

Dunstable

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER

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:

Pastor: Barry King (01582) 475896

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 Friend

The 2017 Grace Directory of Churches has listings for eight churches in Bedfordshire. Can you name all eight of them before reading further? If so, well done. If not, why not?

Dunstable Baptist Church is an independent church. Though one of the eight churches (Kempston) in the directory is in membership in the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) and two (Harrold and Carlton and Potton) are members of the Association of Grace Baptist Churches (West Anglia), the other seven churches listed in the county are independent churches as well.

Whether Dunstable Baptist Church is ever in formal association with other churches or not, we do need spiritual fellowship with other likeminded churches in our county. How can this fellowship be expressed? Prayer is always the best place to start.

Four of the eight churches (Bedford, Blunham, Potton and Westoning) don't have a pastor. Though the church at Linslade does have a pastor, he is only with them one Sunday a month because he is also the pastor of a church in Feltham. Having just completed a lengthy period without a pastor, we should certainly know how to pray for these other churches.

Additionally, this type of fellowship can be expressed through practical assistance. Several of the churches without pastors would struggle to support a pastor financially. This is a way that other churches can (read, should) help. Not included in the directory because it has not yet formally constituted as a church is the work at Legrave. They face the great challenge of purchasing their building within the next five months. One of the churches in the county has already pledged support for their endeavour. How about the rest of us?

It is also possible to express this type of spiritual fellowship through participating in joint outreach endeavours. We recently met with the church members at Linslade to discuss this very thing. They would like Steve Burton to help them from time to time with open air evangelism. Should you consider going along with him to help?

The elders at Harold and Carlton are seeking to enlist six of the churches to participate in the Grace Baptist Partnership *Is God Good?* initiative in 2018. Each town or village will be leafleted and a special evangelistic event featuring a talk on the theme will be held. A small army of volunteers will be needed to pray, leaflet and otherwise support these meetings next July. How can you help?

This doesn't even take into account places across the county where churches that have died await replanting or communities that are growing need new church plants. Who will reach these people with the gospel? We rightly recognise that we cannot do it alone. Are we willing then to do it in fellowship with others?

Watch this space for news of opportunities for prayer, practical assistance and participation in joint ministry endeavours in the coming year. Opportunities which when seized will not weaken us as a church but rather strengthen us – and others.

In Christ Alone

Barry King

Pastor

We received two messages from former Pastors of DBC ahead of Barry's Induction. We have copied them below...

I wanted you to know that we will be praying for you all as a church as you enter a new chapter in the history of DBC with the induction of Barry this Saturday. Please pass on our greetings to the church.

Dunstable Baptist Church has a very special place in our hearts. We have many treasured memories of the ten years that we were with you. We have been encouraged to hear about the various ways that the Lord has blessed you over the last nine years. I am sorry that we will not be able to be with you this Saturday but we will be continuing to pray for you all and for Barry as he officially commences his ministry among you.

Warmly in Christ

Ivan & Carol

Dear Scott,

Could you please pass on our greetings to the church and Barry King and his wife as he is formally inducted into the ministry of the church on Saturday. We do trust that the Lord will greatly bless the church through Barry's ministry and grant conversions and growth for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Revelation 3:8 says: 'I know your works, see, I have set before you an open door, and no-one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept my word, and have not denied my name.'

Paul and Mary Brown

Finances for the Third Quarter of 2017

For the third quarter of 2017 the Church finances were as follows:

Income	£18,774
Expenditure	£10,060
Surplus	£8,714

We thank the Lord for His help during the year so far. Our ministerial expenses increased this year because of the employment of Steve Burton alongside his part time studies at London Seminary. This quarter we start paying the salary for Barry King.

One of the factors that helps our income is Gift Aid (£2,506 received in the last quarter including claims from cash gifts of £20 and less, eligible under the new Small Donations scheme). It is now easy for you (if you are a tax payer) to give and for the Church (and other charities) to benefit from the tax you paid on your gift. If you have not signed a Gift Aid Declaration for your giving to the Church, and are able to do so, please speak to David Woodruff (in confidence).

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

Mission Giving

November 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. Currently these are:

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 was held recently in October.

The Open-Air Mission (OAM) – with whom Frances Burton works in the OAM Office.

Christian literature for Eastern Europe via the Roundwood Trust.

European Missionary Fellowship (EMF) – to support Rogério Ramos in his work in Sines, Portugal.

During November please collect an envelope from the rack by 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 if you want it to be other than an equal division. Please return your envelopes, via the collection boxes, by the end of November. 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.

Grace Baptist Mission has experienced a significant shortfall over this year due to a number of their workers not being fully supported. This gives rise to a significant drain on the General Fund. The Church has sent a donation of £500 to help with this but we would also urge everyone else to make a gift to GBM General Fund. Please mark any gifts given for this purpose.

As well as financial support, all of the above 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 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.

Donations

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:

Caring for Life	(from gifts)	£755
European Missionary Fellowship (EMF) in support of Rogério Ramos	(from gifts)	£25
Grace Baptist Mission – in support of Andrzej Kempczynski in Poland	(from gifts)	£25
Grace Baptist Trust Corporation	(from church funds)	£135

During the last month the following amounts have been received by personal cheque:

Caring for Life £200 & £100

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

News from the Foodbank

The Dunstable Foodbank are looking for volunteers to help with their collection at Tesco Extra in Dunstable on Saturday 2nd December. As usual they ask volunteers to work two hour shifts, from 9.00-11.00, 11.00-13.00, 13.00-15.00 and 15.00-17.00. If you are able to work one (or more!) of these shifts, please let them know as soon as possible. Contact: info@dunstablefoodbank.org.uk (Mike Pittam)

We continue to need regular donations of the items on our shopping list, but we are currently short of:

UHT Fruit Juice	UHT Milk	Chocolate / Sweet Treats
Tinned Tomatoes	Tinned Peas	
Tinned Carrots	Long Life Sponge Puddings	

Don't Forget!

The deadline for getting the Blythwood shoeboxes back is the 31st October at our Tuesday meeting. We have a good number back already.

Also, on the same evening it is our joint meeting with Langdale and Christ Church. There will also be the opportunity to view the reformation exhibition in the hall



Church Holiday 2017

Look out for the report of the holiday in next month's newsletter. Our thanks go to Jeff and Dawn in particular for all their efforts in organising and preparing for the week.



Induction Service & Thanksgiving Day



On the 14th of October we formally welcomed Barry King as Pastor at his induction service. Stuart Olyott was unfortunately unable to travel so Ryan King ably preached in his place. John Keble led the service and there were many comments about the quality of the singing from just over 170 people who had gathered for the service.

Ron Shipton spoke about how Barry had come to be invited as Pastor. Barry then followed with his testimony before Ryan King preached a message from Paul's letter to the Ephesians. We are grateful to Ryan for stepping in at such short notice.

A tea was served in the hall afterwards and many stayed for a time of fellowship.



On the following day we welcomed Geoff Thomas from Aberystwyth who led both services at our Thanksgiving Day. We have much to be thankful for and Geoff preached on the privileges that we have as Christians.

Many stayed for lunch after the service and once the washing up was complete a number of us took a short walk. Once back at the church we had a time of singing and Jeff Hewitt gave us an introduction to the Reformation by showing some of the pictures he had taken from a recent trip to Florence. Barry then gave us a quiz on the Reformation and we all left knowing a little more than when we came.

Tea followed, and Geoff was delighted to be given a special cake and greeted with the singing of 'Happy Birthday' -truly a day of much thanksgiving.



DBC DIARY DATES—GOD WILLING

2017 NOVEMBER		
Tues 31st	7.45pm	DFEC Joint meeting including Reformation exhibition
Wed 1st	7.30pm	Leaders meeting
Sat 4th	11.00am	Book table in the Quadrant
Sun 5th	am & pm am 7.30pm	Barry King Communion YP at the Hewitts
Tues 7th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Wed 8th	7.30pm	CFL Supporters Meeting
Thur 9th	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours: Tony Woodhouse—Pictures and stories of old Dunstable
Sat 11th	7.30pm	Youth Squash (Chesham)
Sun 12th	am & pm	Barry King
Tues 14th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Thur 16th	10.00am	Ladies Prayer Meeting
Sat 18th	8.00am	Men's Prayer Meeting
Sun 19th	am pm	David Green Paul Davies (AEM)
Mon 20th	7.30pm	Ladies Bible Study: Simon
Tues 21st	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Thu 23rd	2.30pm	Friends & Neighbours Link: Andy Little
Sun 26th	am pm	Rex Andrews Steve Burton Communion
Tues 28th	7.30pm	Bible Study & Prayer: Barry King
Sun 3rd	am & pm am	Barry King Communion

'PRAY FOR US' Members preaching in other churches

NOVEMBER		
5th	Rex Andrews	Great Whyte BC, Ramsey
12th	Rex Andrews	Wootton BC (pm)
19th	Barry King Rex Andrews	Countesthorpe Grace BC, Hitchin (am)
26th	Barry King	Coventry

NOVEMBER ROTAS

Please arrange to swap if the date is not convenient.

Door

5th Winnie Jacques & Dawn Hewitt
12th Ray Marvin & Beverly Kingham
19th Brian Rigby & Barbara Shipton
26th Matthew Woodruff & Julia Ming

Cleaning (Church / Hall)

6th Mitchell / Power
13th Christine & Caroline / Hewitt
20th Woodruff / Winnie & Michele
27th Barnachea / Rigby

Security

5th Matthew Woodruff
12th Rex Andrews
19th Frank Barnachea
26th CJ Barnachea

Refreshments

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Ann & Janette
Julia & Elaine
Dawn & Michelle

Creche

5th Julia & Winnie
12th Margaret & Bev
19th Caroline & Beverly
26th Sarah & Debbie

Flowers

Tess Barnachea
Bev Keble
Dawn Hewitt
Rachel Mitchell

Tuesday Prayer Time Leaders & Subjects

7th	Scott Mitchell	Ladies Bible Study	Caroline
14th	Frank Taylor	SASRA	
21st	Brian Rigby	GBM Prayer Waves	
28th	Brian Rigby	CPR	

Please forward items for the
DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER
to Scott Mitchell
dunstablebaptist@gmail.com
by SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER