



A Passion for Jesus - A Love for Others

A Growing Community

We're on facebook

www.seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk

MINISTER

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TREASURER

Honorary Assistant

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CHURCH OFFICE

Tel. 01323 896009

Monday to Friday

9am to 12 noon

office@seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk

Trustees

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

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S WORK

Alex Drury-Gorham

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PRAYER CHAIN

Wendy Muller

Prayerchain

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EARLY BIRDS Pre-school

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earlybirds@

seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk

Wifi pass code for public use

01323896009

A Passion for Jesus - A Love for Others

Sunday 13th October 2024

Today's Speaker: Andy Machin

Leading Worship: Tom & Rosemary Batts

**The Armour of God 4 : Shoes of the Gospel of Peace
Isaiah 52:7-10**

Please join us for refreshments downstairs after the service

This week has been a momentous week in my life; on Sunday I announced to the church that I would be retiring from being the minister of SBC next June; and on Monday night our granddaughter Phoebe Elizabeth was born, a sister to Joshua. We are thrilled to be blessed with another grandchild, and I am hoping to go and see her on Saturday and have a cuddle!

When I was out shopping on Monday, I met one of our younger members ;she had heard about my retirement- she asked how did I feel about it?

My overwhelming feeling is of sadness, mixed with a little relief ; the burdens of being a local church pastor can be laid down, particularly the seemingly constant need to fill holes and find replacements for trustees and other leaders. What has surprised me about SBC is how fluid the church community is; people come and settle, and then they move to different parts of the country, and it makes it a real challenge to build on settled foundations.

The sadness is because I will miss being in pastoral oversight, journeying with people through their lives, sharing their joys and supporting them through sad times; seeing people come to faith in the Lord Jesus and baptising them; watching people grow in their faith. These are all energising and uplifting parts of the role of a minister, and I thank all of those who have been willing to share their personal lives and inmost thoughts with me. What a privilege that has been!

SBC has had an interesting history with its ministers; one church member was heard to say on Sunday- at least he's not leaving under a cloud, which I suppose is a compliment! Someone else said to me You've done well to survive for 8 years. Those comments highlight an issue that I hope you as a church congregation will take time to reflect upon; how realistic are your expectations of a paid minister? That time of reflection can start now, but I believe you should be clear about your collective answer to this before you go into the process of calling a new minister.

As the period without a minister is likely to be at least 18 months, we are proposing putting in place a small team of elders and we will be bringing this proposal to the church meeting next Tuesday. Elders are men and women who have the Christian character to be examples to the rest of the congregation, and the spiritual maturity to enable them to reach wise and balanced decisions on pastoral, doctrinal and practical issues facing the church.

The New Testament model of church is based upon a team ; Paul's picture of the Body of Christ with every member performing a useful function so the whole works together in harmony is the model for each local church. One of the distinctives about a Baptist church is that we are the priesthood of all believers; every member is a minister and a witness for Jesus Christ in the places that God has given them for their frontlines. We each have a part to play in the life of the local church.

God calls people with potential and giftings in leadership into each local church so that the church can be the most effective witness in its community. The people who can fulfil all the leadership roles at SBC including the roles of Trust Secretary and Treasurer are already part of the congregation; you just have to be open to God's leading, to be aware of the needs around you and be prepared to step up at this time of change to play your part in the new chapter that is beginning in this local church's life.

Andy Machin

Our duty Leadership Team member today is Angela Ayres

Pastoral Prayer:

- We pray for those in the congregation who face life-limiting conditions that God will give them strength for each day.

Family Focus: Chris & Gabby Tofts, Graham, Alyson & Amy Tucker, Peter & Sue Tulett, Paul & Sue Wallis and Family, Helen Webb, Elaine Westgate.

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**

Members' Meeting on Tuesday 15th October @ 7.30pm
The agenda has been sent out by email.
Please make every effort to come.



Andy & Liz have a new baby granddaughter
Phoebe Elizabeth born Monday 7th October
Congratulations to all the family.

Church Diary

Sunday 13th October	Prayer Changes Things @5pm Etherton Hall
Tuesday 15th October	Oasis Choir @ 1:30pm Oasis @ 2.15pm Etherton Hall Own Songs of Praise Members' Meeting @ 7.30pm
Wednesday 16th October	Prayer for Persecuted Church 2pm @ Iris Overton's home
Thursday 17th October	Held @ 9:45am - Lounge
Friday 18th October	Scallywags @ 9.30am - Hall Youth Groups @ 5pm-9pm
Saturday 19th	Pray & Play @ 10.15am Auditorium

DOT (Display Outreach Team) is preparing a large noticeboard display to include photos of some of the congregation. If you would like to be part of this please hand a photo to one of the DOT team: Rosemary Batts, Annette Jemison, Helen Howard and Jill Hughes.



LUNCH

Friday 25th October 2024
Cross Way Church
Clinton Place 12.30 to 2pm

Tickets £8 from Church Christian Aid representative
(Laurie Holland) or ring 01323 894899

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

Tools with a Mission (TWAM) are wanting to expand their distribution of tools in Africa. Does anyone have contacts or info that we could chase up in Zimbabwe, Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, DR Congo, Zambia, Malawi etc. These might be Churches, Skills Centres, Schools, Missionary Centres etc. Please contact John Butler 01323 890822 07885 484408 email jkb19m@gmail.com



Splash Art Group
Saturday 19th October
9.30 - 12 noon in the hall
All Welcome



Church Flowers
Tony & Mary Rowswell



Wendy Muller is away for two weeks but the Prayer Chain email will continue to be monitored. Please send urgent prayer requests to prayerchain@seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk Between 8am and 8pm.

Care and Share

Wanted: A very disabled lady is in need to get around. Does anyone have a mobility scooter they are not using? A lightweight suitable for a car would be ideal, also a stair gate needed.
Available: A single trolley bed, ideal as an extra. If anyone can help contact Patricia on 07973746482

Ordination

We have received an email from Luke Dowding sharing the news that he is being ordained as a minister at First Baptist Church, Halifax, Nova Scotia on Sunday 27th October. The service is at 5pm our time and is being live streamed. Please contact Luke at lukedowding@gmail.com if you would like to receive the link to live stream.



PRISONS WEEK

A week of prayer 13th-19th October. Resources available at

www.prisonsworld.org

Pray 'n play

Saturday 19th October 2024

Auditorium: Starting: 10.15am Ending: 12.15pm



This is open to worshippers in SBC who love to sing and make music to the Lord, gathering together in an informal setting.

This time is for praising God in music and song, seeking Him and praying together. We'll use this opportunity to learn some new songs of praise and worship too.

For details contact Sallyann Fatkin

worship@seafordbaptistchurch.org.uk