



Berkhamsted Baptist Church

A Family following Jesus

Weekly News for

Sunday 15th April 2018

'How happy are those who believe without seeing me!' *John 20:29*

Welcome to our Family Worship, with communion, led by Maureen Finerty from Abbots 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 18th – 10.00 to 11.25 am, **First Steps** parent/carer and toddler group in the Lower Hall.

Thursday 19th – 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 20th – 11.15 am tea/coffee, 12.00 lunch, **Open Door Lunch Club**. Meals must be booked in advance with Gill Goss.

Saturday 21st – 10.00 am to noon, an opportunity to meet with our moderator, Rev. Alice McDermott, and to pray together. Please put this important date in your diary.

Pat Ginger

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 10.30 am All-Age Family Worship will be led by Rev. Colin Pye, Regional Minister of the Central Baptist Association. 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

Wednesday 25th April – 8.00 pm, Pastoral

Coordinators' meeting at All Saints' Church, Cross Oak Road. Speaker is Jacqui Sheppard, Dementia Friends Champion with the Alzheimer's Society. Please see Pat Ginger if you would like to attend.

Friday 27th April – Ladies' Evening: quiz night with fish and chips. Please let Vicky know if you will be attending.

Saturday 12th May – Baptist Assembly at Peterborough.

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

“To all at Berkhamsted Baptist Church: We were very touched to receive your card and the gift it contained – thank you very much. We were sad not to see you on 18th March, but hope that we will keep in touch over the coming years.... We would love to see you when we are next in the UK. You can follow us on our blog as detailed....” *James and Ruth Neve* On BMS website:

<http://www.bmsworldmission.org/people/james-and-ruth-neve/> Our blog:

<http://jamesandruthdelhidahlings.wordpress.com>

Joyce Wesley's funeral is at 11.30am on Tuesday 17th May at Chilterns Crematorium. (Joyce used to attend Lunch Club.) Ruth will be leading the service.

The **DENS Dacorom April Food Bank** list is:

- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Fruit juice (1L long-life)
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Meat (tinned)
- Custard (tin or powder)
- Cereal bars
- Sponge puddings
- Jams and spreads
- Carrier bags
- Washing-up liquid
- Washing powder/liquid
- Cleaning sprays
- 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/miniistry/sermons/ or ask John Beeley for CD copies.

Items for the next news sheet to **Chris Hayward** by Thursday 19th April, please.

For Your Prayers

- Leaders meeting on Monday; for God's leading in all discussions and decisions
- Joyce's funeral on Tuesday; for her loved ones who miss her
- First Steps starting up after the Easter holidays; pray for all who attend
- Friends in hospital and those caring for them
- Young people about to start important exams

India has a rapidly growing economy, but many remain in abject poverty. Pray for the gospel to be "good news to the poor" (Luke 4: 18). Pray for Benjamin as he leads BMS strategy in India and heads up the church planting work of BMS partner Big Life. The BMS Resource Centre in Kolkata is a focal point for mission training in the city. Ask God to use it in the equipping of Christian leaders. Pray for the Church in the face of persecution in India. Pray for strength and encouragement for BMS workers and partners. Remember the leaders of our partner the Bengal Baptist Union as they seek to strengthen the Church and reach out in mission. Pray for Paul and Ruth, who serve with us in Delhi, as they invest in Christian schools and the work of the Church

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)

more broadly. Pray for BMS partners Anusaran and Good News Children's Education Mission, making the love of Christ known to people on the margins of society. (slightly altered from BMS Prayer Guide)

Please pray for the Central Baptist Association as they seek to journey together in ministry and mission. The Association is made up of 156 churches in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Hertfordshire.

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

Risen Christ,
who went before your disciples
into Galilee of the Gentiles,
Galilee of the wide world,
and who calls us to follow you,
like Abraham,
into the unknown
with the promise of a new future,
kindle
we pray
within our fragile hearts
your precious gift of hope,
and the courage to believe and work for
that day when,
despite all things
which again and again betray hope,
all will be well,
and all manner of things shall be well;
for you are our God
whose purpose of love
cannot fail. Amen
*(from "With you is the well of life" by Patrick Woodhouse
published by Kevin Mayben)*
God our healer,
who walked upon the chaotic waters
and said to the storm: "Be still",
you know the frailty of our hearts,
how easily anxiety can overwhelm us.
It lurks in the shadows of the mind,
spreads its coils around us,
throttles life within us,
and shuts the door of our generous hearts.
God our Saviour,
set us free
we pray
from the curse and burden of anxiety;
and by the miracle of your grace
show us how

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

perfect love casts out fear.
For your love's sake. Amen
*(from "With you is the well of life" by Patrick Woodhouse
published by Kevin Mayhew)*

And Finally

'If you confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from death, you will be saved. For it is by our faith that we are put right with God.' *Romans 10:9*