Dunstable BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016

ST. MARY'S GATE DUNSTABLE BEDFORDSHIRE LU6 3SW

WWW.DUNSTABLEBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG

INDEPENDENT GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH BASED UPON THE BIBLE



Our regular meetings are as follows - everyone warmly welcome

SUNDAY

9.45am Young Peoples Bible Class

Church Prayer Meeting

10.30am Morning worship service

Sunday School is held during the service

A crèche for under 5s is available during the sermon

Refreshments are served after the service

6.00pm Evening Service

7.15pm Church Fellowship Meeting – once a month

7.30pm Young Peoples Fellowship – 1st and 3rd in month

MONDAY

6-7.00pm Monday Kids Club (years 1-6) 7.30pm Ladies Bible Study – 3rd in month

TUESDAY

9.15-11.00am Toddlers

7.30pm Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

WEDNESDAY

1.00pm Bumps & Babes (fortnightly)

THURSDAY

10.00am Ladies Home Prayer Meeting – 3rd in month
 2.00pm Friends and Neighbours – 2nd in month
 2.30pm Friends and Neighbours Link – 4th in Month

FRIDAY

7.30-9.00pm Focus (years 7-13)

SATURDAY

11.00am Open Air Ministry – 1st in month8-9.00am Mens Prayer Meeting – 3rd in month

7.00pm Social Group (as announced)

OTHER MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED

For further information contact Scott Mitchell – 01582 703875

CHURCH WEBSITE

www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org

CHRISTIAN BOOKS

Monday to Saturday open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Telephone 01582 601945

Email books@christianbooks.uk.com Website www.christianbooks.uk.com

Dear Friends.

This year Easter Sunday (27th March) occurs the earliest in any year for the last 10 years and also for almost the next twenty years. There has been considerable debate and speculation over the centuries as to the day and year when Christ died and rose from the dead. The New Testament gives us some idea. For instance we know he was born before Herod the Great died (Matt 2:15,19). (Secular history 4 BC). Other details include the age Jesus began his ministry 'about 30 years' (Luke 3:33), and how long he continued his work (at least three years according to John) before his death and resurrection. There has, of course, been a number of calenders (Julian, Revised Julian and Gregorian) that will have some influence on perceived dates for the birth, death and resurrection of Christ.

Whilst this discussion on dates, in some respects, has its value the most important issue is that Christ was born at Bethlehem, suffered for sinners on the cross of Calvary, rose from the dead after three days and ascended into heaven after forty days. All according to the Scriptures.

Witness of God. The most important issue for us is to believe what the Scriptures teach about God's purpose in giving Christ to this world (John 3:16). God himself has testified or witnessed of his Son; his life, his suffering for sinners, his resurrection and ascension. What God decreed in eternity and what was prophesied in the Scriptures, concerning Christ, has been fulfilled.

John states at the end of his gospel the purpose in writing the book. 'These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name' (John 20:31). These words encapsulate his later words 'And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son of God has life: he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God' (1 John 5:11-13).

Worship of God. Though we live in a world full of heartache, sorrow, pain and problems, and personal concerns, we should not allow them to overwhelm us. Rather, particularly over this Easter time, may we concentrate our thoughts on the amazing love of God shown in the gift of his only begotten Son. Let us worship and love God with all our hearts (Matt 22:37) and meditate on the beauty of our risen Saviour and all he has achieved for us. Let us worship and rejoice because all who trust in Christ have 'an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God though faith' (1 Peter 1:3-5).

Warning of God. John teaches that 'we receive the witness of men, but the witness of God is greater' (1 John 5:9). We have seen earlier that God has testified concerning his Son. But if we reject the witness of God we 'have made Him a liar' (v.10). To make God a liar is profoundly serious and has eternal consequences. John emphasises this when he writes 'He who believes in him is not condemned: but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation that light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than the light, because their deeds are evil (John 3:18-19).

May we heed the witness of God and not human religions, philosophies and ideologies and worship our God and Saviour with joy and thanksgiving for his great love and compassion revealed in the gift of his dear Son our Lord Jesus Christ. 'Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice' (Phil 4:4).

Diamond Wedding Anniversary

We would like to express our hearty thanks to all our friends at DBC who sent us greetings on the occasion of our recent Diamond Wedding Anniversary. We greatly appreciate the fellowship of God's people and we have been moved by the kindness of so many who have conveyed greetings to us on this special occasion.

For our part, we rejoice in all God's goodness to us and give Him all the praise for His faithfulness to us over the years of our life together.

Barbara and Tony Townley

PILCRIMS' FRIEND SOCIETY QUIZ NICHT

On Saturday 12th March a small group from DBC travelled up to 3 Rivers Church in Bedford to take part in a quiz to raise funds for Pilgrims' Friend Society. The quiz took the same format as previous years with 10 rounds of subjects ranging from General Knowledge to 'spotting the connections' with a couple of picture rounds thrown into keep us busy between rounds. We managed to keep just in touch with the leaders through the evening and a late surge on a picture round saw us finish 6 points behind the winners. It was good to see Mike Abbott up and around after his accident a few months ago and I hear he's back at work part time now, but still continues his physiotherapy. The quiz raised £427 for Pilgrim Homes. We'll be back next year I'm sure if you want to join us to test yourself.

Scott

Caring For Life

Dear David and Friends at Dunstable Baptist Church

I am emailing on behalf of everyone at Caring For Life to thank you so very much for your kind donation of £1000 in support of Tim Snuggs.

Alongside his many responsibilities, including the finances of CFL Ltd and working pastorally with Michael Wild (who absolutely loves his regular morning work with Tim!) Tim is currently working with Martyn Smith to compose a piano accompaniment to our Easter film, which will be on the website soon, and available as a DVD in March. Do look out for it.

Please do pray with us, that the film will be really used: to glorify Jesus this Easter and to help supporters and supporting churches see just how he is changing the lives of so many in our care! We are so privileged to be able to take Jesus' love to many people from such different backgrounds, with differing needs: most having none else, no family and being so much at risk. Thank you for your partnership with us.

Yours sincerely in Him,

Pam Parkinson, Support Coordinator Caring For Life

CFL - Pause for a Cause Coffee Morning

Report from John and Elaine

A very special thank you for all those who came to our recent Caring For Life Pause for a Cause Coffee morning and gave so generously.

It was a very successful morning in every way. More people supported this annual event than ever before with over 8 local churches being

represented and we were able to forward to CFL the wonderful amount of £1,163.

Pam Parkinson from CFL wrote in thanks:
"Thanks for your email - what an amazing amount
you raised through the coffee morning!!
That's wonderful, thank you..... very very much"

Zimbabwe Partnership Trust

Dear David.

Thank you very much for your donation of £725 from members of the church and congregation in response to the famine relief appeal. We are very grateful for this further indication of your support for our brothers and sisters in Christ in such need in Zimbabwe.

As trustees, we have been very moved by the overwhelming and generous response of the Lord's people here in the UK to the needs of our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe at this time. However, we are very conscious of our need for wisdom from the Lord to know how best to use the gifts to help the believers in Zimbabwe in their needs. Please pray that the Lord who has provided the resources will guide us in our decisions so that we may bring comfort and help to those who are suffering so much from the drought and famine at this time. Please also continue to remember in prayer our needy brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe.

Thank you again for your generous donation and for your prayerful interest in the work of the Trust and the needs of the Lord's people in Zimbabwe.

Yours in the Lord, Roger Prime Secretary of Zimbabwe Partnership Trust (This was in addition to the £500 from church funds)

CHURCH HOLIDAYS

YP Holiday 2016 Wareham - Dorset

We advertised the YP Holiday to Wareham way back in November last year. We will be staying at The Purbeck School, Wareham again. We will be close to some of the most beautiful beaches and countryside in the south of England. We are going from August 6th to 13th and will have the usual mix of fun and fellowship.

The take up has so far been slow so now is the time when we need to start to encourage our YP to sign up. I have already sent out application forms by email but will be sending them again so as to get numbers up to a level which will make the holiday viable again. I expect the cost to be in the region of £100 again, all inclusive, for the week. We can help with the cost if it is a problem to anyone who wants to come. There will also be discounts for your third child – if you have one. Let me know if you want more information.

Jeff Hewitt



CHURCH HOLIDAY – 2016 – LETTON HALL

Just a brief update about the arrangements for this year's Church Holiday. Things are now beginning to pick up pace, rooms are being allocated and meals will be planned during the month. We are well short of the numbers we usually take and at one point the whole holiday was in jeopardy. Thankfully we have now reached a number to make the holiday viable which is brilliant. We can still take a few more people though. For those of you who are coming, here are a few updates;

- The cost has now been finalised at £95, all inclusive, per person, with a discounted price of £47.50 for those aged twelve and under
- We should be announcing or guest speaker in the next few days. I will keep you posted when this has been confirmed
- We have yet to arrange an organised day out yet but I have had confirmation from Chris and Jenny Jacquier that they would love to see any visitors to their new home in Cromer so that could be interesting!
- We will be using the karting facilities while we are there on the Tuesday and Thursday

I will be sending emails and letters out very soon to those who are coming.

This has been a brilliant holiday in the past and has been greatly blessed by the Lord. Please pray that this will be so again this year. If you want to be added to the list, do let me know. For more information, ask Ruth, Steve or me.

Book Discussion -5th April

There is still time to pick up a copy of Joel Beeke's book from the foyer in time for the discussion of the book at our prayer meeting on the 5th April. Do enjoy your reading and come along to benefit from discussing the issues, hopefully developing a healthy spiritual growth!

Church Spring Clean – 30th April

Please come and join us for tea and sweet treats on the morning of Saturday 30th April. In between the drinking and eating we'll tackle those jobs that will give a fresh sparkle to the church, inside and out.

Thanksgiving for the Building

There will be a service of thanksgiving for the completion of the building works at 3.30pm on Saturday 21st May. Please do join us as we thank God for his provision. Refreshments and a buffet will be available afterwards.



Baffling Bygones Evening

To support the work of Caring for Life

Saturday 23rd April 2016 at 6.45pm at Dunstable Baptist Church with a Finger Buffet during the interval and two short Caring for Life DVDs

A selection of puzzling and fascinating items from the past – what were they used for?

Tickets are £6 per person and need to be purchased in advance Available from Elaine Snuggs, 37 Norcott Close, Dunstable, Beds, LU5 4AH Tel 01582 665188 or email john.snuggs@btinternet.com

Tickets are limited - so first come first served!

INFORMATION

Eggboxes

John Thorne has asked if we could pass on any old egg boxes as the hens have started laying again and he is running short. Please drop them off at the bookshop if you have any.

FINANCE

Gifts Received and Sent During the last Month

During the last month the following amounts have been sent (or are about to be sent) from gifts received for the work and from church funds, as follows, with thanks to all those who gave:

Caring for Life	(from gifts)	£5
EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£25
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25

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

		2016 APRIL
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Sun 27th	am & pm	Roger March
Tues 29th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Tim Martin
Sat 2nd	11.00am	Open air in the Quadrant
Sun 3rd	am & pm am 5.20pm 7.30pm	Steven Green Communion Prayer Meeting for Pastor YP at the Hewitts
Tues 5th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Book Discussion
Wed 6th— Thu 7th		Holiday Bible Club
Wed 6th	7.30pm	Leaders Meeting
Sun 10th	am & pm	Phil Griffiths
Tues 12th	7.45pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Steve Burton
Wed 13th	1.00pm 7.30pm	Bumps & Babes CFL Supporters Meeting
Thur 14th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours: Fire & rescue service talk
Sat 16th	8.00am 7.30pm	Men's Prayer Meeting Youth Squash, Gadebridge
Sun 17th	am pm	SASRA David Green Communion
Tues 19th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Robert Lightowler
Wed 20th	1.00pm 7.30pm	Bumps & Babes Church Members meeting
Sun 24th	am pm	David Green David Chapman
Tues 26th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Tim Martin
Wed 27th	1.00pm	Bumps & Babes
Thu 28th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link: Tom Copperwheat
Sat 30th	9.00am	Church Spring Clean
Sun 1st	am & pm am 5.20pm 7.30pm	David Green Communion Prayer Meeting for Pastor YP at the Hewitts

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

29th 12th	Peter Woodruff Rex Andrews	Holiday Club (Steve) GBM Prayer Waves
12th	Steve Burton	LTS
26th	John Keble	Toddlers (Ruth)

Please forward items for the MAY 2016 NEWSLETTER to Scott Mitchell dunstablebaptist@gmail.com by SUNDAY 24th APRIL

'PRAY FOR US' Members preaching in other churches

	APRIL	
27th	Andy Banton	Potton BC (am)
29-31st	Steve / Andy	OAM Family Conference
3rd	Rex Andrews	Providence BC (pm)
9th	Andy Banton	Open-Air preachers training day, Birmingham
10th	Rex Andrews	Pidley BC (pm)
15-20th	Andy Banton	N Ireland Deputation meetings
17th	Rex Andrews	Barton Mills BC, Suffolk
24th	Andy Banton	Hitchin Baptist Church
26th	Andy Banton	Napier Rd BC, London
27th	Andy Banton	Watling Lower School
28th	Andy Bantpn	St Augustines School

APRIL ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient

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27th Frank Barnachea & Joy Broughton

3rd David & Ann Weedon

10th John & Bev Keble

17th Winnie Jacques & Dawn Hewitt 24th Ray Marvin & Beverley Kingham

Cleaning (A/B)

28th Dawkins / Mitchell 4th Hewitt / Christine & Caroline

11th Marie & Winnie / Woodruffs

18th Em & Beth—YP / Barnachea

25th Spring clean

<u>Secur</u>	<u>ity</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>
27th	John Snuggs	Winnie & Michele
	Frank Taylor	-
10th	David Weedon	Beth, Jess & Em
17th	Matthew Woodruff	Christine & Marie D
24th	Martin Wild	Dawn & Michele

Creck	<u>ne</u>	<u>Flowers</u>
27th	Winnie & Julia	Barbara Shipton
3rd	Ruth & Emily	Joy Broughton
10th	Carrotte of Darrin	Marie Dawkins
17th	Caroline & Beverley	Elaine Snuggs
24th	Elaine & Beth	Christine Wild