

Dear HBC family,



For many of us, the start of a new year means a new diary and marking off important dates. And - all over the world - January is always the busiest month for booking holidays. With this in mind, we wanted to give you some advance notice of a great guest speaker that we have coming to HBC this summer, so that you don't miss out!

We are pleased to announce that **Gavin** – CEO of the **Evangelical Alliance** – will be preaching at our morning gathering on **Sunday 13th July**.



Gavin's passion is to see the church working together to share the Gospel throughout the UK. Formerly the leader of Youth for Christ and chair of Spring Harvest, he's an ordained evangelist, a regular public speaker, and has authored several books.

As a church, we are a member of the Evangelical Alliance, and you can find out more about the work that the EA does here: www.eauk.org We are excited to hear what God will say to us through Gavin.



The other key date that we would love you to pop in your diaries is **Sunday 9th March**, when we are delighted to be welcoming **Rachel – Mayor of Hertford** – to our morning gathering.

This is an un-official visit (Rachel won't be wearing her robe and chain!), but we are so grateful for this opportunity to connect with her, to bless her in her role as a representative of our town and council, and to hear from her about ways in which we can support and pray for Hertford.

God bless

Alan, Dawn and Helen

This Sunday – 20th January 2025

Continuing our new series, "Follow the Way"

Week 2 - topic: "Come Follow Me"

The Bible passage: Mark 1:16-20

What's happening in the next 2 weeks.....

24-7 Prayer event in Hertford - 17th to 18th January

This weekend the churches in Hertford have organised a 24-7 Prayer Event for the town. This will be a fantastic opportunity to seek God for ourselves and for our town, and we would love as many people as possible from HBC to get involved!

The Prayer Room will be in the upstairs Lounge of Cowbridge Hall. You can sign up to take part using this dedicated link: [24-7 Prayer International - Sign-Up](#) or scan the QR code below. You can sign up for just one hour, more than one hour, and for multiple slots.



If you would like to pray with others from HBC, why not consider signing up to join Helen and Kate at 12 noon on Friday, Mike and Joyce at 10am on Saturday, or Alan and Helen at 7pm on Saturday? Or you can take one of the empty slots not yet filled by anyone.

What a fantastic way to start 2025 by praying for Hertford!

Calling all worshippers!

Do you love to spend time in the Lord's presence, worshipping Him? Do you want to be involved in the worship life of the church? If so, then Friday nights are for you!

We want to meet with anyone who has a heart for worship! You don't have to sing or play an instrument, but if you do - please bring it along. Our next session is on **Friday 17th January at 8pm!**

You don't have to be in an established band, or even want to join one - it is a time to play and worship together in an environment where we can all learn together.

For more information, contact the office or speak to Simon Davies or Clare Macpherson.

Whole Church Celebration - Tuesday 28th January - 7.45pm



Back in July, we had our first ever Whole Church Celebration evening. It was a fantastic time of hearing powerful stories about lives being changed from people across our church family.

Everyone said we should do this again - so we are!

Join us on Tuesday 28th January at 7.45pm, as we look back and give thanks for all that God has done in 2024 and look forward to what God is calling us to next. It is going to be an amazing evening!

Financial Update

We are so thankful to God for the amazing response as people have returned their Commitment Cards for 2025, following our teaching series on Generosity.

For 2025, we had – in faith - budgeted for an increase in giving of £19,590. This gave us a deficit budget of £85,000. From the commitment cards that have been returned so far, the church family have pledged to increase their giving by £32,265 in 2025. We rejoice and give thanks to God for this. It is a fantastic response and answer to prayer – thank you for your generosity!

With this, and some one-off gifts that have been given, we are able to reduce the predicted deficit budget to £72,000. Praise the Lord!

With such a large deficit, we still need to manage the budget carefully and responsibly. Therefore, if you are a regular giver to HBC, but did not return a commitment card for 2025, we would still love you to do this – we don't want to assume that people are keeping their giving the same, when circumstances may have changed. Thank you so much!

CAP update

THANK YOU! Over 30 hampers were packed and delivered to our clients in time for Christmas thanks to your generosity in donating goods, giving time to pack, and to deliver them.....so THANK YOU!

This Sunday - 19th January - I am hoping that a client will be giving her testimony during the morning gathering. She has battled addiction and debt but celebrated her baptism just before Christmas!



January is already fully booked with new clients, so Sam and I are going to have a busy start to the year! Pray for us as we continue to get used to the new systems and processes, they are starting to feel a bit more familiar, but work is needed before the system is rolled out nationally.

If you would like to get involved with the work of CAP do get in touch, my email is debsthompson@capuk.org.

Futurehope - Charity Quiz Night - Saturday 22nd March

On Saturday 5th February Futurehope will be hosting their big quiz night at Pioneer Hall from 7pm (doors from 6:30pm).

There will be opportunities to hear about what Futurehope get up to, as they support young people in Hertford, plus a cupcake stall and dinner provided at half time. And obviously a quiz too!

Take a team made up of 4-8 people, but please get in touch with Dave Hollis if you can't get a team together - teams can be made up on the night!

£15pp- email Dave@fhhw.org.uk to purchase your ticket!



Satellites Youth Festival – 6th-11th August 2025

Great friends, great food, great fun.....and a great time learning about Jesus and worshipping with 3000 other young people!

We had an amazing time at the Satellites Youth Event in 2024 and would love all our young people to join us again in 2025. We already have 10 teenagers signed up and ready to come – how exciting!



The cost is £160, and this includes the ticket to the event, food, transport and tents/camping equipment costs. However, we do not want finances to be an issue for anyone, so please speak to Helen Ward or Ian Chandler if you require a bursary.

To book a place, please email: helen.ward@hertfordbaptist.org.uk

If you would like any more information do chat to Helen, Ian, Cheri Pienaar or Sarah, or any of the young people who went last year.



Weekly and Monthly Planner

January 2025

Friday Evening Worship
Men's Prayer Breakfast
Unity Service
Whole Church Celebration

Friday 17th January 8.00-10.00pm
Saturday 18th January 8.30-9.30am
Sunday 26th January 3pm at Hertford Methodist
Tuesday 28th January 7.45-10.00pm

February 2025

Men's Ministry Breakfast
Cross Links
Edward House Service
Golden Lunch
Welcome Lunch
Worship and Prayer
Valentines Craft Event
CAMEO
Friday Evening Worship

Saturday 1st February 8.30-10.00am
Sunday 2nd February 3.00-5.00pm
Tuesday 4th February 3.00-4.45pm
Thursday 6th February 12.00 noon -2.00pm
Sunday 9th February 12.30-2.00pm
Sunday 9th February
Friday 14th February 3.30-5.15pm
Thursday 20th February 2.00-4.00pm
Friday 21st February 8.00-10.00pm

Every week

Times of Prayer
Toddler Group
HBC 0-3s Group
Wednesday Welcome
Baby Group
Re:fresh – Young Adults' Group

Tuesday 7am and Wednesday 1.30pm
Tuesday 10.00-11.30am term time
Wednesday 10-11.30am term time
Wednesdays 2.00-4.00pm
Fridays 10.00-11.30am term time
Sundays 4.00pm – 6.00pm

Our Tuesday morning prayer time is held on Zoom. Meeting ID: 970 1517 3452 Passcode: 619788