



# WELCOME





We're delighted you want to know a bit more about Stirling Baptist Church, and we hope you quickly feel at home here.

This booklet is designed to give you more of an idea about who we are, and what we do.

As a church, we are striving to be a Spirit-filled and empowered witnessing community. We want to be a community following the calling of God over our lives, and reaching out into the city around us, from the very youngest to the very oldest.

At SBC we want to create a relaxed, friendly and informal atmosphere where people can belong and grow in their relationship with God, and in relationship with each other.

We look forward to meeting you soon.



We believe our impact starts right where we are. That's why we are passionate about being a worshipping community. As we encounter God together, we learn more about who he is, and what he wants for our lives, and for the people around us.

## I'm new to all this. Where do I start?

If you're looking for a church to call your spiritual home, or are exploring faith, we'd love the chance to meet you.

**Sunday  
Worship** Sunday services happen every week. In person and online at 9:30am, in person at 11am. 4.30pm Cafe Church

There are a few great ways to get involved with the life of SBC and get to know people:

Join a small group - small groups are where we go deeper in relationship with each other, and with God.

Join a team - it's a great way to meet new people and use the gifts God has given you.

Got kids? Get connected with our SBC Kids and SBC Youth ministries. It's a great way to meet other parents too!



We are called to be a  
**Spirit-filled** and **empowered**  
witnessing community, **Locally,**  
**Regionally,** and **Beyond**



# What we believe

1. We are Christo-centric. We believe Jesus is the hope of the world and his death and resurrection invites new possibilities, setting us free from God's judgment and inviting us to live in a new way.
2. We are Biblio-centric. We affirm the Bible, the Old and New Testament, as the only authoritative witness and record of God's dealings with humanity and His self-revelation through Christ. It is binding in all matters of faith and practice. However, we also recognise our interpretations and applications of scripture are flawed and we must always be open to learning and challenge.
3. We are inclusive: We believe the gospel of Jesus Christ and his church is for everyone. Everyone is welcome to be part of this community no matter sexual orientation, marital status, or personal challenges. Together as broken people we seek what it means to follow Jesus.
4. We are unashamedly egalitarian. We believe men and women are equal before God and all areas of ministry and offices of the church should be open to them. We stand against sexism in all its forms (especially that which would exclude women on religious grounds) or racism that denies people dignity and roles based on the colour of their skin or ethnic origin.



# Sundays

## **Before the service**

Come early and have a blether! Before the service is a great time to catch up with old friends or meet someone new.

## **Bringing the kids?**

We run groups for kids and youth in creche right up to S6. Find out more on pages 13-15.

## **During the service**

We spend time in sung worship, prayer, and hear a bible-based talk.

## **After the service**

Once the service ends, we all head downstairs to the “middle floor” for tea, coffee and more chat. If you’re new, head to the welcome area to chat more about who we are.

# Small Groups

We are passionate about being community. One of the best ways you can get plugged in to the life of Stirling Baptist is by joining a Small Group.

Our small groups are where we get together and run hard and fast into all God has for us, going deeper in relationship with Him and each other.

If you want to know more, or would like to join a Small Group, just get in touch with Pastor Brian: [brian.talbot@stirlingbaptist.co.uk](mailto:brian.talbot@stirlingbaptist.co.uk)





**Do not worry** about anything;  
instead **pray** about **everything**.

**Tell God** what you need and  
**thank Him** for all he has done

- Philippians 4:6



# Prayer

We believe in the transformational power of prayer. It's at the centre of everything we do.

There are a few different ways to get involved with prayer at Stirling Baptist.

## **Prayer Groups**

Groups of 2-4 meeting together regularly to pray together and encourage each other.

## **Family Life Centre Prayer**

A monthly prayer meeting focused on the ongoing work of the FLC.

## **Mission Partner Prayer**

Meeting together to pray for our Global and Regional Partners.

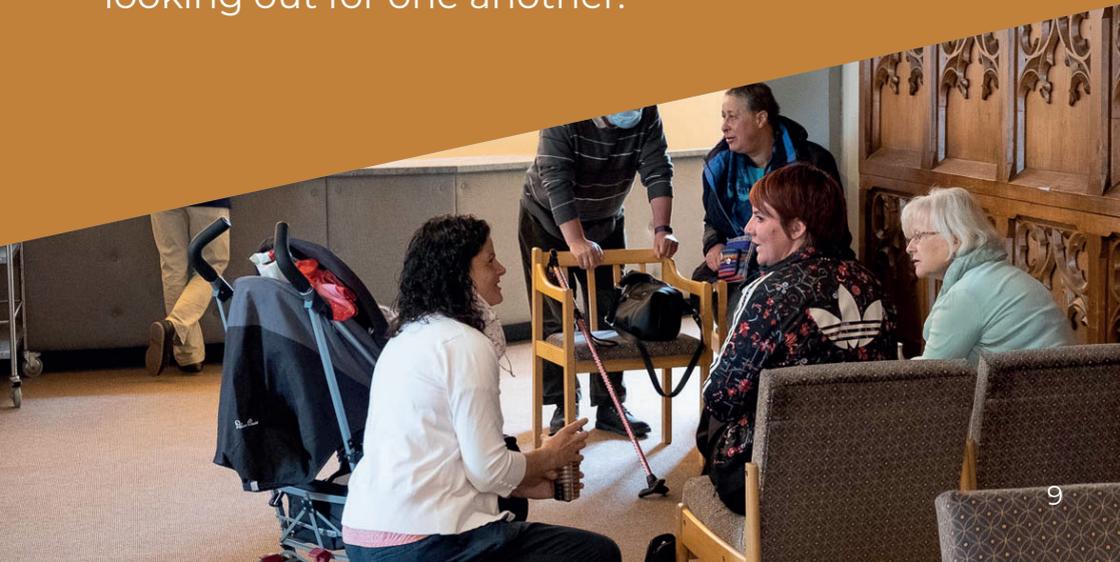
Throughout the year we organise times of prayer which the whole church can get involved with together to pray for each other, our church, our city and surrounding areas, our country and world and any particular focus we have as a church.

# Pastoral Care

Here at SBC we have a Pastoral Care team who are passionate about getting alongside those who are struggling and in need of support. If you feel like you could use some more support the team would love to hear from you.

Pastor Rosey oversees all our organised pastoral visits. Get in touch with her at:  
[rosey.mcfarlane@stirlingbaptist.co.uk](mailto:rosey.mcfarlane@stirlingbaptist.co.uk)

Being community is one of our priorities. It's how we were made to be. Whether it's making a call, meeting up for a coffee or going for a walk, listening to each other, praying for each other or helping out in practical ways. It's all part and parcel of being family. We all have a part to play in looking out for one another.



# Community

We believe God has called us to reach out beyond the walls of our church building. We do this in a few different ways.

## **Family Life Centre**

The Family Life Centre is a hub of support designed to strengthen family life in Stirling and beyond. The FLC offers one to one support for individuals, parents/carers and families through counselling and listening services, play therapy for kids, and Heart to Heart.

Heart to Heart exists to bring hope to those affected by divorce or separation. They have one to one befriending for 8-18s, and adult peer support courses.

## **The Haven**

The Haven aims to support the community living in the 'Top of the Town' area, which has recognised social need and deprivation. We do this through initiatives like Homework Club for the local kids, Tots groups, recovery support, and school holiday clubs. Ultimately, want to see lives transformed by Christ.

## **Lifeway**

Lifeway is a group made up of adults with learning difficulties, support workers and volunteers that has been meeting weekly since 1966. At Lifeway everyone is valued and included. We drink tea and coffee, chat, sing, share our news and concerns, pray for each other, learn about Jesus and always have a laugh. Ceilidhs and singalongs are always part of the Lifeway year, music, dancing, singing, fish and chips, what is there not to enjoy?

## **Callander**

Callander Baptist Fellowship is an expression of SBC based in and around the town of Callander. With weekly prayer meetings and small groups, and a weekly service, there's lots to get involved with.

## **Forth Valley CAP Debt Centre**

Fiona heads up the CAP centre here in Forth Valley. Christians Against Poverty exist to bring hope to those impacted by debt. If you're feeling weighed down by debt and would like practical support, get in touch on 0800 328 0006. There is hope.

# Mission



We support long-term mission partners globally and closer to home, and operate a Short-Term Mission Programme, enabling all ages to step out in mission opportunities from a few weeks to a year.

The Global Partners group facilitates prayer, care and sharing information about our mission partners and what they're up to with the wider church family.

We also have a corporate mission focus.



# SBC Kids

SBC Kids is our children's ministry. With groups for creche kids all the way up to P7, there's something for everyone!

We believe that the children of our church aren't just the church of the future, they're the church of *now*. That's why we take learning about Jesus together so seriously and want to help each child discover what it means to be friends with Jesus for themselves.

## **Creche (both services)**

Space for your 0-2s to play during the service.

## **Little Sparks (first service)**

Where our pre-schoolers hang out, play, craft, and hear bible stories.

## **Ignite (first service)**

Fun and engaging group for P1-5s

## **Wildfire (first service)**

A chance for our older kids to go deeper with Jesus, while learning some outdoor skills.

## **Church in the Trees**

Monthly group for all primary aged children to explore the outdoors and learn all about Jesus.

A group of children in a field, with a brown overlay containing text. The children are in the foreground, and the background is a blurred green field. The text is white and centered on the brown overlay.

Let the little **children come** to  
me, and do not **hinder** them,  
for the **kingdom** of heaven  
belongs to such as **these**

- Matthew 19:14



# SBC Youth

We know God's heart for our young people is for each of them to have a deep and firm faith of their own, and it's a privilege we get to have a part in their journeys.

## **Sunday Mornings**

Sunday mornings for S1-4 spent looking at the big questions of faith.

## **Focus**

Our Sunday evening group for S1-6 with games, challenges, and the chance to go deeper with God.

## **Discipleship Groups**

Mid week groups meeting in Stirling and Callander to go deeper into the bible.

There are also socials, youth festivals, weekends away and more throughout the year - plenty to get involved with!



**We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.**

- Psalm 78:4

# Students

We know that each student has not been placed here by accident, but that God has a plan and purpose for their time in Stirling.

If you're a student we'd love to get to know you and help you feel like part of the SBC family. Maybe you're exploring faith for the first time. We'd love to chat to you about who Jesus is and what it means to follow him.



# Serving

If you're new to SBC, or you've been coming along for a while and want to get involved there's one great way to do this - join a team! We believe everyone has God-given gifts and skills. Joining a team is more than just using the skills you have. It's a great way to serve the church and each other, as well as meet new people. Here are just a few of the teams we have for you to get involved with.



Welcome Team



Sound/Screen Team



Tea & Coffee Team



Kids Team



Youth Team



Stewarding Team

Find out more by emailing [admin@stirlingbaptist.co.uk](mailto:admin@stirlingbaptist.co.uk)

# Giving

The fellowship of SBC give generously of their time and money to support the many ministries and activities of the church in Stirling and further afield. Giving is an important expression of our worship and we are encouraged to give careful thought to how we can honour God with our resources.

If you would like to financially support the work of SBC, here are some methods you can use:

## 1. By standing order (preferred method)

Account Name:

Sort Code:

Account Number:

Reference:

Stirling Baptist Church

80-91-29

0081 6340

Your full name

2. Cash, cheques and vouchers from organisations like Stewardship Services can be place in the offering at any Sunday service.

If you are a UK taxpayer, fill out a **Charity Gift Aid Declaration** to boost your giving by 25p for every £1 you give. For more information email [susie.gooding@stirlingbaptist.co.uk](mailto:susie.gooding@stirlingbaptist.co.uk)

# Who's who

## Staff



Rev. Dr. Alasdair Black  
Senior Pastor



Rev. Brian Talbot  
Pastor



Rev. Rosey McFarlane  
Pastor



Charlie Banks  
Youth Worker



Ruth Crockett  
Children's Worker



Michele Gibbons  
FLC Worker



Mylene Herd  
Community Team  
Leader



Christina MacDonald  
Heart to Heart  
Supervisor



Fiona Welsh  
CAP Debt Manager



Beth Dodds  
Administrator



Susie Gooding  
Finance Manager



Jen McFarland  
Administrator

# Who's who

## *Deacons*



Duncan Baird



Mark Chance



Alex Dobson



Kate Fenn-Tye



Fiona Johnstone



Helen Laing



Rebecca Lawrence



Heather McFarland



Graham Whitehead



Eddie Williamson

## *Trustees*



Alec Carstairs  
Treasurer



Audrey Ross  
Secretary



Michael Wright

# Find it



67 Murray Place  
Our main city-centre building  
hosting services, groups,  
courses and more.



2nd floor, 61-63 Murray Place  
The location of our counselling  
& listening services, play  
therapy, Heart to Heart and  
more.



1st floor, 61-63 Murray Place  
Our city centre space for  
young people.



2-4 Bow Street  
The base for our Top of the  
Town outreach programmes.



# Get in touch

e: [admin@stirlingbaptist.co.uk](mailto:admin@stirlingbaptist.co.uk)  
t: 01786 450 581

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Scottish Company #SC470156