

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 5th February

Good morning and a warm welcome to our Morning Worship which is being led by Reverend David Le Poidevin. The stewards today are Joyce Wild and Rona Downes. Thank you to Angela Walden for playing for us and thank you to Angela for the flowers. After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 7 th February	7.00 pm	Church Council meeting, Okeford Room
Sunday 12 th February	10.45 am	Morning worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Pauline Crispin
Monday 20 th February	2.00 pm	Stewards meeting followed by Property and Finance meeting
Monday 27 th February	11.00 am	Lent Bible Study, Colehill Methodist – see below
Saturday 4 th March	8.30 am	Monthly prayer meeting, Holtwood Methodist
Sunday 14 th May	10.45 am	Church Anniversary led by Reverend Gwyneth Owen, followed by lunch in the hall

Bible in a year: 5th – 11th February: Exodus 36 – Leviticus 12 and Matthew 14:23 – 26:25

Church Council Meeting: The next meeting of the Church Council is scheduled for 7th February at 7.00 pm in the Okeford Room. All members of the church and congregation are welcome to attend, but only Trustees will be permitted to vote. *David Wild*

Lent Bible Studies: These will take place at 11.00 am at Colehill Methodist on the following dates: 27th February, 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th March with the final study on 3rd April.

Methodist Women in Britain: I recently attended a meeting at Verwood Methodist Church of the Methodist Women in Britain representatives from our Circuit. The partnership this year which MWiB have opted to support is a Romanian Orphanage. Deacon Glenda Sidding will come and chat to us about this on Sunday 11th June during our morning service.

It would be good if, as a church, we could raise some funds for this charity. As Lent is just around the corner would you be interested in the six weeks leading up to Easter in filling empty Smartie tubes with any money which can be popped in there?

The money raised will go directly to the orphanage via the Methodist Minister in Romania who Glenda knows well and in the past she has visited both the church and the orphanage.

The Smartie tubes will be available at church on Sunday 10th February. Thank you in anticipation. *Joyce Wild*

Helpers for Presbyteral Synod meeting: On Wednesday 1st March the Presbyteral Synod will be held at Wimborne Methodist Church and help is needed to cater for the 90 attendees. There are three sessions:

9.00 am -11.00 am to serve refreshments, collect in empty cups, wipe tables down and wash and dry up

12.00 noon -2.00 pm to serve refreshments, collect in empty cups, wipe tables, and wash and dry up

3.30 pm – 5.00 pm to serve refreshments, collect in empty cups, wipe tables, wash and dry up and tidy away tables

Those who volunteer will only be asked to undertake one session. Is this something you feel able to help with? If it is please email joyce.wild156@gmail.com or ring Joyce Wild on 07817 505543 by Friday 24th February.

Joyce Wild

Circuit Concert: On the afternoon of either Saturday March 11th or 25th (date to be confirmed) we shall hold a Circuit Concert at Ringwood Trinity.

You might be musical, love drama, can recite poetry, juggle, tell jokes, be a ventriloquist or offer something I have never even thought of, but please come and share your gift with others. An audience, too, will be most appreciated. If you are interested speak to either Joyce or John. This will be an excellent way to showcase the talent around our Circuit of which I am sure there is much. Dates of any rehearsals will follow shortly. I look forward to hearing from as many folk as possible.

Joyce Wild

Vacancy for Circuit Steward: At the March Circuit Meeting (16th March) the meeting will, as usual, agree the Circuit Stewards for the coming year. During the current church year, Mark Priestley resigned as Circuit Steward, creating a vacancy. I am therefore writing to invite nominations from any member of any church who would like to volunteer as a Circuit Steward.

Nominees must be nominated and seconded by two members of the Circuit Meeting, but they can be anyone who is a local church member – the nominee doesn't have to be someone who is already a member of the Circuit Meeting.

Ideally, we'd like the details of any nominees together with their proposer and seconder no later than 3 weeks before the Circuit Meeting, so that I can include their details on the agenda, which goes out 2 weeks before the meeting. So in other words, no later than Thursday 23rd February. All details, and any queries, contact me please.

Explanatory note re position of other Circuit stewards: Most have not yet served 6 years. Rodney Betts as our circuit treasurer will ask the Circuit Meeting for an extension, as will Joyce Wild our lead Circuit Steward, who comes to the end of her 6 year term this year. Joyce's requested extension is to provide some continuity, given the change of ministers and circuit reorganisation. In this she has the support of the other Circuit Stewards, and no objection from our Superintendent Minister-designate, Andrew Pottage. Subject to those extension decisions of the circuit meeting, therefore, there is just the one vacancy, the one created by Mark Priestley's resignation.

Rob White, Circuit Administrator

Blandford Foodbank is urgently in need of -

Deodorant

Tinned fruit

Tinned vegetables

The following items are also running low and need restocking -

Porridge

Tinned Meat

Tinned soup

Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Bars of soap

Cleaning products such as washing up liquid, surface cleaner, cleaning sponges

For those able to support the Foodbank with items, a box has been placed in the Narthex as a collection point.

John Cornish

Prayer: Please can we continue 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 Pauline Crispin

(Tel: 01202 883461)

Email: paulinecrispin@yahoo.co.uk

Pastoral Support:

Joyce Wild: (Tel: 01258 454091)