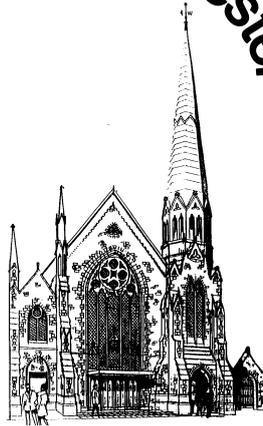


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



MAY 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

2nd May

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

9th May

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

16th May

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

23rd May

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel
37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27 or
Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27;
16:4b-15

30th May

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

Sunday Worship

2nd May

10.00/11.15 Mr A Boyden

9th May

10.00/11.15 **Christian Aid Sunday**
Rev P Clark
Holy Communion
4.00 pm Rev J Yarrien

16th May

10.00/11.15 **Ascensiontide**
Rev J Yarrien

23rd May

10.00/11.15 **Pentecost**
Rev J Yarrien

30th May

10.00/11.15 **Trinity Sunday**
Mr P Jenner

Market Day Services

Wednesdays at **10.45am**

5th May Rev J Yarrien

12th May Rev S Jenner

19th May Rev B Stephenson

26th May Mr A Boyden

Church Family News

Congratulations to Rosemary Mills, who is 90 on 2nd May.

Congratulations to Susy and Kevin Rogers who celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary (40 years) and to Marylyn and Les Mould who celebrated their emerald wedding anniversary (55 years) in April.

Shirley and Denys Hood would like to thank everyone who sent cards and good wishes on their recent diamond wedding anniversary.

Volunteers needed

Due to several people not yet ready to come back to church or for health reasons, we are in need of new volunteers to be door stewards, communion stewards, deliver flowers or do PowerPoint. Please let John or Wendy Hilton know if you can help.

Churches Together at Pentecost

On Pentecost Sunday, 23rd May, there will be a Churches Together service by Zoom at 6.30pm. The link should be obtainable by emailing

ctindorchesterarea@gmail.com

We are asked to have some bread and wine/juice ready so that we can partake in a spiritual Communion.

John Parson, Senior Steward

Welcome meeting

Wednesday 9th June at 4pm in the hall

If you have started to come to the United Church over the last year you will shortly be receiving an invitation to our annual welcome meeting. The last welcome meeting happened a couple of weeks before we went into the first lockdown and, even if you came, you probably haven't had a chance to meet people in church over the last year. You also would be very welcome.

Seat bookings

Gradually more people are coming back after they have had their second injection. Many people are now booking a permanent seat, so they don't have to remember to book each week and just let me know when they can't come. However it is still fine to book weekly. There are always seats available at the 11.15 service and a few for the 10am. To book seats contact Wendy Hilton directly, or use the form on the UCD web site Contact Us pages ([Church services: seat booking](#)).

Notice of AGM and Elections for Council of Stewards

The AGM will be held on Thursday 1st July 2021 at 7pm in the church

This year there are vacancies for **three new Stewards**. To make a nomination, please get the agreement of the person you want to nominate before you proceed further. The nominee must be a church member. A list of members can be found on a notice board in the hall and in the church foyer, where you can also find nomination forms. Fill in the form and hand to either the Senior Steward (John Parson) or the Church Secretary (John Hilton) or post in the metal post box in the Charles Street foyer by 12.00 midday on Sunday 27th June.

If you are interested in becoming a Steward and don't know what is involved, a copy of the job description is on the notice board by each members' list. Alternatively talk to John Parson or John Hilton.

Monthly news sheet and Vision magazine

The stewards and pastoral committee both met recently to look at how we gradually reopen as the Covid guidelines change. It is also a time to relook at what we do and how we do it. We all know the slogan "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle". The pastoral committee have been looking at how we can reduce our use of paper.

Over the last year the majority of people have been looking at the monthly news sheet online, while some without computer access have been having it delivered. The news sheet will continue to be available online, so we want to see if we can reduce the numbers printed. It will be available in the shop and in the church foyers and by the side door, but **after the service please**. At the moment too much is happening in the foyer at the start of the service with people having to sanitise hands, find a mask and check their seat booking. Also by leaving the news sheet in a pile for individuals to collect, it is not being handled several times.

If you are a volunteer who has been printing at home and delivering the news sheet over the last year, please check if those you deliver to can now collect their own. Also, rather than continue to print at home, pick up the number you need. We want everyone to have a news sheet, but in the most environmentally friendly way, which is also Covid safe.

The next Vision magazine, which will come out in mid-May, will continue to be delivered by our Covid network of deliverers. However, by mid-July when the Aug/Sept magazine is due to be delivered, all Covid restrictions should have been lifted and so our pastoral visitors hopefully can resume their role of delivering the magazine. We will let you have details when we know more.

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

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: MAY 10-16 UPDATE

Because of current national guidelines we have had to postpone the ecumenical service scheduled for the United Church on Sunday 9 May, the Christian Aid Market on Wednesday 12 May and house-to-house collections.

We have re-scheduled the **service for 17 October at 4 pm** and the **Market for 16 October** when, hopefully, our activities will be less restricted and they can run more closely to what was the norm before the pandemic.

Because we have had to abandon house-to-house collections we will have to rely very heavily on contributions in envelopes on the seats or on-line. If you would like to donate on-line then please contact info@christian-aid.org for details about giving and claiming gift aid.

The **annual collection in South Street (on Friday 14 May)** will still go ahead but using collecting buckets on the pavement rather than collection tins and with collectors wearing masks. We do need volunteers to help with this so if you feel you could give an hour during the day at some time between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm we would be very grateful. Please contact Tony Boyden if you are willing to help, either directly or by using the form on the UCD web site Contact Us pages ([Christian Aid Contact](#)).

We hope another important fund-raiser this year will be the **Walk to the River Jordan**, an eight mile walk from **St Peter's Church to Bowleaze Cove** starting at **9.30 am on Saturday 15 May**. We would be delighted to see as many people as possible sponsored to support Christian Aid or just for the enjoyment of the walk. Further details and sponsorship forms are available from Tony Boyden ([Christian Aid Contact](#)). Or even if you are unable to join us, Christian Aid has suggested other forms of sponsorship, e.g. a 100,000, 200,000 or 300,000 step challenge for May, perhaps, or covering a virtual distance in miles over the month, for instance between Dorchester and London.

There is also a **quiz** scheduled and further details will be available on the church website or during May services.

The **recipe book** is now at the printing stage. Our grateful thanks to all who contributed. Across the churches we had over fifty contributors and over a hundred different recipes! Grateful thanks too to all those who responded to our **Covid-19 jabs campaign**.

John Parson (Senior Steward)

Tony Boyden (Chair, Christian Aid)

Christian Aid Quiz 2021

Following our very successful quiz last year, Mary Martin has kindly produced a new one. First prize will be £10; second prize, £5. Cost of entry is £3 and the quiz can be obtained on-line by visiting the [UCD web site](#) from May 9 onwards, or by contacting Tony Boyden ([Christian Aid Contact](#)); closing date, Sunday June 5. Details of where to put the completed quiz and means of payment will be found at the end of the quiz sheet.

Pentecost Fun Celebration Saturday 22nd May, 11am to 2.30pm

Going forward we want to have the South Street church doors open more with activities for people to come and join in. The first one is going to be based on Pentecost (the Birth of the Church) aimed mainly at children and families, but that does not exclude adults who may wish to come in. There will be several craft activities to have a go at which can then be taken away, a children's play area with toys in, a video with a suitable theme for children and a few other things to do. Both church and foyer will be used and we hope to give things out to celebrate the birthday of the Church.

We will need help with the craft activities, people to be about to talk to those who come, and we will be following Covid regulations. If you would like to be involved please contact Peter Jenner ([Children and Families Worker](#)) so that we can sort out a rota. This will be a fun and welcoming time for all those who come along, tell your friends and neighbours, especially if they have children.

Peter Jenner

United Church Shop

The shop is now open again on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from 10am to 12.30pm. In May our special sale will be of GREETINGS CARDS, with many on special offer at 50p. The new supply of stamps will also be in by then. The re-opening sale of BOOKS will continue until then and any unsold items will be available for a short while longer.

We are working to make way for new stock. If you have ideas about things you would like to see in the shop please let us know, by contacting me or leaving a message with any of the volunteers on duty. We are always pleased to see callers, if only for a chat on the street, and the door keepers are looking forward to some warmer weather!

Margaret Knighton

Notices for news sheet

The deadline for the June news sheet is Sunday 23rd May. 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.