



2026

Community News

Whilst driving round in different parts of the country I find the names of places very interesting, especially when there are a cluster of towns or villages with similar name endings.

I feel prompted to look up the endings and explore the meanings of these names.

We have a few Hursts in Kent, Hawkhurst, Staplehurst, Goudhurst, which means wooded hill, copse or thicket, therefore Crowhurst means a wooded area where crows gather.

In Devon there are many towns ending with Ton, Taunton, Lynton, Torrington, which means settlement, locally Tonbridge means settlement with a bridge.

Some names are obvious in their meaning such as Mouth as an ending, Weymouth, Dartmouth, Plymouth the mouth of a river, as are names ending in Ford, such as Oxford or Guildford, a ford over a river.

Some names are more exciting such as Barnstaple which means post of the battleaxe. The post(staple) would have had a distinguishing symbol on it to reflect the town was built in Anglo-Saxon times to withstand Danish invaders, and was a principal centre of trade in North Devon, hence the Barn

We too all have names from different origins, our first names and our surnames, and some people have many names related to their family origins and history. People study these and then can trace back to their ancestry. We are named at birth usually by our parents because hopefully we are loved and cherished by them.

As I think about these names and how they have evolved over time and their meanings, it makes me think about us as individuals. I believe that we are all unique, and that God knows us by name, He has metaphorically written our names on the palm of his hands, we are cherished, He saw us before we were born, made in the womb, we are precious to Him. He knows us and loves us, just as we are, *just as we are*.

In a world which wants to tell you that you need to look like this, think like this, wear this, eat this, conform etc, please know that you don't have to, you are wonderful as you are, there is no one like you in the world, you have a unique DNA and you are *greatly loved* by our heavenly Father.

He wants to know you and for you to love Him.

At Allington Baptist Church, we can explain more and point you to our loving Heavenly Father.

MAIDSTONE

BIBLE WEEK 2026

SPEAKER: Nigel Stiles

Mon 11th -Thu 14th

MAY

7.30pm – 9.30pm

SALVATION ARMY CITADEL 74-78 Union St. ME14 1ED



REMEMBER TO REMEMBER
Waiting for the King
(3 Acts)



BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays 10.30 – 12.00noon

Ladies in the main Church building

Men's in the Light House Annex

Next Meeting 7th May

Details of our May Services

- Sun 3rd 10.30am into the Bible service. Martyn Colley speaks on Psalm 16: 'The Faithful One Not Abandoned'.
6.30pm Evening video service. Video from the Keswick convention 2025 by Sinclair Ferguson, number three of four 'The Spirit of Pentecost'.
- Sun 10th 9.15am Early morning Communion service in the Light House Annex. Service led by Marion Robson.
10.30am All Age Service led by the children and young people.
- Sun 17th 10.30am Into the Bible service. Martyn Colley speaks on Psalm 22: 'My God, My God'.
- Sun 24th 10.30am. Into the Bible service. Anany Kasongo speaks on Psalm 23: 'The Good Shepherd'. Service includes Holy Communion.
- Sun 31st 9.15am Early morning Communion service in the Light House Annex. Service led by Ann McDonald.
10.30am Into the Bible service. Josh Hooker speaks on Psalm 45 'In Your Majesty, Ride Forth Victoriously'

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Mondays 2.00 – 4.00pm
in the main Church building
Next Meeting 4th May





Keep Fit for All Ages

Wednesdays 10.30am – 11.00am
In The Church
Free Exercise Group for All



GET TOGETHER

3rd Thursday of the Month
2.00 – 3.45 pm Join us for light
refreshments and friendship.
Next meeting 21st May

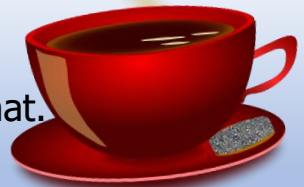
ENGLISH as a SECOND LANGUAGE

Wednesdays 9.15 – 10.30 am
in the main Church building
Next Meeting 6th May



COFFEE and CAKE

Wednesdays 10.00am – 12.00 noon
In The Oasis Foyer. Come along for a chat.
Free but donations Welcome.



Allington Baptist Church
76a London Road Maidstone ME16 0DT
Car Park off Leafy Lane
Phone 07828 266390
www.abcmaidstone.co.uk