

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 3rd December

First Sunday in Advent

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship with Holy Communion which is being led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber. The stewards today are John Cornish and Alan and Margaret Dymond. Thank you to Angela for playing for us and thanks also to Angela for the flowers. **There will be no refreshments after this morning's service as we will need to prepare for the Salvation Army Carol Concert this afternoon.**

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 3 rd December	3.00 pm	Salvation Army Carol Service
Sunday 10 th December	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mrs Diana Middleditch
Saturday 9 th December	5.00 pm	Carols on the Green
Sunday 17 th December	10.45 am	Carol Service led by Mr James Frampton
Sunday 24 th December	10.45 am	Morning Worship at Blandford Methodist
Sunday 24 th December	9.15 pm	Christmas Eve service to be held at Colehill Methodist – all are invited
Monday 25 th December	9.45 am	Christmas Day service to be held at Blandford Methodist led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber
Sunday 31 st December	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Peter McNeill
Sunday 7 th January	10.45 am	Covenant Service followed by simple lunch in hall
Saturday 17 th February	2.30 pm	Church social afternoon of fun and games, with light refreshments – further details to follow

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: 3rd – 9th December: Ezekiel 45 – Daniel 12 and 1 John 2 - Jude

Church Finances: The treasurer has sent a letter to members and friends giving an update on the church's financial situation. If you haven't received a copy but would like one, please speak to David Wild.

David Wild

Meet Reverend Dr Mark Kimber: From 10.00 am every Friday beginning 24th November, Reverend Dr Mark Kimber can be found in either the Okeford Room or the Vestry should you wish to have a chat with him.

Christmas Conversations: Calling all members of our congregation! Please do come and join Reverend Mark Kimber for Christmas Conversations on Friday 8th December from 10.00 am - 11.00 am in the Okeford Room. There will be the opportunity to chat about Christmas past, Christmas future and Christmas present(s) whilst creating a unique Christmas tree decoration encouraging further conversation. No need to bring anything; just yourselves. Looking forward to seeing you all.

Mark Kimber

Carols on the Green: We are invited to join the Carols on the Green on 9th December which is a joint event for all Blandford Churches. To find “The Green”, the postcode is DT11 7YD with street parking on Cobham Road or nearby. The event will start at 5.00 pm.

Covenant Service followed by simple lunch: Our Covenant Service will be held on 7th January and this will be followed by a simple lunch of soup, roll, cheese, cake and tea and coffee. There will be no charge for the lunch, but any donations on the day will be gratefully received. To help with catering, please indicate on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you wish to come to lunch. We hope as many of you as possible will come to the Covenant Service and lunch.

Blandford Foodbank (updated as at 26.10.23) is urgently in need of -

Tinned carrots	Tinned green beans	Washing up liquid
Coffee in small jars	Jam/marmalade	Squash

The following items are also running low and need restocking -

Deodorant (men and women)	Tinned mince and onions	Toilet rolls
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For those able to support the Foodbank with items, a box has been placed in the Narthex as a collection point.

John Cornish

Reverse Advent: Our reverse Advent donations have now been delivered to the Foodbank and the gifts were received with grateful thanks. Although we are small in number, I feel that we excelled in the quantity of items donated. Thanks, also, to those people from the Lunch Club who donated items. I’m sure there will be a great many families in the Blandford area who will be enjoying some extra Christmas treats this year.

Margaret Cornish

Prayer: Please can we remember to uphold in prayer those members of our congregation who 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