



September 2016

NEWS

ATTENTION TREASURERS: Renhold Baptist Chapel, Woodfield Lane, Renhold, BEDFORD MK41 0LH on Saturday 24th September 2016

This ACAT workshop number 2 is designed primarily for treasurers who have been in post for a few years. Delegates will take part in sessions on:

- (a) Changing Treasurers
- (b) Coping with Independent Examination
- (c) How to be an Independent Examiner

The cost is £45 and includes all course material, refreshments and a buffet lunch. Registration will be from 9.30 am onwards for a prompt start at 10.00 am and will finish at 4.00 pm. **If you wish to attend, please book soon.** You do not have to be a member of ACAT to take part in our training. To book a place visit our website:

<http://acat.uk.com/bedford2409.html>

HOME MISSION GIVING: The total donated from Central Baptist Association churches to the national appeal to the end of July 2016 amounted to £142.794 as against £157.726 in 2015. Many thanks for your continued giving.

INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT: *A ten week course in Old Testament Studies with the Revd Dr Kevin Walton, Canon Chancellor of St Albans Cathedral*

This course is an introduction to academic study of the Old Testament, covering the broad sweep of the text, but rooted also in the study of a range of specific passages, paying attention to their genre, structure, purpose, theology, and themes.

Tuesdays 13 September-29 November (excl. 25 Oct & 1 Nov), 7.45pm at St Andrew's church, Kimbolton Rd, Bedford, MK40 2PF. Cost £100.

To book, <https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/learning/study-centre/courses/introduction-to-the-old-testament> or by calling 01727 890290.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION for those in ministry – offered by the Baptist Union of Scotland. For anyone looking for a late break, availability for both properties is listed below:

- Baptist Manse, Colonsay - from 21 September 2016 onwards (Wed-Wed)
- Prospect Cottage, Findochty - weeks commencing 17 and 24 September 2016; and 08 October 2016 onwards (apart from 24 and 31 December 2016, which are booked).

Booking forms for both properties are attached [*please contact me for the booking form – Stephen Copson*], but please contact me to double-check availability should you wish to book. Thank you! Blessings Lynn Scott. admin@scottishbaptist.org.uk
0141 433 4552

CENTRAL NEWS: The Autumn edition will be winging it's way to you soon. Please pass these around and save them from gathering dust at the back of your church!

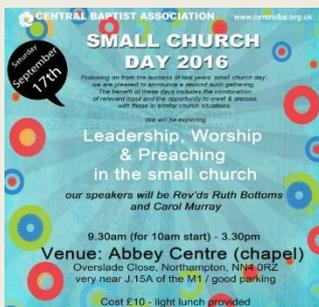
PEOPLE

Steven Anderson has been inducted at Biggleswade and **Andrew Ginn** as senior pastor at Bunyan, Stevenage. **Tim Keightley** has moved to live in High Wycombe holding a community post with an Anglican church in central London and **George Mwara** (URC) comes in October to the Church of Christ the Cornerstone in Milton Keynes.

NB **Charmaine Howard**: email address in the 2016/17 Association directory should read charmaineb.mk@gmail.com

PARISH NURSING: there is a part-time parish nurse post in Braunston, Northants. Its an Anglican appointment but open to a registered nurse from any denomination. Please see <http://parishnursing.org.uk/news/parish-nurse-job-opportunities/> for more information.

EVENTS



SMALL CHURCHES DAY: Last call for the small church day on the 17th September at the Abbey Centre, Northampton. The benefits of these days includes the combination of relevant input and the opportunity to network with those in similar church situations. We will be exploring leadership, worship & preaching in the small church. Speakers are Rev'ds Ruth Bottoms and Carol Murray. Cost is £10. Contact Colin Pye at colinmpye@gmail.com if you wish to come.

FREE CHURCH SERVICE: You are invited to attend a **Free Church Service** in the Lady Chapel at St Albans Abbey on **Wednesday 5th October 2016 at 11am**. Preacher: The Reverend Simon Carver, Dagnall Street Baptist Church, St Albans. The service is followed by a Fellowship Lunch .

BELIEF IN BEDFORD: We are delighted to invite you to share with us in celebration BELIEF's 10th Anniversary on Saturday 10th September 2016 as follows: **Rev Dr Malcolm Guite**, Chaplain of Girton College Cambridge, will deliver a lecture entitled: **"Parable and Paradox"** Saturday, 10th September 2016 10.00am –noon at St Andrews Church, Kimbolton Road Bedford MK40 2PF. £10 per person (including refreshments) payable on the day. Booking is not required for this event.

SAFEGUARDING: There are two morning training events organised for the autumn:

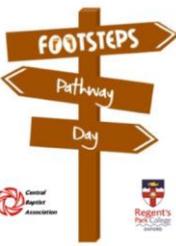
- Saturday, November 5th at Stony Stratford Baptist church, Milton Keynes designed for new workers with children & young people or adults at risk, or for those wishing to brush up on their understanding.
- Saturday November 19th at High Street Tring designed for trustees and designated persons for safeguarding.

For details or to reserve places, please contact Stephen Copson on 01462 442548 or stephen.c@centralba.org.uk

HOLY LAND TOUR - MAY 2017: David Ronco (Hertford) is leading another of his popular introductory trips to the Holy Land next year. This nine day tour from May 10th - 18th is ideal for first time visitors exploring key Biblical sites in Galilee, Nazareth, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. As well as walking where Jesus walked the trip also provides unique opportunities to meet local Christians and understand how the Lord

is working today through his church in Israel/Palestine. The party is now two-thirds filled, so book while places are still available. For information contact David on dcronco@gmail.com. or visit baptisttwinningisrael.org.uk

FOOTSTEPS: The 2016/17 session of **Footsteps 1 and Footsteps 2** starts on Saturday September 10th at Christ the King, Kent's Hill, Milton Keynes. It is not too late to sign up! Contact Anne Lane for information – anne.lane@regents.ox.ac.uk or see <http://centralba.org.uk/ministry/953-2/> for information pack & application form.



Footsteps Pathway Days
are OPEN TO EVERYONE

Venue:
The church of Christ the King,
Kents Hill, Milton Keynes,
MK76HG
9.30 for 10 am start - 4.15pm

8TH OCTOBER 2016 - QUALITY TIME, QUALITY SPACE
'GOING DEEPER WITH GOD'
REV. RUTH BOTTOMS, CHAPLAIN, WEST LONDON MISSION,
AND PASTORAL PLACEMENT TUTOR, REGENT'S PARK COLLEGE, OXFORD

- explore Christian Spirituality by reflecting on the joys and challenges of our own spiritual journeys
- find different ways to nurture and sustain our relationship with God
- discover resources to support our study of the Bible and our prayer life

"I felt empowered pastorally in helping people with their discipleship. The day gave me loads of tools and ideas to help people with their spirituality. Used it personally and professionally!"
Clare Hooper: Youth Specialist Wokingham BC

Further Details: see www.centralba.org.uk
or contact anne.lane@regents.ox.ac.uk

FOOTSTEPS PATHWAYS: a one-off session on 8th October 2016 – *Quality Time, Quality Space 'going deeper with God'* with Rev. Ruth Bottoms, Chaplain, West London Mission, and Pastoral Placement Tutor, Regent's Park College, Oxford. Explore Christian Spirituality by reflecting on the joys and challenges of our own spiritual journeys; find different ways to nurture and sustain our relationship with God; discover resources to support our study of the Bible and our prayer life. To book, contact Anne Lane or see www.centralba.org.uk for booking form.

COME AND WORSHIP! You are invited to attend a Free Church Service in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral & Abbey Church of St Albans. Both services are followed by a Fellowship Lunch:

- **Wednesday 6th July 2016 at 11a.m.** Preacher: The Very Reverend Dr. Jeffrey John,
Dean, St Albans Cathedral.
- **Wednesday 3rd August 2016 at 11a.m.** Preacher: The Reverend Fr. Brian Reynolds, Catholic Ecumenical Chaplain, St Albans Cathedral.

ASSOCIATION MINISTERS' CONFERENCE: Last call for this if you have not yet reserved your place at the Ministers' Conference October 10-12, there is still just about time to book in – please contact Susan Garvin on susan.g@centralba.org.uk or Geoff Colmer TODAY!!



RESOURCES

GRANT APPLICATIONS. The next deadline for Central Baptist Association grant applications is September 14th. Application forms available from the Treasurer, Karen Hopkins.

CHURCH OF THE YEAR. Applications for 2017 are invited for projects related to churches in Hertfordshire and Northamptonshire. Ideally application should be sent to Stephen Copson by September 15th, but if you have something in the pipeline, please get in touch.

Also, donations may still be made for current beneficiaries of the appeals – Gretton and Wigginton. Please send gifts to the Association Treasurer, marked “Church for the Year 2016”.

CAN YOU HELP....? Some of you may recall Katie & Chris Ruddle who were at Carey Baptist in Kettering some years ago. Chris is coming up to a sabbatical and has made the following request for information. If you are able to respond, please get in touch with Chris:

I am looking to research ministry that is effectively reaching people in their 20s & 30s. What I'm not looking for is ministry to families (ie: 30 somethings with kids) or ministry in a university context, but ordinary 20s & 30s ... singles & couples. If anyone has seen success in evangelising and making disciples in this age group, please do let me know as soon as possible. I'd like to 'pop up and see' during my three month sabbatical before launching 'something' in our own context in Folkestone. I'm willing to travel throughout the UK. Please email me at:

c_ruddle@yahoo.co.uk