



# Berkhamsted Baptist Church

*A family following Jesus*

Weekly News for

Sunday 4th November 2018

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

*Psalm 92:1*

**Welcome to Family Worship for our 378th Church Anniversary and Gift Day led by Ruth Montacute with an address by Rev Tony Peck, General Secretary of the European Baptist Federation.**

**Please join us afterwards for tea and coffee in the church followed by a lunch in the hall to which you are all welcome.**

**Please note we will not be having communion this morning.**

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

## This Week

**Wednesday 7th** – 10.00 to 11.25 am, **First Steps** parent/carer and toddler group in the Lower Hall.

**Thursday 8th** – 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 9th** – 11.15 am service, 12.00 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, Sandra Wotton or Alun Sainsbury if you wish to join or try a group.

## Next Sunday

Our 10.30 am Family Worship for Remembrance Day will be led by Mark Powell from SASRA. All are invited and are welcome to come and prepare for worship, with silent or open prayer, in the church office from 10.20am.

## Future Events

**Thursday 15th** – 7.30 pm, Church Members' Meeting.

We will be having a 'Prayer Day' on **Saturday 17th November** from 10am to 1pm 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** in November and would very much like you to join me in the celebration. There will be a meal after the morning service on **Sunday 25th November**. A list is available for you to sign up if you would like to come, and a menu choice. Please let me know 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)
- Rice
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Tinned cold meat
- Tinned hot meat
- Custard
- Cereal bars
- Sponge puddings
- Fruit (tinned)
- Washing-up liquid
- Washing powder
- Toilet cleaner
- Toilet rolls
- Carrier bags
- Toothpaste
- 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/](http://www.berkhamstedbaptistchurch.org.uk/ministry/sermons/)  
Items for the next news sheet to Fliss Nesbitt by Thursday 8th November, please.

### **For Your Prayers**

- Thanksgiving for 378 years of work and witness at Berkhamsted Baptist Church
- God's guidance particularly during this interregnum period
- Tony in his work as General Secretary of the European Baptist Federation
- Those with health needs
- Leadership Team meeting on Tuesday

**Tunisia** Pray for the estimated 1,600 believers who make up the indigenous Tunisian Church. Ask for God's blessing on them and BMS workers as they worship today. Pray for BMS' primary partner in Tunisia. Having recently transitioned to become an international NGO, the Tunisian Church can now play a larger role in its work. Pray for Naama, a BMS worker who is supporting special needs educators in Tunisia and helping local organisations to provide a better quality of care. Pray for Mary and Beth, BMS nurses in Tunisia, as they equip health professionals and family members to better deliver palliative care. Pray for BMS worker Sophie who arrived in Tunisia in October 2017 to take up her role as Communications Co-ordinator for our partner organisation. Pray that BMS' new partnership in Tunisia, with what is the country's only registered local Christian organisation, will be fruitful and effective.

Pray for BMS workers Grace and Taieb, serving in leadership roles in the indigenous Tunisian Church and further afield in the North Africa region. *(Slightly altered from BMS Prayer Guide)*

Each year, on the first Monday in November, Baptist women all over the world join together in prayer, celebration and reflection. This year the theme is 'Unity and Justice', recognising that we live in a world where the unity for which God has created us in often hard to see and that justice is denied to many, especially girls and women. [www.baptist.org.uk/bwwdp](http://www.baptist.org.uk/bwwdp)  
*(From Baptists Together)*

God of our present and our future, as we gather here today we look for hope.

The future is uncertain, we wonder what it will bring. Fill us with a vision for what we could be.

Give us hope for our congregation and our community. Help us find the choices that lead to life in abundance. God of hope, in a time of uncertainty we so often fall into fear and worry.

Show us the opportunities in our chaotic world, remind us to consider seriously where our priorities and loyalties lie,

push us to see how our choices matter, and then fill us with hope in a new heaven and a new earth.

God of our future, may we walk boldly into what may come, as people, not only of faith, but of hope.

May we share your hope and promise with the world in which we live.

Amen. *(From [www.worshipofferings.blogspot.com](http://www.worshipofferings.blogspot.com))*

Loving gracious God, we come before you as we mark another year in the life of this church. We give you thanks for your guidance, your prodding and your leading over this past year. We give you thanks for all we have accomplished in your name, but we also know sometimes we have missed the mark. We thank you for all those with whom we have had contact over this last year, whether it was for joyous reasons or sad ones, or for whatever reason they found themselves here in this building. May we through that contact however brief have shared something of your love for all people. Today we thank you for the past year and all it has contained. At this anniversary time we cannot stand only looking backwards, we must also look forward. So at this time we thank you that you will walk with us into the coming year in the life of this church. May we who this day celebrate and remember the past year in our constant walk with you, go forward in hope and joy, into your future. Amen

*(David Coote from [www.urg.org.uk](http://www.urg.org.uk))*

### **And Finally**

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

*Psalm 133:1*