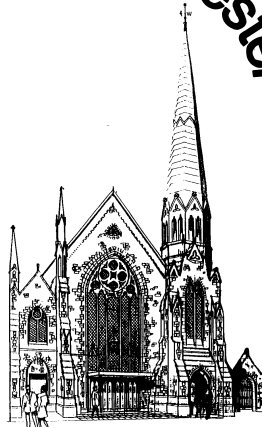


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



MARCH 2019

Registered Charity No: 1137996

Methodist and United Reformed
Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

Minister	Minister
Rev Stephanie Jenner	Rev Peter Clark
(not currently available)	01308 425978
	Day off Friday

Please contact one of the Church Stewards if necessary

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

3rd March	Sunday before Lent
10.30am	Rev B Coates Holy Communion
6.30pm	Rev D Cuckson
10th March	First Sunday of Lent
9.00am	Ms R Archer Holy Communion
10.30am	Rev P Clark All Age Service Baptism
6.30pm	United Service at Weymouth Bay
17th March	Second Sunday of Lent
10.30am	Rev S Spencer
6.30pm	Rev D Reep
24th March	Third Sunday of Lent
10.30am	Rev P Clark
6.30pm	Rev B Stephenson United Service
31st March	Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday
10.30am	Rev P Brazier
6.30pm	Mrs P Fennell Holy Communion

Lectionary readings

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12 -4:2
Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17 -4:1
Luke 13:31-35

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Market Day services

(Wednesdays at 10.30am)

6 th March	Rev S Spencer
13 th March	Rev P Clark
20 th March	Mrs D Brazier
27 th March	Mr R Scott

Church Family News

We give thanks for the life of Molly Fox and pray for her husband Bob and her family.

Marilyn March wishes to thank everybody who sent cards, flowers, kind wishes, prayers and messages since her back surgery on January 7th. Also, thank you for all the most welcome visits. Marilyn has been overwhelmed by the kindness shown to her while recovering and hopes to be back with you all soon.

Sewing afternoon

We will be sewing sanitary protection for girls in Kenya on Sunday March 10th from 2 - 4 pm in the Hall. Non- sewers also welcome.

Everyday Prayer

Lord, as we journey through Lent help us to reflect on our faith and to pray for a deeper commitment to the way of Jesus. Enable us to follow him by loving and serving those around us. Amen

First Steps Worship, Sunday 17th March, 10.30-11.30am

Worship/activity time for younger children, parents and carers in the Cerne Abbas Room

What's On in March		
Mon 4 th	7.30pm	Men's meeting
Wed 6 th	2.30pm	Pastoral visitors' meeting **
Sun 10 th	2.00pm	Sewing afternoon **
Sat 16 th	10.00am	Death Café **
Sat 23 rd	10.00am	Vision Day **
Mon 25 th	2.30pm	Solos **
Wed 27 th	2.30pm	Games afternoon in the Coffee Lounge. £1 to include refreshments.

** Please see separate notice for details

World Church Easter Coffee Morning
 Saturday 6th April, 10-12
 Come and join us for coffee, tea, cakes and hot cross buns! Get your Easter presents here: homemade, unique crafts, cakes and biscuits, books, bric-a-brac. All proceeds to go to Mission Aviation Fellowship.
 Offers of cakes and other items gratefully received by Maria.

World Day of Prayer
 The country that has written the service this year is Slovenia. The two services will be on Friday 1st March. The morning service is at St Peter's Church at 10:30am and the evening service is at the Quaker Meeting House in Holloway Road at 7 pm.

<p>Pastoral visitors' meeting The next pastoral visitors' meeting is on Wednesday 6 March at 2.30pm in the coffee lounge, when Rev Sally Spencer will be leading part of the afternoon.</p>	<p>Solos Monday 25th March at 2.30 pm: talk and tea in the church coffee lounge (subject to be confirmed). Please let Angela know if you are able to attend.</p>
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Death Café

Death is the last taboo and many people feel uncomfortable talking to their family about this subject. However, death will come to us all. For the fourth year, United Church Dorchester is holding a Death Café. Here you will be able to talk to funeral directors, a solicitor about wills, probate and lasting powers of attorney and find out about a woodland burial. Age UK Dorchester, the Weldmar Hospice and Cruse bereavement counselling will also be there to answer questions. Rev Brenda Stephenson will be available, as well as Director of Music Heather Reed. This is an opportunity to ask those questions that have been worrying you, talk to organisations about what you should do to prepare, how to help others before death and through the grieving process.

The event is on Saturday March 16th from 10am to 12 noon in the United Church hall, South Street, Dorchester. Everyone is very welcome. Refreshments will be available, as well as lots of chocolate cake. If you can make a cake for the event, please let Wendy or Angela know.

<p>The Monday Fellowship Group meets twice a month at 7.30 p.m. in members' homes. Further information from Mary Lucraft.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>The Wednesday Home Group meets fortnightly in members' homes. Further information from Shirley and Denys Hood.</p>	<p>The Friday morning Bible study group meets every Friday from 10.00 – 11.00am in the Quiet Room. New friends are always welcome.</p>
<p>Prayer and meditation. Every Tuesday from 12-12.30 p.m. in the church.</p>	<p>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.</p>

New stewards

The AGM is on Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30 pm. This year the Council of Stewards co-opted three people – Janice Young, Maria Jacobson and Paul Smith. These three people are willing to stand for election. This leaves one vacancy. Nomination forms and a description of the role will be available in early March. Mary Martin has completed her two years as Senior Steward, so a new Senior Steward will be chosen at the first stewards' meeting from amongst the elected stewards.

Lent study groups

During Lent there will be an opportunity to join in a Bible Society study called Jesus the Jew. It aims to help us see Jesus more clearly and will lead into our worship during Holy Week and Easter. You can join a group on Monday evenings or Friday mornings, or join a new one led by Sally Spencer at 1.30pm on a Wednesday (after your Lent lunch). I shall also be organising an email group for those who cannot commit to a regular time in their diary. Please think about joining one of these groups for the five weeks of Lent starting in the week beginning March 11th. Further details are on the notice board in the hall.

Brenda Stephenson

District Synod

Saturday 27 April 2019

United Church, Dorchester

Our new circuit will be hosting the next Synod on Saturday 27 April at the United Church in Dorchester. As hosts we will need to provide volunteers to man the reception and doors, supply teas and coffees throughout the day and set up/clear up on the Friday evening and Saturday evening. Gwyneth's circuit, Christchurch and Wimborne, hosted a great Synod back in September, so we have a really good role model.

Please can you let Jacqui or Maria know how you can help on the day and what hours would best suit you. The event is planned to start at 9.00am for early arrivals and finish by 4.30pm, with clearing up still to do.

We look forward to hearing from as many people as possible; many hands make light work.

Maria Jacobson

Jacqui Trent weybaymc@yahoo.com or 01305 457510

Lent lunches are being held every Wednesday, beginning on 6th March, from 12 noon until 1.30 pm. £5 (to support Christian Aid) for ploughman's, dessert and tea or coffee. Please come and give your support.

Picnic People will not meet during Lent. We hope to meet with friends at the Lent lunches, so do please join us there.

Church Redecoration and Sound System

Our thanks go out to Paul Smith, the property group and many volunteers for helping before, during and after the church redecoration. The church looks superb.

The committee are now looking at how the church sound system can be improved following the installation of the new sound system in the hall. Currently the committee are in the process of working with a sound system consultancy service for churches, to discuss how to improve intelligibility in a reverberate space. The reverberation is why the church is so popular with musicians. While we wait for their suggestions, can I remind hearing aid users that most hearing aids need to be switched to the T setting to connect to the loop. Some will connect automatically, while others may be too small to have this technology. T setting works by activating a telecoil in the aid which works with induction loop systems to bring sound directly to the hearing aid via magnetic fields.

Pastoral committee

<p style="text-align: center;">Action for Children</p> <p>We organised an afternoon Country Dance at UCD on 27th January. 40 people attended and much fun was had, dancing, socialising and enjoying tea, coffee and homemade cakes. Donations on the day raised over £200 for Action for Children.</p>	<p>Bill Kendrick celebrates 60 years in local preaching this year. At the end of the service on Sunday 28 April, Rev Gwyneth Owen will present him with a certificate marking the occasion.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Photo Board</p> <p>At Easter I shall be updating the photo board in the Church Hall. If you have recently become a member or would like to update your current photo, please send me a photo or give me a hard copy (<u>no smaller than 6x4</u>). I will be around on Sunday mornings with my camera if you would like a photo taken after Morning Worship. Photos currently on the board which are very out of date will be removed. Thanks! Susy</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Christians Against Poverty Money Course</p> <p>Do you know anyone who is struggling with managing their money or is in debt? The next CAP "Money Course" about managing money and budgeting is on Wednesdays 13, 20 and 27 March from 7pm-8.30pm at Dorford Baptist Church. Those in debt crisis can be referred to a debt counsellor after the course for further help. For further details or to book on the course contact the Dorford Centre: 01305 262045.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Homelessness</p> <p>A new leaflet is available about homelessness locally and how you can help and what things you should avoid. It also includes useful information including the contact details of the local Street Outreach team, who are based at the Lantern Centre in Weymouth. Leaflets are available in both church foyers.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Dorchester Poverty Action</p> <p>Wanted: part-time volunteer bookkeeper for Dorchester Poverty Action, a local charity set up by Churches Together in Dorchester to help local people at crisis points in their lives. Over the last 25 years over £100,000 has been raised locally and given to local people. Could you help? The role would involve one day per quarter, at your convenience, inputting figures under the guidance of the treasurer and then three days at the end of the financial year. No meetings involved. Knowledge of spreadsheets and simple accounting packages would be an advantage, but full training will be given.</p> <p>Also needed: a volunteer website manager. This would involve probably an hour a month. Knowledge of word is needed, but all other training will be given.</p> <p>This small charity, working efficiently and quietly, makes a big difference to local people in DT1 and DT2 at threat of eviction and homelessness, suffering fuel poverty, coping with a sick or disabled child and many other situations, all happening in our seemingly affluent area. Could you help to make a difference? For more information contact Wendy Hilton or Margaret Barker at info@dpag.org.uk.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Church Website</p> <p>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!</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Notices for order of service and news sheet</p> <p>Please send notices for inclusion on each Sunday's order of service (space permitting) to Marion Cox by the previous Wednesday at 6pm.</p> <p>The deadline for the April news sheet will be 10.30am on Sunday 24th March. 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.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Data Protection Act</p> <p>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.</p>	



our vision our church
your vision your church

Saturday 23rd March

10am-3pm

for

an inspiring day

exploring the future of
United Church Dorchester

led by

Mark Tizzard, Intergenerational Mission Enabler,
Southampton Methodist District and

Ruth White, Children's and Youth Development Officer,
URC Wessex Synod

plenty of ideas, good food and good
conversation

*bring and share lunch, drinks provided
please sign up for food on the hall notice board*