Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 26th July

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship which is being led by Deacon Glenda Sidding. The stewards today are John Cornish and Alan and Margaret Dymond. Thank you to Margaret for the flowers. After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 2nd August	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Mark Priestley
Sunday 9th August	10.45 am	Local arrangement service
Sunday 16th August	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Brian Skelley
Sunday 23rd August	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Revered Peter McNeill
Sunday 30th August	10.45 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led 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.

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

Bible in a year: 26th July – 1st August: Psalms 40 – 59 and Acts 18:27 - Romans 4

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. And, on the third Friday of each month there will be a session entitled 'Meeting with Mark' to which you are cordially invited.

Mission in Britain boxes: It is time for the yearly emptying of Mission in Britain Boxes. Please could all boxes be with Joyce between 26th July and 2nd August. Many thanks. *Joyce Wild*

Our Charities for next year 2026/2027: As the Methodist Church year draws to a close at the end of August, we will have completed our commitment to support our two chosen charities, Safe Families and HealthBus for the year 2025/2026. We now need to begin deciding which charity or charities we would like our Church to support during 2026/2027.
If you have a charity you wish to propose, please email John Cornish (cornishjr@gmail.com) with your suggestion(s). These will then be considered and decided at our next Church Council on Friday 30th October.

Beetle Drive: The bell rang and the competitors were off. That was the twelve people gathered on Saturday 18th July for the Beetle Drive. It proved to be a fun afternoon with shouts of, "Oh, I needed that six" or "Not another three!" with lots of laughter mixed in. The

best Beetle players were Margaret as first lady and David first gent, with Judith and Arthur receiving the booby prizes for scoring the least points.
To complement the event and keep everyone occupied there were a variety of picture quizzes. These ranged from delving back into the past to remember their childhood sweets, name the selection of biscuits and, for one group, guess the 'bottom' of the animal.
As at all Methodist get togethers, tea, coffee and biscuits were served at half time which was much appreciated on a hot afternoon. All the money raised will go to our two charities for this year. A big thank you to those who supported this fun afternoon. *Joyce Wild*

Next Local Arrangement Service: On Sunday 9th August, our service will focus on the work of Nourish, Blandford's Food Bank. We are delighted to welcome Florentyna Taylor, the Manager, who will share with us the achievements of Nourish and their hopes for the future. Everyone will be invited to bring an item of food or any "packet or tin" on the 9th August. Then, before the offering is blessed, you will be invited to bring your gifts to the front of the church and place them in a food parcel. A prayer of dedication will then be offered for all donated items.
It would be wonderful if as many people as possible could take part in this act of generosity and support. *John Cornish / Joyce Wild*

Report on the Methodist Conference 2026: I have been asked to share the report from this year's Methodist Conference with members of our church. The full Report can be read online or downloaded from the Methodist Church website: **methodist.org.uk/conference**
John Cornish

Open Air Joint Service: at Knowlton Church, BH21 5AE, on Sunday 26th July, 6.00 pm. Bring your chairs.

Holtwood Methodist: Two summer events from Holtwood Methodist.

- Family fun Day, Saturday 1st August, 12.00 noon to 4.00 pm. This event is free and activities include Penalty shootout, fun and games, hot dogs, ice cream and cream teas. All are welcome.
- Solar Eclipse Event on Wednesday 1wth August from 6.00 pm. Drinks and snacks available. Meteors should be visible at 9.00 pm. Solar eclipse visible from 6.00 pm onwards. Activities available during the evening the hall

If you would like to go to either or both of these events, please let either Mags or John Cornish know so that they can let Holtwood know to expect you.

Brockenhurst Methodist Church - Final Service and 125th Anniversary: Brockenhurst Methodist Church will hold its final service on Sunday 16th August at 2.30 pm, marking 125 years of faithful witness and worship in the village. The service will be led by Reverend Barbara Jeffries, Reverend Peter McNeill, and Reverend Andrew Pottage. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Location: Brockenhurst Methodist Church, Avenue Road, SO42 7TY (off Sway Road). Parking:

- Lay-by near the school
- Limited off-street parking nearby
- Otherwise, please use the station car park, which has a pedestrian path leading directly to Avenue Road. Car sharing is encouraged.

If you would like to attend, please let John Cornish know by the 26th July. He will pass the numbers on to our Circuit Administrator.

Blandford Foodbank is urgently in need of (updated 14.7.26) –

Cereal, Coffee, UHT milk, Tinned carrots, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned soup, Pasta sauce. Other donations of food or household goods 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. Also, remember in prayer those members of our church who are finding things stressful at this time.

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