



January 2018

NEWS

BAPTIST ASSEMBLY: Plans for Baptist Assembly 2018 are progressing well. As you will hopefully be aware the next Baptist Assembly is being held at Kingsgate Conference Centre, Peterborough on 12th May 2018. The Baptist Union is seeking a team of volunteers to help with stewarding the event. A team of around 20-25 people is needed, aged 18 and above. A draft letter is available which gives the details of what is required and how people can volunteer. Please ask Stephen Copson (stephen.c@centralba.org.uk) for a copy if you are interested.

SAFEGUARDING: The Baptist Union has produced an updated version of the model safeguarding policy document and procedures which can be found at https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/512218/Model_Safeguarding_Policy.aspx. Take time to see how your document relates to this new version.

DATA PROTECTION: The new BUGB Guidance leaflet for churches on Data Protection to bring it into line with the new regulations (GDPR) which come in next May can be found at https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/368695/BUC_Guideline_Leaflet.aspx
Be aware of how this will affect your church

PEOPLE

- **Colin Pye:** Please note that Colin will be on sabbatical from 17th January – 10th April. For anything that might normally need his personal response, please contact Geoff Colmer or Stephen Copson.
- **Stephen Ashby** will retire from full-time ministry at Berkhamsted in January.
- **Scott Carr** ended his ministry at Toddington in December 2017.
- **Phillip Coffin** has been called to the pastorate at Markyate
- **Andrew Cowley** ends his time as minister at High Street Tring in January followed by a period of sabbatical and then a new ministry at Leigh-on-Sea.
- **Ian Hare** (Stotfold) becomes the minister at Mitcham Lane in London at the end of January.
- **Peter Montague** will become the lay pastor at Totteridge Baptist church in High Wycombe

RESOURCES

FREE OFFER: Haddenham-cum-Dinton Baptist church has a copy of the resource "Fruitfulness on the frontline" by Mark Greene including the book, dvd and printed resources for each week and we would like to offer for others to borrow/use/keep. If this is of interest to your church, can you please contact Julie Wing by email julie.wing2@talktalk.net

FINANCE: Applications for any of the range of Association grants should be received by the Treasurer for consideration by **March 2nd 2018**. Application forms are available from the Treasurer, Karen Hopkins, or downloadable from the Association website

FOOTSTEPS: It is not too early to be thinking of engaging with the Footsteps training course held in Milton Keynes starting in September 2018! This will be of interest and use to leaders, emerging leaders and generally anyone keen to explore their faith more deeply. Come and learn together about life, discipleship and God. If you would like someone to come and speak in your church about the course, please get in touch with Anne Lane on anne.lane@regents.ox.ac.uk

EVENTS

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING:

LEVEL 2:

- Fuller Baptist church in Kettering on **Saturday, March 10th 2018**
- Welwyn Garden City on **Saturday March 17th 2018**

LEVEL 3:

- Wollaston Baptist church in Northamptonshire on **Saturday February 17th 2018**

To reserve places on any of these sessions, please see the poster with your Church Secretary or contact Stephen Copson on stephen.c@centralba.org.uk. You can also find this information on the web site at <http://centralba.org.uk/home/safeguarding/>.

Sessions are currently being planned for the second quarter of 2018 for level 2 and level 3 training.

RIDING LIGHTS & NEW WINE IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY: Christchurch Baptist WGC are hosting *Where the Adventure begins (faith in the family)* – A Riding Lights and New Wine production on **Thursday 25th January 7.30pm** (doors open at 7pm) £10 per ticket (tickets can be purchased from www.new-wine.org/adventurebegins).

This is a fun and lively show, to help us think about **how we can better welcome young people and families into church**. Meet Jake, Jasmine and Ellie as they re-live their childhood and teenage experiences of Christian faith at home and at church.

This is aimed at the whole church especially parents, youth and children teams, church leaders and anyone keen on welcoming families. Young people aged over 15 are welcome but the production is not aimed at younger youth or children.

If you visit the website there is also a trailer for you to watch.

FOR THE DIARY: The Association Assembly is on Saturday June 16th and the main speaker will be the Revd Dr David Gregory of Croxley Green Baptist church and the incoming President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS: The Association Council meets on January 25th in Milton Keynes. Please remember in your prayers the Moderator, Treasurer and Council members as well as the Regional Ministers as together they reflect on the opportunities, resources and plans for the Association.