

# Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER  
JULY 2016

ST. MARY'S GATE  
DUNSTABLE  
BEDFORDSHIRE  
LU6 3SW

[WWW.DUNSTABLEBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.DUNSTABLEBAPTISTCHURCH.ORG)

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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](http://www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org)

## CHRISTIAN BOOKS

Monday to Saturday open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Telephone 01582 601945

Email [books@christianbooks.uk.com](mailto:books@christianbooks.uk.com)

Website [www.christianbooks.uk.com](http://www.christianbooks.uk.com)

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Dear Friends,

We are living in an increasingly complex, confusing and difficult world. The demography of the Middle East and Europe, particularly, is changing rapidly and will continue to change. This is happening because of a number of factors, such as the spread of militant Islam that has created an enormous refugee crisis, the Schengen agreement and migration policies of the European Union and latterly the possibility of visa free travel for the people of Turkey (almost 80 million).

The world continues to experience extensive natural disasters, the ethical and moral demise of societies increases unabated and the recent and continuing strikes and civil disobedience in many countries, not least of all our own junior doctors strikes, cause concern.

**Gospel Growth.** However, amidst all these concerns the growth of Christianity has been nothing short of remarkable in many, so called, third world countries, in spite of severe persecution. We only need to consider the phenomenal growth of the church in China, parts of India and South America and in the Middle East to see the hand of God and the power of the gospel at work.

**Gospel Dearth.** On the other hand there is a spiritual dearth in Europe, the cradle of the Reformation. In France we are told there are 20 000 towns and villages without a gospel witness and the UK's population of evangelical Christians (all sorts) is thought to be about 2%. What can be done - what are some of the issues that need to be addressed to reach the lost.

**Some Issues.** One issue is that many Christians no longer believe that the preaching of the gospel, alone, is a sufficient means to point and bring sinners to Christ (how thankful we are that we still believe this). One YP (not from our church) said to me I go regularly to a gospel pop concert (contradiction in terms) because it bring bumps out on me but he has never been truly convicted of his sin and his perilous condition before a holy God.

Another issue is shallowness in the worship of God. For some it must be 'what can I get out of it' and not 'what can I put into it.' As someone has written worship must be 'experienced centred. ... We go to church to be entertained and consoled ... but not to give ourselves to God and each other in love.' Of course we do want to be blessed by God, as we worship him, and he will bless us as we approach him with a sincere desire to honour and praise him for who he is and what he has accomplished for us in the Lord Jesus Christ.

One other important issue is how can we make the gospel relevant to people in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? Those who have turned their backs on our religious and cultural heritage and who have no thought about God or eternity but have saturated their minds with thoughts of the next football match of their favourite team or the next blockbuster movie. We all need to face the challenges of this and the next generation which will consist of many nationalities, religions and ideologies, without compromising the gospel. There are no easy answers. We must seek before God to find a way forward that honours the Lord and his Word and meets the needs of a growing racially and religiously diverse society with gospel truth.

We readily admit that the Saviour is building his church. He said to his disciples *'I will build My church and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it'* (Matt 16:18). But he also said *'A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another'* (John 13:34-35). How did the Saviour love us - sacrificially. Is not this a good place to start in order to reach out to the lost?

Ron Shipton

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# EVENTS

After the evening service on the 10th July, Antony Coles will spend some time giving us some news of his recent trip to the Middle East. This would be a good opportunity to ask Antony to add you to his prayer letter if you don't already receive it. Please stay and find out what Antony is up to!

On Sunday 24th Andy is hoping to preach both morning and evening on the much neglected subject of the importance of the Lord's Day. It is hoped that this will be a real encouragement to us all. Please try and come to both services if you are able.

Friends and Neighbours will be going to the RHS Rose Garden near St Albans on Thursday 14th July leaving from the Church at 2.00 pm. followed by a picnic tea. There will be an admission charge of £6 per person.



CHRISTIANS FOR OLDER PEOPLE

## COFFEE MORNING & GIFT DAY

Friday 15th July 2016  
at 37 Norcott Close,  
Dunstable, LU5 4AH  
9.30 - 12.00

ALL ARE WELCOME

We would appreciate contributions of home made cakes, pies, marmalade, and jams for a bring and buy sale. Plants and some home grown vegetables should also be available. Please note that this year we will not be selling anything else.

Norcott Garden Railway will be operating  
weather conditions permitting

Contact for further info 01582 665188  
or email [john.snuggs@btinternet.com](mailto:john.snuggs@btinternet.com)



CARING FOR LIFE

SUPPORT GROUP NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 27th July at Dunstable Baptist  
Chapel at 7.30pm - All are welcome

View a special DVD, hear the latest news  
and have a time for prayer.

For further info please see John or Elaine

# FINANCE

## MISSION GIVING

After our recent Mission Giving during May the total donations (with Gift Aid tax received) amounted to the following:

Grace Baptist Mission (to support Andrzej Kempczynski in Poland)	£804
Roundwood Trust (literature for Eastern Europe)	£779
Open-Air Mission	£779
European Missionary Fellowship (EMF) – in support of Rogério Ramos	£804

We thank all who gave and would encourage everyone to continue to pray for these missions.

## OTHER DONATIONS

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:

Support of Sean & Natasha Kinsella at Africa Bible University, Kampala, Uganda	(from church funds)	£125
Christian Compassion Ministries	(from church funds)	£125
Christian Compassion Ministries	(from gifts)	£210
Grace Baptist Mission - General Fund	(from gifts)	£188
Pilgrims' Friend Society	(from gifts)	£254

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



# INFORMATION

## Book Discussion

The book that is being used for the next discussion will be available in the foyer during this month. As requested, it is biographical and not too long. The book is called "Enough" and is written by Helen Roseveare. It is available at a very reasonable price of £2 – please take a copy and place your contribution in the box on the table in the same way as for previous books. The issues arising will be discussed in the Tuesday meeting on Sept 6th.

Enjoy your read!

## REPORTS

### *Letter from Rogerio Ramos*

Last Saturday (4th June) we had the conference and it went very well. We had some unbelievers and also many people from local churches. In the morning we had a group of 64 people and in the afternoon 80. We hope this number will increase next year. Some already are making questions about doctrines of grace. Do pray for the fruits of this ministry. Thanks for all your help in this conference.

Do follow the church for news on Facebook -  
*Igreja Evangélica De Sines*



### **THE CHURCH GARDEN**

It took just two hours to transform this barren space into a garden. John Woodruff came down from the Caring for Life Nursery with a car load of plants and with two helpers the work was done. Please keep an eye on it to see the plants grow and help to keep it clear from rubbish.

Thank you John from all of us.

Matt Woodruff



# DBC DIARY DATES—GOD WILLING

2016 JULY		
2nd—3rd		Youth Squash Weekend
Sun 3rd	am & pm am 5.20pm	Andrew Wheeler Communion Prayer meeting for Pastorate
Tues 5th	7.45pm	DFEC Meeting—Christ Church
Wed 6th	1.00pm	Bumps & Babes
Sun 10th	am & pm 7.15pm	Basil Howlett CFM: Antony Coles
Tues 12th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Andy Banton
Thur 14th	2.00pm	Friends & Neighbours: Outing to RHS rose garden
Sat 16th	8.00am 7.30pm	Mens Prayer Meeting Youth Squash (Aylesbury)
Sun 17th	am & pm pm	Tom Sweatman communion
Mon 18th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study
Tues 19th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Peter Jolly
Wed 20th	1.00pm	Bumps & Babes
Thur 21st	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting
Sun 24th	am & pm	Andy Banton
Tues 26th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Martin Loughbrough
Wed 27th	7.30pm	CFL Supporters Meeting
Sun 31st	am pm	Tony Townley Clement Tang
Tues 2nd	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Martin Loughbrough

## Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

12th	Peter Woodruff	F&N	David Weedon
19th	Rex Andrews	UFM	Peter Jolly
26th	Steve Burton	GBM	Prayer Waves
2nd	Scott Mitchell	Gideons	

Please forward items for the  
AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER  
to Scott Mitchell  
[dunstablebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:dunstablebaptist@gmail.com)  
by SUNDAY 24th AUGUST

## 'PRAY FOR US' Members preaching in other churches

JULY		
3rd	Rex Andrews	Stony Stratford EFC (pm)
10th	John Keble Rex Andrews	Langdale (am) Wootton BC (pm)
13th	Andy Banton	Watling Lower School
14th	Andy Banton	St Augustines School
15th	Andy Banton	Ashton Middle School
17th	John Keble	Langdale (am)
18th	Andy Banton	Ashton St Peters School
23rd-6th	Steve Burton	Weymouth Beach Mission
24th	John Keble	Langdale (am)
30th - 6th	Andy Banton	Tenby Beach Mission
31st	Rex Andrews	Pidley BC (pm)

## JULY ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient

### Door

3rd	Ray Marvin & Beverley Kingham
10th	Brian Rigby & Barbara Shipton
17th	Matt Woodruff & Julia Ming
24th	Scott Mitchell & Sarah Woodruff
31st	Bethany Hewitt & Brian Rigby

### Cleaning (A/B)

4th	Power / Banton
11th	Hewitt / Mitchell
18th	Marie & Winnie / Christine & Caroline
25th	Em & Beth (YP) / Woodruff

### Security

3rd	Scott Mitchell
10th	Mike Power
17th	Brian Rigby
24th	John Snuggs
31st	Frank Taylor

### Refreshments

-	Dawn & Michele
	Caroline & Mina
	Winnie & Michele
	Ann & Janette

### Creche

3rd	Julia & Winnie
10th	Ruth & Emily
17th	Janette & Dawn
24th	Caroline & Beverley
31st	Elaine & Beth

### Flowers

	Caroline Norman
	Tess Barnachea
	Sarah Woodruff
	Ann Weedon
	Janet Tucker