

Keeping you in

CONTACT

with

LUTON

Motto 2017



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

Ephesians Chapter 4 verses 2-6



one

JUNE 2017

Articles for the JULY Contact should be given to Gwyneth Gapp -by Sunday 11TH JUNE

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

June 2017

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	<u>11</u>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

From your Pastor

Andrew Gale

Election Time

You should receive this edition of Contact just before polling day. I wonder how you reacted to the news that a general election had been called? Did you react like Brenda from Bristol? Brenda from Bristol exclaimed, "What another one?" She then went into a bit of a rant about it all being too much. (You can see her on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6-IQAdFU3w>) On the other hand, you may be the kind of person who can't get enough politics, and you have had a great few weeks debating, perhaps knocking doors, stuffing envelopes or delivering leaflets for your chosen party.

Is there a Christian way to vote or a party that Christians should vote for? In all the main parties there are practicing Christians, so it would be hard to say that to be a real Christian you must vote for one.

However, I think there are Christian principles which we should employ when deciding how to cast our vote or which party to support, I list three below in no particular order and I am sure that you will be able to add your own to the list. The first is putting the needs of others above our own needs: Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. 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) A good rule not just for voting but for all of our life. How does this work out in practice? We consider each policy and ask, who benefits, who is hurt, will this policy be better for the nation, the world, the poorest? Our first question is not "How will I benefit?" To illustrate, I will mention just one policy here because it has been accepted by all the main political parties, "Should Britain continue to give 0.7% of national income on foreign aid?" Is this best for me? Probably not because it comes from my tax. Is it better for others? Yes, it saves and/or improves the lives of the world's most needy.

The second is to consider whether a policy is in line with the teaching of the Bible. If we claim that Scripture is our guide for all of life not simply a religious text, then a good opportunity to test that is at election time.

Then does this policy reflect the nature and character of God. Is it just, loving, patient and redemptive?

Of course, the problem with this is that parties have a number of policies, some of which tick all of our boxes and some of which don't, who should we choose? Should we have a score card? The one with the most ticks wins? Or are some issues more important than others?

Then Christians will come to different conclusions after reading the same Bible and examining the same policy, this is why there are Christians in all of the main political parties.

I am going to say nothing to resolve these questions for you, simply to ask you to think and pray about your vote. If get opportunity to speak to those seeking office tell them what is important to you.

(This article is very like one I wrote for Peter's Green village magazine. It also contains material I use before every election)

From The Lantern (Magazine of Camberwell Gate Baptist Church) September 1884

Prayer

Prayer was appointed to convey,
The blessings God designs to give;
Long as they live should Christians pray,
For only while they pray they live.

The Christian's heart his prayer indites,
He speaks as prompted from within;
The Spirit his petition writes,
And Christ receives and gives it in.

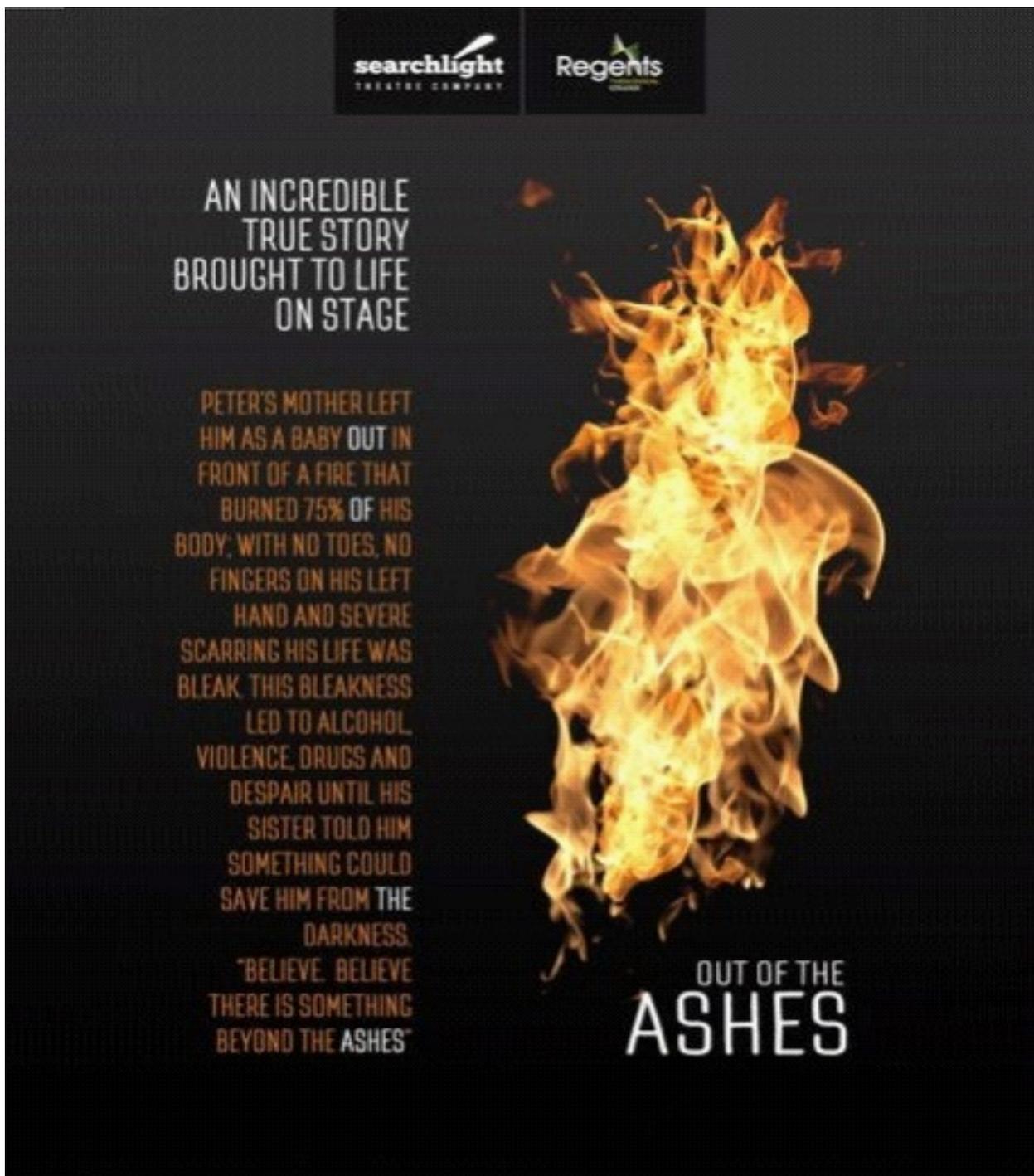
And wilt thou in dead silence lie,
While Christ stands waiting for thy prayer?
My soul, thou hast a Friend on high,
Arise! And try thy interest there.

If pain afflict, or wrongs oppress;
If cares distract, or fears dismay;
If guilt deject, if sins distress,
The remedy's before thee- pray

Tis prayer supports the soul that's weak,
Though thought be broken, language lame;
Pray if thou canst, or canst not, speak;
But pray with faith in Jesus' name.

Depend on Him; thou canst not fail;
Make all thy wants and wishes known;
Fear not, His merits must prevail;
Ask what thou wilt, it shall be done.

Joseph Hart (1712-1768)



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 JUNE 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

- 4th Day of Pentecost. Parade Service
- 11th Teaching and worship service
- 18th Communion Service
- 25th Service Lead by elders (Andrew is preaching in Caddington)

All services will be led by the pastor unless otherwise stated

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.

Thank You Page

Church Work Day

A very big Thank You to all those who gave up their Saturday and came along to help on the recent work day. Everybody worked very hard and a great deal was achieved.

Well done.

Claire and Tim Newns

Thank you all so very much for the prayers, phone calls, visits, cards and flowers. They were all very much appreciated. I am progressing well after my fall.

God Bless you all.

Connie Archer

Christians defeat Tigers

We are pleased to let you know that our Christians in Sport table tennis

team have won the Premier Division of the Luton & District Table Tennis league for the 2016/2017 season by a margin of 3 points from Tigers. We have also won the Cunningham Cup Challenge Trophy and have therefore completed the Double in the LDTT League this year. We were victorious in the Cup Final held on 20 April by defeating Vauxhall Tigers 6 - 5 in a very hard fought match played in an excellent spirit at Luton Central Baptist Church.

We are very grateful to the Church for allowing us to use the premises here at Luton Central Baptist and thought you would all like to know about our successful season this year.

BMS Birthday Scheme

1st	Dennis Cousins
3rd	Marianne Jones
12th	Hazel Smith
16th	Louise Garbett
20th	June Radford
22nd	Roger Barton
26th	Margaret Archer
30th	Jane Adams

BB CAR WASH JUNE 17TH
10.AM – 1PM

Bacon Butties and refreshments available.
There will also be a cake stall and a tuck stall.
Guess how many sweets in the jar and other
games.

Please come even if you don't have car

Perry Green Services
At 6.00 pm

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

- 4th Mr. Samson Akinola
11th. Mr. Erwin Tadiar (C)
18th. 7 p.m. Open Air Service on the Green with the Salvation Army band.
25th. Mr. Len Fowler

Tuesday Fellowship at 2.30 pm

- 6th. Mrs Gill Short
20th Lunch at Bright Star

Flowers for the Sanctuary

4th In loving memory of Margaret Goodman (nee Holdstock) and Percy, Vera and Greta Holdstock, from Reg. and Shirley Goodman and family;

In loving memory of Bert on his birthday from Connie Archer and family.

11th Mr. and Mrs. Bill Quinn and family;

In loving memory of my wife Alma, from James Stevens;

Happy memories of Robin Roe from Brenda and family.

18th Loving memories of Stan a very dear husband, dad and grandad from Mrs. Jean Corder and family;

J.U.M.P. (Fathers Day).

25th Lovingly remembering a beautiful Mum and Grandmother, from Shirley and Louise Garbett;

Lovely family memories from Roger and Heather Lake and family.

Programme of Events

JUMP (Tuesdays)

(10.00 am - 11.30 am Term Time)

6th

13th

20th

27th

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

(Tuesdays At 8.00 pm)

13th Tonight we welcome Karen Bush who is the Manager of the Voluntary Services, telling us about her work with Dementia Patients.

27th Mr. John Souster will visit us talking about 'The Sir Herbert Janes' Village.

OPEN EVENING

Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

(At 2.30 pm)

1st Ruth Deacon

8th Rev. Martin Shorey - Ramridge Baptist

15th Ruth Gendie.

22nd Rev. Clement Tang.

29th Mr. Jolly

FELLOWSHIP NEWS AS AT 14TH MAY 2017

New Members:

The Right Hand Of Fellowship was extended to PETER and NINA MERLIN, LAURA RAMIREZ and MIRIAM TISO at the Morning Communion Service on 23rd April 2017.

Congratulations to:

LIZZIE and AARON SPOWAGE on the birth of their daughter PHILIPPA born on 20th April, SUE and DAVID COUSINS on becoming grandparents again and DENNIS COUSINS as a Great Grandfather.

ADAM BENJAMIN on his engagement to MIRIAM DYER.

HAZEL SMITH who will be 80 on 12th June.

Belatedly to:

SEGUN AKINOLA on his marriage to JADE GRAY on 18th March.

Our love and sympathy to those who have been bereaved recently.

ORAL CARRINGTON on the death of his brother NEVILLE, MAURICE HILL whose sister has died and ELIZABETH OYEDEM whose Aunt has died in Nigeria. We uphold all those who mourn the loss of loved ones that they might know the Lord's Peace and Comfort in the days ahead.

SUE UTHAYASEELAN'S operation was successful and is now home recovering. It was good to see her sister VASANTHE in fellowship with us on 7th May. JAMES STEVENS has had an operation on his foot. Several people have or have had appointments, tests or treatment or have not been well including ROGER BARTON, STEVE CONYBEARE, TOM MOWER, ERIC NORMAN, JUNE RADFORD, HAZEL SMITH, HAZEL TOMBLIN and JEAN WRIGHT.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all those mentions 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

The General Election

Some thoughts taken from a letter to Anglican churches from the archbishops of Canterbury and of York.

As Christians, our first duty is to pray for those standing for office, and to continue to pray for those who are elected. Our political leaders carry enormous responsibilities and they face issues of vast complexity. They (and their families) carry heavy burdens and sometimes serve at considerable personal cost.

Our second duty is to set aside apathy and cynicism, to participate, and to encourage others to do the same. Be sure to vote on 8th June.

At our best, British people have had a sense not only of living for ourselves, but for the common good; by a concern for the weak, poor and marginalised.

At home that includes education for all, urgent solutions to our housing challenges, creating communities as well as buildings, and a confident and flourishing health service that gives support to all, through to the end of life.

Abroad it is seen in the 0.7% aid commitment, standing up for those suffering persecution on grounds of faith, and continuing to lead in campaigns against slavery, trafficking, and sexual violence in conflicts.

Courage should guide us into trading agreements that, if they are effective and just, will also reduce the drivers for mass movements of peoples. We must affirm our capacity to be an outward looking and generous country, with distinctive contributions to peace-building, development, the environment and

welcoming the stranger in need. Offering a generous and hospitable welcome to refugees and migrants is a vital expression of our common humanity, but it is not without cost and we should not be deaf to legitimate concerns about the scale of population flows and the differential impact it has on different parts of society; the pressures of integration must be shared more equitably.

Politics needs to re-evaluate the importance of religious belief. The religious faith of an election candidate should not be treated by opponents as a vulnerability to be exploited, rather we hope candidates can be open about the impact of faith on their vocation to public service. The assumptions of secularism are not a reliable guide to the way the world works, nor will they enable us to understand the place of faith in other people's lives. The contribution of people of faith to the well-being of the nation is immense – schools, food banks, social support, childcare among many others.

The virtues and practices that make for good individuals and flourishing communities have their roots in the Christian history of our nation. If treated as partners in the project of serving the country, the churches have much to contribute to the common good. Political responses to the problems of religiously-motivated violence and extremism must also recognise that solutions will not be found simply in further secularisation of the public realm.

We should keep in our prayers all those who are standing in this election and be grateful for their commitment to public service.

Umbrellas for Charity!

We appear to be collecting a considerable number of umbrellas! Have you turned up in the rain and left in the sunshine leaving you umbrella behind? Please check to see if one of them is yours and reclaim it or at the end of June they will all be donated to Charity.

Fun Bible Book Search!

In the paragraph below, there are the names of SIXTEEN books of the Bible. Their letters may be hidden within two or more words, but they are always in the correct sequence. See how many you can find;

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts...and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so that she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph!

JUNE 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

- Thursday 1** Pray for Thursday Afternoon Fellowship. Pray for Andrew and Jo Gale
- Friday 2** Pray for Boys' Brigade. Pray for Ruth and Amos Tiso.
- Saturday 3** Pray for Youth Club. Pray for Erwin and Sue Tadiar.
- Sunday 4** Pray for the Sunday Evening Fellowship; communion service tonight. Pray for Pam Greener. Pray about who should take Pam's place as an elder in January when she has a year off.
- Monday 5** Pray for Art Club. Pray for Samson and Racheal Akinola.
- Tuesday 6** Pray for JUMP; pray also for the deacons meeting this evening. Pray for Anita and Mike Jones.
- Wednesday 7** Pray for the SHIELD group meeting tonight. Pray for Judy Baker.
- Thursday 8** Pray about outcome of today's general election. Pray for Mel Quinn.
- Friday 9** Pray for Street Pastors. Pray for Elizabeth Oyedemi.
- Saturday 10** Pray for Luton Borough Council, staff and councillors. Pray for John and Patrice Evans.

- Sunday 11** Pray for the children who come to Communicate. Pray for Roland and Hilary Ogberigbe.
- Monday 12** Pray for Girls' Brigade. Pray for Tim and Claire Newns.
- Tuesday 13** Pray for LIFT meeting tonight. Pray for Marsh and Lavita D'Souza.
- Wednesday 14** Pray for Clement and the Chinese Church. Pray for Ian and Vickie Benjamin.
- Thursday 15** Pray for Azalea, and for their meeting tomorrow. Pray for Jam and Helen Malcolm.
- Friday 16** Pray for all the families connected to our Boys' Brigade company. Pray for Eric and Ann Norman.
- Saturday 17** Pray for NOAH. Pray for Hazel and Tony Burley.
- Sunday 18** Pray for the communion service today. Pray for Ron and Pearl Lee.
- Monday 19** Pray for those away from home. Pray for Hazel and Frank Smith.
- Tuesday 20** Pray for the Men's Prayer Meeting. Pray for Elizabeth and Keith Wright.
- Wednesday 21** Pray for everyone who serves with the Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy. Pray for Dennis Cousins.
- Thursday 22** Pray for the Oasis drop-in centre. Pray for Gerald and Eunice Hale.

- Friday 23** Pray for Youthscape. Pray for John Whitehorn, Geoff Sonata, and Martin Lord.
- Saturday 24** Pray for our Sunday school teachers. Pray for Zac Sereaton.
- Sunday 25** Pray for our Perry Green branch church. Pray for Graham and Pat Slough.
- Monday 26** Pray for the families connected to our Girls' Brigade. Pray for Beckie Howard.
- Tuesday 27** Pray for the group who gather to play Short Mat Bowls. Pray for Steve Conybeare.
- Wednesday 28** Pray for peace and unity in Luton; pray for Grassroots. Pray for Carol Beasley.
- Thursday 29** Pray for Pastor Bony and the French-speaking church meeting in our building. Pray for Peter and Nina Marin.
- Friday 30** Pray for children starting life at a disadvantage; pray for Level Trust. Pray for Adam Benjamin.

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

Friday

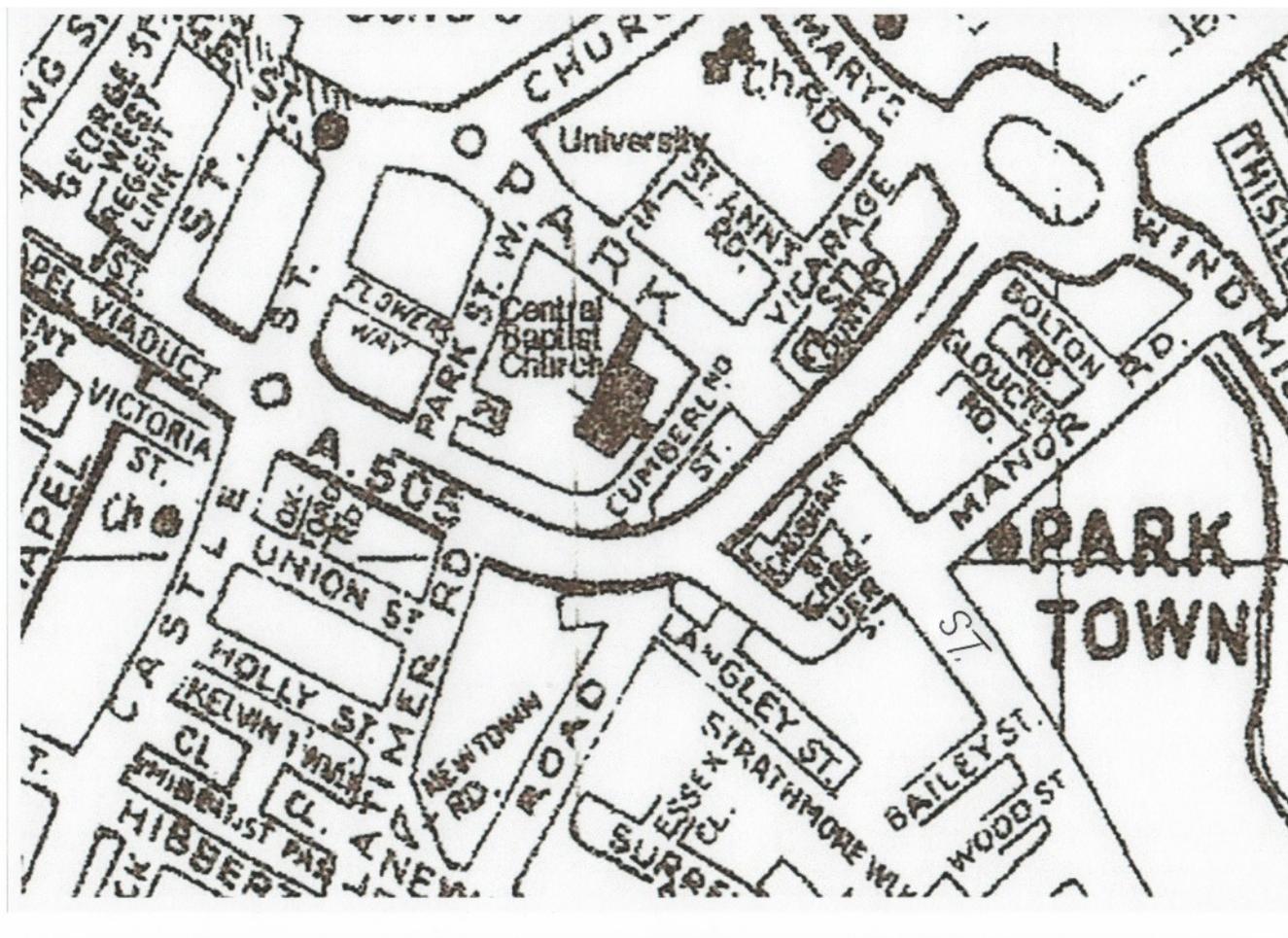
6.45 -9.30 pm Boys Brigade

Saturday

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