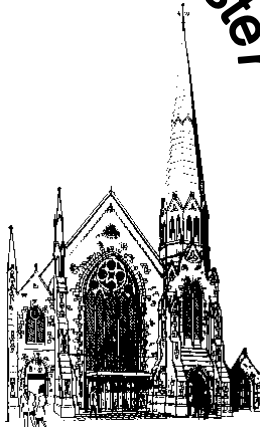


NEWS

United Church Dorchester



MAY 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: [Michael Humphrey](#)
Senior Steward: To be appointed

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

Private Tel & email removed from web version

Sunday Services

5th May

10.30 am Mr Chris Warren
Holy Communion
4.00 pm Tea-Pot

12th May

10.30 am Rev Gwyneth Owen

19th May

Pentecost

10.30 am Rev John Yarrien
6.30 pm Rev John Yarrien

26th May

Trinity Sunday

10.30 am Worship Committee

Market Day Services

Wednesdays at 10.45 am

1st May Rev Peter Clark
8th May Mr Tony Boyden
15th May Mrs Elizabeth Haynes
22nd May Mr Chris Warren
29th May Rev Brenda Stephenson

Afternoon Tea and Favourite Hymns

The next Tea-Pot is on Sunday, 5th May, 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 Family News

The Rev John Walker and Elizabeth Payne (now Mrs Walker) thank church friends for their cards, good wishes and prayers as they celebrated significant milestone birthdays on March 9th combining the occasion with their marriage at Kingston Maurward House. A happy family gathering and reception was enjoyed as their two families got to know each other better and the Rev Gwyneth Owen said prayers of blessing.

Sally Burton and Sandra Woods were welcomed as members by the hand of friendship at the Easter Sunday service.

We are sad to announce the deaths of Margaret Adams and Margaret Long. Please remember their families and friends in your prayers.

Some members may remember Rev Keith and Mrs Barbara Fisher, who attended regularly but quite a few years ago. Barbara died on 12th April peacefully in her sleep. She would have been 98 on 31st May and she certainly had a long and fruitful life.

We are sad to announce the death of Margaret A.J. Wagstaff (often known as Maj). She was a keen member of the church until her decline with Alzheimer's in 2016. She passed away peacefully in Blandford Grange Nursing Home on 5th March. With gratitude to church friends for the love and support she received while still living in Dorchester. Christine and David

Church AGM held on 10th April

At the AGM, Michael Humphrey became Church Secretary and a new Senior Steward will be appointed by the Council of Stewards. John Parson and Frank Wells have become Stewards, and Brian Savage stepped down, having completed his three-year term as a Steward.

Vision Day 22nd June

This year Rev John Yarrien is asking us all to join him and the Church Stewards on a journey to set the vision for UCD for the next 10 years and beyond. We started this process at the AGM when many ideas were shared about how we might move forward. Our next step in this journey is our Vision Day on Saturday 22nd June. Please see the information below.

Michael Humphrey, Church Secretary.

Saturday 22nd June 2024

A day when we come together as a Church Community to renew our Vision

All members and friends of United Church Dorchester are invited to:

- Share ideas freely
- Listen with an open heart
- Be ready for God's prompting

Please use the sign-up sheet in the Hall and register for one of the two sessions

Each session starts with a meal

Session 1 Breakfast

9.00 – 11.30

Session 2 Lunch

12.00 – 2.30

For more details speak to [Rev John Yarrien](#)

Christian Aid Week: May 12th-18th

Ecumenical Service

St Mary's Church, Sunday May 12th at 4.00 pm

In the presence of the Mayor, Councillor Alastair Chisholm

Everyone welcome

South Street Collection

Friday May 17th, 0930-1630

We are looking for volunteers for hourly slots

House to House Collections

We are looking for volunteers for house-to-house collections

We are asking them to '[Try for Ten](#)' – ten houses only in their locality

Stage 1: before Christian Aid Week choose ten houses in your neighbourhood you want to deliver to.

Stage 2: check this out with your church [Christian Aid rep \(Tony Boyden\)](#) and collect envelopes, collector's badge etc. from him

Stage 3: deliver envelopes with a slip saying when you expect to collect them

Stage 4: return envelopes to Tony

(of course, if people would like to collect from more houses, that would be very welcome)

There are posters and leaflets giving further details

Christian Aid needs your help more than ever this year!

Children and Family Events

Pentecost Family Fun Day

On Saturday 18th May we will be having a Pentecost Family Fun day from 10 am to 12 noon in Church. There will be toys, Lego, craft which will include making some bunting to decorate Church with. Pass the Parcel and games will also be part of the morning's fun. We will also have some birthday cake as we celebrate the birthday of the Church along with hot and cold drinks. We do need some help with the morning so please see Peter Jenner.

Holiday Club for Children aged 6-11 years here at United Church Thursday 8th August to Saturday 10th August, 10-12noon

We are going to be running a Holiday Club in Church at the beginning of August which will be set up on Wednesday 7th August after the Market Day Service. The theme will be "Going for Gold" which is very appropriate as the Olympics will be held in Paris during the summer. We are involving [Churches Together in Dorchester](#) and Area and seeking volunteers from other churches as well as people from United Church to come along and help at the Holiday Club.

You can help on the three days or just help on one or two days. The mornings will consist of two activities, challenges, lots of fun, and juice and biscuits. We plan to take the children to the Borough Gardens on the Friday morning weather permitting. We need to have enough volunteers / helpers to make the Holiday Club happen. Please see [Peter Jenner](#) or [Rev John Yarrien](#) if you can help. We will keep you updated through our monthly news sheet.

Peter Jenner

Thy Kingdom Come

These familiar words from the Lord's Prayer are also the name of a prayer movement, started about eight years ago by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, which is now worldwide and ecumenical. It consists of each of us praying for up to five people each day from Ascension Day to Pentecost. Ascension Day, which is the fortieth day after Easter, is this year on Thursday, 9th May. Pentecost is ten days later, on Sunday, 19th May, so we are asked to pray on each of eleven days. We pray for up to five people, so it may be for two or three or four. It is recommended that we pray for no more than five but, of course, our prayers are private and personal, between each of us and God, so the decision is ours.

For whom should we pray? For family and friends, but which ones?

People who regularly attend church but have not yet developed a deep faith in Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

People who used to have faith and attend church regularly, but have lost their faith and no longer attend.

People who used to have faith and attend church regularly, but, whilst not losing their faith, have been put off the church by something which was said or done by church members, perhaps many years ago. They have fallen out with the church but not fallen out with God.

People who have never had faith and never attended church regularly.

On the day of his ascension, Jesus told his remaining disciples to stay in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon them. The disciples returned to Jerusalem and, along with Jesus's mother, Mary, and other followers, they met each day to pray, until the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came in power among them. In like manner, we pray, "Come, Holy Spirit, Come", that those for whom we pray may grow in faith and become regular members of a worshipping community. You should have received with the Vision magazine a card on which you can write the names of the people for whom you will pray. There are spare cards in the foyer in case you have lost yours and also so that couples can each have their own card. You can find out more at [Thy Kingdome Come](#)

Wednesday Coffee Morning Charity Stalls

The charities booked in until the end of May are:

April 24 th	Royal Voluntary Service	May 15 th	Child Contact Centre
May 1 st	Feral and Elderly Cat Care	May 22 nd	Parkinson's Society
May 8 th	Tools with a Mission	May 29 th	Julia's House

If you know of any charities who might be interested in having a stall in future months (we only have one charity each Wednesday) then please put them in touch with me.

John Parson

[A Musical Afternoon with Brenda and Friends](#)

Sunday 26 May at 3pm

A variety of music including works by Grieg, Handel and Max Bruch

Claire Tocknell violin and viola

Mark Tocknell clarinet and basset horn

Brenda Stephenson piano

Followed by refreshments

Retiring collection in aid of Dorchester Poverty Action



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.

Dates for your diary

Tea and Chat – a new social activity for everyone to get to know each other better, on Thursday 4 July from 2.30 – 4pm, in the church coffee shop.

Pastoral Visitor training on Thursday 11 July, 2.30 – 4pm, in the Cerne Abbas room.

[Dorchester Poverty Action](#) coffee morning – Saturday 13 July, 10-12noon.



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

As well as selling Christian books, greetings cards, ethically sourced gifts and fair trade goods, we also sell plants. If you have any spare plants from your garden, we would be grateful for contributions.

Notices for news sheet

The deadline for the June news sheet is midday on Sunday 19th May. 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.