

Dear Friends

Thank you so much for your prayers and for following our busy lives. It was great to hear from so many of you last month, which is always a delight.

THE WEDDING! - Our Beth marries Duncan Shelton at Newbury Baptist Church on Saturday July 20th at noon. Whether or not you have been invited to the reception you are extremely welcome to join us for the service. We would love to see you. There will be refreshments at the church after the wedding and we won't be rushing away so, if you are able, please do come and join us. Please pray for Beth and Duncan as they prepare for this wonderful day, and for Duncan as he adjusts to the demands of his acting career. The new cast of which Duncan is a part started on stage last week in the West End.

SPURGEON'S COLLEGE – I mentioned to you a couple of months' ago that I had been elected as a Governor of Spurgeon's. Last week I was also elected as Chair of College Council. Council is the representative body which brings together people from the wider Baptist family, and which feeds its reflections to the governing body. It will be a huge pleasure and privilege to serve the College at a time when huge decisions are being made about its future. Watch this space!

RETIREMENT CONFERENCE! – About 25 years ago I was Secretary of the Baptist Ministers' Fellowship when it had the novel idea of launching a conference for ministers preparing for retirement. The thought that I would, one day, be eligible to attend didn't occur to me! However, with retirement only a few years away I very much look forward to attend this conference next week. The programme looks excellent and explores the spiritual, emotional and financial aspects of retirement.

Have a wonderful month.

Yours ever, in Christ,

Jonathan

## JUNE 2019 DIARY

Saturday 1st  
DAY OFF

Sunday 2nd  
Worshipping at Newbury Baptist Church

Monday 3rd  
Oxford visits

Tuesday 4th  
Pre-retirement Conference at High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire

Wednesday 5th  
Pre-retirement Conference

Thursday 6th

Pre-retirement Conference  
Waterlooville Baptist Church Members' Meeting

Friday 7th  
Newbury Office

Saturday 8th  
DAY OFF

Sunday 9th  
Preaching at Waterlooville Baptist Church

Monday 10th  
Eastleigh day. Ministry Team meeting at 9.00a.m. through to Leadership Team meeting in the evening

Tuesday 11th  
Meeting with our supervising Social Worker  
Evening Mentoring session in Newbury

Wednesday 12th  
Plymouth Postcard Club – I will have the fun of speaking on the subject “Poking fun at the Clergy” showing off some comic postcards from my collection – respectable ones!

Thursday 13th  
Return from Devon  
Education Review Meeting for C at her school

Friday 14th  
Newbury Office

Saturday 15th  
DAY OFF ... travelling to Suffolk

Sunday 16th  
Preaching at Lowestoft Baptist Church, Suffolk

Monday 17th  
Newbury Office

Tuesday 18th  
Enabling Church Course promotion

Wednesday 19th  
Premier Interviews

Thursday 20th  
Waterlooville Baptist Church Deacons' Meeting

Friday 21st  
DAY OFF

Saturday 22nd  
Eastleigh Baptist Church Vision Day at Cosham Baptist Church

Sunday 23rd  
Preaching at Abbey Baptist Church, Reading who are celebrating both their 379th Anniversary and the 40th Anniversary of being in their present buildings – it will be good to be back!

Monday 24th  
Newbury Office

Tuesday 25th  
Gloucestershire visits

Wednesday 26th  
Travelling to Essex to meet up with my very first friend! – Jeremy Emmett. Our friendship probably started when I was 5 and he was 4!!

Thursday 27th  
Visiting Westcliff High School for Boys which I attended 1967-74, and which I haven't visited since. I met the local MP, Sir David Amess, last year and he was very excited to hear that as a former General Secretary of the Baptist Union I was an old boy of Westcliff High ... and so wrote to the Head Master, who duly invited me to visit. I can't wait!

Friday 28th  
Mentoring in Didcot

Saturday 29th  
Speaking at a Men's Breakfast at St Nic's Church, Newbury

Sunday 30th  
Morning – Preaching at Eastleigh Baptist Church  
Evening – Preaching at a United Service to celebrate Camberley Baptist Church's 200th Anniversary