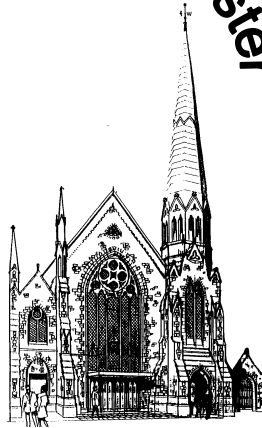


# NEWS

## United Church Dorchester



**NOVEMBER 2021**

Registered Charity No: 1137996

**Methodist and United Reformed**  
Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

**Minister:**

**Rev John Yarrien** 01305 262421  
Please contact one of the Church Stewards if necessary

**Church Secretary:**

**Senior Steward:** John Parson

**Church** (general number): 01305 262462

**Church office:** 01305 457477

**Website:** [unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk](http://unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk)

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### Lectionary readings

**7<sup>th</sup> November**

1 Kings 17:8-16  
Psalm 146  
Hebrews 9:24-28  
Mark 12:38-44

**14<sup>th</sup> November**

Isaiah 25:1-9 or Isaiah  
52:7-12 or Micah 4:1-8  
Psalm 9:9-20 or Psalm 46  
Romans 8:31-35, 37-39  
or Revelation 22:1-5  
Matthew 5:1-12 or  
Matthew 5:43-48 or  
John 15:9-17

**21<sup>st</sup> November**

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14  
Psalm 93  
Revelation 1:4b-8  
John 18:33-37

**28<sup>th</sup> November**

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36

### Sunday Worship

**7<sup>th</sup> November**

10.00/11.15 Mr C Warren  
Holy Communion

**14<sup>th</sup> November Remembrance  
Sunday**

10.00/11.15 Rev J Walker

**21<sup>st</sup> November**

10.00/11.15 Mr P Jenner

**28<sup>th</sup> November Advent Sunday**

10.00/11.15 Rev J Yarrien

### Market Day Services

Wednesdays at 10.45

3<sup>rd</sup> November Mr T Boyden

10<sup>th</sup> November Rev D Reep

17<sup>th</sup> November Mr C Warren

24<sup>th</sup> November Rev J Yarrien

### World Church Collection Boxes

The World Church collection boxes will be dedicated on 21<sup>st</sup> November so, if you have one, please bring it in then.

### Building works

We had hoped that the scaffolding would only be in church for a few weeks more, but it is looking more likely that it will be there possibly until Christmas. However, this is very dependent on the roofers, the scaffolders and the weather.

### Quiet Christmas

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 3pm  
Join us for a short Christmas service followed by a tea. Ideal for those who find sitting through a full service difficult. Everyone welcome.

### Church Family News

We have recently heard that Lionel Shearing died earlier this year. We have no further details. Please remember the family in your prayers.

### Remembrance Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> November

Normally we observe the two minute silence at 11am, but this year neither service covers that time, and it is obviously impossible for both to do so. Although it will not be at 11am, we shall observe a two minute silence during each service. What is important is that we respect and honour with gratitude those who made the ultimate sacrifice that we might live in freedom and peace.

John Parson, Senior Steward

### Rev. Peter Clark

The Rev. Peter Clark led his final services as one of our ministers on the morning of Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> September. We thanked him for all that he had done for us during the last eight years, and gave him a cheque in appreciation. Whilst having tea and coffee between the two services, we were able to enjoy a cake specially made for the occasion by Anna Newbury. Peter will now be taking six months off (putting his feet up!?) before returning to the circuit plan and preaching occasionally again at UCD. I have since received a very gracious "thank you" card from Peter and his wife, Sue.

John Parson  
Senior Steward

### Church seating

From October 17<sup>th</sup> we reduced the space between people at both services to one empty seat. This allows a few more people to attend each service. If you are a couple or group and want to sit beside each other, move one or more of the “do not sit here” cards to create enough space, but leave at least one empty space between your group and the people on each side. Please return the card to its original position when you leave.

You have a free choice of seats. There are no allocated seats except for specific reserved seats (see below).

**10 am service.** You will need to notify us at least the day before that you are coming to this service to make sure we don't exceed the total number of seats, but you will not be given an allocated seat. If you already have a season ticket booking, it has been assumed that you will continue to come to this service, but you will not have an allocated seat.

**11.15 am service.** You do not need to book. You will have a free choice of seats. The balcony can also be used.

**Reserved seating at either service.** We can reserve you a specific seat, if your hearing is poor, you have another disability, you have a carer with you or you still need more space around you (i.e. two empty seats). You will need to book this seat in advance and a reserved sign will be placed on that specific seat for you.

### Church Meeting

Our next Church Meeting will be at 7pm on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> November. Important items on the agenda include agreeing the budget for next year and deciding on the church charity for the next year. Our church charity has been the Mission Aviation Fellowship for the last three years. Normally it is for two years, but the covid crisis made it difficult to give our usual level of support. The World Mission Committee will bring forward three suggested charities for our consideration, namely [Wheels for the World](#), the [Leprosy Mission](#), and [TWAM](#) (Tools with a Mission).

The circuit plan for December-February will not have a service on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> December. We can discuss this at the Church Meeting and, if sufficient people want a service on that Sunday, this can be arranged.

John Parson, Senior Steward

### 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 urgently need another person 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 John Hilton or me.  
John Parson, Senior Steward

### Journey to the Stable

Provided that the scaffolding has been removed, we are holding Journey to the Stable again this year. We will be offering the opportunity to visit local schools and will need lots of volunteers to help with these visits as well as to set up. The proposed dates are December 6th to 18th. If you are able to help, please speak to Peter Jenner or Mary Martin.

### Churches Together Annual General Meeting

[Churches Together in Dorchester](#) has its AGM at 7pm on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, in St George's Church Hall, Fordington. All are welcome to attend.

### World Church Committee

The church's World Church Committee is urgently in need of two new members. We meet only three times a year, to shortlist for UCD's World Church Project, and currently organise two coffee mornings, World Church Sundays and other events to raise money for the project and for the Methodist and URC World Church funds in general. If anybody is interested please speak to Ruth or Maria.

## World Church Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 10 – 12

Come and join us for tea, coffee, cakes and mince pies, or even a bacon butty!

Get your Christmas presents early: homemade, unique Christmas Crafts, Cakes and Biscuits, Books and Bric-a-Brac; you even get the chance to win a Christmas Hamper!

All proceeds to go to [Mission Aviation Fellowship](#)



### Forest Praise Update

Vegetable printing, apples made from sourdough, making a small scarecrow, planting bulbs and decorating the pot and colouring, along with refreshments to keep energy levels up. We also gave out a selection of fruit to people who were shopping in South Street thanks to Tesco who donated them. That was our Messy Harvest including Forest Praise. We had about 25 children and their parents, who came into the hall and joined in the various activities. Thank you to those who came to help us, it was much appreciated.

Our November Forest Praise is on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November at St George's, Fordington, from 10.30 -11.45am. We will have held another one before then on 27<sup>th</sup> October. We are always happy and need help with Forest Praise (remember to put an extra jumper on as it's outside) so please have a word with Peter Jenner, Janice Young, Heather Reed or Diana Leeming. Please remember the families who come to Forest Praise and Story Tots in your prayers. Thank you.

### 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 and Friends

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30 pm  
in the church coffee lounge  
Quiz and discussion followed by refreshments - £1. All welcome. Speak to [Angela](#) if you would like to attend.

### Church Library

Several of you will remember that we used to have a church library in the hall. This area is now used to sell general books to raise money for Christian Aid. The library books were moved upstairs, but they needed sorting. This never quite happened but now, thanks to a lot of hard work by Chris Warren, the church library is up and running. Thank you Chris. The library is located on the top floor in the small room. There is a great range of theological books for all levels of knowledge. Why not go up, browse and borrow a book? If you cannot get up to the top floor, please ask and we will bring down whatever you require. Currently we don't have a list of the books, but maybe someone would like to take on the job of cataloguing the books so those less able can see what is available.

### **Traidcraft**

Christmas stock from Traidcraft is now available in the Church Shop. A wide range of Christmas cards, Real Advent Calendars, chocolate and other foods is there for your delectation! I am taking orders for Traidcraft gift items - the last order will be done on Monday December 6. Collect your free catalogue from the shop or browse online at [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk). Please support Fairtrade as much as you can this Christmas.  
Thank you. Susy

### **Christmas Shoe Boxes**

This year we will again be collecting Christmas shoe boxes to send to south east Europe through the Salisbury charity [FSCI](#). They will be given to abandoned children living in state care, poor rural schools and kindergartens, women's refuges, prisoners' children, isolated elderly people, refugees and Roma children living in difficult conditions. The leaflets are now available. The boxes will be dedicated on **Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup>** by Chris Warren, so make sure you bring them by this date as they will be collected soon after.

### **Dorset Historic Churches Ride and Stride 2021**

Grateful thanks are extended to Joy Parkhurst, Colin Tizzard, Julia Young, Margaret Knighton and Marion Cox, who very kindly volunteered to help with staffing the church for the Ride and Stride event. It was most appreciated.

A huge thank you is due to Eric Young for riding for us yet again, and to those who sponsored him. He covered 28 churches and rode 44 miles, and raised a total of £235 which will be shared between our Church and the Dorset Historic Churches Trust. A great effort and well done.

This year, we welcomed a total of 29 Riders & Striders plus three doggies to the Church which, apart from the doggies, was unfortunately down on last year. Although the number of visitors was down, the amount of money raised in sponsorship was greatly increased, which was pleasing. Once again, many thanks and God bless you all.

Shawn Board, Ride & Stride Organiser

### **Dorchester Family Support**

Dorchester Family Support will once again be offering food parcels to those families entitled to free school meals this Christmas. We will be using Hardye's School on Friday 17th December to pack the provisions and our families will come in on Saturday 18th December to pick up their parcels. Because of the uncertainty regarding supplies this year, we would appreciate financial donations rather than goods. This will allow us to act quickly if there are difficulties sourcing any particular foodstuff. Last year we helped 191 families at Christmas, which equated to 416 children. We do not think our numbers will be less this year.

Our bank details for direct transfer of any monies is: CAF Bank, Acct No 00033782. Sort code: 40-52-40.

Cheques made out to Dorchester Family Support can be sent to Dorchester Baptist Church: Bridport Road Dorchester Dorset DT1 1RR. Thank you once again for your support.

Kath Joslin – Trustee, Dorchester Family Support

### **“Heralding the Coming King”**

An opportunity to journey through Advent this year, together, considering who Jesus is, how and why he came to earth, and how we can be inspired to live a life that makes way for him, the kings of kings. Hosted by Rev John, either on Zoom, starting on Monday 29th November until Monday 20th December at 7pm or in person at the Manse (7 Capitol Close), starting on Tuesday 30th November until Tuesday 21st December at 11am. Both groups will last an hour, and will follow the same material.

### **The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association**

Mark Topps, who is the pastor of the Storehouse church on Cambridge Road, is starting a branch of the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association in Dorchester. This is a Christian organisation for children, and well worthy of our support. Mark wants this to be an ecumenical venture affiliated to [Churches Together in Dorchester](#), and would welcome anyone who is interested in helping. He is starting with the youngest age group until he gets more help, and families with children aged 5-8 are invited to take them along on Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 7pm to the Boys' Brigade Hall, Sawmills Lane, Dorchester, next to the YMCA and opposite the cricket field (near Tesco). To contact Mark, please do it via [email](#).

The web address of the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association is [www.boys-brigade.org.uk/join](http://www.boys-brigade.org.uk/join)



### **Join the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice in Dorchester**

Green groups are to hold a "Climate Conversation" as part of the Global Day of Action event in Dorchester. It will take place at 12 noon on Saturday 6 November around the Town Pump in South Street.

The event is organised by the Dorchester Churches Together Ecology Group. The Mayor, Councillor Gareth Jones, will talk about the council's climate emergency response. There will be a two minute silence and people will then be able to view stands and take part in activities and conversations with a number of organisations, including Transition Town Dorchester, the Quakers and Christian Aid. For further information, please contact Dorset Churches Together Ecology Group communications officer [Tony McDougal](#).

### **Notices for news sheet**

The deadline for the December news sheet is Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Please send notices for inclusion to Myra Dawson.

### **Church Website**

Don't forget to check out the (<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.