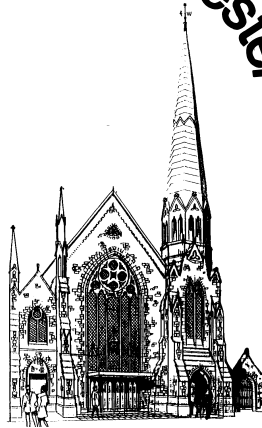


# NEWS

## United Church Dorchester



**JULY AND AUGUST 2019**

Registered Charity No: 1137996

### Methodist and United Reformed

Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

#### Ministers

**Rev Stephanie Jenner** currently unavailable

**Rev Peter Clark** 01308 425978

**Rev Sally Spencer** 07568 299695

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](http://unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk)

Private Tel & email removed from web version

### Sunday Worship

	<b>7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> August</b>
10.30am	Rev B Stephenson Holy Communion	Rev B Coates Holy Communion
6.30pm	Rev P Clark	Ms R Archer Holy Communion
	<b>14<sup>th</sup> July AFC Sunday</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> August</b>
9.00am	Mrs P Fennell Holy Communion	Mrs P Fennell Holy Communion
10.30am	Rev J Walker	Mr C Warren
6.30pm	Rev S Spencer	Rev P Clark
	<b>21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> August</b>
10.30am	Rev S Spencer All Age service	Church members All Age service
5.00pm	Rev Dr B Glasson Methodist Chapel, Tolpuddle	6.30pm Rev J Walker United Service
	<b>28<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> August</b>
10.30am	Rev D Cuckson	Rev P Clark
6.30pm	Circuit Service at Weymouth Bay	Mrs E Haynes

### Thank you and Goodbye

Rev Sally Spencer will be leaving us in August to start her new ministry in Bristol with a group of churches based around Totterdown. In the six months she has been with us, she has achieved an amazing amount and has been so supportive and positive of all we are trying to do. Thank you Sally. Our prayers and good wishes go with you and your family in your new ministry.

### Church Family News

Mike Jacobson's blog from China can be found at [www.knobbottageinchina.blogspot.com](http://www.knobbottageinchina.blogspot.com)

### Everyday Prayer

We thank God for our friends, those who are there when we need them, supporting and encouraging us, sharing our joys and sorrows, and those who bless and heal and bring love into our lives. Help us to be good friends to others. Amen

### Market Day services

(Wednesdays at 10.30am)

3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Mr A Boyden	7 <sup>th</sup> August	Mr P Jenner
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Mr P Jenner	14 <sup>th</sup> August	Mr A Boyden
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Rev S Spencer	21 <sup>st</sup> August	Mrs D Brazier
24 <sup>th</sup> July	Rev B Stephenson	28 <sup>th</sup> August	Rev D Reep
31 <sup>st</sup> July	Rev P Clark		

### What's On in July and August

Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> July	7.30pm	Men's meeting
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Dorchester Poverty Action coffee morning *
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Worship seminar *
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Worship seminar *
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	Action for Children tea dance *
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Solos *
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Church Meeting *
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Vision Day 2 *
Sun 4th Aug	2.00pm	Sewing afternoon *

\* Please see separate notices for details

### Solos

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July,  
2.30-4.00 pm  
Garden Party at Angela's  
Please let Angela know if you  
would like to come. Latest  
booking date: Wednesday  
17<sup>th</sup> July. There will not be a  
meeting of Solos during  
August.

**14<sup>th</sup> July** is Action for Children Sunday and the 10.30 service will be led by Rev John Walker; we will also have a speaker from AFC in Dorchester. Please remember to bring in your League of Light boxes that morning.

On **28th July** you will find envelopes on the chairs for donations to the World Mission Fund. All money raised will be split equally with CWM. If you wish to support this good cause please place your envelope in the plate with the offertory. Thank you!

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

The **Friday morning Bible study group** will take a break from 19<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> August. Re-commence Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 10 - 11am in the Quiet Room. New friends always welcome - just come along.

**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.

### Vision Day 2 – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July from 2pm to 5pm

This is our second Vision Day, when we shall be looking specifically at our work with children in Junior Church and how we can attract more children and hopefully their parents/carers to come to church and be part of our church family.

The afternoon will be led by Ruth White, who is the URC Children's & Youth Development Officer. Ruth's role is to encourage and enable churches to develop new or existing work. **Everybody is welcome**, come and share your views. We hope that it will be fully supported as we are all part of the church family no matter what our age, after all we have all been children.

There will be tea/coffee and cold drinks and biscuits available during the afternoon (might be cake!!). We have allowed quality time for this important aspect of our church life and work.

**Date for your diaries:** Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September - Vision Day 3. This will be led by Mark Tizzard (Tizz), who is the Intergenerational Mission Enabler of the Southampton Methodist District. Tizz led our first vision day with Ruth White back in March. The focus will be on the rest of the church, Junior Church having been the focus on 28<sup>th</sup> July. **Again, everybody welcome.**

### Welcome

Please welcome Debs Brazier and Di Lawrence, who will both be working part time for the church over the next 18 months. Debs has been appointed as Outreach and Pastoral Worker to support Rev Peter Clark, working 15 hours a week, while Di is working on administration to support the secretary and stewards for 5 hours per week.

#### Forest Praise

We have arranged two more of our Forest Praise sessions at the Sure Start Children's Centre, Middle Farm Way, Poundbury for Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August. Both of them are in the school summer holiday period. They will be at the same time, 10.30am to 11.45am. We do need people to come and help us with the activities, make refreshments, chat to the parents and be round and about. Please see Janice Young, Lynne Antell, Heather Reed, Diana Leeming or Peter Jenner.

#### Action For Children is 150 years old!

Come and help us celebrate by joining us for a **Country Tea Dance** at United Church Dorchester on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 3 – 5 pm**. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes will be provided in the interval (donations of cakes would be greatly appreciated). Entry is free, and all donations will go towards the work of Action for Children in Dorset.

### Lubbecke visit 26 – 30 September

A group will be visiting Lubbecke from 26 – 30 September as part of our twinning with the Lutheran Church of St Andreas. We will be staying with families from the Church and have a planned programme which this time will include a focus on provision for refugees, some sightseeing of course and, importantly, the opportunity to worship together. The welcome from the Church community is always wonderfully warm and real friendships are forged. Language is never a barrier!

We shall be travelling by coach, and will welcome any friends from across the Circuit who would like to join us. We will leave Dorchester in the early hours of Thursday 26 September, travel through the tunnel and arrive in Lubbecke by late afternoon. Departure on Monday 30 September would be about 8.30 am with arrival back in Dorchester very late evening – and we'll have use of the coach while in Lubbecke. Costs can only be an estimate at this stage, but for 12 (the minimum we would take) would be in the region of £360 and for 15 would be £290. This will not include travel insurance – you will need to provide your own.

If you would like any further information, please contact Revd. Brenda Stephenson or Alison Cocks.

### South Street Foyer

You may have noticed some minor changes in the South Street foyer over the last few weeks. This is because, at the Vision Day in March, we were encouraged to look at our building through the eyes of a visitor and we noticed that the foyer had become rather cluttered and could be made more welcoming. It is our 'shop window' onto South Street, where many people pass, so when people look in from outside and wonder if our church is still functioning, we want to reflect all the amazing things that go on here. We could also use the space more frequently, for meetings and Bible study groups for example – do think about using it if you have a group which is meeting, it is easily accessible and a good size for a small group, as long as the church is not also being used at the same time! By the time you read this there will be signs saying 'Welcome' in different languages. The sofa will soon have new covers, and we are eventually hoping to put some lettering onto the edge of the canopy outside over the main doors so that people notice we are here when they walk down the street.

Of course from one point of view these things are 'merely cosmetic' – what is really important is the spiritual and active, compassionate life of you, the people – but I hope the small differences will show that UCD is alive and well, that we take pride in the building which is a home to so many Dorchester activities as well as church events, and that we are proud to make it a space which is bright and attractive for all. Rev Sally

#### Dorchester Poverty Action coffee morning

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 10-12 noon  
In the Church Hall  
Refreshments and lots of stalls  
Donations for stalls can be given to Wendy Hilton

#### Christmas Angels

We will be knitting Christmas Angels again, to be given away during Carol Singing with a message of love and hope. If you are a knitter we would love for you to join us. The very simple pattern is available from Diana Leeming.

### Holiday Lunch Club

The Holiday Lunch Club, which offers food parcels to families who struggle during the long summer holiday to feed their children, is nearly ready for summer 2019. Last year over 80 local families applied for help and over 100 families have registered this year. The target of £8,000 needs to be raised and local charities, churches and individuals have already been very generous, but more funds are needed.

The Lunch Club will be open on the following Thursdays in August: 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd with two sessions per day. Families are chatted to over refreshments, so cakes and biscuits are needed at the beginning of each of those weeks. These can be left at Dorford or can be picked up if necessary.

Please pray for all those organising this important activity and, if you would like to donate either cakes or money, please contact Kath Joslin.

#### Lunch for the Homeless

Sue Gannaway and a team of helpers are providing lunch for the homeless, once a month, for a trial period of six months. Donations to offset costs will be welcome.

#### Action for Children

The garden party held at Sue and Colin Gannaway's home on 22<sup>nd</sup> June in aid of Action for Children raised £360. Many thanks to everyone who attended and contributed.

#### Sewing Afternoon

The next sewing afternoon for girls in Kenya will be on Sunday August 4th, from 2 - 4 pm.

### Dorset County Show 2019 - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September

This does seem a little way off yet but it will soon be here. We shall be having our marquee under the banner of "Feed Me, Change Me, Love Me". We will be needing people to staff the marquee throughout the weekend, put the marquee up and then take it down at the end of the show on the Sunday night. More details to follow in the September news sheet as well as Vision magazine. See Lynne Antell, Peter Jenner, Heather Reed or Janice Young for further details.

### Church Meeting on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, at 7pm

For a while now, the attendance at the Church Meeting has been low. It ought to be an important part of our life as a church family, but sadly it is not. We are going to try to revive it at our next meeting. The agenda will have two main parts. The first will consist of brief reports and questions to and from our main committees and other important parts of our church life. These are: Finance, Property, Worship, Youth and Family, Pastoral, Outreach, Shop, Coffee Lounge, Wednesday Morning Coffee and Stalls, and our three main charities: Christian Aid, Action for Children, and the Mission Aviation Fellowship. The emphasis will not be as though these groups are being called to account, but as members of a family (which the church should be) sitting round the dinner table talking about what they are doing and plan to do, and taking an interest in what other parts of the church are doing.

The second main part of the meeting will be a consideration of what particular attributes and skills we should like our new minister to have. This should help John Hilton, who is our representative on the Circuit Invitation Committee. We hope that it will not be a long meeting. Refreshments will be available; please give it a try!  
John Parson

#### 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. E-mail: [mcox5@talktalk.net](mailto:mcox5@talktalk.net). Tel: 01305 262416.

The deadline for the September news sheet will be 10.30am on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August. Please send notices for inclusion to Myra Dawson: [myradawson2@aol.com](mailto:myradawson2@aol.com). 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.

You are invited to join us for two  
**Worship Seminars**  
**at United Church Dorchester**  
**On Saturdays 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> July from 10am-12.30pm**  
Come for coffee from 9.30am

An opportunity to think about why we worship, how to make the most of our worship together, and if you are someone who is called to lead, to improve your confidence and skills in leading worship. Suitable for anyone who ever comes to church! You will get the most out of it if you come to both sessions. Please sign up at Circuit Meeting or let Sally know if you can come by email or phone.  
Further details from Rev Sally Spencer.

**Tolpuddle Festival Weekend – volunteers welcome**

The Circuit will again this year have a presence at Tolpuddle over the weekend of the Festival (20/21 July). Could you help?

- staffing the stall in the marquee and engaging in conversation with Festival-goers (rota throughout Saturday and Sunday morning)
- staffing the Methodist Chapel and greeting the many visitors who come to learn more about the Martyrs and their Methodist roots (rota throughout Saturday and Sunday)
- sharing in the procession with our 'God is our Guide' banner (Sunday at about 2pm)

Contact Revd John Walker or Alison Cocks to find out more.

**Tolpuddle Festival Service**

The annual Tolpuddle Festival Service will take place at 5pm on 21st July in the Methodist Chapel, Tolpuddle. The preacher this year is the incoming President of the Methodist Conference, Revd. Dr. Barbara Glasson, who is known especially for her ministry with the 'Bread Church' in Liverpool. We are honoured to be one of her first engagements after becoming President.

This service takes the place of Sunday evening worship at UCD on that day. The Chapel is at the eastern end of Tolpuddle village and can be reached from the east, Tolpuddle Ball junction, during the Festival weekend. Roadside parking should be possible from mid-afternoon.

**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:

**Castle Park** – to be arranged.

**Poundbury** – 7:15pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July and Monday 29th July at Flat 3, 5 Widcombe St.

**Brewery Square** – 10:00am on Friday 26th July at 5 Copper Crescent.

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

**Poundbury Quiet Day**

**PUDDLETOWN CHURCH ROOMS, Saturday 13th July**

Refreshments from 10.30am. Caroline will be leading on the topic of 'The Breath of God'. The day will end with tea, coffee and cake at 3 - 3.30pm. Please bring a Bible, notebook, pen and packed lunch.

E-mail Caroline via the church web site 'News' page to book a place. No charge but donations on the day welcome.