



Weekly News

Sunday 23rd August 2026

A family following Jesus

There will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who do not need to repent. *Luke 15 v 7 (NIV)*

Welcome to our All Age Morning Service led by Revd Karen Bugg

Order of Service

Welcome and notices
Call to worship and prayer
Song 1040: Come, now is the time to worship
Song 991: You alone are worthy of my praise
Story
Bible Reading: Luke 15 vs 1 - 7
All age talk
Questions and activities
Song : My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
Song 1008: The Lord's my shepherd (I will trust)
Intercessions
Song: Amazing grace
Final prayer and blessing
The grace

Notices

Karen will be on holiday Monday 24th - Monday 31st August inclusive. Whilst she is away, please contact the Leadership or Pastoral Care Team with any church-related issues.

Open Church is on **Thursdays 10.00 am until noon**, but **only on the first and third** Thursdays of the month. Our next two meetings are therefore **3rd and 17th September**. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake in the Lower Hall.

A big 'thank you' for the cards, prayers, hospital visits, and going to my house to check on Peter and Paul. Thanks to you all, and love. *Sue and family*

There will be **no Meet & Make sessions in August**. The team will be taking a well-earned break. We will restart on 1st September

2026 Daily Reflections. The Leadership Team has begun exploring how we might be able to offer different ways of helping our local community connect with God and grow in faith. So that the whole church can be involved in seeking God about this, Karen has written a series of daily reflections for each of us to use that she is hoping will help us think about who God is asking us to be and what God is asking us to do in this next season. Please use the link below to access written and audio recordings. <https://www.berkhamstedbaptistchurch.com/2026dailyreflections> If you would like a paper copy please speak to Karen or Fliss

First Steps, our parent + toddler group, has now finished for the summer term. We will be back in September.

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 tomatoes
- Tinned peas
- Tinned carrots
- Tinned sweetcorn
- Cooking sauces
- Custard
- Shower gel
- 2-in-1 shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Liquid hand soap
- Laundry liquids/tabs/powder
- Carrier bags

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Prayers

Please pray for

- The Meet and Make team
- Christians in the media
- Our young people
- Those struggling with finance

From BMS World Mission

Pray that amid a season of war, uncertainty and economic collapse, Lebanon and its people will see signs of hope and recovery this year. Pray for the churches in Lebanon to guide people to the true source of hope.

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
we bring our brokenness
our sinfulness
our fears
and despair
and lay them at your feet.

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
we reach out
hearts and hands
minds and souls
to feel your touch
and know the peace
that only you can bring.

God of healing,
God of wholeness,
in your presence
and power
grant us faith
and confidence

that here broken lives
are made whole.

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

May we look at others
as if through your eyes,
less judging, more loving,
and seeing them, like us,
as not perfect or finished
but as a work in progress
that will be completed
in due time by your hands.

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

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;
before the 'gods' I will sing your praise.
I will bow down towards your holy temple
and will praise your name
for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,
for you have so exalted your solemn decree
that it surpasses your fame.
When I called, you answered me;
you greatly emboldened me.

May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord,
when they hear what you have decreed.
May they sing of the ways of the Lord,
for the glory of the Lord is great.

Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;
though lofty, he sees them from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life.
You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;
with your right hand you save me.
The Lord will vindicate me;
your love, Lord, endures for ever –
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Psalms 138 (NIV)

And finally...

Your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish. *Matthew 18 v 14 (NIV)*

Items for the next News Sheet to Fliss Nesbitt by Thursday 27th August, 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)

