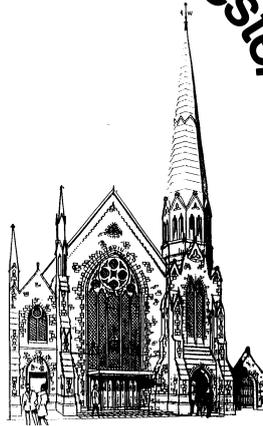


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



APRIL 2021

Registered Charity No: 1137996

Methodist and United Reformed
Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

Ministers:

Rev John Yarrien 01305 262421

Rev Peter Clark 01308 425978

Please contact one of the Church Stewards if necessary

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

Lectionary readings

Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10)
11-14

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 or
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1 – 19:42

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43
or Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18
or Mark 16:1-8

11th April

Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1 – 2:2
John 20:19-31

18th April

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

25th April

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

Church Services

The Council of Stewards has decided to re-start live worship on Palm Sunday, 28th March. There will be two services, at 10am and 11.15am, just as we had before the latest lockdown. People will have to book for Sunday services, but with **John or Wendy Hilton**, preferably by email, or by leaving a message on the Church Office answerphone (01305 457477) which is checked daily.

- Please note that we **put the clocks forward** that weekend.
- Please wear a mask, sanitise your hands on entering church, have your name checked on the list and keep a safe distance from everyone else. Not everyone will have received their first vaccination yet.
- If you wish to chat to friends, please do this outside, before or after the service (at a safe distance). Remember on Palm Sunday the maximum group outside is two and it does not increase to six until the following day.
- On Sundays the chairs will be sanitised between services.

If you do not feel ready to come back to church, printed services will still be available as well as a YouTube service and a Zoom service at 5pm.

The first week will be Holy Week, but it seems sensible not to have services on three consecutive days, so:

- There will NOT be a service on Wednesday, 31st March.
- There will be a Communion service at 7pm on Maundy Thursday, 1st April. Booking not required.
- There will NOT be a service on Good Friday, 2nd April.
- There will be two Communion services, at 10am and 11.15am, on Easter Sunday, 4th April.

On Good Friday, the circuit will provide a Zoom service for “the last hour” from 2pm to 3pm. The circuit will also be providing a package of written services to cover Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

After that, there will be two services each Sunday at 10am and 11.15am, and a Market Day service each Wednesday, but at the **new time of 10.45am** to fit in with the local bus service.

Sunday Worship

28th March	Palm Sunday
10.00/11.15	Rev P Clark
4th April	Easter Sunday
10.00/11.15	Rev J Yarren Holy Communion
11th April	
10.00/11.15	Rev P Clark
18th April	
10.00/11.15	Ms J Amey
25th April	
10.00/11.15	Rev P Clark

Market Day Services

Wednesdays at **10.45am**

7 th April	Rev P Clark
14 th April	Mr P Jenner
21 st April	Rev J Walker
28 th April	Mr C Warren

Churches Together on Easter Sunday

Churches Together has organised an ecumenical service by YouTube and Facebook at 6.30pm on Easter Sunday, 4th April. The details are given below.

YouTube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbqXas0tjc4H1Qs2NUEQBkw>

Facebook Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChurchesTogetherinDorchester>

Church Family News

Congratulations to Shirley and Denys Hood who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on 1st April.

Correction to Church Directory: John and Enid Parson's address was incorrectly listed, but has now been updated in the online version (available in the Members' area of the UCD web site).

Sound Desk

The United Church has microphones and speakers so that all of us, including those of us whose hearing is not what it once was, can hear clearly what is said during the service. The system is controlled from a sound desk in the gallery, but we should like a few more people to help with this, please. It is not difficult, and training would be given. If you are willing to help the church in this way, please have a word with Margaret Knighton, John Hilton or John Parson.

Support Service

Worried about going out? Finding it hard to cope with queueing? Family too far away to help? Needing to self-isolate?



Please don't struggle on alone and put yourself at risk. Don't forget there is a cheerful and willing band of younger folk from church who are very happy to help out. We are happy to continue shopping, collecting prescriptions or other tasks as long as needed so if you, or folk you know, need support then please don't hesitate to make contact.

Support is being coordinated by Gill and Peter Robinson



Zoom "coffee and chat"

The Zoom "coffee and chat", organised and hosted by Kevin Rogers at 11 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday since the beginning of the first lockdown, has just celebrated its 150th meeting. It's a great opportunity to see and chat to friends. If you would like to join in, please contact Kevin:
coffee.chat@unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk.

Easter Trail

The Baptist Church is organising an activity for young families over the Easter weekend. There will be ten A4 posters displayed around Dorchester and Fordington from Friday 2nd April until Monday 5th April inclusive. They will each have an Easter egg motif, a Did You Know fact and an activity. The challenge is to find all ten posters but, sorry, there are no prizes. This is just for fun.

Full details are available here – <https://dorchesterbc.org.uk/easter-trail> - and also on the DBC Facebook page. In addition, there will be printed activity packs with chocolate and materials available from the Baptist Church at the Dorford Centre from 10am to 2pm on the Monday to Thursday before Easter. Spare packs may be available from 6th to 9th April without the trail.

Christian Aid

In last month's newsletter there was an article by Tony Boyden on behalf of Dorchester Christian Aid encouraging us to support Christian Aid at this difficult time and in gratitude for our vaccinations. The Southampton Methodist District has now issued a similar request as a challenge to us to support Christian Aid's work. You will see the letter from the District Chair, Revd Andrew de Ville, below. I am sure that Christian Aid does not mind how it receives the money, so, please, support its valuable work in whichever way you prefer.

John Parson
Senior Steward

Dear Friends,

We are sending through details of a District Challenge which has been organised with Christian Aid. As many of us, and our family and friends, are receiving the Covid vaccine we are inviting you to please donate to the work of Christian Aid on our own District giving page: <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/giving-thanks-for-our-vaccines-across-southampton-methodist-district>.

Much of their work is across the world in areas where the vaccine will be rolled out in a much later, and slower, way than ours is being done. In order to ensure that the medical teams have all that they need to facilitate the roll-out of the vaccine the support from organisations like Christian Aid is vital.

We have set our District a challenge of raising at least £2,600 – representing our District number of 26! – so please do give as generously as you can and spread the word to family, friends and community groups so that we ask everyone to share the joy of getting their own vaccine with sisters and brothers around the world. We are also working on a press release to go to local news outlets and this should be available next week. Our suggested donation is £10 but please just give as you are able. (Note: click on 'custom amount' to choose your preferred donation, and where it asks for platform fees you can select 'other' and then zero.)

Let us not only meet our target but smash through it as we journey through the next few months. We also invite you to hold the work of Christian Aid in your prayers as they work on our behalf.

I hope that you, and those closest to you, are able to stay safe and keep well.

Every blessing,
Andrew

Revd Andrew de Ville, District Chair of the Southampton District

Christian Aid Week May 10-16

The current national restrictions concerning the Covid-19 pandemic have obviously had an impact on what we can offer this year during Christian Aid Week.

House to House collections: These remain a particular cause of uncertainty. It seems, in theory, that we can carry out these collections, within certain strict and detailed guidelines, made possible by the easing of some government restrictions on April 12. The Dorchester Christian Aid Committee will be meeting shortly after the news sheet goes to print and as yet no collective decision has been made as to whether these collections should take place here.

It may be that we do not go ahead in the traditional way but opt for 'delivery only' envelopes. There will also be envelopes in church for people to contribute. Even if we were to endorse House to House collections and we ask for volunteers we will obviously respect their decision if people decide they would not want to in the present climate. They should in no way feel obligated.

Regretfully government guidelines will not allow a Christian Aid Week market to be organised this year. The following are however scheduled:

Christian Aid Ecumenical Service (United Church): May 9 at 4.00 pm

Street Collection: provisionally booked for **May 14**

Sponsored walk to the River Jordan: provisionally booked for **May 15**

We hope the latter two will prove to be good fund raisers.

I am sorry if this all seems so unclear and unspecific but at the present time long-term planning is difficult indeed! Many thanks to:

....all those who responded to our campaign to give thanks for their Covid-19 jobs.

.... all those who contributed recipes to our Christian Aid Recipe Book which is shortly to go to publishers.

We received just short of a hundred recipes representing a great variety of dishes.

Tony Boyden

United Church Shop

We plan to re-open on April 14th, subject to the government giving the go-ahead, and will resume where we left off. We will be opening on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays initially, usual times 10am-12.30pm. This year the 'click & collect' and 'courier' services have already done sales of around £400, thanks chiefly to Susy and Peter. In the meantime do phone one of us if you have queries or requests. Margaret

Looking for a rota? Try the UCD website members' area

Can't find where you have put your rota, want to find a name in the church address book or check who the stewards are? This information and much more is available in the secure members' area of the church website. You can use all these resources if you can access the internet and if you have already completed the UCD consent form, which gives us permission to hold your contact details on the church database. The majority of you will have done this about three years ago. (Due to data protection legislation, the church database is not accessible on the web.)

Please contact Di (office@unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk or tel: 457477) and ask for the username and password required to access the secure web area. Di will send you two separate emails, one containing the username and the second containing the password and instructions on how to log in.

Notices for news sheet

The deadline for the May news sheet is Friday 23rd April. Please send notices for inclusion to Myra Dawson.

Church Website

Don't forget to check out the church website (<http://unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk>), which is managed by Kevin and Susy Rogers. As well as a downloadable version of the news sheet, it also gives information about who's who on the Council of Stewards; who's on what rota and when; addresses in the church directory; our governing documents; annual reports, church meeting minutes and AGM minutes for the last five years; policies and procedures. The website belongs to the church as a whole so you are encouraged to contribute. Where possible, go, discover and explore!

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.