



Bunyan Meeting

Mill Street

Bedford

Sunday 2nd March 2025

The Sunday before Lent



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

11.00am Morning worship with Communion
conducted by our Minister

6.30pm Evening worship
conducted by our Minister

Our services next Sunday

9.30am Christ, Coffee & Croissants, All Age worship

11.00am Morning worship
conducted by our Minister

6.30pm Evening worship
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 Fiona and David Thurburn-Huelin
in memory of parents Paddy & Helena and Peter

The offering for Sunday 23rd February was £1367.31
(£617.31 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

The family and friends of Queenie Murdie

Sue Hammond

Audrey Mehew

For your prayers

The special prayer for the Sunday next before Lent

Holy God,

you know the disorder of our sinful lives:

set straight our crooked hearts,

and bend our wills to love your goodness

and your glory

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Baptist Union

The World Day of Prayer takes place on Friday 7 March.

This year the theme is “I Made You Wonderful’ from Psalm 139:14 and the material invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God. Please do join this global wave of prayer for our world.

www.wwdp.org.uk

Congregational Federation

Latimer, Stepney

Please pray for the future of the accommodation, which the trustees are trying to open again in some form in the future.

Also, do pray for our lovely church gatherings and worship on Thursdays which bless the local community, and our outreach and activities day on Tuesdays as that is still growing.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am
Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

Opening Voluntaries

Welcome and Notices

Introit

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

His the sceptre, his the throne.

Alleluia! His the triumph,

His the victory alone.

Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion

Thunder like a mighty flood.

Jesus out of every nation

Hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! not as orphans

Are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! He is near us,

Faith believes, nor questions how;

Though the cloud from sight received Him

When the forty days were o'er
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia! bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food and stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
Flee to Thee from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me.
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool,
Heaven thy throne.
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest.
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
In the Eucharistic Feast.

William Chatterton Dix (1837 – 1898)

Introduction to Theme

First Reading

Exodus 34 v 29 – 35 (page 94)

& 2 Corinthians 3 v 7 – 18 (page 1159)

Read by Lesley Jones

Hymn No. 201

It's good, Lord, to be here!

Second Reading

Luke 9 v 28 – 43a (page 1040)

Read by The Rev'd Chris Damp

Anthem

Sermon

Hymn No. 195

Christ upon the mountain peak

Prayers of Intercession

led by Rhion Jones

Offering, Voluntary and Dedication

As the offering is brought forward, we stand and sing the Doxology no. 113.

Hymn No. 446

Now Jesus we obey

Communion

All who love the Lord are welcome to share in the bread and the wine

Hymn No. 34

Christ is the world's light

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm
Hymns from Rejoice and Sing

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Hymn No. 697

O God, thou are my God alone

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

First Reading

Psalm 63 v 1 – 11 (page 579)

Hymn No. 389

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts

Second Reading

John 4 v 1 – 14 (page 1066)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 333

My spirit longs for you

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 349

I heard the voice of Jesus say

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

Bunyan Meeting News Letter

Bunyan Meeting and Scripture Union

Our Minister and Deacons have been in contact with the local Scripture Union Mission Enabler for several months. It is our hope and prayer that we can work together to encourage and support children, young people and families to attend our services and learn of the love of God for each one of us.

Pray for the many millions of children who don't go to church, and don't yet know Jesus. Pray that churches will be inspired, equipped and empowered to step out and reveal Jesus to them effectively, relationally and impactfully, right where they are.

Thank You

What beautiful flowers were delivered to me from Bunyan Meeting on Monday. They are beautiful. I was thrilled. Thankyou so very much. Every blessing.

Eunice xx

Thank you to everyone concerned for the beautiful flowers I received. I have been feeling unwell for such a long time now; this is just the tonic I need. I made two fabulous arrangements and just looking at the lovely colours has cheered me up no end.

My church friends are so special, thank you all.

Kind regards

Dixie

Friendship Group

Our next meeting is in the church on Wednesday 5th March at 2.00pm when we look forward to hearing from Ian Rowlands. He will be speaking about the Bedford Music Club.

All are welcome to attend.

Pancake Evening Tuesday 4 March 6.45pm for 7.00pm

£6 per person.

You are all invited to come along to join in the fun with pancakes, (savoury and sweet).

We will finish the evening with a Beetle Drive – you could even win a prize! We look forward to seeing you.

Sue Gauley

Memorial Service Monica Hill

The Memorial Service for the late Monica Hill will be held at Bunyan Meeting on Friday 7th March at 1.30pm.

Refreshments will be served in the church hall at the close of the service.

World Day of Prayer 2.00pm Friday 7 March 2025

Informed Prayer, Prayerful Action, Ecumenical, International, Women-led

The local service for this year's World Day of Prayer will be held at St Mary's Church, Goldington, Church Lane, Bedford.

The theme is 'I Made you Wonderful.' Christian women from the Cook Islands have spent the last few years deepening into the theme: 'I Made You Wonderful' based on Psalm 139:1-18. The 2025 programme invites us into the knowledge that each one of us was made with care and love by God.



In the coming six weeks, as the church marks the season of Lent, Bedford Food Bank will provide emergency food parcels for local individuals and

families facing hardship. The soaring cost of living is driving record numbers of people on the lowest incomes to their food bank – and the amount of help needed is outstripping the donations we are receiving. It's not right that each year we're seeing more people than ever needing emergency food.

The top five items they need at present are:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| UHT Milk | Long Life Juice |
| Cup-a-Soup | Chocolate (Easter Eggs – a very welcome |
| Tinned Meat | treat for families facing hardship) |

Bedford Foodbank Office 01234 268569

8/9 Murdock Road Manton, Industrial Estate, Bedford MK41 7PE

Wise Words from Ken

Being loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone gives you courage.

Before borrowing money from a friend, decide which you need most!

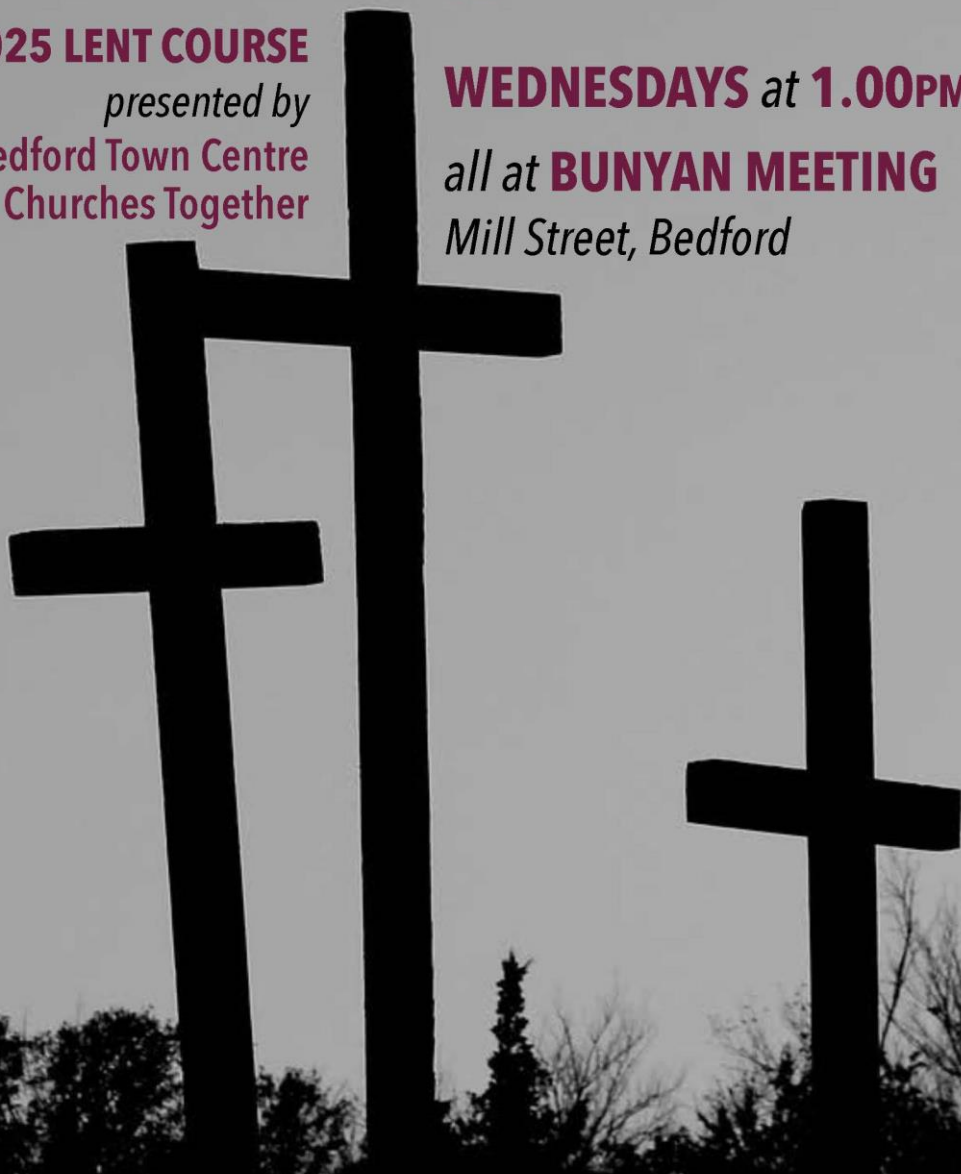
Reflections on the Cross

2025 LENT COURSE

presented by
**Bedford Town Centre
Churches Together**

WEDNESDAYS at 1.00PM

all at **BUNYAN MEETING**
Mill Street, Bedford



<i>Date</i>	12 March	19 March	26 March	2 April	9 April
<i>Led by</i>	St Andrew's Church	St Joseph's Church	Bunyan Meeting	Polish Church	Salvation Army

This week at Bunyan Meeting

MONDAY 3rd March

Come & Sing 1.30pm, Stevington Room

TUESDAY 4th March

Study Circle 1.00pm, Foyer

Pancake evening 6.45pm for 7.00pm, Hall

WEDNESDAY 5th March

Wednesday Workshops 10.00am -12noon & 1.00pm -3.00pm , Harrowden room

Prayer meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime Service 1.30pm led by Rev'd Chris Damp

Friendship Group 2.00pm, Church

THURSDAY 6th March

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

COFFEE SHOP

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday
10.00am – 1.00pm (2.00pm on Wednesdays)

JOHN BUNYAN MUSEUM

The Museum is now open (from Tuesday 18th February)

Normal 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

Next exhibition is on the 10th March.

Contact Information

Bunyan Meeting, Mill Street, Bedford MK40 3EU

Minister:	Rev'd Christopher J Damp MA BD
<i>Day off: Monday</i>	
Tel: 01234 353465 (Office) 01234 353730 (Manse)	email: minister@bunyanmeeting.co.uk
Acting Church Treasurers:	Brian Cornish, Andrew Duthie
Organist & Choirmaster:	
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)
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[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