

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 10th November

Good morning and welcome to our Remembrance Day service with Holy Communion which is being led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber. The stewards today are John Cornish, Philippa Daffern and Jean Peck. Thank you to Angela for playing for us and also for the flowers. After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 10 th November	3.00 pm	Civic / Army Remembrance Day event at the Parish Church
Sunday 17 th November	10.45 am	Local Arrangement: Songs of Praise led by members of the congregation
Sunday 24 th November	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Ellis
Sunday 1 st December	time tbc	Carol Concert at Blandford Parish Church with the Salvation Army band
Friday 6 th December	6.00 pm	“Yuletide” at the Parish Church – open for late night shoppers
Monday 9 th December	2.00 pm	Decorate the hall and Church for Christmas
Friday 13 th December		Lunch Club Christmas Lunch
Saturday 14 th December	6.00 pm	Carols on the Green
Sunday 15 th December	3.00 pm	Carols at Christmas, Blandford Methodist (<i>no morning service</i>)
Tuesday 24 th December	time tbc	Christmas Eve Service at Colehill Methodist
Wednesday 25 th December	tbc	Christmas Day Service at Blandford Methodist
Sunday 5 th 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: 10th – 16th November: Jeremiah 48 – Ezekiel 4 and Hebrews 7 - 11

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.

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 18th 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

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

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

Colehill Methodist: Christmas coffee morning on Saturday 7th December. All welcome.

Foodbank Reverse Advent: As previously mentioned, 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 28th November in order to give John time to take the items round to the Foodbank in time for their Christmas distributions.

Margaret Cornish

Verwood Methodist: It's that time of year again!! The Fayrewood Singers are having their Christmas Concert, "The most wonderful time of the year". Saturday 7th December at Verwood Methodist Church, 2.30 pm with tea/coffee/mince pies at the end of the concert. Tickets are £6 and we will be giving a donation to Macmillan Caring Locally - the Hospice at Christchurch Hospital. If anyone is interested in attending the concert, tickets will be available on the door.

Marilyn Whatmore (emwhatmore@talktalk.net)

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

Baked beans Biscuits Coffee Rice Jam
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