

...a warm welcome to ebenezer...

Ebenezer Baptist Church  
250 years  
1771 – 2021



Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying,  
‘Thus far the Lord has helped us.’

1 Samuel 7:12 (NIVUK)

**Ebenezer means ‘stone of help’**

enews items to: [enews@rockofhelp.org.uk](mailto:enews@rockofhelp.org.uk)

Registered Charity 1148674. Contact us: [ebenezer@rockofhelp.org.uk](mailto:ebenezer@rockofhelp.org.uk) 1

## Our buildings and Government Restrictions

*Neil says:*

Our buildings are currently closed, please do not enter them without permission from the Deacons.

Thank you.

## Today: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

**There is NO Junior Church as it is half term.**

**Junior Church Live resumes on 28<sup>th</sup> February.**

**11.00am Live stream! On Facebook**

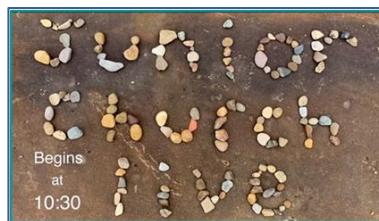
## **Charity and Ready to Care for the Poor Proverbs 14:31 James 2:1-9**

Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker,  
but whoever is kind to the needy honours God. Proverbs 14:31 (NIVUK)

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself,’ you are doing right James 2:8 (NIVUK)

Sunday 28th February: Second Sunday in Lent

**10.30am Live Stream! on Facebook**



**11.00am Live Stream! On Facebook**

## **Ready to speak kind words Proverbs 12:18**

The words of the reckless pierce like swords,  
but the tongue of the wise brings healing. (NIVUK)

**6pm Ebenezer Songs of Praise on Zoom (see below)**

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## **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February 6pm Ebenezer Songs of Praise on Zoom**

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David Grassam says:

It would be great if we could widen the scope of those joining in our second "Songs of Praise"!

This time I hope the children and young people will suggest praise songs they would like us to sing and, if possible, tell us why they like them, with parents' help if necessary!

The worship with the children and young peoples' suggestions would start the event and last approximately 15 minutes.

For the next section I am hoping that we can have choices from our Mustard Seed members. We know that they are missing meeting with us.

After that we can continue with other worship songs and hymns.

Of course, this will only work if we have contributions!

Please let me know by **Friday 26th February** what you wish us to sing and ideally share why your choice means so much to you.

Please let me know the internet link to your choice if you have it. It would be so encouraging if you were able to share a testimony about your song or hymn.

Please contact me [grassam@mac.com](mailto:grassam@mac.com) or by telephone 367393.

This is the Zoom link:

David Grassam is inviting you to Ebenezer Songs of Praise Time:  
Feb 28, 2021 06:00 PM London

Join

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84855802429?pwd=ZWU4R2I4SEV1VHkwdU9DRGttTHR6QT09>

Meeting ID: 848 5580 2429 Passcode: 334279

One tap mobile 02030512874,,84855802429#,,,\*334279#

Or dial 0203 051 2874 Meeting ID: 848 5580 2429 Passcode: 334279

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## Mission Updates

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Find them on the church website, Resources tab, Noticeboard  
<https://www.rockofhelp.org.uk/noticeboard>

- ✚ Release International: How are you persevering under lockdown
- ✚ Ed Preston UCCF

Ed says:

Dear friends, family and supporters,

I hope you're well and managing to press on during this difficult time.

On your church website is my new update letter with news about my work with UCCF and the Prestons more generally. At a time when there isn't much happening, I've really enjoyed taking a little time this afternoon to stop and remember all that God has been doing recently. I hope this encourages you as much as it has me! I always love receiving updates and news from you in return so please do pass anything you'd like to on to me ([epreston@uccf.org.uk](mailto:epreston@uccf.org.uk)). I am thankful to God for your support and I would love to add any of your requests to my prayers of thanks for you all.

Blessings, Ed

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## Yorkshire Baptist Association Prayer Diary 2021

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enews editor says:

Please pray this week for:

- ✚ Bramley Baptist Church, Leeds  
<https://www.bramleybaptist.org.uk/>
- ✚ Bridlington Baptist Church  
<http://www.bridlingtonbaptistchurch.org.uk/>

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## Pray for our Leaders

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Thursday    4<sup>th</sup> March                  9.30am                  Elders' Meeting

...brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured 2 Thessalonians 3:1 (NIVUK)

enews items to: [enews@rockofhelp.org.uk](mailto:enews@rockofhelp.org.uk)

Registered Charity 1148674. Contact us: [ebenezer@rockofhelp.org.uk](mailto:ebenezer@rockofhelp.org.uk) 4

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## Covid Vaccine Statement

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Neil says:

It is distressing to see how fake news about the Covid vaccine continues to be spread around, so I will repeat what I said on two recent Sunday services:

Faith leaders from all faiths across the country have endorsed various statements encouraging people to be vaccinated.

I can tell you that the vaccines

- ⊕ contain no animal products
- ⊕ they contain no human embryo cells
- ⊕ they do not alter your DNA
- ⊕ nor do they have microchips in them

There is a lot of nonsense out there about them which we have to debunk. Vaccines offered in the UK have been tested as thoroughly as any vaccine ever is.

One of the many statements I endorse reads

*"We urge all faith communities to take measures that will ensure their safety and the safety of others. Furthermore, we support the Covid-19 vaccination programme across the community and we encourage people to be vaccinated so that they keep themselves and their neighbours safe."*

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## Giving glory to God

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Neil says:

As Christians our lives are a living image of what happens when a life encounters God. We have a story of God engaging with humans to tell, because each day of our lives is part of that story.

Telling that story is part of our journey as it tells others about a God who loves us, not just the day we came to faith but also the countless moments each day when God intersects with our lives (although we often aren't that good at noticing those!).

Telling the story allows others to come to faith, and it gives glory to God.

I would love to share those stories in our Sunday Gatherings, so please drop me an email and we can make it happen; it could be the story of when you came to faith and that would be great, but I'd also love to hear the stories of what God has done in the last days or weeks.

Please contact me at [minister@rockofhelp.org.uk](mailto:minister@rockofhelp.org.uk)

## **250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service and Ebenezer The Baptist Times**

**'A fascinating true story of struggle, hardship and the faithful determination of those past and present'**

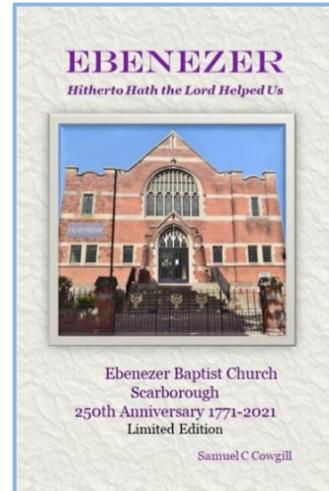
**A new book chronicling the history of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Scarborough marks the church's 250th anniversary**

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Baptist Church in Scarborough (1771-2021), the members of Ebenezer were, during 2020, busy planning in January 2021 a full year's activity including an event each month to serve the town of Scarborough. Sadly, Covid-19 prevented the fellowship from physically gathering together.

Pastor Neil Douglas said, 'Although we are disappointed that we cannot meet in person to celebrate our 250th anniversary, we felt it important to care for our local community by not meeting during the national lockdown and plan to meet and celebrate properly when it is safe to do so in the coming months.'

Not daunted, an online celebratory service took place on Sunday 24 January, at which the Revd Mary Taylor spoke and the Revd Clive Burnard, a former Captain of Scarborough Rugby Union Club and now a Baptist Regional Minister, preached from 1 Samuel 7:12.

Alongside the online celebration, a book has been specially written for the anniversary. Titled *Ebenezer*, it spans 250 years of history from its founding in 1771 by William Hague to the present day. Penned locally by a church member, it is a fascinating true story of struggle, hardship and the faithful determination of those past and present who have trusted Jesus and continue to share with the community His 'Good News'.



Meticulously researched, it explores an era when 'Baptist' or 'Non-Conformist' Christians met scorn as they desired to worship Jesus free from the restraints of the established church and Government. It also examines the worldwide impact of the Church and how its members took the good news of the Gospel from Scarborough to America, India, China and Africa.

Written to give God the Glory, the author, Sam Cowgill, said, 'It is a book to inspire, encourage and draw readers into a world where Jesus is the centre of their lives.'

Sam explained the book was an opportunity to:

- ⊕ step into the era of John Wesley, James Cook and John Harrison and find out what it meant to be labelled a non-conformist/dissenter.
- ⊕ discover how the hard-working people of God used speech, pen and actions to gain social reform for those less favoured in society.
- ⊕ walk through 250 years of prayer, praise and worship of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Scarborough as its people continue to tell of the 'Good News' of Jesus Christ.'

The book highlights the story William Hague, the founder of Ebenezer Baptist Church: his humble beginnings, his longing to read and write, his imprisonment, and subsequent release and the founding of the Baptists in Scarborough, through to his last days. Several passages are in his own words as the church still has his own written record of his testimony, the beginning of the church and several of the poems he wrote.

The book also relates numerous lovable characters such as:

Captain James Hague (1767-1846), born in Scarborough and the son of William Hague, who commanded a ship in the East-Indian trade. When in Calcutta, India, he hired a house and put it at the services of the celebrated British missionary Dr William Carey, so he could meet Hindi merchants. Dr. William Carey was a Baptist minister, translator, social reformer, anthropologist and founder of the Serampore College and University, the first in India to award degrees. William Carey is known as the 'father of modern missions'.

James Hague became interested in the English Baptist Mission at Serampore, Calcutta, administered by Drs. Carey, Marshman and Ward, known as the Serampore Trio. James spent part of his Sunday working there. When back home in New York, he spent many an evening telling the local Baptists the news from India in minute and lively statements that letters could not convey.

Described as a national leader, author, editor and historian, here are the last recorded words of Dr Benjamin Evans, Ebenezer's fourth Pastor who passed away in 1871; just after the 100th anniversary of Ebenezer.

*Beloved brethren - pastors may die - useful officers of the church will be called home.*

*Members may leave you, and others may make shipwrecks of faith; but never forget - the Great Master lives. His interest never weakens, His presence is never absent from your holy gatherings. He is the same yesterday today and forever. Seeing you have obtained help of God; you continue to this day.*

*Be not weary in well-doing, for in due season you shall reap if you faint not. Therefore my beloved brethren, be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.*

Author Sam added, 'A book to inspire and encourage, it makes an ideal present for loved ones, a keep-sake for the children, a collector's item or just to enjoy as a good read; whatever the reason, the 196 paged book is well worth the money at £7 per book or 4 for £20.'

**Copies are available to order via Ebenezer Baptist Church Columbus Ravine, Scarborough YO12 7QZ.**

**An order form is on the church website:**

**[www.rockofhelp.org.uk/book](http://www.rockofhelp.org.uk/book)**

Baptist Times, 09/02/2021

You can read this article online:

[https://baptisttimes.co.uk/Articles/602469/Struggle\\_hardship\\_and.aspx](https://baptisttimes.co.uk/Articles/602469/Struggle_hardship_and.aspx)

Roberta says:

RebootNY is a collaborative project led and co-ordinated by North Yorkshire County Council. It brings together a wide range of partners and community organisations across the County – including businesses, libraries, schools, local charities and volunteers – to help provide people across North Yorkshire with IT equipment and access to the internet so they can stay connected.

They are committed to supporting people across the County – especially during COVID lockdown and restrictions such as:

**School children** who need access to these resources to continue their learning from home and to help take pressure away from their parents or guardians.

**Elderly people** who may be experiencing long periods of social isolation and who need help to get online -to help them both stay connected to friends and family, and to enable them to access vital support and services.

**Vulnerable people** who need digital access to support their mental health and wellbeing.

We all recognise the significant impact technology can have on people's lives and that there are people in Scarborough, and more widely, North Yorkshire, who are not yet able to share these benefits. RebootNY wants to address this by getting as many people online as possible.

Your contribution can make a difference!

**Which items can be donated?**

Any smartphone, tablet or laptop donations would be appreciated, with any chargers or cables where possible. Devices need to be less than 10 years old and in working order when donated.

## [How can I clear data off my device before donating?](#)

All personal data **must** be cleared from the device before we can pass it on and **must** be re-set to Factory Settings. If you need help with deleting data from your device, please let me know. I know a man who can!

## [Where do I drop-off devices to donate?](#)

Devices can be donated at

### **Scarborough Library, Vernon Road, Scarborough.**

Donations need to be dropped off during the Library's open hours (**Mon-Fri 9am – 4.30 and Saturdays 9am – 3pm**) and adhering to COVID safety guidelines.

There will be a table with a collecting box just inside the foyer. If you are unable to take the device in person, please let me know and I will arrange collection.

Please contact me at [robertae@rockofhelp.co.uk](mailto:robertae@rockofhelp.co.uk) if you need further information.

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