



A Passion for Jesus - A Love for Others

A Growing Community

We're on facebook

www.seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk

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CHURCH OFFICE

Tel. 01323 896009

Monday to Friday

9am to 12 noon

office@seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk

Elders

**Roger Case, John Hughes,
Angela Ayres**

Trustees

**Angela Ayres, Jim Howell,
Jeff Herring, Rosemary Kemp,
Linda Lord, Andy Machin,
Rodney Reed, Sheila White**

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S WORK

Alex Drury-Gorham

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Wifi pass code for public use

01323896009

A Passion for Jesus - A Love for Others

Sunday 16th February 2025 All Age Service

Today's Speaker: Alex Drury-Gorham

Leading Worship: Sally-Ann & Team

Servants of All: Mark 9:33-37

Please join us for refreshments downstairs after the service

Following Jesus means we will face suffering - but the Spirit promises to sustain us through it.

I subscribe to Christianity magazine which is a monthly publication published by Premier. It contains a really good mix of up to date news, which is all fact checked, so you can be sure that the information is correct; but there are also testimonies, articles about topical issues, such as the Assisted Dying Bill and there is always a theology corner.

In December Lucy Peppiatt who is the Principal of Westminster Theological College, wrote a really helpful article with about how the Holy Spirit sustains us through suffering.

Why do Christians suffer is a common question that I have faced over the years in pastoral ministry. Surely if Jesus heals, then if we pray for healing then God will heal us. But although miraculous healings do occur, that is not the normal experience in our Christian lives. So how do we answer this question?

This is what Lucy Peppiatt says:

What we don't often discuss, however, is the gift of the Spirit to help us in our suffering. This is strange because Paul is clear that the Spirit works through our experiences of suffering, supporting, comforting, strengthening and reminding us that, despite what we feel and what might be happening around us, we are beloved children of God. Romans 8 is the key text for this. Paul begins the chapter with a bold statement: "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (v1). This assurance lays the foundation for his teaching on suffering. Paul wants believers to understand that, in the face of suffering, God is with us more closely and intimately than we can imagine. Suffering must not, therefore, be interpreted as a moment when we've been abandoned – or worse, as some kind of punishment – but is instead part of what it means to follow Jesus; a shared experience he walks through with us and in us, to lead us into glory.

What was most helpful to me was the reassurance that through everything we have to deal with in life, we are beloved children of God. Nothing can separate us from His love.

Lucy Peppiatt again:

Paul recognises that suffering is painful, frightening and traumatic, and also understands that believers might feel abandoned. So he encourages us to have faith that the work of the Spirit is to assure us that we are beloved children, irrespective of the circumstances, and to remind us of a glorious inheritance that is ours in the future. "Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we might also share in his glory" (v17).

Romans 8 is one of my favourite passages in scripture because of the amazing promises it contains. It will be my chosen passage for my funeral service, because it sets out the hope we all have for a future without suffering and pain and death, a hope that everyone who puts their faith in Jesus as their Saviour and Lord can take hold of.

Suffering is temporary; God's love is eternal.

Andy Machin

Our duty Leadership Team member today is **Jim Howell**

Prayer Focus: We particularly lift up Jan Butler before the Lord this week, on the news of her cancer diagnosis. Please pray for Jan to experience the peace of Christ and the infilling presence of the Holy Spirit; we pray for John and Jenny and Danny as they all support Jan at this very difficult time for them as a family

Family Focus: Roger & Patricia Case, Jenny Chapman, Catherine Chirigido, Pola, Sarah, Laurie & Alice Chhin, Dennis & Claire Childs, Memory Chimombe,

If you want to make a direct payment/donation/standing order to the church the church account details are **sort code: 20-49-76 Acct no: 00143618**

Registered Charity Number
1132127

**A special Church Members Meeting Today following the service
To elect Kevin Gardener as a treasurer.**

Church Diary

Saturday 15th February

Sunday 16th February

Wednesday 19th February

Splash @ 9:30am

Prayer for Israel by zoom @ 2:00-3:00pm

Prayer for the Persecuted Church
@2pm-Iris Overton

Andy Machin is away from Monday 17th
to Wednesday 19th February.

The next Prayer for the Persecuted Church will be on Wednesday 19th February at Iris Overton's at 2pm. All who have a burden to pray for our Brothers and Sisters are most welcome. If you can't make the monthly meeting, which lasts an hour, but would like to have an Open Doors prayer guide at home, please contact Leslie on 01323 897699



Splash into colour

It's free, we can supply all the materials, just come along and enjoy, you can't get it wrong!
Bring a friend. Refreshments provided.
Saturday 15th February 9.30 - 12 noon
in the Main Hall

Help for Transport

I am compiling a list of names of people who would be willing to provide transport for members of fellowship to go to hospital appointments.
If you can help please let me know.
Thank you. Angela Ayres 07986 240013

Trish Hindley, grandma to Elisa Oakes (our Youth worker), attended SBC for a while. Her funeral service and celebration of life is on Monday 17th February 1:15pm at Life Church. All are invited to Seaford Cemetery for the Committal.

**'Pray 'n play'
Saturday 22nd February 2025**

Auditorium: Starting: 2.30 pm Ending: 4.00 pm



This is open to worshippers in SBC who love to sing and make music to the Lord.
A relaxed time to praise God in music and song, seeking Him and praying in an informal setting – together. We'll use this opportunity to learn some new songs of praise and worship too.

For details, contact Sally-Ann Fatkin
worship@seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk

M: 07799 818 590

Please send any notices for the Notice Sheet to
admin@seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk



Care and Share
Stair gate needed. Please contact
Patricia 01323 891158



Church Flowers
Alan Rogers