

## **Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship with Holy Communion which is being led by Reverend Peter McNeill. The stewards today are John Cornish, Tina Wise and Jean Peck. Thank you to Joyce for the lovely flowers. Please join us in the hall for refreshments after today's service.

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### **Dates for your diary:**

Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00 am	'Faith with Mark' – come and meet Mark Kimber in the Okeford Room
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	10.45 am	Church Anniversary led by Reverend David Vincent, followed by lunch in the hall
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber followed by a <b>General Church Meeting</b> in the hall
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Barrie Knight
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Brian Skelley
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Miss Elizabeth Ward
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	10.45 am	Local Arrangement service

**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:** 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May: 2 Kings 15 – 1 Chronicles 6 and John 3 – 6:21

**Meet Reverend Dr Mark Kimber:** Most Fridays Mark will be available in the Okeford Room from 10.00 am to 11.00 am for anyone who wishes to have a chat with him. However, on the third Friday of each month – the next one being the 17<sup>th</sup> May – there will be a session entitled '**Faith with Mark**' to which you are cordially invited.

**Church Anniversary, 19<sup>th</sup> May:** We look forward to our 189<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary on the 19<sup>th</sup> May which will be led by Reverend David Vincent from Wimborne Methodist. Following the service, we hope you will all stay for lunch in the hall. This year we thought we would have a slightly different lunch than in the past, so we will be offering either a chicken curry (mild to medium) or for those who are not so keen on curry, a chicken casserole. We will offer either rice or potatoes to accompany the curry or the casserole. There will be a fruit flan and ice cream to follow the mains. Unfortunately, due to the cost of the ingredients, we will need to make a charge of £5 per person. We hope you will be able to come and join us for lunch, so to help us with our catering, please can you indicate on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex your preferences for lunch.

**General Church Meeting, 26th May:** As mentioned in previous editions of the Link, the General Church Meeting to be held after the service on the 26<sup>th</sup> May will be a very low-key affair. Please bring a picnic lunch for yourselves, although tea, coffee and cakes will be available. Mark has issued a brief Agenda for the meeting, as follows:

Welcome

Harvest Charity support ideas

Appointments celebration

Conversation on the life of Church

*What are we saying about. Mission and Growth at Blandford Methodist Church? What might we do about it? What might we prioritise in the next 12 months?*

Picnic - maybe with added entertainments!

If anyone has anything to add to the above proposed Agenda, please feel free to let Mags know so that she can pass your ideas and thoughts on to Mark.

Just to flesh the initial idea out a little...

**Charities** - what might we support together? Bring your ideas for Harvest Charity. We will have done something in the service, so this will be about some sort of chance to vote (maybe using sticky dots) and give the Stewards some indication of any groundswell of particular support to help decision-making.

**Appointments** - noting, celebrating and praying for those in positions of responsibility within the Church in the year ahead. We'll maybe print a list of appointments to go through.

**Conversation** - what are we saying about Mission and Growth at Blandford Methodist Church? And what might we do about it? What might we prioritise in the next 12 months? - hoping we will inform, encourage and enthuse each other, maybe set some agenda items for small group work, or emphasise getting support for a particular charity, or a piece of work that Blandford is calling for, maybe setting up a regular prayer for Mission and growth, options for discipleship... Ideally we'll start to see some passions emerging and be able to put them into action in a way that engages with people we know and people we don't know yet.

The GCM follows on from the service on Trinity Sunday. I will include something about generosity and giving, aiming to fulfil the commitment made at Church Council. The first focus will also develop to include thinking about other Charities, which we'll take into the time after the service.

*Light and life, Mark*

**Christian Aid:** Wimborne Methodist Church is hosting a basic simple lunch on Tuesday 14th May, giving an opportunity to meet informally over bread, cheese and fruit. There is no need to book - just turn up any time between 12.30 pm and 1.00 pm. There is no charge but there will, of course, be an opportunity to make a donation to Christian Aid.

**Blandford Foodbank** is **urgently** in need of (updated 2.5.24) -

Biscuits                      Coffee (small jars)      Jam              Pulses              Soup

Tinned carrots      Tinned sweetcorn              Toilet rolls              Washing up liquid

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 remember to uphold in prayer those members of our congregation 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