

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 11th October

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Reverend Peter McNeill. The stewards today are Joyce Wild and Margaret Cornish. Thank you to Angela for playing for us and also for the flowers. After the service, please join us in the hall for refreshments.

Dates for your diary:

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: Isaiah 25: 1 – 9 (Page 709 in church bible)
Matthew 22: 1 – 14 (Page 990 in church 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: 11th – 17th October: Isaiah 37 – 52 and Colossians 3 -1 Thessalonians 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.

Church Council: Our Church Council meeting will be held on Friday 30th October at 3.00 pm in the Okeford Room. All are invited to attend, although only Church Council members will be entitled to vote. **If anyone has any items of Any Other Business they would like brought to the attention of the Church Council, please could these be with either Mark or Mags before Sunday 18th October.**

Margaret Cornish

Our Charities for next year 2026/2027: To date, the stewards have received the names of two charities for consideration at the forthcoming Church Council meeting. If you have a charity you wish to propose, please speak to John Cornish or email him (cornishjr@gmail.com) with your suggestion(s). These will then be considered and decided at our next Church Council on Friday 30th October.

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.

Our Harvest Festival service last Sunday proved to be a joyous occasion. Mark led a fun-packed service that included excellent singing, a thought-provoking sermon and some swaying of the hips to the Harvest Samba song. The church had been beautifully decorated by Mags, Liz and Charlotte, the hall set up by David, Alan and John whilst Margaret D revamped the Prayer Space in the Winterborne Lounge with an Autumnal theme. Please do encourage people to write a prayer on the paper leaves provided and hang them on the tree. These will be read and incorporated in the main service each week.

After the service, 24 of us headed off to the hall to share fellowship over a deliciously homecooked lunch of cottage pie and fresh vegetables followed by Eve's Pudding and custard expertly prepared by Mark Lilley. Tea and coffee and After Eight Mints brought the meal to a close. Interspersed between each course was a quiz reflecting a Harvest or autumnal theme, with Tina, Margaret D and Angela each winning one of the rounds. It was a lovely family gathering and the old saying "many hands make light work" was most certainly evident after the event where everyone helped where they could to tidy up.

Donations raised at the meal enabled the church to send £106.47 to Nourish as well as numerous tinned, packeted and dried goods. Thank you to everyone for their generosity. This is all part of our sharing with others what God has already blessed us with.

Joyce Wild

Thank you: Brian and I would like to thank you all for our lovely present and card on our 60th Wedding Anniversary. Also, thanks for the cards and emails to Brian after his operation; it didn't go as planned, but we will be back to Church soon.

Love from Pat and Brian

I am very sorry to announce the death of **Mr David Webb** from Highcliffe Methodist Church, one of our beloved Local Preachers. David has preached faithfully across our Circuit for many years and will be sorely missed for his friendship, gentle manner and sense of humour. We thank God for his service. Please remember Hilary and the family in your thoughts and prayers at this time. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Revd Andrew Pottage, Superintendent

Blandford Foodbank is urgently in need of (updated 26.9.26) –

Cereal, Jam / Marmalade, Porridge Oats, Rice Pudding, Tea Bags, Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Kidney Beans, Tinned Lentils, Tinned Chickpeas, Shampoo, Soap, Toothbrushes, 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