



Bunyan Meeting

Mill Street

Bedford

Sunday 26th January 2025
The Third Sunday of the Epiphany



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

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

Our services next Sunday

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| 11.00am | Morning worship with Communion
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 Anne Holloway
in memory of her parents John and Violet Russell

The offering for Sunday 19th January was £1314.22
(£564.22 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

Queenie Murdie

The family and friends of Brian Caves

Sue Hammond

Stephen Sleight's father, Brian

For your prayers

The special prayer for the Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Baptist Union

Holocaust Memorial Day is on 27 January. We remember the millions of ordinary victims of genocides who were persecuted and killed for who they were, and pray that in so doing, we learn the lessons of the past and stand up to hatred, bigotry and racism wherever we find it today.

www.hmd.org.uk

Congregational Federation

Springwater, Peppard

We meet on Sunday mornings to sing, pray, discuss, listen, contemplate, sometimes eat together, and be physically and spiritually restored—many who come sense the Spirit of God and are encouraged and empowered.

Springwater is also engaged with the local community through a food bank we manage, which is also supported by a network of local churches, individuals, businesses, and schools. The food bank runs a life skills programme with *Christians Against Poverty* on a Thursday afternoon. On Monday mornings, *Compassionate Loaf* facilitates a free artisan bakery workshop, and they are hoping to undertake a mission trip to Romania in October. On Wednesday mornings, the *Ark* creates safe spaces for mums, guardians, and toddlers. Our *Revive café* provides a safe space and fabulous bakes. The café also partners with a local group called *EcoSoco* to bless the local area with a repair café that opens once a month on Saturday morning.

Pray also for our weekend gatherings where we see people meet Jesus, deepen their discipleship, and experience God in physical, spiritual and supernatural ways.

The leadership team would appreciate your prayers for strength and wisdom.

Especially, please pray for young leadership to come forward as Kevin and Linsey will step down from the role at the end of March. They seek those with a heart for partnership between the church and the community.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am
Hymns from Rejoice and Sing

Opening Voluntaries

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 293

Ye servants of God

Introduction to Theme

Hymn No. 319

Thanks to God whose Word was spoken

First Reading

Psalm 19 v 1 – 14 (page 552)

Read by Sue Gauley

Anthem

Second Reading

Luke 4 v 14 – 30 (page 1031)

Read by Julie Barker

Hymn No. 314

Break thou the bread of life

Sermon

Hymn No. 277

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

Prayers of Intercession

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 60

God who spoke in the beginning

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 No. 50

Praise ye the Lord, 'tis good to raise

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

First Reading

Psalm 20 v 1 – 9 (page 553)

Hymn No. 492

Dear Lord and Father of mankind

Second Reading

Matthew 7 v 24 – 29 and ch 8 v 23 – 27
(page 972)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 499

Have faith in God, my heart

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 370

Soldiers of Christ! Arise

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

Bunyan Meeting News Letter

A brief Obituary for Brian Caves

We were so sorry to learn of Brian Cave's death in the early morning of December 31st. Brian had been Organist and Choir Master at Bunyan Meeting for over 50 years, with a short break in 2004 to 2005. He became the Organist at Bunyan during the ministry of Glyn Evans and was involved in the siting of the organ console and choir stalls when the church was reordered in 1974. He later oversaw the restoration and extension of the organ. He had presided over a choir which at one time was able to tackle a considerable range of music, as well as leading the congregation in singing. Indeed, he had achieved his stated aim at the beginning of his tenure, to 'get the congregation singing'. He developed the annual Nine Lessons and Carols service which has become a much appreciated celebration of Christmas. The musical life of the church owes a very great deal to Brian's commitment and encyclopedic knowledge of hymnody. In addition, he was the longest serving Deacon and Trustee at the time of his death. He had also served on the Ministry and Basement Committees from their inception and has been a tireless worker for the church. Brian was an exceptional organist, a judicious and firm friend to many, a wise counsellor, gentle, loving and yet fearless. Brian's faith in his Saviour was deep and sure, his life was one of consistency and his end was peace. Well done thou good and faithful servant. We hold Heather, Rachael, Julian and all of Brian's family in our hearts and prayers.

Brian's funeral is on Monday 27th January at 12.30pm in church followed by refreshments in the hall afterwards.

There is a donation page set up in Brian's memory. Here is the link: <https://www.memorygiving.com/briancaves>

Mary Binder

Mary's funeral is on Wednesday 12th February at St Joseph's Church, Midland Road at 2.00pm. Mary volunteered in our coffee shop.

Friendship Group Wednesday 5th February 2025

Roger Skipper will be the speaker at our next meeting.

Many of you will remember Roger and Anna when you visited their garden at Wootton Green; they now have a smaller garden and they have both have put their stamp on it.

Please come and join us for this first meeting of the New Year.

You will receive a warm welcome.

Sue Gauley

Wise Words from Ken

The farther I journey towards the west the more I realise why the wise men came from the east.

A lecturer is a man who talks in other people's sleep.

Bible Reading Notes

A reminder that the Bible notes in the church foyer are all free. You are invited to take copies for your own use and to give to friends who might appreciate them.

UCB These are for the three months February to April 2025.

Our Daily Bread are for the three months January to March 2025.

This week at Bunyan Meeting

MONDAY 27th January

Funeral of Brian Caves 12.30pm

Come & Sing 1.30pm – 3.00pm, Basement Gallery

TUESDAY 28th January

Study Circle 1.00pm, Foyer

WEDNESDAY 29th January

Prayer meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime Service 1.30pm led by Ruth Broomhall

THURSDAY 31st January

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

SATURDAY 1st February

Museum new season briefing 10.30am – 12.30pm, Hall

COFFEE SHOP

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday

10.00am – 1.00pm (2.00pm on Wednesdays)

JOHN BUNYAN MUSEUM

The Museum is open 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-visitk

BASEMENT AT BUNYAN

The Basement Gallery is now CLOSED for the winter

Contact Information

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Rev'd Christopher J Damp MA BD

Day off: Monday

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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