



**Welcome to all the CBC Fellowship.**

**Here is the CBC Newsletter/diary for March 2025.** If you have any comments or contributions, feel free to contact me,

Jenny Woods – [secretary@calne-baptist.org.uk](mailto:secretary@calne-baptist.org.uk) Telephone – 01249 814499

Winter is officially ended – hurrah! Let's hope the weather conforms to Spring.

Next week sees Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent and of course the day before is Shrove Tuesday so pancakes galore. I wonder if the season of Lent means very much to you.

The English word 'lent' means Spring but of course, we know it as the time of looking towards the death and resurrection of Christ when we celebrate Easter. Apparently, it was first undertaken by Baptismal candidates for instruction over 6 weeks culminating in their Baptism on Easter day. For some people, it is a time for self-examination, deepening one's devotional life by dwelling on Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness. I suppose most people would think of giving something up for Lent, perhaps a meal or chocolate! Would that be in order to make us think more about God or an opportunity to lose weight?

I would like to suggest that instead of giving something up (or as well as), we might consider doing something more positive directed towards others, looking outward rather than inward. Thinking about how I might be able to put this into practice - perhaps letter/card writing, phone calls, visits, hospitality, giving away some of those seedlings that are beginning to emerge in the greenhouse, small gifts to a neighbour. It might even become habit forming and continue after Easter.

What a joy it was last month when John, Katie and Isibor were Baptised and were also welcomed into CBC's Membership together with Charlotte. Please pray for them as they continue their journey with God.

During half term week, we put on a 'Stay and Play' session. This was very well attended by many of our Toddler Group families plus friends. A great opportunity to reach out to the community.

The Thursday Toddler session continues to go really well with regular families attending each week. This is proving a very valuable time to chat to Mums, Dads and Grandparents and become more involved in their lives. Good relationships are being fostered which God is blessing. As Thursdays are full, Wayne is starting a second Toddler Group on Friday mornings during school term time, the first one on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Please pray for this.

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April, we will be holding a Toddler Group Easter party with fun and games and the Easter message.

Another CBC venture soon to get off the ground is the Boy's Brigade. Volunteers have been recruited and preparations nearly completed. It is hoped to begin this on Thursday evenings next month. Another item for prayer.

Our Annual General Meeting is on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March following the morning service with Trustees report and the 2024 accounts for review as well as a Safeguarding update. Immediately following the AGM will be the bi-monthly Church Meeting. Amongst other items, we will be consulting with the church as to the way ahead regarding the building plans. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

The 2025 World Day of Prayer in Calne is on Friday March 7<sup>th</sup> at St. Edmunds Church, 10.30 am. The theme is 'I made you wonderful', prepared by Christian Women from the Cook Islands. This is an opportunity to join with other churches in the town and unite with thousands across the World in prayer. All are welcome.

Did you know that Calne is a Fairtrade Town and CBC is a Fairtrade church? The Calne Fairtrade steering committee are a group seeking to promote the use of Fairtrade goods and organise Fairtrade events in town. We would love to have more people on the committee and in particular, younger members! Want to know more? – speak to Stan.

### **Regular activities**

- Living Room** - Mondays 10.30am – 2.00pm.
- Coffee Morning** - Wednesdays 10.30am – 12noon.
- Toddler Groups** - Thursdays 9.30am – 11.30am (Term Time only)  
- Fridays 9.30am – 11.30am (Term Time only)
- Evening Prayer** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at 6.00pm
- Big Family Church** - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month (short 'Traditional' service at 10.15 am)

### **Future dates for your information and prayer**

- March 5<sup>th</sup>** - Deacons Meeting
- March 9<sup>th</sup>** - Messy Church, 3.00 pm at Methodist Church
- March 16<sup>th</sup>** - AGM and Church Meeting (following Morning Worship)
- March 17<sup>th</sup>** - 2020 Meeting 7pm

Continue to pray, as we move forward under the banner of Christ.

**'To you alone, O Lord, to you alone and not to us, must glory be given because of your constant love and faithfulness.'** Psalm 115:1