



# Bunyan Meeting

## Mill Street

## Bedford

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024  
Fourteenth 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**

- 11.00am Morning worship with Communion  
conducted by Rev'd Stephen Copson
- 3.00pm Local Congregational Churches Songs of Praise
- 6.30pm Evening worship  
conducted by Mr Jim Lyon

## **Our services next Sunday**

- 9.30am Christ, Coffee and Croissants, All Age worship
- 11.00am Morning worship  
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 Brian and Pat Stevens

**The offering** for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August was £1077.23 (£327.23 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 Gaunt

Ruth Blake

Julie Barker

Gwen Gribble

Brian and Heather Caves

Andy McGall (Jean's nephew)

Pearl Thomas

Suzanne Nockels and family

# For your prayers

## **The special prayer for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **The Baptist Union**

First September is the beginning of the Season of Creation, a time when the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home: Eternal God, the whole world is full of your glory. We bear forth the anguish of Creation in the time of the climate crisis to you. In your grace, grant us the opportunity to do good, as your created co-creators. Prayer taken from the Season of Creation Celebration Guide [www.seasonofcreation.org](http://www.seasonofcreation.org)

## **Congregational Federation**

We pray for Suzanne Nockels who has been involved in a road accident in which her son Isaac was killed. Suzanne came to preach for us prior to Covid and after our morning service led a session on art and spirituality in the Basement. We pray for her and her family at this time of devastation and loss.

MORNING WORSHIP at 11.00am  
Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

Opening Voluntaries

Welcome and Notices

Introit

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn No. 12

*Jesus calls us here*

Introduction to Theme

First Reading

Psalm 15 v 1 – 5 (page 549)

Read by Jean Goldsmith

Hymn No. 295

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind*

Second Reading

James 1 v 22 – 27 (page 1213)

Read by: The Rev'd Stephen Copson

Anthem

Sermon

Hymn No. 531

*Give to me, Lord, a thankful heart*

Prayers of Intercession

led by The Rev'd Dr Janet Wootton

Offering, Voluntary and Dedication

*As the offering is brought forward, we stand and sing the Doxology no. 113.*

Hymn No. 413

*Lord, we have come at your own invitation*

Communion

*All who love the Lord are welcome to share in the bread and the wine*

Hymn No. 448

*Sent forth by God's blessing*

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

EVENING WORSHIP at 6.30pm  
Hymns from Baptist Praise and Worship

Welcome and Notices

Call to Worship

Hymn No. 393

*The Church's one foundation*

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

First Reading

Psalm 27 (page 557)

Hymn No. 523

*Father, hear the prayer we offer*

Second Reading

John 14 v 1 – 12 (page 1082)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn No. 444

*Lord Jesus Christ*

Sermon

Silent Prayer

Offering and Dedication

Hymn No. 317

*Rejoice! the Lord is King*

The Blessing

Closing Voluntary

CCLI Licence No. 3740



# Bunyan Meeting News Letter

We welcome the Revd Stephen Copson who is leading our service this morning. Stephen is a retired Baptist minister living in Hitchin. "It is a pleasure to be back at Bunyan Meeting and sharing in worship. May we sense the presence of God with us as we meet together."

In the evening we welcome Mr Jim Lyon. Jim is the pastor of Yelvertoft Independent Chapel, which is a Congregational Federation church in the village of Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire. Jim is currently also chair of council of CF, and passionate about revitalising the non-conformist witness in our villages. Jim holds an MA in Missional Leadership.

## **A Special Church Meeting – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.00am - 1.00pm Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.**

If the date is not already in your diary, please put it in now!

This is a meeting for *all the Bunyan fellowship, not just church members.*

Matt Farley from Scripture Union will talk to us about **'Revealing Jesus'**.

He will tell us: what it means and how it is a tool to be used in a programme of outreach; what resources and training would be needed to run a programme; and help us identify and develop such a programme.

As a fellowship we will then have an opportunity to discuss together, how we might use 'Revealing Jesus' as part of Mission & Outreach at Bunyan Meeting and what sort of programme we could develop to start 'Revealing Jesus'.

This is an opportunity for all to be involved in a new and exciting way forward for Bunyan Meeting. If 'Revealing Jesus' is not possible, what alternatives do we have?

Where do you see Bunyan Meeting in 5 years' time?

Do come and join us, but if you are not able to be there in person, please pray for us now and on the day:

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am in the church.**

Thank you.

*Cherry Protheroe*, Lead Deacon for Mission & Outreach.

## **Friendship Group**

Our first meeting of the new session is at 2.00pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September when we look forward to welcoming a speaker from the Bedford Foodbank. All are welcome.

*Sue Gauley*

## **THANK YOU**

Norman and I would like to thank everyone for your prayers and concern for our niece Helen. She is doing remarkably well but sometimes lapses back to when she was in her twenties.

A long way to go still, but we give thanks to God for His goodness and to our church family for their prayers.

*Sue and Norman*

Thank you for the lovely flowers I received on Sunday evening after the church service, for my birthday. Also, thank you for all the lovely cards and 'phone calls.

*Cath Gipson*

## **David Walker**

Our friend David Walker is competing in the Ultra Challenge Chiltern 50k Walk on Saturday 28 September 2024. He has decided to fundraise for Amos Trust and their project 'Every Drop Counts' ... helping farmers in the 'dry corridor' of Nicaragua, and he would really appreciate your support.

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to Amos Trust, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

You can donate to his JustGiving page by going to:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/david-walker-1722590151299?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fdavid-walker-1722590151299&utm\\_source=whatsapp&utm\\_campaign=pfp-whatsapp](https://www.justgiving.com/page/david-walker-1722590151299?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fdavid-walker-1722590151299&utm_source=whatsapp&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp)

## **Foodbank – August 2024** To Bunyan Meeting

Many thanks to everyone involved in the last 6 months for donating 83.59Kg of food which will provide around 199 meals.

Any donations we receive we are always very grateful for and never more so than in these current challenging times. Regular donations, such as yours, are vital to the on-going provision of food for those in our community who are in such great need. The need for help from the Foodbank continues to increase year upon year and we now regularly feed over 2000 people a month, giving them enough food for 3-4 days, or around 10 meals. The monthly food leaving our warehouse is generally in the region of 20-22 tonnes, so we are very grateful for all donations we receive as each one is vital for the ongoing work of the Foodbank and is greatly appreciated.

So far in 2024, 119735.53 Kg of food has been given out, 6862 vouchers have been redeemed, and 14582 people have been fed, of which 4877 are children. The amount of people fed is a 4.5 % increase from 2023.

Without the support of individuals, organisations, and community groups, Bedford Foodbank could not meet the increasing need in Bedford and the surrounding villages.

Thank you all once again, for your support on behalf of everyone who uses, works, or volunteers at the foodbank. Yours sincerely,  
*Andrea Badman*, Assistant Project Manager

### **A bit of advice!**

A couple of months ago my Mum and I were caught by a 'con' claiming to be Virgin Media. We had had problems with the TV the night before and they claimed that they didn't need to ask any security questions as they were the engineering department. We were asked to download 'Any Desk' on to our phone and laptop. So, if you get a phone call from someone claiming to be the engineering department from any of the media companies and you are asked to download 'Any Desk' to your computer or phone, please don't it. It is not from the media companies and you could lose money. Fortunately, we were able to get any money back that we lost.

So, please don't get caught by a 'con'; it is so easily done.

If something doesn't feel right or is too good to be true, more than likely it is a 'con'.

*Ruth Blake*

## Cream Tea

A good time was had by all (despite the weather) at the Cream Tea last Saturday.



It was lovely to see so many of you from Bunyan Meeting, some new faces, and some of our regular Coffee Shop customers. The scones were delicious as always, and it was a great way to get together and enjoy each other's company!

Thank you to everyone who was able to come, and a special thank you to the volunteers who made it all run so smoothly on the day.

*Julie*



## **Activities for Children - Tuesday Mornings in August**

I wonder how many of us thought about the August Activities, or even prayed about them!

I only managed to pop in for a short visit on the final Tuesday and found such a happy group of children with parents/carers.

The theme was Noah's Ark – although I was too late for the entire 'performance', I was treated to a repeat of the children singing and acting, marching into the ark! Alison led this part of the proceedings and Geoff looked really good in his mask!

It would be great if these children could be invited to a Sunday service to show us all what they have been learning. We are grateful to Cherry who planned and managed these activities and to all those who helped each week.

We will have more details and photos next week.

*Editor*

## **Bedford Town Centre Churches**

### **Summer Get Together at St Martin's Vicarage**

Date: Sunday 8th September

Time: 3pm

Place: St Martin's Vicarage, 76 Clapham Road, MK41 7PN

Bring: Whatever you like to eat

(drinks will be provided by St Martin's)

Other: The garden is a good size and there will be a marquee in case of shade needed for hot weather or shelter for wet weather!

## **More Wise Words from Ken**

In three words I can sum up everything that goes on in life;  
**'It goes on.'**

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Coming to the Basement - our next exhibition

# ART EXHIBITION

10th-14th  
Sept 2024  
11AM - 4PM



## A SPLASH OF COLOUR

An exhibition of drawings and  
paintings by Ronald.M.McKay

Basement@ Bunyan  
Bunyan Meeting  
Mill Street  
Bedford  
MK40 3EU



# This week at Bunyan Meeting

## STAFF ANNUAL LEAVE:

Our Minister: 12<sup>th</sup> August – Back Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September

Our Caretaker Jo: 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Back Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September

## WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> September

Prayer Meeting 1.00pm, Deacons' Vestry

Lunchtime Service 1.30pm led by David Walker

## THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> September

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

**Museum Summer Exhibition** - last week

***Collected Works: finding a good home for cherished things***

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>
<i>Day off: Monday</i>	
<b>Tel: 01234 353465</b> (Office) <b>01234 353730</b> (Manse)	<b>email:</b> minister@bunyanmeeting.co.uk
<b>Acting Church Treasurers:</b>	Brian Cornish, Andrew Duthie
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster:</b>	Brian S Caves ATCL <b>Tel:</b> 01234 767776
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	Sue Gauley <b>Tel:</b> 01234 3067723
<b>Museum Director:</b>	Nicola Sherhod <b>Tel:</b> 01234 270303 <b>email:</b> curator@bunyanmeeting.co.uk
<b>Basement @ Bunyan</b>	Anne-Marie Abbate <b>Tel:</b> 07775 973501
<b>Coordinator:</b>	<b>email:</b> amabbate@yahoo.com
<b>Caretaking Team:</b>	Jo Stapleton Alfie Stijelja Mick Dashwood (Saturdays)
<b>Caretakers' mobile:</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 07591 167941
<b>Administrator:</b>	Sue Stewart <b>Tel:</b> 01234 213722
<b>Church Office</b>	<b>email:</b> bunyanmeeting@gmail.com
<b>Website:</b>	www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk
<b>News Letter Editor:</b>	Jocelyn Harper <b>Tel:</b> 01234 406969 <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:jos.harpy@ntlworld.com">jos.harpy@ntlworld.com</a>

[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