



Berkhamsted Baptist Church

A family following Jesus

Weekly News for

Sunday 21st October 2018

“Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the first fruits of the crops you sow in your field. Celebrate the Festival of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in your crops from the field.” *Exodus 23:16*

Welcome to our Harvest Thanksgiving Service with Communion led by Ruth Montacute. Please join us afterwards for tea and coffee in the lower hall. Crèche facilities are available for 0-3 year olds every week.

Today

“Life’s first cry” envelopes from BMS World Mission are available in the pews. We are supporting this BMS appeal for work in Afghanistan.

This Week

Tuesday 23rd – 10.15 am, the **funeral service for Ruth Hales** is being held at the Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham, and afterwards at the George and Dragon, Northchurch. All are welcome.

Wednesday 24th - 10.00 to 11.25 am, **First Steps** parent/carer and toddler group in the Lower Hall.

Thursday 25th – 10.00 am to noon, **Open Church**, held in the Lower Hall, entrance in Holliday Street. Please come and join us for free tea/coffee and cakes. Your opportunity to pray, have a chat or ask questions; all are welcome.

Friday 26th – 11.15 am worship service, 12.00 lunch, **Open Door Lunch Club**. Meals must be booked in advance with Gill Goss.

Friday 26th – 7.30 pm, **Ladies’ Group**: games evening in the Lower Hall.

Our **house groups** run weekly and fortnightly. You are encouraged to attend one to share in mid-week fellowship and learn more about Jesus through his

word. Please speak to Pat Ginger, Sandra Wotton or Alun Sainsbury if you wish to join or try a group.

Next Sunday

Don’t forget to put your **clocks back one hour** on Saturday night/Sunday morning.

Our 10.30 am All-Age Family Worship will be led by Lesley Southerden of Stanmore Baptist Church. All are invited and are welcome to come and prepare for worship, with silent or open prayer, in the church office from 10.20.

Future Events

Sunday 4th November - **378th Church Anniversary**, speaker Rev. Tony Peck. The morning service will be followed by a lunch to which you are all welcome.

Thursday 15th – 7.30 pm, Church Members’ Meeting.

Notices

We will be having a ‘Prayer Day’ on **Saturday 17th November** to pray especially for ourselves and our church during the interregnum. There will be opportunities for guided personal and silent prayer. More details nearer the time.

I will be celebrating a **special birthday next month** and would very much like you to join me in the celebration. There will be a two-course cooked meal

after the morning service on **Sunday 25th November**. The menu will be on the board in the lower hall in one or two weeks' time. Please let me know if you would like to come and if you have any special dietary requirements. **No presents**, please; your company will be more than enough. Thank you. *Pat Ginger*

The **DENS Dacorum Harvest Food Bank list** includes:

- Milk (long life)
- Jam
- Fruit juice (1l long-life)
- Fruit (tinned)
- Rice
- Washing-up liquid
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Washing powder
- Tinned cold meat
- Toilet cleaner
- Tinned hot meat
- Toilet rolls
- Custard
- Carrier bags
- Cereal bars
- Toothpaste
- Sponge puddings
- Men's deodorants

A full DENS list is available at the front of the church.

Audio recordings of our Sunday **sermons** are available; those with internet can access them via: www.berkhamstedbaptistchurch.org.uk/ministry/sermons/ Items for the next news sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 25th October, please.

For Your Prayers

- All God's good gifts at Harvest time
- Continuing prayer for our church during the interregnum
- Families in Afghanistan
- All in national and local government
- Family and friends with health problems

Health Pray for Seeta and Tham who are BMS-supported workers providing pastoral care to those recovering from illness and injury in Pokhara, Nepal. In developing regions, fourteen women die in childbirth for every one in the West. Pray for the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals on health. Pray for Achta, a recipient of life-saving surgery at Guinebor II Hospital in Chad. Pray for courage in recovery, complete healing and a fruitful life. Pray for BMS work in Afghanistan. Pray especially for our workers involved in mental health. Fifty years of on/off conflict has traumatised a generation. Pray for BMS-supported work amongst South Sudanese refugees living with disabilities in northern Uganda. Pray for BMS partner work amongst people affected by traumatic incidents in Nepal. With civil war and earthquakes in recent years, minds are slowly healing. Pray for BMS nurses Judy and

Kathryn, working with Phil, Tada, Natalie and other children with disabilities in Thailand. Much grace, love and expertise are required.

(slightly altered from BMS Prayer Guide)

The Baptist Steering Group meets seven times a year to implement the broad strategic direction of our Union, as discerned by Council. Please pray for the members of the group as they seek to inspire, support and facilitate local churches in their mission.

www.baptist.org.uk/baptiststeeringgroup

(from Baptists Together)

Lord of the harvest, we thank you for all who have worked on land and sea to provide our daily food. We remember our farmers and fishermen and those in other parts of the world who have planted the seed and tended the crops, and the fruit of whose labours we enjoy. Grant that they may receive justice, a fair return for their labour and hope for the future with a stable climate. We pray too for those who package and deliver our food, for shopkeepers and restaurateurs, for those concerned with the nation's health and for ourselves, that we may shop wisely and with thought for others. We ask this in the name of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen. *(from www.christian-ecology.org.uk)*

Father, we are mindful that whilst we are well fed and nourished there are many who are short of food, whose harvests have failed for lack of rain as climate changes, or whose livelihood has been destroyed by war, inhumanity and exploitation. Bless the development agencies who are seeking to redress the balance and bring peace and justice where there is want, discord and destruction. Bless those who work for climate justice so that all countries, rich and poor, will have an equal entitlement per person to create greenhouse gas emissions. Give us generous hearts that from our riches we may increasingly give our support to those working among the poor and under-privileged in the world, and keep us ever mindful of our Lord's command to love our neighbours – whether close at hand or in the wider world – as ourselves.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

(from www.christian-ecology.org.uk)

And Finally

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring

good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"

Isaiah 52:7