

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter

July 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
7.45pm Young Adults Group - as announced

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,

Zophar as he interrogates Job makes the observation

'Can you search out the deep things of God?

'Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?' (Job 11:7-8.)

The answer from Job, if he had replied, would be no and this applies to all of us. Of necessity there are mysteries concerning God. Creation points to the existence of a Great Designer of enormous power and intellect but it teaches us nothing about his Being: his attributes, identity and nature. Consequently, the Christian view of God comes only from biblical revelation.

We have been studying aspects of the nature of God that is unique to the Christian faith. The Bible reveals that God is tri-personal – he is one Being manifested in three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Whilst the Trinity is a profound mystery there are important issues concerning what this means and does not mean.

The Trinity does not mean there are three Gods (tritheism)

The Bible nowhere teaches that there are three Gods, even though Christians are accused of believing this. This in effect would be a contradiction in terms. It would be like saying that there are three Almighty beings ruling the universe. Like three kings of equal power sitting on three thrones ruling one kingdom.

The Trinity is not one God in three different forms (modalism)

This idea proposes that there is one God who reveals himself on different occasions for different reasons in different forms or modes. For instance God in the OT appeared as 'the Father' and throughout the gospels he appears as Jesus 'the Son'. After Jesus' death he came as 'the Holy Spirit'. It has been questioned that if Jesus was the one God, who was running the universe whilst he was on earth, especially at his death?

The Trinity is one God in three persons

The error of tritheism is that it denies the fundamental teaching of Scriptures. Moses declared the unity of God. **'Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.'** (Deut 6:4). It rejects also the Scriptures that refer to God as the one Almighty God. For example when the LORD spoke to Abraham **'I am Almighty God'** (Gen 17:1) or the words of Jesus **'I am the Alpha and the Omega ... the Almighty'** (Rev 1:8).

The fatal error of modalism is that it denies the biblical teaching of the personal relationship within the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It denies also that three distinct persons were present at the baptism of Jesus – the Father speaking from heaven and the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus like a dove.

There are a number of reasons why the doctrine of the Trinity is vital? Take the example of Jesus praying to his Father. How can one Almighty God (the Son), in the case of tritheism, petition another Almighty God (the Father) to answer his prayers on our behalf? (e.g. John 17; Heb 7:25). Conversely, modalism has Jesus praying to himself. Both foolish notions. How thankful we are that in his willing submission to the Father as a perfect man his prayers were, and will be, answered concerning himself and those he came to save.

Ultimately false teaching about the Trinity strips away the heart of the gospel – the atonement – that the Father (**First Person of the Trinity**), in great love, sent his only begotten Son (**Second Person of the Trinity**), as a willing substitutionary sacrifice, to bear God's wrath in the place of sinners. It destroys the truth that the suffering of Christ satisfied the just demands of a holy God and that all who trust in him are loved, forgiven and reconciled to him. It undermines the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit (**Third Person of the Trinity**) and his work in convicting people of sin and the need to repent and trust in Christ.

All who have repented of sin and trust in Jesus can enter now into the blessings of knowing **the Father** as our heavenly Father. We can look forward also with great joy to an eternity in the kingdom of **the Son**, our Lord and Saviour, and know now **the Holy Spirit** (Titus 3:4-7), our indweller and comforter. We can have the joy of knowing that all three members of the Godhead (Col 2:9) in great love and mercy have been, and are, deeply involved in our salvation. In view of all that our Triune God has done for us in rescuing us from hell should we not love God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with all our heart, soul and strength? (Deut 6:5).

Ron Shipton

Tom's Corner

Hi All,

Over the last month I have continued to do one-to-one bible studies with the youth at church as well as the school assemblies and Christian Union meetings Steve, D and I do weekly. I have now completed my first year of the PFS course which has gone scarily quick! I'll be having a break from that now until September (well, the lectures not the essays!). In the mean time I will be very busy this summer:

- 2 weeks beach mission in Leysdown
- DBC Young Peoples Holiday
- Youth work at Worcester Park church holiday
- Holiday Bible Club at LABC

Thanks for your continuing support and prayers,

Tom

Changes to licensing policy on sex establishments.

We are seeking views on a policy that would prevent licenses for sex establishments (e.g. lap dancing clubs, sex shops) being granted within 500m of the schools, residential areas, parks, religious buildings and areas frequented by children, families and vulnerable adults. We are asking whether there is support for this policy change or not, and for opinions on whether these conditions are appropriate.

To have your say, visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations

FINANCE

MISSION GIVING

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

Grace Baptist Mission (to support Matt Gamston in the Philippines)	£714
Roundwood Trust (literature for Eastern Europe)	£714
Open-Air Mission	£814
European Missionary Fellowship (EMF) – in support of Rogério Ramos	£784

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

OTHER DONATIONS

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

Albanian Evangelical Mission	(from church funds)	£1,250
Christian Prison Resources	(from church funds)	£1,250
EMF General Fund	(from church funds)	£1,250
Gaius Trust – in support of Steve Bignall	(from church funds)	£1,250
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25
London Theological Seminary – General Fund	(from church funds)	£1,250
London Theological Seminary – Lloyd-Jones Fund	(from church funds)	£750
UFM – in support of Peter Jolly & Phil Hill	(from church funds)	£1,250

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

David Woodruff

Youth Squash at Dunstable

On Saturday 15th June we hosted a youth squash at Dunstable. Approximately 100 young people from around the district came to spend the evening with us. We sang some songs, read the Bible, and had a boy versus girl versus leader challenge. Our speaker was Nathan Howard, a youth worker from North London, and he spoke about the future hope we have as Christians.

The youth weekend this year is 5th-7th July at Oakwood Youth Challenge, Wokingham. Eleven of us are going from Dunstable, and a total of 55 leaders and young people are booked. Oakwood is a Christian activity centre, so throughout the weekend there will be an opportunity for the young people to do some archery, kiwi flying, climbing and crate stacking.

Bible teaching will be based around the book of Joshua, with the main message being that God is faithful and gives rest on every side.

Please pray that God will be at work in the hearts and lives of our young people.

Jo Coleman

**Jo, Sarah and Abi Kight will be in charge of the catering.*



Elizabeth Tower Tour Monday 22nd July 2013 at 11:15am

A group of 12 of us will be climbing the tower housing the Big Ben bell. The tower was renamed from the "Clock Tower" last year to mark the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen. The tour has been arranged through our local MP Andrew Selous (South West Bedfordshire). For those going on the tour, please see **Peter Woodruff** for travel arrangements and more details.



A Charity "Sharing the Love of Jesus" by providing homes, support, therapeutic activities and love

Next Supporters Group Meeting

Wednesday 3rd July 7.30pm, Dunstable Baptist Church Hall

All are invited to come along and enjoy sharing fellowship, prayer and watching the latest DVD regarding Caring for Life's work with homeless and vulnerable people.

John and Elaine Smuggs

Rushmere Country Park



On Saturday 15th June the church visited Rushmere Park. The Mitchells had to wait until everyone had finished their gymnastic training before we could catch up with the others. The day had not promised good weather but, in actual fact, it turned out quite nice while we were there. When we arrived we set off to find the other church members who were on a walk. On the way we saw a big chair and a storybook as well as a big spider and his spider web! Arghh! We weren't frightened, though, as they were only made of wood. We found the others by the lake. The Woodruffs, Caroline and David, and the Marvins were there. We talked for a little bit and then walked back to the car park. We had all brought something to share to eat and we had a wonderful picnic. The children went off to play football while the adults talked and then everyone joined in with a game of French cricket. The star player was Alex Marvin, and Jemima Mitchell did really well as it was the first time she had played. Alex Mitchell had some great catches – all that cricket practice at school has come in handy. Overall it was a really enjoyable afternoon for everyone.



Ben, Emily and Jemima Mitchell (With help from Mum!)

Group— minus the Mitchells who arrived a bit later



Congratulations

to Jessica Hewitt and Sarah Norman on gaining Degrees following their University courses and we give thanks to God for His help and provision during their years of study. Sarah has been offered a job and we pray that Jessica will soon find employment.

Please pray for our other University and school students who are awaiting results from their recent exams.

Wedding

Please pray for Sarah Norman and Nathan Fisher as they prepare for their wedding at DBC on 13th July at 2pm. We pray the Lord will bless, guide and use them for His glory in future days.



Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

2nd Home Study groups: Study 3b

9th Joint DFEC prayer meeting at Christ Church (West Street)

16th Peter Jolly speaking. Steve Burton—*GBM Prayer waves + UFM*

23rd Brian Rigby—Persecuted Church & Monday Club, Sarah Woodruff

**COFFEE MORNING, BRING AND BUY,
AND GIFT DAY**

**FRIDAY 12TH JULY
at 37 Norcott Close 9.30-12.00noon**



We will have:-

Jams, marmalade, cakes and baked goods, some home grown vegetables, as well as 2nd hand books and other goods for sale
Plants for sale include Penstemon, geraniums, lavender, box
Black currant, red currant and gooseberry plants

All gifts of items to sell will be most welcome

We do hope you can come!!

John and Elaine

DBC Diary God willing

July 2013		
Tues 2nd	7.30pm	Home Bible Study Groups <i>Living in Christ — Study 3 Q 6-10</i>
Wed 3rd	7.30pm	Church Leaders Meeting
Sat 6th	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
Sun 7th	am pm	Family Service David Green <i>Can I really believe that life has meaning?</i> David Butler (EMF) 2 Corinthians 13 Communion service YP @ the Hewitts
Tues 9th	7.45pm	DFEC Joint Prayer meeting at Christ Church, (West Street) Dunstable
Wed 10th	7.30pm	Church Members Meeting
Thurs 11th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Outing Gardens of the Rose, St Albans
Fri 12th	9.30am - 12 noon	Coffee Morning in support of Pilgrims Friend Society
Sun 14th	am & pm 12.15pm 7.15pm	GBM Mission Sunday Jim Sayers Fellowship Lunch CFM—Jim Sayers
Mon 15th	8.00pm	Ladies Evening walk on the Downs
Tues 16th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Peter Jolly (UFM)
Thurs 18th	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting
Sat 20th	8-9.00am	Men's Prayer Meeting
Sun 21st	am & pm am pm	Basil Howlett (Reading) Communion service YP @ the Kebles
Tues 23rd	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Steve Palmer (Oxford)
Sat 27th	7.45pm	YAG
Sun 28th	am & pm	Stan Evers (Potton)
Tues 30th	7.30pm	General Prayer Meeting

'Pray for us' Members preaching in other churches		
Sun 7th	Rex Andrews	Potton Baptist Church (am)
Sun 14th	Rex Andrews	Stony Stratford EFC (am)
Thurs 18th	Andy Banton Rex Andrews	Central BC, Luton Providence B.C. Bedford
Sun 21st	Andy Banton	Rugby EC (am)
Sun 28th	Rex Andrews	Providence BC Bedford (am)

ROTAS for JULY 2013

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient.

Door Rota

7th Matt Woodruff & Barbara Shipton
14th David Kight & Joanne Coleman
21 Brian Rigby & Sarah Woodruff
22 28th Ray Marvin & Beverly Kingham

Security Rota

7th David Weedon
14th Frank Taylor
21st Martin Wild
28th David Woodruff

Creche Rota

7th Barbara, Elaine
14th Dawn, Mina
21st Janette, Linda
28th Margaret, Bev

Cleaning Rota

1st Jeff & Janette Cooke
8th Mike & Mena Power
15th Bev Keble & Carolyn Kight
22nd Hilary Green & Julia Ming
29th Joanne Coleman & Sarah Cooke

Flower Rota

7th July Julia Ming
14th July Janet Tucker
21st July Carolyn Kight
28th July Elaine Snuggs
4th Aug Sarah Woodruff

Editors Note:

Please forward any items for the
AUGUST NEWSLETTER
by Sunday 28TH JULY
to coleman29@talktalk.net