



Berkhamsted Baptist Church

A family following Jesus

Weekly News *for*

Sunday 12th March 2023

(Jesus said) "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Mark 8 v 34 (NIV)

Welcome to our Family Worship Service led by our Minister Revd Karen Bugg.

Order of Service

Welcome and notices

Call to worship

Prayer

Song 1267: Come people of the risen King

Song 25: All to Jesus I surrender

Prayer

Quiz

Children to leave for their groups

Bible reading: Mark 8 vs 27 - 38

Sermon

Reflective song and activity

Intercessions

Song 162: The Servant King

Prayer

Song 828: Filled with compassion

Blessing

The Grace

Notices

In our services between now and Easter we will be exploring Mark's gospel to help us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus (see our motto text 2023). I really do encourage you to read the whole of chapter 8 either before the service or sometime the following week. Next week we will be exploring a passage from chapter 9, and the week after from chapter 10, and so on.

Karen

Wednesday 15th March 7.30pm - 8.10pm Prayer on Zoom - This is a wonderful and important opportunity to pray together. A Zoom link will be sent via email nearer the time but if you don't receive it and would like to join us then do email Karen:

minister@berkhamstedbaptistchurch.com and she'll pass it on!

Last month a group of ladies met to discuss the restarting of the **Ladies' Group**. Thank you to all those who attended this and shared their thoughts. To help us find the best way forward I asked everyone to pray about what their involvement might be and to think about how the Ladies' Group might work best going forward. Things to consider are: how often will the group meet and when? Who will lead it? What activities would it be good to include? Who would be welcome to be part of this group? We will meet again after the service **today** to continue our discussions.

Karen

Many thanks to those who came to the **Christian Aid Lent lunch** on 1st March. We raised an amazing £450, much of which was Gift Aided. The second one is on **Thursday 16th March** from 12.00 to 1.30 in the Court House.

Margaret Pike

Open Church takes place every Thursday **10.00 am until noon**. Now the weather has turned colder we are indoors and the main church is a designated 'warm space'. Come and have tea/coffee and cake with us.

Carla and Sue

Our **Small Groups** run 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.

Our **Church members' meeting and AGM** is on Sunday 26th March after the morning service. The AGM is a time for giving thanks for the past year and recommitting ourselves in service to God as we serve this church fellowship. It is also a time to elect deacons and church officers, and to commission these and others who take a lead in the various groups of church life. It is also a time to recommit to, or step down from, a particular role. Please pray earnestly regarding these issues. *Maggie*

The Church has made a donation of £150 to the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed in Bangladesh. John Carter and Janet Ivin are currently visiting and working there. They have made several similar visits in the past few years.

The Church has also donated £250 to Christian Aid, who are working in partnership with the Disasters Emergency Committee in Turkey and Syria. The money will be used to aid the victims of the recent substantial earthquakes in the area.

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 fish (not tuna)
- Cereal bars
- 750ml squash
- Tinned potatoes
- Instant mash
- Small jars of coffee
- Tinned ham/corned beef
- Rice
- Tinned vegetables
- 20p carrier bags
- Shampoo
- Large black refuse sacks
- Washing up liquid (small)
- Deodorants
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder (small packs only)
- Sanitary products

Prayers

- The Sunday School team
- John and Janet returning from Bangladesh this week
- Children and young people connected to our church
- Those who are homeless in Turkey and Syria following the earthquakes

A prayer request from Bangladesh from John Carter
Please pray for our friend Anowara who works in the APT department and was the first person to be

Motto text 2023: Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

employed by CRP to work there, she was interviewed for the post by myself, Janet and other CRP staff. She was taken into hospital Tuesday evening and following an ultrasound scan, has discovered that her baby has died inside her. A caesarean section is not an option for some unknown reason to us and she must give birth to her stillborn child. Pray that she will be kept safe and well and also pray for her husband, Imran and young son, Siam that they will keep strong and support Anowara at this very difficult time for them all

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>)

Thank you, Lord God for the opportunity of worship, for the freedom to be amongst your family meeting together in your house, and in the warmth of your embrace

Thank you that in worship we can put aside, the uncertainties of this world and rest upon the certainties of the Kingdom, for your promises are not changeable as those of a politician might be, but immovable and eternal

Thank you that we can bring to your feet all the hurts and fears that trouble us, and leave them there, knowing that your strength and assurance are all that we require

Thank you that as we draw near in worship, we are transported from a world of concerns and fears, to a place where we can be at peace in your presence, find healing, wholeness and refreshment. Thank you Lord God for the opportunity of worship (from <https://www.faithandworship.com>)

And finally...

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. *John 10 v 27 (NIV)*

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

Hebrews 12 v 1-2a

