

High Street Baptist Church 

Welcome

Growing in the message and challenge of God

Our vision



Our church mission statement is 'Growing in the message and challenge of God'

Our GROWTH mission statements

Growth

To grow both spiritually and numerically as we take the reality of faith with us in our whole-life discipleship, exploring new ways of being church – at home, at work and leisure, through witness, mission and social action.

Relationship

To develop a deepening of relationships, with Christ and each other.

Outreach

To engage with our community, and beyond Tring, with the message, love and grace of God.

Worship

To share worship that is accessible to all and where each member of the congregation is encouraged to be open to the Holy Spirit and to new experiences of God.

Transformation

To increase our understanding and application of the Bible in the context of today's society, seeking to achieve this through prayer, worship and teaching – in our Sunday services, our midweek groups and our children's and youth activities.

Hope

To convey hope to those in the church and its community by providing pastoral care and support through the positive influence of Christ's love in our homes, at our places of work and leisure.

We are a church that welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ and that seeks to proclaim the gospel to all.



Services

Morning Worship

Our Sunday services are hybrid – you can attend in person or via Zoom. The service starts at 10.30am and incorporates sung worship, prayer, Bible readings and a sermon. We usually finish around 11.45am. Coffee is served before and after the service.

We celebrate Communion twice a month and mark festivals throughout the year. We hold regular all-age services when we can worship together – no matter our age!



We **live stream services** and **record the sermons**, which are then posted on YouTube. You may be seen on camera (back of head only) if seated on the front two rows. Remember, you can join a service with your video turned off if you prefer not to be seen on Zoom.

Junior Church

Most Sundays, during morning worship at 10.30am, the children and young people start in the main service and then go out to the hall to enjoy activities exploring the Bible. The groups are facilitated by at least two leaders and offer something for all ages. There is space in the hall for carers to take their under-3s to play or in the foyer where you can also listen to the service.



'High Street Baptist Church, Tring, UK'

Missed a service?

If you missed a Sunday service, or want to listen again, visit our YouTube channel to find our sermon recordings.

Gatherings



They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42

Being a church family means more than simply attending church on a Sunday morning. There are various opportunities to meet together for prayer and fellowship. These gatherings take place weekly, monthly or for a short series. The groups have various formats, from traditional 'house groups' to those that meet to eat together, or talk about books using the Big Church Read format. We also have three regular prayer meetings:

Start the Week

We meet on Zoom every Monday for half an hour to pray for our community and the world. We follow the Northumbria Community's Liturgy.

CTT Prayer Breakfast

Our Churches Together Prayer Breakfast meets in person on the first Saturday of the month at 8.30am. Tring churches take turns to host the meeting.

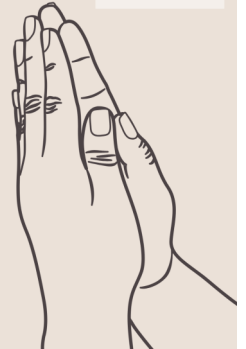
Short Courses

We run ad hoc short courses to sit along side our Bible study groups and Sunday services, to aid individual discipleship and outreach.

A 30-minute online prayer meeting to start the week.

Start the Week
Mondays
9-9.30am

Join us on Zoom
Meeting ID:
100 710 735
Passcode:
highstreet



Monthly prayer breakfast



8.30-9.30am

First Saturday of the month

Hosted by the churches in Tring



Baptism & Bible study



Baptism

Baptism is a very special step on the journey of faith. It is a moment when God's presence and blessing meet us, and when we make a public declaration of our faith in Christ. In Baptist churches baptism normally takes place by full immersion in water as part of a gathered act of worship. It signifies that our lives are now focused on new life in Christ. It speaks of repentance and cleansing, of being united with Christ in his death and resurrection, and of witnessing to the call of God by sharing the faith journeys that have led people to be baptised as followers of Jesus Christ.

'Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.' (Acts 2:38)

Bible Study Groups

Because Christianity is not meant to be a spectator sport, small group Bible studies are not just valuable, but invaluable, moving us beyond being spectators at a Sunday service to engaging as active participants in a community dedicated to spiritual growth.

Small groups provide a platform for mutual care and encouragement and are at the heart of spiritual formation. They provide a comfortable and welcoming place to help new people to integrate into the church family and foster close relationships. They help cultivate leadership within the church, providing space for openness, listening, learning, accountability, prayer and growth. And for these reasons small groups are key to healthy church growth and individual discipleship.

At High Street Baptist Church we have 4 Bible study groups at various times in the week alongside various fellowship groups which are more social occasions. Please speak to one of the ministers for more information.

Community



High Street Baptist Church has a prominent position on Tring High Street and is an active part of the community. Although a place of worship on Sunday mornings, we strongly believe that 'church' is not just for Sunday. We are really excited to be part of our local community and are concerned about making the Christian faith understandable and relevant in our homes, at our places of work or education and in our leisure times. We are active members of Churches Together in Tring and support a number of other local charities including DENS and CAP.

Churches Together in Tring is a network of churches. We work together to host a number of events during the year such as Lent Lunches, the Walk of Witness and events at the Tring Summer Carnival. *Comment* is the magazine of the Churches in Tring, with ten editions each year.



DENS is to be the first port of call for people in Dacorum who are facing homelessness, poverty and social exclusion; to support and empower them to take the next positive step in their lives. They provide temporary and short-term accommodation, and access to emergency food and provisions.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) provides debt help and local community groups across the UK. Their free services provide practical and emotional support and show people that there is always hope. Northchurch Baptist Church is partnered with CAP and runs money management courses and offers support.

christians
against
poverty



Space for hire

All areas of the church are available to hire for meetings, events and private parties: meeting room, foyer, hall and worship area.

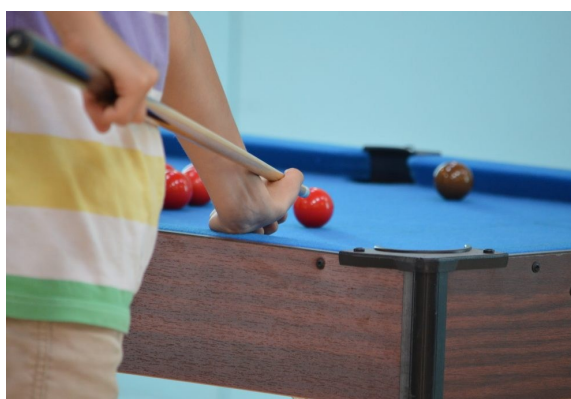


Children and Young People



Baby group and Tots

We have a versatile space at High Street Baptist Church. We offer midweek groups for babies and pre-schoolers. Every Tuesday from 10.30am to 12 Noon we hold a group for new-born babies and non-movers. A space for new parents to chat, meet people and find support. Every Wednesday (during term time) from 9.30am to 11.30am our Tots group offers a large play area and craft room.



Youth Group

Monday nights (during term time) our Youth Group meet for a varied programme of social events, games, baking, discussion group and more! The group is for young people aged 11 to 16 years.

Safeguarding

Our Safeguarding Policy is available from our website. Gill Shelley is our Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS). If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of a child, or vulnerable adult, please speak with Gill on 07798 686035 or email her on safeguarding@tringbaptistchurch.co.uk.

For information about our midweek kids' activities
visit our website or



Kids Activities @High Street Baptist Church

Midweek Activity



We hold several regular opportunities during the week to meet up.

Coffee for a Cause

Tuesday coffee mornings are held in the foyer. There is always a warm welcome, a hot cuppa and home-made refreshments. All proceeds from Coffee for a Cause go to BMS World Mission.



Who Let The Dads Out?

On the second Saturday of every month from 9.30-11am, dads, uncles, grandads, carers etc., bring the children and gather to join the fun! We serve tea, coffee, bacon butties, plus plenty of toys, games, activities and screens.

We are a fully accessible church, with ramp access to the left hand side.

Suggested donation of £3.

Coffee for a cause

Tuesdays 10am-12 Noon



Games Afternoon

On Wednesdays, Games Afternoon meet in the hall, and there is a quiet space in the church should you wish to use it. The group offers seniors an opportunity to play board games and cards together, do puzzles or simply enjoy the atmosphere. Hot drinks, cake and biscuits are provided.



Baptist Church



Being Baptist

High Street Baptist Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and we align ourselves with the Christian beliefs set out in the Baptist Union Declaration of Principle.

Being Baptist means we are an independent church, self-governing and self-financing, but we work interdependently with other 'like-minded' churches to fulfil our individual and common purposes.

Our purpose as outlined in our governing document (constitution) is:

'The principal Purpose of the Church

is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.'

The constitution outlines the way we govern ourselves. This is not imposed upon us, but provides guidelines which we have mutually agreed upon, and which offer us not just compliance with charity law but also accountability and practical value.

As a church together we seek to discern the mind of Christ in all aspects of church life, which is usually done through our Church Members' Meetings (conducted in-person and online). While all are welcome to attend these meetings, only members may vote on proposals.

The day-to-day tasks and management of the church is the responsibility of the leadership team which consist of: the ministers, who are called by the membership, and deacons, who are elected from within the membership. (Our deacons are our charity trustees and have a legal responsibility under charity law.)

For more information about our governance please see our constitution.

Declaration of Principle

1. That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the holy Scriptures, and that each church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer his laws.

2. That Christian baptism is the immersion in water into the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again the third day'.

3. That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.

Membership



Why become a member?

We welcome all to worship with us and learn together about how to be followers of Jesus. It has always been a biblical principle that Christians should be an active part of a fellowship of believers. If you become a member of our church you commit yourself to being a part of the Baptist church here in Tring, sharing and engaging in our common aims and beliefs.

Who can become a member?

While baptism by full immersion is the traditional entry into membership of Baptist churches, we have 'open membership' whereby persons may be accepted on their own public profession of faith.

What are my rights and privileges as a member?

As a member you can play a full part in deciding what the church does, what are its priorities, how its money is spent, and who are chosen to be the ministers and deacons. As per our vision for GROWTH one of our important values is mutual care and support for one another in our church family.

What are my responsibilities as a member?

It is important to remember that as a member you have responsibilities, as well as rights! Our constitution explains these responsibilities in the following words:

- attending worship and participating in Church Activities;
- personal prayer and Bible study;
- participation at the Communion of the Lord's Supper as a privilege and a priority;
- helping the Church whenever possible by using gifts and abilities to advance the Purpose of the Church through its Activities;
- attending and participating in Church Members' Meetings;
- giving regular financial support to the Church in proportion to personal resources and circumstances;
- upholding Christian values.

How do I become a member?

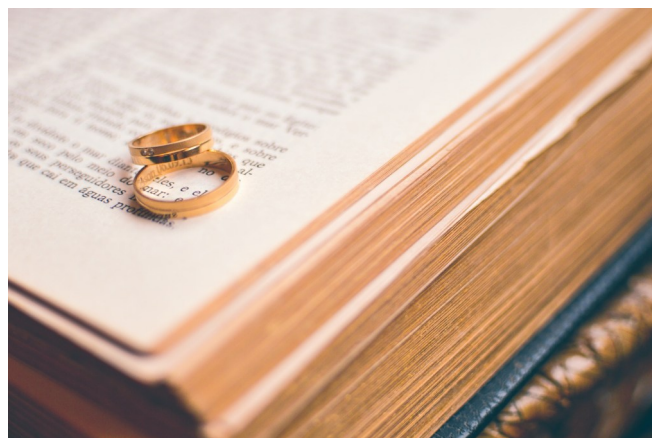
The first step is to speak with the ministers or Church Secretary who will explain more and answer any questions. If you want to proceed you will be interviewed by two members who will then commend you for membership at the next church meeting. You will be formally accepted into membership at the next communion service.

Marking occasions



Weddings

At High Street Baptist Church, we are delighted when members of our church or local community want to marry or re-affirm their vows. In Christian marriage two people trusting in the mystery of love commit themselves to live faithfully together for life, in plenty or need, joy or sorrow. If you would like to get married at High Street Baptist Church then please get in touch to discuss your plans.



Dedication of infants and children

At High Street Baptist Church we offer and encourage the opportunity for all parents to mark the birth of a child in a service of worship, and we believe that this provides an ideal opportunity to give thanks for this new life and to commit as parent/parents to bringing up this child to the best of your ability and in the teachings of the Christian faith. The act of dedication also gives the local church an opportunity to offer their support and prayer for you.

Funerals

At High Street Baptist Church we are well aware that every family experiences the trauma of bereavement from time to time. We have many years' experience of supporting people through this most difficult of life's events. Our ministers are always available to help plan and conduct a funeral or thanksgiving service and our pastoral team seek to stand with those experiencing loss.



Eco Church



At High Street Baptist Church we do not see creation care as simply an add-on to the usual 'business' of being church. As Christians we believe that God is our Creator. He not only created the world that we might live in it, he gave us stewardship of it.



*Creator of the heavens,
who stretches them out,
who spreads out the earth with all that
springs from it, who gives breath to its
people, and life to those who walk on it...*
Isaiah 42:5



In 2020 we were awarded a Gold Eco Church Award. This was the culmination of many years of work and discovery by members of High Street Baptist Church. We know that the journey does not stop here, and strive to continue to care for creation throughout our church life. Eco Church is an A Rocha project designed for churches of all denominations to care for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully.



Recycling

We have a recycling area located at the left hand side entrance to High Street Baptist church for bras, plastic milk bottle tops, pens, mobile phones, stamps and batteries.



Global Mission



As a church we aim to support global mission in a variety of ways. Support also means giving financially, keeping in touch and praying for particular individuals and situations. As well as collecting for Christian Aid at our Lent Lunches, run as part of the Churches Together annual activity, we have links with agencies and people working overseas.

Every two months we produce a Spotlight on World Mission to draw attention to global issues, such as Fairtrade, and share information about the partners we support.

Musalaha

We currently have links with Musalaha, an organisation whose name means 'reconciliation' in Arabic. Musalaha promotes reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians by building grassroots relationships. We hope High Street and Musalaha will benefit each other; our Growth strategy has echoes of their reconciliation work.



BMS World Mission

BMS World Mission (formerly Baptist Missionary Society) is a Christian mission organisation working in around 30 countries across four continents. BMS mission workers serve alongside local partners to make Jesus known and share the fullness of life that only he can bring. BMS works among some of the most marginalised and least evangelised people, in some of the most fragile places on earth.

Over the years we have supported a number of families through BMS. We currently support Mission Partners in Uganda.

Giving



There are many ways to give to High Street Baptist Church, and we are grateful for all the support we receive. We rely on your gifts of time, prayer and money to serve God in our community. We thank God for the gifts we receive and ask that he guides us in responsible stewardship of all we receive.



Volunteer

Volunteers are serving throughout the week to deliver our activity and to keep High Street Baptist Church running smoothly. From serving refreshments at pre-school groups, to giving lifts, there are many practical tasks to be done. There are also opportunities to serve behind the scenes. From arranging flowers and decorating the church for special events to weeding in the garden, there are many tasks which are invaluable to church life. There are also more formal roles such as serving on the Leadership Team, keeping the accounts or being one of our Linking Lives befrienders. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you feel God is calling you to serve the church in any of these ways.



Financial giving

High Street Baptist Church is a registered charity and we rely on donations from individuals to fund our activities and running costs. We are grateful to all those who give regularly or by one-off donations. If you would like to set up a standing order to give regularly, or wish to make a one-off donation, our bank details are:

Name: High Street Baptist Church Sort code: 08-92-99 Account number: 67358326

If you pay tax, please complete the form overleaf so we can reclaim it via Gift Aid.

Gift Aid is a government scheme which allows High Street Baptist Church to reclaim the tax you have already paid on the money you give in your offering or donation. Gift Aid increases the value of your offering. For every £1 you give, we can claim 25%, that means your £1 gift becomes £1.25. Anyone who pays Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax can give through Gift Aid. For us to claim Gift Aid you need to complete a Gift Aid Declaration Form. You can cancel your Gift Aid Declaration at any time.

Gift Aid Declaration



*Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate;
Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year.
Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.*

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to High Street Baptist Church, Tring.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

My Details

Title: _____ First name or initial(s): _____

Surname: _____

Full Home address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Date: _____ Signed: _____

Please notify us if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HMRC to adjust your tax code.

High Street Baptist Church, 89 High Street, Tring, HP23 4AB

Inland Revenue Charity Reference: X53185 Charity Commission Reference: 1128094

Privacy statement

Under Data Protection legislation the Charity Trustees of High Street Baptist Church are required to include a Data Controller and it is the Church Secretary who acts as our Data Protection Officer. We collect information to enable the church to keep in touch with you and to provide pastoral support as appropriate.

Data Protection legislation allows us to process your information as we regard it as being in the church's legitimate interest. Your name and contact details will be entered into our church **database** which is password protected and is accessed only by the Ministers, Church Officers and Office Manager. Your contact details will be removed from the database once you are no longer a member of the church – unless you ask to remain as one of our 'church friends'.

In addition, we produce a **Church Directory** which is distributed by email to all Church Members and regular members of the congregation (and in hard copy as appropriate). A copy is also kept in the church office. We do not give copies of the Church Directory to anyone else. If you are happy for your details to be included please indicate where asked to do so overleaf. You can ask for your details to be removed at any time by contacting admin@tringbaptistchurch.org.uk.

To enable us to provide adequate pastoral support to you and your family, one of the Ministers may record information which may be regarded as sensitive. This information will be stored (in password protected documents) on the church computer but the password will only be known by the Ministers. This information will NOT be disclosed to anyone else without your consent. You have the right to ask to see any information we hold about you (including the pastoral support information) by submitting a 'Subject Access Request' to the Church Secretary. You also have the right to ask for information which you believe to be incorrect to be rectified.

If you are concerned about the way your information is being handled please speak to our Data Protection Officer. If you are still unhappy you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office.

Finally, we would like to obtain your **permission to use images** for sharing activity going on in the church and to promote events. To give your consent to this, please tick the relevant box overleaf. Again, you are able to withdraw this consent at anytime by contacting admin@tringbaptistchurch.org.uk.

Catherine Rowland (Church Secretary)

on behalf of the Trustees and Deacons of High Street Baptist Church, April 2018

Data consent



Part 1

I agree that the church may hold the following **personal data** for the purposes detailed overleaf.

Name:

Address:

.....

Tel.:

Email:

I agree that the church may use **images** of myself:

On church documents (e.g. Directory) Yes [] No []

On the church website Yes [] No []

On social media (e.g. Facebook) Yes [] No []

Signature.....

Date.....

Part 2 (if applicable)

I agree that the church may use images of my child/children [please give names]:

.....

On church documents Yes [] No []

On the website Yes [] No []

On social media (e.g. Facebook) Yes [] No []

Signature.....

Date.....

Contact sheet



I would like to know more about

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Midweek activities | <input type="radio"/> Children's groups | <input type="radio"/> Youth group |
| <input type="radio"/> Weddings | <input type="radio"/> Dedication | <input type="radio"/> Baptism |
| <input type="radio"/> Volunteering | <input type="radio"/> Giving | <input type="radio"/> Membership |
| <input type="radio"/> Linking Lives | <input type="radio"/> Pastoral support | <input type="radio"/> Gatherings |

Contact details

Name:

Address:

.....

Tel.:

Email:

Please put this form in the offering box or hand to a member of the team

If you would like to be added to the Midweek Update mailing list and/or
Church Directory you will need to complete a data consent form.

