

Keeping you in

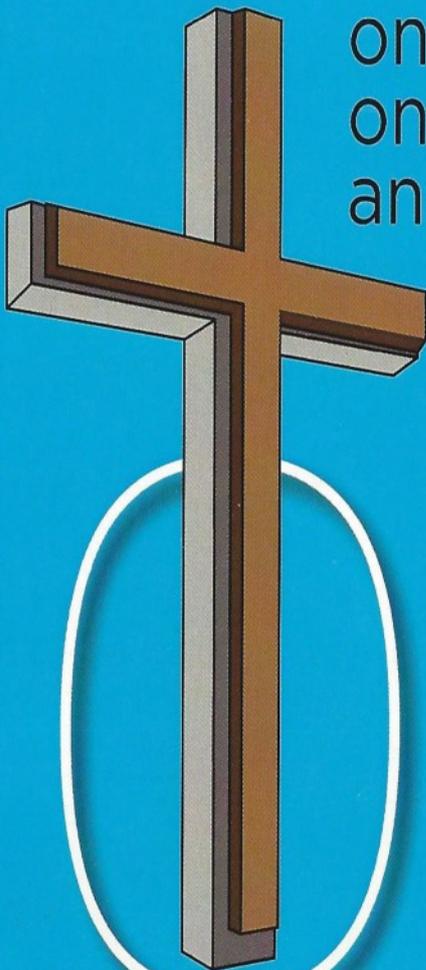
CONTACT

with

LUTON

Motto 2017 Ephesians Chapter 4 verses 2-6

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



one

MARCH 2017

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

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

<i>March 2017</i>						
<i>M</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>S</i>
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<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<u><i>12</i></u>
<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>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>		

From your Pastor

Andrew Gale

During March we will meet with others to begin to prepare our hearts for Easter. Some will fast in some measure or another. Others will commit to extra devotions or increase the good works they are involved in. We will join with other Christians in the house groups at Peter's Green or on Wednesday evenings in the Salvation Army building. This period of increased devotional activity is intended to focus our minds on the Lord and His journey to the cross.

This time is not a way of making up for our sins, we do not believe in penance, inflicting suffering on ourselves to make up for our sins. Giving up something for Lent or increasing our devotional life is not self-punishment. That would deny the power of the Cross, on the cross Jesus took the punishment for our sins, "But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities." Isaiah 53:5. Our sins are forgiven when we repent and confess them to God, it is all God's doing so that there is no room for pride or any idea that we have earned our forgiveness.

During this season of Lent we do reflect on the seriousness of our sin, it sent Jesus to the cross. We also reflect on the cost of our salvation because although we can do nothing to earn it, it is God's free gift, it is nonetheless a costly gift.

During this season we reflect on God's love for us, how He drew the plan of salvation, how it was put into operation and how we were brought to Him.

In this season we reflect on how we are living, are we living right before God? Have we surrendered our hearts to Him? Sometimes our studies in this period reflect on current affairs and how we can show God's love in real situations.

It is a good time to join with other Christians, whatever differences we may have the cross unites us. We can meet with other denominations, we can study together, we can share the light God has given us and learn from others.

This is a special time of year where we step up the intensity of our devotional life, it is not about giving up chocolate but it is about focusing our minds and hearts on the heavenly Kingdom.

Andrew

How Jesus comes

One of the little orphan boys in John Falk's German Charity School, repeated at the supper table their usual grace, "Come, Lord Jesus, and be our guest and bless the food Thou hast provided."

A lad looked up and said, "Tell us, teacher, why the Lord Jesus never comes."

"Dear child, only believe, and you may be sure that He will come to us some of these times; for He always hears us."

"Then," replied the bright lad, "I'll set a chair for Him," and he put one by the table.

By-and-bye a knock was heard at the door. A poor travelling apprentice was admitted, and asked for food and lodging. The little fellow looked at the stranger a few moments, and piped out, "Ah, I see! Jesus could not come tonight, and so He sent this poor young man in His place. Is that the way teacher?"

"Yes, my boy, that is just it. Every cup of water or bit of bread we give to the poor and hungry, for Jesus sake, we give to Him. Insomuch as we do it to the least of our brethren, we do it unto our Saviour.

"Ye have done it unto Me."

This article was taken from The Lantern first published March 1884

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

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Sunday 5 th | Parade Service |
| Sunday 12 th | Fr Sean Healy will minister on our key verse for this year |
| Sunday 19 th | Breaking of Bread |
| Sunday 26 th | Mothers' Day lead by elders |

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



Tea and Hymns
Sunday 19th March 3:30pm
Drink tea and sing hymns

Fellowship, praise, tea and cakes



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 March Update

As we head further into 2017, charities begin to announce their facts about the previous year. A charity the church continually supports, Luton Foodbank, have recently done just that.

In 2016, they gave out 7,565 food parcels, which was a dramatic increase of 25% on 2015. This can be seen to be related to changes and cuts to benefits that have recently been put in place. Now almost a quarter of the population are classes as being ‘in poverty.’ It also correlates to the dramatic increase in housing costs in the town, with a 20% rise over just 12 months. The most successful campaigns through the year were harvest and Christmas, with almost 25,000 items donated for each event.

However, Luton Foodbank are also arranging plenty of fundraising events throughout the year to help raise funds to face the rising demands. On Friday 17th March to Sunday 19th March, there is a ‘Big Pedal’ where some very brave people are going to cycle the 190 mile journey from Luton to Manchester. There is also going to be a 5K colour run at Stockwood on 22nd April. I took part in a colour run last year and it was great fun – see Luton Foodbank website for more details. Between 25th March and 1st April they are also encouraging people to arrange a coffee morning to raise funds.

While some charities continue to strive and fundraise as much as possible, some are unable to keep up with the ever growing demands and lack of government support. Unfortunately, this has recently happened to the local charity LAMP – Luton Accommodation and Move-On Project. The charity was known as a leading service provider for homeless young people within the local area. After losing funding from the council several years ago, financial issues continued to weigh the charity down until they were forced to accept that the charity could no longer provide its services.

This again is strongly related to the substantial rise in property prices and rental costs, with benefit payments and paychecks failing to meet the changing demands. They also said the needs of the young people turning to LAMP have become greater, with mental health being a significant issue, adding to the cost of supporting them.

From this, we must continue to give thanks that there are charities who work tirelessly to support those within our community, but also provide our own support where we can, as we cannot simply allow others to do the hard work, but as Christians, show the love and care that Jesus would have done.

Louise Garbett
Social Action Coordinator

BMS Birthday Scheme

- 1st Pam Greener
- 5th Hayley Newns (21st Birthday)
Barbara O'Dell
- 7th Hazel Tomblin
- 9th Christine Barton
Heather Lake
- 11th Eunice Hale
- 12th Nitish Uthayaseelan
- 19th Jean Corder
Gary Archer
- 24th Matt Wright
- 29th Jean Wright

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. Mrs. Diane Maple
- 12th. Miss Pam Greener (c)
- 19th. Mr. Len Fowler
- 26th. Miss Pam Greener

Tuesday Fellowship at 2.30 pm

- 7th Members Afternoon
- 21st. Liz Jamieson

Flowers for the Sanctuary

- 5th Mrs Hazel Tomblin – Lovely memories;
Mrs Jean Corder & Family – In loving
memory of a dear mother;
In loving memory of a dear wife, from Mr
Thomas Allen.
- 12th Mary & Bill Quinn – In memory of dear
parents.
- 19th In loving memory of Thelma and Arthur
Morley and Mrs Tiplady from Ingrid Khan
& family.
- 26th Connie Archer & Family - In loving memory
of Bert;
In loving memory of Greta Holdstock from
Roland Holdstock & Family;
J.U.M.P. (Mothering Sunday).

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)

- 14th Tonight we welcome Elaine Cruise, talking about
 ‘The History of Mary Secole 1805 - 1881’ a nurse
 in the Crimean War, who nursed British soldiers.
- 28th Tonight Claire Hussey will be speaking to us
 about her work with Age Concern.

Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

(At 2.30 pm)

- 2nd Chris Curtis.
- 9th Tony Townley.
- 16th Rev Barry King
- 23rd Amy Bantam - Open Air
 Mission.
- 30th Mr. Lee Page

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

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

FELLOWSHIP NEWS AS AT 12TH FEBRUARY 2017

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

HAZEL TOMBLIN who will be 80 on 6th March

JEAN WRIGHT who will be 93 on 29th March

BELATEDLY TO:

VASANTHE SUNDRAM

It is great sadness we report the death of our oldest member – GLADYS CORLEY who died peacefully on 3rd February aged 103, our love and sympathy to her two sons Terry and Brian and their families. We would also remember HAZEL LITTLEWORTH whose brother MAURICE died on 23rd January and to CONNIE ARCHER on the death of a cousin and OLIVE BROOKS lost her brother in Jamaica on 6th February.

At the time of writing DAVID HOBBS is in hospital being treated for an infection, MAGGY ARCHER has had her back operation and is now home recovering. AURIEL HAYDEN has had a successful carpal tunnel operation, SUE UTHAYASEELAN is due to have an operation at the end of February, whilst LOUISE GARBETT awaits the results of a scan on her back.

There are others who have had or await appointments and others who have not been well include INA BAILEY, ALAN DUDLEY, CHRISTINE DEVEREUX, ITA EVANS, HAZEL TOMBLIN and MARGARET YARDE.

We lovingly uphold all these friends and their families in their joys, sorrows or anxiety. For all who have been unwell, sad, tired or lonely, we do pray that the Lord will heal, strengthen and comfort them. May we be a supportive and encouraging fellowship.

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

Betty Cato wishes to thank the Church Fellowship and Friends for the very many cards, telephone messages and flowers received upon the occasion of her 90th birthday.

MARCH 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 pray for some individual members and friends of the church.

- Wednesday 1 Paul Knight, Ian Benjamin, Heather Lake
- Thursday 2 Beryl Francisque, Mary Quinn, Eric Norman
- Friday 3 Ita Evans, Jim Donaldson, Michael Page
- Saturday 4 Pat Ridyard, Nadia Deadman, Tony Burley
- Sunday 5 Lorna Swain, Shirley Garbett, John Evans
- Monday 6 Zac Sereaton, Vinola Joseph, Taiwo Anifowose
- Tuesday 7 Elizabeth Oyedemi, Connie Archer, Rita Gibbs
- Wednesday 8 Frank Smith, Steve Conybeare, Mel Quinn
- Thursday 9 Pam Greener, Vickie Benjamin, Dennis Cousins
- Friday 10 Nancy Page, Patrice Evans, Janet Forsyth
- Saturday 11 Ann Norman, Hannah Thomas, Amor Albert
- Sunday 12 Daisy Coleman, Aisha Carty, Eileen Emanuel
- Monday 13 Sue Cousins, Hazel Burley, Jam Malcolm
- Tuesday 14 Roland Ogberigbe, Mavis Reeves, Lynda Hill
- Wednesday 15 Oral Carrington, Cynthia Best, Hannah Lowen
- Thursday 16 Pat Slough, David Hobbs, Alan Dudley

Friday 17	Bill Quinn, Cyril Yarde, Jean Corder
Saturday 18	Sarah Daka, Janet Summerlin, Su Uthayaseelan
Sunday 19	Helen Malcolm, Hazel Tomblin, Alicia Powell
Monday 20	Samson Akinola, Pearl Lee, Joan Plant
Tuesday 21	Shiela Carrington, Hazel Smith, Deborah Anifowose
Wednesday 22	Dennis Stanbridge, Jennifer Craig, Gwyneth Gapp
Thursday 23	Tim Newns, Doina-petruta Popa, Auriel Hayden
Friday 24	Angela Knight, Maurice Hill, Nella Morley
Saturday 25	Tom Mower, Graham Slough, Ribca Shahzad
Sunday 26	Tom Allen, Ron Lee, Erwin Tadiar
Monday 27	Olive Brooks, Marsh D'Souza, Laura Ramirez
Tuesday 28	Hazel Littleworth, Kwasi Osei-Kuffour, Audrey O'Dell
Wednesday 29	Hilary Ogberigbe, Jean Wright, Jo Gale
Thursday 30	Ruth Tiso, Shirley Hobbs, Julie Anderson
Friday 31	Ina Bailey, Elizabeth Wright, Gerald Hale

God alone is to be the rule and measure of our prayers. In them we are to look wholly unto Him, and act wholly for Him. We are only to pray in such a manner, for such things, and such ends, as are suitable to His glory.

If you find out the reason why you are to be strictly pious in your prayers, you will find the same reason to be strictly pious in all the other parts of your life.

For there is not the least shadow of a reason why we should make God the rule and measure of our prayers (why we should then look wholly unto Him, and pray according to His will), but what equally proves it necessary for us to look wholly unto God, and make Him the rule and measure of all the other actions of our life.

(William Law, 1729)

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

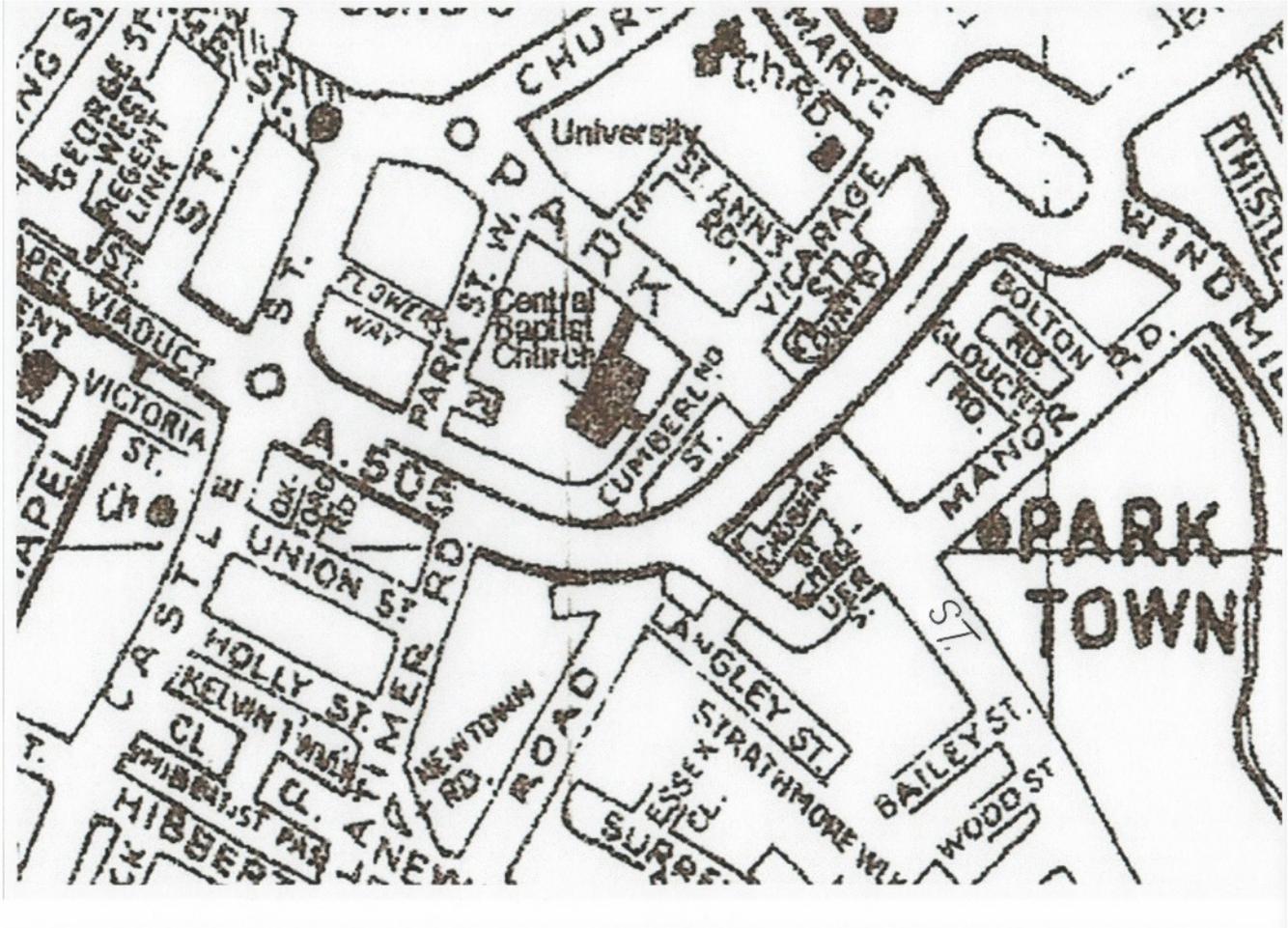
Saturday

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