

Keeping you in

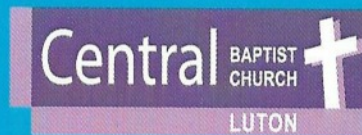
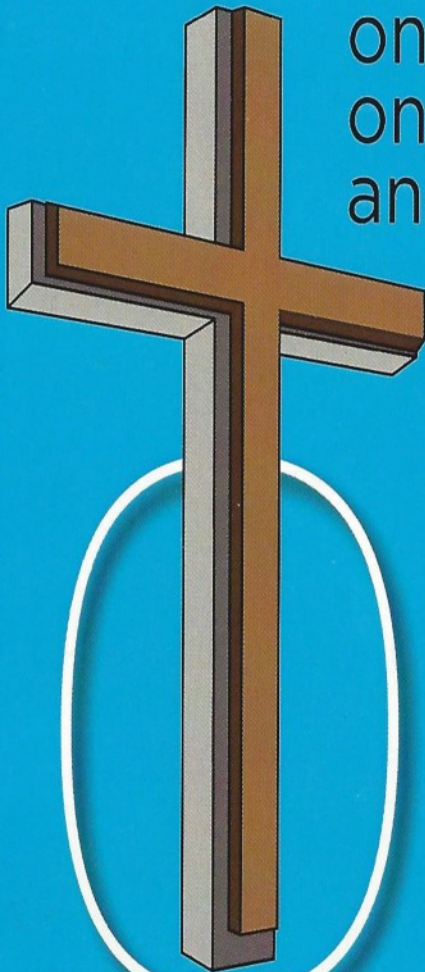
CONTACT

with

LUTON

Motto 2017 Ephesians Chapter 4 verses 2-6

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



one

FEBRUARY 2017

Articles for the MARCH 2017 Contact should be given to Gwyneth Gapp **-by Sunday 12TH FEBRUARY**

They can be handwritten, placed in the box in the front vestibule or emailed to gwyneth.gapp@ntlworld.com

February 2017

<i>M</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>S</i>
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i><u>12</u></i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>					

From your Pastor Andrew Gale

Precious Time:

Which month has 28 days?

All months have 28 days but February only has 28 days except in leap years.

The shortness of this month can be a blessing, those paid monthly don't have to wait so long for pay day. This month seems to pass quickly which, given the typical weather, is a definite blessing.

For those who have promised to pay by the end of the month, or that they will complete the job by the end of the month, the shortness of the month adds to the pressure. In such circumstances, February highlights the passing of time.

It behoves us to consider the passing of time, while some may put things off to the end of the month or to some more convenient time, we need to be careful that we don't run out of time.

The Bible has much to say on the subject of time, here are a few verses:

My times are in your hands... Psalm 31:15

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12

Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' James 4:13-15

Making the best use of the time, because the days are evil Ephesians 5:16

For he says, 'In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.' I tell you, now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation. 2

Corinthians 2:6

Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest.

Proverbs 6:6-8

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man. Proverbs 6:10-11

In this shortest of months let's spend some time thinking about time and how we spend it?

Blessings,

Andrew

When did we become such sensitive snowflakes that we now can not take the hard talk of previous generations? The article below is from The Lantern January 1887

The Iron Wolf:

“I conducted the services two months ago,” said a clergyman, “at the funeral of one of my parishioners. He had been a farmer. Forty years ago, as a young boy, he commenced work for himself and his young wife with one hundred acres of land and ended with one hundred. He was a skilled, industrious workman, but he laid no money in the bank. I understood the reason, as I listened to the comments of his neighbours and friends.

“ ‘It was always a warm, hospitable home,’ said one. ‘The poor man was never turned away from that door. His son and daughters all received the best education which his means could command. One is a clergyman, one is a civil engineer, two are teachers; all lead useful, happy and full lives.’

“Said another neighbour: ‘Those children sitting there and weeping are the orphans of a friend. He gave them a home. That crippled girl is his wife’s niece. She lived with them for years. That young fellow who is weeping so bitterly was a waif that he rescued from the slums of the city.’

“And so the story went on, not of a miser who had heaped dollar on dollar, but a servant of God, who helped many lives, and had lifted many of them out of misery and ignorance into live and joy.

“On my way home from the funeral I stopped at the farm of another parishioner, who said to me in a shrill, rasping tone: ‘So old Gould is dead! He left a poor account. Not a penny more than he got from his father. Now I started with nothing, and look there,’ pointing to his board fields. ‘I own down to the creek. D’ ye know why? When I started to keep house I brought this into it first thing,’ taking an iron savings bank, in the shape of a wolf, out of the closet. Every penny I could save went into its jaws.

“ ‘It’s surprising how many pennies you can save when you’ve a purpose. My purpose was to die worth a hundred thousand dollars. Other folks ate meat, we ate molasses. Other men wasted on schooling; my boys and girls learned to work early and keep it up late. I wasted no money on churches or sick people, or paupers, or books and’ he concluded triumphantly- ‘and now I own the creek, and the that land, with the fields yonder, and the stock in my barns, is worth one hundred thousand dollars. Do you see?’ and on the thin, hard lips was a wretched attempt to laugh.

“The house was bare and comfortless; his wife, worn out by work had long crept into her grave; of his children, taught only to make money a god, one daughter, starved in body and mind, was still drudging in his kitchen; one son had taken to drink, having no other recourse, and died in prison; the other a harder miser than his father, remained at home to fight with him over every penny wrung out of their fertile fields.

“Yesterday I buried this man,” continued the clergyman, “Neither neighbour nor friend, son, nor daughter, shed a tear over him. His children were eager to begin the quarrel for the ground he had sacrificed his life to earn. Of it all he only had earth enough to cover his decaying body.

“Economy for a noble purpose” added the good old clergyman, “is a virtue; but in houses of some of our farmers it is avarice; and like a wolf, devour intelligence, religion, hope, and life itself.”

LAY UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURE IN HEAVEN

CHURCH DIARY FEBRUARY 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*

- 5th Parade Service led by Andrew
- 12th Teaching Service led by Andrew
- 19th Breaking of Bread led by Andrew
- 26th Elders' Service

*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

Mr. And Mrs. D. Ballard

Mr. And Mrs. R. Cowle

Due to the high cost of postage we have for some time now also been sending out the Contact by email. If you have an email address and would like it sent this way please let me know.

Thank You

Andrew Tomblin.

Thank You Page

Betty Cato wishes to thank the Church Fellowship and Friends for the kind messages, cards and flowers received upon the sudden death of her friend and neighbour Stella Vass.

Cynthia and family would like to thank all those took part in the Funereal Service for her late husband and for the beautiful flowers. Once again a big thank you and may God Bless.
Cynthia and Family

BMS Birthday Scheme

2nd Elizabeth Wright

5th Samuel Kenner

15th Frank Smith

16th Roger Lake

21st Pat Slough

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

Perry Green Services

At 6.00 pm

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

- 5th. Mr. Roger Barton (c)
12th. Mrs. Gill Short
19th. Mr. John Evans
26th. Rev. Andrew Gale

Tuesday Fellowship at 2.30 pm

- 7th. Meeting at Michaelmas
21st. Members Afternoon

Flowers for the Sanctuary

- 5th Mr & Mrs M Page; Hazel & Frank Smith – In memory of loving parents.
- 12th Mrs Jean Wright – In memory of Ron and loved ones; In loving memory of Mrs Maria Abebi Akinola from the Akinola family.
- 19th Mr & Mrs R G Lee & family; Birthday memories of Clive, a loving husband, dad & grandad, from Rita & family.
- 26th In loving memory of Violet Plummer, a very dear mother, from Audrey, Malcolm, Michael and Gillian; In loving memory of Peter from Margaret Lockwood & family

Programme of Events

JUMP (Tuesdays)

(10.00 am - 11.30 am Term Time)

7th

14th

21st

28th

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

(Tuesdays At 8.00 pm)

- 14th MEMBERS EVENING - Please bring along an interesting item to show and share your memories with us all
- 28th Tonight it is a please to welcome Carol MacDougall who will be speaking about 'Hands of Mercy' and their work in the Philippines

Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

(At 2.30 pm)

- 2nd Joy Browning - Hebrew Scriptures
- 9th Stan Boleman
- 16th Rex Andrews
- 23rd Diane Maple

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

FELLOWSHIP NEWS AS AT 15TH JANUARY 2017

CONGRATULATIONS TO:-

CLIVE and KATE LATTER on the birth of their daughter CARYS HELEN LATTER on the 11th January. She weighed in at 6 lb 10 oz.

Quite a number of people have had coughs and colds.

HEATHER LAKE has been quite poorly for a number of weeks with a chest infection. MALCOLM O'DELL has had two spells in hospital – in the L&D and in Yeovil while he was away. He's now home and having tests. ERIC

NORMAN is very much better and it was good to see him at the Salvation Army on the 8th January. DAISY COLEMAN has had tests recently. SUE UTHAYASEELEN has started her treatment. MAGGY ARCHER is due to have an operation at the beginning of February.

GLADYS CORLEY is now very frail and is not able to get out of bed.

We do remember those who have lost loved ones and particularly our love and sympathy to those who mourn GEOFFREY BEST.

To all mentioned and others we may not know about, we pray that they will soon be well, strengthened, comforted and upheld in their time of need.

Ann M Norman

Social Action Update February 2017

For this month when Valentine's is everywhere, it is important to remember all of those who we love and love us. For many new parents and mums, this can be difficult and a time where extra support is needed to ensure a strong, secure family unit.

Stepping Stones, based in George Street West, is a relatively new charity. It started in 2008 and registered as a charity in 2015. 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. One to one support is the foundation of their services, with every woman accessing the organisation being allocated a women's support practitioner to support them throughout the time they use the charity.

Throughout the year, Stepping Stones has a large number of groups and activities from coffee and cake and stay and play, similar to what runs at Central as Mums and Tots. Other sessions include Trauma group, Anger management, PEEP, which helps parents understand their children's learning and development, and Pathways, aiming to get women work ready.

It is key as a Christian, and as a moral person, to remember that we do not always know what the person sitting next to us on the tube, or behind us in church is going through. My favourite bible verse is Colossians 3 v 12 "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." There are many people who are struggling with what we might think of as quite basic things, and it is important to make sure we show the Christian love of Jesus to those we meet for the first time, or those we see on a regular basis, because we as God's chosen people, clothe ourselves in the characteristics that Jesus himself showed in his life.

If you or someone you know is struggling, Stepping Stones runs its coffee and cake chats the first Friday of every month, our Mums and Tots is every Tuesday morning, and our pastor and pastoral team are available on our church number 01582 724474 or for pastoral visits.

Happy Valentine's Day.

Louise Garbett

Social Action Coordinator

FEBRUARY 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

- Wed 1st** Luton Food Bank. We pray that donations will continue through these cold months for those who are in financial difficulty.
- Thurs 2nd** Thursday Afternoon Fellowship. May all those in attendance be blessed throughout their time of worship together.
- Fri 3rd** Boys Brigade. We pray for the boys, leaders, helpers and all families known to us through this ministry.
- Sat 4th** We pray for volunteers throughout our community giving their time to churches, hospitals, soup kitchen etc.
- Sun 5th** All Age Worship.
Our Crèche team.
- Mon 6th** Our Church Elders.
- Tues 7th** JUMP We pray for the children and their families and carers. That they may receive a warm welcome. We also give thanks to those who enable this ministry.
- Wed 8th** Hands of Mercy. We give thanks that the financial giving of others provides meals and education for the poor communities in Mandaloyong.
- Thurs 9th** For continual prayer and financial giving to the Bible Society to enable the Good News message to reach all.
- Fri 10th** We pray for all those seeking employment or who may be struggling financially.
- Sat 11th** Youth Group. We pray for good attendance and the building up of new relationships.
- Sun 12th** Communic8 leaders.
Our Prayer Team.
- Mon 13th** Girls Brigade. We pray for all the girls and their families. Also we pray for the leaders, helpers and Guild of Friendship. Elizabeth Wright.

- Tues 14th** **LIFT We pray for the warmth of friendship and support for these ladies gathering together.**
- Wed 15th** **Luton University Chaplaincy team.**
Luton and Dunstable Hospital team of volunteers.
- Thurs 16th** **We pray for our Deacons. May they have wisdom in decision making. We give thanks for the time they give to our Church.**
- Fri 17th** **Our Pastoral Care team.**
- Sat 18th** **Andrew and Jo Gale and family.**
- Sun 19th** **Our Church Welcomers.**
- Mon 20th** **Anita, Mike, Jonathon and Charlotte Jones. We give thanks for Anita's work in our local community and schools.**
- Tues 21st** **We pray for those known to us living in nursing homes. We pray that they will receive good care.**
- Wed 22nd** **We pray for all those known to us who are unwell at the moment. We pray for a good recovery and treatment options to enable a good quality of life.**
- Thurs 23rd** **Ann and Eric Norman.**
Erwin and Susan Tadiar.
- Fri 24th** **We give thanks for the volunteers who maintain our premises.**
- Sat 25th** **Our flower ministry team. May they be blessed for the work they do in touching our lives in such a kindly way.**
- Sun 26th** **We pray for members of the Chinese Church.**
- Mon 27th** **James and Helen Malcolm.**
- Tues 28th** **We give thanks that our church opens its doors to provide shelter during the cold months.**

Creator God, bless the family in whom we live,
and help us to be supportive of each other.

We give thanks for all the joyful times we
share,

and for the compassion we show one another
when times are difficult.

We think of those families who are suffering
adversity. Lord we ask that they will find a
place

in your family. Let them know you as a God
of Love, a God of peace, a God of hope and
a God of restoration.

"...in you all families of the earth shall be
blessed."

Genesis 12:3

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

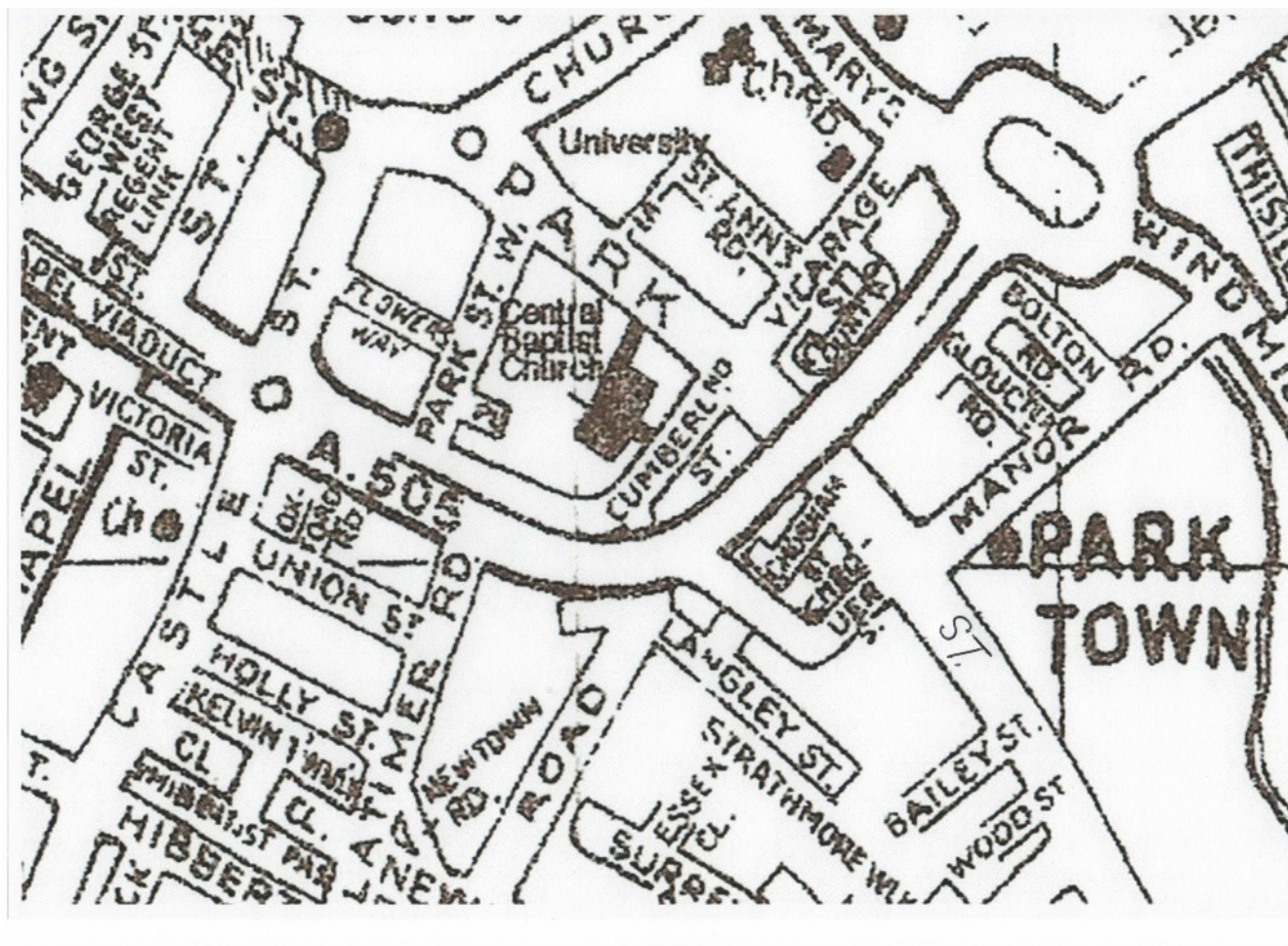
Saturday

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