

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH

Newsletter

March 2014



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

- 9.45am 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 (age 5-9)
- 8.00pm Ladies Bible Study – 3rd in month

TUESDAY

- 9.15-11.00am Toddlers
- 7.30pm Bible Study and Prayer Meeting
Home Groups – 1st Tuesday in month

THURSDAY

- 10.00am Ladies Home Prayer Meeting – 3rd in month
- 2.30pm Friends and Neighbours – 2nd in month
(until the outings, then it will change to 2.00pm)
- 2.30pm Friends and Neighbours Link – 4th in Month
- 7-8.30pm 'TNT' club for age 9-12

FRIDAY

- 8-9.30pm 'Ignite' club for age 13 – 19

SATURDAY

- 11.00am Open Air Ministry – 1st in month
- 8-9.00am Mens Prayer Meeting – 3rd in month

OTHER MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED

For further information contact John Keble – 01582-601945

CHURCH WEBSITE

www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org

CHRISTIAN BOOKS

Monday to Saturday open 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Telephone 01582-601945

Email books@christianbooks.uk.com

Website www.christianbooks.uk.com

Dear Friends,

The country over the last two months, so we are informed, has experienced the worst weather ever recorded with constant rain and strong winds causing massive flooding.

We can only imagine the horror that the people in the ancient world felt as God flooded the world in judgment because of their abject wickedness and refusal to heed the preaching of Noah. All but Noah and his family perished (**2 Peter 2:5**).

The Power of God

Some speak about the world and its complex systems as 'Mother Nature' as if nature had an intrinsic life of its own independent of its Creator. Though the present weather patterns are directly influenced by various factors ultimately nature is in the hands of Almighty God. Throughout the Scriptures we read how God directs nature. **'He causes the wind to blow, and the waters to flow' (Ps 147:18)**. Jesus stilled the winds and the waves with a word **"Peace be still" and the wind ceased and there was a great calm' (Mark 4:39)**. Whilst God has established the laws that govern nature he is not bound by them. (**Read Job 38**).

The Promise of God

God said that he would not flood the earth again and gave the rainbow as a **'sign of the covenant between (him) and the earth' (Gen 9:12-17)**. Though there have been many natural disasters God has been faithful. The whole earth has never been flooded again.

Even after man was cast out of Eden, and nature itself was cursed because of sin (**Gen 3:17-19**), and God judged the earth with the flood, he has preserved mankind through Noah and his family and the earth continues to support life (**Gen 8:22**). God has done this to achieve his redemptive purposes in Christ. Ultimately, this 'fallen' world will be restored to its former glory, and more so, at the **'revealing of the sons of God' (Rom 8:18-25)**. Hence, the restoration of the earth by the purifying fire of God's judgment (**2 Peter 3:10-13**) is indissolvably linked with the redemption of his people.

The Presence of God

The day will come when the Lord Jesus Christ, who we now see by the eye of faith, will be revealed from heaven in all his power and glory. There will be a new heaven and earth and the effects of the curse will be removed. We who believe **'shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is' (1 John 3:2)**. Then we shall bear his moral and physical likeness. But, it is God's desire that we should now **'grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ' (2 Peter 3:18)**. Everyone who has the hope of being with and seeing the Lord in his eternal kingdom **'purifies himself, just as He is pure' (1 John 3:3)**.

Are we those who not only look forward to the blessing of seeing our Lord and Saviour but also by all the means that God has given seek to live for him that we might grow in his holiness and likeness? May God help us all to be the people we can and should be.

RS

EVENTS.

SATURDAY MARCH 8TH

YOUTH SQUASH @ TRING - 7.30PM

To live in the world without the world living in you is to...
...repent of friendship with the world

SATURDAY MARCH 8TH

SOCIAL GROUP

For our March activity we're off to the Pilgrim's Friend Society Quiz evening in Bedford. If you're interested in joining a team please let me know as soon as you can (ideally today if you're reading this on the 2nd). We have a few already committed to going so it would be nice to send a few teams from DBC.

It costs £3.50 per person and we would share lifts from Dunstable leaving the Church at about 6pm. Let me know if you're willing to drive or need a lift.

Our team last year pushed the winners most of the way but slipped away just at the end. However, it's more fun taking part so don't miss out just because you don't think you'll know many of the answers.

Come along and help a good cause.

Scott

SATURDAY MARCH 29TH

YOUTH SQUASH @ DUNSTABLE - 7.30PM

To live in the world without the world living in you is to...
...be warned of arrogantly playing god

SATURDAY APRIL 26TH

**CARING FOR LIFE QUIZ EVENING WITH A DIFFERENCE!
- 6.45PM**

Baffling bygones with finger buffet and Caring For Life DVD
Tickets £6

John and Elaine

SATURDAY APRIL 12TH

RNLI FLAG DAY

On April 12th, a Saturday a little in the future, the local branch of the RNLI will be holding a flag day - where the intrepid few gather together and raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institute. Despite the standing comment that we are so far away from the sea, every pound we can raise is put to good use.

We will be using the chapel as our base / control centre for the day, and any would like to offer an hour of time to help with this endeavour should contact Martin or Christine Wild to see what is involved.

We are aware that there are many demands made on our resources and nobody can give all that they would like - but an hour or so of time doesn't cost much.

If we don't see you then - have a good break over Easter.

Regards,

Martin and Christine Wild

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THE BANNER OF TRUTH YOUTH CONFERENCE 2014
FRIDAY 25 - SUNDAY 27 APRIL

University of Leicester, Gilbert Murray Hall, Manor Road, Leicester, LE2 2LG

SUBJECTS

How Conversions Happen	Stuart Olyott
Spain: from the Bible to the Sun	José Moreno
Be Filled with the Spirit	Stuart Olyott
The Irrepressible Mr Knox	Jonathan Watson
Encounters with Glory: John 1:14	José Moreno
The Nearness of God	Stuart Olyott
Seeking and Saving the Lost	Euan Murray



SPECIAL CHURCH OFFER

First two to apply: £25

All other: Only £45

Normal Rate: £95

SPEAKERS

Stuart Olyott	He became a minister when he was 21 and has spent his life preaching as simply, seriously and vividly as possible, both in English and French. Stuart has travelled widely and is the author of a number of books.
José Moreno Berrocal	Pastor of an evangelical church in Alcázar de San Juan in central Spain and is involved in church planting work with the European Missionary Fellowship (EMF). He has also written several books in Spanish including one on the History of the Reformation in Spain.
Euan Murray	He became a professional rugby player while studying veterinary science at Glasgow University. Since becoming a Christian, Euan loves to bear witness to his Saviour Jesus Christ, and to bring encouragement to fellow believers.
Jonathan Watson	General Editor of the Banner of Truth Trust for 10 years. Before this, he pastored several churches in his native Northern Ireland and on the Channel Island of Jersey.

The conference is intended for young people over the age of 16, and commences with Dinner on Friday and continues through to Dinner on Sunday. It is an excellent opportunity to study God's Word and to meet many young people from other parts of the country. Full-board accommodation is provided in single rooms within the Leicester University Halls of Residence. There is spare time on Saturday afternoon, when you can join in with sporting activities. I have found these to be very profitable weekends and I strongly recommend them to you. You will not be disappointed.

Please see Peter Woodruff for further details and booking information.

INFORMATION.

Gifts Received and Sent During February 2014

During February 2014 gifts have been sent (or are awaiting being sent), from those received for the work and from church funds, as follows:

Affinity	(from church funds)	£200
Caring for Life (General)	(from gifts)	£10
Caring for Life (to support Tim Snuggs)	(from church funds)	£1,000
EMF – General Fund	(from church funds)	£500
EMF – to provide a relief fund for Sines church	(from church funds)	£700
EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£25
EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from church funds)	£1,000
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from church funds)	£500
GBM – General Fund	(from church funds)	£500
GBM – in support of Legionowo rent	(from church funds)	£500
Grace Baptist Partnership	(from church funds)	£500
Open-Air Mission	(from church funds)	£1,000
Pilgrim Homes in memory of Doris Tibbett	(from gifts)	£60
Roundwood Trust	(from church funds)	£1,000

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

We have been asked by the Grace Baptist Association to take part in a church survey of Grace Baptist Churches on Sunday March 16th. This will involve everyone attending that day to complete a form (voluntarily, though the more information we provide, the more useful the results will be for everyone). We will announce further details in the notices on the day as to how we will collect the information but we would appreciate your cooperation.

If you would like further information on the details of the census and what it is for and how the results will be used, let me know and I will send you the more detailed information.

Scott

REPORTS.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, EDLESBOROUGH

Please make plans to join us for a special meeting on Thursday, 13th of March at 7:30pm when John Benton will address the subject, "Why Join a Small Church?" Each person present will receive a complementary copy of the Christian Focus book by that title. You are also encouraged to attend a meeting on Saturday, 29th of March at 3:00pm to mark the formal constitution of the church. David Chapman will chair the meeting and Alan Harvey will deliver the message. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Regular Meetings are -

02 March 2014 Alister King preaching
09 March 2014 Barry King preaching
16 March 2014 Barry King preaching
23 March 2014 Luke Crowter preaching
30 March 2014 Alister King preaching

We plan to have a fellowship lunch following the service on Sunday, 16th of March. We will hear a report about the ministry of Gideons International from Christopher and Jenny Jacquier in a brief meeting after lunch.

THANK YOU LETTER FROM JUNE TOTTMAN AT BLYTHSWOOD CARE

After the busy three months prior to Christmas when we were collecting, checking, packing, loading and seeing off trucks loaded with shoeboxes to their various destinations, it is good to have a quieter period now at the start of the new year, to write and say thank you to all of you who contributed in some way to our annual Shoebox Appeal.

As you know, 2013 was our 20th Anniversary year of sending Christmas gift boxes and we had a tremendous response once again. We received 118 000 gift boxes to send out - a fantastic achievement by all, and one of which you can be very proud. Of that total number 18 098 were sent out from our own depot here in Rochester thanks to the kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity of everyone who took part in our region. Colourful bible story books, calendars and booklets for teenagers were also sent out with the shoeboxes for folk to have as well if they chose to.

Whether you filled a box or donated items to go into one, served food and drinks at the sort station, donated money, drove a van, provided a venue as a drop-off point, prayed for the teams here and abroad, helped load a lorry - whatever your role in the Appeal, we thank you. Each individual, group, club, school, church fellowship and workplace who participated has played their part to bring joy and pleasure to those 118 000 people in a very practical and loving way, to both young and old.

With our heartfelt thanks to you.
June Tottman (Regional Administrator)

PS photos sent with this letter are on the notice board



Summary of PRAYER WAVES for February 2014

Matt Gamston back from The Philippines:

Matt Gamston: Is now back permanently from the Philippines and came in to talk to Jim Sayers about the Typhoon and the work.

The typhoon caused massive destruction over a vast area of the country. Matt went to the island of Panay because he has taught at a bible college in Iloilo on Panay Island for the last few years. He had lots of contacts who he could help, mostly pastors who he had met at the bible college. Most of the churches are smaller and spread across a number of different islands. As well as causing destruction to buildings, the storm completely wiped out many peoples livelihoods as well, with the many boats of the region being completely decimated.

Matt made two trips to Panay, the first to assess the damage and the second with help and supplies. The scene that met Matt was one of complete devastation over a massive area encompassing hundreds of square miles of land. The main priority of the second trip was to help the pastors and through them help the local churches and then through the local churches help the communities. At each place, Matt and those with him, would arrive, measure out sacks of rice and hand out food parcels after preaching the gospel to those who came. The giving was organised by the local pastors so the team knew roughly how much they would be giving out at each place and to avoid any chaotic situations.

Most of the money has been given for more immediate relief, however, there is also a need for long term thinking and before he came back Matt was involved in ways of helping long term, by providing boats with which to fish.

Prayer Points:

- The witness of local Christians to their neighbours
- The God would provide missionaries to train up and teach pastors in all parts of the Philippines.
- Pray for Matt as he has recently started his deputation to 50 churches across the UK, that God would give him strength and stamina.
- Pray for Matt as he considers what to do next.
- Pray for Christian Compassion Ministries as they continue to help those hit by the typhoon.
- Pray that the typhoon would be a turning point on many Philippine islands and many would come to Christ.

DBC DIARY DATES - GOD WILLING



2014 MARCH		
Sat 1st	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
Sun 2nd	am & pm 11.30am 5.20pm pm	David Butler (EMF) Communion Prayer Meeting for Pastor YPF at the Hewitts
Tues 4th	7.30pm	Home Study Groups Study 7 Q 1-5
Wed 5th	7.30pm	Church Leaders' meeting
Sat 8th	7.30pm	NWD Youth Squash @ Tring Social Group - PFS Quiz night @ Bedford
Sun 9th	am & pm	Trevor Rimes (H.Hempstead)
Tues 11th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Ron Shipton
Thurs 13th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Life on the Canal as a Waterways Chaplain - Jenny Dibsfall
Sat 15th	8-9 am	Men's Prayer meeting
Sun 16th	am & pm 7.30pm pm	Brian Edwards (Surbiton) Fellowship Lunch Communion YPF at the Kebles
Mon 17th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study Study 12 - 1 Cor 7:17-40
Tues 18th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Rogerio Ramos, EMF Portugal
Thurs 20th	10.00am	Ladies Home Prayer meeting
Sun 23rd	am & pm	Brian Edwards (Surbiton)
Tues 25th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Andy Banton
Thurs 27th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link Andy Little (Kempston)
Sat 29th	7.30pm	NWD Youth Squash @ Dunstable
Sun 30th	10.30am 6.00pm	Alan Harvey (Aylesbury) Steve Dennis (Aylesbury)
April		
Tues 1 st	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer SASRA Scripture Reader
Sat 5th	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
Sun 6th	am 11.30am 5.20pm pm pm	Martin Loughbrough Communion Prayer Meeting for Pastor Andy Banton YPF at the Hewitts

**Please forward items for the
APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER
by SUNDAY 23rd MARCH
to coleman29@talktalk.net
Thank you**

'PRAY FOR US' Members preaching in other churches		
2014 MARCH		
Mon 3rd	Andy Banton	Watling Lower & Ashton Middle School Assemblies
Sun 9th	Andy Banton	Wappenham EC
Thur 13	Andy Banton	Rugby EC
Sun 16th	Rex Andrews	Ravensden BC pm
Sun 23rd	Andy Banton Rex Andrews	Langdale EC am Alexandra Rd. Hemel Hempstead
Sun 30th	Rex Andrews	Reynard Way EFC, Northampton

MARCH ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient

Door

2nd Matt Woodruff & Barbara Shipton
9th David Kight & Jo Coleman
16th Brian Rigby & Sarah Woodruff
23rd Ray Marvin & Beverly Kingham
30th Scott Mitchell & Sarah Cooke

Cleaning

3rd Jo Coleman & Sarah Cooke
10th Andy & Ruth Banton
17th Martin & Marie Dawkins
24th Christine Wild & Caroline Norman
31st Jeff & Dawn Hewitt

Security

2nd Ray Marvin
9th Scott Mitchell
16th Mike Power
23rd Brian Rigby
30th John Snuggs

Flowers

2nd Elaine Snuggs
9th Barbara Shipton
16th Caroline Norman
23rd Marie Dawkins
30th Christine Wild
April 6th Julia Ming

Creche

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

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

4th Home Study groups: Study 7a
11th Rex Andrews. Friday Club, Scott
18th Brian Rigby. GBM Prayer Waves
25th CJ Barnachea. Bookshop, John Keble