

# Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH

## Church News

### April 2013



**St. Mary's Gate Dunstable**  
**Bedfordshire LU6 3SW**  
**[www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org](http://www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org)**

**Independent Grace Baptist Church based upon the Bible**

# Dunstable

## BAPTIST CHURCH

**Our regular meetings are as follows—  
everyone warmly invited:**

### **SUNDAY**

9.45 am Bible Class - Young People  
Church Prayer Meeting

**10.30am**

#### **Morning worship service**

*Sunday School is held during the service*

*A crèche for under 5's 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 People's Fellowship - 1st & 3rd in month

### **MONDAY**

6-7.00pm

Monday Kids Club age 5-9

8.00pm

Ladies Bible Study - 3rd in month

### **TUESDAY**

9.15-11am

Toddlers

7.30pm

Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

Home Groups - 1st Tuesday in month

### **THURSDAY**

10.00am

Ladies Prayer Meeting in Home - 3rd in month

2.30pm

Friends & Neighbours - 2nd in month

2.30pm

F & N Link - 4th in month

7-8.30pm

TNT club for age 9-12

### **FRIDAY**

8-9.30pm

Friday Club age 13-19

### **SATURDAY**

11.00am

Open Air ministry - 1st in month

8-9.00am

Men's prayer meeting - 3rd in month

8.00pm

Young Adults Group - 3rd in month

### **OTHER MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED**

For further information contact: John Keble Tel: 01582 601945

**CHURCH WEBSITE** [www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org](http://www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org)

### **CHRISTIAN BOOKS:**

Monday to Saturday - Open 9.00am-5.00pm

Telephone: 01582 601945

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

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

## Dear Friends,

Sometime ago when our grandson, who was 3 years old, was staying with us we heard a crash in our bedroom. On investigation we found the lid of a pot laying smashed on the floor. He had been told earlier not to touch things and on asking how the lid got broken our grandson blamed our dog with the reply 'Bobby did it'. After further 'dialogue' he admitted his guilt. Even at his age he acknowledged how absurd his answer was as the pot was located on top of a 'dog unreachable' chest of drawers.

There are a number of principles we can learn about this incident. First, all of us are prone to disobedience. Second, we tend to blame others (even a dog). Third, we all can experience a sense of guilt when we offend in some way.

### Damaging Disobedience

We are all prone to disobedience – a sinful and endemic condition of the human heart. We want to do our own thing and have our own way. The allurements of the forbidden is more powerful often than the product of obedience. When Eve ate of the fruit in the Garden in disobedience to a command of God and gave it to Adam to eat they considered that the appeal of being **'like God'** (Gen 3:5) appeared far superior than anything their Creator could give them. However, the sin of disobedience damaged their relationship with God and ultimately all mankind's as well. Disobedience and sin has profound affect.

Disobedience is the result of a rebellious heart and it has eternal consequences. God **'commands all men everywhere to repent'** (Acts 17:30). Failure to obey this command will result in separation from God now and in the eternity to come with all the sorrow that will bring.

We know from experience that when disobedience is exposed it can produce many responses. Blaming others and a sense of guilt are but two reactions. Both manifested by Adam and Eve.

### Blame Game

From the very beginning our first parents engaged in the usual human trait of blaming someone or something else for sin and failure. Eve blamed the serpent (3:13), and Adam his wife and God (v.12), for their disobedience. How many times have we blamed others to mitigate, at least in our own minds, the sense of failure, guilt and sometimes pain felt by the uncovering of a misdemeanour?

Blaming others is a reaction to our God given consciences that cause us to make excuses for our sinful behaviour, which generates a sense of guilt and a desire to pass responsibility to others. But, we are all aware that it is possible for our consciences to become hardened to the point where a sense of guilt and distaste at what we have done is reduced or even eliminated.

### Guilty Conscience

When we are disobedient, and are found out, we can be filled with powerful emotions such as remorse and guilt. When our first parents sinned they hid themselves from the Lord. If they did not feel a sense of guilt they would not have felt the need to hide from him (3:8). They knew they had done wrong. Guilt is a necessary experience for several reasons. First, is it a proper response to any offence. Most people want a murderer or a burglar to feel remorse or some kind of guilt. Why? Because guilt admits the sin that has been hidden. Second, without it there can be no sense of the need for forgiveness. Guilt drives the previously unrepentant sinner to repent and seek forgiveness from God.

For the believer guilt is the way of reconciliation to our heavenly Father. The apostle John exposes us to the truth of our sin (1 John 1:8) but this knowledge of guilt leads us to a glorious portrayal of forgiveness. **'If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness'** (1 John 1:9). Such is the power of the precious blood of our Saviour that it **'cleanses from every sin'** (v.7). When we sin and the Holy Spirit, through the Word of God, exposes our sin and produces an awareness of guilt repentance leads to forgiveness and reconciliation. We then are liberated to begin anew on the path of holiness, joy and usefulness. Suppression of or unconfessed sin is a conduit that leads to lack of joy, fruitlessness and failure in the Christian life. May God help us by his grace not to sin but when we do to experience the joy of repentance and reconciliation.

**Ron Shipton**

**GRACE BAPTIST MISSION**  
**PRAYER WAVES for March 2013**

**Les Cèdres Language School, Paris:**

Jim Sayers visited GBM's missionaries currently studying French in preparation for their future missionary service.

**Phil & Carolyn Reid:**

Phil & Carolyn returned home last year after serving the Lord in central Asia. God willing, they plan to move in the summer to Piela (3 hours east of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso).

**Carolyn** is to work as a doctor in a rural health centre established by a local church. The project is still small but the team are seeking to develop the work and have been praying for a long time for a foreign doctor to join them.

**Phil** plans to do Bible translation with a new people group (a nomadic people spread across sub-Saharan Africa from Senegal to Sudan). He will join the team working on the Burkina dialect. Praise God for the recent launch of the New Testament. Phil will be working on translation of the Old Testament.

(Carolyn has made a full recovery from recent back surgery and is very grateful for the many prayers on her behalf).

**James Hammond (St John's Wood, London):**

Originally from Vancouver Island, Canada, James studied at the London Theological Seminary and was subsequently led to mission service in France. He will spend one year studying French and also needs to raise his financial support among the UK churches.

**Please pray:**

- that as James, Phil & Carolyn invest these crucial months in language training, God will give them perseverance and that they will make good progress in French
  - give thanks to the Lord for Les Cèdres Christian language school and the service they provide for mission in the French-speaking world
  - that Phil and Carolyn will quickly adjust to Bible translation and medical work
- for James as he seeks the Lord's will about where to serve in France, and that his support base may soon be in place

**Next month:**

We hope to feature the situation in Kenya which is greatly in need of prayer.

We also hope to introduce the new mission coordinator, Daryl Jones (Bethel, Liverpool) who was appointed last month.

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**"Royal Holloway Event's Week: 28th January - 1st February.**

Thank you to the church for your support and prayers for Royal Holloway's event's week. Although it was a while ago, the week was a great success. This is just one of many encouraging stories from the week...

"In CU the week before we were encouraged to think of friends we could invite to events, and I struggled to think of particular events to invite particular friends to. However, God knew who He wanted me to invite, and He made opportunities for me to explain what was happening during events week even when I had prepared nothing to say. This was a sign of God beginning to work in the hearts of my friends. Two of my friends then came to the coffee and cake bar on the first day, and were very interested in finding out more, so, as you do, I offered to read the Bible and go through some simple studies with them. They agreed straight away! We did the first Uncover study yesterday and I am already amazed at how God is working in their hearts and minds. All of the evening events were great too, the last night being on the cross. The room was overflowing with people and everyone seemed to be really listening, many people asked questions after the talk. Please keep praying for us on campus as we seek to share God's love and gospel with students who don't know Him. Student Alpha and Uncover studies will need to be saturated in prayer, but we trust that God can change lives, and it is incredible that He wants to use us in the process!"

**Jess Hewitt**

## Tour of the Palace of Westminster Thursday 4th April 2013

There are 24 people confirmed for this tour, which is very good. However, we have space for up to 40, so you still have time to join us (just!). **Please let me know as soon as possible, if you can come.** Thank you to our local MP Andrew Selous and his PA for arranging these tours for us. Please note that this is during the Easter School Holidays and there is no age limit for this tour.

The **Palace of Westminster Tour** will be in two groups and start at 11:20 and 11:25. The tour lasts for 75 minutes and is **free of charge** (apart from travel costs). I suggest that you bring a packed lunch to eat together in the adjacent Victoria Tower Gardens after the tour. We can then visit the nearby Jewel Tower, which was part of the medieval Palace of Westminster and has a new exhibition. This is free to those who go on the tour of the Palace of Westminster. There should also be time to do something else in the afternoon. Some of the group are interested in visiting the Foundling Museum. Please see me for details about travel.



## Church Walk – Ridgeway Path (Wendover to Princes Risborough)

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013

The church walk following the third part of the Ridgeway footpath will start in Wendover town centre and end at Princes Risborough station (approx. 7.4 miles). We plan to drive from Dunstable to Wendover (meeting outside the Chapel at 9:30am) and return to Wendover by train. We aim to return to Dunstable by 4:15pm.

Thank you to those who have confirmed that they can come on this walk.

Please let me know if you would like to join the walk. There will be a break for lunch along the route, so please bring a packed lunch with you. The parking charge at Wendover (Library or Station) Car Parks is £4.00 (over 5 hours).

**Peter Woodruff**

## British Museum Bible Tour

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2013

This tour will look at artefacts relating to the Bible in the British Museum and be led by Keith Berry. The tour is expected to last 2-3 hours, and Keith has offered to lead a walking tour around part of Central London on the same day. **Please book the date now** and add your name to the list in the vestibule. Thank you to those who have already confirmed that they can go. More details to follow.

**Peter Woodruff**

## Elizabeth Tower Tour

Thank you to all those who have expressed interest in the tour of the tower that houses the Big Ben bell. I am aiming to arrange this tour for a weekday during the school summer holidays (hopefully towards the end of July), but they are subject to high demand. Please watch out for details of the tour date when this is confirmed. The tour is **free of charge** (apart from travel costs) and arranged through our local MP Andrew Selous. Please note that children under 11 are not permitted on the Elizabeth Tower tour and there is a maximum of 16 in each tour. The tour will take you up the 334 stone spiral steps to the top of the 153 year old Elizabeth Tower to hear Big Ben strike the hour. As well as seeing a spectacular view of London from 62 metres up the tower, you will also go behind the clock faces and have the opportunity to visit the mechanism room to learn about how the clock works in the 21st Century.

So if you are interested in joining this tour, please let me know or add your name on the list in the vestibule. More details later.

Peter Woodruff

### GBM LITERATURE PACKAGES FOR AFRICA -

**THANKS to everyone who took these packets on Tuesday and posted them — the pastors who receive them and Maciek Stolarski will be very grateful. All 34 packages went.**

Some Extra Dates For Your Diary...

### GRACE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY 2013 Conference Tuesday 30th April to Thursday 2nd May

**“ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN?”**

**Venue:**

The Hayes Centre Swanwick, DE55 1AU

**Host & Hostess:**

David & Barbara Ellis

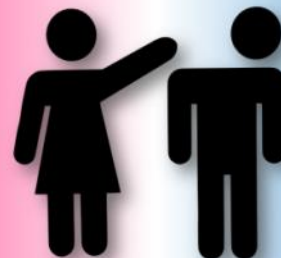
**Speakers:**

Tim Mills, Stephen Rees, Paul Brown,  
Jeremy Walker, Phil Heaps

**A RECOGNITION SERVICE**  
for  
Tom Copperwheat's Apprenticeship  
At  
**LIMES AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**AYLESBURY**  
will be held  
On **SUNDAY 14TH APRIL**  
**BETWEEN 3.15PM & 4.00PM**  
Followed by refreshments.

**Everyone is welcome**  
**Come and**  
**encourage Tom.**

Onto something **BIG** fight!  
**Battle of the sexes night**  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2013, 7.30pm



**Venue: Limes Avenue Baptist Church,**  
**Aylesbury**

[www.youthsquash.org.uk/venues.php](http://www.youthsquash.org.uk/venues.php)

### BOOKSHOP NEWS

- Monday 29th—Tuesday 30th : John and Bev are at the Christian Booksellers Conference at The Hayes Conference Centre  
Swanwick, Derbyshire  
Followed by:
- Tuesday 30th—Thursday 2nd May: John and Bev are hosting the bookstall at the Grace Baptist Assembly Conference 2013, at the same venue.

# Dunstable Foodbank

Two letters received from Peter Meadows, Operations Manager of the Foodbank.

Dear Foodbank Supporters,

I've received a number of replies to my earlier e-mail requesting more specific details of food requirements. As the warehouse team have now completed a stocktake, I can say that we have enough pasta / spaghetti, baked beans & tins of soup! We have particularly low stocks of tinned fish (except tuna), long life milk, fruit juice, and mashed potato. However, we have just completed another week of high demand and food continues to be distributed to those in need at double the rate that we are collecting it. Our normal list of non-perishable food is attached for reference. Your continued support and prayers are very much appreciated and are essential to the continued operation and success of Foodbank.

Best wishes,  
*Peter Meadows*

Dear Foodbank supporters,

As you may know, the demand for Dunstable Foodbank has grown strongly recently. In the 28 weeks since the Foodbank started, we have distributed over 7,700 meals to more than 850 clients, with more than half of these in the last 8 weeks. As a result, despite the regular donations that we have received, our stock of food has been depleted and we must replenish this. Therefore we have made arrangements with some local supermarkets to hold collections. Because of the urgent need, the first of these will be on **Friday, April 12th at Sainsbury's**, Dunstable. I realise that this could be difficult for some of you but that makes it all the more important for others to come forward if at all possible. We propose to operate the collection between 10am and 4pm in 2 hour 'shifts' of 4~6 people each thus requiring 18 volunteers in all.

This is really important, please let me know your availability for this urgently.

Best wishes,  
*Peter Meadows*

Milk (UHT or powdered)
Sugar (500g packs)
Fruit juice (carton)
Soup
Pasta sauces
Sponge Pudding (tinned)
Tomatoes (tinned)
Cereals
Rice pudding (tinned)
Tea bags / Instant coffee
Instant mash potato
Rice / pasta
Tinned meat / fish
Jam

## Gifts Received and Sent During March 2013

During March 2013 gifts have been sent (or are awaiting being sent), from those received for the work and from church funds, as follows:

Caring for Life (General)	(from gifts)	£3
EMF – to support Rogério Ramos in Sines	(from gifts)	£25
GBM in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25

## **CARING FOR LIFE QUIZ NIGHT**

**Saturday 20th April at Dunstable Baptist Church starting at 6:45pm**

With a finger buffet during the interval.

TICKETS—£6, must be purchased in advance, either singly or in teams of 6. 15+

Numbers are limited so get your tickets soon from Elaine Snuggs.

# DBC Diary God willing

<b>April 2013</b>		
Tues 2nd	7.30pm	Home Bible Study Groups Study 2, Questions 1-5
Wed 3rd	7.30pm	Leaders Meeting
Sat 6th	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
<b>Sun 7th</b>	<b>am pm</b>	<b>Andy Banton Mark Lawrence (West St) Communion YP @ the Hewitts</b>
Tues 9th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Tony Townley
Tues 9th & Wed 10th		Easter Children's Holiday Club
Thurs 11th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours 'Action on Hearing Loss' - Mary Taylor.
<b>Sun 14th</b>	<b>am pm</b>	<b>Mark Lawrence (West St) Martin Loughbrough (West St.)</b>
Mon 15th	8.00pm	Ladies Bible Study Study 4—1 Cor 2:6-16
Tues 16th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Andy Banton
Thurs 18th	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting in Home
Sat 20th	8-9.00am 8.00pm	Men's Prayer Meeting YAG
<b>Sun 21st</b>	<b>am pm</b>	<b>David Green Brian Ellis (Cubao) &amp; CFM Communion</b>
Tues 23rd	7.30pm	B.S. & Prayer Speaker from SASRA
Wed 24th	7.30pm	Church Members Meeting
Thurs 25	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link Speaker: John Coles
<b>Sun 28th</b>	<b>am &amp; pm</b>	<b>Barry King (Grace Baptist Partnership)</b>
Tues 30th	7.30pm	B.S. & Prayer Speaker: Keith Noldt (NSW, Australia & EMF)
<b>May</b>		
<b>Sun 5th</b>	<b>am pm</b>	<b>Family Service -Steve Burton Communion YP @ the Hewitts</b>

<b>'Pray for us' Members preaching in other churches</b>		
Sun 7th	Rex Andrews	Great Whyte B.C. Ramsey (am & pm)
Sun 14th	Andy Banton Rex Andrews	Wappenham B C (am) Potton B.C. (am)
Thurs 18th	Andy Banton	Lincoln Evangelical Church
Mon 22nd	Andy Banton	Watling Lower School Assembly (am) Ashton Middle School Assembly (pm)
Sun 28th	Andy Banton	Tollington Park B.C.

## **ROTAS for APRIL 2013**

***Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient.***

### **Door Rota**

7th Frank Barnachea & Joy Broughton  
14th David & Ann Weedon  
21st John & Elaine Snuggs  
28th Chris Jacquier & Dawn Hewitt

### **Security Rota**

7th Antony Coles  
14th Jeff Cooke  
21st Martin Dawkins  
28th Jeff Hewitt

### **Creche Rota**

7th Margaret, Bev  
14th Tess, Mary  
21st Julia Rachel  
28th Jenny, Beth

### **Cleaning Rota**

1st Young people—Em & Beth  
8th Hilary Green & Julia Ming  
15th Jo Coleman & Sarah Cooke  
22nd Andy & Ruth Banton  
29th Martin & Marie Dawkins

### **Flower Rota**

7th Dawn Hewitt  
14th Ann Weedon  
21st Jo Coleman/Sarah Cooke  
28th Linda Lumley  
5th May Joan Collins

### **Editors Note:**

**Please forward any items for the MAY Newsletter by Sunday 21ST APRIL to coleman29@talktalk.net**  
**Thanks to Ellie Kingham for setting out this month's newsletter.**

### **TUESDAY PRAYER TIME LEADERS & SUBJECTS**

2<sup>nd</sup> Home Study groups: Study 2  
9th Rex Andrews – Pastorate & Holiday Club,  
Andy Banton  
16th Mike Power – GBM Prayer Waves CD  
23rd John Keble – SASRA  
30th Bible Study & Prayer