

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 20th January

Good morning and a very warm welcome to our Morning Worship which is being led by Miss Elizabeth Ward. The Stewards are Grahame Downer, Jean Peck and Margaret Cornish. Thank you to our musicians, Dr Eric Phillips and Dr Roger Cook, and to Margaret Dymond for the flowers. Refreshments will be served in the hall after the service, so please do stay for coffee and a chat.

Today's readings are: Joel 3:12-18 and John 2:1-11

Events Sunday 20th to 27th January

Monday	9.45 am	Baby and Toddler group
Tuesday	12.45 pm	Lunch Club
Thursday	10.45 am	Coffee Morning
Thursday	2.00 pm	Funeral for Elsie Read (Blandford Methodist Church)
Friday	10.00 am	Church meeting re Blandford Churches Together
Friday	11.00 am	Bible Study
Friday	12.45 pm	Lunch Club
Friday	7.00 pm	Close Encounters Youth Club (ages 8 – 12 years)
Sunday	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend David Le Poidevin

Bible in One Year: 21st – 27th January: Exodus 1 – 18 and Matthew 14 – 18:20

Diary Dates:

Sunday 24 th February	Church Lunch
Saturday 9 th March	Church Away Day
Sunday 17 th March	Church Anniversary: Preacher Reverend John Carne

Churches Together in Blandford: Following previous articles in The Link regarding Blandford Churches Together, this is a reminder that you are **all invited** to attend a meeting **here at the church this Friday, 25th January, at 10.00 am** to discuss how Blandford Churches can work together in worship and in the community – what does this mean to you and to us as a fellowship? This will be an opportunity for you to share your views on this important issue, and views expressed will help the small team representing BMC to be better informed at the Churches Together meeting on 5th February. We look forward to seeing you on Friday.

All Age Worship, Sunday 3rd February: I shall be leading the All Age Service on 3rd February. It would be good if anyone who plays an instrument could join Angela and Barry to be our musicians for the morning. Equally, if anyone would like to be up front to lead the singing of the first three choruses that would be great, too. If you are interested speak to Joyce this Sunday or ring her on 01258 454091.

Joyce Wild

Church Cleaning: For a couple of years now, Jean Peck has been faithfully employed cleaning our premises each week for which we are very grateful. Jean has now given notice that she wishes to finish her employment in March 2019 and so we will need to find a replacement to take over her cleaning duties. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be interested in taking over from Jean, then please have a chat with John Cornish.

Church Lunch: After a successful and enjoyable 'church family' lunch during the autumn, we would like to extend an invitation to you, your family and friends to share a ploughman's lunch after our morning worship on **Sunday 24th February**. Invitation leaflets are available at the back of the church detailing time and menu. Please sign the sheet in the Narthex to book your place and to indicate how many will be attending. We are asking for a donation of £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for children to cover our costs, which will be payable on the day of the lunch. Please make sure that you have made your booking by **Sunday 17th February** at the latest - thank you.

If anyone would be willing to provide a pot of soup or a dessert, please contact Becky Gransden.

Becky

Gransden

Events at Woodlands Methodist: *(Updated information from previous editions of The Link)* - Quiz Night on 25th January in Woodlands Village Hall with fish and chip supper. Cost £2 per head plus extra for supper.

Sunday 10th February, 6.00 pm, talk by MNR Peter Ellis entitled "Maybe this was one of the best explanations of the concept of God". Details on the poster in the hall.

Whist Drive, February 23rd, 7.30 pm. Details on the poster in the hall.

Verwood Methodist: 'Bourne2Sing', male voice choir at Verwood Methodist on Saturday 16th February at 7.30 pm. The choir will be raising funds in aid of Future Pillars Zambia. Further details can be found on the poster in the hall.

Sponsored Walk for FPZ: The second annual sponsored walk for Future Pillars Zambia will take place on 1st June. This year, the walk will be around the Isle of Purbeck. This information has come from Rod Frampton of Holtwood and he writes, "Gwyneth is a trustee of this amazing charity and is encouraging Churches to become involved. The Wimborne folk had an amazing time last year walking

in Cornwall." For those of our congregation who may be interested, details and an application form can be found on the table in the Narthex.

A Zest for Zambia: On 4th February, Barry and Becky Gransden will be coming to St Nicholas School, Child Okeford to give an illustrated talk under my chairmanship about Zambia, their involvement in education there, and, of course, the container! You will be very welcome to come: please book seats (price £5, or £3 for under 16s). Start time is 7.30 pm.

This will be a chance to learn about the outstanding work which Barry and Becky have been doing in Zambia.

Grahame Downer

Musical evening in Blandford: There is a musical event taking place in the near future which church members might be interested in attending. A Gala Charity Concert, with all ticket sales supporting Blandford Community Kitchen and Blandford Community Hospital, is being held in the Parish Church on **Friday 15th February at 7.30 pm**. Songs from Musicals and Classical hits are being performed by talented Music Scholars from Bryanston School.

Tickets are £10 and can be obtained on the door, or at music@bryanston.co.uk .

Becky

Gransden

Job Vacancy: Lay Employee – Families Worker (Part Time) in the Christchurch and Wimborne Circuit (Highcliffe): We need a spiritually active and prayerful person to develop and expand all aspects of work with families and children based within the Highcliffe church and in the wider community. Experience of working with children and/or families in a voluntary or paid capacity is essential. The successful applicant will need to be able to work as part of a team with the Minister and volunteers at Highcliffe Methodist Church. A part-time appointment - 20 hours per week. Salary - £9,896 per annum. Satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from DBS required. For further information and an application package, please contact Kate Phillips, email katephillips@live.co.uk. Closing Date: Sunday 10th February. Interviews: Tuesday 5th March. Appointment by 1st April or as soon as possible thereafter. There is an occupational requirement that the post holder is a practising Christian.

Prayer: Please can we continue to uphold in prayer those members of our congregation who we know are ill or suffering in some way.

Prayer for the week:

Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. Psalm 119:35
*Dear God, give me a love for Your ways like the psalmist had.
I want to worship You with the choices I make every day.*

Minister: Rev Gwyneth Owen – Telephone Number 01202 883461

Deacon: Alison McMillan – Telephone Number 01258 456525