

## Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship which is being led by Dr Chris Slade. The stewards today are Tina Wise and Margaret and Alan Dymond. Thank you to Angela for playing for us and also for the flowers. After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

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### Dates for your diary:

Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	10.45 am	Remembrance Sunday: Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	3.00 pm	Civic / Army Remembrance Day event at the Parish Church
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	10.45 am	Local Arrangement: Songs of Praise led by members of the congregation
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Ellis
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	time tbc	Carol Concert at Blandford Parish Church with the Salvation Army band
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00 pm	“Yuletide” at the Parish Church – open for late night shoppers
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	2.00 pm	Decorate the hall and Church for Christmas
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December		Lunch Club Christmas Lunch
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00 pm	Carols on the Green
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	3.00 pm	Carols at Christmas, Blandford Methodist ( <i>no morning service</i> )
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	time tbc	Christmas Eve Service at Colehill Methodist
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	tbc	Christmas Day Service at Blandford Methodist
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	10.45 am	Covenant Service followed by simple lunch

**Colehill Methodist: Every Monday, 11.00 am to 12.00 noon(ish), Bible Study, coffee, prayers and plenty of chat. All welcome.**

**Bible in a year:** 3<sup>rd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> November: Jeremiah 30 – 47 and Philemon – Hebrews 6

**Meet Reverend Dr Mark Kimber:** Most Fridays Mark will be available in the Okeford Room from 10.00 am to 11.00 am for anyone who wishes to have a chat with him. However, on the third Friday of each month there will be a session entitled ‘**Meeting with Mark**’ to which you are cordially invited.

**A Methodist Way of Life:** For November we explore the “A Methodist Way of Life” theme of “Challenge”. Questions that might arise are:

- What do you think is ‘not fair’? (Depending on ages, this could include anything from a friend who has more sweets than you, to warfare.)
- What issues of injustice or unfairness in your community and in the world (small and big) are you concerned about?
- What are you doing in response (as individual followers of Jesus and as a Methodist Church community and family)?

Please read the whole article attached to this week’s Link.

*John Cornish*

**Christmas Day Service:** I am down to lead the Christmas Day service and am happy to do so. Please could you let me know if you are likely to be coming to give me some idea of numbers.

*Joyce Wild*

**Christmas Cards:** At the Church Council meeting on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October the two charities chosen for us to support in the coming year were voted on. They were ZANE (Zimbabwe a national Emergency) for overseas and the Louis Ross Foundation for here at home. To start our fund-raising campaign, I thought it might be a nice idea to instead of individually sending each other Christmas cards this year rather we sign one large card to each other and the money we would have spent on Christmas cards can be donated to our charities. This is not compulsory and should you wish to send cards then please do.

*Joyce Wild*

**Christmas Day lunch:** Once again, the church is offering a lunch for those who find themselves on their own on Christmas Day. The cost is £6.00 per head and is to be paid when booking your place. You can book by ringing 07817 505543 or speaking with Joyce or David at Church/Lunch Club. Closing date for booking 13th December.

*Joyce Wild*

**Bourne2Sing concert:** On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm in Wimborne Methodist Church . The concert is in aid of Future Pillars Zambia, [www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk](http://www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk) Entry is free.

**Woodlands Methodist:** Worship For You Remembrance Service. Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 6.00 pm led by Mr Colin Besant.

**Woodlands Methodist:** Skittle Evening, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 7.30 pm at Woodlands Village Hall. Further details on the poster in the hall.

**Colehill Methodist:** Christmas coffee morning on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December. All welcome.

**Foodbank Reverse Advent:** As mentioned last Sunday, the Foodbank is now asking for donations for their Reverse Advent. As this can get very expensive, I am proposing that once again we do a Reverse Advent as a church (although you can always do your own individual one if you wish). I will place a second donation box in the Narthex for Reverse Advent

donations. A list of the items the Foodbank would like for their Advent collection has been printed out and can be found on the table in the Narthex. Please remember that any item should not contain alcohol. I know that Tesco and Waitrose both do non-alcohol Christmas puddings and cakes. All items for the Reverse Advent should be placed in the Advent box before Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November in order to give John time to take the items round to the Foodbank in time for their Christmas distributions.

*Margaret Cornish*

**Blandford Foodbank is urgently** in need of (updated 17.10.24) -

Baked beans	Biscuits	Coffee	Jam	Rice
Soup	Tinned peas	Tinned potatoes	Tinned Carrots	

For those able to support the Foodbank with items, a box has been placed in the Narthex as a collection point.

*John Cornish*

**Christian Aid Middle East crisis appeal:** We are all aware of the devastating conflict causing massive death, destruction and displacement in the Middle East, and Christian Aid has set up an appeal.

Christian Aid's established partners in Gaza and Lebanon are responding as best they can, under intense pressure, with medical relief and food, shelter, sanitation and cash. Christian Aid also supports the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) with many other supporting charities that help to provide lifesaving supplies to civilians caught up in this conflict. If you are able to make a response to this appeal, please consider that our Methodist Way of Life theme for October was "Open" to hospitality and generosity. Please make your donation using the Christian Aid envelopes available in the Narthex and if you wish, please complete the "Gift Aid" form on the envelope. Envelopes can be placed in the offertory dish.

*John Cornish*

**Prayer:** Please can we remember to uphold in prayer those members of our congregation we know are ill or suffering in some way. If you know of anyone who would like prayer and be mentioned by name in The Link, please let me know (having obtained their permission first to mention them by name).

**Minister:** Reverend Dr Mark Kimber  
Enquiries via Lead Steward, John Cornish, on 07799 516 735

**Pastoral Support:** Joyce Wild: Tel: 01258 454091