow Cafe
- Sun 14 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am All Age Service
 6.00pm Evening Service
 7.00pm Xcav8

Preaching Engagements *Please remember in prayer*

Francis Bates Sept 14 Bernhard Baron. 5pm



- Saturday 20th Sept- Ladies Prayer Breakfast @ 9am
 Wednesday 24th Sept - Members' Business Meeting, 7.30pm
 Wednesday 1st Oct - Ladies Italian Night @ 7pm

Please sign up for the two ladies' events on the sheets in the Welcome Centre.



British Sign Language Level 2

Have you completed your BSL Level 1 and would like to build on your knowledge? The British Sign Language Level 2 award is the ideal next step.

Tuesday 9th September - Tuesday 16th June
17.30-20.45

Friday 12th September - Friday 19th June
10.00-13.00

Course fee - £300

Enrol online at adult.escg.ac.uk (search - British Sign Language Level 2 Certificate)

Please contact community.info@escg.ac.uk or call 030 300 38212 for any questions or queries.

ST WILFRID'S HOSPICE, IN MEMORY OF SUE COLLIER



A number of members of VBC are taking part in The Starlight Stroll on 13th September to raise funds for the hospice, in memory of Sue Collier. St Wilfrid's Hospice is struggling financially

and is having to rely on donations just to keep going. It provides wonderful end of life care and is only able to open 12 of the 20 beds it has currently. In addition, staff have been made redundant already this year and it is possible more staff may follow if their situation does not improve. This is the link to sponsor Janet and Tony but please support anyone taking part in The Stroll as all funds go towards the work of the hospice.

<https://events.stwhospice.org/fundraisers/AnthonyMottram/starlight-stroll>

Flow Café

Please join us on Saturday week, 13th, for coffee, cake, crafts, bacon/sausage rolls and the opportunity to raise funds for Diabetes UK. We will be open from 10am-12noon. And from 10.30am, we have two other sessions running simultaneously



1) CREATIVE WRITING



*In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife! (H.W. Longfellow)*

What do Samson, Esther, Frodo Baggins, M.L.King Junior and Zelensky have in common? They are different forms of 'hero' or 'heroism'. That is our subject for our next meeting, to discuss its role in literature and write something in poetic form or prose on that theme.

All are welcome to our meeting in the Hive. Contact John Demetriou for more information.

2) BOOKCLUB

At the same time as Creative Writing, the Bookclub, led by Ingelore, will be taking place in the Snug.



25 Years!

To celebrate Quicken Trust's 25th Anniversary, we are holding a Service of Thanksgiving for the work in Kabubbu. We would love you to join us to give thanks to God for His goodness to the people of Kabubbu.

Where: Victoria Baptist Church, 7 Eldon Rd, Eastbourne, BN21 1UE

When: 20th September. Doors open from 1:30pm. Service starts at 2:00pm

Please RSVP by emailing admin@quickentrust.com so we have an idea of numbers.

The service will be 1 hour long. As well as a few songs, we will be interviewing Geoff and Geraldine Booker about how God has provided miraculously for the work. We also hope to link up live with Enoch and one or two folk in Kabubbu for some testimonies giving thanks to God.



would love to scan these and compile a thanksgiving publication to send out. Please **do not** bring originals, as we may find it difficult to return them).

We look forward to celebrating with you!



We will ask one or two people to give testimony to the goodness of God as they have been involved in the work. We will also be collecting an offering as a gift to Kabubbu.

After the service we would love you to stay for tea, coffee and cake. Please bring stories or pictures of your Kabubbu memories to share on display boards. They should be A4 size or smaller. We

would love to scan these and compile a thanksgiving publication to send out. Please **do not** bring originals, as we may find it difficult to return them).

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Reminders

Please remember to sign up if you are intending to stay for refreshments after the two upcoming Thanksgiving Services - for Eileen Barton next Friday (12th), and for David Laskey the following Thursday (18th). The sign-up sheets are in the Welcome Centre - both services are at 1pm.

PRAYER DIARY : 8TH - 14TH SEPTEMBER

Monday *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." - Jeremiah 29:11*

Father God, thank You for Your wonderful plans for our lives. Lead us in the path You have marked out for us. We pray for all those starting a new chapter in life at a new school, college and university, a new job or a new home, that they will know Your presence with them in all they do. We pray for the staff at VBC who work hard to make things run smoothly. We look to You for the strength to endure in all the challenges we face today.

Tuesday *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him." - Romans 15:13*

Father God, fill us today with Your hope, joy, and peace to share with others. We pray for those in our community who are without hope that they may come to know You, our living hope. We pray for those in countries where there is war, famine and earthquakes that need hope for the future, having lost everything. We name those areas and people that are especially on our hearts today. We pray by name for anyone we know who needs Your touch on their lives.

Wednesday *"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength." - Isaiah 40:31*

Creator God, we pray for our friends in Lebedyn that God will strengthen and renew Bohdan and the team who are working hard to ensure that God's message of hope reaches all those who need to hear it in this war-torn district. We pray for the continued protection of the Centre and for the necessary aid to reach them.

Thursday *We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. - Hebrews 6:19*

Lord Jesus, You are our anchor. Thank You for Your unwavering support when the storms of life threaten us. We pray for those we know who are experiencing turbulent and testing times in their lives. We pray for those who are suffering because of their faith in You.

Friday *"I pray that the eyes of r heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you..." - Ephesians 1:18*

Father God, open the eyes of our hearts today to know the hope You have called us to. We surrender to Your purposes today. We pray that all of us, as Your people, would grow in fullness of maturity and Christlikeness. We pray for the Women's and Men's Fellowships, Life Groups, Youth, and Children's activities, that they may be places where we grow in our relationship with You and with one another. We pray especially for those new in the faith that they may be encouraged and strengthened in their new life in You, trusting in You to keep them to the end.

Saturday *"I remember my affliction... Yet this I call to mind. And therefore, I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed..." - Lamentations 3:19b-23*

Loving Father, thank You that each new day is a new beginning. Thank You for Your love and compassion, especially when we feel overwhelmed. We pray for our country that You will turn people back to You. Give wisdom and direction to the leaders of our country for the good of all, especially those who are vulnerable. Walk with us today and remind us of Your presence in all we do.

Sunday *"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for You will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed." - Isaiah 54:10*

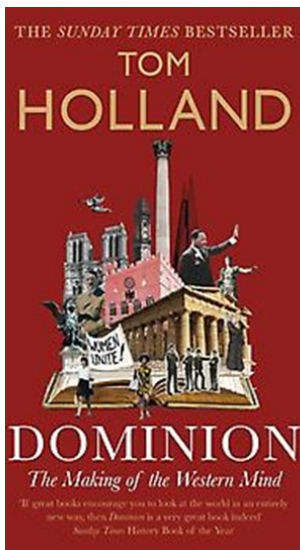
Faithful God, thank You that Your love is steadfast and unconditional. Thank You for all Your promises that assure us that You will not let go of us and that we will be with You for eternity.

Men's Non-Curry Night

If it's good enough for the ladies, it must be good enough for the men!

The next non-Curry night will be an Italian event at *Pomodoro e Mozzarella* - on Wednesday October 15th at 7.15pm. A sign-up sheet will be available on Sunday.





Book Review of 'Dominion' by Tom Holland

Publisher: Abacus 2019

We have heard recently of the spiritual 'Quiet Revival' occurring in UK churches. There has also been a 'quiet revival' in the last fifty years among academics reassessing the pivotal role Christianity has played in producing liberal ideas such as human rights, equality of individuals, self worth, advancement and benefit of science and segregation of church and state. Tom Holland, as an astute historian, is one of them, taking a look at the last 2,500 years to show the unique Christian influence on the development of the western mind in his book 'Dominion'.

The book is erudite, well researched, with an engaging, developing story line with thematic chapters capturing the dominant mood of the period surveyed eg Mission, Charity, Revolution, Reformation, Science, Love etc. It is peppered with fascinating details, characters and narrative showing how Christian beliefs, centred on one obscure, cruelly crucified man, had such a profound effect on thought and practice in western society and beyond. Even amongst those who turned their back on Christianity and religion, he demonstrates how they were still influenced by its teaching. Referring often to Nietzsche, he repeats the philosopher's observation that, even when people try to get rid of God, they and their teachings still remain in Christianity's 'shadow' and can't quite shake its influence off. On the other hand, he does not let Christianity completely off the hook, exposing its many failures in history as well.

Though Tom Holland shows this welcome respect for Christianity, influenced by his fresh appraisal of history and, as he admits, by having a devout Christian godmother, who served as a positive role model, he doesn't profess a personal faith. In fact, at the end of his book he downplays Christianity as '*a story told by a species that could not bear very much reality.*'

This is sad to read of someone who has carefully sifted the historical records to discern the reality of Christian influence on the western mind but still fails to see its validity. The evidence for a personal belief in Jesus Christ is based on real historical evidence that goes beyond just the symbolism of the cross Holland often alludes to. Jesus, the Son of God, became a real man, experienced real suffering and, most convincingly of all, rose from the dead, all of which was witnessed to and recorded for people to have a sure foundation for a personal belief. It does not get more real than that!

John Demetriou

This is the next 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

"Ask of Me and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession"

Psalm 2:8

God our Father says to us, "Ask of Me." He says to us today, "Ask of Me, and I will give you every spiritual blessing in Jesus. Ask of Me, and you will possess all that you need to live the fullness of life that Jesus promised. Ask of Me, and I will give you power to control your unruly feelings and to overcome your self-will. Ask of Me, and I will give you the assurance that you are My child and that I am your Father, who knows all about your needs even before you ask, but I still desire that you should ask."

So often we do not have the wonderful blessings God wishes to give us simply because we do not ask. At other times we ask and do not receive because we ask with wrong motives or for our own self-gratification. God wants us to ask as children coming to a father. He desires to answer us in order that others may see His greatness, His abundance and His power to supply every need of His children.

God says to us now, "Ask of Me". May our times of asking also be times of delighting in the Lord.

ASK OF ME, AND
I WILL SURELY GIVE
THE NATIONS AS
YOUR INHERITANCE,

AND THE VERY ENDS
OF THE EARTH AS
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PSALM 2-8

Knowing-Jesus.com

Flower Ministry

The flowers donated the week before last were from
Mark & Joanne Venter



Thank you for the lovely flowers delivered to me. Such a lovely gesture and so appreciated. Not only the joy of my new granddaughter, but the joy of receiving flowers in celebration of her birth. Thank you. DD xx



Donations - I would remind you that if you have a special birthday or anniversary next year, you need to get in quick to secure the date you want! Please contact Chris McMahon for further details.