

# Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2014

St. Mary's Gate Dunstable Bedfordshire  
[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 welcome

### SUNDAY

9.45 am YP Bible Class  
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 morning sermon.  
Refreshments are served after the morning service

6.00pm Evening Service  
7.15pm Church Fellowship Meeting once a month  
7.30pm Young Peoples Fellowship 1st & 3rd in month in home

### MONDAY

6.00-7.00pm Monday Kids Club age 5-9  
8.00pm Ladies Bible Study 3rd in the month

### TUESDAY

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

### THURSDAY

10.00am Ladies Home Prayer Meeting—3rd in month  
2.00pm Friends & Neighbours -2nd in month  
7.00-8.30pm 'TNT' - club for age 9-12

### FRIDAY

8.00-9.30pm 'Ignite' club for age 13-19

### SATURDAY

11.00am Open Air ministry - 1st in month  
8.00-9.00am Men's prayer meeting - 3rd in month  
8.00pm Social Group - as announced

### OTHER MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED

For further information contact Scott Mitchell—01582 703875

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

CHRISTIAN BOOKS: Monday to Saturday open 9.00am-5.00pm  
Tel 01582 601945  
Email [books@christianbooks.uk.com](mailto:books@christianbooks.uk.com)  
Website [www.christianbooks.uk.com](http://www.christianbooks.uk.com)

# Dear Friends,

When the mother of John and James asked the Lord that one might sit on his right hand and the other on his left in his kingdom (**Matt 20:20-27**) she wanted the best for her sons, as any mother does for her children. There are, however, two essential aspects to her request that we can learn from. One a strength the other a weakness.

## Strength

There was strong faith in her request. She believed in the coming kingdom of the Lord (v.21). However, her thoughts were full of nothing more than the day of the Lord's throne and power and her two sons position and authority when his kingdom was established. There was something to be commended in her faith, and that of her sons (**Mark 10:35**), in that they could see Jesus as a coming king. However, the mothers request revealed a weakness.

## Weakness

In making her request to Jesus for her sons to occupy pre-eminent positions in his kingdom she displayed the weakness of confusing earthly with heavenly realities. She seemed to think that greatness in the kingdom of heaven was the same as greatness evaluated by earthly standards. Earlier Jesus had emphasised that greatness in his kingdom is measured by the yardstick of humility (**18:1-5**). The mark of **true** greatness, in this life, relates to his followers faith in him and their willingness to become like little children, deny themselves and giving instead of getting (**19:14, 21-22**). He taught that **'many who are first'** in this life **'will be last'** in his everlasting kingdom (**19:30; see 20:16**).

Striving for some kind of greatness, position or authority among his people is not the way of our Lord. Many of us can learn much from this incident. True greatness, before God, is to be humble like our Lord and Master who though the Creator of the world was **'lowly and gentle in heart'** (**Matt 11:29**). True disciples of Christ are to **'be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud. But gives grace to the humble."** **Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time'** (**1 Peter 5:5-6**).

Also, we must not be like the mother and her two sons whose thoughts were solely taken up with future glory and neglect, as they did, the greatness of our Saviour's suffering. So soon after Jesus predicted his suffering and death (**20:17-19**) James and John were seeking their own future glory and greatness. The way to our Saviour's glory and resurrection was costly and the way to future glory for his disciples in his kingdom is costly. It is the way of Christ-like humility.

May God help us, yes to consider our Saviour's coming kingdom, but to constantly meditate also upon the amazing wonder of our Lord's humility and his willingness, in great love, to pay the price of our sin through the agony and pain of Calvary. May he remind us also that true greatness in this life is to emulate our blessed Lord, and as our he taught us **'Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light'** (**Matt 11:29-30**).

RS

# Notices & Reports

## Dennis Collins

We were all sad to hear of the death of our dear friend Den Collins on 5th May. He is sadly missed by Joan and his family and by the Church at Edlesborough where he regularly attended on Sundays and Thursdays for several years. We praise the Lord for his blessings in bringing Den to trust him particularly during this time.

We extend our sympathies to Joan and the family.

## A Message from Joan Collins:

I give grateful thanks to all my friends at DBC for their love, kindness, and above all, their prayers for me and my family at this difficult time. God has given the strength needed for each day and I trust in him for my future days. Psalm 118 v.1.

## Rex Andrews

We are thankful that our brother Rex Andrews is home again after a short spell in hospital where he had a stent fitted after suffering a heart attack last week.

He will not be able to drive for four weeks or preach for six weeks.

## Do you remember?

On a recent visit to Palma, in Majorca we met the sister and parents of José. Many of you will remember when he came to this country to study at EMF and came to Dunstable for a few weeks working with the church. José is married with a family and serving the Lord in Tel Aviv, Israel.

The family send their greetings to you all.  
David & Valerie

## **Our next Friends & Neighbours**

Outing will be on Thursday  
12th June and we'll be visiting  
Old Water Mill & Shopping Village,  
Barton le Clay  
Meet at 2.00pm at the Church.

## **ADVANCE NOTICE**

## **PILGRIM'S FRIEND SOCIETY COFFEE MORNING AND GIFT DAY – FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014**

at 37 Norcott Close, Dunstable  
Please book the date. We will be very grateful  
for any items to sell, such as unwanted  
presents or books

## **PLANTS FOR SALE**

### **All proceeds to Caring for Life**

Bedding plants in small trays of around 8-10  
plants - £1 per tray

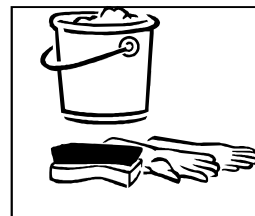
Ageratum-Pale blue-white centres  
Alyssum –carpet of snow  
Lobelia-Crystal Palace blue

Tomato plants: Gardeners Delight–small cherry  
fruit of delicious flavour - 60p per plant  
Penstemon and Lavender plants £1

Please contact John or Elaine Snuggs

## **Church Cleaning ...**

Our annual church clean will take place on  
the morning of Saturday 14th June so please  
keep that morning free and come along and  
get stuck in!





*Grace Baptist Assembly*

*2014 Conference*

**Building Healthy Churches**



Each year the Grace Baptist Assembly hold a 3 day conference for like minded Grace churches for teaching, fellowship and relaxation at The Hayes conference centre, Swanick, Derbyshire. This year the theme was “Building Healthy Churches” with the main speaker Jeremy Walker looking at the Nature of the Church and the Purpose of the Church.



144 delegates attended, in what is the largest number of people attending this small intimate conference. The teaching was excellent, probably the best yet, with preaching from Andrew King (Highbury) on membership of the church and fringe members, Gerard Hemmings (Twickenham) on Inter-church relationships and Luke Jenner (Halifax) on “Christ the head of the church”. All the talks were recorded & uploaded to Grace Baptist Assembly website: <http://www.gracebaptistassembly.org.uk>

Christian Books were invited to host the conference bookstall, John Keble and Brian Rigby ran the bookstall for the three days in the second hall. The days are long, typically starting at 7:45am for prayer and the last session finishes at 10:00pm, but with plenty of free time to enjoy and relax. We sold a lot of books with sales up 20% on last year and we received a lot of positive comments from the delegates.

It was good to renew friendships with so many like-minded believers and meet so many ministries - there were many ministry exhibition stands in the second hall. An excellent conference and well worth going. Dates for next year are: 19th—21st May 2015, Swanick, Derbyshire



**John Keble**



## REMEMBER US IN YOUR PRAYERS

### Ramos prayer letter

#### news from Sines, Portugal

##### Do we really care?

We can pray, help and encourage but the question is:

"Do we really care?"



In one of Paul's letters he wrote: *"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."* **Philippians 2:4**

The ministry of Jesus flowed from His heart of compassion towards people in need. Someone wrote: "Compassion is a word of action. It is not observing from the sidelines; it is the heartfelt care for one another with both the intent and the action. It exemplifies the character of God, who He is and how He responds to His children". As people touched by God we have realised that life is not about us but about Christ; Christ glorified and honoured by the actions of his children.

The church in Sines is amazed at the love and care we have received from people who know us but also from people whom we have never met. Despite them not knowing us they continue to pray, they continue to help in amazing ways. As a small church we need support from others.

During these sixteen years of ministry in Sines, I can tell you that God has given to me enough to be glad and thankful for. Who should I give thanks to? To EMF, to all the churches that have supported this work? To God, the Lord of all of them, and my Lord? We have a great and amazing God who has changed us in a way so that we really care, help and support others because we are His people, a people in love with Christ and with His mind.

John Piper said: "It was beautiful when Christ put our interests above His own earthly comforts and died for us. It was beautiful when Paul suffered every day to plant the churches that brought us the gospel. It was beautiful when Timothy served side by side with Paul, putting the interests of others first. It was beautiful when Epaphroditus risked his life to complete the Philippian service to Paul. And it will be beautiful in your personal priorities and families and politics as God makes His wisdom grow up among us where the mind of Christ is so alive."

May we continue to be Christ minded people. Please do continue to pray, do continue to support us, doing all to the glory of Christ.

Rogério Ramos.

### Foodbank

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

Sainsbury's	Sat. June 21st	Food collection
Sainsbury's	Sat. Aug 30 <sup>th</sup>	Bag Pack
Sainsbury's	Sat Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	Food collection

Thank you.

# News and Prayer

## Support for New UK Students at London Theological Seminary (LTS)

The church has been sent the letter below asking for support for new UK students at LTS. We expect to send £600 from church funds but we would also encourage others to make donations as they are able and to pray for these men. The need to train men for the ministry is very important.

Cheques can be made out to 'London Theological Seminary' or to the church and passed on via the boxes. In either case the gifts can be Gift Aided so please speak to David Woodruff about this as he has the forms. Thank you.

Dear Friend,

We find ourselves again in the position of issuing an urgent appeal for financial assistance. You will recall that we issued an appeal at this time last year for the Lloyd-Jones Bursary Fund which supports men from overseas in their studies at LTS. We were greatly encouraged by the prompt and generous responses to that appeal, which meant that we were able to provide bursary funding for all the overseas students who needed it. It has been a joy to see these men take up their places on the course and engage with enthusiasm and dedication in their studies here.

This year, we have a slightly different need, and although I am a little embarrassed to be issuing another special appeal, I am also very encouraged at the reasons why it is necessary. This year we have run 'Visit Days' when prospective applicants can come to the Seminary, sit in on some classes and meet with Robert or me individually to discuss training for Gospel ministry. Many of you will have prayed for the success of these Visit Days and they have resulted in a significant number of applications. As a consequence, we have already accepted seven men from the UK onto the course, and further applications are still in the process of consideration. We have drawn heavily on the Robert Sheehan Bursary Fund (which provides financial support for UK students) in recent years and, as a result, we are in urgent need of further funds in order to support those we have already accepted onto the course. At present we need an additional £24,000 to fund two students we have already accepted, for two years. Training men for ministry in the UK is a great priority at all times, never more so than at present. We are therefore asking for your help, so that none of these men is prevented from commencing training due to lack of funds.

Any gift that you are able to make, large or small, would be most welcome. If you are able to give an amount regularly to the Robert Sheehan Fund for these men, that would also be very helpful and the bank details for standing orders are shown on the form (*see David Woodruff*).

If you are able to support us in this way, it would help us greatly if you could do so.

Thank you very much for reading this and for any support you are able to give. Please do continue in prayer for us and for the men concerned.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

**David Green**

**Vice-Principal**

# 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 – children’s fund	(from church funds)	£500
Christian Books	(from church funds)	£7,000
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
EMF – in support of Emanuel Ralevic	(from church funds)	£100
GBM – General Fund	(from gifts)	£62
London Theological Seminary	(from church funds)	£20/month
Wycliffe Bible Translators Yaru project	(from church funds)	£40/month
Wycliffe Bible Translators Yaru project	(from church funds)	£500

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

## Ways to give tax effectively to the Church

### **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.

### **Payroll Giving**

If your employer runs a Payroll Giving scheme you can donate to your chosen charities (including the Church) from your salary before tax is deducted, so you get tax relief straight away. For example, if you are a standard rate taxpayer and you give £100 per year it only costs you £80.

Find out from your payroll department if your employer is one of the many offering a Payroll Giving scheme. If they don’t, why not suggest that they set one up?

David Woodruff

## **ROUNDWOOD TRUST**

### **UKRAINE**

At the end of last year Roundwood Trust arranged to deliver a consignment of Russian Bibles to a church in the Ukraine which had appealed to us for help.

It is always a joy and a privilege for the Trust to be able to respond to such requests, for we are encouraged by God’s Word to sow the seed of His Word.

*‘In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not withhold your hand;*

*For you do not know which will prosper, either this or that,*

*Or whether both alike will be good.*

*‘Ecclesiastes 11 v 6*

[Pick up the latest Newsletter from Roundwood Trust](#)



# Notices & Events

**"Effective Evangelism: That the sharing of your faith may become effective"**

**Grace Baptist Church, Edlesborough**

**2 June 2014**

On Monday, 2nd of June 2014 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 at a special conference for men with a

desire to more effectively share their faith at Grace Baptist Church Edlesborough. 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.

Regular Meetings are -

01 June 2014	Ali McLachlan preaching	Fellowship Lunch afterwards
08 June 2014	Alister King preaching	
15 June 2014	Barry King preaching	Communion
22 June 2014	Alister King preaching	
29 June 2014	Nathan Xiques preaching	

## All change again!

As we are now working in the church at Edlesborough Scott will be taking over as Editor and the production of the newsletter.

A huge thank you to all who have sent items in and responded to the tap on the shoulder - sometimes a bit more than a tap - to encourage you to write articles. Thanks to Beth Hewitt for the super job she makes of the layout each month.

The Newsletter has been invaluable for keeping people in touch with what is going on in the church So keep up the good work as it makes the editor's job so much easier.

And remember to send all your items to Scott in the future.

David & Valerie



## Grace Baptist Church, Edlesborough

Advance Notices  
for your prayers and support

Thursday 10th July—  
Norman Hopkins will be speaking on 'Why churches close'.

August 27th-28th 2 mornings—  
Children's Holiday Club

September 5th—  
Start of Children's Club

# Notices & Events



## KEACH'S MEETING HOUSE, BELL WALK WINSLOW BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MK18 3AH

10 miles north of Aylesbury on the A413  
17th Century  
Baptist Meeting House  
[www.keachsmeetinghouse.org.uk](http://www.keachsmeetinghouse.org.uk)

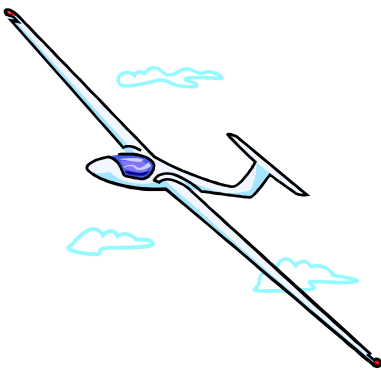
## ANNUAL MEETINGS

A preaching service is held in this historic Baptist Meeting House once a year. This year the service will be, God willing, on Saturday 28th June, at 5.30pm when the preacher will be Mr Fred Raynsford (Sidcup)

On the same day, this year's lecture will be given on the subject 'John Cennick' at St Laurence Rooms (corner of Market Square) at 2.30pm.  
The lecturer is Mr Fred Raynsford

Tea will be provided in the St Laurence Rooms between the meetings.  
Free parking is available at Greyhound Lane Car Park (150 yards northwards along the High Street). Bookstall provided by our Bookshop.  
Collection for the upkeep of the chapel  
All are most welcome to either or both of the meetings.

## Evening Group Gliding Flights London Gliding Club – Dunstable Downs



Are you interested in a flight in a Glider? Weekday evening flights are available for groups of 10 or more during the summer months.

Standard Winch Launches cost £27.50 per person (Aero tow launches are available at £60 each).

Please let **Peter Woodruff** know if you are interested.

# Events

## Visit to two Military History Museums in Bedfordshire Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014

We have arranged for a group visit to the Military Intelligence Museum at Chicksands, near Shefford and the RAF Signals Museum at RAF Henlow. These small museums are not normally open and visits must be pre-booked.

### Military Intelligence Museum

The Military Intelligence Museum displays key elements of the history of British Military Intelligence from the Boer War onwards. The central Collection in the Museum is the Intelligence Corps Collection, which includes artefacts and special exhibits about the history and activities of the Corps. The second key Collection is the Medmenham Collection devoted to aerial photography and image analysis. This highlights the use of 3D imagery, initially in the First World War and then again with huge success in World War II and the Cold War. Complementing these two prime displays are two smaller displays. These cover the joint service 'BRIXMIS' intelligence-gathering mission based in East Germany during the Cold War and the American radio intercept operations in Chicksands from 1950 until 1996.

[www.militaryintelligencemuseum.org](http://www.militaryintelligencemuseum.org)

### RAF Signals Museum

This small museum at RAF Henlow tells the story of signals and communications, mainly from World War II onwards. RAF Henlow has a long standing connection with Signals and Radar engineering.

[www.rafsignalsmuseum.org.uk](http://www.rafsignalsmuseum.org.uk)

### Visit Arrangements

There is **no charge** for visiting either museum, although both rely on donations from visitors. We are booked to arrive at the Military Intelligence Museum for 10:30. After spending 2 hours or so at this museum, we will have lunch and then visit the RAF Signals Museum. There should be time for a short walk in the Shefford area during the second half on the afternoon.

Both museums are located inside working military bases, so we need to provide some information in advance (e.g. Names, Dates of Birth and Car details). Each person will need to bring an official ID (e.g. Passport, Photo Driving Licence) to gain access.

Please add your name to the list in the vestibule if you would like to go. Please see **Peter Woodruff** if you have any questions.

## **Caring For Life Bygones Evening**

The recent Bygones Quiz evening had everyone baffled! Despite being given four possible answers and working in teams, we all struggled to identify the amazing items from the past that Geoff and Rosemary had brought along. The all too plausible answers caused much lively discussion and debate among the teams! The two top scoring team only achieved 50% correct. Several expressed an interest in another session next year!

The meeting started and ended with a Caring for Life DVD, and during the interval we enjoyed a delicious buffet. A big thank you to all who came and contributed in any way. The evening attracted some 70 folk, which included groups from several other churches, and we are thankful that we were able to send £700 to CFL as a result.

John and Elaine Snuggs

# DBC DIARY DATES—GOD WILLING

2014 JUNE		
<b>Sun 1st</b>	<b>am &amp; pm</b>	<b>Roger March (Wolverton) Communion YPF at the Hewitts</b>
Tues 3rd	7.30pm	Home Study Groups Study 8 Q6-10
Sat 7th	11.00am	Open Air Ministry in the Quadrant
<b>Sun 8th</b>	<b>am &amp; pm</b>	<b>Mostyn Roberts (Welwyn)</b>
Tues 10th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer Barry King
Thurs 12th	2.00pm	Friends & Neighbours Outing Old Water Mill & Shopping Vil- lage, Barton le Clay.
<b>Sun 15th</b>	<b>am &amp; pm</b>	<b>Ian Cooper (Redhill) Communion YPF at the Kebles</b>
Mon 16th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study 1 Cor 9:24-10:5
Tues 17th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer David Butler
Wed 18th	7.30pm	Leaders' meeting
Thurs 19th	10.00am	Ladies Home Prayer meeting
Sat 21st	8-9 am	Men's Prayer meeting
<b>Sun 22nd</b>	<b>am pm</b>	<b>David Green - Baptisms John Keble</b>
Tues 24th	7.30pm	Andy Banton
<b>Sun 29th</b>	<b>am pm</b>	<b>Ron Shipton Barry King</b>
<b>JULY</b>		
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.45pm	DFEC Joint prayer meeting at Christ Church

## **Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects**

3<sup>rd</sup> Home Study groups: Study 8 Q6-10  
 10<sup>th</sup> Tony Townley. Andy Banton OAM  
 17<sup>th</sup> Steve Burton GBM Prayer Waves  
 24<sup>th</sup> Peter Woodruff.  
 Ladies B.S/Caroline Norman

Please forward items for the  
 JULY 2014 NEWSLETTER  
 to Scott Mitchell  
[dunstablebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:dunstablebaptist@gmail.com)  
 by SUNDAY 22ND JUNE  
 Thank you.

## **'PRAY FOR US'** Members preaching in other churches

2014 JUNE		
Sun 1st	John Keble	Langdale Church am
Sun 8th	Ron Shipton	Renhold B. Ch. am
Wed 4th	Steve Burtpn	Castlefields Evan. Ch.

## JUNE ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient

### **Door**

1<sup>st</sup> Scott Mitchell & Joy Broughton  
 8<sup>th</sup> Brian Rigby & Sarah Cooke  
 15<sup>th</sup> David & Ann Weedon  
 22<sup>nd</sup> John & Elaine Snuggs  
 29<sup>th</sup> Chris Jacquier & Dawn Hewitt

### **Cleaning**

2<sup>nd</sup> Mike & Mena Power  
 9<sup>th</sup> Bev Keble & Carolyn Kight  
 16<sup>th</sup> Hilary Green & Julia Ming  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Jo Coleman & Sarah Cooke

### **Security**

1<sup>st</sup> Charlton Barnachea  
 8<sup>th</sup> Jeff Cooke  
 15<sup>th</sup> Jeff Hewitt  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Chris Jacquier  
 29<sup>th</sup> John Keble

### **Flowers**

1<sup>st</sup> Carolyn Kight  
 8<sup>th</sup> Joy Broughton  
 15<sup>th</sup> Jenny Jacquier  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Bev Keble  
 29<sup>th</sup> Jo Coleman/Sarah Cooke  
 6th July Elaine Snuggs

### **Creche**

1<sup>st</sup> Caroline, Comfort  
 8<sup>th</sup> Elaine, Jess  
 15<sup>th</sup> Dawn, Mina  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Janette, Carolyn  
 29<sup>th</sup> Margaret, Bev