



September 2018

## NEWS

### **CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINISTERS' CONFERENCE:** Geoff Colmer writes:

"Greetings from the CBA! I'm writing to you about our forthcoming Annual Ministers' Conference, which will take place from 8-10 October 2018 at High Leigh, Hoddesdon. We are delighted that we will be joined by Stephen Gaukroger, Founder-Director of Clarion Trust and known to many of us as a CBA Minister; Ann Morisy, a community theologian and speaker at the Conference in 2013; and David Gregory, Senior Minister of Croxley Green BC and incoming BUGB President. Nick Lear, a Regional Minister in the Eastern Baptist Association and a member of the Magic Circle, will be providing the Tuesday evening session".

**HOME MISSION GIVING 2018:** Will all churches please note that to ensure that your Home Mission giving is included in the 2018 figures all cheques must be received by the treasurer by Friday 14th December 2018 and all on line transfers made by Friday 21st December. If you have a standing order set up to pay monthly please review the date and consider amending it for one month if this falls after 21st December. Many Thanks. Karen Hopkins CBA Treasurer.

**THE HEALING POWER OF GOD – EXPLORING HEALING THROUGH PRAYER:** Whaddon Way Church (Anglican/Baptist) is pleased to offer a teaching day on 'The Healing Power of God' on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018 from 10.00 – 16.00. It will be held at Whaddon Way Church Centre, Beaverbrook Court, Bletchley, MK3 7JS and is open to all churches, home groups etc. Speakers for the morning sessions are Rev Alan Bird, who is experienced in methods of prayer, who will outline the nature of the Christian healing ministry and Kate Nicholas, a best-selling Christian author and TV presenter of the Living a Transformed Life series on TBN UK, will speak of her personal experience of God's healing power. You can select two of the four sessions available in the afternoon. Please bring your own lunch – tea/coffee/soft drinks will be provided. Cost - £5 payable on the day. For more information or to register, please contact: [administrator@whaddonway.church](mailto:administrator@whaddonway.church) or 01908 372072.

### **SITUATIONS VACANT:**

**VOLUNTARY ASSISTANT TREASURER:** The Central Baptist Association is looking to appoint a voluntary Assistant Treasurer with the requisite skills and experience. For more information and a job description, please contact Karen Hopkins on [kahopkins66@gmail.com](mailto:kahopkins66@gmail.com)

**PENSIONS MANAGER:** The Baptist Union of Great Britain is seeking to appoint a Pensions Manager. For an information pack and application, go to [www.baptist.org.uk/jobs](http://www.baptist.org.uk/jobs)

**NEW WEBSITE:** Churches Together in Hertfordshire has a revamped website [www.ctherts.org.uk](http://www.ctherts.org.uk) and a new Ecumenical Facilitator – Mrs Doral Hayes. Take a look at the website – it also contains information about small grants for mission work as part of the *Thy Kingdom Come* initiative.

# PEOPLE

## SUMMER ARRIVALS:

- Kate Young – Cotton End (minister-in-training)
- Alison Taylor – Bunyan Stevenage
- Maureen Hider – Leavesden Road, Watford
- Nick Harris – Aston Clinton
- Gary Steele – Desborough
- Gareth Garland - Rickmansworth High Street
- Rich Webb – Big Life International

## SUMMER DEPARTURES:

- Andrew Openshaw – Homelands Free, Walton-on-the-Naze
- Heather Pollard (URC) from Woughton LEP Milton Keynes to UC ministry
- Phillip Staves – retired (Northants)
- Simon Downing – Aldwick
- Elaine Youngman – Morden
- Dan Foster – Pembury
- Chris Mattock – to NHS chaplaincy post in Swindon

# RESOURCES

**HOME MISSION:** Churches in Central Baptist Association have contributed to the end of July £138,778 to Home Mission (£148,446 in 2017). Many thanks for your continued generosity to support the work of ministry and mission across the Baptist Union.

**GRANTS:** The next deadline for Central Baptist Association **grant applications** is Friday, September 28th. Application forms are available from the Treasurer, Karen Hopkins or via the website.

**PEACEMAKING SUNDAY: 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER:** The Fellowship of Reconciliation has produced a resource filled with sermon ideas, activities for children & young people and much more to help you celebrate Peacemaking Sunday in your own context. <http://www.for.org.uk/resources/>

**FAMILIES:** Baptist churches have a long and varied history of engaging with children, young people and families (CYF). Recently, a round table of representatives from Baptist churches, Colleges and Baptist Together Regional Ministers has been formed, with a national mandate to **reflect, inform, inspire** and **raise the profile** of CYF ministry across Baptists Together and beyond.

The newly emerging CYF Network in the CBA is coming together to help support and encourage those involved in any kind of children, youth or families ministries within the CBA, whilst also aiming to engage with the Round Table process connecting our regional conversations with the national big picture. Currently Rev Andrew Ginn (Senior Minister) at Bunyan Baptist Church, Stevenage and Rev Jon Bishop (Youth Specialist and Associate Minister) at Croxley Green Baptist Church are looking to build up a list of all those engaged in this kind of activity so we can

get the ball rolling. However, if there are others would like to come together to help shape and drive the CYF Network we'd love to hear from you, especially if you have specific skills and passions for Children's and/or Families Ministry.

In the meantime if you are or know of someone who works with Children, Young People or Families in our Association then please encourage them to fill in the contact form

here. <http://eepurl.com/duPb1b>

We will begin by using this to send out information about useful resources that come along, but we hope to use this in the future to help us meet together to pray, dream and inspire one another.

Jonathan Bishop, Associate Minister Youth & Children, Croxley Green BC

**BAPTIST INSURANCE COMPANY HOME INSURANCE:** Insure your home with Baptist Insurance and we will donate £10 to the Baptist Union of Great Britain and £10\* to BMS World Mission. You'll be getting peace of mind and making a difference to the causes you care about.

\*Terms and conditions and minimum premiums apply Find out more: <https://www.baptist-insurance.co.uk/home-insurance/index.aspx>

## EVENTS

### SAFEGUARDING

The forthcoming safeguarding training mornings (9.30-13.00) will be:

**LEVEL 2 COURSES:** For new workers or those wishing to refresh skills.

- **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October** at Houghton Regis Baptist Church
- **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October** at Olney Baptist Church

**LEVEL 3 COURSES:** For trustees, church leaders and designated persons for safeguarding.

- **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November** at Little Kingshill Baptist Church, Bucks

See Association website for details and booking form. There are places still available but diminishing numbers by the day! Book soon.....

**REGENT'S PARK COLLEGE, OXFORD: Serampore College Bi-Centenary 1818-2018 Conference & Celebration 19-21 October 2018.** "The heritage of serampore college and the future of mission". Registration fee: £20 per day or £35 for both days to include refreshments and drinks reception (Friday) and refreshments and lunch (Saturday). Booking via <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/E/Serampore-200-Bicentenary-Celebrations-Tickets-47061370827>

**BIBLE TEACHING DAY. First Corinthians: Church and Culture: Clash or Context?** Led by Revd John Proctor, General Secretary of the United Reformed Church. Amersham Free Church, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 10am till 3pm. Lunch provided. To book a place contact Hazel Richardson, [hazelrr@hotmail.com](mailto:hazelrr@hotmail.com) or phone 01494 725360.

**WELCOME AND INCLUSION:** A practical day exploring our welcome in church and inclusion of people living with mental ill-health. The day will offer an opportunity to hear from those with a wealth of experience, and consider how best practice can be applied in our churches. Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018 (9.15 am - 3.00 pm) at Norton, St George's Church & the Parish Centre, Common View, Letchworth SG6 1DA. Cost £6 per person.

For poster & details, contact Stephen Copson.

**BELIEF (Bedford): THE BOOK OF ISAIAH:** As the Church enters Advent and Christmas, so we will hear much in our readings and hymns from the book of Isaiah, in which Christians have found

prophecies pointing to the birth, life, and death of Christ. It is therefore not surprising that it is sometimes referred to as the 'Fifth Gospel'. More recently, scholars have identified different parts to the book and even different 'Isaiahs', and have sought to understand the prophecies in their immediate context. All agree that it contains some of the most profound imagery of the bible. This course aims to open up some of these aspects of this rich book. It is particularly geared to those who have a grounding in the Old Testament through previous study. **Tutor:** The Rev'd Dr Kevin Walton, Canon Chancellor **Cost:** £60. **Venue:** St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Rd, Bedford, MK40 2PF. **Dates:** Wednesdays 14 November - 12 December 2018 **Time:** 7.30pm - c. 9:15pm. Please visit [https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/learning/study-centre/courses/the-book-of-isaiah-\(sact-and-sact\)](https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/learning/study-centre/courses/the-book-of-isaiah-(sact-and-sact)) to book a place.

**PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF MAJOR BUILDING PROJECTS IN PLACES OF WORSHIP.** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018, 9.30am at St Andrews Street Baptist Church, Cambridge, CB2 3AR. The day will help you manage all stages of a building project in a place of worship, from start up through to making sure you achieve the benefits over the long term. It is aimed at those concerned with places of worship of all sizes, types and location, and will be relevant both to new build, alterations and repairs. Although focusing on projects of a significant size, many of the principles apply in simplified form to smaller projects, and the day should be useful whatever the size of project being considered. It will be useful both to those who are directly responsible for a single project in a single building, and those who have an oversight role for a number of religious buildings. The day assumes you already know what you want to do, and takes you forward from there, including setting up a project team, fund raising, obtaining relevant permissions, managing building professionals, keeping everyone engaged, and ensuring the project brings the desired benefits over the longer term. The speakers have hands on experience of building projects in places of worship. The day will be practical and detailed, equipping you to make a better job of managing your building project. You will also hear from completed projects and the people who actually made them happen and their experiences, good and bad! The event is organised by the Historic Religious Buildings Alliance, with significant financial support from Purcell. We have also received considerable support from the Diocese of Ely's ChurchBuildings Team. Cost £50. Discounts for multiple ticket purchases are available. Numbers are limited. For further information and booking details please go to websites listed below. You can also phone Kirsty Jermak on 01223 357057, reserve your place by email at [HRBArsvp@purcelluk.com](mailto:HRBArsvp@purcelluk.com) or book tickets directly at <https://hrbapurcell2018.eventbrite.co.uk> The deadline for booking is Wednesday 12th September 2018.

**BELIEF DAY CONFERENCE:** The art of "Seeing and Believing". Art and its Spiritual Dimensions led by Revd Graham Sparkes and Beauty Beheld and Unbeheld led by Revd Richard Kidd. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 10am to 1pm, St Andrew's Church, Kimbolton Road, Bedford, MK40 2PF. Cost £10 per person, payable on the day. No need to book.