

## **Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship which is being led by Mr Colin Besant. The stewards today are Joyce Wild and Rona Downes. Thank you to Angela for playing for us. After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

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

Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45 am	Mothering Sunday: Local arrangement service
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Brian Skelley
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45 am	Palm Sunday: Ecumenical Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd Dr Mark Kimber
<b>Friday</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>10.00</b> am	Good Friday: Service led by Revd Dr Mark Kimber
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	10.45 am	Easter Sunday: Morning Worship led by Miss Elizabeth Ward
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mrs Joyce Wild
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	10.45 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Peter McNeill

**Today's reading:** John 4: 5 – 42 (page 1066)

**Colehill Methodist: Every Monday,** 11.00 am to 12.00 noon(ish), Bible Study, coffee, prayers and plenty of chat. All welcome.

**Circuit prayers:** First Saturday of every month at 8.30 am at Holtwood Methodist Church.

**Bible in a year:** 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March: Deuteronomy 5 – 25 and Mark 11 – 14:26

**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.

**Thank you for all you give:** Thank you for all that you contribute - your time, resources, kindness and grace - to the worship, life and mission of Blandford Methodist Church.

I want you to know that we are just about keeping up with our regular ongoing financial commitments, but this does not cover maintenance, hoped for improvements, or new work. If you are able, please consider reviewing and possibly increasing your giving.

Setting up a Standing Order, if you don't have one already in place, also helps, as cash handling costs the church around £150 a year. And if you are eligible to sign up for Gift Aid please consider it, it makes a real difference.

*Light and life, Mark*

**Graham Boyd:** It is with sadness that we must pass on the news that Graham died on Wednesday morning. As soon as we hear any details regarding a funeral, we will let you know.

*Joyce Wild*

**Lent Challenge:** Ash Wednesday this year falls on 18<sup>th</sup> February and so Lent begins. This period provides each of us with an ideal opportunity to take something on board, but also to give something back. As Christians, it would be good if we committed ourselves to reading firstly Mark's Gospel with its sixteen chapters, followed by Psalms 15, 1, 8, 16, 23, 46, 63, 67, 100, 117, 150, 121, 133, 119 v 57-64. To add an extra dimension to the reading of the Psalms why not try learn one of them off by heart.

The daily Bible readings from Mark's Gospel help us focus on Jesus as we prepare for Good Friday and then Easter Sunday and knowing portions of scripture is always a blessing.

So, there we have the taking something on board, but what about the giving something back, you might be asking. Well, for this connexional year as a church we have committed ourselves to supporting two specific charities, Safe Families in Dorset and the Health Bus Trust. To do this fund raising is necessary. Might I suggest that alongside our weekly offering, we each donate £1.00 extra which is to be placed in a specially provided box that can be found on the table in the Narthex from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>. At the end of Lent the money collected will be added to other monies raised as our donation to the two charities.

*Joyce Wild*

**Easter Sunday:** There will be a sunrise service at 6.00 am at the Milldown on Easter Sunday.

**Woodlands Methodist:** Worship for You, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 6.00 pm, led by Reverend Angus Mayhew. Further details on poster in hall.

**Woodlands Methodist:** Jumble Sale, 14<sup>th</sup> March, Verwood Memorial Hall. Details on poster in hall. Also, Woodlands is in desperate need for more jumble i.e. men's & ladies' clothes, please.

**Blandford Foodbank is urgently** in need of (updated 19.2.26) – Cereal, Jam, Marmalade, Tinned meat, UHT milk, Deodorant (male and female), Rice, Rice pudding, Tinned carrots, Tinned fruit. 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.

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