

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter

June 2013



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 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
2.00pm 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

CHRISTIAN BOOKS:

Monday to Saturday - Open 9.00am-5.00pm
Telephone: 01582 601945
email: books@christianbooks.uk.com
website: www.christianbooks.uk.com

Dear Friends,

We are living in perplexing times. There is growing moral, spiritual and political confusion exacerbated by mass communication and the economic situation. The society is also experiencing information overload. One tabloid recently provided a two-page pullout with 500 new applications (apps) for electronic devices. Simply by touching a desired icon on, for instance, an iPad a mass of data is produced instantly. Faced with an unimaginable array of facts, experiences, ideas and feelings how do we make sense of reality and especially moral reality? However, though many have moved away from the Bible, and its guiding principles, that have earlier informed and formed the moral fabric of society, and our consciences, many people are not satisfied with the 'new order' and are still searching for the purpose and meaning of life. Of course that meaning cannot be found within the confused values and disorder of society but only in the Creator, even as light cannot be found in a dark room.

One example of lack of moral direction is found in the concept of love although most people accept the idea of love as some kind of ultimate value of life. The problem is, however, that there are two broad approaches to love.

What people want

One of the moral issues that has arisen today is that it is hardly possible to disagree with someone about a number of issues without being accused of a lack of love. For many people real love means to be prepared to approve the desires and decisions of others and even help them fulfil them. Children accuse parents of not loving them if they do not get or do what they want. Though as flawed human beings we occasionally act against our better judgment most parents will make decisions for the best interests of their offspring. However, in society it is considered 'phobic' to disagree with or disapprove of behaviour contrary to biblical teaching and the fundamental laws of nature. The apostle Paul teaches about these things in Romans (1:24-31). This is merely one example of many that can be cited to show that the present moral condition of society is not a foundation to make ethical decisions about human conduct and behaviour – ethical decisions that are now or will be enshrined in legislation. It is not unloving to want the best for those who we disagree with.

What people need

The biblical view of love is to will and to do what is good for society and people and to help them achieve that good. It is not loving to approve of something that harms people. There is a great difference between a 'desire' and that which is 'desirable' – the 'want' and the 'good'. As fallen creatures we cannot look within ourselves to determine the difference. As I have written earlier it is impossible to find light in a dark room. Only as we look into the perfect Word of God (James 1:25), the Bible, do we have a source of light that is outside of ourselves to determine and distinguish between what is desirable and good and that which is destructive and detrimental to our society and to the individual members of it.

The greatest act of love is found in God who is not people 'phobic' simply because in his Word he has condemned them as sinners, (their thoughts, words and actions are destructive to their lives now and in the eternity to come), far from it. Why? Because '*God demonstrates his own love towards us, in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us*' (Rom 5:8). Surely to give one's life to save a friend epitomises the greatest act of love but God's love is greater in that he has manifested his love towards his enemies (Rom 5:10). If it is wise and good for human beings to be willing to express their concern about the self-damaging behaviour of their fellow creatures how much more is it wise and loving for God to communicate his concern about the behaviour, and its outcome, of those who he has created.

Ron Shipton

Tom's Corner

Hi all,

Thanks for your continuing support and prayers. It was fantastic to see some of you at the recognition service for myself and Elsy. I felt God's blessing on the occasion and it was so nice for members to join with the church at Limes Avenue to share in this with me.

It was also really encouraging to come back and serve at the Holiday Club in the Easter holiday with you as a church. I enjoyed teaching the children about Jonah and being involved in the football. Steve D and I are beginning to prepare for the Holiday Bible Club at Limes Avenue, which is at the end of August.

We have also decided to look at Jonah as the theme.

As well as looking forward to this at the end of the school holidays, there are many other activities that I will also be involved in over the summer months. I have booked in to do 2 weeks of beach mission in Leysdown, where I will be involved in a lot more of the leading and devotionals alongside Steve D. Straight after this, I plan to attend DBC's young people holiday, which is exciting and more so to be involved with the ministry throughout the week. I have also been asked to attend another Church holiday, coordinating and leading the youth work for this.

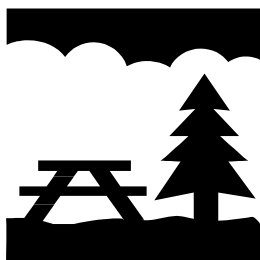
The PFS course is going well – I am currently working on an essay about church leadership and how this affects growth within the church.

Please pray that I will be able to manage my time and that all the preparation and planning for summer events will be for God's glory.

Hope to see you soon,

Tom

Tom Copperwheat
Ministry Trainee



Church Outing – Saturday 15th June 2013 Stockgrove/Rushmere Country Park

Meet in the car park at 3pm for a walk and games, followed by a Bring and Share Picnic Tea at 5:30pm. Please add your name to the list in the vestibule if you would like to go.

Many Thanks,
Peter Woodruff.

BRITISH MUSEUM VISIT



On Saturday 18th May, we assembled at the British Museum, London, for a tour kindly given by Keith Berry about the ancient empires that existed during Bible times. We began by having a look at the Assyrian Empire, and saw some fascinating wall engravings from Assyrian palaces in Nimrud and Nineveh. Then, we visited the section of the museum dedicated to Ancient Greece. We saw busts of the Greek philosophers, and learned about the Mausoleum of Halikarnassos, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Next came the exhibits on the Chaldeans, the ancient civilization that included the city of Ur. Around this time we also saw the proclamation of Cyrus that al-

lowed the Jewish people to return to Jerusalem. We ended the tour with a look at a replica of the Rosetta Stone, a translation of which allowed European scholars to begin to understand the Egyptian script of Hieroglyphics.

After lunch, we moved onto a tour of the East End of London. We began at the border between the City of London and the East End. Keith told us about the many waves of immigrants that had settled in the area, including Huguenots (French Protestants who had been persecuted by the Catholics), Jews, and more recently, Bengalis. In particular, we toured Spitalfields, an area of London that has gone through many stages of urban regeneration, going from a very run-down area to almost being an extension of the built-up City of London. Following on from the tour of Spitalfields, we had refreshments at a coffee shop being run by local Christians on Brick Lane, before going home after a very enjoyable day.

David Norman

Onto something **BIG**...

Future hope

15th June 2013, 7.30pm

Venue: **Dunstable Baptist Chapel,
Dunstable**

www.youthsquash.org.uk/venues.php

YP Holiday 2013

Back to Leiston

Just a reminder to all our young people that we are returning to Leiston in Suffolk for our Young People's holiday for 2013. We will be going from August 10th to 17th and will have the usual mix of fun and fellowship. If you're expecting us to be staying at Leiston High School, you're in for a surprise! We're staying at Alde Valley School instead!! But don't expect it to be different. They've just had a name change so it's the same school but with a new title.

I sent out application forms at the end of March by email but for those who might have slipped off my address box, I will be putting forms in the racks by the front doors for you to fill in and return to me. The cost will be £95, all inclusive, for the week. We can help with the cost if it is a problem to anyone who wants to come. There will also be discounts for your third child – if you have one. Let me know if you want more information.

Jeff Hewitt

Pamela Ann Smith (4th Dec 1943 – 14th May 2013)

For many years Pam expressed an interest in Christianity. About five years ago she started to worship with us. She attended also the Christianity Explored course and after a while asked for baptism. She gave a strong profession of faith in the Lord Jesus and subsequently Pam was baptised and joined the church at that time (Oct 2009).

Pam has been a great encouragement to many with her strong faith in the Lord and her humble dependence on him. She bore with great fortitude her constant ill health, especially over the last eighteen months, but always expressed her faith in Christ and her reliance on God. Her own family, for whom she had a great concern, have been touched by her simple trust in Jesus. Pam often said to them that when she dies she had great confidence that she will be with the Saviour. Her confidence in our loving Lord has been rewarded. She is no longer suffering but is with him in the joy of his eternal kingdom free from constant pain and affliction.

We thank God for Pam and her faith and love for Jesus. By the time you read this her committal service will have been conducted. But we have also been able to meet together, with her family, to thank God that in his love and mercy another precious soul has been saved by his marvellous grace and has now entered her eternal rest.

Please continue to pray for Pam's family that in their sorrow they might find the same comfort that Pam knew during her life – a comfort that comes from knowing Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

Bob Keble

It was with sadness that we learned of the death of John Keble's father, Bob, who had been suffering with cancer for some time. We extend our deepest sympathy to John, Bev and family, John's Mum, Yvonne, and his sisters Louise and Mandy. Please uphold the family in your prayers as they prepare for Bob's funeral which will take place on June 12th.



CHURCH HOLIDAY – 2013

SIZEWELL HALL

Arrangements for the Church Holiday 2013 are going along nicely and it would be a good time to remind you of what's happening and to update you on one or two details.

- We are returning for a third time to the wonderful Sizewell Hall, Suffolk – a big old country house sitting literally by its own beach
- We are going from Monday October 28th to Friday November 1st. This is half term week so the schools should be closed
- Everybody is welcome to come. There are no age restrictions
- The cost will be £85, all inclusive, per person, with discounts for those aged ten and under. You just need to get yourself there. Financial assistance is available if the cost is a problem
- We will have our usual mix of fellowship, teaching and fun. We are pleased to announce that our speaker for the week is Keith Berry
- After having been catered for at Cloverley Hall last year, we will be returning to 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 and if there are enough people interested we might even be able to arrange yet another sedate sea cruise on the Coastal Voyager at Southwold

Forms were emailed to all Church members last November but if you want me to send you another one, let me know and I will send you one out. I have also put forms in the plastic box type things in the entrance area.

We need to take a minimum of 65 people with us but can Sizewell Hall can accommodate a maximum of 83. We have already have 35 people signed up so get your forms back to me as soon as possible so as to avoid disappointment.

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 Ruth or me.

Jeff Hewitt



GBM Week of Prayer 2013

Training Leaders

9th to 16th June

Please join with us in praying each day this week for the vital work of training a new generation of church leaders.

This work is the heart of mission according to 2 Timothy 2:2, and the effects are felt in thousands of churches worldwide. Some are urban churches, some may be scattered through the Brazilian jungle or the islands of the Philippines. Others face persecution because they have turned their back on Hinduism or Islam, or meet in secret because of their fear of the state. This week we are united with them in their work by our prayers. See the Church noticeboard for more details.

Remember! There is free literature, OAM, GBM, EMF and other leaflets and notices giving information for your interest and prayers. Look at the lists and info on the noticeboards.

COME TO THE
Spring/Summer Church & Grounds
Cleaning Morning
Saturday 8th June

9.00am to 1.00pm or any time in between!

John Keble is the organiser and if you can't make that morning have a word with John about any outstanding jobs to do at another time.



Gifts Received and Sent During May 2013

During May 2013 gifts have been sent (or are awaiting being sent), from those received for the work and from church funds, as follows (gifts to the four missions will be reported next month):

Caring for Life	(from gifts)	£35
Christian Books	(from church funds)	£1,000
Christian Compassion Ministries	(from church funds)	£2,500
Christian Institute	(from church funds)	£25/month
In support of Tom Copperwheat at Aylesbury	(from church funds)	£250/month
Dunstable Foodbank	(from church funds)	£55/month
European Missionary Fellowship in support of Rogério Ramos	(from church funds)	£2,500
GBM in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25
Grace Baptist Partnership	(from church funds)	£100
Open-Air Mission	(from church funds)	£2,500
Pilgrim Homes	(from gifts)	£150
Roundwood Trust	(from church funds)	£2,500
SASRA	(from gifts)	£60
	(from church funds)	£100
Veritas in support of Keith Berry	(from church funds)	£1,250
Wattisham Baptist Church – in support of Brian Ellis	(from gifts)	£20
Wycliffe Bible Translators Yaru project	(from church funds)	£140

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

Here is an email received from Rogério Ramos, Sines, Portugal:

Your grateful donation (of £500) for the relief to those in need came last week.

Will be a great help for the families in need.

I will send photos of our project to help these families.

Do thank the church for their prayers and support.

Rogério

ADVANCE NOTICE

Pilgrim's Friend Society Coffee Morning & Bring and Buy sale

Friday 12th July 2013 9.30 - 12.00 noon

at 37 Norcott Close Dunstable LU5 4AH

We would be very glad to receive donations of any unwanted presents or other suitable things to sell -

Please pass to Elaine well before the event



Thanks

John and Elaine

DBC Diary God willing

June 2013		
Sat 1st	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
Sun 2nd	am & pm	Brian Edwards (Surbiton) 2 Corinthians 8 Communion YP @ the Hewitts
Tues 4th	7.30pm	Home Bible Study Groups Study 3, Questions 1-5
Sun 9th	am & pm	Brian Edwards (Surbiton) 2 Corinthians 9
Tues 11th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Martin Loughbrough
Thurs 13th	2.00pm	Friends & Neighbours Outing to Stockgrove Park
Sat 15th	8-9.00am 8.00pm	Men's Prayer Meeting YAG
Sun 16th	am & pm am pm	Robert Strivens (LTS) Communion 2 Corinthians 10 YP @ the Kebles
Mon 17th	8.00pm	Ladies Bible Study Study 6—1 Cor 3:16-4:5
Tues 18th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Roger March
Thurs 20th	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting in Home
Sun 23rd	am & pm pm	Alan Huxtable (Wolverton) 2 Corinthians 11
Tues 25th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Andy Banton
Wed 26th	7.30pm	Church Leaders' meeting
Thur 27th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link 'Sharing together'
Sun 30th	am pm	Martin Loughbrough Clement Tang 2 Corinthians 12

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

4th Home Study groups: Study 3 Q 1-5
 11th Frank Taylor—Pastorate &
 Toddlers, Ruth Banton
 18th Ron Shipton - GBM DVD
 25th David Woodruff—Friends & Neighbours,
 David Weedon

Editors Note:

**Please forward any items for the
 JULY NEWSLETTER
 by Sunday 23RD JUNE
 to coleman29@talktalk.net**

'Pray for us' Members preaching in other churches		
Sun 2nd	Rex Andrews	West Row B.C., Suffolk (am) Wootton B.C. (pm)
Mon 6th	Andy Banton	Ashton St Peters Assembly (am)
Sat 8th-Tues 11th	Andy Banton	London Team Event
Sun 9th	Rex Andrews	Pidley Baptist Church
Sun 16th	Andy Banton	Elmstead E.C. (am)
Tues 18th	Andy Banton	Westoning B.C.
Sun 23rd	Andy Banton	Cherith E.C., High Wycombe (am)
Mon 24th	Andy Banton	Watling Lower Assembly (am) Ashton Middle Assembly (pm)
Sat 29th	Andy Banton	Trinity Baptist Church.
Sun 30th	Andy Banton	Trinity Baptist Church (am)

ROTAS for JUNE 2013

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient.

Door Rota

2nd Scott Mitchell, Sarah Cooke
 9th Frank Barnachea, Joy Broughton
 16th David, Ann Weedon
 23rd John, Elaine Snuggs
 30th Chris Jacquier, Dawn Hewitt

Security Rota

2nd Mike Power
 9th Brian Rigby
 16th Ron Shipton
 23rd John Snuggs
 30th Darryl Saunders

Creche Rota

2nd Margaret, Bev
 9th Tess, Mary
 16th Julia, Rachel
 23rd Jenny, Beth
 30th Caroline, Comfort

Cleaning Rota

3rd John & Elaine Snuggs
 10th David, Sarah Woodruff & Jenny
 17th Brian & Margaret Rigby
 24th Scott & Rachel Mitchell

Flower Rota

2nd Christine Wild
 9th Joy Broughton
 16th Jenny Jacquier
 23rd Caroline Norman
 30th Barbara Shipton
 7th July Julia Ming