

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER
MARCH

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

9.45 a.m. Bible Class
9.45 a.m. Prayer Meeting
10.30 a.m. Morning Service + Sunday School (term time)
6.00 p.m. Evening Service

Note: a crèche for under 5s is available during the morning sermon.

Refreshments are served after the morning service except 1st Sunday.

Communion – after the 1st Sunday morning and 3rd Sunday evening services.

7.15 p.m. Church Fellowship Meeting (as announced)
7.45 p.m. Young Peoples' Fellowship (1st in month in home)

MONDAY

6.00 - 7.00 p.m. Monday Kids Club (years 1-6)
7.30 p.m. Ladies Bible Study (3rd in month)

TUESDAY

9.15 - 11.00 a.m. Toddlers
7.30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY

10.00 a.m. Ladies Prayer Meeting in Home (3rd in month)
2.30 p.m. Friends and Neighbours (2nd in month) (2.00pm in summer)
2.30 p.m. Friends and Neighbours Link (4th in month)

FRIDAY

7.30 - 9.00 p.m. Focus (club for years 7-13)

SATURDAY

8.00 - 9.00 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting (3rd in month)
11.00 a.m. Open-Air Ministry (1st in month)
7.00 p.m. Social Group (as announced)

OTHER MEETINGS – AS ANNOUNCED

For further information contact:

Church Secretary: Scott Mitchell (01582 703875)

CHURCH WEB SITE – www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org

CHURCH email – dunstablebaptist@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN BOOKS

Mon. to Sat. 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Tel: 01582 601945

www.christianbooks.uk.com

email: books@christianbooks.uk.com)

Dear Friends

When I was teenager I memorised Ephesians 4.32 from the King James Version of the Bible. Do you remember what it says? *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.* Through the years, it has become one of my favourite verses from the Scriptures.

I like it because it reminds me of the doctrines of grace. When the Ephesians were told to be kind, tenderhearted and forgiving to one another, it was because God for Christ's sake had forgiven them. One doesn't have to look very hard to see total depravity, unconditional election, limited atonement, irresistible grace and the perseverance of the saints in Ephesians in general and in this verse in particular.

But the verse reminds us not only of the doctrines of grace but what we sometimes hear called the grace of the doctrines – kindness, tenderheartedness and forgiveness. How sad it is when those of us who proclaim the doctrines of grace most loudly fail to practise the grace of those doctrines in our interactions with one another. Take kindness for instance.

One of the defining characteristics of Christian love is kindness (1 Corinthians 13.4). We show kindness by ministering to those the Lord has used to minister to us (Philippians 4.14). Servants of the Lord must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone (2 Timothy 2.24). Wives are encouraged to be kind and submissive to their own husbands (Titus 2.5). Kindness to others is indeed a reflection of the way God has dealt with us in Christ.

I spoke with someone recently who said they left the membership of the church because some of the people were unkind. I know there are always two sides to a story but surely all of us agree that we would never want someone to conclude that despite our theological convictions we lack grace in the way we deal with people.

Just today I had two much more encouraging conversations. One man I had never seen before. He indicated he had been before and hoped to come again. The reason: *I have a lot of struggles in my life and the people here are kind to me.* The other man – well advanced in years – would not be able to come to the meetings if it were not for what he described as *the kindness of those who give me a lift.*

Would you join me in prayer that Dunstable Baptist Church would increasingly be known not only for proclaiming the doctrines of grace but for practising the grace of those doctrines in our relationships with those within – and without – the church?

For the glory of God alone,

Barry King
Locum Pastor



Pam Parkinson from Caring for Life has written recently:-

" It is 30 years since the charity began and although, sadly, the need amongst vulnerable and homeless people is greater than ever, we do thank God and give Him all the glory for the way the work has grown and has been sustained through generous donations. This has enabled us to help more than 4000 individuals over the years: supporting them and helping them to recover from struggles and abuse, helping them to rebuild their lives and begin to hope again. We are so grateful that we have been free to share the love of Jesus with all we have come into contact with and have seen many hundreds of individuals saved and restored into a relationship with their Heavenly Father."

PAUSE FOR A CAUSE COFFEE MORNING

Friday 10th March
10 - 12
at 37 Norcott Close, Dunstable LU5 4AH



BAFFLING BYGONES EVENING

to support the work of Caring for Life

Saturday 22nd April 2017 at 6.45pm at Dunstable Baptist Church

with a Finger Buffet during the interval

plus a short Caring for Life DVD

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

2017 is a significant year at Caring For Life. In February we celebrated the charities 30th Anniversary. For me, hearing the stories from the early days and witnessing the latest years it shows God's goodness, faithfulness and constant provision, year after year. For so many people that have come under the care of CFL they have experienced the love of Jesus through practical care, support and friendship. For me personally, later this year marks 10 years since joining the team here as a Time For Jesus one year volunteer. My current role is very similar to my update last year, looking after the practical side of our social enterprise technology and finances. I still spend a lot of my time with a gentleman in our care called Michael and we are firm and proud friends. Although he is quite a poorly man we have a lot of fun and I try to include him in as much of my work as possible, counting the takings from the Restaurant, Farm Shop and Nurseries each day and sending out Sales Reports to each of the managers. Over the last year he has gained more responsibility in the life of our church, Grace Community Church, and he uses his computer skills to produce the weekly notice and song bulletins, and operates the power point for our songs and some sermon notes. These responsibilities have meant Michael has attended church really regularly, something he hasn't always managed to do.

This is just one example of the many people that have come under our care but I ask that you pray for him, and for my witness and friendship to him.

Please can I thank you once again for your prayers and financial support, for me and for Caring For Life. Thank you to those of you who attend the support group or visit us on an Open Day or Supporter's day.

Tim Snuggs

Gifts Received and Sent During the last Month

During the last month the following amounts have been sent (or are about to be sent) via the church 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
Barnabas Fund – relief for E Africa Famine	(from church funds)	£500
Barnabas Fund – relief for E Africa Famine	(from gifts)	£455
Caring for Life (General)	(from gifts)	£6
Caring for Life (to support Tim Snuggs)	(from church funds)	£1,250
Caring for Life (to support Tim Snuggs)	(from gifts)	£62
EMF – help for a conference for Sines church	(from church funds)	£400
EMF – help for Rogério Ramos' medical 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

During the last month the following amounts have been forwarded by personal cheque, as follows:

EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	£250
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	£250

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

Friends & Neighbours

For a considerable number of years it has been customary during Summer months for the Friends and Neighbours' organisers to take our older members and their guests out (once a month on a Thursday afternoon) to local beauty spots and, weather permitting, enjoy a picnic before returning to Dunstable. Whilst trying to make arrangements for this year's Summer programme, it was apparent that there are difficulties in organising something along the usual lines due to a shortage of helpers to drive cars, push wheelchairs etc. We realise that it may be time for a change but think it important to maintain an opportunity for fellowship and witness to those in the older age bracket.

As we consider whether it is feasible to continue with these outings, we thought that initially we would ask if anyone feels they can help in any way to please speak to David or Ann Weedon. Any help would be much appreciated.

An Update From Steve Burton

Each Friday I have been focusing on Evangelism with Daniel Schwe (from the Grace Baptist Partnership). In the morning from 10:30am-1pm we have been doing personal work in the centre of town and have been joined by other DBC members such as Sarah and Albert. After lunch Daniel and I have been knocking on people's doors around the Victoria Street area where we have had many conversations with people and have invited many to different groups in the church. Please pray for us as we follow up good conversations on the doors and regularly see the same people in town and are trying to build relationships to share Christ with them.

Daniel will be at our evening service on the 5th March so do please stay to find out more. We will be serving tea and coffee afterwards

Prayer Letter

February 2017

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

Dear Friends,

After seven months a man named Szczepan [Shtchepan] attended our Sunday service again. He claims to be a Christian. He visited us several times already and then he disappeared for several months. So this time when he appeared Andrzej invited him to do Christianity Explored course. Szczepan agreed. They meet every Tuesday morning. During this time Szczepan also has been attending services regularly. Please pray that Szczepan would settle in a church and grow in love and knowledge.

Pastor Marek Glodek, from the 2nd Baptist Church in Warsaw, asked Andrzej to lead for them the Christianity Explored course for people from their church who are fresh or young believers and nonbelievers. Andrzej agreed. They decided to meet every other week on Thursdays. So far there was one meeting. The next one is schedule on 23rd. So please pray that the course would be a blessing for these people.

In January we had another Friday Club meeting for kids. The attendance was good and there were new boys as well. So we all thought that it would be good to organize a sort of a Holiday Bible Club during the winter break. So from this Monday till Friday we provide games for kids and short Bible lessons. Andrzej and Stasia, Piotr, Monika and Andrzej are helping with this. We meet in the evenings from 6 pm to 8 pm. And yesterday came to the club a first girl.

And because of all that we decided to buy a table tennis table. And boys just love it. Please pray that we could teach these kids gospel truths through this Friday Club meetings and that their parents could be attracted to the church.

Last Saturday we had another meeting of 'School' of Systematic Theology. We covered the subjects of creation, providence and prayer. There were four people there and Andrzej was lecturing. We all are thankful for these meetings.

Because there is a couple from Belarus in our church we were able to establish a contact with their former pastor in Minsk, Belarus. So he with his family, in the end of April, will be visiting us and will be preaching on our Sunday service. Anatoly is pastor of the reformed evangelical church. Please pray that they could organize all necessary papers to get visas and that their visit would be mutual blessing and encouragement.

Next week Monika and Mateusz are visiting Monika's sister who is living at the seaside. They will spend a week there. Andrzej and Tomek are staying home. Peter Slomski, a missionary from Poznan, will visit Andrzej during that time. And they both will attend a conference in Warsaw about the Reformation. Please pray that the Lord would bless this time of Christian fellowship.



Please pray for:

- Szczepan
- CE course in 2nd Baptist Church
- Holiday Bible Club this week
- A visit of a Belarusian pastor and his family
- Monika's and Mateusz's time together away.
- Peter's visit

Thank you so much for your support.

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

CHURCH HOLIDAY – 2017

SIZEWELL HALL

The Church holiday for 2017 has been booked for Sizewell Hall in Sizewell in Suffolk. For those of you who aren't aware of it, some of the holiday details are as follows;

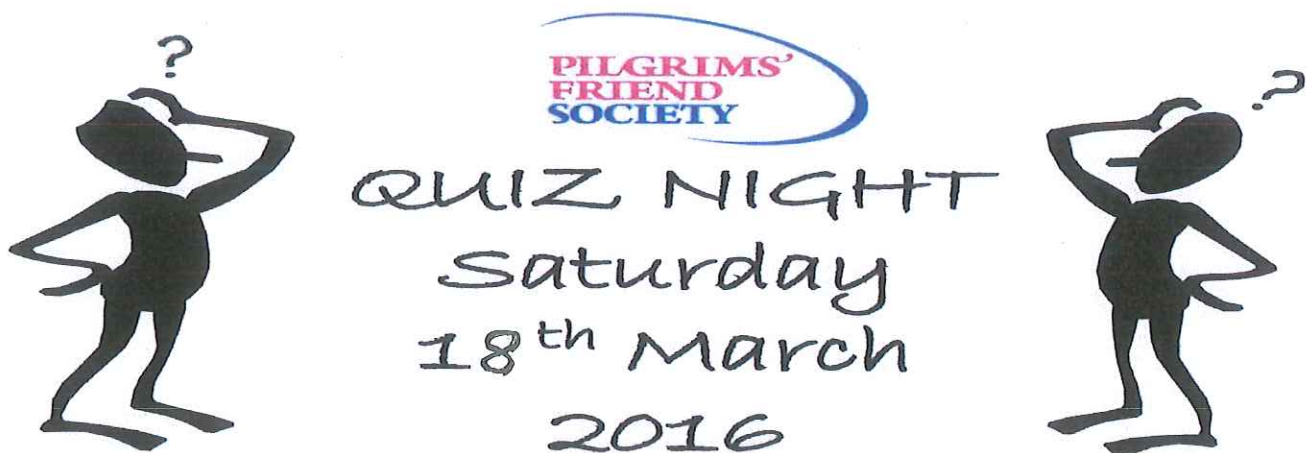
- We are returning for the fifth time to the wonderful Sizewell Hall, Suffolk – a big old country house sitting literally a stones throw from its own beach
- We are going from Monday October 23rd to Friday 27th. This again is half term week so the schools should be closed
- Everybody is welcome to come. There are no age restrictions
- The cost is expected to be around £95 to £100, all inclusive, per person, with discounts for those aged ten and under. You just need to get yourself there.
- We will have our usual mix of fellowship, teaching and fun
- We will be using our tried and trusted, self-catered system that works so well so we can promise you copious amounts of excellent food, lovingly prepared by our teams of hardworking holiday makers

You will have plenty of time to explore the beautiful Suffolk countryside

This has been a brilliant holiday in the past and has been greatly blessed by the Lord. Why not come along and join in as well. If you're not sure about it, ask Steve or me.

Jeff Hewitt

We plan to take a team to the PFS quiz night (details below). Please let Scott know if you are interested in coming
We will leave DBC at about 6pm.



Back for the fifth year running, teams of six from local churches or Christian groups are invited to take part in a general knowledge quiz in aid of Pilgrims' Friend Society

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

Time : 7pm prompt

Book your team in NOW! £5 per person (suggested donation)

Contact Michael & Vicky : abbott.family@tiscali.co.uk

01234 740069

DBC DIARY DATES—GOD WILLING

2017 MARCH		
Sun 5th	am & pm am 5.20pm pm	Barry King Communion Prayer meeting for Pastorate Update from Daniel Schwe
Tues 7th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Thur 9th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours: Hugh Garrod: Dunstable's Georgian Benefactors
Fri 10th	10am	CFL Coffee Morning (Snuggs)
Sun 12th	am & pm 7.30pm	Barry King YP at the Hewitts
Tues 14th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King Members meeting
Thur 16th	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting (venue: Joy Broughton's)
Sat 18th	8.00am	Mens Prayer Meeting
Sun 19th	am & pm pm	Barry King Communion
Mon 20th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study
Tues 21st	All Day 7.30pm	Polish Evangelism Round Table Bible Study & Prayer: Andrzej Kempczynski
Thu 23rd	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link: Steve Burton
Sat 25th	7.30pm	Youth Squash (Dunstable)
Sun 26th	am & pm	Barry King
Tues 28th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King Members meeting
Wed 29th	7.30pm	Leaders Meeting
Sat 1st	11.00am	Open air in the Quadrant
Sun 2nd	am & pm am 5.20pm	Martin Leech Communion Lunch moved to 9th April Prayer meeting for Pastorate

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

7th	Frank Taylor	Monday Club	Sarah Woodruff
14th	Tony Townley	Focus	Scott Mitchell
22nd	David Woodruff	Pastorate	
28th	Scott Mitchell	GBM Prayer Waves	

'PRAY FOR US' Members preaching in other churches

MARCH		
1st	Andy Banton	Watling Lower Assembly
5th	Steve Burton	East Street BC (am)
9th	Tony Townley	Central BC Luton
12th	Rex Andrews Andy Banton	Chatteris CC (am) Welwyn EC
19th	Andy Banton	Selbourne Gospel Hall
20th	Andy Banton	Ashton St Peters Assembly
24th	Andy Banton	Blunham BC
26th	Rex Andrews	Pidley BC (pm)
29th	Andy Banton	London Seminary

MARCH ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient.

Door

5th	Frank Barnachea & Joy Broughton
12th	David & Ann Weedon
19th	John & Elaine Snuggs
26th	Winnie Jacques & Dawn Hewitt

Cleaning (Church / Hall)

6th	Hewitt / Christine & Caroline
13th	Winni & Michele / Woodruffs
20th	Rigby / Barnachea
27th	Keble / Snuggs

Security

5th	Mike Power
12th	John Snuggs
19th	Frank Taylor
26th	David Weedon

Refreshments

-	
	Caroline, Winni, Mina
	Christine & Debbie
	Ann & Janette

Creche

5th	Caroline & Beverly
12th	Elaine & Sarah
19th	Margaret & Bev
26th	Emily & Ruth

Flowers

	Dawn Hewitt
	Julia Ming
	Barbara Shipton
	Caroline Norman

Please forward items for the
APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER
to Scott Mitchell
dunstablebaptist@gmail.com
by SUNDAY 26th MARCH