

for an outreach event at the local carnival this summer. Please pray that they will be excited by opportunities to serve. Please pray that necessary work to the building will not overshadow and take precedence over our day-to-day life as a church in the community.

► **Halling** Baptist Church gives thanks to God for allowing them to purchase the village's former Fire Station to replace their 120-year-old tin chapel. Conversion works are underway and they hope to move in by early autumn, God willing. Pray for wisdom, unity and His ongoing provision. May He be glorified and many saved.



► The workers at **Hyde Heath** are praising God for continued strength and desire to press on. They are enjoying the sermon series in the gospel according to John. They have been doing door to door evangelism in a neighbouring village over the past few weeks. They have had some gospel conversations with the residents. Pray for the first soul to be saved.

► Even as they continue to look to the Lord to provide the finances necessary to purchase their meeting place, the friends at **Leagrave** have begun exploring the possibility of constituting as an autonomous church.

study was started in another home on Tuesday evening 15 May, with two attending; another gentleman with whom Dave has been meeting for well over a year has begun to show signs of softening toward the gospel. They are seeing signs of progress in the lives of people though they still continue to face some significant challenges.

► The church at **Chingford** thanks God for an increased number of visitors and would appreciate prayer for those people to see the value in meaningful biblical church membership. They also thank God for members using their gifts and pray that every member would seek to do this for the edification of the church.

► Barry King enjoys talking with people in the foyer after services at **Dunstable**. Recently, a young man asked, 'How can I become a Christian?' Last week, the same young man asked, 'How can I know for sure that I have been saved?' It would seem the Lord has been at work between those two questions. Watch this space.

► Please pray for the church at **Edlesborough** as they prepare

► The friends at **Chatteris** have built on contacts made through door-to-door visitation. Leaflet invitations to special services have brought visitors. They thank God for their committed, spiritually mature church members. Please pray that more from the local community might join them - unbelievers and Christians seeking a church. Please pray too for their continued perseverance in the face of discouragements.

► By the grace of God, the work at **Chelmondiston** continues. Long patience in meeting with a number of men in their homes may be beginning to bear fruit. They have seen one old friend return to their Sunday morning services after more than a year's absence; an evangelistic Bible



NEWS



ENGLAND

► The **Angel** Church is thankful for continued opportunities to engage people in evangelism and discipleship. They are also thankful to see indications that new people are beginning to think about baptism and church membership. Pray for continued growth.

► The church at **Bexleyheath** is encouraged by the recent baptism of a young lady in their fellowship and a new application for membership by a young couple. Please pray for an increased burden to pray together and for those who those who have expressed interest to do Christianity Explored in the summer.

Association: Rediscovering and Renewing Interdependency among Baptist Churches

Monday 11th June 2018 **11.00am to 4.00pm**
Dunstable Baptist Church, St Mary's Gate, Dunstable LU6 3SW

Speakers:



Robert Strivens
Former Principal at
London Seminary now
Pastor of Bradford on
Avon Baptist Church



Michael Haykin
Professor of Church
History and Biblical
Spirituality and Director
of The Andrew Fuller
Center for Baptist Studies
at the Southern Baptist
Theological Seminary



Barry King
General Secretary of
Grace Baptist Partnership
and Pastor of Dunstable
Baptist Church

- Lunch Provided
- The conference is free but booking is essential
- Complimentary copy of James Renihan's book *Associational Churchmanship*

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▶ The church at **North Watford** praises God for two young men who will attend GBP training in May. Please pray they will attend regularly and take their studies seriously. Please also pray for the church as they think through options concerning improving their buildings and providing housing for their pastor and his wife.

▶ The work in **Ryars** is progressing thanks to God's grace. The group is now meeting back at the chapel in Ryars on Sunday afternoons. Positive

news from Snodland market literature table as two families, recently met at the market, began attending the services in Halling. There is much to do, but God continues to show His faithfulness in all endeavours.

▶ The church in **Southall** has lost a few members recently. They are praying that the Lord may sustain them in this difficult time. The remaining church members desire to remain united and focused for the sake of the Lord and the gospel witness in Southall. They

thank the Lord for a couple of teenagers who are showing great commitment to the work of the Lord in Southall. Please do continue to remember them in your prayers.

▶ The friends at **Walthamstow** thank the Lord for His faithfulness to them as a church as they continue to grow. They desire prayer for their Mothers & Toddlers group that it may grow with a missional intent. They also would value prayer for their summer evangelism that local people will be drawn to

the gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

▶ Azamat was raised as an atheist in Kyrgyzstan. Through roofing work in the USA, he first met Christians, heard the gospel, eventually trusted in Christ, and was baptised. He now lives in **Wood Green**, where after a period of spiritual stagnation, he has recommitted himself to Christ and the church. They hope to formally welcome him as a member soon.

VIEWES

Statement of Faith

Article Five

"We believe that it is utterly beyond the power of man to know God, to love Him, to keep His laws, to believe the Gospel, to repent of sin or trust in Christ."

The bad news

If it is beyond the power of man to know or love God, then what hope is there? This sounds like really bad news. Doesn't it?

We were created to love, know, obey, and enjoy God. Before the Fall, God and man were in perfect communion with one another. Separation from right relationship with God and death (both physical and spiritual death) came into this world as a result of Adam's original sin.

"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 2:1)

The Bible tells us that due to the original sin of Adam, the man remains dead in his sins:

For as in Adam all die... (1 Corinthians 15:22a).

If a man is dead in sin and is spiritually blind then how would he know who to look for? How can a man love God if He doesn't know Him in the first place? How can a man keep God's commands if He doesn't know or love Him in the first place? How then can a man believe the gospel, repent from sins or trust in Christ if he is unaware of his utter depravity? Jesus tells us in the Gospel according to John that it would be impossible for someone to love God if he doesn't love Jesus.

Man seems destined to die without knowing God, who is the only

source of man's salvation. This indeed, is the bad news. However it does not end here...

The Good News

The good news is the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.
(Ephesians 2:4-5)

The Bible tells us that we were dead in our sins, walking under the dominion of darkness, and were by our very nature deserving of the wrath of God (Ephesians 2:1-3), but God being rich in mercy and love for us, made us alive together with Christ (Ephesians 2:4-7).

For as in Adam all die, so also all shall be made alive in Christ.
(1 Corinthians 15:22)

God the Father sent his Son Jesus Christ into this world to die and to rise from the dead to purchase our salvation. He chose a people to receive His salvation by making them alive in Christ. He gives His Holy Spirit to those who are being made alive as the evidence of His salvation. The things that are impossible for man become possible when God redeems His people.

Yes, it is utterly impossible for man to know God or to do anything that God requires, but God has made His ways known to us through His Son Jesus Christ and His written Word – the Bible.

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."
(John 10:27)

Those who have been made alive are now able to hear God's voice and follow Him.

Sonny Simak
Grace Church, Southall


LEADERSHIP LUNCH
Wednesday, 27th June from 1.00 - 3.00pm
Dunstable Baptist Church, St Mary's Gate,
Dunstable, LU6 3SW



WITH MARK DEVER
Mark Dever is the senior pastor of the
Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington,
D.C., and the president of 9 Marks Ministries.

Theme:
WHAT IS A HEALTHY CHURCH?

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