



# Bunyan Meeting

## Mill Street

## Bedford

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
The Second Sunday of Christmas



# 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**

11.00am Morning worship  
conducted by Mr Thomas Dodd

6.30pm Evening worship  
conducted by Mr Michael Searle

*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 for Epiphany

**The offering** on Christmas Day was £460.27 of which £365.27 cash is to be given to support the charitable work of the Congregational Fund Board.

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December it was £1580.50 (£830.50 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

The family and friends of Dorothy Yerrill

The family and friends of Monica Hill

Jo-Ann Gaunt

Ruth Blake

The family and friends of Brian Caves

Mike Lazenby (Cherry's older brother)

Sue Hammond

Stephen Sleight's father, Brian

# For your prayers

## **The special prayer for the Second Sunday of Christmas**

Almighty God,

in the birth of your Son

you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word,

and shown us the fullness of your love:

help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love

that we may know the fullness of his joy;

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

## **The Baptist Union**

At the beginning of this new year, we pray for our Baptists Together family and all that this year will hold for us. Pray that we will be attentive to God's presence with us, seeing God's heart for the people and challenges around us and responding to his Spirit as we seek to love our neighbours.

## **Congregational Federation**

Newport, Isle of Wight

We have seen a lot of people make a commitment to Christ over recent times on the Isle of Wight. Pray that we may see continued fruit as we prepare various discipleship courses. Finally, please pray for Graham Akers after a recent time in hospital.

We pray for **Rev'd Dr Ian Densham** as he spends time preaching in India and opening a new Church.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am

Hymns from the Christmas and Epiphany Book

Opening Voluntaries

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 37

*Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*

Introduction to Theme

First Reading

Isaiah 60 v 1 – 6 (page 746)

Read by Jean Goldsmith

Hymn No. 33

*We three kings of Orient are*

Second Reading

Matthew 2 v 1 – 12 (page 966)

Read by The Rev'd Chris Damp

Anthem

Sermon

Hymn No. 44

*Have faith in God, my heart*

Prayers of Intercession

led by The Rev'd Dr Janet Wootton

Offering, Voluntary and Dedication

*As the offering is brought forward, we stand and sing the Doxology*

Hymn No. 36

*'Glory to God!' all heav'n is ringing*

Communion

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

Hymn No. 45

*Lord for the years your love has kept and guided*

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm  
Hymns from Rejoice and Sing

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Hymn No. 63

*Great God, we sing that mighty hand*

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

First Reading

Psalm 102 v 1 – 28 (page 604)

Hymn No. 589

*How firm a foundation*

Second Reading

I Corinthians 3 v 1 – 21 (page 1145)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 685

*Through all the changing scenes of life*

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 365

*Rock of ages, cleft for me*

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

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There is no **Newsletter** this week. We thank Jocelyn for all her hard work during the last year in producing and editing the News Letter week by week.

For those in the **Envelope Giving scheme** the new offering envelopes for 2025 are available now in the Foyer.

A proof copy of the **Church Directory** is also available. Please check your entry and amend if necessary. If your name is not in and you wish it to be, please add your details.

## **This week at Bunyan Meeting**

**MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> January**

Church Office opens

**TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> January**

Coffee Shop opens

**WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> January**

Deacons' Meeting 10.00am

Prayer Meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime Service 1.30pm led by Rev'd Chris Damp

Joint meeting of Friendship and Flower Arranging Group 2.00pm,  
Church

Mission & Outreach Meeting 3.00pm

**THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> January**

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

### **COFFEE SHOP**

Opens Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025

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

### **JOHN BUNYAN MUSEUM**

The Museum is now CLOSED and will reopen Saturdays only from 11th January until Tuesday 18th February 2025, when it will open full time again.

**Normal Museum's opening times:**

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

[www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk/planning-your-visit](http://www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk/planning-your-visit)

### **BASEMENT AT BUNYAN**

The Basement Gallery is now CLOSED for the winter.

# Contact Information

Bunyan Meeting, Mill Street, Bedford MK40 3EU

<b>Minister:</b>	<b>Rev'd Christopher J Damp MA BD</b>
<i>Day off: Monday</i>	
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<b>Acting Church Treasurers:</b>	Brian Cornish, Andrew Duthie
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster:</b>	
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	Sue Gauley <b>Tel:</b> 01234 306772 <b>email:</b> gauleysusan@gmail.com
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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](mailto:jos.harpy@ntlworld.com) Tel: 406969 by 6pm on Tuesday for inclusion in the Sunday newsletter. Thank you

Bunyan Meeting Charity No: 248195