



# Berkhamsted Baptist Church

*A Family following Jesus*

Weekly News for

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**“The heavens tell of your glory and creation speaks of your goodness,  
O Lord. As day passes into night and night passes into day, we enter  
into your presence to join in the chorus of praise.”**

*(Slightly altered from Roots for Churches Ltd)*

**Welcome to our Family Worship, with communion, led by Paul Tucker from Kings Langley.  
Please join us afterwards for tea and coffee in the lower hall.  
Crèche facilities are available for 0-3 year olds every week.**

## This Week

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>** – 10:00 to 11:25am First Steps parent / carer and toddler group in the Lower hall.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>** – 10:00am to 12 noon, **Open Church**, held in the lower hall, entrance in Holliday Street. Please come and join us for free tea/coffee and cakes. Activities will be available during holiday times. Your opportunity to pray, have a chat or ask questions; all are welcome.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>** – 11:15am tea and coffee, 12noon lunch, **Open Door Lunch Club**. Meals must be booked in advance with Gill Goss.

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 or Sandra Wotton if you wish to join or try a group.

## Next Sunday

Our 10:30am Mothering Sunday Family Worship will be led by Ruth Montacute. All are invited and are welcome to come and prepare for worship, with silent or open prayer, in the church office from 10:20am onwards.

## Future Events

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March** – 7:30pm, **Ladies’ group**; a Games Evening with food, in the lower hall.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – 6:30pm, **Refract Service**. Youth from our local churches are coming together to lead an evening service. The service is for everyone run by the

young people. Please come and support the young people.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – 7:30pm, **Church Member’s AGM**, in the lower hall. The AGM is a time of giving thanks for the past year and re-committing ourselves in service to God as we serve this church fellowship. It is also an opportunity to re-commit or step down from a particular role, or even a job swap. There is also a **vacancy** for the Baptist Union **Home Mission Representative**. Please prayerfully consider nominations for **Church Treasurer** and **Church Secretary**; these positions are elected annually and they must have the persons consent. Nominations are also needed for the **Deaconate**. Ruth Montacute is due to retire after two terms of four years but is willing to stand again. Ruth must be nominated and re-elected. Nominations must be made in writing by two members of the church and also with the signature of the nominee. All nominees must have been members of the church for at least six months and potential deacons baptised by immersion. Please see Pat Ginger for a nomination form if you wish to nominate someone. Forms need to be handed in by Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May** – **Baptist Assembly** at Peterborough.

## Notices

A big thank you to everyone who said they would be willing to take part in our services during the inter-regnum. Visiting speakers often like people to lead intercessions or do Family Time/Birthday Bucket. Please could you write your name and what you’d like

to do, on a piece of paper and give it to Ruth, this will help with planning. Thank you.

Many thanks to those who supported our first **Christian Aid Lent lunch**. The total collected so far is £218, with much of it Gift Aided. The second Lent lunch will be held in the Court House on Monday March 19<sup>th</sup> from **12:30 to 1:45pm**. Please note the later time as we cannot access the kitchen before 11:30am. Please come and support us and if anyone would like to help please see me. Many thanks. *Margaret Pike*

The **DENS Dacorum Jan/Feb Food Bank** list is:

- Fruit juice (UHT)
- Water bottles (500ml)
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Cereal bars
- Cold meat (tinned)
- Custard
- Cleaning sprays
- Sponge puddings
- Washing powder/liquid
- Washing-up liquid
- Hand wash/bar soap
- Deodorants
- Jams and spreads
- A4 copy paper

**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/](http://www.berkhamstedbaptistchurch.org.uk/ministry/sermons/) or ask John Beeley for CD copies.

Items for the next news sheet to **John Beeley** by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March, please.

### **For Your Prayers**

- For all affected by the tragedy in Berkhamsted last weekend.
- Leadership Team meeting on Tuesday.
- For those who are unwell and for friends unable to get to church.
- Thanksgiving for those who are leading our services during the interregnum.
- As we struggle in the cold weather give thanks for our home comforts and remember many across the world who aren't as fortunate as we are.

### **BMS Training and hospitality**

Pray for workers who left our training facility, IMC, in

Birmingham at Christmas and are studying language and settling into their life and work overseas. Pray for our new long-term workers, who are completing their studies and preparing to leave our training facility at Easter. Pray for our Action Teams as they prepare to leave their overseas mission placements and return for debriefing. Pray for Phil and our teaching team as they prepare BMS workers to be resilient and reflective in their cross cultural service and witness abroad. Give thanks for the catering and domestic team, who offer a warm welcome to the many visitors who benefit from our training and hospitality. Pray that the many people who come through our doors might recognise in the community an expression of God's kingdom and BMS values. Give thanks for the local Baptist churches in Birmingham who act as placements for new mission workers and support them in prayer and giving.  
*(Slightly altered from BMS Prayer Guide)*

The Baptist Union Council meets later this month. Please pray for the Council members as they look to set the broad strategic direction for Baptists Together.

[www.baptist.org.uk/council](http://www.baptist.org.uk/council)

*From Baptists Together*

Jesus,  
You loved Zacchaeus.  
You wanted to be his friend.  
You called him to be with you.  
You stayed in his home.  
When he met you, Zacchaeus knew he needed to change.  
Help us to know when we need to change.  
Zacchaeus found out what was really important.  
Help us to understand what matters to you.  
You love each and every one of us.  
You want to be our friend.  
You call us to be with you.  
You are with us wherever we go.  
*(Slightly altered from Roots for Churches Ltd)*

May we, as a church and individually, never be afraid to take the next step in our journey of faith and ministry, even if it seems ridiculous, even if it exposes us, even if we are misunderstood.  
May we never rely on our own resources, our own strength, our own courage, but always look to you, righteous God, to make trust of our fear, a journey of our wandering, a treasure of our seeking, a sacrament of our starting again and a now of our ministry.  
In Jesus name, Amen

**Interregnum Prayer:** Heavenly Father we thank you for the ministry of Stephen, our previous minister, and we pray your presence and blessing upon him. We ask now that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others, and welcome newcomers. Lord Jesus, guard and grow this church as we serve you together in this period without a minister. Please guide those who are seeking the right minister for us, and those who are seeking the right church for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow. Amen.  
*(From www.cpas.org.uk)*

**Motto text 2018:** "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." *Hebrews 12 : 2 (NIV).*

*(From Roots for Churches Ltd)*

**And Finally**

May our words and thoughts be always acceptable to you,  
may our deeds and actions be always worthy of you, and may  
our lives show forth your love in the world.

*(From Roots for Churches Ltd)*