

# Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER  
MARCH 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,

Important decisions have been made for the future political status and relationship of the United Kingdom with the European Union after the completion of the marathon negotiations Mr Cameron has had in Brussels with the leaders of its member states. The result of these negotiations will affect, in some way, all of our lives. How should we react as Christians to not only the rather truncated concessions the Prime minister has gained for the UK, but to the European Union in principle? These are complex issues which involve the question of how we as individual believers should vote when the referendum takes place. The issue is clear - yes, to remain in the Union based on what concessions Mr Cameron has negotiated, no, regardless of these concessions, or not to vote at all.

### **To vote or not to vote?**

The comments I made prior to General Election apply to the coming National Referendum. We cannot meaningfully engage in prayer for those in authority over us, as Paul exhorts us to (*1 Tim 2:1-2*), or for our nation, and take no part in influencing a decision that will have a profound affect on all of us. We have the responsibility and the freedom to vote and we should use this franchise that has been won for us, sometimes at great cost. We cannot complain, at the outcome of the referendum, if we fail to exercise our vote according to our Christian conscience after prayerfully considering the options. Are there any biblical principles to consider as we exercise our right to vote?

### **Biblical principles**

One of the three great judgments on mankind was the dispersion of the people from Babel when they sought to build a 'tower whose top is in the heavens' and make a name for themselves so they would **not** 'be scattered abroad over the face of the earth' (Gen 11:4). God had other designs for the people in their rebellion against him (v.6). He divided them into different clans, cultures, languages and geographical locations (v.9). Hence, the reason why there are different nations, languages and cultures in the world today. (The ejection from Eden and the flood are the other two great judgments).

Paul in proclaiming the gospel at the Areopagus in Athens declares that God '*has made from one blood (Adam) every nation of men ...and had determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord ... and find him*' (Acts 17:25-29).

We acknowledge that God is directing the affairs of this world, including Europe, and he will overrule for his own wise and holy purposes. However, we do need to pray that his will shall be done and consider prayerfully how we should vote. May God grant us all wisdom as the result of the referendum will shape this country's destiny and that of our children for generations to come.

RS

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## *From Tim Snuggs - Caring For Life*

Its over 8 years ago that I felt a such a strong call from God to relocate to Leeds for a year and offer myself as a Time For Jesus volunteer at Caring For Life. After spending the year working on all sorts of projects I was able to join the staff team working as a waiter in a cafe we had just opened, with the aim of raising additional funds for the charity. This turned into a social enterprise and an amazing evangelistic opportunity as we realised we had roles for a couple of our charity beneficiaries as well as seeing that serving people good quality food and drink in a Christ-like manner was having an effect on the local community.

My role has evolved somewhat over the last few years as our social enterprise has grown from a small daytime coffee & cake cafe to a full restaurant, farm shop and garden nurseries. Now, within the Accounts team, my role consists of looking after the technology we use as a business such as the till points and all the computer work that comes with buying, selling and producing products.

Over the last 4 or so years I have been increasingly working with a gentleman in our care called Michael, who has a fascination with figures, spreadsheets, computers and barcodes! This couldn't describe my working life any better... And so its been an absolute joy (most of the time?) to encourage Michael to take on as many of my tasks as he can cope with and to support him to do just that. Anyone who spends any money on our farm will have their money counted, reconciled and banked by me and Michael and the sense of responsibility and achievement this gives him is amazing. Michael is incredibly bright but extremely poorly and vulnerable and without Caring For Life would struggle to function outside of full-time care.

Please can I thank you for the prayerful and financial support you offer me and Caring For Life, as a church and as individuals. Thank you to those of you who attend your local CFL support group. Thank you to those of you who have visited us, on a Supporter's Day or whilst in the area. It encourages me to see Dunstable folk visiting, but I am aware of so many prayers and interest in our work so Thank You.

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## INFORMATION

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### *Update to Address Book*

Joy Broughton's email address has changed to [joybroughton@outlook.com](mailto:joybroughton@outlook.com)



### *Book Discussion*

Please note that the date for discussion of issues arising in Joel Beecke's book "Developing Healthy Spiritual Growth" is Tuesday April 5th (a week later than originally planned). There are still copies of the book, which would be a profitable read even if you can't make the discussion evening, available in the foyer. The cost is £3.50 and any contribution towards this would be appreciated.

## Pause for a Cause Coffee Morning

4TH MARCH  
10.00- 12.00



Please join us at 37 Norcott Close, Dunstable LU5 4AH. During the morning we will show a recent DVD of their work. Do bring your friends along. Donations will be very welcome.

*John and Elaine*



## ADVANCE NOTICE

### Return of the popular Baffling Bygones evening

With finger buffet, to support the work of  
Caring for Life

Saturday 23rd April 2016 at 6.45pm at  
Dunstable Baptist Church  
Another selection of puzzling items from  
the past

Admission by advance ticket only  
Tickets are £6 per person available from  
Elaine Snuggs  
Book your seat early!



Venue: 3 River's Church, Denmark St, Bedford, MK40 3TJ

Time: 7pm prompt

Please speak to Scott if you're interested in going

# 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:

Affinity - Gospel Churches in Partnership	(from church funds)	£200
Caring for Life (General)	(from gifts)	£12
Caring for Life (to support Tim Snuggs)	(from church funds)	£1,000
Caring for Life (to support Tim Snuggs)	(from gifts)	£62
EMF - help for a conference for Sines church	(from church funds)	£200
EMF - help for Rogério Ramos' medical/school expenses	(from church funds)	£200
EMF - in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£25
Gideons International	(from gifts)	£100
GBM - in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25
GBM - in support of Legionowo rent	(from church funds)	£500
London Theological Seminary - Student Benevolent Fund	(from church funds)	£560
Wycliffe Bible Translators - Aru Project	(from gifts)	£50
Zimbabwe Partnership Trust - Drought Relief	(from church funds)	£500
Zimbabwe Partnership Trust - Drought Relief	(from gifts)	£700

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

# DBC DIARY DATES - GODWILLING

2016 MARCH		
Sun 28th Feb	am & pm 12.30pm	John Rimes Fellowship lunch
Tues 1st	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Rex Andrews
Wed 2nd	7.30pm	Leaders Meeting
Sat 5th	11.00am	Open air in the Quadrant
Sun 6th	am & pm am 5.20pm 7.30pm	Tony Seager Communion Prayer Meeting for Pastor YP at the Hewitts
Tues 8th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Martin Loughbrough
Wed 9th	1pm	Bumps & Babes
Thur 10th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours: 'New life in WW1' Andy Banton
Sat 12th	7.30pm	Youth Squash (Dunstable)
Sun 13th	am pm	Steve Burton Rex Andrews
Tues 15th	7.45pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Tim Martin
Thur 17th	10am	Ladies Prayer Meeting
Sat 19th	8.00am	Men's Prayer Meeting
Sun 20th	am & pm pm	James Chittenden Communion
Mon 21st	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study: New Technologies
Tues 22nd	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Mostyn Roberts
Wed 23rd	1.00pm	Bumps & Babes
Thur 24th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link: Roger March
Sun 27th	am & pm	Roger March
Tues 29th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Tim Martin

## Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

1st Ron Shipton	CFL
8th Frank Taylor	SASRA
15th Tony Townley	Prayer Waves
22nd Steve Burton	LTS
29th Peter Woodruff	Holiday Club

Please forward items for the  
APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER  
to Scott Mitchell  
[dunstablebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:dunstablebaptist@gmail.com)  
by SUNDAY 20th MARCH

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

	MARCH	
2nd	Andy Banton	Stony Stratford Joint churches
6th	Steve Burton	Grantham Road BC
7th	Andy Banton	Ashton St Peters Ashton Middle School
8th	Steve Burton	Limes Ave
10th	Andy Banton	St Augustines Primary
13th	Andy Banton	Providence BC
17th	Rex Andrews Andy Banton	Luton Central BC Watling Lower
20th	Steve Burton	Hitchin GBC
21 - 25th	Steve Burton	Whittlesey GBC Bible Exhibition
27th	Andy Banton	Potton BC (am)
29 - 31st	Steve / Andy	OAM Family Conference

## MARCH ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is  
not convenient

### Door

6th	Scott Mitchell & Sarah Woodruff
13th	Beth Hewitt & Brian Rigby
20th	John & Bev Keble
27th	Frank Barnachea & Joy Broughton

### Cleaning (A/B)

29th	Barnachea / YP
7th	Rigby / Snuggs
14th	Hilary & Julia / Keble
21st	Power / Banton
28th	Dawkins / Mitchell

### Security

6th	Ray Marvin
13th	Scott Mitchell
20th	Mike Power
27th	John Snuggs

### Refreshments

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

### Creche

6th	Elaine & Beth
13th	Sarah & Bev Keble
20th	Marie & Margaret
27th	Winnie & Julia

### Flowers

-	Janet Tucker
-	Sarah Woodruff
-	Ann Weedon
-	Barbara Shipton