

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH

'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.' John 3:16



NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2014

ST. MARY'S GATE
DUNSTABLE
BEDFORDSHIRE
LU6 3SW

WWW.DUNSTABLEBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG

INDEPENDENT GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH BASED UPON THE BIBLE

Dear Friends,

As most of you know Barbara and I are on the move. Admittedly not very far. As we reflect on living for nearly 23 in our present home we, as with us all, have experienced many blessings, joys and sorrows. However, we thank God that amidst all the circumstances of life he has been a wise, gracious and loving heavenly Father.

Temporary Move

Any move from one home to another is merely temporary. Even if we live in one place all our lives our 'sojourn' here on earth is short compared to eternity. For believers in Christ the greatest blessing, in this life, is to know him whom to know is life eternal (**Eph 1:7, 11; Col 1:14; 1 John 5:13**). However, what does it mean to know him? How often do we meditate on the beauty of our Saviour? Are we those who say of our beloved, as the Shulamite shepherdess said of her's '**he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved**' and he is the '**Chief among ten thousand**' (**S of S 5:16, 10**). By the eye of faith and through prayer and the reading of the Scriptures, especially those portions that speak of the Saviour's attributes, and by the grace of the Holy Spirit, may we desire and be enabled to gaze on the divine glories of Christ - his holiness, his love, his compassion, his wisdom and power. Above all else to remind ourselves constantly of his willingness in great love and mercy to suffer the shame and agony of Calvary to save us from the consequences of our sin.

Permanent Move

Paul writes concerning the suffering that believers pass through '**For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory**' (**2 Cor 4:17**). Christ has prepared a heavenly and permanent home for his people (**John 14:1-3**) in which the supreme blessing will be to gaze upon his very person and presence. To see him face to face in all his beauty and loveliness, with unveiled eyes, will truly be an indescribable joy. John the apostle had the enormous joy and privilege of seeing the risen Christ in all his effulgent glory, whilst exiled on the Island of Patmos. He '**fell at his feet as dead**' (**Rev 1:17**) such was the overpowering manifestation and image of the Lord that confronted John. However, when our Saviour is revealed in all his glory we too will fall at his feet but not as dead but in an act of worship and praise (**Phil 2:11**).

Peter, concerning believers, could write of the testing of their faith that they '**may be found to praise, honour, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith - the salvation of your souls**' (**1 Peter 1:8-9**).

Though we pass through various trials and experiences in this life we can rejoice in the sure knowledge that we have a home in heaven and we will receive the end of our faith - the loving reality of our Lord's glory and presence. We shall be like him and with him forever. In the meanwhile may we, by God's grace, seek day by day to grow in grace and knowledge of our Saviour (**2 Pete 3:18**).

RS

Ron & Barbara Shipton's move

We would like to thank all those who sent cards and good wishes for our move to Elliot Court. Here are our new address, telephone number and email address:

29 Elliott Court. High Street North. Dunstable. LU6 1FN

Tel: 01582 271251.

Email rbjshipton@sky.com



SATURDAY APRIL 12TH

RNLI FLAG DAY

On April 12th, the local branch of the RNLI will be holding a flag day - where the intrepid few gather together and raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institute. Despite the standing comment that we are so far away from the sea, every pound we can raise is put to good use.

We will be using the chapel as our base / control centre for the day, and any would like to offer an hour of time to help with this endeavour should contact Martin or Christine Wild to see what is involved.

We are aware that there are many demands made on our resources and nobody can give all that they would like - but an hour or so of time doesn't cost much.

If we don't see you then - have a good break over Easter.

Regards,
Martin and Christine Wild



1. We are arranging a Caring for Life fund raising evening when the main event will be a quiz with a difference, which we are calling "BAFFLING BYGONES". The Quiz master will bring along some 30 items from past times. Each of these will have a label with 4 different suggestions of what it might have been, & working in small groups the participants guess which one is correct.

Saturday 26th April at Dunstable Baptist Chapel

starting 6.45pm

with a Finger Buffet during the interval

concluding with a short Caring for Life DVD

Tickets are £6 per person and need to be purchased by 19th April

- available from Elaine Snuggs 37 Norcott Close, Dunstable

tel 01582 665188 email john.snuggs@btinternet.com

We do hope that you will be able to come and support this event

2. A very special thanks to all those who supported the recent 'Pause for a Cause' Coffee Morning - an amazing £885 was raised for the ministry of CFL
3. Next CFL Support Group Meeting is Wednesday 16th April starting at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. All are welcome.
4. BBC SONGS OF PRAISE on EASTER Sunday will include a special feature about Caring for Life.

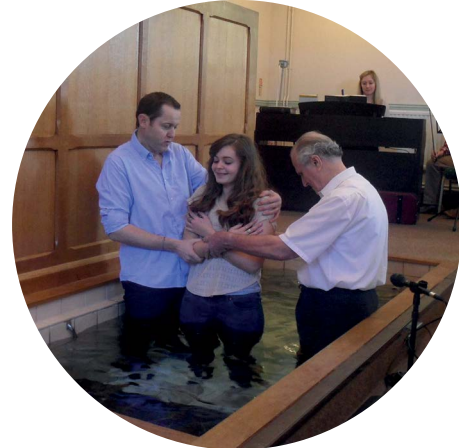


A Family Fun Day in Priory Gardens on Saturday 17th May

Can you help with a children's craft activity?

Please speak to Sarah Woodruff as soon as possible
so we can book a pitch for a gazebo

It was a joy to witness Lydia's recent baptism at the church on Sunday 16th February.



CHURCH HOLIDAY – 2014 LETTON HALL

It's last calls now for the Church Holiday for 2014!! We are off to Letton Hall in Norfolk and for those of you who aren't aware of it, some of the holiday details are as follows;

- We are returning to the lovely Letton Hall, Norfolk – a big old country house with lovely grounds and its own go kart track!! We have booked karting sessions on the Tuesday and Thursday
- We are going from Monday May 26th to Friday May 30th. This is half term week and the schools are closed so we will be able to accommodate all families
- Everybody is welcome to come. There are no age restrictions. As in the past, guests from outside the Church are welcome
- There will be our usual mixture of fellowship, teaching and fun
- We are taking the meetings ourselves with Andy speaking in the evenings and others of us leading in the mornings
- We will be looking after ourselves again this time around so there will be copious amounts of excellent food, lovingly prepared by teams of hardworking holiday makers
- You will have plenty of time to explore the beautiful Norfolk countryside and we have already arranged for two sessions of karting

The cost is £95 each with a concession price of £47.50 for those aged 4 to 12. If you are under 4 you go free. You will need to make your own way there and we will operate a car pooling system to help those without transport. Financial assistance is available if the cost is a problem. You will also have to pay for the karting if you take part.

For more details please speak to Ruth, Steve or me.

Jeff Hewitt.



Thursday Night Thing has been running now for about 6 years since it changed from Arrows, which met on a Friday night. We are

thankful to God for his faithfulness over the years as he has been pleased to bless us with many un-churched young people coming and joining us. This year we haven't had the largest numbers of children attend – on any given week we can see either 7 to 9 children. Yet we give thanks to God that they are regular and continue to bring friends along from time to time.

We are most thankful for the Bible studies each week. The studies have a two-fold purpose. Firstly, we obviously want them to be immersed in the word of God which is able to make them wise to salvation. Secondly, we want them to learn to study the Bible themselves; therefore, all the studies are designed as question and answer. We have been encouraged at how they engage in these studies and are looking for the answers in the passage and then showing they understand by putting it in their own words. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the Scriptures for the young people that they may all come to know the Lord Jesus personally.

One main concern for TNT is the lack of male leadership. Steve is the only male leader this year and with all the Open-Air Mission team events he often has to recruit a substitute. A better scenario would be having another male full-time; so if you know any...!!! However, we are thankful to God for providing Chris Jacquier Jr come September 2014 who will be joining the team full time. Please continue to pray for him as we train him and as he prepares to join us in the next academic year.

Thank you for your on-going prayers!

Steve, Bev Keble, Ruth, and Emily.

Rogério Ramos, Sines, Portugal
Tuesday 18th March

It was good to have Rogério Ramos on Tuesday and he reported with thankfulness to the Lord for encouragements in the church over the past year.

- A younger couple and two others were baptised.
- Many of their members are poor and have suffered because of the economic situation in Portugal so he thanked DBC for our donation so that they can help those who are in greatest need.
- Rogério thanked us for the support given to him and his family.
- He gave a warm invitation for any in our church to visit them in Sines.
- He especially invited us to send volunteers to help with various jobs that need doing on the building. WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER! If so, have a word with David Woodruff.

Welcome

Welcome to the Evangelical Church of Sines Portugal.

We hope you navigate our site, enjoy the blessings of our God, know a bit of the ministry of the Church in Sines community and also through us to meet more of the power of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is our prayer.

Do not stay home, come to know the reason for living - JESUS CHRIST.

<http://www.igrejaevangelicadesines.com/>





Summary of PRAYER WAVES for March 2014

Daniel Caballero

Has been in Peru since November and has been busy working in various shanty towns around Lima as well as radio teaching in the Andes. He returns to the UK in May.

Sarah Clay

Sarah returned back to Peru in January but before she left she joined us in Mission Centre to talk about her work. The Rainbow association where she works started 13 years ago with a children's home. They now own their own property (for girls) and rent a second property (for boys). Obviously renting a home can be problematic in various ways. The Rainbow Association is also involved in a livelihood project and a feeding programme. Sarah's main work though, is with the street boys. There are lots of children working on the streets, doing various jobs for various reasons. There is a large age range, sometimes from 5 up to teenagers. The work is split into two main parts, firstly is friendship evangelism, where they make friends, chat, and listen to what they have to say. They also tell them a story from the bible and apply it and make clear what the gospel is and says. The second part is a drop in centre where they can come and visit the team. The whole 33 minute interview with Sarah is available as an 'Across the Nations' download from the website.

Arequipa

Anthony and Roxy Green returned back to Peru in February. They have been working in Simon Bolivar, Arequipa for many years. The church there is a mixture of people, some of whom have less than primary education and some have university degrees. They have recently started a work in a shanty town near the airport. This began with a church member who wished to reach her neighbours. So they started a children's work on a Friday and have recently started up a Sunday adults meeting.

Anthony and Roxy work alongside Ronny and Rocio in the same church. Ronny and Rocio run a children's group at the church and also run a bible study and children's ministry in San Pedro a village near Arequipa.

Please give thanks:

- The work that Daniel has been able to do in Peru so far.
- The heart that Peruvian Christians have to reach the people around them.

Please pray:

- For a permanent second building to become available for the children's home.
- For Sarah to have strength and patience and for the Holy Spirit to be working in the hearts and lives of those that she meets.
- Those that work in Arequipa as they seek to take the work forward, that God would give them strength and wisdom.
- Our Peru Envision tea which flies out to Peru on the 4th April.



TOM'S CORNER

Hello All,

The last couple of months have been very busy for me at Limes Avenue. Steve and Rebecca Dennis had a baby boy named Caleb, so whilst Steve was on paternity leave, I took on some of his responsibilities. This included more assemblies at the Grange School, where I had to do two assemblies with over 700 pupils in each. This was very nerve-racking, but I was able to share with them about there being more to life than fulfilment in money from Ecclesiastes. I continue to do my usual school work, such as the CU. Please pray for these opportunities to share the gospel message to young people.

I have started to do more preaching and continue in the various different ministries I am involved in.

Thank you for your continuing support to both me and to Abi as well in the plans we are making for the wedding and our marriage.

See you soon,

Tom

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, EDLESBOROUGH

We are grateful for all the encouragement and support we have received from Dunstable Baptist Church over the past six months. We thank God for the recent formation of the church and look forward to continuing fellowship between our two churches in the years to come.

Regular Meetings are –

- 06 April 2014 Barry King preaching
- 13 April 2014 Alister King preaching (Barry King preaching in Vienna, Austria)
- 20 April 2014 Barry King preaching
- 27 April 2014 Barry King preaching

We will come together to observe the Lord's Supper on Sunday, 6th of April for the first time as a church and we will have a fellowship lunch following the service on Sunday, 13th of April.

CHURCH CENSUS

Thank-you to all those who took the time to complete the slip for the church census on the 16th March. It was only Grace Baptist churches that took part and the organisers hope to have a summary of the results ready for the summer. The survey was commissioned by a combination of Grace Baptist Association (South East) Home Mission, Grace Baptist Partnership and Grace Baptist Mission. The information gathered is intended for use in considering church planting projects. If you would like any more information, please ask me. Scott

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A group of 11 went along to the recent quiz night in Bedford organised by the Pilgrims' Friend Society. We split into 2 teams and then set about seeing who had the greatest ability of retaining generally useless information. We both quickly realised we wouldn't be pushing for top spot so then concentrated on seeing which of our two teams would emerge victorious with some friendly rivalry as the scores were revealed after each round of 10 questions. It was neck and neck right to the final round when the Dunstable Downers team finally pulled away from the Dunstable Gliders and finished 5th (or so) overall. The evening raised £406 for the society.

The Net – Evangelism Training Day, 1st March, 2014 by Rachel Mitchell

The United Beach Mission ran their first evangelism training day at Enfield Evangelical Church on the 1st March. I was excited to go and Marie Dawkins, Stevie, Alex and Matt also came with me.

The day started early at 9:30 with coffee and then the rest of the day was very full with fantastic talks by Jonathan Prime, Roger Carswell, Tim Howlett and Jonathan Carswell. (Oh, and Billy Graham – mustn't forget him!)

Jonathan Prime was up first. He read Luke 5 v 1 – 11 and then asked the question 'How do we get people to trust in Jesus?' He used some examples from Billy Graham and came to the conclusion that 'The Net' was thrown out. People have sat in church listening to the Gospel for years but 'The Net' had never been thrown out. Jesus said in v. 10 'Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men.'

How do we 'let down the net'?

1. We 'let down the net' as we tell the Gospel.
2. We 'let down the net' at the command of Jesus even when the conditions don't seem ideal.
3. We 'let down the net' trusting that Jesus is the Lord of the catch.

Roger Carswell carried on the theme with 'The Right Kind of Net – What is it that makes evangelistic usefulness?' He read Galatians 3 v 1 – 3 and then concluded that we needed to have consistent Christian character and we needed to spend time with God. He said that not every Christian is called to be an evangelist but every Christian should be a witness. He challenged us to think about being witnesses wherever we are. For example, when we receive telephone calls from 'cold callers', on a train, in a queue, etc.

Another question that was asked was how do we 'draw people in' and not 'drive them away'?

Roger's answers were to talk directly to people (don't preach at them). Ask questions or ask their opinions to find out what they believe. Roger ended by saying that we can do lots of good things in this world but the greatest good is to give the Gospel and make disciples.

The next talk was a skype with Paul Windsor on 'Repairing the Net – Preparing evangelistic talks for a variety of settings'. He again repeated that we should be having time alone with God and that we should be bearing witness to the truth in the evidence of our lives. He also emphasised the need to love and respect the people that we are talking to.

One of the most useful things I gained from Paul's talk was how to tell the Gospel. Paul used a simple plan 'Good – Bad – New – Perfect'.

Another useful thing that we did throughout the day was splitting into small discussion groups. Sarah Angell led the girl's group and we thought about our own giftings, callings and effectiveness.

The part of the day that I enjoyed the most was the workshop with Billy Graham! Although he wasn't there in person we were able to watch a DVD of Billy Graham giving the Gospel in 1954. It was amazing to be able to listen to him as I'd never heard him preach before.

Other things that were covered throughout the day was evangelism amongst children, one to one Bible studies, evangelistic missions and youth missions, the value of short term summer missions and camps, and the principles of the appeal.

Overall it was a really enjoyable day and well worth giving up a Saturday for. UBM have said that they may be running more days similar to this one and I would greatly recommend it to others.

Dear Supporting Churches,

We have experienced extra demand for food from needy clients in our area recently, so could we please ask you to pray for all those in need, and to ask those who donate to prayerfully consider increasing donations to meet this need. Our stocks have reduced significantly with demand outstripping supply for several months.

We are particularly short of:-

- Long Life Milk
- Sponge Pudding
- Sugar
- Tinned Fish & Tuna
- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Instant Mashed Potato
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste

This will (probably) be the last e-mail from me as my wife & I will move to Sussex on March 25th and I relinquish all Foodbank duties from today. The system will remain the same, the Foodbank phone and e-mails to OpsMgr@dunstablefoodbank.org.uk will be processed. My time with Foodbank has been at times challenging but always rewarding. Whilst we all wish that there were none needing our help, we are clearly told that "the poor will always be with us". My thanks to you all for your support, encouragement and prayers.

Best wishes,
Peter Meadows
Operations Manager
Dunstable Foodbank

GBM Radio Team's Monthly Prayer News

Following a recent enquiry as to how someone could pray for the radio work, Marea Cook has asked us to draw your attention to the availability of a monthly prayer letter for those who might be interested to pray for the radio ministry on a regular basis. You can contact Christine wild or David Woodruff for more info.

YP HOLIDAY – 2014

There will be an announcement about the venue for this year's YP holiday in the next day or so, so watch your emails.

Just a reminder though that we will be going away from August 9th to the 16th.

Jeff Hewitt

Gifts Received and Sent During the last Month

During the last month gifts have been sent (or are awaiting being sent), from those received for the work and from church funds, as follows:

Albanian Evangelical Mission	(from church funds)	£500
Biblical Creation Ministries	(from church funds)	£500
Christian Institute	(from church funds)	£500
Christian Prison Resources	(from church funds)	£500
Christian Witness to Israel	(from church funds)	£500
EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£25
EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from church funds)	£100
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25
Gaius Trust in support of Stephen Bignall	(from church funds)	£500
Gideons International	(from church funds)	£500
London Theological Seminary	(from church funds)	£500
Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF)	(from church funds)	£500
Pilgrim's Friend Society	(from church funds)	£500
UFM – in support of Peter Jolly	(from church funds)	£500

Thank you for your gifts, please continue to pray for all those we support.

DBC DIARY DATES - GOD WILLING

2014 APRIL		
Tues 1 st	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer SASRA Scripture Reader
Wed 2 nd	7.30pm	Church Leaders' meeting
Sat 5 th	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
Sun 6th	am 11.30am 6.00pm 5.20pm pm	Martin Loughbrough Communion Andy Banton Prayer Meeting for Pastor YPF at the Hewitts
Tues 8 th	7.30pm	Home Study Groups Study7, Q 6-11
Wed 9 th & Thurs 10 th		Children's Holiday Club
Sun 13th	am & pm	Andrzej Kempczynski (GBM, Legionowo, Poland)
Tues 15 th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Barry King (Edlesborough)
Thurs 17 th	10.00am 2.30pm	Ladies home prayer meeting Friends & Neighbours - <i>An introduction to the History of Parliament</i> - Speaker: Nick Banton
Sat 19 th	8-9 am	Men's Prayer meeting
Sun 20th Easter Day	am pm 7.30pm pm	Steve Burton Barry King (Edlesborough) Communion YPF at the Kebles
Tues 22 nd	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Barry King
Sun 27th	am pm	Andy Little (Kempston) Barry King (Edlesborough)
Mon 28 th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study Study 13 - 1 Cor 8:1-13
Tues 29 th	7.30pm	General Prayer Meeting
MAY		
Sat 3 rd	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
Sun 4th	am & pm 11.30am 5.20pm pm	Chris Durrant (Hailsham) Communion Prayer Meeting for Pastor YPF at the Hewitts

**Please forward items for the
MAY 2014 NEWSLETTER
by SUNDAY 20TH APRIL
To coleman29@talktalk.net
Thank you**

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

1st Scott Mitchell SASRA, Holiday Club (Andy)
8th Home Study Groups: Study 7b
15th David Woodruff. GBM Prayer waves
22nd Frank Taylor. Toddlers
29th General prayer meeting

'PRAY FOR US' Members preaching in other churches		
2014 APRIL		
Sun 6 th	Rex Andrews Andy Banton Steve Burton	Potton BC am Rushden am Wolverton Evangelical, MK
Mon 14 th - Wed 16 th	Andy Banton Steve Burton	OAM Family Conference Cloverley Hall
Thur 17 th	Steve Burton	Latimer Hall, St Albans
Good Friday 18 th	Rex Andrews	Hatfield BC am
Fri-Sat 18 th -19 th	Steve Burton	Young Life Easter Speak-Out, Leicester.
Fri 18 th & Sun 20 th	Andy Banton	Norwich EFC
Sunday 27 th	Rex Andrews Steve Burton	Pollard EFC Kettering am Alexandra Rd CC Hemel H
Mon 28 th	Andy Banton	Ashton St Peter's School Assembly (9.10am) Watling Lower School Assembly (10.30am)
Wed 30 th	Andy Banton	Copse Road Chapel, Clevedon

APRIL ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is
not convenient

Door

6th Frank B & Joy
13th David & Ann
20th John & Elaine
27th Chris J & Dawn

Cleaning

7th Frank & Tess
14th YP, Em & Beth
21st Marie Casey & Carolyn
16th Hilary & Julia
23rd Jo & Sarah
28th John & Elaine

Security

6th Darryl
13th Frank Taylor
20th David Weedon
27th Martin

Flowers

6th Julia
13th Tess
20th Barbara S
27th Sarah W

Creche

6th Caroline & Comfort
13th Elaine & Jess
20th Dawn & Mina
27th Janette & Carolyn