

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER
MAY 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)
- 7.30pm 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
- 2.00pm Friends and Neighbours – 2nd in month
- 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
- 7.00pm Social Group (as announced)

OTHER MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED

For further information contact Scott Mitchell – 01582 703875

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,

No doubt many children (and some parents) have enjoyed the gift of an Easter egg or two over the Easter period. About 80 million chocolate eggs have been consumed costing some £200 million pounds. We are informed that there are 150 million chocolate eggs, bunnies and other chocolate items eaten over Easter. At the same time not many flying hours away people have got precious little to eat.

Inequality

The saying 'we are all born equal' is patently not true when many families eat between three and ten chocolate goodies over Easter whilst others are starving. Such is the imbalance in wealth between the poor and rich nations. Inequality encompasses not only income but also access to food, education, health, shelter, political and religious freedom and much more.

Equality

However, all people are born equal in some respects. We are all made in the image of our Creator (**Gen 1:26-27**). We are all born with fallen natures manifested in the sins we commit (**Rom 3:23**). For instance hungry people tell lies and murder, as well as the affluent. We all die and we cannot take anything of this world's possessions with us (**1 Tim 6:7**). At an appointed time, known only to God (**Mark 13:32-37**), we shall all, rich and poor, stand before the judgment throne of Christ (**Matt 25:31-44; Heb 9:27**).

Because God '**has put eternity in our hearts**' (**Eccl 3:11**) we all have an inquisitiveness about eternal realities and a desire to transcend our morality. Deep in our beings, we have an intrinsic sense that there is an eternity to come and a God to face, though this is often unheeded. Some declare their atheism and yet call upon God to help them through difficulties and especially when life is threatened. It has been said 'there are no atheists in foxholes' referring to combatants who are in imminent danger of injury or death.

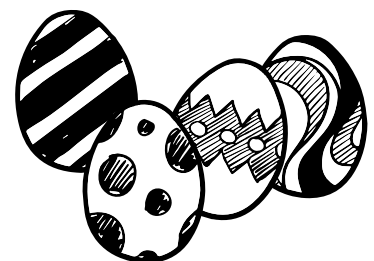
We all have equal opportunity, in one way or another, (such as the witness of creation, a biblical message or our consciences), to seek after God and receive the assurance of an eternal relationship with him as our heavenly Father.

Over this Easter period, in spite of all the chocolate sweeties eaten, there is a very serious and important issue to understand that has to do with our eternal security. Because our sin has separated us from a holy God he has taken the initiative and provided a means of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Easter is about the profound love of God for his fallen creatures. Its about his great desire to restore the relationship that has tragically been lost because of sin. It is about the amazing gift of the Lord Jesus to give his life to pay the price of sin for all who repent of their sins and trust in him (**Acts 20:21**). It is about his resurrection from the dead and everlasting life for repentant sinners.

I am not suggesting we should not enjoy the odd Easter egg or sweet. What I am saying is there is something far more fundamental and profound to enjoy - the blessing and joy of knowing God as our heavenly Father and Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour and God's gift of eternal life through faith in him (**John 3:16**).

RS



EVENTS.

SATURDAY MAY 17TH

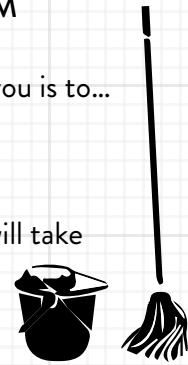
YOUTH SQUASH @ AYLESBURY - 7.30PM
SOCIAL NIGHT

To live in the world without the world living in you is to...
...patiently wait the return of Jesus

SATURDAY JUNE 14TH

CHURCH CLEAN

Advance notice that our annual church clean will take place on the morning of Saturday 14th June so please keep that morning free in your diaries.



CHURCH HOLIDAY - 2014 LETTON HALL

Monday 26th of May sees the start of our 2014 Church Holiday!! There are still places available should you want to come so let me know as soon as possible. We are off to Letton Hall in Norfolk and for those of you who aren't aware of it, some of the holiday details are as follows;

- We are returning to the lovely Letton Hall, Norfolk – a big old country house with lovely grounds and its own go kart track!! We have booked karting sessions on the Tuesday and Thursday
- We are going from Monday May 26th to Friday May 30th. This is half term week and the schools are closed so we will be able to accommodate all families
- Everybody is welcome to come. There are no age restrictions. As in the past, guests from outside the Church are welcome
- There will be our usual mixture of fellowship, teaching and fun
- We are taking the meetings ourselves with Andy speaking in the evenings and others of us leading in the mornings
- We will be looking after ourselves again this time around so there will be copious amounts of excellent food, lovingly prepared by teams of hardworking holiday makers
- You will have plenty of time to explore the beautiful Norfolk countryside and we have already arranged for two sessions of karting

The cost is £95 each with a concession price of £47.50 for those aged 4 to 12. If you are under 4 you go free. You will need to make your own way there and we will operate a car pooling system to help those without transport. Financial assistance is available if the cost is a problem. You will also have to pay for the karting if you take part.

For more details please speak to Ruth, Steve or me.

Jeff Hewitt.

YP HOLIDAY - 2014 BACK TO BAKEWELL

I am pleased to announce that I have had confirmation that we are able to return to Bakewell in Derbyshire for our Young People's holiday for 2014. We will be going from August 9th to 16th and will have the usual mix of fun and fellowship. We will be staying again at the brilliant Lady Manners School who are really pleased to have us back. There was the possibility of a visit to a new venue for us down in Barnstaple, North Devon. Sadly that fell through as the school found they were receiving funding for building work which would make our stay impossible.

For those who have been on the holidays before, I have sent out application forms already by email but for first timers, newcomers and 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. I expect the cost to be in the region of £95 again, all inclusive, for the week. We can help with the cost if it 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



Summary of PRAYER WAVES for April 2014

Slavko and Alison Ezdenci

New Belgrade (where Slavko and Alison live) is a concrete jungle of tower blocks and other buildings. The population of New Belgrade is about 400,000 and there is almost no gospel witness in the area. It is in this area that the Ezdenci's have come to plant a new Baptist church.

Slavko and Alison came to Serbia at the start of 2011. They have three children, their third, baby Luka was born on Sunday morning. When they first came to Belgrade, Slavko started working as assistant pastor in the First Baptist Church in Old Belgrade, but their intention was always to plant a church into New Belgrade.

New Belgrade has a lot of communal areas and because everyone lives in flats, locals have little room and no garden and so are out and about most of the time. This and the fact that people are very friendly, makes it very easy to meet people. The culture is all about groups and which groups you belong to, family groups, social groups, neighbours etc.

The church plant started in 2012, with a core group of Christians who lived in the area and they started by equipping them to reach out to their friends. The concept of church planting to the local Christians was new and so they started very slowly. They began by gathering on Wednesday evenings to talk through their reasons and what church planting is. Then they began to equip those who wanted to be involved, they started by taking the group through "Two Ways To Live" and discussing how to answer possible questions. A year ago they held their first Sunday service, originally just once a month, but now meet three out of every four Sundays together.

Slavko has also been involved in the training of leaders in Belgrade and in Novi Sad.

Please give thanks:

- For the love that the church has for God's word and for reaching out to friends.
- The answers to prayer that a church has been planted.
- The safe arrival of baby Luka.

Please pray:

- For the battle against the increasing desire for prosperity in the country.
- For the church as they seek grapple with the challenge of reaching 400,000 people.
- For the various outreaches that the church are involved in.
- Faithful training of leaders.
- For God to be at work in Serbia and in New Belgrade in particular.

Holiday Bible Club

Bright yellow and highly decorated crowns made by the children were proudly worn by them. Their enthusiasm could be seen with the question "Can we please wear them to Bennett's Rec for games?"

Some of the children were rather keen to show cut off limbs and plenty of blood in the historical battle scene that Sarah had printed for them. Others carefully coloured in every small detail and were pleased with the finished result.

The sun dials were a great success too. God blessed us with lovely sunny weather so that we were able to take our creations outside and try them out.

Six children around the table each sticking "God's ten Rules" on a long strip of wall paper took some organisation. The scroll produced reflected the Bible story of Josiah, one of the four Old Testament Kings spoken of in the Bible Time.



The speakers, Andy, Tom, James and Steve dramatically retold the biblical accounts of the four Kings. The children listened well and the answers given in the quiz questions showed that they had paid attention. King Jesus was the theme of the last Bible session. The children's parents had been invited to attend. Praise God so many parents came that there were not enough seats for them and they had to stand in the entrance hall.



Thirty seven children chose to do the craft whereas the rest of them spent their time on the football field. Scott manfully organised both children and helpers. God answered prayer in keeping them safe and injury free. We thank God for His answer to our prayers for good weather, attendance, safety and enjoyment by all.

Jenny.

INFORMATION.



Andrzej and Monika Kempczyński
Legionowo, Poland

Contact

kafar2@yahoo.com
kontakt@misjalegionowo.pl

Home Church

Grace Baptist Chapel,
Tottenham

Objective

To plant a Reformed Baptist
Church in Legionowo

Grace Baptist Mission

12 Abbey Close
Abingdon
Oxon
OX14 3JD
Tel 01235 520147
www.gbm.org.uk

FOODBANK

Please make a note of the following dates for much needed collections for the Foodbank and if possible volunteer when the time arises.

Asda	Sat. May 31st	Food collection
Sainsbury's	Sat. June 21st	Food collection
Sainsbury's	Sat. Aug 30th	Bag Pack
Sainsbury's	Sat. Oct 11th	Food collection

Thank you.
Brian

ALL CHANGE

Thank you for your prayers as I settle into my new role as Church Secretary. I'm gradually settling into the role but need to make you aware of a couple of changes that will be coming up in the next few weeks.

- Any requirements for the hall or church should be sent to me as I will be looking after the bookings in future.
- Valerie will produce the June newsletter but after that all items and articles will be sent to me.

For emails you can use either my own email address (scottjmitchell@ntlworld.com) or the church email address (dunstablebaptist@gmail.com) as both will reach me equally quickly.

Scott

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH, EDLESBOROUGH

Effective Evangelism Day Conference

On Monday, 2nd of June from 11:00am – 4:00pm, Jeremy Walker, Pastor of Maidenbower Baptist Church, Crawley; Andy Banton, General Secretary of the Open Air Mission; Barry King, General Secretary of Grace Baptist Partnership, and Ali McLachlan, General Secretary of Grace Baptist Partnership Scotland will speak on Effective Evangelism. Participants will hear practical instruction concerning effective use of door to door work, open air preaching, evangelistic small groups and weeks of evangelism in local church ministry. Lunch will be provided and there will be a bookstall featuring a wide selection of evangelism resources. Any men interested in attending can write to: <gbcedlesborough@gmail.com>

Regular Meetings are –

04 May 2014	Barry King preaching	(Communion)
11 May 2014	Alister King preaching	(Barry King preaching Great Ellingham, Norfolk)
18 May 2014	Barry King preaching	(Fellowship Lunch)
25 May 2014	Alister King preaching	(Barry King preaching in Vienna, Austria)

FINANCE.

Gifts Received and Sent During the last Month

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

Barnabas Fund	(from gifts)	£30
Caring for Life	(from church funds)	£50
Caring for Life	(from gifts)	£5
EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£25
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from church funds)	£10
SASRA	(from church funds)	£50
SASRA	(from gifts)	£11

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

Ways to give tax effectively to the Church (incl. Mission Giving) - Gift Aid

If you are a tax payer, using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give, the Church gets an extra 25 pence from the government, helping your donation go further. On top of that, if you are a higher rate taxpayer you can claim further tax relief on the donation in your annual tax return.

So next time you want to give to the Church, tell David Woodruff you want to Gift Aid it and he will do the rest (confidentially). You only need to sign a simple Gift Aid form and make your gift by cheque or through your bank.

Finances for the First Quarter of 2014

For the first quarter of 2014 the Church finances were as follows:

Income	£15,133
Expenditure	<u>£22,205</u>
Shortfall	<u>£ 7,072</u>

The reason we have a shortfall this quarter is that we agreed to make extra donations to missions totalling £12,000. During the quarter we benefited from the receipt of tax reclaimed (£260) on Gift Aid gifts given in the last quarter of 2013 and also from the receipt of tax reclaimed (£1,085) on Gift Aid gifts given over the early part of the quarter. We have just made a claim for a £1,405 tax repayment for the rest of the quarter and some outstanding gifts. During the first quarter we paid £650 to the architect for fees and for the recent planning application, and £450 for a new baptistry heater.

We thank all who have given to the work of the Church, over the last quarter, and we would record our thanks to the Lord for all He has provided for us. We pray that the Lord will continue to supply all our needs, spiritual and material, for all we seek to do in the Lord's name in Dunstable.

Mission Giving

May is one of our 'Mission Giving' months. Twice a year everyone attending has an opportunity to give specifically to the four Missions which we support, which are:

- a. *Andrzej Kempczynski with Grace Baptist Mission (GBM) – involved with church planting in Legionowo in Poland. £500 of our Grace Baptist Mission support is set aside this year for the expenses of the Drop-in Camp linked to the Cubao Reformed Baptist Church, which is held in October.*
- b. *The Open-Air Mission (OAM) – with whom Andy Banton, is involved as General Secretary; Steve Burton works as an Evangelist and Linda Lumley, Ruth Banton and Tess Barnachea work in the OAM Office.*
- c. *Christian literature for Eastern Europe via the Roundwood Trust.*
- d. *European Missionary Fellowship (EMF) – to support Rogério Ramos in his work in Sines, Portugal.*

During May please collect an envelope from the rack beside one of the collection boxes and consider prayerfully how you can assist in giving towards the financial needs of the above. Do remember every gift helps however insignificant you think it is. If you do not mark your envelope your gift will be divided equally between the four missions. If, however, you wish to designate your gift, please mark your envelope with the name or names of the work you wish to support and specify how you want the gift divided. Please return your envelopes, via the collection boxes, by the end of May. Tax can be claimed on your mission gifts given by cheque (from those who have signed one of our Gift Aid forms) unless you mark your envelope to the contrary. If it is more convenient for you to spread your giving to these missions over the year then you can do so in the same way as described above; ask for the mission giving envelopes or mark up your own.

Once a year in May we are also inviting additional gifts for the General Fund of the Pilgrims' Friend Society. Please use one of the Mission envelopes and mark it 'Pilgrims' Friend Society'. The same comments about Gift Aid apply.

In addition some may be interested in supporting the General Fund of the Grace Baptist Mission which helps those workers without fully designated support and the office staff at Abingdon. Please mark any gifts given for this purpose.

Over and above financial support, all of those mentioned need everyone's support in prayer, so please bring them before the throne of grace regularly – at home, and at our weekly prayer meetings. There are usually copies of their prayer / news letters in the vestibule, and news from some of these letters is put in the Newsletter from time to time. Please ask Christine Wild (christinewild50@gmail.com), our Mission Secretary, if you want to know more or would like a prayer letter emailed to you. When we have Church Fellowship Meetings linked with their work do try and come to show your support. It will then be a greater encouragement to them in their work for the Lord as well as a help to you in your prayers.

DBC DIARY DATES - GOD WILLING



2014 MAY		
Sat 3rd	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
Sun 4th	am & pm 11.30am 5.20pm 7.45pm	Chris Durrant (Hailsham) Communion Prayer Meeting for Pastor YPF at the Hewitts
Tues 6th	7.30pm	Home Study Groups Study 8 Q1-5
Wed 7th	7.30pm	Leaders Meeting
Thurs 8th	2.00pm	Friends & Neighbours Outing to Stockgrove/Rushmere Country Park
Sun 11th	am & pm	Steven Green (Hitchin)
Mon 12 th to Sun 18th		Week of Prayer
Tues 13th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer David Kight
Thurs 15th	10.00am	Ladies Home Prayer meeting
Sat 17th	8-9 am 7.00pm	Men's Prayer meeting NW District Youth Squash @ Aylesbury
Sun 18th	am & pm 7.30pm pm	Geoff Cox (Birmingham) Communion YPF at the Kebles
Mon 19th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study 1 Cor 9: 1-23
Tues 20th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Barry King
Thurs 22nd	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link Speaker: David Chapman
Sun 25th	am pm	Steve Burton Barry King
Mon 26 th to Fri 30 th		Church Holiday, Letton Hall
Tues 27th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Barry King
JUNE		
Sun 1st	am & pm 5.20pm 7.45pm	Roger March (Wolverton) Prayer Meeting for Pastor YPF at the Hewitts

'PRAY FOR US' Members preaching in other churches		
2014 MAY		
Sun 4th	Andy Banton Rex Andrews	Chelmsley Wood Ref. B.Ch. Providence, Bedford. 4 pm
Sun 11th	John Keble Steve Burton	Wilstead Evan. Ch. Maulden B.C. pm
Mon 12th	Andy Banton	Ashton Middle School Assembly. am.
Sun 18th	Rex Andrews Steve Burton	Little Staughton. B.Ch. Rugby Evan. Ch.
Sun 25th	Rex Andrews	Pidley B.C. pm

MAY ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient

Door

4th David Kight & Barbara Shipton
11th Matt Woodruff & Jo Coleman
18th Brian Rigby & Sarah Woodruff
25th Ray Marvin & Beverly Kingham

Cleaning

5th David, Sarah Woodruff & Jenny
12th Brian & Margaret Rigby
19th Scott & Rachel Mitchell
26th Jeff & Janette Cooke

Security

4th David Woodruff
11th Rex Andrews
18th Frank Barnachea
25th CJ Barnachea

Flowers

4th Janet Tucker
11th Ann Weedon
18th Dawn Hewitt
25th Margaret Rigby
1st June Carolyn Kight

Creche

4th Margaret, Bev Keble
11th Tess, Mary
18th Julia, Rachel
25th Jenny, Beth

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

6th Home Study groups
13th Week of Prayer
20th David Weedon. GBM Prayer Waves
27th Ron Shipton.
Roundwood Trust: Elaine Snuggs

Please forward items for the
JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER
by **SUNDAY 25TH MAY**
to coleman29@talktalk.net
Thank you