

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 4th February

Good morning and a very warm welcome to our All Age morning worship which is being led by Deacon Alison McMillan. The Stewards are Barry Gransden and Alan and Margaret Dymond. Thank you to our organist, Angela Walden, and also to Angela for the 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: John 1:1-5, Psalm 147:1-11 and Isaiah 40:21-31

Events Sunday 4th to 11th February

Monday	9.45 am	Baby and Toddlers' Group
Tuesday	12.45 pm	Lunch Club
Thursday	10.00 am	Coffee Morning
Friday	12.45 pm	Lunch Club
	7.00 pm	Close Encounters Youth Club (ages 8 – 12 years)
Sunday	10.45 am	Morning worship led by Mr Eric Brown

Bible in One Year: 5th – 11th February: Exodus 36 – Leviticus 12 and Matthew 23 – 26v25

Diary Dates:

Thursday 22 nd February	Lent Bible Study, The Manse, 7.00 pm
Thursday 1 st March	Lent Bible Study, The Manse, 7.00 pm
Friday 2 nd March	Women's World Day of Prayer at Blandford Methodist, 2.00 pm (see below)
Sunday 18 th March	Church Anniversary
Thursday 22 nd March	Lent Bible Study, The Manse, 7.00 pm
Sunday 25 th March	Palm Sunday
Thursday 29 th March	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service, 7.30 pm
Saturday 14 th April 2018	Church Away Day, Holtwood Methodist Church

Lent Bible Studies: We will be having three Bible studies during Lent – 22nd February, 1st March, 22nd March. All at the manse from 7.00 pm. These dates replace those that have been previously circulated.

Alison McMillan

Mission in Britain Boxes: Please could all Mission in Britain boxes be given to Joyce Wild before the end of February for their half yearly empty. Thank you.

Joyce Wild

Good Friday: This year we are going to once again have an ecumenical witness on Good Friday. This is going to be a walk, stopping at the churches in Blandford for reflective prayer and worship. The details are still being finalised but we will begin at 10.00 am (location tbc) and finish at the Parish Church giving out hot cross buns as has been done in previous years. Watch this space for more details in the coming weeks.

Alison McMillan

Women's World Day of Prayer: 'All God's Creation is Very Good!' The interdenominational movement of the Women's World Day of prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services being held on Friday 2nd March with the title 'All God's Creation is Very Good!' We will join an estimated 3 million people around the world that day in a service which has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America.

Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. With its vast rainforest and wealth of resources, Suriname asks us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, as well as for the situation in Suriname and concerns for the future.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it. This year, the service in Blandford will be held in our church on Friday 2nd March at 2.00 pm. For further information, please speak to Becky Gransden.

Angie's Piano Jukebox: Thank you to all those who supported my jukebox playing on 27th January. I am pleased to let you know that I raised over £700 for the "Fruit and Vegetable Programme" for Syrian families living in Jordan.

Angela Walden

Lunch at Colehill Methodist Church: Saturday 10th February 10.00 am – 12.00 noon. Proceeds will go to Future Pillars, Zambia. Further details of the lunch can be found on the poster on the hall wall. These lunches will continue on the 2nd Saturday in each month at Colehill Methodist Church, with all proceeds going to Future Pillars, Zambia.

Faith in Questions: A new one act play called *Counting the Clouds* by Nigel Forde will be performed and then followed by conversation with leading scientists. The venue is Verwood Methodist Church on Wednesday 21st February at 7.30 pm. Entry **FREE**. For further information, please see the poster in The Narthex.

Blandford Community Promotions in association with The Comedy Agency presents 'Jo Enright@the Comedy Exchange' on 13th April, 7.30 pm. This is an evening of comedy to support Blandford Food Bank. Further information can be found on the poster on the hall wall.

Prayer for the week:

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. John 10:27

Dear Lord, thank You for giving us Your Word. Help me to listen to Your voice as I spend time alone with You.

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Deacon: Alison McMillan – Telephone Number 01258 456525