



Bunyan Meeting

Mill Street

Bedford

Sunday 27th October 2024
Twenty-Second Sunday after
Trinity



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 and Croissants All Age worship
- 11.00am Morning worship
conducted by Rev'd Dr Robert Hunter
- 6.30pm Evening worship
conducted by Rev'd Dr Robert Hunter

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 by Ken Wells
in memory of his wife Kirsteen

The offering for Sunday 20th October was £1214.00
(£464.00 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

Dorothy Nicholas

Bernard Wells

Margaret Richardson

Jo-Ann Gaunt

Ruth Blake

Brian and Heather Caves

Andy McGall (Jean's nephew)

Pearl Thomas

For your prayers

The special prayer for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity
Lord, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Baptist Union

This week we pray for the South Eastern Baptist Association, seeking to be a community of God's people praying and working together to see an outpouring of God's Spirit in South East England.

www.seba-baptist.org.uk

Congregational Federation

Harting

At Harting Congregational Church we are using 'The Celtic Circling prayer'

as a structure to our weekly prayer meetings. In this, we begin by praying for ourselves (the centre circle) as it is believed that unless we personally are put right with God, how can we pray effectively for others, we then go into the next circle praying for family, friends, Church family and others, and so on praying for our communities (including SE Area and Federation), our nation, and in the final circle we pray for the wider world and its needs, for love, joy, peace and hope to reign everywhere.

A new priest has arrived at the Parish Church here in Harting and following a difficult period of unity between the two Churches we are now hopefully that this will herald a new beginning of sharing God's love with the people of Harting. Please pray for guidance for both Churches and light to guide us forward into the future.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am

Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

The theme for the morning Service is Love, one of the Fruits of the Spirit and is entitled 'All You Need Is Love'

Opening Voluntaries

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 5

Be still, for the presence of the Lord

Introduction to Theme

Hymn 559

Love Divine, all loves excelling

First Reading

Galatians 5 v 13 – 26 (page 1172)

Anthem

Second Reading

I Corinthians 13 v 1 – 13 (page 1153)

Hymn No. 473

Brother, sister, let me serve you

Sermon: Love is all you need

Hymn No. 363

Will you come and follow me

Prayers of Intercession

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 471.

Bind us together

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm
Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

The theme for the evening service is 'Lukewarm Christians'

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 521

Be though my vision, O Lord of my heart

Reading

Revelation 3 v 14 – 22 (page 1236)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 298

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me (x2)

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 358

Take my life, and let it be

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740

Bunyan Meeting News Letter

Visiting Minister

We welcome Rev'd Dr Rob Hunter to lead our morning and evening worship today.

Rob was born into and raised in the Congregational Church in Scotland. He was a fourth generation Congregationalist at his local Church, until he left for university. He first studied science in the form of Human Physiology and then went on to study medicine. On graduation as a doctor he served in the British Army for five years as a doctor with active service in the first Gulf war and Northern Ireland. On leaving the Army he initially pursued a career in Psychiatry but changed to Accident and Emergency Medicine where he developed an interest in Forensic and Legal Medicine. After 14 years he left medicine to become the Coroner for Derbyshire, a position he held for 16 years.

For the last 4 years Rob has been minister at Oakham Congregational Church, Rutland and Markfield Congregational Community Church, Leicestershire. He retired from this ministry recently. Rob's ministerial interests are community outreach and ministry to the elderly.

Rob is married to Carol and has two grown up sons. His interests are photography and video making, cooking and foreign languages.

Remembrance Sunday Special Offering Combat Stress



After joining the Army at just 16, David spent nine years in service.

He faced two harrowing events in Iraq and Northern Ireland that he found hard to leave behind.

"Basra Highway was known as Carnage Carriageway.

At 18 years old you think you're tough enough to deal with it but you're not.

Then in Northern Ireland, I was metres from an IED at Thiepval Barracks and blown onto a nearby sports field. To be seconds away from death brings it all home to you. They're the two incidents that wake me up at night."

After leaving the Army David worked as a paramedic until the death of a child at work hit him hard and he found himself struggling with his mental health. He stood at the top of a quarry, contemplating stepping forward. But he chose to step back, realising that he needed help.

David tried to find support, but nothing worked until he reached out to **Combat Stress**. With the help of our specialised mental health treatment, David had the tools to turn his life around.

Your donation can ensure more veterans like David receive the life-changing support they desperately need.

Donation Envelopes for Combat Stress will be available in church on Remembrance Sunday.

Coffee Morning



We are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday **9th November** from 10.00am to 1.00pm. You will be treated to 'bacon and sausage' butties as well as the usual refreshments.

We shall have a Cake Stall, Tombola and a Raffle.

We will need items for the raffle and tombola and cakes for cake stall. Please help if you can and please come along to support this Coffee Morning.

From Bedfordshire Hospitals Charity and Friends

We raised around £2000 this year from our art sale for the Hospital Charity and Friends which was fantastic.



I would like to thank all at the Basement at Bunyan, in particular Anne-Marie for the support that is given each year and to Jo and Alfie for all their help. It is a fantastic space to use and we are made to feel so welcome.

The range of art items we have for sale is very wide, from the traditional



to the modern, from the hand-made to the very unusual. The feedback from our visitors is so positive; there is something for all tastes. It is this that makes us want to come next year.

Best wishes,

Mandy Brookes

‘Under the Bed’ Art Sale



Now in its seventh year, this sale was as popular as ever. Organised by me, this year we had work by thirty two Bedfordshire based artists, from traditional to contemporary paintings and from jewellery through to cards and ceramics.

During the seven days it was open 156 people visited and 165 items were sold. It was a great way to network and to show off the gallery at its best.

I was even interviewed by 3 Counties Radio which helped spread the word that little bit further!

Plans are in place for next year's sale, same time, same place!

Anne-Marie

Basement Co-ordinator

Thank you

I wish to thank all the Bunyan folk who organised and attended my



Birthday celebration in the Coffee Shop and also for all the Birthday cards.

Bless you all for your kindness.

With love from Ken Wells

All will be well. The Lord Jesus is with you now, and will never leave you nor forsake you.

Mary Winslow (1774 -1854) was the mother of the preacher, Octavius Winslow. After being widowed at a young age, Mary learned to rely on the Lord and trust Him during seasons of sorrow. Later in life, she wrote many letters of spiritual encouragement and counsel that are saturated in warm love to Christ and longing for heaven. After her death, Octavius Winslow published these letters. The following is an excerpt from ***Walking with Jesus***, selections from the letters and journals of Mary Winslow.

All will be well

Jesus, You are my chief joy, my life, my all. Without You this world would be wretchedness itself. Keep, oh keep me near Yourself, nearer, nearer still; and allow no earthly love to occupy Your place in my heart.

Go with all you need to Jesus; keep nothing back. Go with all the simplicity of a babe, and tell Jesus. He will bow down His loving ear, and listen to all you have to say to Him...

Oh, the wondrous, the ocean-like love of Jesus!

Who can fathom it?

Oh, carry all your needs to Him, not doubting that He not only hears you, but is every moment watching over you! All is well, and though dark clouds come between, there is a bright light behind them. Go at once with your trouble, be it what it may; nothing is too trivial to carry to Him. Let us come to Jesus and bring to Him all our cares, large and small, and tell Him all that is in our hearts.

Nothing is uncertain with God

Oh, the care of the Good Shepherd! His wakeful eye is ever upon us, and His loving heart is ever towards us!

Oh, we shall see, when we arrive in heaven, how wonderful has been the wisdom that has guided us in all our journey through!

You may be quite certain that all that takes place, small or great, is in that covenant that is ordered in all things and sure. Nothing is uncertain with God. A sparrow falls not to the ground without Him. You are of more value than many sparrows.

Jesus is indeed very precious to my soul. All creature love sinks into nothing before it. The more I see of the fullness, the boundless love of Christ, the more I sink in the dust of self-abasement before Him.

What could we do in this world of manifold temptations, had we not a God to go to, ever ready to be a present help?

His loving eye is upon you; let yours be upon Him

Allow no distance to arise between you and your best Friend. He has undertaken for us in all things. We need Him as our Counsellor, as our Guide, as our Protector, as our Deliverer, in ten thousand ways. How needful and how sweet to be ever sitting at His feet, looking up and meeting His eye bending down upon us in love!

All His dispensations are designed to draw you closer to Himself, and He would remove every object that comes between Him and you. You shall not have one trial too much. His loving eye is upon you; let yours be upon Him.

Dear friend, keep close to Jesus, and the throne of grace. If you feel your heart cold, go at once, and He will warm it. If you feel it hard and impenitent, go, and He will soften and awaken it to sweet contrition. Go, under all circumstances and with all frames.

All your difficulties, however small or however great, you have a right to bring to Jesus, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

From:

<https://www.mediagratae.org/blog/no-uncertainties-with-god>

Sound System at the Wednesday Lunchtime Services



Hello friends - it's Sue from the IT team upstairs on Sunday mornings.

I didn't realise until recently that the sound system isn't always in operation at the Wednesday Lunchtime Services making hearing and taking part difficult for those using the loop system.

As much as family commitments allow, I would like to offer to 'fill the gap'.

I welcome comments about whether I am succeeding or not, so, if not having the loop has been discouraging you or someone who might like to join us, how about coming along and giving it a go! After all - nothing ventured, nothing gained!

Sue Hammond

More Wise Words from Ken

Sometimes we remember that roses have thorns rather than thorns have roses.



A time for a mother to raise a family is about one hour before they are due to get up.

Bible Reading Notes

A reminder! We now have two sets of notes to help us with our Bible readings.

'Our Daily Bread' copies are for the 3 months October, November, December.

'Word for Today' copies are for the 3 months November, December, January.

These are in the church foyer; please take your free copies.

Choral Concerts at Bunyan Meeting This Week

Cantamus Chamber Choir Tuesday 29 October at 7.30pm Conducted by Henry Vann

Entente Cordiale

Tickets £10 at the door only (£5 Concessions)

Come along to **Entente Cordiale** - an evening of some of the most beautiful English and French choral music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Maurice Duruflé and Lili Boulanger.

Lili died tragically young at just 24 in 1918. Discover why she is increasingly regarded as one of music's greatest losses.

The Choir of Clare College, Cambridge

Thursday 31 October at 7.30pm

Conducted by Graham Ross

A Child's Prayer Music about youth and childhood

Tickets £20 at the door and on line at:

[ticketsource.co.uk/bedford music](https://ticketsource.co.uk/bedford-music)

This week at Bunyan Meeting

Half Term

MONDAY 28th October

Bunyan 400 Steering Committee Meeting 10.00am – 11.30am

TUESDAY 29th October

Study Circle 1.00pm – 3.00pm, Foyer

Cantamus Chamber Choir, 7.30pm, Church

WEDNESDAY 30th October

Staff Meeting 10.00am, Stevington room

Prayer Meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime Service 1.30pm led by Michael Searle

THURSDAY 31st October

Knit & Natter 11.00am – 12noon, Coffee Shop

The Choir of Clare College Cambridge, 7.30pm, Church

SATURDAY 2nd November

Study Group 10.00am – 11.30am, Deacons' Vestry

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

BASEMENT AT BUNYAN

The next exhibition: **Artist, Art Therapist and Arts Educator Claire Bliss will be exhibiting her work, as well as providing workshops/ demonstrations**

from Tues 5th - Sat 9th November, open from: 11am - 4pm,

Contact Information

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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

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