

Blandford Methodist Church: Sunday 25th October

Good morning and welcome to our Morning Worship which is being led by Reverend Dr Mark Kimber. 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.

Dates for your diary:

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: Psalm 1 (Page 543 in Church bible)
Matthew Chapter 22 verses 34 to 46 (Page 991 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: 25th – 31st October: Jeremiah 6 – 23 and 1 Timothy 5 – Titus 1

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.

Sturdy shopping bags needed: The bags I use to take the produce to the foodbank are now looking rather tatty and are not as strong as they once were. If anyone has any medium sized and sturdy shopping bags (not carrier bags), have strong handles and are no longer needed, please can you pass them on to me. With grateful thanks.

John Cornish

Church Roof Repairs: Following the theft of lead from parts of our church roof, an Emergency Church Council meeting was held on Sunday 18th October. Members unanimously agreed that the repair work should go ahead and approved the funding arrangements, taking into account the grants and other contributions that are being sought. We are pleased to report that good progress is being made in several areas.

Progress Update

- Davids of Wimborne have been appointed to carry out the roofing work. We have asked them to arrange the earliest possible start date, and they will also manage the scaffolding installation and all necessary permissions.
- Applications for grants have been submitted to the Christchurch and Wimborne Circuit, the William Williams Trust, and the Dorset Historic Churches Trust (DHCT).
- A claim has been submitted to Methodist Insurance, and we await their response.
- As the church is located within a Conservation Area, Blandford Town Council has been informed of the planned work. They have very kindly agreed to arrange the pruning of shrubs in Woodhouse Gardens alongside the north wall of the church to allow scaffolding to be erected safely.
- We have also been in regular contact with Rodney Betts to keep the Circuit informed of developments. We are grateful for the encouragement and support that the Circuit continues to provide.

We would like to thank everyone for their patience, prayers, and support as we work to preserve and maintain our church building for future generations. We will keep you all updated as the project progresses.

John Cornish

Blandford Foodbank is urgently in need of (updated 12.10.26) –

Cereal, Jam / Marmalade, Porridge Oats, Rice, Tinned Potatoes, 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