



Bunyan Meeting

Mill Street

Bedford

Sunday 14th April 2024
The Second Sunday after Easter



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 with Polly Eaton
- 11.00am Morning worship conducted by Rev'd Dr Janet Wootton, Speaker: Polly Eaton
- 6.30pm Evening worship conducted by Rev'd Dr Janet Wootton

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 Dorothy Yerrill in memory of her husband

The offering given in Church for Sunday 7th April was £280.50 and £750 was given on line.

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

Audrey Mehew

Joseph

Stephen Sleight's father, Brian

Peter Ormerod

Sue, Maria's friend

Jo Gaunt

Ruth Blake

Duncan, Cathie Stewart's son

For your prayers

The special prayer for the second Sunday after Easter

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Congregational Federation

Please pray for students, tutors and administrators at their Spring training weekend in Nottingham, especially for students who have assignments coming up in the next few weeks. Pray for students at every stage of the training course, from those coming to the end of their first year, to those reaching the end of the four year course, and moving forward into the ministries to which God has called them. Also pray for Keith, our caretaker, retiring this year, after many years looking after us.

The Baptist Union

Please pray for the Support Services Specialist Team as they seek to support churches and associations with financial, legal and pensions issues. There have recently been a number of staff changes within the Team – please pray for the new members of staff and for the whole Team as they adjust to new roles and responsibilities.

www.baptist.org.uk/supportservices

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am

Hymns from Rejoice and Sing

We welcome Polly Eaton from *A Rocha* to share in our morning service



Opening voluntaries

Welcome and notices

Introit

Hymn No. 39

All creatures of our God and King (verses 1 - 4)

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Introduction to the Theme: Polly Eaton

Hymn

I Touch the earth lightly,
use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder,
ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will
bear.

2 We who endanger,
who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster
clouds of disaster -
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

3 Let there be greening,
birth from the burning,
water that blesses and air that is sweet,
health in God's garden,
hope in God's children,
regeneration that peace will complete.

4 God of all living,
God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the
sun,
teach us, deflect us,
Christ reconnect us,
using us gently, and making us one.

Shirley E Murray (1931-2020)

© 1992 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

Ist Reading

From Psalms 96 and 98

Read by Janet and Chris Wootton

Anthem

2nd Reading

Luke 12:13-21 (page 1045)

Hymn No. 39

All creatures of our God and King (verses 5 - 7)

Sermon: Polly Eaton

Hymn No. 85

God in his love for us lent us this planet

Prayers of Intercession: Led by Steven Sleight

Offering and dedication (with voluntary)

Hymn No. 96

Great is thy faithfulness

The Blessing

Closing voluntary

EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm
Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

Opening voluntaries

Welcome and notices

Call to worship: Isaiah 55:1

Hymn No. 480

Glorious things of thee are spoken

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

1st Reading

Isaiah 49 v 8 - 13 (page 736)

Hymn No. 611

Lord speak to me

2nd Reading

Matthew 13 v 44 - 53 (page 980)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 355

O Thou who camest from above

Sermon

Silent prayer

Offering and dedication (with voluntary)

Hymn No. 352

O Jesus I have promised

The Blessing

Closing voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

Bunyan Meeting News Letter

We welcome Polly Eaton from A Rocha to share in our morning service
She writes:

Since moving to Hertfordshire 7 years ago I've been worshipping at High Street Baptist Church in Tring. During this time the church gained a gold Eco Church award and I've enjoyed being part of a church that strives to 'do' creation care. Prior to this I lived in West Africa and saw first-hand the effects of the climate crisis on rural communities. I strongly believe that the environmental catastrophe we face is a justice issue and the church has a vital role to play.

GOOD NEWS: Easter 2024

We were delighted to welcome 28 children accompanied by 13 adults to our two Easter Holiday Clubs. They (yes, some of the Mums participated too) spent time making colourful crosses and even a keyring and bookmarks using a range of materials. The museum Easter egg hunt proved very popular too!

Stained glass windows were a bit of a challenge but those who persevered had some brightly coloured ones to take home.

It was good to be able to serve up 14 free lunches for those children who wanted one.

Some comments from the children's feedback forms: 'the best bits were' - all of the activities; lots of fun; egg hunt; colouring in the crosses. Adults said: friendly and welcoming; amazing; good to have something to do which is free; egg hunt; thanks for the hard work.

Many thanks to those volunteers who made this all possible. Those who helped with the crafts; the 'ladies who made lunches'; and the coffee shop staff who were kept quite busy. Thanks especially to the CC&C team for their help and support.

Tuesday 9th April proved how the basement, museum, coffee shop and church can work together for the benefit of each other. Some visiting the exhibition didn't know the church existed but were encouraged by the museum stewards to see what was on offer for the children – they stayed and did the craft activities then also visited the museum having first savoured the coffee and cakes in the church Foyer Coffee Shop. I hope they will be back.

Cherry Protheroe

Wise Words from Ken

Life is about accepting the challenges along the way,
choosing to keep moving forward, and savouring the journey.



I believe in Christianity as I believe the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else.

THANK YOU

Thank you very much for the lovely flowers that I received yesterday morning. They are very much appreciated.

Thank you so much.

Jean McGall

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'

Wendy Richardson 22nd April

Sue Hammond

Please Note different days & opening times for this exhibition:

Exhibition of **Ukrainian Folk Art**

Embroideries, Kilims, Beaded Jewellery, Art Work,
Decorated Eggs (Pysanky), Woodwork

17 April 2024 – 11 May 2024
Wednesdays to Saturdays

John Bunyan Museum Basement Gallery
Mill Street, Bedford. MK40 3EU
12.00pm - 4pm

FREE ENTRY



To register see Eventbrite.
For more information,
e-mail: ukrainiancultureclub.bedford@gmail.com.
To sponsor the exhibition see the QR Code below.



This week at Bunyan Meeting

MONDAY 15th April

Come and Sing 1.30pm – 3.00pm

TUESDAY 16th April

Website Team Meeting 3.00pm, Ampthill

WEDNESDAY 17th April

Wednesday workshops 10.00am and 1.00pm

Prayer Meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime Service 1.30pm led by Ruth Broomhall

Museum Committee 5.15pm

THURSDAY 18th April

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

FRIDAY 19th April

Bella Ciao! All in the church

Talk 6.30pm

Italian Chamber String Classics 7.30pm

Florence inspires – De Parys Sextet, 9.45pm

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 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

Exhibition: **Ukrainian Folk Art**, Embroideries, Kilims, Beaded Jewellery, Art Work, Decorated Eggs (Pysanky) and Woodwork
17th April – 11th May

Please Note different days & opening times for this exhibition:

Wednesday to Saturday 12noon – 3.45pm

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)	email: minister@bunyanmeeting.co.uk
01234 353730 (Manse)	
Acting Church Treasurers:	Brian Cornish, Andrew Duthie
Organist & Choirmaster:	Brian S Caves ATCL Tel: 767776
Church Secretary:	Sue Gauley Tel: 3067723
Museum Director:	Nicola Sherhod
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