

## **Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September**

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship led by Mr Brian Skelley. The stewards today are John Cornish and Elizabeth Boyd. Thank you to Joyce for the flowers.  
After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

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

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

**Today's readings:** Psalm 78 verses 1 to 4 and 12 to 16 (Page 590 in pew bible)  
Matthew Chapter 21 verses 23 to 32 (Page 989 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:** 27<sup>th</sup> September – 3<sup>rd</sup> October: Isaiah 3 – 19 abd Galatians 6 – Ephesians 5

**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 4<sup>th</sup> October is our Harvest Festival. We will decorate the church and set up the hall on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> October.

**Autumn Bible Study:** Reverend Nick Wood will lead a new bible study this Autumn, sharing key insights from his recent sabbatical. The sessions will be interactive, with time for questions and discussion. Participants will receive full-colour printed course booklets, and each meeting will include a refreshment break.

For convenience, the course will run twice each week:

Monday evenings 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm at Holtwood Methodist Church

Wednesday mornings 10.30 am to 12.00 noon at Verwood Methodist Church

You are welcome to attend whichever session suits you. The course explores how the Christian faith first took root within the Roman Empire — the challenges it faced, the factors that helped it grow, and the remarkable story of the Church's beginnings. For further details please see the poster in the hall.

*John Cornish*

**Woodlands Methodist:** Harvest Festival service, 27<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 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