



Bunyan Meeting

Mill Street

Bedford

Sunday 11th May 2025

The Third Sunday after Easter



Welcome to worship at Bunyan Meeting

Bunyan Meeting is an Independent Church founded in 1650 and is affiliated to The Congregational Federation and The Baptist Union.

Following the services tea and coffee will be served in the church foyer.

Children are welcome to use the activities provided in the children's corner and church foyer during morning worship.

If this is your first visit to Bunyan Meeting, please introduce yourself to one of our stewards.

Our services today

- 9.30am Christ, Coffee & Croissants
- 11.00am Morning worship
conducted by our Minister
- 6.30pm Evening worship
conducted by our Minister

Our services next Sunday

- 11.00am Morning worship
conducted by our Minister
- 6.30pm Evening worship with Communion
conducted by our Minister

Our services are livestreamed. If you do not wish to appear on the livestream you can evade the reach of the camera by sitting at the sides or in the back two rows of the central seating of the ground floor of the church or in the central back gallery.

You can also join us live at our services on our **YouTube Channel**.
Just go to:



<https://www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk/live>

Please keep silence before our service when the Bible is brought into church and use this time for reflection and private prayer

Our church flowers today



are given by Pearl and Michael Thomas

The offering for Sunday 4th May was £1227.18
(£477.18 was given in Church and an average of £750 in direct giving).

We pray for members and friends of the church, remembering especially:

Samantha Nightingale

Jo-Ann Gaunt

Audrey Mehew

June Barton

Jean Goldsmith

The family and friends of Dorothy Nicholas

For your prayers

The special prayer for the Third Sunday after Easter

Almighty God, who shewest to them that be in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness: Grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Baptist Union

This week is Christian Aid Week. We pray for all those who work to alleviate poverty, injustice and the effects of war and disaster around the world. www.christianaid.org.uk
www.bmsworldmission.org.uk www.baptistworld.org/bfad

Congregational Federation

Bethel, Isle of Sheppey

We ask you to pray for Minster Bethel Church and its congregation - we are a small church with a lesser congregation than we had in past years, but we move forward in faith. Due to the difficulty in getting visiting preachers the deacons often take the services, but they are always well received. Also, prayers for our Girls and Boys Brigade and for the amazing work the captain and leaders do with the young people; prayers for the many outside organisations that use our premises; and lastly prayers for the people of Sheppey - this lovely island that we live on.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am
Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

Opening Voluntaries

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 65

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

Introduction to Theme

Hymn

I The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

Chorus

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

Chorus

3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

Chorus

*Stuart Townend Copyright © 1996 Thankyou Music (Adm. by
CapitolCMGPublishing.com excl. UK & Europe, adm. by Integrity Music, part of the
David C Cook family, songs@integritymusic.com*

First Reading

Psalm 23 (page 555)

Read by Sue Hammond

Second Reading

John 10 v 22 – 42 (page 1077)

Read by Julie Barker

Hymn No. 597

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Sermon

Hymn No. 555

In heavenly love abiding

Prayers of Intercession

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 382

I will sing the wondrous story

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm
Hymns from Rejoice and Sing

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Hymn

- 1 Jesus - the Name high over all,
In hell, or earth, or sky.
Angels and men before it fall,
And devils fear and fly.
- 2 Jesus !- the Name to sinners dear,
The name to sinners given.
It scatters all their guilty fear,
It turns their hell to heaven.
- 3 Jesus! - the prisoner's fetters breaks,
And bruises Satan's head;
Power into strengthless souls it speaks,
And life into the dead.
- 4 O that the world might taste and see
The riches of His grace!
The arms of love that compass me
Would all mankind embrace.

5 His only righteousness I show,
His saving grace proclaim;
'Tis all my business here below
To cry: 'Behold the Lamb!'

6 Happy if with my latest breath
I might but gasp His name;
Preach him to all, and cry in death:
'Behold, behold the Lamb!'

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

First Reading

Psalm 32 v 1 – 11 (page 560)

Hymn No. 277

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

Second Reading

I John 1 v 5 – ch 2 v 17 (page 1225)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 364

Just as I am, without one plea

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn

1 I've found a friend; O such a friend!
He loved me ere I knew him;
he drew me with the cords of love,
and thus he bound me to him:
and round my heart still closely twine
those ties which naught can sever,
for I am his, and he is mine
for ever and for ever.

2 I've found a friend; O such a friend!
He bled, he died to save me;
and not alone the gift of life
but his own self he gave me:

naught that I have my own I call,
I hold it for the giver;
my heart, my strength, my life, my all,
are his, and his for ever.

3 I've found a friend; O such a friend!
so kind, and true, and tender!
so wise a counsellor and guide,
so mighty a defender!
From him who loves me now so well
what power my soul can sever?
Shall life, or death or earth or hell?
No! I am his for ever.

James Grindlay Small (1817-1888)

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

Bunyan Meeting News Letter



It's Your Move 2025

Every year we run transition activities for around 700 Year 6 pupils about to move to secondary school.

For these, we use the It's Your Move book from Scripture Union. They are invaluable for helping pupils through that potentially difficult time of change and also sharing how God can support them. Even though we get a Mission Partner discount, the 700 books we need do cost a lot so could help us to fund them by making a donation?

With our 50% SU Mission Partner discount it costs £13.80 per pack of 10, so even if you can only donate that amount it would be a big help.

You can donate via the QR code or the link below.

Thank you.

www.impactbedford.org.uk/donate



It's never too late to donate!

Donations still being received either to me or direct to Impact.

Thank you

Cherry Protheroe

Pride of Bedford Award



What a lovely evening at the Everyday Hero Awards Ceremony last night, mixing with some truly inspirational people. Can't quite believe that I won the Pride of



Bedford award for my contribution to the arts and inclusivity. What an honour being awarded for something that gives me so much pleasure.



You perhaps cannot believe this Anne-Marie, but we certainly can. Bunyan Meeting is very proud of you and your achievements. The work you do at Bunyan is just one small, but to us, very important part of your work where inclusivity is paramount.

Thank you, Anne-Marie, for sharing not just your skills and talents but also your concern for each individual and the pastoral care you give. CONGRATULATIONS - a richly deserved award.

Christian Aid Week 11 – 17 May 2025



Seven days, so many ways. How will you make lasting change this Christian Aid Week?
Push back against the inhumanity of poverty.

Please make a difference today by donating via Bunyan Meeting's e-envelope:

<https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2025/bunyan-meeting>

or using this QR code



Your donation is anonymous but we will be able to see how much Bunyan Meeting has raised, including Gift Aid.

If you are unable to give online please call 020 7523 2269 to donate over the telephone or by using the paper envelopes available in the church

foyer.

Watch the Christian Aid Week 2025 film here:

<https://youtu.be/0JS7n0RLp8>

Thank you
Ian and Ann

The BMS Birthday Scheme

If you wish to support the important work of BMS World Mission, please contact Sue Hammond for details of their Birthday Scheme. It's a great way to celebrate a birthday as well as helping a great cause.



'Happy Birthday'

Margaret Marshall 23 May 2025

Susan Hammond

Thank You

I was working hard to get over my sudden acute attack of arthritis when unfortunately, I had a fall! I was feeling so low about this but – a visit from my son from Spain, some lovely flowers from church, delivered by Margaret and Cath plus a visit from Chris, raised my spirits.

So, with the help of a 4 wheeled walker and a lot of determination, I will try to get back to some sort of normality.

'Thank You' all for your kind regards.

Jean Goldsmith

I had admired the flowers in church on Sunday. Little did I know they would be delivered to me by Alison on Monday morning. Thank you very much for them – they are beautiful.

Thank you also all who bought my Easter chicks and Peter Rabbits. A cheque for £231.00 was given to Brian Cornish to go towards a new boiler for church.

Mary Bell

Obituary

We are sad to learn of the death of Dorothy Nicholas who died on Sunday 4th May. We send our Christian love and sympathy to her daughters, Susan and Jane and to all members of Dorothy's family.

Free Bible Notes

We have two sets of Bible Notes available in the church foyer.

UCB May to July 2025

Daily Bread April to June 2025

Please take as many copies as you can use to give to friends and neighbours – all free.

This week at Bunyan Meeting

MONDAY 12th May

Come & Sing 1.30pm, Church

WEDNESDAY 14th May

Wednesday Workshops 10.00am-12noon & 1.00pm-3.00pm

Deacons' Meeting 10.00am

Prayer Meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime service 1.30pm, Church led by Ian Rowlands

Flower Arranging Group 7.30pm, Hall

THURSDAY 15th May

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

SATURDAY 17th May

Bible Study 10.00am, Deacons' Vestry

COFFEE SHOP

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday

10.00am – 1.00pm (2.00pm on Wednesdays)

JOHN BUNYAN MUSEUM

Museum's opening times:

Tuesday to Saturday 11am to 4pm (last entry 3.45pm).

www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk/planning-your-visit

BASEMENT AT BUNYAN

The Basement Gallery

The next exhibition: *Paintings by Giacomo and Photography by Cameron*

Tuesday 19th May – Saturday 24th May 2025

Opening times: as Museum

Contact Information

Bunyan Meeting, Mill Street, Bedford MK40 3EU

Minister:

Rev'd Christopher J Damp MA BD

Day off: Monday

Tel: 01234 353465 (Office)
01234 353730 (Manse)

email: minister@bunyanmeeting.co.uk

Acting Church Treasurers:

Brian Cornish, Andrew Duthie

Acting Organist

Jocelyn Harper LLCM, ARCM

Church Secretary:

Sue Gauley **Tel:** 01234 306772

email: gauleysusan@gmail.com

Museum Director:

Nicola Sherhod **Tel:** 01234 270303

email: curator@bunyanmeeting.co.uk

**Basement @ Bunyan
Coordinator:**

Anne-Marie Abbate **Tel:** 07775 973501

email: amabbate@yahoo.com

Caretaking Team:

Jo Stapleton

Alfie Stijelja

Mick Dashwood (Saturdays)

Caretakers' mobile:

07704 779513

**Administrator:
Church Office**

Sue Stewart **Tel:** 01234 213722

email: bunyanmeeting@gmail.com

Website:

www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk

News Letter Editor:

Jocelyn Harper **Tel:** 01234 406969

email: jos.harpy@ntlworld.com

[Any views expressed in articles in the News Letter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent church policy or the views of the Minister, Officers of the church or the News Letter Editor]

News Letter deadline

Please send items to the Editor, Jocelyn Harper,

email: jos.harpy@ntlworld.com Tel: 406969 by 6pm on Tuesday for inclusion in the Sunday newsletter. Thank you

Bunyan Meeting Charity No: 248195