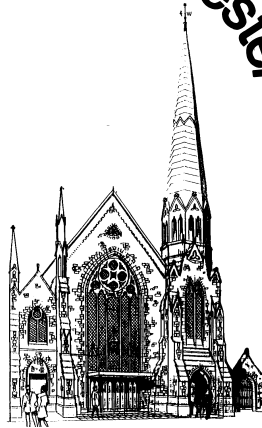


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



JANUARY 2019

Registered Charity No: 1137996

Methodist and United Reformed

Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

Minister

Rev Stephanie Jenner
01305 262421

Day off Tuesday

Please contact one of the Church Stewards if necessary

Minister

Rev Peter Clark
01308 425978

Day off Friday

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

6th January

Epiphany

10.30am

Rev J Walker
Covenant Service
Holy Communion

6.30pm

Mrs C Hatton

13th January

9.00am

Rev D Cuckson
Holy Communion

10.30am

Mrs J Churchill

6.30pm

Mr M Reed

20th January

10.30am

Mr C Warren

4.30pm

United Service for
Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity at St
Mary's, Charminster

27th January Holocaust Memorial Day

10.30am

Rev G Owen

6.30pm

Rev G Owen
Holy Communion

Lectionary readings

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2: 1-11

Nehemiah 8:1-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

Market Day services

(Wednesdays at 10.30am)

2nd January Mr P Jenner
9th January Mr C Warren
16th January Mr A Boyden
23rd January Rev P Clark
30th January Rev G Owen

Church Family News

Congratulations to Sheila King, who celebrated her 90th birthday in December.

Church Meeting

The next Church Meeting will be on Thursday January 24th at 7:30pm. We will be hoping to approve the reviewed Constitution and Local Policies. Hard copies of this will be available from early January in the foyer for people to take away, read and RETURN. If you would like a copy e- mailed to you, please contact the Church Office.

First Steps Worship

Sunday 20th January, 10.30-11.30am
Worship/activity time for younger children, parents and carers in the Cerne Abbas Room

Everyday Prayer

Gracious God, at the beginning of another year of change and uncertainty may we know your presence, draw upon your strength and put our trust in you for the future. Amen

What's On in January

Mon 7 th	7.30pm	Men's meeting
Sun 13 th	2.00pm	Sewing afternoon **
Wed 23 rd	2.30pm	Games afternoon in the Coffee Lounge. £1 to include refreshments.
Thurs 24 th	7.30pm	Church Meeting **
Sat 26 th	3.00pm	Action for Children country dance **
Tues 29 th	2.30pm	Solos **

** Please see separate notice for details

Dates for your diary

Death Café
Saturday 16th March, 10-12

Pastoral visitors' meeting
Monday 6th March, 2.30pm

Ruth Archer is retiring from serving in the Coffee Shop on Tuesdays after many years' service. She will be greatly missed and we are very sorry to say goodbye to her. Instead of serving, she will be served!
Thank you Ruth.

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** meets fortnightly in members' homes. At present, space constraints mean that they are not able to accommodate new members.

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

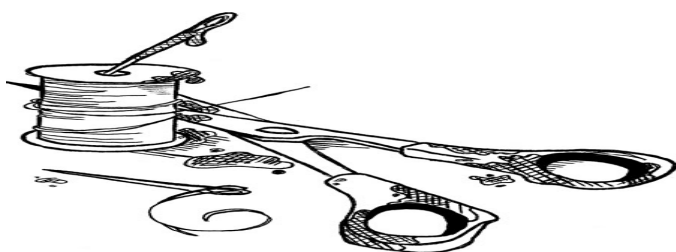
Prayer and meditation. Every Tuesday from 12-12.30 p.m. in the church.

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.

SOLOS

The first meeting of the Solos group for 2019 will be on Tuesday 29th January at 2.30pm. The subject will be 'mindfulness' - what is it and how can it be achieved?

The meeting will be held at the church. Clear signposting for the room will be given on the day of the event. Please let Angela know if you are able to attend by speaking to her or telephoning 01305 267809.



Sewing afternoon

The next afternoon sewing sanitary protection for school girls in Kenya will be on Sunday January 13th from 2pm. Even if you feel sewing is not your thing, please come along and help with other activities.

<p style="text-align: center;">New Year's Eve Party</p> <p>We are planning to hold a New Year's Eve party from 7.30pm, and a 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 is a sign-up list on the noticeboard in the hall. More Information from Janice Young, Peter Jenner, Heather and Matthew Reed or John and Enid Parson.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Volunteers needed for Wednesday morning coffee</p> <p>The Wednesday morning coffee has been going for many years and is much appreciated and welcome. It is a tremendous outreach and it would be disappointing if it folded through lack of volunteers. Please consider helping for the morning once every 6 weeks. See Sue or Sheila if you are interested.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Action for Children Support Group invite you to join them for an afternoon country dance on Saturday January 26th 3pm-5pm</p> <p>Donations will be for the work of Action For Children. Offers for making cakes to Janice Young would be appreciated.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Forest Praise Thursday January 3rd, 10.30-11.30am Celebrating the Epiphany</p> <p>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 for more details.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Trip to Lubbecke in 2019</p> <p>As you know, we have had a longstanding link with sister churches in Lubbecke and Blasheim in Germany. In 2019 it is our turn for people from our church to visit Lubbecke. However, for a number of reasons we have no one who is currently able to organise a visit. We need three volunteers to, jointly, liaise with counterparts in Lubbecke and organise a trip. Would any of you be willing to take on the task with two others? If no one steps forward then there will be no trip in 2019 and the link may break altogether.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Poundbury Quiet Days Saturdays in 2019 February 23rd April 6th June 22nd July 13th (Puddletown) September 21st November 30th</p> <p>To book a place please email Caroline at: carolineellerby@phonecoop.coop Location: The Quiet Space, Woodlands Crescent, DT1 3RQ (just behind Poundbury Garden Centre)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Authorised Persons</p> <p>It is with great pleasure that I can announce that, following the proposal at the church meeting on the 25th November, the United Reformed church, Wessex Synod, has confirmed the authorisation of Ruth Archer, Penny Fennell and Mary Lucraft to perform communion services at the United Church Dorchester, at Residential and Nursing homes and at assisted living units in the Dorchester area until 2020. Congratulations to them all and our thanks for being prepared to put themselves forward. John Hilton.</p>

Traidcraft

Traidcraft is continuing to trade in this their 40th year! This is the good news. The bad news is that they have had to stop supplying craft and clothing items, the Clean and Fair range and some food items such as Divine chocolate & Geobars. :(

We will stock as many of your favourite items for as long as we can in the Church Shop (I have just ordered 20 bars of soap!). When things settle down and we get more information from HQ, the future will be clearer. PLEASE continue to support Fair Trade - it is now more important than ever. Thank you. Susy.

Circuit data mapping

We have been asked by the Circuit to complete a data mapping exercise by the end of January. If you keep any records for the running of the church, please read on. They need to know what personal data (e.g. name, address, e-mail) is held within the church and how it is used, e.g. rotas, prayer diaries, toddler group registration forms, junior church records, safeguarding documentation, financial information, gift aid, social media etc etc. I also need to know how this information is kept - paper/electronic, where it is kept, e.g. locked cabinet, password protected computer, and how and when it is destroyed. Please could you let me know if you keep such data so I can complete the spreadsheet. I can e-mail a copy of the 9 page data mapping document if you need further information. Many thanks. Wendy Hilton.

Online Petition

Trinity Church Abingdon have alerted us to an online petition requesting the government to consider removing VAT for works on existing church buildings. (Currently only listed buildings can apply for an exemption.) You may be aware that if 100,000 signatures are found for any petition then the government have to consider the issue and make a decision. If any in your church wish to sign such a petition it can be found at: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/225494>. Please spread the word widely.

Deborah Walker

Synod Secretary and Moderator's PA

United Reformed Church Wessex Synod Office

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 February news sheet will be 10.30am on Sunday 20th January. 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.