

Central BAPTIST CHURCH
LUTON

Contact

MAGAZINE
MAY 2018



Motto 2018

I have
hidden
your word
in my heart
that I might
not sin against you.

Central BAPTIST CHURCH
LUTON

Articles for the JUNE 2018 Contact should be given to Gwyneth Gapp -by Sunday 13TH MAY They can be handwritten, placed in the box in the front vestibule or emailed to gwyneth.gapp@ntlworld.com

May 2018

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From your Pastor Andrew Gale

Calvinism

In our teaching services (second Sunday of the month) over the past few months have been entitled: Whose choice is Salvation? Eternally Secure! Why the Cross? The Call of God. Although I don't think I have named them as such these messages have covered the five points of Calvinism.

Calvinism is named after the reformer John Calvin who was pastor and civic leader of Geneva in the 1540s. It was further developed by other reformers notably Huldrych Zwingli, who influenced English reformers. The main points of this teaching can be summarised in TULIP

T: Total Depravity, humankind are so corrupted by sin that although God invites all to be saved, humans will not. Our nature is too corrupted.

U: Unconditional Election, God chose us not because He saw any good in us but simply because He chose us.

L: Limited Atonement, although the death of Jesus on the cross was enough for the sins of the whole world it is only effective for those the Lord saves

I: Irresistible Grace, when the Holy Spirit calls us, He makes an offer we can't refuse. It is sometimes a puzzle to us why people don't respond to the Gospel when God is giving us so much, we think that way because God has opened our eyes.

P: Preservation of Saints, those God saves, he keeps.

Some may say why have we spent so much time on these doctrines? Why don't we spend more time on practical advice on how to live today?

These doctrines are important because unless we have a right understanding of the Gospel we will quickly be led astray. By acknowledging that salvation is all of God, pride is demolished. By acknowledging that God keeps us, we have security. By fully understanding His grace at work in our lives, we are motivated to love

Him more. By realising that it is through God's power people respond to the Gospel, we do not witness from fear but in confidence.

Andrew

Again, this month our historic article is from C H Spurgeon, this is from his daily devotional Morning and Evening which is still in print:

Called to be saints. Romans 1:7

We are very apt to regard the apostolic saints as if they were "saints" in a more especial manner than the other children of God. All are "saints" whom God has called by His grace, and sanctified by His Spirit; but we are apt to look upon the apostles as extraordinary beings, scarcely subject to the same weaknesses and temptations as ourselves. Yet in so doing we are forgetful of this truth, that the nearer a man lives to God the more intensely has he to mourn over his own evil heart; and the more his Master honours him in His service, the more also doth the evil of the flesh vex and tease him day by day. The fact is, if we had seen the apostle Paul, we should have thought him remarkably like the rest of the chosen family: and if we had talked with him, we should have said, "We find that his experience and ours are much the same. He is more faithful, more holy, and more deeply taught than we are, but he has the self same trials to endure. Nay, in some respects he is more sorely tried than ourselves." Do not, then, look upon the ancient saints as being exempt either from infirmities or sins; and do not regard them with that mystic reverence which will almost make us idolators. Their holiness is attainable even by us. We are "called to be saints" by that same voice which constrained them to their high vocation. It is a Christian's duty to force his way into the inner circle of saintship; and if these saints were superior to us in their attainments, as they certainly were, let us follow them; let us emulate their ardour and holiness. We have the same light that they had, the same grace is accessible to us, and why should we rest satisfied until we have equalled them in heavenly character? They lived with Jesus, they lived for Jesus, therefore they grew like Jesus. Let us live by the same Spirit as they did, "looking unto Jesus," and our saintship will soon be apparent.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13 – 19 MAY

THERE FOR THE LONG-TERM

Emergency appeals and seasonal fund-raising appeals are part of the life-blood of Christian Aid -with your support we can help save lives and support people in need. Currently major crises and disasters are affecting millions of people around the world.

Christian Aid has responded, and, thanks to your donations, we can be there for the long-term – before, during and after an emergency.

Envelopes will be available.

Christian Aid Magazine Spring/ Summer 2018.

Thank You Page

Thank you to all my friends at Central for the many cards and gifts I received for my 90th birthday on the 19th March. I spent a lovely day with my family. On the Saturday, five family members went to the 'The Fox' near the airport for a meal. On Saturday 24th March I had a Surprise Party at the Church arranged by Gemma, my grand-daughter, and Sue, my niece, with about 70, including friends from Church, two from the WRVS, where I worked after I retired, and two who travelled from Beeston. Thank you to all those from the Church who made cakes and helped my family to organise everything, that went off so well. I am still recovering from it.

God Bless you all,
Jean Corder

I would like to thank the Church family for the lovely flowers and beautiful Card for Easter and my birthday, it was lovely.

Thank You,
Ita Evans

CHURCH DIARY
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

- 6th May Parade Service
13th Teaching Service Risen ASCENDED
Glorified
20th Pentecost Sunday, we are planning a baptismal service and we will break bread together
27th The Elders will lead this service

Sunday 27th May 3:30 pm
Tea and Hymns
Fellowship tea and sing hymns

On Sunday evenings we meet at our chapel in Perry Green at 6 pm, if you would like a lift please try to let the pastor know but the lifts leave Cumberland Street Entrance at 5:45 pm sharp.

My Cup Runneth Over - by Dennis Cousins

Our Pastor Andrew asked for contributions for the Contact and I felt led to share this with you.

At various Christian meetings the Lord has used others to speak words of prophecy and blessing over me. His words have affirmed that "You are an encourager. That is your ministry." "You are a real Barnabus - an encourager." Then more recently I was loitering at the rear of a meeting hall observing others being ministered to when suddenly a man came out of the crowd and approached me. He placed his hands on me and said. "You have a wonderful story to tell - get telling it." So here is some of it.

My mother had been told after my sister had been born that she mustn't have any more children because it was too dangerous; however two years later I popped up. When the doctor declared, "It's a boy", my dear mother exclaimed, "Thank God, when he grows up I'll have someone to defend me. This gives an idea of the terrible life my mother had until her dying day with my father. Dad had turned against the Church and anyone that attended as he believed that they had mistreated him, and my grandmother had tried to warn my mother that she would regret the day she married her son, but mum was convinced that she was marrying a good Christian man and that the love they shared together meant that they would be alright. Sadly that changed one week after the wedding.

On Sunday evenings dad would play one of the two organs or the piano in our home and enjoyed me standing next to him singing hymns and choruses. One evening after he had just played 'Jesus, shepherd of Thy sheep', I said "We are the lambs and Jesus is the shepherd, isn't he dad?" Dad swore at me and told me not to talk so daft. Dad could be so hateful and unkind.

I remember that we had an American serviceman living next door and one morning his little Morris 8 car had a flat battery. He asked to borrow a starting handle. Even though we had two motors that used starting handles my father apologised saying that he didn't have one. Feeling annoyed I made an excuse to go outside. I went in the garage, got a starting handle and gave the man's car a quick turn so he went away happy. Just as I was replacing the handle dad came out. When he discovered what I had done, he swore and cursed me.

I loved and respected my dad, and longed for him to be saved. There were two different ways of life in my home and I was torn between wanting to be *big* like dad or to adopt my mother's Christian way. When I chose to be baptised at seventeen this made things between dad and I much worse, and the bible verse given to me at that time would be a frequent companion throughout my Christian life. *Endure hardship as a good soldier of Christ.* 1 Tim 2:3.

We had huge premises - 190 foot frontage and one small undeveloped shop on the corner. My grandmother had promised this to me and as a young lad I would sit drawing plans on how I would develop it, to include things that were needed in Flitwick - for example; a pharmacy, a green grocer, a florist, a hardware store and a restaurant. I longed and hoped to make lots of money to fulfil a tremendous desire to help under-privileged _ people. (Proverbs 19 vs 21 NIV). Unfortunately, possibly keeping the only promise he had ever made; dad sold the premises and business. Some of the family may have thought that I wasn't very capable, but after serving in the RAF, having a loving wife and family and still feeling the great loss of the family business, I started my own in Stanley Street, Luton. The Lord provided many wonderful jobs for me to do. One was making the food for Dr Runcie's farewell party before his job at Lambeth Palace as the Archbishop of Canterbury. I also had much support from regular customers including past ministers - Keith King and Ken Reynard. Unfortunately, after several accidents on my legs it became difficult for me to continue, so after 15 years I closed in 1996.

I thought I would have to get a part time job as I hadn't achieved my aim, but the Lord clearly showed me that a job wasn't necessary. As I trusted in Him, He kept me busy in His service and blessed me in such a way that I have experienced so much pleasure and joy helping so many people in His name and I've never been short. The bible says, 'The devil puts us down but the Lord lifts us up'. I'm full of thanks and praise to God as my cup has run over so many times that I'm often drinking from the saucer.

Dennis Cousins

Contacts are posted to
you each month by

Andrew Tomblin

8 Winslow Close

Luton, LU3 1QA

Donations for postage for Contact from:

Mr. And Mrs. R, Goodman

Thank You

Winter Night Shelter Numbers:

This has been a very busy year and in total 130 different people stayed at the shelter across 58 nights who would otherwise be sleeping outside!

This is amazing and was only possible because of the support our diligent and enthusiastic volunteer team.

Overall we delivered 1182 bed spaces with an average occupancy of 21 people per night and a maximum of 31 on one occasion.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

6th Mr. and Mrs. Paul Knight

13th Mrs. Pat Ridyard – In loving memory of Alan;

Mr. James Stevens and family – In memory of loved ones.

20th Mr. and Mrs. Tim Newns.

27th Mr. and Mrs. Graham Slough;

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Burley – In memory of loved ones.

EASTER FLOWERS

Very many thanks to all who contributed toward the Easter Flowers this year. I think you will agree that it was a beautiful display, and many found it a real blessing on such a special day.

Thanks, too, to the flower arrangers who took so much time and care with the arrangements.

Thanks to all.

Rita M. Gibbs/

Programme of Events

JUMP (Tuesdays)

(10.00 am - 11.30 am Term Time)

1st

8th

15th

22nd

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

- 8th Tonight we welcome Gillian Henley to our meeting who will be speaking about her volunteering work at Whipsnade Zoo'
- 22nd Please welcome Paul Heley who will talk about 'Well, I never knew that'
(Audience participation)
(OPEN EVENING)

Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

(At 2.30 pm)

- 3rd Alan West
- 10th Will and Lynn Andrews
- 17th Ken Argent
- 24th T.B.A.
- 31st Tim Reynolds

Poem of the Month

The March and April poems were both by a man, George Herbert. This is by a woman, and is probably nearly 300 years more recent, though the unusual capitalisation and punctuation make it look older.

**A Wife — at daybreak I shall be —
Sunrise — Hast thou a Flag for me?
At Midnight, I am but a Maid,
How short it takes to make a Bride —
Then — Midnight, I have passed from thee
Unto the East, and Victory —**

**Midnight — Good Night! I hear them call,
The Angels bustle in the Hall —
Softly my Future climbs the Stair,
I fumble at my Childhood's prayer
So soon to be a Child no more —
Eternity, I'm coming — Sire,
Saviour — I've seen the face — before!**

FELLOWSHIP NEWS AS AT 15TH APRIL 2018

CONGRATULATIONS TO: -

ADAM BENJAMIN and MIRIAM DYER as they celebrate their Marriage on 26th May in Westport, Mayo, Ireland.

TIM and CLAIRE NEWNS who celebrate their SILVER WEDDING on 22nd May.

LAURA MMANGLISA and KELVIN on the birth of KAIDEN JAMES born on 11th March.

Several people have had appointments for ops, treatment and investigations including: - CYNTHIA BEST, AARON D'SOUZA, DAVID HOBBS, ERIC NORMAN and MEL QUINN.

There are quite a number of people who are unable to share fellowship with us for one reason or another including BETTY CATO, DAVID HOBBS (does get to Tea and Hymns sometimes), JUNE RADFORD, JANET SUMMERLIN and JEAN WRIGHT.

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 be a supportive and encouraging fellowship – anyway we can, visits, cards, telephone calls are all appreciated.

A reminder that TEA and HYMNS on the 27th May, and CHRISTIAN AID WEEK will be held 13 – 19th May.

Ann M Norman.

Perry Green Services

At 6.00 pm

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

6th. Mr. Michael Adams
13th. Mrs. Ruth Tiso (c)
20th . Miss Pam Greener
27th. Mr. Len Fowler

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

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

1st Hazel Smith

BMS World Mission Birthday Scheme

| | |
|------|-----------------|
| 2nd | Su Uthayaseelan |
| 4th | Philip Archer |
| 8th | Janet Moss |
| | Ron Lee |
| 9th | Gemma Barton |
| 14th | Bill Quinn |
| 25th | Lisa Saxby |

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

MAY 2018

**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

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Tuesday 1st | Pray for leaders and families attending JUMP |
| Wednesday 2nd | Pray for the Elders |
| Thursday 3rd | Pray for affected by mental health issues |
| Friday 4th | Pray for leaders and boys in Anchors and Juniors |
| Saturday 5th | Pray for those doing Church flowers |
| Sunday 6th | Pray for those receiving church flowers |
| Monday 7th | Pray for those working this Bank Holiday |
| Tuesday 8th | Pray for those attending LIFT |
| Wednesday 9th | Pray for the Deacons |
| Thursday 10th | Pray for those attending afternoon fellowship |
| Friday 11th | Pray for leaders and boys in Company and Senior Sections |
| Saturday 12th | Pray for Girls Brigade coffee morning |
| Sunday 13th | Pray for those who attend Perry |
| Monday 14th | Pray for leaders and girls in Explorers and Juniors |
| Tuesday 15th | Pray for church meeting tonight |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 16th | Pray for our Young people who may be taking exams soon |
| Thursday 17th | Pray for those who are unwell |
| Friday 18th | Pray for those who clean the church |
| Saturday 19th | Pray for Youth group |
| Sunday 20th | Pray for those getting baptised today |
| Monday 21st | Pray for leaders and girls in Seniors and Brigadiers |
| Tuesday 22nd | Pray for those looking for jobs |
| Wednesday 23rd | Pray for those attending Shield |
| Thursday 24th | Pray for the work of NOAH |
| Friday 25 th | Pray for other users of our Premises |
| Saturday 26th | Pray for Adam and Miriam as they get married today |
| Sunday 27th | Pray for Roots Youth Service tonight |
| Monday 28 th | Pray for NHS staff and others who will be working today |
| Tuesday 29th | Pray for those on holiday this week |
| Wednesday 30th | Pray for looked after children and their carers |
| Thursday 31st | Pray for the food bank |

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

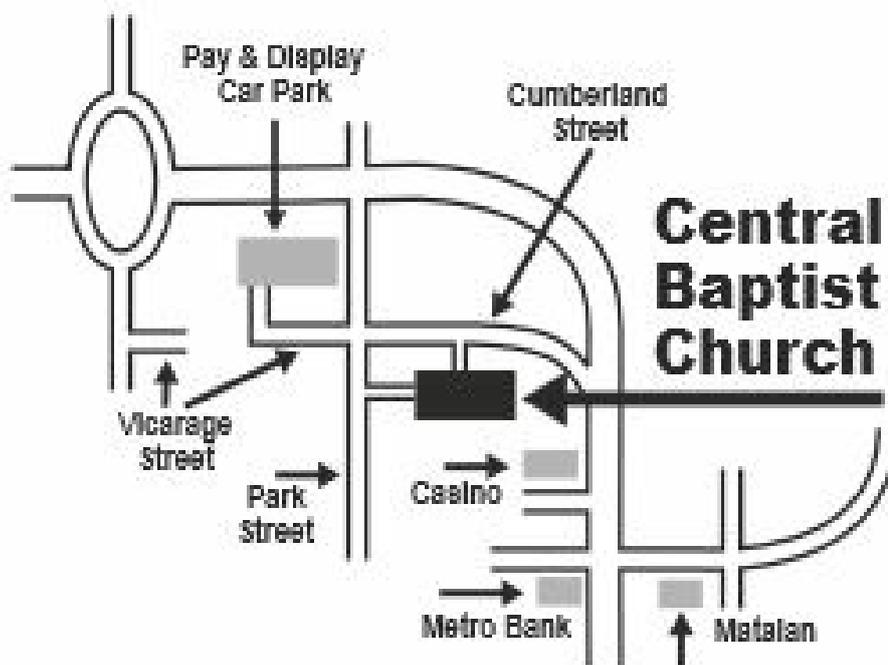
6.45 -9.30 pm Boys Brigade

Saturday

7.00 - 9.00 pm Youth Group -11 years plus

MINISTER
Rev. Andrew Gale
Mobile 07914 853395

SECRETARY
Erwin Tadiar



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