



# Bunyan Meeting

## Mill Street

## Bedford

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity  
**HARVEST FESTIVAL**



# 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 – Harvest Festival**

11.00am Morning worship  
conducted by our Minister

6.30pm Evening worship  
conducted by our Minister

## **Our services next Sunday**

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 for Harvest

**The offering** for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September was £1778.81 (£1028.81 was given in Church and an average of £750 in direct giving).

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

Liz Densham

Samantha Nightingale

Jo-Ann Gaunt

Ruth Blake

Julie Barker

Gwen Gribble

Brian and Heather Caves

Andy McGall (Jean's nephew)

Pearl Thomas

# For your prayers

## **The special prayer for Harvest Thanksgiving**

Eternal God,

you crown the year with your goodness

and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:

grant that we may use them to your glory,

for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

## **The Baptist Union**

Please pray for the North Western Baptist Association. The Association's focus for 2024 is 'Open our Eyes' – pray that God will open our eyes to see what we should see and recognise where God is leading us. [www.nwba.org.uk](http://www.nwba.org.uk)

## **Congregational Federation**

Caterham

Please pray for the continuing worship and witness of the church.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am  
Hymns from the Harvest Hymn Book

Call to Worship: Genesis 1:1-5

Hymn No. 12

*Come, ye thankful people, come*

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Introduction to theme

Hymn

I Glory to God above!

Heavens declare his love;

praise him, you angels,

praise him all you high and heavenly host.

Worship him, sun and moon;

stars, complement their tune;

grounded in God's good purpose

let his grace become your boast.

*O sing hallelujah*

*and praise God for evermore!*

2 Glory to God below  
let depth of ocean show;  
lightning and hail, snow  
wind and cloud perform at his command!  
Let every mountain range,  
forest and grove and grange,  
creatures of earth and air and sea  
praise God in every land.

*Chorus*

3 'Glory to God!' now sing  
commoner, queen and king;  
women and men of every age  
unite to praise the Lord.  
Worship God's holy name  
and let your lives proclaim  
God's saving power extends to those  
who love and serve his word.

*O sing hallelujah  
and praise God for evermore!*

John Bell (born 1949) based on Psalm 148

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## Reading

Genesis 1:6-23 – Lydia Saul, Jenny Gunton,  
Sheila Mousley (page 3)

## Hymn No. 7

*All things bright and beautiful*

*(harvest gifts brought to the front during hymn)*

## Responsive Reading

Psalm 82 – Alison and Geoff Shaw (page 594)

## Prayers of Intercession

Led by Alison and Geoff Shaw

## Reading

Genesis 1:24-31 (page 24)

Read by Lydia Saul and Jenny Gunton

## Hymn No. 19

*Let all our brethren*

## Reading

Colossians 1:15-23 (page 1182)

Read by Sheila Mousley

Sermon

Quiet reflection – Janet Wootton

Offering

Hymn No. 5

*We plough the fields, and scatter*

The Blessing

CCLI Licence No. 3740



EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm  
Hymns from the Harvest Hymn Book

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Hymn No. 1

*For the beauty of the earth*

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

First Reading

Psalm 65 (page 580)

Hymn No. 8

*Praise, O praise the Lord of harvest*

Second Reading

I Chronicles 21 v 1 - ch 22 v 1 (page 424)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 13

*Fair waved the golden corn*

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 5

*We plough the fields, and scatter*

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

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# Bunyan Meeting News Letter

## Psalm 1

We thought last Sunday morning on Psalm 1:

“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.” Here are some further thoughts on delighting in the law of the Lord, on meditating upon the word of God.

"Search the Scriptures, for they are they which testify of Me." Search them to discover Christ, to know Christ, to admire, love and obey Christ - for, oh, the happiness of your endless destiny hangs upon your heart-knowledge of this divine, gracious, and precious Saviour. Know Him personally, know Him in truth, know Him as your Redeemer, know Him as pardoning your sins, clothing you with His righteousness, as dwelling in you by the Spirit, and as winning your heart to a grateful, loving surrender: and you need not shrink from the solemnities of death, nor from the dread disclosures of eternity. You are saved, **SAVED** for ever! "It is, then, by His revealed Word that God teaches us. Men err in the present day, not knowing the Scriptures. The errors of many are so essential, the religion of so many is so sickly, the experiences of many is so shallow, the instability of many is so fatal, and the hope of many so spurious, from having swerved from the Bible, substituting the teaching of man for the teaching of God. If we lose our hold on God's Word, we part with our chart, we throw overboard our compass, we slip our anchor, and shall surely make shipwreck of our souls.

But this must not be. We must try the spirits, prove all things, and test our own religious belief, condition, and progress by the Word of God. To the law, and to the testimony of God's revealed truth, let every doctrine and practice be brought. Never was this exhortation more needed than now!"

Words of Octavius Winslow, quoted in the obituary in *The Christian Herald*, 20 March 1878.

*Chris Damp*

## THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers 🌸, and to Margaret Marshall for delivering, and Veronica and Chris for giving them. It's such a Blessing to be part of a caring church family, with a Minister who's aware of his flock's needs and situations. We were thinking at Bible Study on Tuesday, about people who have no belief in anything, nothing to cling to or turn to at times of trouble and distress. Let's pray for them that they may be led to meet with Jesus, and have real purpose in their lives. I have found how precious Faith and Belief is since being on my own, because I'm never completely alone, with Jesus walking with me.

***When we walk with The Lord  
In the light of His word  
What a Glory He sheds on our way.***

Thank you again, Christian love to everyone.

*Julie Barker*

## Congratulations and Thank You

We congratulate June and Barry as they celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary earlier this month.

To all my friends at Bunyan Church, thank you for my lovely flowers.

*June Barton*

## Friendship Group

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 2 October at 2pm. We are looking forward to hearing from our speaker, Michael Thomas. His talk is entitled, 'Cows, horses and monkeys in East London'. This sounds intriguing, come along to learn more. You will receive a warm welcome.

## Bedford Messiah Choir

They are holding a Bring and Sing of selected Messiah Choruses on **Sunday 6th October 2024** from 2:30pm to 4:30pm here at Bunyan Meeting. (doors open at 2.00pm)

The Bring & Sing is open to anyone who would like to come along and gives you a chance to try out the choir before committing to the four rehearsals for the main concert on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

The cost is a £5.00, (cash or cheque on the day).

## WINTER FUEL PAYMENT

- Are you someone who will no longer get the winter fuel allowance but are worried about costs of heating your home this winter?
- Are you unsure as to whether you might qualify for other government benefits or feel unable to cope with an application?

### **This is what the government is saying:**

If you were born before 23rd September 1958, you could get either £200 or £300 to help you pay your heating bills for winter 2024 to 2025. This is known as a 'Winter Fuel Payment'. You may be eligible if you or your partners get certain benefits. If you are eligible, you'll normally get the Winter Fuel Payment automatically. If you're eligible, you'll get a letter in October or November saying how much you will get.

You do not need to claim if you get any of the following:

- Pension Credit
  - Universal Credit
  - Income Support
  - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
  - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
  - Child Tax Credit
  - Working Tax Credit
- Thousands of pensioners apparently are eligible for benefits but have not applied. It could be you!
  - You may be able to claim additional support from the government.

**Pension Credit** gives you extra money to help with your living costs if you're over State Pension age and on a low income. Pension Credit can also help with housing costs such as ground rent or service charges.

### **Universal Credit is**

- a payment to help with your living costs. It's paid monthly. you may be able to get it if you're on a low income, out of work or you cannot work.
  - If you find all of this daunting, please speak to a deacon. We will be only too willing to try to help you with applications or direct you to an organisation that will do it for you.
  - AGE UK: 78 – 82 Bromham Road, Bedford. Open Mon – Fri 9.30am – 4.00pm. Advice line: 0800 678 1602
  - Citizens Advice: 8 Harpur Centre, Bedford. Open Mon – Thurs 9.45 – 1.00pm Tel: 01234 867944
- We are here to help.

*Cherry Protheroe*

### **Wise Words from Ken**

A man who opens the car door for his wife has either got a new car or a new wife.

Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.



Bedford  
MS Therapy Centre

# POP-UP Art

EXHIBITION & SALE 2024



A weekend of art featuring original works for sale by  
local and national artists at the MS Therapy Centre

Saturday 5 October – Sunday 6 October 10am – 5pm  
at MS Therapy Centre, 155 Barkers Lane, Bedford, MK41 9RX

[www.mscentrebedsandnorthants.com/art](http://www.mscentrebedsandnorthants.com/art)



# POP-UP Art

EXHIBITION & SALE 2024



## Welcome to our charity Pop-Up Art Exhibition & Sale

For one weekend our building will be filled with works of arts by local and national artists.

We have pledged works from artists using a wide range of media and styles, so there is something to suit all tastes.

With all artwork available for you to purchase, this promises to be the perfect event for art lovers of all ages, with artist demonstrations and art activities for children.

We will have stalls selling pottery, jewellery, sculptures and cards.

There will also be home-baked cakes and refreshments available to buy with all proceeds going to our charity.

**FIND OUT  
MORE**



**DONATE**



## Bedfordshire & Northamptonshire MS Therapy Centre



Providing professional specialist therapies and support for people living with MS, similar rare neurological conditions and Parkinson's. This is a friendly, self-help environment where carers, friends and families are also supported.



We provide neurophysiotherapy, hydrotherapy, oxygen therapy, a specialised gym and a range of complementary therapies and group exercise classes, along with social interaction.

We can only deliver these services through donations and fundraising activities such as this art exhibition and sale.

To find out more visit [www.mscentrebedsandnorthants.com](http://www.mscentrebedsandnorthants.com)



# This week at Bunyan Meeting

## MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup> September

Bag up Harvest produce from 10.00am

Come & Sing 1.30pm, Church

Harvest supper 7.00pm, Hall

## TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> October

Lecture about the WH Allen company by Phil Mann,  
Stevington / Harrowden rooms

## WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> October

Wednesday Workshops 10 - 12noon and 1 - 3.00pm

Prayer Meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime Service 1.30pm led by Janet Wotton

Friendship Group 2.00pm, Foyer

## THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> October

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

## COFFEE SHOP

Open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00am – 1.00pm  
(2.00pm on Wednesdays and 3pm on Saturdays)

## JOHN BUNYAN MUSEUM

The Museum is open

### **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

Bedford Hospital Charity & Friends

### **Art Sale in support of the Primrose Car Service**

***Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> - Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024***

Opening times: as Museum

# Contact Information

Bunyan Meeting, Mill Street, Bedford MK40 3EU

<b>Minister:</b>	<b>Rev'd Christopher J Damp MA BD</b>
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<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster:</b>	Brian S Caves ATCL <b>Tel:</b> 01234 767776
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	Sue Gauley <b>Tel:</b> 01234 306772
<b>Museum Director:</b>	Nicola Sherhod <b>Tel:</b> 01234 270303 <b>email:</b> curator@bunyanmeeting.co.uk
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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