

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2016

ST. MARY'S GATE
DUNSTABLE
BEDFORDSHIRE
LU6 3SW

WWW.DUNSTABLEBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG

INDEPENDENT GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH BASED UPON THE BIBLE

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH

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 month
- 8-9.00am 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,

New Year is often stock taking time for businesses and it is a time for Christians to take stock and trace the good hand of the Lord in all the blessings we have enjoyed even in the midst of the flaws and blemishes of our lives. It is a time also to thank God and rejoice for those things he has enabled us to achieve for the furtherance of his kingdom. As we look forward to a new year of opportunity, privilege, responsibility and fresh consecration to the Lord it does us good to remind ourselves of some aspects of his nature to encourage us as we seek to serve him.

A faithful God

Jeremiah declares that regardless of the circumstances of God's people he always remains faithful and compassionate. He writes *'Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness' (Lam 3:22-23)*. As we review our lives we know how often we have failed God and been *'faithless'* but how thankful we are that *'He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself' (2 Tim 2:13)*. This new year we have opportunities to discover and experience more of God's love, compassion and faithfulness.

A forgiving God

In terms of the eternal consequences of sin those who trust in Christ have been forgiven and reconciled to God. John writes that *'the blood of Jesus Christ ... cleanses from every sin' (v.7)*. But, in terms of our daily relationship with God *'If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness' (1 John 1:9)*. However, we need to be honest, especially as we evaluate our lives over the past year. *'For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation' (2 Cor 7:9-10)*.

A forgetting God

Not only does God forgive sins but he forgets them. There is a three-fold promise found in the new covenant for all who repent of sin and turn in faith to Jesus, *'I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ... I will forgive their iniquity, and their sins I will remember no more' (Jer 31;33-34)*. If there is genuine sorrow for sin, accompanied by a desire to turn away from them, and if God remembers them no more why should we be weakened by a sense of guilt associated with them? In this new year, and indeed each new morning, let us ask God to give us tender consciences, grace to resist temptation and Holy Spirit vigour to serve our risen Lord through the power of his resurrection (*Phil 3:10*).

As we consider our lives, over the past year, let us come to our God who is **a faithful, forgiving and forgetting heavenly Father** and resolve, in the coming year, to use all the means that he has given to please him and honour our Lord and Saviour. May we remind ourselves of God's many past blessing knowing as we step out in faith he will graciously continue to bless us as we seek to worship and serve him.

RS

News from the Dunstable foodbank

This month's newsletter included the following...

"I came across a 13-year-old who had used the Foodbank. It had been some time previously (within the last couple of years) when home life had become difficult and out of hand. There was little money at home because Mum was not coping and so not working. Dad was not always working, although he left the house as if going to work. And then Dad was not around at the weekend - using the family money to drink the time away. Wider family had been supportive, but Mum was reluctant to ask for help and relationships with them were strained.

The son noticed one day that there was food in the house that had come from Sainsbury's, but knew that they didn't usually shop there. And there was black writing on the packs of food - so he asked about where the food had come from. Initially Mum was reluctant to talk about it: she was embarrassed to have accepted the hand out. People would think they were poor. But once Mum had given the explanation, she took her son along to the Foodbank the next time they went. He recalled being given the bags of food, and then being offered toothpaste and other extra treats, which they decided to accept since they were on offer. He then went on to explain to me how things are okay now. Dad has moved out, although he is still around and involved. Mum is back at work and earning, and able to manage her finances so that they have enough to eat, pay their bills and they even managed to save up enough to go away for a short camping holiday (eating on holiday was a bit like living on Foodbank, he suggested!)

If you met him, you wouldn't suspect that he had lived on food from the Foodbank. But it's a tale of how the Foodbank was there for a family when they needed it and helped to get them back on their feet and independent once again"

Friends and Neighbours Christmas Event

Thursday 10th December 2015

What a lovely way to prepare for Christmas. All who came to our last Friends and Neighbours meeting of 2015 were treated to a lovely programme of carol singing by the Ashton St Peter school choir. We could hear every word as the children sang a wonderful mixture of old and new Christmas songs, encouraging us to join in with the more traditional ones. Before the children had to return to school, Andy Banton challenged them and us to think about "What was the greatest gift ever?" Was it the cow given to Roger Federer for winning a tennis tournament, or the two-lane bowling alley given to President Truman, or even the Greek Island Ronaldo gave to his agents? No. The greatest gift ever is God's gift to us. John tells us in his Gospel "*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.*" This is the gift we should all ask for at Christmas.

Work progresses into the finishing stage



NEW KITCHEN



NEW TOILETS



NEW CUBICLES

BUILDING UPDATE



New Church Kitchen

Work has progressed with the new kitchen with the kitchen units now fully fitted. We now have plenty of storage space with numerous cupboards and two new 3-drawer units for cutlery and cooking utensils.

The new granite looking gloss worktops have been installed and look fabulous. Two new sinks have been installed and are just waiting for the final plumbing to be done. The new fridge is in position and we are awaiting the new dishwasher to be delivered. The new Lincat EB3F water heater has been delivered and will be used beside one of the hatches serving the church, the existing Lincat will be re-used beside the hatch for the church hall.



The new hatch roller shutter doors have been ordered, and we are waiting for them to be installed on site, to finish off the kitchen.



New Church Hall Layout

The old toilets have now been demolished and the remaining internal walls removed, to reveal the true size of the new church hall. The builders have blocked up the old openings and the first fix has been completed in readiness for the plastering work to begin in earnest. This will finish the hall.

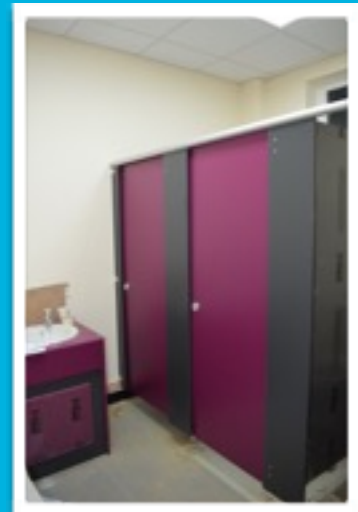
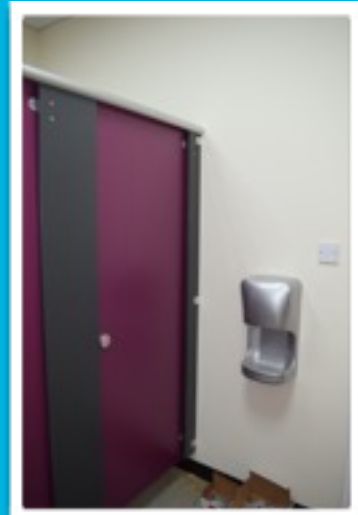


The new church lobby has been created with the last structural openings made between the church hall and the church building. This will enable a new walk through corridor between the church and the new church hall. This area will also house two full height cupboards with roller shutter doors for storing all the household cleaning items, i.e. Hoover, mop & bucket, cleaning products, toilet rolls, etc.



The builder has now cut away and demolished the raised concrete platform in line with the doorway into the new church lobby. This is mandatory to comply with the new DDA Disability access regulations. This will allow any wheelchair user to access all parts of the church and access the new disabled toilet, without steps.

New Toilet Cubicles



Prayer Letter

December 2015

Andrzej & Monika Kempczyński
ul. Broniewskiego 8/45
05-120 Legionowo
Poland
www.misjalegionowo.pl
kontakt@misjalegionowo.pl
Mob: (+48) 519 615 041

Dear Friends,

Moving flats was quite quick. We hired a company to do the work for us. Two young guys came with a lorry and did the job in five hours. Tomek and Mateusz spent the weekend with grandparents. On Sunday evening they came to see the new flat for the first time. Mateusz was so happy while Tomek was a bit disappointed. But after a week he changed his mind. And for the next couple of days after the move we were sleeping on mattresses. There was no point in unpacking as Andrzej's dad wanted to come and redecorate the flat a little bit. So gradually we were able to unpack some boxes and go back to our daily routine. At the moment of writing my day is drilling holes in the wall for the baseboards. When he finished we then will be able to put childrens' bank bed there. And that will be the second room that is finished. And in January dad wants to come and do the living room. At the moment we do not have any furniture for the living room so it would be a good moment to refurbish it next month. And the rest we hope to do in summer time.

On 21st of November we had a seminar about evolution and creationism. We invited a brother from Biblical Institute of Creationism and he did an excellent job. His lectures were interesting and demanding. And there were a few people that came. We hope to repeat it next year with new material to cover.

Jola decided to leave us. She started attending Evangelical Church (KECH) in Warsaw and that is encouraging.

There are three new people that are attending our services regularly. Maria is an Ukrainian lady who is living and working in Legionowo. She is Baptist and she understands Polish but she cannot speak it so sometimes we have a difficulty in understanding her. And also there is a

married couple from Belarus - Andrzej and Anastasia. They are born again believers, Baptists as well, with charismatic background. They are living, studying and working in Warsaw. Actually Andrzej is a camera operator and he is looking for a job. Please pray that God would meet their needs.

We hoped that this year we will be able to organize carol singing in the shopping mall in Legionowo. But because of lack of help due to illnesses we were not able to do that. But we managed to do the Carols by Candles. The group was small but the atmosphere was very pleasant. Andrzej has done a video from this event so maybe we will be able to put it on our website soon.

Because our living room is spacious we decided that we will invite people for the Christmas Eve. And there will be around ten people including Andrzej and Anastasia, Piotr and Anetta, kids, and Anetta's mom. And after the meal we are going to have Pasterka - a night service starting at 9 pm.

*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear
a son, and they shall call his name
"Immanuel" (which means, God with us).*

Matt. 1: 23

We wish you blessed Christmas and Happy
New Year.



Please pray for:

- Andrzej as he looks for a job as a camera operator
- Legionowo that many people could come to a saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Thank you so much for
your support.*

*Yours in Jesus Christ
Andrzej, Monika & the boys*



Support Group Meeting
Wednesday 20th January 2016 at 7.30pm
Dunstable Baptist Chapel

Come along and see the latest support group DVD.
Enjoy sharing fellowship, prayer and the latest information regarding
Caring For Life's work with homeless and vulnerable people in Leeds.

John and Elaine Snuggs

Youth Squash
2015/16
23rd Jan, 7.30pm
Edlesborough



Dinner
And

Mafia Night

School yr11+ only
Dinner served by your Youth Squash leaders
Book in advance
Boys in ties & Girls in nice stuff

Church Social

We have moved the date of the social back to Saturday 23rd January
starting at 3.00pm to avoid clashing with the building work.
Please do join us for an afternoon of games for all ages followed
by a tea at about 5pm.

INFORMATION

New Year, New Address Book

As many of you will know, my Mum had a stroke about twelve years ago. Since that time, she has attended the Sutton Coldfield Stroke Club which is a registered charity. My Dad, who has written poetry for as long as I can remember, recently decided to combine his love of poetry with a fundraising venture of his own for the Stroke Club.

As a result, he has had a lovely address book produced, which is interspersed with several of his spiritual poetry writings. He has already raised almost £600 and with your help it would be great if he could raise even more.

If you would like a copy to use and read, as well as contributing to a very worthwhile cause please ask me for a copy.

Thank you, Christine



Congratulations...

...to Jess & Rapha who got engaged on the 21st November

FINANCE

Mission Giving

For our Mission Giving from November to early December the total donations amounted to the following (including Gift Aid):

Andrzej Kempczyński (GBM) in Legionowo (plus Cubao Drop-in Camp support)	£728
Roundwood Trust (literature work in Eastern Europe)	£728
Open-Air Mission (with Andy Banton and Steve Burton)	£828
European Missionary Fellowship in support of Rogério Ramos	£728

We thank all who gave over this time and would encourage everyone to continue to pray for those involved with these missions.

Other Donations

During the last two months the following amount has been sent (or is about to be sent) from gifts received for the work, and from church funds, as follows:

Caring for Life	(from gifts)	£132
*Cubao Reformed Baptist Church Worship Hall extension	(from church funds)	£500
European Missionary Fellowship (EMF) – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£50
Grace Baptist Mission – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski in Poland	(from gifts)	£50
Grace Baptist Mission – General Fund	(from gifts)	£62

* Cubao Reformed Baptist Church in the Philippines started the work of Christian Compassion Ministries with the street people and the Drop-in Camp which we support.

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

DBC DIARY DATES - GODWILLING

2016 JANUARY		
Sun 3rd	am am 5.20pm pm	Glynne Hampson (Limes Ave) Communion Prayer meeting for Pastorate Matthew Benton
Tues 5th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Steve Dennis
Sun 10th	am & pm	Martin Loughbrough
Tues 12th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: tbc
Wed 13th	7.30pm	Leaders Meeting
Thur 14th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours: New Year Special
Sat 16th	8.00am	Men's Prayer Meeting
Sun 17th	am & pm pm	Tim Martin Communion
Mon 18th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study: Mental Health
Tues 19th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: JP Earnest
Wed 20th	7.30pm	CFL Supporters meeting
Thur 21st	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting
Sat 23rd	3.00pm	Church Social
Sun 24th	am & pm	Jamie Campbell (Surbiton)
Tues 26th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Mostyn Roberts
Wed 27th	7.30pm	Church Members AGM
Thur 28th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link: Tom Fenning
Sun 31st	am & pm	Brian Edwards (Surbiton)

TUESDAY PRAYER TIME LEADERS & SUBJECTS

5th	Peter Woodruff	Sunday School	Hilary Green
12th	Rex Andrews	F&N	David Weedon
19th	Steve Burton	GBM Prayer Waves	
26th	John Keble	Monday Club	Sarah Woodruff

Please forward items for the
FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER
to Scott Mitchell
dunstablebaptist@gmail.com
by **SUNDAY 24th JAN**
Thank you.

'PRAY FOR US'
Members preaching in other churches

JANUARY		
3rd	Rex Andrews Andy Banton	Hatfield BC Tollington Park (am)
14th	Andy Banton	Watling Lower School Selbourne Gospel Hall
17th	Rex Andrews Andy Banton	Salem BC Alexandra Road
24th	Rex Andrews	Alexandra Road
25th	Andy Banton	EMF
28th	Andy Banton	Central Baptist Church

JANUARY ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient

Door

3rd	Bethany Hewitt & Alex Marvin
10th	John & Bev Keble
17th	Frank Barnachea & Joy Broughton
24th	David & Ann Weedon
31st	John & Elaine Snuggs

Security

3rd	Martin Wild
10th	Rex Andrews
17th	Frank Barnachea
24th	CJ Barnachea
31st	Charlton Barnachea

Flowers

3rd	Margaret Rigby
10th	Bev Keble
17th	Mary Coleman
24th	Rachel Mitchell
31st	Julia Ming

Refreshments

10th	Caroline & Mina
17th	Winnie & Sarah
24th	Ann & Janette
31st	Beth & Em

Cleaning

4th	Brian & Margaret Rigby
11th	John & Elaine Snuggs
18th	John & Bev Keble
25th	Hilary Green & Julia Ming
1st	Banton / Power