

Keeping you in

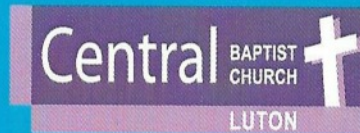
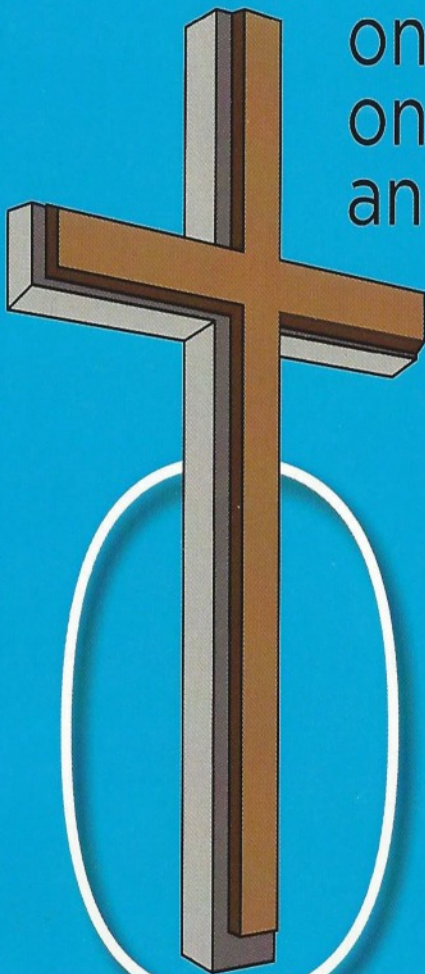
CONTACT

with

LUTON

Motto 2017 Ephesians Chapter 4 verses 2-6

one **LORD** one **FAITH**
one **BAPTISM** one **GOD**
and **FATHER OF ALL**



one

APRIL 2017

Articles for the MAY Contact should be given to Gwyneth Gapp -by Sunday 16TH APRIL
 They can be handwritten, placed in the box in the front vestibule or emailed to gwyneth.gapp@ntlworld.com

April 2017

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	<u>16</u>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

From your Pastor Andrew Gale

John 20:1-10

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb.

Though the other disciple, who we assume to be John, got to the tomb first, but Peter went right in. Both of them were keen to check the story of Mary, both ran to the empty tomb, but John stopped at the entrance and Peter went right in.

The fastest runner may not always be the winner of the race. John reached the tomb first but didn't go in. Peter came second but went in and saw the evidence of the resurrection for himself, only afterwards did John enter and see and believe.

While John was outside there was not enough evidence to convince him of the resurrection it was only when he entered right in that he believed. Many stand and observe the church from a distance, they hear the testimony of others but never quite come to full faith. To really be convinced then we need to enter right in, to experience the moving of God's Spirit amongst His people and to see the evidence of changed lives and a community of faith.

Who are you like John standing outside, looking from afar, not fully convinced. Take the step, come right in and see and believe.

Andrew

Face your Trouble:

“I had ploughed around a rock in one of fields for over five years,” said a farmer, “and I had broken a mowing machine knife against it, besides losing the ground in which it lay, all because I supposed it was a large rock that would take too much time and labour to

remove it. But, today, when I began to plough for corn, I thought that by and by I might break my cultivator, against that rock; so I took my crowbar, intending to poke around and find out its size once and for all. And it was one of the surprises of my life that it was little more than two feet long. It was standing on its edge, and so light that I could lift it into the wagon without help.”

“The first time you really faced your trouble you conquered it, “I replied aloud, but continued to enlarge upon the subject all to myself, for I do believe that before we pray, we should look our troubles square in the face.

Imagine the farmer ploughing around that rock for five years, praying all the while, “Oh Lord, remove that rock!” When he didn’t know if it was a big rock or a flat stone.

We shiver and shake and shrink, and sometimes do not dare to pray about a trouble because it seems so real, not even knowing what we wish the Lord to do about it, when, if we face the trouble and call it by its right name, one half of its terror would be gone.

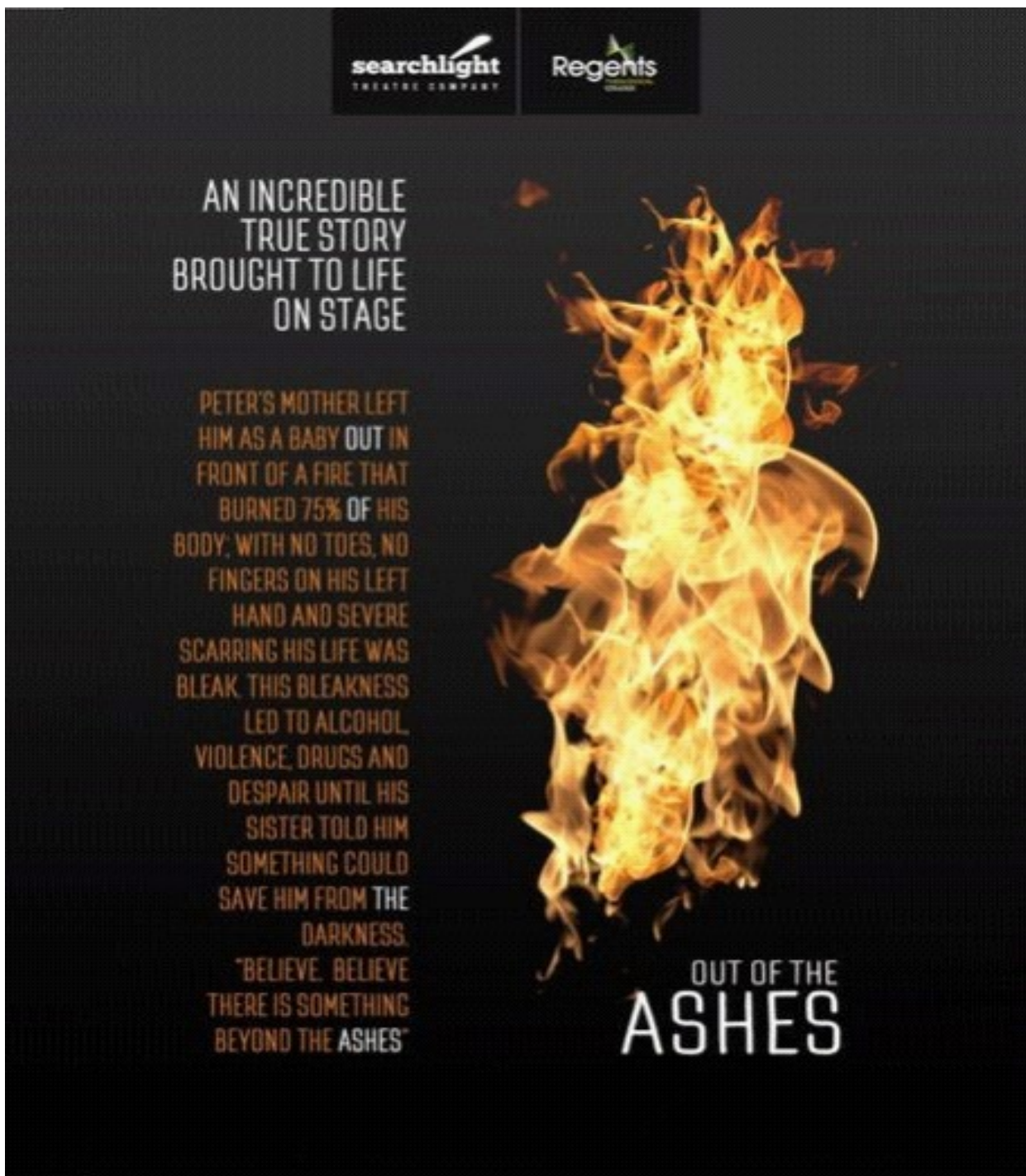
The trouble that lies down with us at first waking in the morning, is not the trouble that we have faced, but the trouble whose proportions we do not know.

This article was first published in The Lantern, April 1887

Upcoming Events

Men’s Breakfast 8 am 6th May, special guest Owen Uriah, pastor of Perry Beeches Baptist Church, Birmingham

Church Work day 13th May



searchlight
THEATRE COMPANY

Regents

AN INCREDIBLE
TRUE STORY
BROUGHT TO LIFE
ON STAGE

PETER'S MOTHER LEFT
HIM AS A BABY OUT IN
FRONT OF A FIRE THAT
BURNED 75% OF HIS
BODY; WITH NO TOES, NO
FINGERS ON HIS LEFT
HAND AND SEVERE
SCARRING HIS LIFE WAS
BLEAK. THIS BLEAKNESS
LED TO ALCOHOL,
VIOLENCE, DRUGS AND
DESPAIR UNTIL HIS
SISTER TOLD HIM
SOMETHING COULD
SAVE HIM FROM THE
DARKNESS.
"BELIEVE. BELIEVE
THERE IS SOMETHING
BEYOND THE ASHES"

OUT OF THE
ASHES

Thursday 6th July 7:30 pm at Luton Central Baptist Church, Park Street,
Luton

Advance Tickets £10, concessions £5 contact 07914853395 or
pastor@centralbaptist.org.uk

CHURCH DIARY APRIL 2017

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Morning 10.45 am

(Services led by Minister unless otherwise stated)

A prayer meeting is held every Sunday before the morning service from 10 am in the Prayer Room

- 2nd Parade Service and Celebration of Church Organisations
- 9th Palm Sunday
- 16th Easter Day and Baptismal Service (Join us at 8 am for breakfast)
- 23rd Elders' Service with Breaking of Bread and Reception into Membership

The Sunday evening group will meet at 6 pm each Sunday evening to discuss, prayer, share and sing together

The Notice Board

Contacts are posted to
you each month by

Andrew Tomblin

8 Winslow Close

Luton, LU3 1QA

**Donations for postage for Contact from:
Thank You**

Prayer Diary

We need a new volunteer to prepare the prayer diary. Please speak to Andrew Gale or Peter Gapp if you would be interested in helping the fellowship in this way.

Social Action Update April 2017

I'm sure most people will be aware that we have recently had a big fundraising event known as Red Nose Day. This fundraising event is widely known and raises millions of pounds for different causes in Africa as well as the UK. It got me thinking about whether the charity who run this, Comic Relief, actually support any local charities and causes that are relevant to us as a Luton church. I was pleasantly surprised to find that four causes within Luton have been given grants by Comic Relief, whether regularly or in the past.

One cause is familiar to ourselves, Youthscape. However, Comic relief have given particular importance to their Alumina approach to online support for teenagers who self harm. This approach is based around a project dedicated to helping and supporting young people impacted by self-harm, providing information, advice and pro-recovery approach. Due to the rise of mental health issues with young people, the need for this kind of service continues to grow. Self harm can involve anxiety, eating disorders and a physically destructive attitude. They work with SelfHarmUK to provide services in schools to reach young people who are in need.

The second charity Comic Relief has supported in Luton is Stepping Stones. I wrote about Stepping Stones back in February, and it aims to 'empower every vulnerable woman to transform her life and the lives of her children and families.' Its services focus upon areas such as parenting, childcare, abuse and trauma, offending and drugs and alcohol. Stepping Stones provide a number of classes and services to suit the needs of the women and families who need it, including coffee mornings, anger management and parenting support.

The final two courses supported by Comic Relief are based within the university of Bedfordshire. The first is in partnership with the NSPCC (National society for the prevention of cruelty to children). It uses a new model as a project to ***UTILISE THE EXPERTISE, RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE OF AN ESTABLISHED CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) SERVICE, KNOWN AS A 'HUB', AND EXTEND THAT SERVICE BY LOCATING NEW PROJECT WORKERS, (KNOWN AS 'SPOKES', INTO NEW SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS.*** It is known as the Alexi Project and aims to improve the safeguarding of young people from sexual exploitation and support agencies in promoting supportive and stable frameworks.

The second cause follows a similar theme, with a grant going to The international centre for the study of sexually exploited and trafficked young people at the University of Bedfordshire. The centre aims to increase understanding of, and improve responses to child exploitation, violence and trafficking. When the Alexi Project first came about in 2013, Comic Relief backed the project and also provided a grant for the centre creating the project, to ensure that future projects and causes within their specialist area would be supported.

So this year, you can don that Red Nose, knowing you are supporting very local causes as well as charities around the UK and the rest of the world. 'Charity begins at home.'

BMS Birthday Scheme

1st Jonathan Barton

4th Andrew Tomblin

5th Cynthia Best

23rd Heather Chandler

28th Niresch Uthayaseelan

30th Audrey O'Dell

ACTION FOR CHILDREN.

Thank you all those who with collection boxes for Action for Children. I was able to bank £65.08 for the year 2016.

THE LEPROSY MISSION

Thank you to all those with collection boxes for TLM, I was able to bank a total of £118.16 for the year 2016.

Once again many thanks,

Jean Corder

Perry Green Services

At 6.00 pm

* On the first Sunday of the Month there will be a Prayer meeting at 5.15 pm.

- 2nd. Mr. Ian Benjamin (c)
9th . Mr. John Evans
14th. Good Friday. Mr Mark
Buckley.
9 a.m. Raising the Cross
16th. Easter Sunday. Mr. Erwin
Tadiar.
23rd. Mrs. Gill Short
30th. Mr. Adam Benjamin

Tuesday Fellowship at 2.30 pm

4th. Andrew Gale

18th. No Meeting

Flowers for the Sanctuary

- 2nd In loving Memory of Mother and Father from Geoff and Simon Brandon and families.
- 9th Mrs. Jean Corder and family – In loving memory of a dear dad and grandad;
Remembering Renford on his birthday from his loving wife Ita;
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Norman and family –
‘Remembering Family Members’
- 16th **EASTER DAY** – Donations from friends and – In loving memory of Jane from Alan Dudley and family;
In loving memory of our loved ones from Wyn Prodger and family;
In loving memory of loved – ones from Mrs. Eileen Marshall.
- 23rd Mr. and Mrs. Keith Wright;
In loving memory of Clive from Rita;
In loving memory of Val, Joan and Gilbert Conybeare from Steve and family;
From Shirley, David and family in loving memory of Nellie Thompson and Peter;
Wedding flowers of Dominic and Damilola.
- 30th Miss Nadia Deadman – In loving memory of a dear Mother and Father.

EASTER FLOWERS

Once again Easter is nearly here and we shall be decorating the church with extra flowers to make it look beautiful for Easter Day (16th April). If you would like to help with providing either money or flowers for this special day pleased see Mrs. Rita Gibbs.

Thank You

Programme of Events

JUMP (Tuesdays)

(10.00 am - 11.30 am Term Time)

25th

Ladies in Fellowship Together(L.I.F.T.)

(Tuesdays At 8.00 pm)

- 11th Tonight our Minister, Andrew Gale will bring us an Easter Message.
- 25th Please welcome Mrs, Gill Brewer from Flitwick, who will be talking about 'Bees and Bee Keeping'

OPEN EVENING

Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

(At 2.30 pm)

1st April - Gospel Male Voice Praise. Regent Street, London.

- 6th Diane Maple
- 13th Allan Gilliam
- 20th Enid Burton
- 27th Representative from Azalea

All these meetings are OPEN MEETINGS, All are welcome with refreshments after.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS AS AT 12TH MARCH 2017

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

DOMINIC SOSU who marries DAMILOLA FOLARIN on 22nd April at Central.

BELATEDLY: VASANTHE SUNDRAM who married MICHAEL EKOHO on 29th December in Delhi. GWYNETH and PETER GAPP on becoming Great Grandparents to JACK VICTOR born to DANIEL and MARIE on 17th February. The two couples becoming grandparents again, JAM and HELEN MALCOLM on the birth of THOMAS JAMES born to RACHEL and BEN PEARCE, GRAHAM and PAT SLOUGH on the birth of EDWARD JOHN born to ANDREW and PIPPA SLOUGH on the 25th February.

DAVID HOBBS is now back home from hospital; and feeling much better, JUNE RADFORD had a fall, no bones broken but isn't feeling too great.

Both SUE UTHAYASEELAN and INA BAILEY who had their operations cancelled hope to have them later this month.

Quite a number of people haven't been well, or have had tests, treatment etc. including ROGER BARTON, OLIVE BROOKS, ITA EVANS, VINOLA JOSEPH (pneumonia), RON LEE and TOM MOWER.

We have heard of the death of LENNIE VAUGHAN who was known to us through Open Door.

It is good that we can share with one another in all the joys as well as the sorrows and anxieties that illness and old age bring. We uphold all who are mentioned and others perhaps we don't know about and pray that the Lord will meet their needs in a wonderful way.

ANN M NORMAN

Tea Towels for the Kitchen!

So that we can bolster our stock of Church Tea towels, we thought that it would be an idea to ask people to bring back a tea Towel from their holiday for the church. This would also give us a more interesting selection to use when drying up! If you would like to do this, please hand them to us on your return.

Many Thanks
Claire & Tim Newns

APRIL 2017

**In everything by prayer and petition
let your requests be known to God.**

**A monthly prayer calendar to help
us remember different aspects of
our Church life and beyond.**



TOPICS FOR PRAYER

This month we again pray for individual members and friends of the church. Over March and April we have named 183 different people: do you know them all? A few people are to appear in next month's prayer diary, but if you have not seen your name, it would be worth checking with Jam to make sure that you are on the list for May.

- Saturday 1 Elaine Mmangisa, Philippa Watson, Emma Adams
- Sunday 2 Iza Karpowska, Katie Usher, Malcolm O'Dell
- Monday 3 Philip Archer, Mercy Wangwade, Fyness Nguku
- Tuesday 4 June Radford, A J Jones, Andrew Gale
- Wednesday 5 Grace Zhou, Derek Jones, Nomsa Sinoya
- Thursday 6 Nathan Benjamin, Tyler Esnard, Kemi Odufowdkan
- Friday 7 Danso Titilola, Claudette Carty, Joshua Benjamin
- Saturday 8 Michael Jones, Janice Kenner-Lee, Meralita Silvere
- Sunday 9 Beckie Howard, John Whitehorn, Marianne Jones
- Monday 10 Neil Watson, Reg Williams, Roger Barton
- Tuesday 11 Dot Cooper, Peter Marin, Lavita Lobo
- Wednesday 12 Joshua Uthayaseelan, Nickola Draper, Margaret Yarde
- Thursday 13 Jack Littleworth, Keith Wright, Niamh Nolan
- Friday 14 Stephan Popa, Adrian Kenner, Adam Benjamin

- Saturday 15 Anita Jones, Michelle Parkes, Simeon Thomas
- Sunday 16 David Cousins, Betty Cato, Susan Tadiar
- Monday 17 Jonathan Jones, Maggy Archer, Helen Adams
- Tuesday 18 Caroline Wakaria, Heather Chandler, Pavel Karpowski
- Wednesday 19 Li Jing, Muiyiwa Odufowdkan, Nina Marin
- Thursday 20 Reece Lowen, Stephanie Yarde-Rowe, Beatrice Mmangisa
- Friday 21 Carol MacDougall, Lesley Lee, Sharon Littleworth
- Saturday 22 Katie McAteer, Christine Barton, Louise Garbett
- Sunday 23 Ruth Stanbridge, Jane Adams, Hannah Benjamin
- Monday 24 Andrew Tomblin, Florence Ta, Miriam Gale
- Tuesday 25 Raymond Parkes, Pam Souster, Donna Rush
- Wednesday 26 Joy Schweizer, Andy Jones, Miriam Tiso
- Thursday 27 Amos Tiso, Aidan Howard, Eunice Hale
- Friday 28 Henderson Mmangisa, Di Jones, Leam Valentine
- Saturday 29 Dominic Sosu, Claire Newns, Sandra McAteer
- Sunday 30 Wilson Battula, Ryan Murphy, Stephen Goodman

I live ... with those whose spirits are contrite and humble.

Isaiah 57 v15

The LORD will happiness divine

on contrite hearts bestow;

Then tell me, gracious God, is mine

a contrite heart, or no?

Oh make this heart rejoice, or ache;

decide this doubt for me;

And if it be not broken, break,

and heal it, if it be.

William Cowper

Weekly Church Activities

Sunday

10.45 am Morning Service
Communic8 and Crèche
6.00 pm Evening Service

Monday

1.00 - 3.00 pm Watercolour Art Club
6.30 - 9.15 pm Girls Brigade (5-18 years)

Tuesday

10.00 -11.30 am **JUMP** (Join Us Mums & Pre-schoolers)
During term time
2.00 - 4.00 pm Short mat bowls
8.00 pm Ladies in Fellowship Together (LIFT)
(2nd & 4th week)
10.00 - 12.00 pm Men's Prayer Meeting

Wednesday

9.30 am (1st Week) Open Prayer Meeting

Thursday

2.30 pm Thursday Afternoon Fellowship
7.30 pm Bible Study and Communion

Friday

6.45 -9.30 pm Boys Brigade

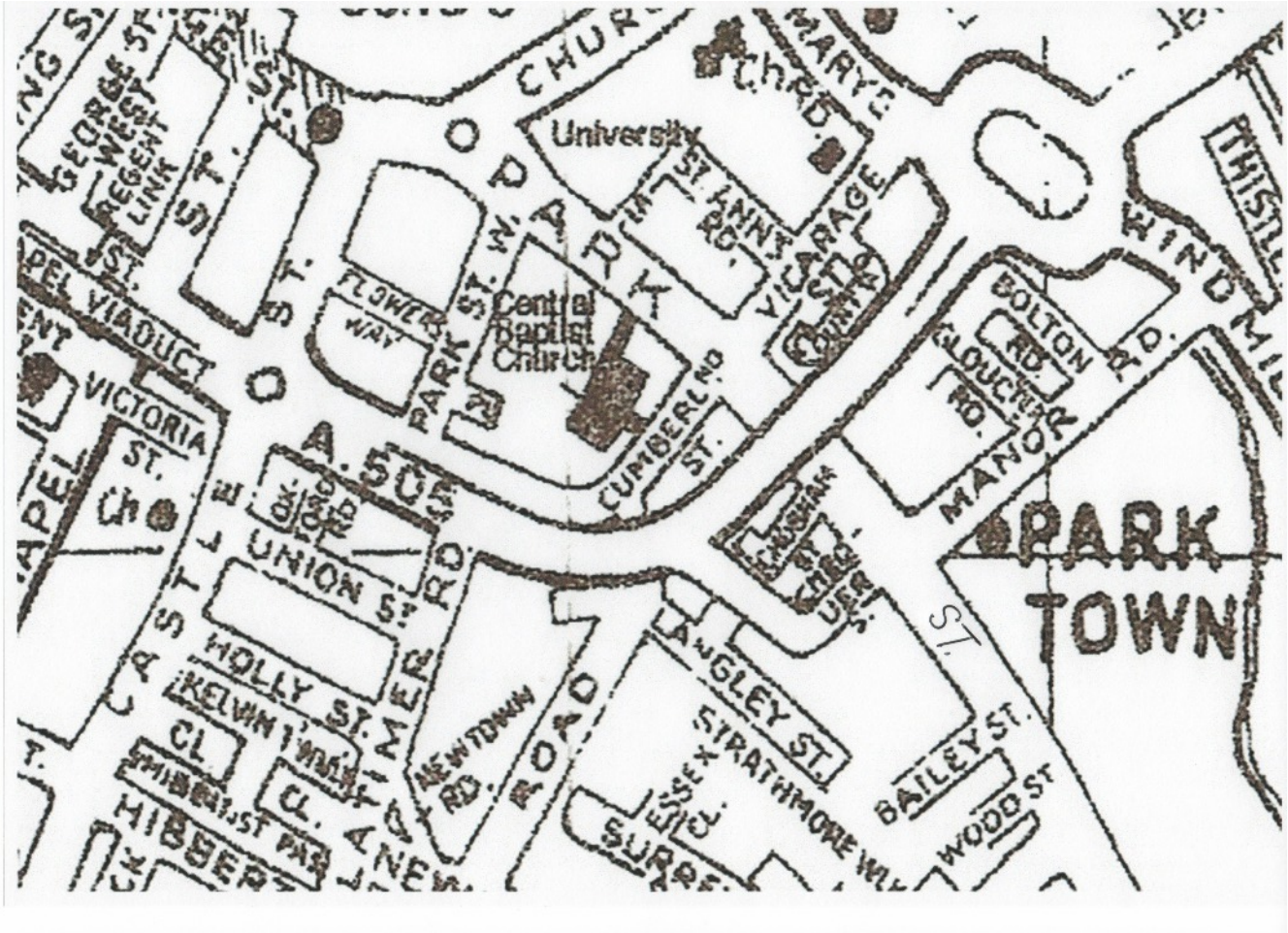
Saturday

7.00 - 9.00 pm Youth Group -11 years plus

MINISTER

Rev. Andrew Gale

Telephone mob. 07914853395



Secretary
Erwin Tadiar

Church Office 01582 422635

Visit the Church web site at

www.centralbaptist.org.uk

E-mail: admin@centralbaptist.org.uk