

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER
JUNE

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

9.40 a.m. Bible Class
9.45 a.m. Prayer Meeting
10.30 a.m. Morning Service + Sunday School (term time)
6.00 p.m. Evening Service

Note: a crèche for under 5s is available during the morning sermon.

Refreshments are served after the morning service except 1st Sunday.

Communion – after the 1st Sunday morning and 3rd Sunday evening services.

7.15 p.m. Church Fellowship Meeting (as announced)
7.30 p.m. Young Peoples' Fellowship (1st in month in home)

MONDAY

6.00 - 7.00 p.m. Monday Kids Club (years 1-6)
7.30 p.m. Ladies Bible Study (3rd in month)

TUESDAY

9.15 - 11.00 a.m. Toddlers
7.30 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY

10.00 a.m. Ladies Prayer Meeting in Home (3rd in month)
2.30 p.m. Friends and Neighbours (2nd in month) (2.00pm in summer)
2.30 p.m. Friends and Neighbours Link (4th in month)

FRIDAY

7.30 - 9.00 p.m. Focus (club for years 7-13)

SATURDAY

8.00 - 9.00 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting (3rd in month)
11.00 a.m. Open-Air Ministry (1st in month)
7.00p.m. Social Group (as announced)
7.30p.m. Youth Squash (as announced)

OTHER MEETINGS – AS ANNOUNCED

For further information contact:

Church Secretary: Scott Mitchell (01582 703875)

CHURCH WEB SITE – www.dunstablebaptistchurch.org

CHURCH email – dunstablebaptist@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN BOOKS

Mon. to Sat. 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Tel: 01582 601945

www.christianbooks.uk.com

email: books@christianbooks.uk.com)

Dear Friends

In November 1862 eighteen-year-old Archibald Brown took up the leadership of a small cause in Bromley, Kent. He had a congregation of 18 on the first Sunday. Only 12 returned the second week. Progress continued in the same direction when on the third week only six showed up. It couldn't get much worse!

When he reported to C.H. Spurgeon about his disappointing start and the dismal prospects for the work, Spurgeon famously replied with these words:

“Hold on with your teeth, and if you cannot hold on with your teeth, hold on with your eye-lashes – but hold on somehow!”

By God's grace, Brown did hold on. The tide turned and by the next year a church was formed with 20 members including a number of new converts.

Sometimes we feel as though we're just holding on. Plagued by ill health, financial struggles, relational difficulties and other problems too numerous – or personal – to mention, we can feel we are hanging by a thread. Sadly, many struggle spiritually as well. Besetting sins continue to beset. Doubt seems to erode faith. Prayerlessness continues to be a problem. What to do?

Hold on. But – with apologies to Mr. Spurgeon – not with your teeth or even your eyelashes! Hold on to the promise that Christ is holding on to you.

A favourite song of mine puts it like this:

“When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

*He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so
He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last”

I am praying for you.

Barry King

GBM—Week of Prayer

Grace Baptist Mission hold their week of prayer during June. You'll find the details in the copy of the Herald (which will be easier to read) in the foyer but the details are reproduced below. There is no prayer waves for June so we will look at some of the points below in our prayer meeting. The focus this year is Asia, where over half the world's population lives

SUNDAY 11 JUNE – THE PHILIPPINES – ARIES AND JODITH LIBORO

Aries and Jodith serve in Valenzuela City, in north Metro Manila. Aries pastors a small church among the urban poor who live in the nearby slums. The Philippines is a young country, so youth and children's work is a big priority. The Church runs a number of children's and teenager's clubs, and an annual Daily Vacation Bible School.

PRAY FOR:

- * Aries' faithfulness in preaching and leading the church
- * leaders to be trained and equipped to serve alongside him
- * young people and families to be saved
- * the ongoing stability of the church, as migration away from the Philippines means that local churches often lose their most active members

THURSDAY 15 JUNE – INDIA

GBM's work began in India back in the nineteenth century. We continue to maintain links with the Tamil Baptist Churches Trust, and rejoice to hear of new churches being planted and people being saved. Each January a small group goes out to lead training seminars for pastors

PRAY FOR:

- * freedom to preach the gospel, as the rise of the Hindu nationalist BJP has threatened religious freedom
- * the continued growth of the Tamil Baptist churches, as new churches are planted
- * Indian missionaries from Tamil Nadu who have gone to serve in Orissa state in East India, where they face great opposition, but are appointing local church planters to work in a number of villages

MONDAY 12 JUNE – THE PHILIPPINES – GRACE MINISTERIAL ACADEMY

Cubao Reformed Baptist Church in Manila runs Grace Ministerial Academy, a training course preparing men for full-time ministry. A number who are already in ministry have also joined the course. The Principal is Noel Espinosa, and a number of other Filipino pastors now share the teaching with him.

PRAY FOR:

- * the lecturers as they teach week by week
- * students to gain a good grasp of Christian doctrine, and good Bible-handling skills
- * pastors going on to serve in churches that will be known for good biblical preaching and pastoral care.
- * the ongoing financial needs of the Academy to be provided

FRIDAY 16 JUNE – KAZAKHSTAN – PAUL AND SOLVEIG GUTTRIDGE

Paul and Solveig Guttridge work in Kazakhstan, where Paul leads the IFES student movement. Kazakhstan is a vast country, with a population spread out among scattered cities. Evangelicals are 0.7% of the population. Reaching the student population is strategic for identifying the Christian leaders of tomorrow, both Russian- and Kazakh-speaking. Christian students are few.

PRAY FOR:

- * Paul and Solveig as they return to Kazakhstan after the birth of their baby daughter
- * Paul's travel across long distances by train to connect with student workers in other cities
- * the growth of the gospel among students, both Russian- and Kazakh-speaking
- * groups to begin in universities where currently there is no student witness

TUESDAY 13 JUNE – CREATIVE ACCESS – DAVID AND IVY

In a number of countries across Asia, missionaries have to gain access to a country by going there to work in another job, using their spare time to be involved in a local church and to make disciples. David and Ivy work in a major Asian city, where David is an elder in a house church. People come and go in a mobile population, and contact is made with churches through personal friendship alone. Small groups can be vulnerable to false teachers, and to the interference of the authorities

PRAY FOR:

- * David's preaching preparation - he normally preaches at least once a month
- * wisdom in handling pastoral issues in a constantly changing group
- * the freedom to continue to meet together
- * young Christians who come into the group from other parts of the world, that they will settle and be eager to serve

SATURDAY 17 JUNE – MYANMAR – LITERATURE

For nearly twenty years GBM Lit has sent books to Myanmar (Burma). Despite a democratically elected government for the first time in decades, Christians face persecution, particularly from Buddhist nationalists. We have contact with a group of twenty-seven pastors, who receive books in English from GBM Lit. They have also translated some of the Christian Classics series into several indigenous languages

PRAY FOR:

- * copies of *The Beginnings* and *The Last Things* which were posted out earlier in the year, that they will equip pastors with a clear understanding of Christian doctrine
- * English copies of a new Christian Classics book, *Christian Freedom*, which have just been sent
- * for future translation projects in local languages
- * the financial support of GBM Lit, that our literature ministry will soon be fully funded through our #Books4pastors initiative

WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE – TRAINING – JONATHAN BAYES

After serving as a pastor in a number of UK churches, Jonathan Bayes has devoted himself to training leaders in Asia. Jonathan leads a seminary that teaches cohorts of students in a number of cities across Asia. He makes regular visits of two to three weeks several times each year. Jonathan is also writing a three volume Systematic Theology based on his lectures.

PRAY FOR:

- * Jonathan's health and stamina - he was not well enough to go on a recent visit
- * the students he teaches, that they will grasp Christian doctrine clearly, and develop good Bible-handling skills
- * the long-term impact of the Seminary on churches across Asia
- * Jonathan's writing and publishing work

SUNDAY 18 JUNE – UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

Across Asia there are thousands of unreached people groups, that is, ethnic or language groups that do not have enough Christians to evangelise the rest of their nation. For example, in Uttar Pradesh, North India, in a population of over 225 million, there are 650 people groups, of which 627 are unreached.

PRAY FOR:

- * pioneer Christian missionaries, prepared to find ways to go and live among the most unreached, learn their language and bring the gospel to them
- * Bible translators who can spend the long years of work needed to understand minority languages and produce a faithful Bible translation
- * migrants who come to the West from unreached people groups, that they will come to faith in Christ, and want to take the gospel back to their own people

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:

Christian Books – support for conference attendance	(from church funds)	£320
Christian Books – donation	(from church funds)	£4,651
Christian Institute	(from church funds)	£25/month
CPR Ministries – working in prisons	(from church funds)	£50/month
Support for Antony Coles	(from gifts)	£231
Dunstable Foodbank	(from church funds)	£55/month
EMF – in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£25
Gideons	(from gifts)	£200
GBM – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski	(from gifts)	£25
GBM – General Fund	(from gifts)	£62
In support of the work at Legrave	(from gifts)	£100
London Seminary	(from church funds)	£20/month
Pilgrims' Friend Society	(from gifts)	£62
SASRA	(from gifts)	£50
SASRA	(from church funds)	£125
Wycliffe Bible Translators Aru project	(from church funds)	£100/month

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

Church Holiday

The Church holiday for 2017 has been confirmed and booked for Sizewell Hall in Sizewell in Suffolk. For those of you who aren't aware of it, some of the holiday details are as follows;

- We are returning for the fifth time to the wonderful Sizewell Hall, Suffolk – a big old country house sitting literally a stone's throw from its own beach
- We are going from **Monday October 23rd to Friday 27th**. This is half term week so the schools should be closed
- Everybody is welcome to come, there are no age restrictions
- The cost is £100, all inclusive, per person, with discounts for those aged ten and under. You will just need to get yourself there.
- We will have our usual mix of fellowship, teaching and fun
- We will be using 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. Those 'above a certain age' will be exempt from this

We need to take a minimum of 65 people with us but Sizewell Hall can accommodate a maximum of 90. I have had verbal agreements from a good number so far so if you want to come but I need to know as soon as possible. I also need to collect an initial £20 for each person coming. You can also pay in full if you want.

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 Steve or me.

Jeff Hewitt

DBC DIARY DATES—GOD WILLING

2017 JUNE		
Sun 28th	am & pm	Steve Burton
Tues 30th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Wed 31st	7.30pm	Leaders Meeting
Sat 3rd	11.00am	Open air in the Quadrant
Sun 4th	am & pm am 5.20pm 7.30pm	Barry King Communion Prayer meeting for Pastorate YP at the Hewitts
Tues 6th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Wed 7th	7.30pm	Church members meeting
Thur 8th	2.00pm	Friends & Neighbours: Outing
Sun 11th	am & pm	Mark Fisher
Tues 13th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Thurs 15th	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting
Sat 17th	8.00am 7.30pm	Mens Prayer meeting Youth Squash (Aylesbury)
Sun 18th	am & pm pm	Steve Burton Communion
Mon 19th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study: Jn.8:1-11 A throwaway woman
Tues 20th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Sun 25th	am & pm	Tom Forryan
Tues 27th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Sat 1st	11.00am	Open air in the Quadrant
Sun 2nd	am & pm am 5.20pm 7.30pm	Barry King Communion Prayer meeting for Pastorate YP at the Hewitts
Tues 4th	7.45pm	DFEC—Christ Church

JUNE ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient

Door

4th Ray Marvin & Beverly Kingham
11th Brian Rigby & Barbara Shipton
18th Julia Ming & Matthew Woodruff
25th Scott Mitchell & Sarah Woodruff
2nd John & Bev Keble

Cleaning (Church / Hall)

5th Rigby / Barbachea
12th Keble / Snuggs
19th tbc / Power
26th Mitchell / Hewitt
2nd Mike & Mina Power

Security

4th Ray Marvin
11th Scott Mitchell
18th Mike Power
25th Brian Rigby
2nd John Snuggs

Flowers

4th Joy Broughton
11th Bev Keble
18th Rachel Mitchell
25th Dawn Hewitt
2nd Julia Ming

Creche

4th Elaine & Sarah
11th Margaret & Bev
18th Emily & Julia
25th Winnie & Juia

Refreshments

11th Caroline, Winnie & Mina
18th Christine & Debbie
25th Ann & Janette

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

30th	Tony Townley	Roundwood Trust (Elaine)
6th	David Woodruff	Toddlers (Sarah)
13th	Rex Andrews	OAM
20th	Steve Burton	Pastorate
27th	John Keble	GBM WoP

Please forward items for the
JULY 2017 NEWSLETTER
to Scott Mitchell
dunstablebaptist@gmail.com
by SUNDAY 25th June
Thank you.