

**EBA Prayer Focus: Somersham Baptist Church**

Approximately nine miles east of Huntingdon lies the village of Somersham, home to Somersham Baptist Church. The small, galleried chapel is centrally located opposite Tesco Express whose footfall provides plentiful opportunities. Currently in pastoral vacancy the church is supported by its moderator, Richard Owen, and led by its deacons.

- The fellowship give thanks that one of the deacons is exploring a call to ministry.
- For the fellowship as they seek to reach their community.
- For good conversations as they distribute drinks as the Christmas lights switch-on.
- For the right minister to become part of the fellowship.
- Please pray for God’s Spirit to bring the people of Somersham into His Kingdom.

**Walton Parish Nursing**

- Please continue to pray for Lorna, John and the volunteers, trustees and management team.

**MRBC**

- Pray for those in the fellowship who are unwell or who need our prayers at present.
- Pray that the Lord will provide the finance we need to cover the cost of the recent repairs.
- Pray for our Christmas Services, that they may be a time of rejoicing and expectancy for what Jesus, the Light of the world brings to us.

**Nation & World**

- Pray for our national leaders that they may take wise action as they try to assess and respond to the Omicron Variant.
- Pray that the public will respond well to the new constraints that are being placed on them to counter the spread of Omicron.

**December Birthdays**

20<sup>th</sup> Carol G

**Church Contacts**

<b>Pastor</b>	Mark Reid	01394 822173	pastor@mrbcfelixstowe.org.uk
<b>Church Secretary</b>	Corinne Stockdale		secretary@mrbcfelixstowe.org.uk
<b>Weekly Prayer Update</b>	Steve Lineham		prayer@mrbcfelixstowe.org.uk
<b>Weekly Sheet</b>	Lisa Ransom		notices@mrbcfelixstowe.org.uk

Welcome to Maidstone Road Baptist Church

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021  
**The Nativity Service**

*Leader: Mark Reid*  
A live service in church @ MRBC

This week	
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am The Nativity Service 2021 Leader: Mark Reid Live in church
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00am and 11.30am Chair-Based Exercise – MRBC Last session this year. Restart 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2022 (TBC)
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	10.30am Zoom Coffee and Chat For login details please contact Gordon Cooper.
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	4.00pm Carols by Candlelight NB – No morning Service Live in Church



**Today is our annual Nativity Service.** It’s different this year because it’s an Instant Nativity which is like the original nativity story and life generally: full of surprises and messy, not a finely rehearsed theatrical production. If you did not come prepared as a Mary, Joseph, Shepherd, Wise Man or Angel, there are a supply of costumes for you to use – or why not just help us with animal sounds – there are cards on each seat. In everything have fun and allow God to reveal something new about the birth of His Son, Jesus.

**Church Website: [mrbcfelixstowe.org.uk](http://mrbcfelixstowe.org.uk)**

**Got a notice for the Sheet?**  
Fellowship prayer requests go to Steve by Friday morning  
Notices for the weekly sheet to Lisa R by Friday evening

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Regular Activities

Because of the constraints placed on us by the Coronavirus pandemic, the only Church activities running at present are those listed in the Weekly Sheet

### SERVICES IN DECEMBER

#### Christmas Services

**12th December - Nativity service**

**19th December - Carols by Candlelight @ 4.00pm**

*Please note there will be no Morning Service on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>.*

**25<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Day Service**

**Please note that there will be no service on 26th December.**

### Church Funds

Many thanks to all who have given towards the church ceiling repairs. The work (including the window repairs) cost us nearly £12,500, but some recent generous gifts mean we have now covered over half the costs. But we need at least another £6,000 in order to replenish our bank account. It may be that, with Christmas spending out of the way, some of us may be able to make further gifts. Please prayerfully consider this.

## REGULAR STUFF

**Leadership Team** – usually monthly first Tuesday.  
Next Meeting – **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm

**Church Meeting** – usually bi-monthly third Tuesday.  
Next meeting - **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.30pm. (At Church).

**Prayer Meeting** – bi-monthly on first Saturday  
Next Meeting – **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January** at 10.30am

### Special church meeting Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022

We will hold a special church meeting at the conclusion of the service on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to formalise our holding church meetings by Zoom or other electronic means. There will be one resolution: we adopt the updated constitution, dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022, that formalises our being able to hold church meetings by electronic means. Visitors and guests are welcome to remain with us for what should be a brief meeting.

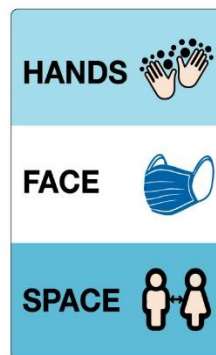
Small Groups	
<b>Felixstowe Afternoon Group (Margaret Lines/Ingrid Fenn)</b>	Fridays Fortnightly
<b>Trimley Evening Group (Andrew Marfleet)</b>	Mondays Fortnightly
<b>Old Felixstowe Daytime Group (Steve Lineham)</b>	Meeting every 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> <b>Wednesday</b> of the month. Contact Steve Lineham for more info.
<b>Felixstowe Morning Group (Brian and Dot Salway)</b>	Please contact Brian Salway for more information.

### PLEASE READ – Essential COVID Information

As of Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December, it became mandatory for everyone to wear a face covering in all indoor public spaces, including places of worship unless you are exempt because of a medical condition. You must wear a face covering at all times whether standing, sitting, or moving around.

The only exceptions are as follows:

- If we are eating or drinking, but we have to put masks back on once we have finished. Churches are not covered by restaurant/bar/club exemptions.
- We are also still legally permitted, if we wish, to remove our face coverings to sing if we would like to. We would ask that all who wish to do so, to sit in the area to the right as you enter the church from the schoolroom. However, the Government has asked that due to the known high transmissibility of Omicron and the as yet unknown effects of the variant on those infected, that each of us consider keeping our face covering on whilst singing.



### Forward Notice.

#### Weekly Sheets, Service Transcripts and Notes for Reflection & Discussion.

Our Weekly Sheet will continue to be available at church and online in the coming weeks. However, apart from today, transcripts and discussion material will not be available for any service until 2<sup>nd</sup> January.



### Walton Parish Nursing Contacts

Lorna Bellamy	07969901001	Tues/Weds/Thurs 9.00 am - 4.00 pm
John Gillett	07909888703	Tues/Thurs 8.30 am - 4.30 pm

# Other Notices

**Christians Against Poverty in Felixstowe are looking to recruit a Debt Centre Coach to work alongside Rick, the Debt Centre Manager.**

Are you passionate about sharing your Christian faith and caring for people, who for a variety of reasons are in debt and need CAP's help? This is an opportunity to connect with people some of whom would never go near a church.

You should be comfortable working with numbers, and able to effectively work with and understand a household budget. You should have the desire and be able to explain the Gospel in a clear, relevant and natural way. And can commit 8 hours a week to the role.

For further information please contact Steve Lineham [steve.lineham@btinternet.com](mailto:steve.lineham@btinternet.com).  
Closing date for applications – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022



## Churches Together in Felixstowe

There are no Community Prayers this month. **The next CTF Community Prayers will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 11am.** The theme is Christian Persecution in the Middle East and will be led by John Gillett (Open Doors).

**Unity Week**  
**18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January**

Including

**CTF Pilgrimage – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

**United Service - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 3.30pm at River of Life Church**

**More information to follow.**

## Chair-based Exercise

The last class for 2021 will take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December and there will be a two week break. We hope to return on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the usual times.



## **DO YOU HAVE TO TAKE TABLETS?**

Then, like me, no doubt you end up with lots of those plastic pop-out sheets. We have discovered that the Methodist churches in Felixstowe have a scheme to collect them and take them for recycling!

**SO** - there is a **box by the back door** to collect all you can bring, and we will then make sure they are taken to the nearest collection point -Superdrug In Bury St Edmunds.

**AND** - In future, if anyone happens to be going over there, maybe you would volunteer to deliver a package.

Let's see what we can do in a small way to help the environment. Any questions, see me.

*Delyth*



**Churches Together in Felixstowe**

**Community Prayers**  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 11.00am**  
Via Zoom