



Weekly News

Sunday 4th January 2026

A family following Jesus

In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. *John 1 vs 4-5 (NIV)*

Welcome to our Morning Service with communion led by Revd Karen Bugg

The formal notice of the funeral can be found here:
<https://www.dignityfunerals.co.uk/funeral-notice/02-12-2025-anne-johnston-noble/>

Order of Service

Welcome and notices
Call to worship
Song 211: Hark the herald angels sing
Prayer
Pass the word activity
Children leave for their group
Song 41: At the name of Jesus
Bible Reading - John 1 vs 1-14
Talk
Song: In the darkness
Communion
Intercessions
Poem
Song 1072: In Christ alone
Blessing
The Grace

The **funeral of Val Dell** will take place at **Hemel Hempstead Crematorium on Thursday 8th January at 3:30pm**. All who knew Val are invited to attend. The service will be led by Ruth Montacute. Everyone is welcome to go back to Chris and Dawn's home for refreshments after the service.

On **Sun 18th Jan** a team from **The Waterways Chaplaincy** are taking part in our service. Due to the personal nature of some of the stories that they will be sharing they have asked that the service is not livestreamed. This means that in January the services that we **will be** livestreaming are: Sun 4th and 11th Jan but we **will not be** livestreaming Sun 18th or 25th Jan.

Karen will be at the Fresh Streams Conference Mon 12th - Wed 14th Jan, she will have some access to email but will be unable to take phone calls.

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

There will be a **Church Meeting** after the morning service on **Sunday 25th January** in the lower hall. All are invited, but only church members will be able to vote.

The **funeral of Anne Noble** will take place at **Berkhamsted Baptist Church, on Tuesday 6th January at 10:30am**. All who knew Anne are welcome to attend the service.

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.

Notices

First Steps and Open Church return this week following the Christmas break. **Meet&Make** returns next week. Please pray for the teams of these ministries as they seek to offer a warm welcome to various people in our community. Lynn C thanks everyone for the good wishes and cards while she was indisposed.

Christmas Collection.

Our Christmas Appeal was for the Christian Aid special appeal to aid families caught up in the war-torn situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Our collections taken at our Carol Service and our Christingle service, together with some more donations on Christmas Day, raised £325. Our grateful thanks goes to all those who supported this cause.

John Ball Treasurer

Many thanks go to all who supported our carol singing for Christian Aid. We made £177 for the DRC appeal.

Margaret Pike

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.

A reminder to all to please save used stamps for the charity 'Kicks count'. They work to prevent the death of babies in pregnancy and the early weeks. All you need to do is cut a centimetre around the stamp and pop them in the box in the lower hall. Thanks.

Maggie

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
- Jams and spreads
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Tinned fish
- Sweet and savoury biscuits
- Custard
- Nuts
- Rice pudding
- Sponge puddings
- Deodorants
- Laundry liquid/tabs/powder (small packs)
- 2-in-1 shampoo

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayers

Please pray for

- The First Steps team
- Those mourning the death of loved ones
- Refugees throughout the world
- Those struggling with finance

From BMS World Mission

Pray that churches in Gulu and across Uganda will truly be salt and light in communities that are still reeling from the effects of civil war. Thank God for the unity that is developing between churches as a result of joint Community Mobilisation Process training.

Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said no, not yet, or wait. We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you. We pray that you'd keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations, that you would whisper in our ear when we need to run, and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

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

And finally...

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. *John 10 v 14 (NIV)*

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)

*Items for the next News Sheet to Fliss Nesbitt by
Thursday 8th January, please*