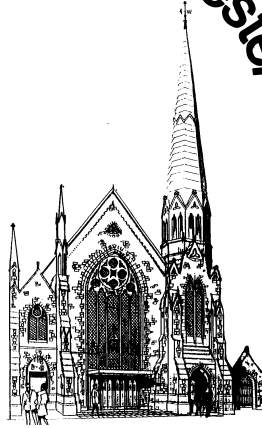


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



DECEMBER 2018

Registered Charity No: 1137996

Methodist and United Reformed
Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

Minister	Minister
Rev Stephanie Jenner	Rev Peter Clark
01305 262421	01308 425978
Day off Tuesday	Day off Friday

Please contact one of the Church Stewards if necessary

Pastoral Visitor: Angela Fisher
Church Secretary: John Hilton
Senior Steward: Mary Martin

Church (general number): 01305 262462
Church office: 01305 457477
Website: unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk

Private Tel & email removed from web version

Sunday Worship

2nd December Advent Sunday
10.30am Rev Dr A Wood
Holy Communion

6.30pm Rev G Owen
Holy Communion

9th December Second in Advent
9.00am Rev J Walker
Holy Communion
10.30am Ms G Bumphrey

3.30pm Circuit Service
Bridport United Church

16th December Third in Advent
10.30am Rev P Clark
All-Age Worship

6.30pm Rev D Cuckson

23rd December Fourth in Advent
10.30am Service led by Worship
Committee
6.30pm Rev Dr A Wood
Carol Service

Christmas Eve
4.00pm Christingle
11.30pm Midnight Communion
Rev P Clark

Christmas Day
10.30am Rev B Stephenson

30th December
10.30am Rev P Clark
6.30pm No service

Lectionary readings

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Baruch 5:1-9 *or*
Malachi 3:1-4
Benedictus (Luke 1:68-79)
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

Micah 5:2-5a
Magnificat (Luke 1:46b-55)
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45

Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20

Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12), John 1:1-14

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3:12-17,
Luke 2:41-52

Market Day services

(Wednesdays at 10.30am)

5th December Mr A Boyden
12th December Rev D Reep
19th December Rev B Stephenson

Quiet Christmas

Friday 14th December at 3 pm

A short 30 minute service followed by refreshments in the hall. If you need transport or can offer transport, please let Angela Fisher or Wendy Hilton know.

Church Family News

Congratulations to Alec Ward, who celebrated his 90th birthday in November.

Everyday Prayer

Living God, may the worship we share this Christmas lead to acts of service which transform people's lives; may the carols we sing help others to sing, even in sadness, and may the candles we light remind us that you intend no one to live in darkness.
May the stories we tell again this Christmas be good news of great joy to us and to all people. Amen

What's On in December

Thurs 6 th	6-8.30pm	Cracker Night. Carols with the church choir and United Brass
Sat 8 th	4.00pm	Flutecakes present an hour of festive favourites followed by tea, coffee and cake. Donations to the Dorchester Child Contact Centre.
Sat 8 th	7.30pm	Encore Singers concert Donations to Julia's House
Tues 11 th	12.30pm	Solos Christmas lunch **
Wed 12 th	12.30pm	Picnic People **
Thurs 13 th	7.30pm	Thursday Night Out Ken Mills: "An Evening with Ken"
Fri 14 th	3.00pm	Quiet Christmas **
Sun 16 th	12.30pm	Church Family Christmas lunch **
Mon 31 st	7.30pm	New Year's Eve party **

** Please see separate notice for details

A message from Rev'd Peter Clark

During the period of Steph's absence it is perfectly understandable that church folk may feel reluctant to make contact, perhaps feeling that you are 'bothering' me. I wish to let you know that I am perfectly happy to be contacted and would much rather be rung or emailed than find out later that I knew nothing about something that I could have helped with. If you ring on 01308 425978 and, as often is the case, I am out, do not be put off by the answer machine. Please leave a message and I will get back to you!

The candlelight service will be slightly different from previous years as a result of safety issues resulting from having open flames round the church, issues that have been raised by several people. This year the main lights will be turned off but there will be no open candles within the congregation. There will, instead, be coloured uplighters on the walls and a number of candles on the communion table, where they are, hopefully, less likely to create a fire hazard.

The **Monday Fellowship Group** meets twice a month at 7.30 p.m. in members' homes. Further information from Mary Lucraft.

The **Tuesday Home Group** meets at the home of Elizabeth and Paul Haynes, 6 Powys Close, on alternate weeks at 7.30 p.m. Further information from Chris Warren.

The **Wednesday Home Group** is not currently meeting but future meetings and venues are under discussion.

The **Friday morning Bible study group** meets every Friday from 10.00 – 11.00am in the Quiet Room. New friends are always welcome.

Prayer and meditation. Every Tuesday from 12-12.30 p.m. in the church.

Prayer Chain. If you would like prayer for yourself or others at any time, please contact Penny Fennell. Details can be given anonymously, and confidentiality within the prayer chain is absolute unless there is a safeguarding risk.

Carol Singing in Aid of Action for Children

We will be carol singing on 17th, 18th and 19th December.

Monday 17th: Victoria Park, meeting at junction of Coburg Road and Maud Road

Tuesday 18th: St George's Road area, meeting at Magna Community Room, Lubbecke Way

Wednesday 19th: Thomas Hardy Gardens, meeting at South Court Avenue roundabout

Please join us for 6.20pm. We move off promptly at 6.30pm.

More information from Janice Young or Diana Leeming

SOLOS CHRISTMAS LUNCH – 11th DECEMBER

The Christmas meeting for Solos AND Southfield House will be on Tuesday 11th December. We are planning to have Christmas lunch at 12.30 pm at Hendover Café (11, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester). The cost will be approximately £16 for a two course Christmas meal. A deposit of £6 is required when booking with the remaining £10 being paid when we have the meal.

If you would like to book a place, please let Angela Fisher know if you are a member of the Solos group, or speak to her or Betty Childs if you are a Southfield House resident, before December 2nd. Please remember to pay your deposit.

Picnic People will meet on Wednesday 12th December in the Coffee Lounge at 12.30p.m. New friends are always welcome to join us, just bring your picnic lunch with you, tea or coffee will be provided. Knit and Natter has stopped now for the winter months, but we hope as many of you as possible will come so we can discuss the future meetings of Picnic People. Hope to see you there. Mary Lu.

Dorchester Food Bank

If you are donating items to the food bank over the Christmas period, they are currently short of sugar, coffee, long life milk, jam, shampoo and toilet rolls.

Forest Praise

Thursday January 3rd, 10.30-11.30am

Celebrating the Epiphany

At Sure Start Children's Centre, Middle Farm Way, Poundbury (next to Sunny Days Nursery). Fun, outdoor play and praise. Everyone welcome. Please wear warm clothing as we will be outside in the garden. Contact Janice Young.



Journey to the Stable is an interactive experience helping to explain the true meaning of Christmas. This is ideal for adults and children alike. The journey takes 20 - 30 minutes. There are seven stations focusing on a person or a part of the Christmas story with readings and reflections. At each there is a small activity or object for you to take away, so you leave with a bag of reflections and goodies.

Open at the United Church, South Street, Dorchester:

Saturday 8th December

Wednesday 12th - Saturday 15th December 11-3pm (Friday 14th 11-2pm)

Monday 17th - Saturday 22nd December 10- 2pm (Wednesday 19th 11-2pm).

In the busyness of all the Christmas shopping, writing the cards and icing the cake, take a few minutes to be still and reflect on what Christmas is all about.

Volunteers are needed as stewards. Please sign up on the sheet in the hall.

Feed Me, Change Me, Love Me

From Monday 17th to Saturday 22nd December, a safe, comfortable private area, with activities for children, will be open at the same time as Journey to the Stable for baby changing and feeding.

New Year's Eve Party

We are planning to hold a New Year's Eve party and Watch Night Service again this year. There will be country dancing, games, and a bring and share supper, with a Watch Night Service as 2019 comes in. There will be a sign-up list on the noticeboard in the hall in early December. More Information from Janice Young, Peter Jenner, Heather and Matthew Reed or John and Enid Parson.

**FORTUNESWELL CELEBRATE A LIFE
CAROL SERVICE**

Christmas is not a good time for everyone. Whether you have lost a loved one, or are living with cancer, or simply wish to celebrate someone's life, you are invited to the Fortuneswell Celebrate A Life Carol Service.

This will take place at Weymouth Bay Methodist Church, Melcombe Avenue, Weymouth (near the hospital) at **5.30pm on Saturday 15th December**. The service will involve traditional carols and readings and the opportunity to light a candle. You will be welcome whatever your faith at this moving and uplifting event. Coffee and mince pies will be available afterwards.



**Christmas Church Family Meal
Sunday 16th December at 12.30pm**

We shall be once again having the Christmas Church Family Meal in the hall on Sunday 16th December. There will be a couple of changes this year. The first change is that the young people who have served over the years are mainly now at university and will possibly not be back until after 16th December. With this in mind we have slightly reduced the menu for the meal by not having a starter.

The menu for this year is:

Turkey with pigs in blankets or beef with Yorkshire pudding (vegetarian option available); roast potatoes, carrots, sprouts, peas and gravy; Christmas pudding or trifle; mince pies; tea or coffee; mints.

There will be sparkling water and fruit juice on the tables which you will help yourselves to when you take your seat. We are also very conscious of environmental issues and are taking them very seriously in our planning and delivery of the meal.

Tickets will be on sale in the hall after the morning service on Sunday 2nd and Sunday 9th December and in the Church Shop from Monday 3rd to Saturday 8th December. PRICE: Adults £10 and children under 16 years £5. Prices are the same as last year.

Lynne Antell, Karen Whiter, Janice Young, Peter Jenner

Church Website

Don't forget to check out the church website (<http://unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk>), which is now being managed by Susy and Kevin Rogers. As well as a downloadable version of the news sheet, it also gives information about the church and its various groups, events, reports and how to contact specific members/groups. The website belongs to the church as a whole so you are encouraged to contribute. Where possible, go, discover and explore!

Notices for order of service and news sheet

Please send notices for inclusion on each Sunday's order of service (space permitting) to Marion Cox by the previous Wednesday at 6pm.

The deadline for the January news sheet will be 10.30am on Sunday 16th December. Please send notices for inclusion to Myra Dawson. Hard copy items can be given to her in person or left in the Internal Mail basket in the Charles Street foyer. Unfortunately, anything received after the deadline will not be included.

Data Protection Act

In common with most other churches and organisations, the United Church Dorchester keeps pastoral records of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of regular worshippers and friends. The information is used for church purposes only, is never communicated to any other body and is held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Please notify us in writing if you do not wish your data to be held by us in this way.