



Berkhamsted Baptist Church

A Family following Jesus

Weekly News for

Sunday 13th May 2018

'Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.'

Acts ch 1 v 26

Welcome to our Christian Aid Sunday Family Worship, led by Margaret Pike, with speaker Abi Emmens-Green.

Please join us afterwards for tea and coffee in the lower hall.

Crèche facilities are available for 0-3 year olds every week.

Today

This afternoon Ruth is leading the service at Shaftesbury Court at 3.00. All are very welcome.

This Week

Wednesday 16th – 10.00 to 11.25 am, **First Steps** parent/carer and toddler group in the Lower Hall.

Thursday 17th – 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. Activities will be available during holiday times. Your opportunity to pray, have a chat or ask questions; all are welcome.

Friday 18th – 11.15 am tea/coffee, 12.00 lunch, **Open Door Lunch Club**. Meals must be booked in advance with Gill Goss.

Saturday 19th May - The annual cake stall for Christian Aid will be outside Tesco 9am-12 noon. Please let Margaret Pike know if you can provide a cake.

Next Sunday

Our 10.30 am Family Worship for Whit Sunday, with communion, will be led by Mark Buckley from Caddington, Luton. 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 25th May – Ladies' Group pizza and film night. Please note earlier start time of **7.00 pm**. Please let Vicky know if you will attend.

Saturday 16th June – the **Central Baptist**

Association Assembly at Whaddon Way Church, Bletchley, Milton Keynes. The main speaker for the day will be Rev. Dr David Gregory, President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. All are welcome. Please see Pat Ginger for more details.

Notices

The new General Data Protection Regulations come into force soon. Because of this, we are asking everyone to sign a permission form for personal information in our church address list. The form includes a section giving permission for using photographs. Please sign and return it to a member of the Leadership Team.

It's a **significant birthday** for me on 1st June. I hope you'll come and celebrate, in church, on **Saturday 2nd June**, where from 3 until 4pm The Messenger African Choir will be singing. Open invitation. All welcome. There will be tea and cake afterwards. *Ruth*



The **DENS Dacorum May Food Bank** list is:

- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Rice
- Jams & spreads
- Fruit juice (1L long-life)
- Fruit (tinned)
- Washing-up liquid
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Washing powder/liquid

- Meat (tinned)
- Custard (tin or powder)
- Cereal bars
- Sponge puddings
- Cleaning sprays
- Carrier bags
- Toothpaste
- Bath towels

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 Fliss Nesbitt by Thursday 17th May, please.

For Your Prayers

- Christian Aid Week, for Margaret at this busy time
- Different types of church services during the interregnum
- Young people starting GCSE exams this week
- John in hospital and those caring for him
- Friends with health concerns
- Stephen and Abigail settling into their new home

Volunteers. Please pray for our medical elective students working in Nepal, that they would be a blessing to everyone at the hospital there. Give thanks for Andrew and Carole as they volunteer in Haiti. Pray for energy and wisdom in their managerial work at our partner hospital. Please pray that God would continue to raise up teachers, doctors and other professionals who are willing to volunteer overseas with BMS. Praise God for Ann, who has recently celebrated 50 years' service with us in India. Pray that she would know God's blessing in her ministry. Give thanks for our partner organisations who regularly receive volunteers. Pray that they would be blessed and inspired by those who volunteer with them. Pray for our volunteers serving at Freeset in Kolkata, India, for continued enthusiasm and guidance as they work with disadvantaged women. Pray for the Baptist ministers who are part of our sabbatical programme, that they would be inspired and enthused by BMS work overseas. (slightly altered from BMS Prayer Guide)

The Baptist Assembly met yesterday at KingsGate Conference Centre in Peterborough. Please pray for all those commissioned as Fully Accredited Ministers, Pastors, Preachers and Mission Personnel as they begin this new chapter of their life.

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)

www.baptistassembly.org.uk
(from Baptists Together)

Prayers from the prayer bush

That our church will continue to grow in God's love. Heavenly Father, we thank you for the ministry of Stephen at our church. We pray for your presence and blessing upon him and Abigail.

We pray for us all in this interregnum. We pray that we will grow closer to God and grow in spirit. We pray for Abigail and Stephen as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives. We pray for your love and guidance for us all.

Dear Father, thank you for your amazing grace for everyone.

Thank you for everything.

Thank you, Jesus, for the fullness of your grace, truth and love.

Dear Lord, we pray for your almighty blessing upon Milan and Leah as they study for their GCSE exams. May you grant them wisdom, commitment, guidance and good health as they sit their exams.

There is now a Prayer Diary on the table in church; please write in any prayer requests, thanks or concerns.

Give us, Lord God, a vision of your Kingdom as your love desires it: a world where the weak are protected and none go hungry, a world where life is shared and enjoyed by all, a world where all races, nations and cultures live in tolerance and respect, a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love. Give us the inspiration and courage to build your Kingdom here and now.

(from www.christianaid.org.uk)

Loving God, today we join thousands of others by stepping out in mission for the world's poorest people. As Jesus prayed to you before sending out the disciples, we pray now that our words, actions and deeds will bring your Kingdom closer. We pray for the Spirit to fill us with yearning, and the courage to live out your love for the world – a love so strong that you gave your only Son. As Jesus entrusted his disciples with his mission to the world, we pray that we, who have felt your love's transforming power, will bear witness to that love.

(from www.christianaid.org.uk)

And Finally

'And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.'

Micah ch 6 v 8

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