



Berkhamsted
Baptist Church

Weekly News

Sunday 5th January 2025

A family following Jesus

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. *Psalm 23 v 1*

Welcome to our Family Worship, with Communion, led by Revd Karen Bugg

Order of Service

Welcome

Carol 35: Angels from the realms of glory
Poem/story

Carol 740: We three kings of Orient are
Children to leave for their groups

Bible reading: Matthew 2.1-12

Sermon

Reflective song: We bow down

Communion

Intercessions

Hymn 1086: Light of the world

Final prayer and 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 restarts this Tuesday, 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 restarts this Thursday 10.00 am until noon. We meet in the Lower Hall. Do join us for tea/coffee and cake.

We will resume **First Steps, our parent + toddler group, on 16th January.** 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.

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 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:

Notices

Church heating: If anybody had occasion to switch on the church sanctuary heating between last Sunday's service and Thursday afternoon, could they please have a word with John Ball or Chris Hayward. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who joined in the **carol singing for Christian Aid.** We raised a great total of £142.10.

Don't forget the notice on the Local Events noticeboard in the Lower Hall giving information about how to contact the Outreach team at DENS if you become aware of anyone needing emergency shelter during the winter months. *Kathleen Smith*

- 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 leadership team
- Those struggling with finance
- Students and teachers as the new term begins
- Those mourning the loss of loved ones

From BMS World Mission

Ingrid and Roger Hamlet joined BMS World Mission earlier this year as specialists in orthotics and prosthetics respectively. Having completed their missions and French language training, they will be relocating to serve at Guinebor II Hospital in N'Djamena, Chad, where they will set up a Prosthetics and Orthotics Department in early 2025. After nine months of French language training, pray that God will give the Hamlets the fluency they need to build lasting relationships with the community they are serving.

As we enter this new year, we bring before you our hopes and dreams, our aims and objectives, the best of our intentions and the worthiest of our ambitions. We bring before you all that we hope to make out of this year, and submit it all to your life-changing grace.

When our priorities submerge us in pointless tasks,
When our ambitions fail us or overtake us,

When our hopes seek the fulfilment of none but ourselves,
When our hearts deceive us to think that we are right when we are not
Open our eyes to who you really are.
Open our eyes that we might see the future you have already planned for us.

Grant us:

the courage to seek your kingdom;
the energy to labour where labour is needed;
the wisdom to see when it is not;
the grace to be quiet when we need to listen,
the humility to receive from others,
the compassion to hear and see and love those whom nobody wants to hear and see and love.
By your loving-kindness, make us the body of Christ, thriving by the indwelling of your Spirit, bringing glory to the Father.

From <https://baptist.org.uk> ©Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church

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...

Even to your old age and grey hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

Isaiah 46 v 4

*Items for the next News Sheet to Chris Hayward by
Thursday 9th January, please.*