

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 20th September

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship led by Mrs Joyce Wild. The stewards today are John Cornish and Alan and Margaret Dymond. After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 27 th September	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Brian Skelley
Saturday 3rd October	2.30 pm	Set up church for Harvest
Sunday 4 th October	10.45 am	Harvest Festival service led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber, followed by lunch in the hall
Sunday 11 th October	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Peter McNeill
Sunday 18 th October	10.45 am	Songs of Praise Local Arrangement service led by members of the congregation
Sunday 25 th October	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber
Friday 30th October	3.00 pm	Church Council Meeting, Okeford Room
Saturday 31st October	12.00 noon	Church Social – Italian lunch
Sunday 1 st November	10.45 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Keith Beckingham
Sunday 8 th November	10.45 am	Remembrance Sunday: Local arrangement service led by members of the congregation
Sunday 15 th November	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mrs Joyce Wild
Sunday 22 nd November	10.45 am	Morning Worship led by Mr Rob White
Sunday 29 th November	10.45 am	First Sunday in Advent: Morning Worship led by Mr Mark Priestley

Today's readings: Jonah Chapter 3 v 10 to Chapter 4 v 11 (Page 929 in pew bible)
Matthew Chapter 20 v 1 to 16 (Page 987 in pew bible)

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: 13th – 19th September: Proverbs 16 – Ecclesiastes 3 and 2 Corinthians 6 - 11

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.

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.

Harvest Festival: The 4th October is our Harvest Festival. We will decorate the church and set up the hall on Saturday 3rd October at **2.30 pm**. Please note the afternoon start. All help will be gratefully received. We hope to decorate the church with tinned and packet goods for the foodbank so please do keep bringing in your donations: they are very much appreciated. If you are out and about and see any conkers then collect them and bring them with you on the Saturday.

On Sunday we have our Harvest meal. The list for this event will be in the Narthex until Sunday 27th September. There is no cost, but a donation basket will be in the hall.

As well as decorating the church for harvest we are looking to change the Prayer Space display in the Winterborne Lounge. If you have a suitable sheet or piece of material in beige, orange, brown, green (autumn colours) we could use for the backdrop please see Joyce.

Joyce Wild

Local Arrangement Service (Songs of Praise): Our next Local Arrangement is on Sunday 18th October and we are thinking of celebrating with an Autumnal Theme 'Songs of Praise'. We would like as many people as possible to come forward with suggestions. It might be your favourite Bible reading, a hymn, a worship song, a piece of drama, prayers or a poem. Your offerings are to be with Joyce no later than Sunday 11th October. Please remember a Local Arrangement is a service where we all, as a congregation, share in the running of the service, offering our gifts and talents to God. It could be reading something, sharing your testimony, leading a song with a solo, offering to say prayers. Do let Joyce know what part you would like to play in this act of worship. Thank you in anticipation.

Joyce Wild

Buon Appetito!

Sei invitato a un viaggio divertente in Italia con pranzo incluso.

In other words: You are invited on a fun trip to Italy including lunch starting at Blandford Methodist Church on Saturday 31st October from 12.00 noon – come and join us.

Our Maestro delle cerimonie is the well-renowned Alan Dymond who will guide us through lunch followed by a fun Italian-based quiz and possibly an Italian sing-song.

Lunch will be Polpette con la pasta (meatballs in pasta sauce) followed by dessert (but sorry – no Chianti or Prosecco). There will be a nominal cost of £5 per person, with any profits

going to church funds. This is bound to be a popular event, so don't hesitate to get your tickets from either Alan or John.

If you would like to come to have a time of fun and enjoyment and chase away the start of any winter blues, please sign the sign-up sheet in the Narthex by Sunday 18th October.

Woodlands Methodist: Harvest Festival service, 27th September, 6.00 pm. Full details on the poster in the hall – all very welcome.

Barton on Sea Methodist is hosting a Harvest Concert by the Milford West Gallery Quire on Saturday 3rd October at 2.30pm. It is a FREE performance with refreshments in the hall to follow. Further details on poster in hall.

Holtwood Methodist: It's time to dress up for **Posh Fish (or sausage) and Chips!** An evening to dress up for fish and chips on Saturday 17th October. The evening will be accompanied by music by Sunnybank Fields Trio. John and Mags are hoping to attend, so if anyone would also like to go, please have a word and they will sort out your booking and arrange transport if required. Full details, including cost, can be found on the poster in the hall.

Blandford Foodbank – Harvest Appeal: My name is **Florentyna Taylor**, and I became the new Manager of **Nourish Blandford Foodbank** in April this year. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself and share a little about the work we have been doing in our local community.

It has been a very busy and successful summer for Nourish. Working alongside local schools, we provided **88 Summer Holiday Food Bags** to families who were referred for support, helping to ensure children had access to food during the school break. In addition, during July and August we distributed **66 emergency food parcels** to individuals and families facing crisis situation.

While we are incredibly grateful for the support we receive from our community, these increased demands have left our food bank stocks running low. As we approach the **Harvest season**, we are appealing for donations of food and essential household items to help us continue supporting local people in need. Any contribution, large or small, makes a real difference and helps ensure that no one in our community has to face hardship alone. **A poster can be found in the main hall outlining our main needs.**

We are also planning to hold an **Open Day in November**, giving you the opportunity to see first-hand what we do, meet the team, and learn more about the impact of Nourish in Blandford. We will send out invitations closer to the time and would be delighted if you could join us. We would love to continue building and strengthening our relationship with you.

If you would like to get involved, support our work, arrange a collection, or simply find out more, please do get in touch. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Florentyna Taylor, Nourish Manager

Blandford Foodbank is urgently in need of (updated 10.9.26) –

Cereal, Jam / Marmalade, Porridge Oats, Tinned Potatoes, Rice, Tinned Kidney Beans, Tinned Lentils, Tinned Chickpeas, Soup, Shampoo, Washing Up Liquid. 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.

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 difficult and 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