

## **Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June**

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship with Communion which is being led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber. The stewards today are John Cornish and Elizabeth Boyd.

After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments and our General Church Meeting.

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

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Andrew Pottage
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Barrie Knight
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	10.45 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Keith Beckingham
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Mark Priestley
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	10.45 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Peter McNeill
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> August	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Colin Besant
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Miss Liz Ward
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> August	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Peter McNeill
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	10.45 am	Ecumenical Service at BMC hosted by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber

**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:** 29<sup>th</sup> June – 5<sup>th</sup> July: Job 14 – 31 and Acts 9:22 - 13

**Happy birthday** to Rona Downes (30<sup>th</sup>) and Ivan Hayward (30<sup>th</sup>)

**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 there will be a session entitled '**Meeting with Mark**' to which you are cordially invited.

**Lunch Club Summertime Get Togethers:** Looking for a chance to stay connected over the summer whilst Lunch Club is on a summer break? Reverend Mark – along with a few friendly helpers – will be hosting relaxed lunchtime gatherings filled with good conversation, fun, and maybe even a quiz or activity! **Bring your own picnic lunch** We'll provide drinks, biscuits, and (if you're lucky) some cake! **Fridays 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm**

- 18 July
- 15 August

Come along for a friendly catch-up and a bit of summer cheer. Everyone welcome!

*Reverend Mark Kimber*

**Charities:** At our Church General Meeting I will propose we offer support for the charity 'Safe Families' from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025. Here's a vignette of their work given to me by Helen Hender, who is our local contact with Safe Families and who is also in touch with Nourish (Blandford Food Bank).

***"Safe Families" - Connecting Families:** Facing life alone can be hard, and when you feel there is no-one there to support you, it is a very scary place to be. Safe Families exists so that no-one feels alone, so we offer isolated families a place to belong. This means they feel seen, heard and understood. We do this through working alongside the local church and connecting families with local volunteers who become friends, offering care and companionship. We offer training, support and encouragement to churches and individuals. Volunteers also introduce families to places where they begin to develop their own friendships. This might be the local church's parent and toddler group, coffee morning or Sunday service.*

*A story of hope (as we call them) from one of the families we supported looked like this:*

*David's story - David is a single parent caring for four young girls. His social worker identified at an early stage that David was in need of some support to overcome the challenges of parenting. Harry, and his wife Alison, were connected to the family through Safe Families and provided weekly support for both David and his oldest daughter. In David's own words, they "did what a Nan and Grandad would do". Another volunteer was able to find two single beds which meant that David no longer had to sleep on the sofa.*

*John Cornish*

**Letter from Joyce:** please read the attached letter from Joyce as she hands over the reigns as Lead Circuit Steward in September. We thank Joyce for all she has done for the Circuit over the years.

**Summer concert** by Colehill Community Choir at St Michael's Church, Colehill, Saturday 5th July 7.30 pm in Aid of Prama Life.

**Woodlands Methodist:** "Worship for You", 13<sup>th</sup> July, led by Mr Martyn Cubitt. Details on the poster in the hall.

**Blandford Foodbank:** On Tuesday I delivered the Church's contribution of packets, tins, and bottles to Nourish (previously known as Blandford Food Bank) at the URC. The volunteers really appreciated our contribution and wanted me to pass on their thanks to you all. The hall at the URC was full of people receiving refreshments and having conversations with the volunteers, together with the chance to collect their food parcel or shopping in the well-stocked larder. Nicky was busy in her role as debt advisor and offering budgeting support under the Community Money Advice (CMA) organisation. Thank you all for supporting Nourish.

*John Cornish*

**Blandford Foodbank is urgently** in need of (updated 11.4.25) – Coffee, Squash, Cereal, Tinned Sweetcorn, Toothpaste. Any other donations of food or household goods are also welcomed. 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.

Can we particularly remember those of our congregation who are helping family members through illness, and those who are in hospital.

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