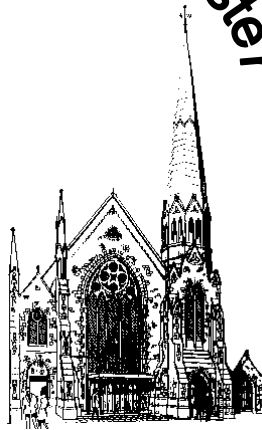


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



FEBRUARY 2024

Registered Charity No: 1137996

Methodist and United Reformed
Part of Churches Together in Dorchester

Minister ([Rev John Yarrien](#)) 01305 262421
John's rest day is usually Friday. Please contact one of the Church Stewards if necessary.

Pastoral Support Assistant: [Ruth Magee](#)
Church Secretary: Position vacant.
Please contact Senior Steward (see below)
Senior Steward: [Michael Humphrey](#)

Church (general number): 01305 262462
Church office: 01305 457477
Website: unitedchurchdorchester.org.uk

Private Tel & email removed from web version

Sunday Services

4th February

10.30 am Rev David Cuckson
Holy Communion

11th February

10.30 am Rev John Yarrien
4.00 pm Tea-Pot

18th February

10.30 am Worship Committee

25th February

10.30 am Rev Gwyneth Owen
6.30 pm Rev Peter Clark

Market Day Services

Wednesdays at 10.45 am

7th February Mrs Elizabeth Haynes
14th February Rev Steph Jenner
21st February Rev Peter Clark
28th February Mr Tony Boyden

Church Family News

We are sad to announce the death on December 19th of Rev Barrie Snook, who was Minister at UCD from 1989 - 2003. During this time he was Chaplain at Dorchester Prison, and Superintendent of the local Methodist Circuit. He also oversaw the UCD Millennium Project, which expanded the premises of the church and enabled the opening of both the Coffee Lounge and the Church Shop.

We are also sad to announce the deaths of Nancy Pyle and Wendy Bishop. Please remember their families and friends in your prayers.

Congratulations to those who celebrated special birthdays in January - Pauline Wootten celebrated her 80th and Peter Jenner his 70th. Happy Birthday.

Congratulations to Julie Fry who was [awarded a BEM](#) in the King's New Year's Honours list. Julie was the inspiration for our Sunday afternoon working parties, organised by Mary Martin, to make washable sanitary towels for girls' schools in Kenya.

Afternoon Tea and Favourite Hymns

The next Tea-Pot is on Sunday, 11th February, in the Hall at 3.30pm for 4pm, until 5.30pm.

The church is open for Morning Prayer each Tuesday starting at 8.30am. All welcome.

Church Flowers

We are appealing again for anyone to help us with arranging the flowers in the church. The main display is changed, usually on a Saturday, to be ready for the Sunday morning service. If you feel you would like to volunteer but lack the skills to do it, Suzanne is prepared to help anyone or give some lessons. It would be a great help if you could offer to help just once a month. Also the Flower Fund is running short of money again so please consider donating a small amount, for example to commemorate a birth, death or anniversary, or just to help out. I think you will agree that flowers are an important part of our church, therefore your support is vital if we are to continue to have flowers in the church. If you can help in any way, please contact Sue Gannaway.

Reverse Advent Calendar

This raised £461.99, which has now been sent to the Food Bank. Thank you very much to all those who contributed. We hope to repeat this next year and perhaps raise even more for this worthy cause.

Lent Lunches

It is coming up to the time for Lent lunches, beginning on 14th February. We do a ploughman's with cheese, ham or egg and a sweet, fruit pie, trifle or bread and butter pudding and coffee all for £7.50. Served from 12 until 1.30, we will be very pleased to see you. All proceeds go to [Christian Aid](#).

Pastoral Visitors

There will be a social and fellowship get-together for pastoral visitors to say thank you for all your hard work in 2023 on Thursday 7 March in the coffee shop from 2.30 – 4pm.

Wednesday Coffee Mornings

On Wednesdays we have a Coffee Morning in the hall from 9.30am until 12 noon. For the last couple of years we have invited charities (one each Wednesday) to have a stall selling their goods to raise money for their good causes. A few charities have done this, but we have space for many more. We provide tables and chairs, and there is no charge. I have visited all the charity shops in South Street and Trinity Street, inviting them to have a stall from time to time. So far, four have taken up our offer. Obviously, there are many other charities with supporters in Dorchester and district. Perhaps you are a supporter of one of these. If you have the contact details (telephone number or email address) for any of them, please let me know, or you could pass on to them the information here. It is good for the church to support these worthy causes, and it also promotes our Coffee Morning.

On January 10th, we had the British Heart Foundation, on the 17th Action for Children, and on the 24th Wheels for the World. In the next few weeks, the charities include the Parkinson's Society, Christian Aid, Julia's House, Weldmar, Oxfam, Dorset Blind Association, R N L I and Wheels for the World.

John Parson

Volunteer needed

Mary Martin organised a Sunday afternoon working party 3 or 4 times a year for us to join together to draw, cut and sew sanitary towels for Kenya. It was a lovely time for fellowship and positive action. We are looking for someone who would be willing to organise these gatherings, liaise with [Julie Fry](#) who takes them to Kenya, and store the material needed. If you would be willing to co-ordinate this important project (you do not have to be someone who can sew), please talk to Val Gould.

World Day of Prayer

The following will be taking place at UCD:

Coffee Morning – Saturday 3rd February, 10 am to 12 noon

Service – Friday 1st March at 10.30 am

There is more detailed information in the February-March Vision magazine.

Prayer Chain

If you would like prayer for yourself or others at any time, please contact [Enid Parson via e-mail](#). Details can be given anonymously, and confidentiality within the prayer chain is absolute unless there is a safeguarding risk.

United Church Shop

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

[The shop](#) is in Charles Street, at the back of the church building, opposite Dorchester Library

Easter Cards will be available from Wednesday 14th February, which is Ash Wednesday. We have a good selection so please come and see for yourselves. They are a great way of reminding folk about the real meaning of Easter.

Fairtrade Easter Eggs

As Easter is early this year, I shall shortly be doing an order for Meaningful Chocolate Easter Eggs. I have to order a lot of eggs to get free p&p, so will only be doing ONE order, which will be mainly Milk Chocolate eggs. I will get only one case (6) of Dark Chocolate eggs, as they do not sell well. To avoid disappointment, please let me know how many eggs you would like and I can put them by for you. Once they're gone, they're gone! My contact details are in the church directory, or call into the Church Shop. Susy Rogers



Notices for news sheet

The deadline for the March news sheet is Sunday 18th February. Please send notices for inclusion to [Myra Dawson](#)

Church Website

Don't forget to check out the [church website](#), which is managed by Kevin and Susy Rogers. As well as a downloadable version of the news sheet, it also gives information on a number of different things concerning the church and how it runs. 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.