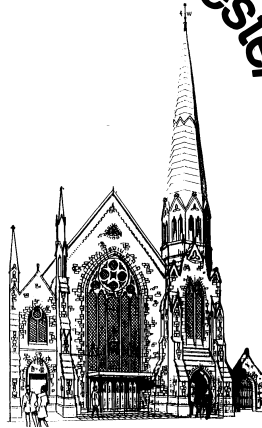


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



FEBRUARY 2020

Registered Charity No: 1137996

Methodist and United Reformed
Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

Minister:

Rev Peter Clark 01308 425978
Please contact one of the Church Stewards if necessary

Pastoral Visitor: Angela Fisher

Church Secretary: John Hilton

Senior Steward: John Parson

Church (general number): 01305 262462

Church office: 01305 457477

Website: unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk

Private Tel & email removed from web version

Sunday Worship

2nd February

10.30am Rev J Walker
Holy Communion

6.30pm Rev D Reep
Holy Communion

9th February Racial Justice Sunday

9.00am Rev G Owen
Holy Communion

10.30am Rev D Cuckson

6.30pm Rev B Stephenson

16th February

10.30am Rev P Clark

6.30pm Mr A Boyden

23rd February Transfiguration Sunday

10.30am Mr T Wells

6.30pm Rev P Brazier
United Service

Lectionary readings

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)
Psalm 112: 1-9 (10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Matthew 5:13-20

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
or Sirach/Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Market Day services

(Wednesdays at 10.30am)

5th February Mr P Jenner

12th February Rev P Clark

19th February Mr A Boyden

26th February Rev D Reep

Church Family News

We pray for the families and friends of Joyce Westlake, Colin Reeves and Janet Pulley, who have all died in the last few weeks.

South Street Window

We didn't realise how many people look at our South Street window. During January, Tools with a Mission has been the window display and the number of phone calls and tools dropped into church has been very encouraging. Even people who have no tools to donate have commented on the window. This window is an outreach to the wider community and we don't know how many people have been affected by this service. Have you got some ideas for the window or could you provide a window display? Let us know. Wendy Hilton

Betty Skinner and family thank you for all the cards and prayers we have received since Lawrie passed away. We have been comforted by your love and support.

Everyday Prayer

Living God, bless your Church. Give us strength to do your will and courage in a world that is often hostile. Deepen our sense of commitment so that we may follow Jesus faithfully. We pray in his name, Amen.

What's On in February

Sat 8 th	10.00am	World Day of Prayer coffee morning
Thurs 27 th	12.30pm	Solos

Please see separate notices for details

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 **Monday Home Group** meets fortnightly in members' homes. Further information from Shirley and Denys Hood.

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.

Prayer in the Community

These prayer groups around Dorchester – intended for local residents – are open to Christians from all churches. The next meetings are as follows:

Poundbury – 7:15pm on Monday 3rd February at Flat 3, 5 Widcombe Street (contact Mike and Angie Stear).

Castle Park – 2:30 pm on Wednesday 5th February at 26 Hillfort Close (contact Audrey Scammell).

Brewery Square – 10:00am on Friday 28th February at 19 Hop House (contact Dick and Jane Howard).

If you live in one of these localities, then do go along and receive a warm welcome.

Solos

Lunch at the Walnut Grove on Thursday 27th February at 12.30pm

Please let Angela know if you are able to attend by speaking to her by Monday 23rd February. Cost, on the day, depends on the order placed by each individual.

District Chairs' Farewell and Welcome Service

You are warmly invited to attend a District Service to say farewell to Rev Andrew Wood, our outgoing District Chair, and welcome our new Chair, Rev Andrew de Ville. This will be held on Saturday 29th February at 2.00 pm at Chandler's Ford Methodist Church. For organisational and catering purposes, please let the District Administrator, Sarah Potheary (chairspa@sdmc.org.uk) know by Friday 31st January if you plan to attend. Further information regarding parking and seating will be issued in February to those attending.

Men's Group

This group has now ceased to meet. Thank you to all who supported it.

World Day of Prayer coffee morning

Saturday 8th February
in the United Church Hall, 10am-12 noon
£1 for coffee and biscuits

Christmas hampers for holiday lunch club families

Many thanks to the congregation at the United Church for your wonderful support for the Christmas Hampers scheme. With the help of Thomas Hardy school we were able to put together 140 hampers. Our families were very grateful and amazed that people they do not know would be willing to support them in this way. Thank you. Kath Joslin

“God in Love Unites Us”: The Report of the Methodist Church’s Marriage and Relationships Task Group
Workshop on Saturday 1st February at Weymouth Bay Methodist Church, 10.00-12.30

This report goes before Conference in the summer of 2020 and will be voted upon at spring synods 2020. At this workshop there will be a video from the group who wrote the report; a presentation of different sections of the report; an opportunity to talk and to listen. God in love unites – what does this look like for us?

All are welcome. Refreshments will be served from 9.30 and throughout the morning.

Sale of Marmalade

My grandson Oliver is raising funds for an expedition to Peru in July 2021. As part of this, he is making marmalade. This will be on sale at Wednesday coffee mornings, or at other times by arrangement. We would also be pleased to receive empty jam jars with lids, and I’ll collect them from the hall on Wednesdays and Sundays. Please see me for more details. Val Gould



Church AGM

The AGM is on Thursday 19 March at 7pm. At this meeting we need to elect

- One new steward as Gillian Daniel has come to the end of her term.
- A new church secretary (see article in Vision magazine)

We also need a

- New member for finance committee (see article in Vision magazine)
- New member for property committee to take minutes and carry out some regular property administration

Steward nomination forms will be available on the church hall notice board, alongside a list of members. Please make sure you have discussed this with the person you wish to nominate. All nominees need to be a member of United Church Dorchester. For further details see John Hilton.

Coffee Shop

The Coffee Shop is in need of extra help, serving our customers or working in the kitchen, and anyone in our society who feels they could give some time either every week, every other week or once a month, would be very acceptable. The days on which we are looking for extra help are Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Our opening times are 10 to 12.30, except on a Thursday when we close at 12.15.

The Coffee Shop, which holds a 5 star council rating, is an outreach part of our Church. We meet some very interesting people, some regularly and some who are on holiday in the area. The holiday people often say they look for a church café when on holiday. We have handed over in the past year £8,000 to the church account and over £300 to our charity for the year from our tips box.

For the next three months we will not be opening on a Saturday because either we can’t staff the day or we are closed due to coffee being served in the hall at other events. Ideally we would like to find a leader for a Saturday who would join the leaders of the other days.

Please contact Shirley Hood, the manager, if you can help in any way. Please give this your consideration and prayers.

United Church Brass Group

Due to falling numbers of players, it has been decided that the church brass group will take a break from rehearsing on Tuesday evenings until the late autumn.

Brenda has retired from her regular role as conductor, and we thank her for her great commitment and enthusiasm during the last few years.

We plan to re-form for Christmas events: Cracker Night and AFC carol playing around the town. Rehearsals for this will take place on Tuesday evenings during November and early December.

District Worship Band

We hope to form a Worship Band for the 'Farewell and Welcome Service' (farewell to Andrew Wood, and welcome to Andrew de Ville as our new Chair) on 29th February at Chandler's Ford Methodist Church, and for our Synod on 25th April at The Spire, Poole. If you would like to take part and contribute to the special music for either of these important events, then please email the Synod Secretary, Sandy Coates (sandysynodsecretary@gmail.com), as soon as possible. The Worship Band will be led by Rev'd Ruth Midcalf and Rev'd Gareth Hill. Thank you.



Booking rooms for church and circuit use

Di Lawrence, our clerical assistant, is taking over bookings for UCD, circuit and related room bookings. Please either leave a phone message on 457477 or e-mail office@unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk.

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 March news sheet will be 10.30am on Sunday 16th February. 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.