

Renhold Chapel

December 2017 Newsletter



**For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of His government and peace
There will be no end.**

Isiah 9:6-7 NKJV

**Happy Christmas from all at
Renhold Chapel**

Prayer Point

Please pray for all our friends that are unwell at this time. Pray for the Lord's blessing upon them and that they will be restored to health quickly

Please pray for all those that will be alone this Christmas, particularly those that have been bereaved this year and will be facing their first Christmas on their own.

Please pray for all those that have been affected by the recent terrorist attack at the Al-Rawda mosque in Bir al-Abed where over 300 people lost their lives.

We may not agree with their religious views, but we should support their right to worship in peace.

Like us on Facebook



Items for inclusion in the newsletter.

If you have any items you would like to share with the rest of our readers, please email them to graham.smith1@btinternet.com or pass them to Graham at the chapel. Preferred formats are Microsoft word, .docx or text files but we can handle most formats

Items that are date sensitive need to be submitted by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

Seeking God

‘They saw the young Child...and worshipped Him.’

Matthew 2:11

Notice two things about the wise men:

1) *How God guided them.* ‘The star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was...And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshipped Him’ (vv. 9-11 NKJV). Never limit God. And don’t lock Him into a personal experience you had in the past where He guided you in a certain way. If God can move a star, He can rearrange any circumstance in your favour. How did the wise men know about the birth of Christ? Maybe because of an alignment of the planets, or because they were students of Old Testament prophecy. We don’t know. But one thing is certain: they were seeking God—and that’s the point at which we must all begin.

2) *How God protected them.* Herod wasn’t happy about the news these men brought. Indeed, he was downright enraged. Think: if he was willing to kill every Jewish baby boy under the age of two in order to get at Jesus, what were the chances that these men would get out of town alive? Not great—until God stepped in! ‘Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way’ (v. 12 NKJV). The devil is real, but you don’t have to be afraid, because Jesus has already defeated him. The main thing is: when your heart is set on seeking God, He will guide you, protect you and reward you.

Extracted from ‘The Word for Today’ published by;

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Free issues are available with the UK and Republic of Ireland

News from the Prayer, Praise and Bible Study Group. (October Notes)



This month we met at George's, our leader was Trevor Ogden. This was the first time Trevor has been with us and it was a great pleasure to welcome him. Trevor chose three words, all beginning with the letter 'L' for our studies over three weeks. The first 'L' was **LIGHT**.

In Genesis we read that God created light as the whole world was in darkness. Darkness cannot exist when light comes, light dispels darkness. God is light & in Him is no darkness at all.

We read that God's word, the bible, can be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Psalms 119 v105.

We read in John's Gospel Ch. 1 vv 1-9 that Jesus was the light sent by God that all men that believe on Him might have eternal life through His name.

That brings us to the next 'L' which is **LIFE**. On the Sunday we learned that Trevor had been called to Scotland and would not be with us on the Wednesday, so we arranged to discuss the word 'life' together.

In John's Gospel Ch. 14 v6 Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life". The question was asked, What was the 'life' Jesus was speaking of?

Jesus said "I am come that ye might have life to the full, or an abundant life. Life to the full, a Joyful life, a happy life, a life of inward happiness, a life that only the Christian can know.

Although we were down on numbers that evening we had a good discussion and looked forward to Trevor being with us the next week to study the next letter 'L' which was **LOVE**.

It was not difficult to find hymns and choruses to sing concerning love. Our last evening with Trevor began with the hymn "Love Divine all Loves Excelling" we usually sing two or three hymns to start with and an opening prayer before we hand over to the speaker for the evening.

Trevor began by turning to Deuteronomy Ch. 7 vv 7-9 which speaks of God's covenant of Love to His people, also 1 Kings Ch. vv 7-9.

Deuteronomy states that we must keep his commandments (v9), Psalm 36 vv 7 & 8 speaks of a Priceless Love, Isaiah 34 v 10 speaks of an Unfailing Love, Jeremiah speaks of an Everlasting Love, Romans talks of a Love 'Poured Out', and let's not forget the 'Gospel in a nutshell' John Ch. 3 v 16 –

For God so love the world that he gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have eternal 'life'.

After the study we always turn to prayer, with so many things to thank God for and so many people in this world who need our prayers and the needs of our world and all its problems. After spending time in prayer we all enjoy a cup of tea and leave around 9:45pm.

A good profitable evening.

K.S.G.

This Christmas we will again be collecting for the Bedford Foodbank



The Foodbank provides three days nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. The Bedford Foodbank is part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. The Foodbank depends totally on donations of food and money in order to operate. If you can help this Christmas please deliver your items to the chapel by Sunday 17th December.

Suggested Items for the Christmas Collection

Chocolate Selection Packs	Carton of Custard
Box of Chocolates	Coffee
Long life Sponge Pudding	Tinned Fruit
Tinned Meat	Crisps
Jam	Gravy Granules
UHT Fruit Juice	Squash
UHT Milk	Tinned Tuna
Tin Opener	Toothpaste
Shower Gel	Toothbrushes
Deodorant	Cutlery Sets
Shampoo	Rice Pudding
Savoury Biscuits	Christmas Crackers

The True Meaning Of Christmas

Jesus Christ was born this day
So many years before
He came a servant to the lost,
Though he was Lord of Lords

We celebrate this joyous time,
Reflecting on His birth
Not born in a mansion, but a stable
As if He had no worth

He came so He could identify
With the human heart of man
And gave His life as a sacrifice,
Offering a better plan

A plan that reconciles us back
To our loving Father God,
Bringing hope and redemption from
Sins ruling, iron rod

For this is the only reason that we
Should celebrate this day,
To become focused on anything else,
Would take the meaning away

So let's arise with joy in our hearts
And share it with everyone
The meaning of Christmas will always be
The birth of Jesus – God's son

By M.S.Lowndes

Porch redecoration

The members of Renhold Chapel will be replacing the inner front door with a glazed door opening inwards. This will improve access to the building & avoid the two sets of doors clashing with each other.

At the same time we will be redecorating the porch area to make it more welcoming. It is estimated that the works will cost around £4000 including redecoration & changes to the electrics.

If you are able to donate towards the cost of this work, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'Porch' into the box at the back of the chapel. If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, the chapel can reclaim the tax you have paid on that income & will increase your donation by 20% at no additional cost to you. Gift Aid forms are also at the back at the chapel

The Best Christmas Ever

A store owner was doing some last minute Christmas shopping with his young son when he saw another store owner with whom he had been friends for some time. The two of them exchanged greetings and spoke with each other about what a financially profitable season it had been for their respective stores. The small boy overheard his father say, "This has been the best Christmas ever."

As the store owners parted company, the father and son continued their shopping, but the father noticed his son had become very quiet. He inquired as to his son's silence, and his son replied, "Dad, you just told Mr. Johnson that this was the best Christmas ever."

His dad replied, "I did, son. The economy is great, and people are really spending."

"O.K." the son replied, "It's just that I always thought the first Christmas was the best one."

Look What Has Come

In his 1942 devotional *Abundant Living*, E. Stanley Jones, Methodist doctor and missionary to India, writes:

The early Christians did not say in dismay: "Look what the world has come to," but in delight, "Look what has come to the world." They saw not merely the ruin, but the Resource for the reconstruction of that ruin. They saw not merely that sin did abound, but that grace did much more abound. On that assurance the pivot of history swung from blank despair, loss of moral nerve, and fatalism, to faith and confidence that at last sin had met its match.

Men's Group visit to Wardown Park Museum, Luton



For the arranged trip of the Men's Group, on Oct 24th, seven folk met at the Chapel and travelled in cars to Luton to the Wardown Park Museum. The first room to be visited was the tea room, we had a table which looked out onto the beautiful grounds, it just didn't seem right not to have a slice of the carrot cake which

obviously someone went to a lot of effort to bake, after this we started to tour proper.

The Museum encouraged a 'hands on' approach where possible, in a lot of the display cases there were several drawers with lots of hidden items waiting to be discovered, like the large collection of cardboard milk bottle tops



The information and displays were mainly associated with events and activities of Luton. There was a great display of Ladies hats for which Luton was famous, there is still a small amount of hat manufacturing still going on in the town.



There was an excellent layout over several rooms dedicated to the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire regiment which was formed in 1688. The opposite picture shows their uniform in 1848. The regiment went through several amalgamations and today is known as the Royal Anglian Regiment.

After lunch in the tea room we headed home, we were all grateful to David Hanna for organising our super day out.



Coffee Morning
Tuesday
12 December
10:00 - 12:00

Ladies Meeting
7 December
2:30 pm



Ladies Meeting Programme

Date	Quote	Speaker
7 Dec	All	Members Meeting

Men's Meeting Programme

Date	Event	Venue	Time
8 December	Singing Afternoon	35 Becher Close Renhold	2:00pm

Noticeboard

Birthdays in December

6 John Flood

19 Ruth Morrow

Diary Dates

3	December	Family Service	10:30am	Renhold Chapel
7	December	Ladies Meeting	2:30pm	Renhold Chapel
8	December	Men's Meeting	2:00pm	35 Becher Close
12	December	Coffee Morning	10:00am	Renhold Chapel
15	December	Carol Service	7:30pm	Renhold Chapel

Prayer, Praise and Bible Study

Prayer, Praise and Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 7:30pm.
The venue will be announced in the Sunday notices, or ring 01234 870831 for more details.

Contact Points

Secretary	Albert Browning	01234 772689
Treasurer	Carolyn Smith	01234 344544
Newsletter	Graham Smith	01234 344544
Outreach Group	George Morrow	01234 303159

Preachers for December 2017

3rd	10:30	Puppets 4:13	Family Service
	6:00	Mr D. Mead	Evening Service

The monthly collection will be taken during both services

10th	10:30	DIY Service	Morning Service
	6:00	No Service	

17th	10:30	Mr R. Eaves	Morning Service
	6:00	Mr A. Pibworth	Evening Service

A Missionary Collection will be taken during the morning service

24th	10:30	DIY Service	Morning Service
	6:00	No Service	

31st	10:30	DIY Service	Morning Service
	6:00	No Service	

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