



# Weekly News

## Sunday 8th March 2026

### A family following Jesus

'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free. *Luke 4 v 18 (NIV)*

### Welcome to our Morning Service led by Revd Karen Bugg

#### Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Call to worship

**Song 1267:** Come people of the risen King

All age activity

*Children leave for their group*

**Song 51:** Be thou my vision

Bible Reading - John 9 vs 1 - 38

Talk

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

Intercessions

**Song 624:** Take my life and let it be

Final prayer and blessing

The Grace

We will be taking a break after Easter, so there will be no Meet and Make on the 7th or 14th April.

**Open Church** happens every **Thursday 10.00 am until noon**. You will find us in the Lower Hall. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake. Open Church is taking a break over Easter, and won't be running on the 2nd or 9th April.

**First Steps**, our parent + toddler group, meets 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. There will be no First Steps on the 2nd or 9th April due to the Easter holidays.

Continuing her recovery, **Judith Lowther** has just moved into St Laura's Care Home in Kings Langley (just off the High Street). She hopes eventually to return to worshipping with us, but in the meantime she would welcome any visits, cards, phone calls over the next few weeks while she regains her strength.

**Bobbi** is now permanently resident at Ashlyns Care Home where she has been staying for the last few weeks.

**Roma and Michael Hunt** have safely and very happily moved into their new home in Leighton Buzzard, and once they are more settled, Roma is hoping to come and see us all. Gill has the address.

#### Notices

Our **Church meeting** will be held in the lower hall after the service this morning, and will include our AGM. Everyone is welcome to attend but only members can vote.

The next **Christian Aid Lent lunch** will be on Wednesday 18th March in the Court House, starting at 12 noon.. Please come if you can and enjoy delicious soup and fruit crumble.

**Meet & Make** takes place 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.

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 try or join a group.

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/corned beef
- Tinned fruit
- Cooking sauces
- Long life juice/squash
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Tinned vegetarian meals
- Chocolate
- Custard
- Rice pudding
- Nappies size 5, 6, 7, 8
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder
- 2-in-1 shampoo

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## Prayers

Please pray for

- The Open Church team
- Peace in the Middle East
- Those suffering as a result of war
- Our MP and local councillors

*From BMS World Mission*

Pray for the local authorities in Ghana, where the African Oasis Hub is training national mission workers. Localised flooding caused by drains blocked with plastic rubbish often hampers their work. Pray for better waste management.

Dear Lord,

Help us to follow your example,  
by looking out for those who each day feel that they are marginalised,  
who cannot find hope,  
who believe that they have little to offer,  
who are overcome by the challenges of poverty.  
Help us to widen our horizons,  
to make space for the stranger,  
to watch out for those who feel invisible,  
to give time to the outsider,  
to talk to the person facing silence,

to restore justice and value.

Give us the courage to undertake this, the determination to join with others in seeing grace in every human face,  
and the faith to embrace the opportunity in your name.

Amen

From <https://www.baptist.org.uk/>

Creator God,  
from the moment your spirit  
hovered over the waters of this earth,  
we were part of a vision  
held lovingly within your heart.  
From the moment you spoke  
and separated darkness from light,  
you created space  
where we might one day walk.  
From the moment your joy  
spilled out into green and living things,  
your beauty was revealed  
for us to taste and see.

Creator God,  
for this world,  
beauty and majesty,  
passion and artistry,  
a green and pleasant place,  
we praise your mighty name.

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

Lord, thank you for walking with us through the seasons of our lives.  
For the winter, when we are held safe in your arms through the darkness.  
For the hope of spring, as we are filled with new promise and life.  
For summer time, full of warmth and colour  
And for autumn days as leaves fall to seed new growth.  
You are always with us.  
Amen.  
*Prayer courtesy of www.prayerscapes.com*

## And finally...

"While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."  
*Matthew 9 v 5 (NIV)*

*Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by Thursday 12th March, please*

**Motto text 2026:** So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.  
Colossians 2 vs 6 - 7 (NIV)