



Contact

MAGAZINE

April 2019



Motto
2019

Acts 1:8
New International Version

**BUT YOU
will receive
power when
the Holy Spirit
comes on you;
and you will
be my witnesses**
in Jerusalem, and
in all Judea and
Samaria, **and to the ends of the earth.**





Things that signify a holy life that are also performed by the unsaved

Sometimes we think of holiness as something unique to the saved or at least the religious. What kinds of things do you think of as indicators of a holy life? For some of us, raised in particular traditions, this is normally a list of things we didn't do, don't smoke, drink or dress in fashionable clothes (a sign of vanity and being tied to this world). Recently, in the Shield study group, we were looking at the fruit of the Spirit:- *The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23*

It is obvious that the unsaved can be kind, gentle have self-control, and if these are the evidence of the presence of the Spirit what kinds of actions would they lead to? Surprisingly, actions which are also performed by the unsaved. Here are 7 examples of things that may signify the living of a holy life:

- 1} Campaign for justice: what does the LORD require of you? *To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)* God loves justice, therefore campaigning for a just and fair world is campaigning for God's will, as we pray *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven*. You may do this by writing letters to MP's, going on marches, supporting organisations that campaign for justice like Amnesty. Of course people who are not Christians do this too.
- 2} Give to charity: *Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done. (Proverbs 19:17)* Caring for the poor and needy is the right and proper thing to do. Some say, "You will always have the poor among you." I would question whether a person that glibly quotes Jesus out of context to get out of caring for the poor understands anything of the gospel message. Of course people who are not Christians give to charity too.
- 3} Vote for the benefit of others: *Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. (Philippians 2:3-4)* Considering the needs of others in all that we do is a virtue, this is true in the voting booth too. I would not

presume to tell you who to vote for merely point out the way of life we have chosen calls us to put the needs of others above our own. You may want to consider whether it is right for you to get a tax cut while public services are being cut, or you may say that raising the amount a person can earn before paying tax benefits the hardworking poor, whichever view you come to we are called to consider the needs of others. Two Christians may come to different conclusions but our aim is to think about every part of our lives in the light of the effect on others. Of course people who are not Christians do this too.

4} Give blood: *For the life of a creature is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11)*

Giving blood is giving the gift of life, if you are fit and well it costs nothing to do, recovery is quick and easy and you get a cup of tea and a snack for your trouble. Of course people who are not Christians do this too.

5} Help an elderly neighbour: *When you happen on someone who's in trouble or **needs help** among your people with whom you live in this land that GOD, your God, is giving you, don't look the other way pretending you don't see him. (Deuteronomy 15:17)* Seeing the needs of neighbours and responding to them is a good thing to do. Of course people who are not Christians do this too.

6} Become a politician: *This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. (Romans 13:6)*

This is the most controversial, politicians are not well regarded today and for understandable reasons but public service is a noble act. Of course, there are some who enter politics for self-aggrandisement but the vast majority of politicians I have campaigned for or against have a sense of wanting to make the world a better place. Of course, people who are not Christians do this too.

7} Choose a career for the public good rather than self-advancement. *We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. (Romans 12:6)*

Not every Christian has gifts that can be used in the 'caring professions' some are gifted in the area of business and commerce. There is nothing wrong with working in those fields, in fact if no one did how would we fund those that do or supply the goods and services that make life comfortable. All I would say to younger people is look to use your life to make a real difference, an impact and think about this when considering a career. Of course, people who are not Christians do this too.

This is not an exhaustive list, there are many other things you could think of but the fact that the unsaved do all of these things shows that we don't have a monopoly on good. Every person has original goodness, the image of the Creator, so it is not surprising that the unsaved perform good works. How much more should we that have been saved?

We are not saved by doing good works, no amount of good works can make up for our sins, but when we are saved the fruit of the Spirit grows in our lives causing us to do good.

Christians join others in being unashamedly Do-Gooders.

Things that signify a holy life that are performed by the saved

1} Prayer: *Pray continually* (1 Thessalonians 5:17) Covering our actions in prayer, keeps us in touch with God, as Christians we have the great privilege of bringing the needs of our world before the Creator of the universe. Our voice is heard in the Throne Room of Heaven, we should take this privilege seriously. The things on the first list are important but not as valuable as prayer. There is nothing better you can do for someone than pray for them.

2} Calling others to faith: *Go and make disciples of all nations* (Matthew 28:19) Whatever people's needs in this world their greatest need, perhaps unknown to them, is to meet Jesus and have their sins forgiven. If we really love people then we will look to invite them to Jesus

3} Encouraging other believers: *And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds* (Hebrews 10:24) We seek to spur each other on by sharing testimony, insights, praying for each other and studying together. A desire to be with God's people is a mark of the work of the Spirit in the life of a believer.

4} Feeding others and being fed spiritually through reading and meditating on God's word. *Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.* (1 Peter 2:2) If we want to grow in our faith then we will need to consume the Bible, to let God's word take root in our lives, so we know His heart and move in line with His will.

These are not substitutes for the first list but additions which add value to the former list.

I said at the beginning in the past, and in some churches today, holiness is measured by what you don't do. I would rather when we examined our lives and ask God to search our hearts we may measure our surrender to His will by what we do, do.

Church Work Day – Saturday 11th May 2019

This is your opportunity to come along and help give the building and grounds a good Spring clean!

You'll be able to join in with: cleaning, tidying, fixing, tea making etc. So, bring your lunch with you and join us from 10 'til 4.

Please come along, for as long as you are able.

Tim and Claire News

ART EXHIBITION

Dennis Cousins is holding an exhibition of his art work at Central Baptist on 6th April from 10. 00 am. All are welcome.

BMS World Mission Birthday Scheme

APRIL

- 1st Jonathan Barton
- 4th Andrew Tomblin
- 5th Cynthia Best
- 23rd Heather Chandler
- 28th Niresch Uthayaseelan
- 30th Audrey O'Dell

Programme of Events

JUMP (Tuesdays)

(10.00 am - 11.30 am Term Time)

2nd

23rd

30th

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

9th Tonight we are pleased to welcome our Minister Andrew Gale who will lead us in an Easter Message

28th Members' evening - 'Fancy a night at the Movies'? Shirley Garbett is organising this and popcorn will be included.

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OPEN MEETING

Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

(At 2.30 pm)

5th Jan Sinclair.

12th Martyn Wilde.

19th Pastor Alan West.

26th T.B.A.

Thank You Page

THANK YOU

The following 'Thank You' may appear to be a little late, but I want to let people know how grateful I have been for the many visitors that came to see my husband George when he was so poorly up until his death in October. There have been many cards, phone calls, flowers, prayers and thoughts, both before and since his death have been a blessing. I also want to say thank you for the Harvest and Christmas gifts, and knowing friends were thinking of me and my family in difficult times. I am sorry this is so late in coming but it has taken me some time to sort out my thoughts and feelings. To all the Church Fellowship and friends once again thank you for everything. Lesley Lee.

I would like to thank everyone concerned in helping my daughter, Jeannette, organise my surprise 90th birthday party. It really was a surprise to see everyone and I was very moved by the whole thing. Grateful thanks must go to Michael Thomas and family for coming, as well as the whole church family. It has been quite a while since I was able to attend church due to my deteriorating health but I am longing to be able to worship together. Hopefully in the not too distant future I will be able to achieve this. Once again very many thanks to all involved.

Vinola Joseph

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Thank you to all those with collection boxes for Action for Children. The amount for last year, 2018, was nearly £60. Thank you very much.
Jean Corder.

Contacts are posted to
you each month by

Andrew Tomblin

8 Winslow Close

Luton, LU3 1QA

Donations for postage for Contact from:

Rev and Mrs. J. Donaldson

Thank You

REMEMBERING JEAN WRIGHT

We were sad to learn in February that Jean's earthly life had ended. She nearly reached 95 years of age, but had been unwell in the past few years. Recently she was unable to get to worship, and so much missed the fellowship.

She was baptised in October and joined the church in Wellington Street in November 1941. Jean married Ron in 1948, and together they were a valuable partnership within the Fellowship.

Before she married, Jean was a shorthand typist at Gibbs and Dandy and gave up work on the arrival of Keith.

She was involved in many Church activities.

Although not an officer in the Girls Life Brigade, she was appointed President of 1st Luton District Girls Life Brigade for one year, then Vice President for a further year.

She was instrumental in forming the 8th Luton Company Girls Brigade Guild of Friendship, which has functioned since the early seventies and still continues.

The Bible Society received considerable funds over the years because she distributed and collected the annual gift envelopes. Jean and Ron often held garden parties at their home, to raise money for the Society.

If visitors or newcomers came to our services, Jean was quick to contact them with a welcome.

Open Door was another source of contact for her. Serving at tables was not her forte, but a genuine Christian welcome was, and many appreciated this gift.

Lots of community activities attracted her personal skills. How generous was her hospitality, and her catering delicious, all so freely given. Until recent years, I used to travel by train to visit my niece in Arundel. On

my return, Ron and Jean would collect me from the station by car, and take me with them to their home to share a luscious meal.

Jean enjoyed singing and was a Founder member of the Luton Girls Choir, conducted by Arthur Davies.

Guess What? She was a keen car driver, yet had never taken a Driving Test! Ill health caused her to discontinue driving.

The Ladies' Section of the Rotary Club, the Inner Wheel, occupied many of Jean's talents. Beautiful greetings cards, made with pressed flowers, were often given, and many were sold to raise funds for charities, including Friends of the Hospital as both Ron and Jean worked for them.

I was Jean's Pastoral Care Visitor from Central and usually spent time with her twice a week. We spent many hours playing games helping her memory loss and enjoyed lots of fun and laughter, and occasionally shared a hot meal which she enjoyed as a special treat.

It was delightful to remember that Jean's father Mr. Lander, was one of my visitors for Baptism and Church membership in 1935!

In years past, as a hobby, I did letterpress printing and as Jean often shopped in art shops, if she saw an implement which would help me, she would purchase it and give it to me.

Jean was a lovely Christian lady who loved and served her Lord. Those of us who knew her, feel blessed by doing so, and having received so much care and love from her, thank God for knowing her. So, with joy we send her to Jesus and ask God to endow Keith, Ann and their extended families with His presence and comfort.

The thanksgiving service led by Andrew Gale and Mike Thomas reflected Jean so well, and it was good that Matthew was able to play for his Grandma.

Tom Mower

FELLOWSHIP NEWS AS AT 17TH MARCH 2019

Our love and sympathy to those who have been bereaved recently:-

TONY BURLEY, ANGELA KNIGHT and AUDREY O'DELL each of these a cousin, and MAURICE and LYNDA HILL on the death of PEGGY.

CONNIE ARCHER was quite poorly for a week or two and missed being out and about, JEAN CORDER sometimes finds it difficult getting out too. GERALD HALE had good results from the hospital, ELIZABETH WRIGHT is recovering well after her operation, HAZEL SMITH had a fall at home and has hurt her back.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those mentioned and others who may be experiencing difficulties or struggles in their lives or in family situations and particularly those who can't get out and about as they once did. May we be a blessing to them in their particular needs.

Ann M. Norman

Perry Green Services

At 6.00 pm

7th. Mrs. Diane Maple

14th. Mr. Samson Akinola (c)

19th. 9.00 am Good Friday - Raising the
Cross - Rev Andrew Gale

21st. Easter Sunday - Mr. John Evans

28th. Mr. Ian Benjamin

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

We meet at 2.30 pm. On the first
Tuesday of
each month at Perry Green Baptist
Chapel.

2nd Rev. Andrew Gale

CHURCH DIARY
SUNDAY WORSHIP
Morning 10:45 am

(Services led by Minister unless, otherwise stated)

- 7th Parade Service. Mary and the precious perfume
- 14th Palm Sunday
- 21st Easter Day
- 28th Service led by the elders

Special services for Easter Week

April

- 18th Maundy Thursday 7:30 The meaning of the Passover with a Christian Witness to Israel missionary
- 19th Good Friday: 09:00 Raising The Cross at Perry Chapel followed by the March of Witness in Luton assemble at Central from 10:30 to start walking at 11 am
- 21st Easter Morning Breakfast 8 am

On Sunday evenings we meet at our chapel in Perry Green at 6:00 pm, if you would like a lift please try to let the pastor know. Lifts leave the Cumberland Street Entrance at 5:40 pm sharp.

A prayer meeting is held every Sunday before the morning service from 10 am in the Vestry.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

- 7th Mrs. Jean Corder and family – In loving memory of a dear Dad and Grandad.
- 14th Remembering Renford on his Birthday from his loving wife, Ita Evans;
Shirley, David and family – In loving memory of Nellie Thompson and Peter.
- 21st **EASTER DAY** – Ask for donations: and- In loving memory of Jane from Alan Dudley and family;
In loving memory of loved ones from Wyn Prodger and family;
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;
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Norman and family – ‘Remembering Family Members’.
- 28th Miss Nadia Deadman – In loving memory of a dear Mother and Father.

FLOWER DONATIONS FOR EASTER DAY

Easter day will soon be with us on the 21st April and we like to make the Church look as beautiful as possible on this special day. If you would care to help with the buying of extra flowers please give donations to Mrs. Rita Gibbs. It would be very much appreciated.

Thank you
Rita.

APRIL 2019

**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.**



- Mon 1 Pray for our government and that politicians would work together for the common good. Pray for our worship group.***
- Tue 2 Pray for those at home caring for children. Pray for JUMP.***
- Wed 3 Pray for artists, writers and musicians. Pray for the people who work for Christian organisations in Luton.***
- Thu 4 Pray for those living with mental health issues. Pray for our cleaners.***
- Fri 5 Pray for people who used to come to Central, but do so no longer. Pray for accountants.***
- Sat 6 Pray for our house groups, particularly the new house group for families. Pray for those that work to maintain our premises.***
- Sun 7 Pray for social workers. Pray for external organisations who use our premises during the week.***
- Mon 8 Pray for the Girls' Brigade. Pray for doctors, nurses and other health professions.***
- Tue 9 Pray for the group who gather to play Short Mat Bowls. Pray for LIFT.***
- Wed 10 Pray for SHIELD. Pray for people who work in banking and finance.***
- Thu 11 Pray for those who drive for a living, that God would keep them safe on the roads. Pray for the Thursday Afternoon Fellowship.***

Fri 12 Pray for those who work in care homes, that they would be granted grace and patience. Pray for our family worker.

Sat 13 Pray for our MP's. Pray for honesty in public life.

Sun 14 Pray for our Sunday school teachers. Pray for scientists.

Mon 15 Pray for those facing major health concerns. Pray for children taking part in climate strikes.

Tue 16 Pray for our elders. Pray for single parents.

Wed 17 Pray for the pastoral care committee. Pray for the people you disagree with over Brexit.

Thu 18 Pray for the Pastor, for the Assistant Pastor and the Pastor's PA. Pray for the Maundy Thursday event planned for this evening.

Fri 19 Pray for marches of witness taking place in different parts of the town today, and particularly for events at Perry Green and here in the town centre. Pray for our children's advocates.

Sat 20 Pray for the council: for our councillors and for the people who work at the town hall. Pray for Christian unity.

Sun 21 Give thanks for the resurrection. Pray for those who are lacking in confidence.

Mon 22 Pray for people who have to work on this bank holiday Monday. Pray for our treasurer and finance committee.

Tue 23 Pray for the BBC and other broadcasters. Pray for the men's prayer meeting.

Wed 24 Pray for our members who live in care homes. Pray for the ministry at our Perry Green branch.

Thu 25 Pray for the University of Bedfordshire. Pray for the deacons.

Fri 26 Pray for Boys' Brigade. Pray for those living alone.

Sat 27 Pray for our youth group. Pray for shop workers.

Sun 28 Pray for carers: those that look after a member of their family who is frail, sick or disabled. Pray for ROOTS.

Mon 29 Pray for teachers and lecturers. Pray for the Art Club.

Tue 30 Pray for the chaplaincy team at Luton Airport. Pray for police, fire and ambulance workers.

May God's love, rejected by the world and sometimes neglected even by the faithful, spread its sweet perfume throughout our town.

May the declaration that Jesus is risen resound not only within the walls of our church building, but touch the lives of all we meet; may it forever be the truth of which we speak.

Halleluia! He is risen indeed!

Weekly Church Activities

Sunday

10.45 am Morning Service
Communic8

Monday

1.00 - 3.00 pm 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
7.30 pm Ladies in Fellowship Together (L.I.F.T.)
(2nd & 4th week)
10.00- 12.00 pm Men's Prayer Meeting

Wednesday

7.30 pm Shield for those aged 14+

Thursday

2.30 pm Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

Friday

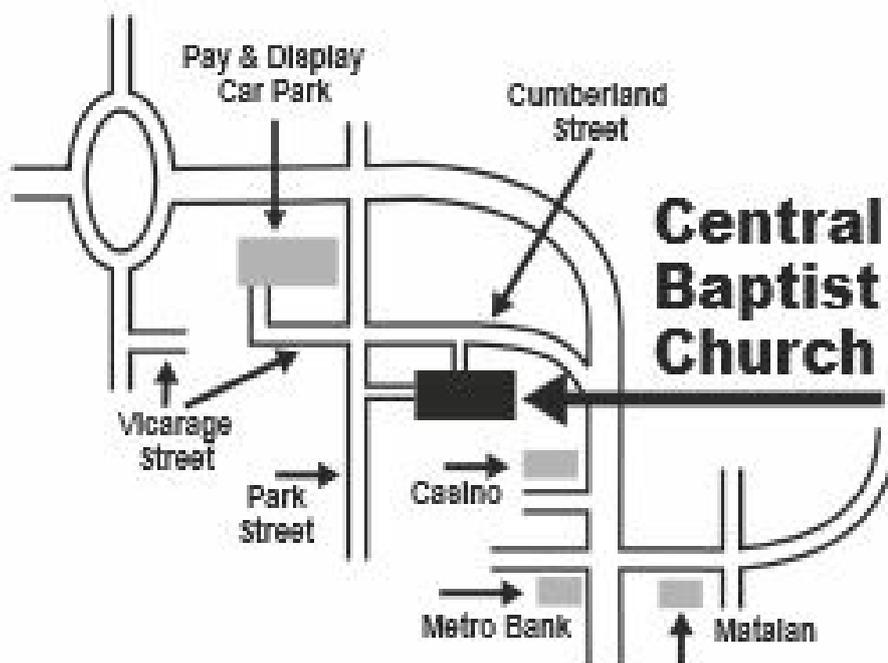
6.45 - 9.30 pm Boys Brigade

Saturday

7.00 - 9.00 pm Youth Group - Year 7+

MINISTER
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Mobile 07914 853395

SECRETARY
Erwin Tadiar



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