



Bunyan Meeting

Mill Street

Bedford

Sunday 10th March 2024
The Fourth Sunday in 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

9.30am Christ, Coffee & Croissants All Age worship

*This service will be held in the **Basement** and the theme will be 'Sing a New Song'. If you can help with setting out the Basement on Saturday 9th March from 9.30am please speak to Geoff*

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 provided by Alan and Gilly Millbery
in memory of Gilly's parents, Peter and Janet Barratt

The offering on Sunday 3rd March was £1144.50 (£394.50 given in church and £750 on line).

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

Audrey Mehew

Joseph

The family and friends of Josie Gurr

Stephen Sleight's father, Brian

Peter Ormerod

Brian Graves

Sue, Maria's friend

For your prayers

The special prayer for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Congregational Federation

Stepney/Latimer

We ask your prayers for our new venture for open space, “Tuesday ten to two team” with LCM and for our work with our new local reparation team volunteers. This encourages young offenders to change their lives and equips them with gardening and landscaping skills. We will be working alongside the local probation team and our local social development department.

We pray and give thanks for all involved and pray that the name, love, and actions of Jesus will be evident in the work we do.

The Baptist Union

Nurturing God, on this Mothering Sunday we thank you for those people you put in our lives who care for us and guide us. Protect all your children, so they can grow and flourish in your love through the love of others. Bless all those who care for your children in our homes and communities, including all who work to support the most vulnerable children in our midst. We make this prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer adapted from The Children’s Society
www.childrenssociety.org.uk

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. 474

Christ is made the sure foundation

Introduction to Theme

Hymn

I Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live

A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace;

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
And words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek
To dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
And as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*

3 Let us build a house where love is found
In water, wine and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground,
Where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God through Jesus,
Is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*

4. Let us build a house where hands will
reach
Beyond the wood and stone

To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
And live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger

Bear the image of God's face;

Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

All are welcome, all are welcome,

All are welcome in this place.

5. Let us build a house where all are named,
Their songs and visions heard

And love and treasured, taught and claimed

As words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,

Prayers of faith and songs of grace,

Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome, all are welcome,

All are welcome in this place.

MARTY HAUGEN (BORN 1952)

First Reading

Psalm 127 v 1 - 4 (page 624)

Read by Sue Gauley

Anthem

Second Reading:

Colossians 3 v 12 – 17 (page 1184)

Read by Sheila Mousley

Hymn No. 577

Lord, thy Church on earth is seeking

Sermon

Hymn No. 332

All for Jesus

Prayers of Intercession

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 393

The Church's one foundation

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm
Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Hymn No. 100

God has spoken by his prophets

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

First Readings

Psalms 50 v 1 – 15 (page 572)

Hymn No. 105

Speak, Lord, in the stillness

Second Reading

Hebrews 1 v 1 – 14 (page 1201)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 101

Lord, you sometime speak in wonders

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 388

O love of God, how strong and true

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

Bunyan Meeting News Letter

Bunyan Meeting Flower Arranging Group – March 2024

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 13 March at 7.30pm in the evening**. We shall be meeting in the **Basement**.

This will be a practical session entitled *Spring is Sprung*. The challenge is to use any Spring flowers and foliage and arrange them in a container of your choice but without using floral foam (Oasis). This could be using a pin holder, chicken wire, a vase or any other method you can think of.

I look forward to seeing you on the 13th.

All are welcome to join us.

Gilly Millbery

Lost Librarian and Curatorial Assistant

Sadly we will be losing Jennifer Ayley on the 12th March, as she is leaving to work full time at the Bedford Rugby Club. She is working hard to help with handover for both roles, but especially the library with her wealth of knowledge and experience having cared for and managed the library collection since August 2013.

She will be greatly missed, but we are pleased to announce that she will be joining the Friends of the John Bunyan Museum & Library Committee, so we will not have completely lost her enthusiasm and support.

I'm sure you will all join me in wishing her all the best in the future.

Nicola Sherhod Director, John Bunyan Museum & Library

More Wise Words from Ken

Let us remember that before every Christian missionary crosses the seas, they see the cross.

Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Receipt is a choice. Whatever choice you make makes you choose wisely.

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'

Gillian Millbery 15th March

Sue Hammond



This week at Bunyan Meeting

MONDAY 11th March

Come and Sing 1.30pm – 3.00pm

TUESDAY 12th March

Study Circle 1.00pm, Coffee Shop Foyer

WEDNESDAY 13th March

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

Prayer Meeting 12.30pm – 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Bedford Town Churches Together Lent Lunchtime Service 1.10pm

Aleppo, Syria led by Janet Wootton

Flower Arranging Group 7.30pm, Basement

THURSDAY 14th March

Ministry Meeting 10.00am, Vestry

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

Eco Church meeting 7.30pm, off site

COFFEE SHOP

Open Tuesday – Saturday 10.00am – 1.00pm
(2.00pm on Wednesdays).

JOHN BUNYAN MUSEUM

The Museum is now open

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

Next exhibition: 18th March, Putnoe Art Group

Opening times: Tuesday to Saturday 11am to 4pm

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:	Brian S Caves ATCL Tel: 767776
Church Secretary:	Sue Gauley Tel: 3067723
Museum Curators:	Nicola Sherhod and Jennifer Ayley
Tel: 01234 270303	email: curator@bunyanmeeting.co.uk
Basement @ Bunyan	Anne-Marie Abbate Tel: 07775 973501
Coordinator:	email: amabbate@yahoo.com
Caretaking Team:	Jo Stapleton Chris Parkes
Caretakers' mobile:	Tel: 07591 167941
Administrative Assistant:	Sue Stewart Tel: 01234 213722
Church Office	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