



Berkhamsted  
Baptist Church

## Weekly News

### Sunday 12th January 2025

#### A family following Jesus

**'When you call out to me and come to me in prayer, I will hear your prayers. When you seek me in prayer and worship, you will find me available to you. If you wholeheartedly seek me, I will make myself available to you,' says the LORD. Jeremiah 29 vs 12-14 (NET)**

#### Welcome to our Family Worship led by Revd Karen Bugg

##### Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Call to worship

**Hymn 1267:** Come, people of the risen King

**Song 1040:** Come, now is the time to worship

Introduction to Motto text

**Song 1100:** Open the eyes of my heart, Lord

*Children to leave for their groups*

Bible reading: Jeremiah 29.1-14

Sermon

**Song** (video): It is the cry of my heart to follow you

Intercessions

**Hymn 428:** Lord, for the years

Final prayer & blessing

Dear all, please can I remind you to save used stamps for "Kicks count": there's a box in the Lower Hall. This charity helps to prevent stillbirth and death in infancy. Just leave a centimetre around each stamp. Many thanks.  
*Maggie x*

**Meet & Make is on Tuesdays, 1.30-3.00 pm** in the Lower Hall, using the Holliday Street entrance. Come and join us for a time spent doing arts and crafts or jigsaws and puzzles. All welcome.

**Open Church** takes place every **Thursday 10.00 am until noon**. We meet in the Lower Hall. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake.

**First Steps, our parent + toddler group**, restarts this week. We meet in the Lower Hall **1.30-2.45 on Thursdays** during term-time. We would love to have more helpers – not necessarily present every week – so please see Karen or Beth if you are able to assist.

Our **Small Groups** meet weekly and fortnightly. You are encouraged to attend one to share in mid-week fellowship and learn more about Jesus through his Word. Please speak to Pat Ginger, Sandra Wotton or Alun Sainsbury if you wish to join or try a group.

**Christmas collection** for the Hospice of St Francis. I am pleased to be able to tell you that we raised the sum of £245, and this has been passed on to the Hospice. I have already received a letter of thanks

##### Notices

This coming week, **Karen** is attending the Fresh Streams conference (**Mon-Wed**). She will be checking her email periodically but will be unable to take phone calls on these days.

The **World Day of Prayer** this year is here at Berkhamsted Baptist Church on 7th March. If you are interested in taking part, there is a rehearsal in the Lower Hall on **Monday 13th January at 2pm**. Please let Fliss know if you intend to come to that, or if you can help in any way.

from them which I can show to anyone who would like to read it.

*John Ball*

We are continuing to collect food and other grocery items for the **DENS Foodbank**; these are delivered to Hemel Hempstead each week. Please leave your contributions in the box in the church entrance. Their urgent needs include:

- Tinned ham
- Tinned corned beef
- Sponge puddings
- Tinned rice pudding
- Tinned fruit
- Long life milk
- Long life juice/squash
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned fish
- Biscuits
- Crackers
- Christmas selection packs
- Chocolate
- Custard
- Nuts
- Gravy (small)
- Roasting trays (large)
- Kitchen foil
- Deodorants
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder (small)
- 2-in-1 shampoo

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Prayers

Please pray for

- The Meet & Make team
- Those who find the cold weather a problem
- Those struggling with ill health
- Our outreach, as a church, to our community

*From BMS World Mission*

Pray for BMS partner Middle East Concern, which supports people in the Middle East and North Africa who are discriminated against or persecuted for being or becoming Christians.

May we know you well enough  
to be able to express  
within our prayers  
the doubts and uncertainties  
that often trouble us,  
and those distractions  
that get between us,  
and be confident  
in the knowledge  
that you understand,  
having walked this path before,  
and so walk alongside us,

**Motto text 2025:** 'When you call out to me and come to me in prayer, I will hear your prayers. When you seek me in prayer and worship, you will find me available to you. If you wholeheartedly seek me, I will make myself available to you,' says the LORD.

*Jeremiah 29 vs 12-14 (NET)*

never more than a heartbeat away,  
eternally available

to draw us closer, once more, to you.

From <https://www.faithandworship.com/>

God of compassion, your love for humanity was revealed in Jesus, whose earthly life began in the poverty of a stable and ended in the pain and isolation of the cross. We pray before you for those who are homeless and cold, especially in the bitter winter weather. Father, how thankful we are that we have a place that we call home. We truly pray for all those suffering and sleeping on the streets, especially, Father, for children, who are so weak and vulnerable. Father, make a way for them and draw them near, comfort them in spirit and bless those who work to provide them with shelter, food and friendship.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

From <https://prayerist.com/prayer>

Living God,  
give us genuine commitment in following you,  
wholehearted resolve to honour your will,  
sincere dedication in discipleship.  
Teach us truly to practise what we preach,  
in the sense of working at it each day  
until walking the way of Christ becomes second  
nature,  
not the exception but the norm.  
Amen.

From <https://nickfawcett.uk/>

Our thanks can lift our hearts each day  
Our thanks can build your church  
Our thanks can wave a flag to say,  
On this day it was done.

Our thanks can change each circumstance  
Our thanks can shift and grow  
Our thanks is more than afterthought,  
It's kingdom work begun.

And so my heart will stretch out wide  
Despite my circumstance  
For on the road of thankfulness  
I return to your Son.

I stand beside the empty cross  
And understand again  
That I've so much to thank you for,  
My Saviour and my friend.

Prayer courtesy of [www.prayerscapes.com](http://www.prayerscapes.com)

## And finally...

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

*James 5 v 16b (NIV)*

*Items for the next News Sheet to Fliss Nesbitt by  
Thursday 16th January, please.*