

## **Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

Happy New Year and a very warm welcome to our all age morning worship which is being led by Deacon Alison McMillan. The Stewards are John Cornish, Jean Peck and Stephanie Bishop. Thank you to our organist, Angela Walden, and thank you, also, to Angela for the lovely flowers. Refreshments will be served in the hall after the service, so please do stay for a coffee and a chat.

**Today's readings are:** Matthew 2:1-12 and Mark 1:4-11

### **Events Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> January**

Sunday	6.30 pm	House Group, The Manse
Monday	9.45 am	Baby and Toddlers' Group
	7.00 pm	Stewards' meeting
Tuesday	12.45 pm	Lunch Club
Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Morning
	7.00 pm	Bible Study, 3 Kite's Corner
Friday	12.45 pm	Lunch Club
	7.00 pm	Close Encounters Youth Club (ages 8 – 12 years)
Sunday	10.45 am	Covenant Service with Holy Communion led by Reverend Gwyneth Owen

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**Bible in One Year:** 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> January: Genesis 20 – 35 and Matthew 6:19 – 10:20

### **Diary Dates:**

<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018</b>	<b>Church Council Meeting, 7.00 pm</b>
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Bible Study, The Manse
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	Church Away Day, Holtwood Methodist Church

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**Church Council Meeting:** as mentioned in the diary dates, the next Church Council Meeting will be held in the church at 7.00 pm on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February and all are invited to attend. The main focus of this meeting will be to discuss two things: the vision, aims and ethos statement of the church and the lettings policy.

### **Prayer for the week to help you pray for the persecuted church:**

Lord Jesus Christ, who prayed on the cross that those who crucified You would be forgiven, teach us and all Your followers how to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. We cannot do this in our own strength, dear Lord, so we ask for Your Spirit to be at work in our hearts, moment by moment, giving us the grace to forgive others as our Father forgives us.  
(Matthew 6:43-45, from Barnabas Prayer)

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