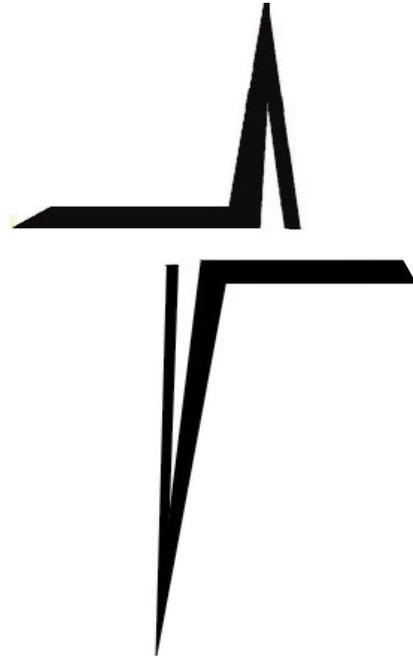


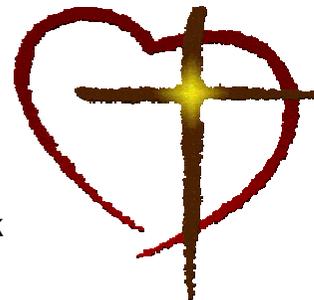
United Church Dorchester



Vision

June - July 2017

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From your Dorchester based minister



Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, I hope all the building work at the manse will be finished and we shall be able to open our doors to anyone who would like a nosy on **Saturday 10th June in the morning** (there will be a £1 charge for entry which will be divided between Methodist Homes for the Aged and the Child Contact Centre in Dorchester).

It has been a long job, but thorough, and we are grateful to the circuit for undertaking this work as well as the ever cheerful and helpful builders.

It has also got us into a good discipline of being up early and working smarter, being more organised in order to function. And we have saved time by not having to do housework. Many people have offered us sanctuary, and we are very grateful.

There are so many Christian analogies within these past few months, cornerstones and foundations, planning ahead, working together etc. but the one which strikes me most are the 'one another' texts. These are scattered throughout the epistles (with 2 in the Old Testament and several in John's gospel) and help to remind us how we should treat each other. The most common is 'love one another', but there are also such guidance as:

Romans 12:16 Live in harmony with **one another**.

Romans 14:13 Therefore let us stop passing judgment on **one**

another.

Romans 14:19 So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of **one another**.

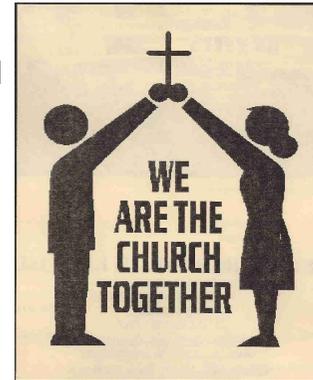
Romans 15:7 Accept **one another**, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

Galatians 6:2 Bear **one another's** burdens, and thereby fulfil the law of Christ.

Ephesians 4:2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with **one another** in love.

James 5:9 Beloved, do not grumble against **one another**, so that you may not be judged.

When you are working, and rubbing shoulders with others doing a completely different job, to a different timescale and set of rules, we do well to remember these quotes because, however different we are, we are all here to work together to one end and aim, to make life better for all creation. It can be trying, there can be misunderstandings, but the journey can be a much more pleasant experience when we make room and allowances for one another.



New steward's

At the AGM we welcomed several new or returning stewards — Mary Martin, John Hilton, Carol Illingworth, John Saunders, Heather Bland and Gillian Daniel. Last year at church meeting we discussed a slightly different way of working allowing elected stewards to sit on the stewards council, but not necessarily steward on a Sunday. Hence 3 stewards have teamed up with retired stewards to perform this role. Penny Fennell will steward on a Sunday for John Saunders, Janice Young for Heather Bland and Wendy Hilton for John Hilton.

Thank you to our retiring steward's Penny Fennell and Paul

Calling all knitters and crocheters -

We need your help

Knitting and crocheting are very popular and fashionable activities at present. So the United Reformed Church's planning group for the Greenbelt Christian Arts Festival will be tapping into this for the 2017 festival. The URC is an associate partner for two years. Linda Mead of the URC planning group commented "Last year we had a very successful festival around the title of 'Scrap the Church?' with one of the activities being a treasure hunt. Festival goers sought out thirteen stars, decorated by our thirteen Synods, and hidden around the festival. Great fun was had by all. "



'As part of this year's theme of 'More than Welcome,' and in keeping with last year's successful hunt, we are preparing a knitted food themed treasure hunt. The hunt will take festival goers to hampers dotted around the site where they will answer questions on food/feast stories from the Bible and collect various knitted food items. They will then be asked to add the fruit to an empty banqueting area so that over the course of the weekend the area goes from being empty to abundant.

A real strength of last year's URC presence was the fact that the Synods had been involved in decorating the stars so, with that in mind, we think it would be great to get as many URC groups involved with knitting the food as possible. So this is where we need your help. There is a lot to knit, the more people involved the better.

Knitting/crocheting patterns are available for anyone who shows

an interest but you can also use any you have yourselves. We just ask that they are not too big (so they fit in the palm of your hand). This food production needs to start as soon as possible if we are going to get enough food for the August Bank Holiday. So, if this is something you feel you could help with, we would love you to be involved. You will find links to patterns at the bottom of this article. To find out where to send your food please email linda.mead@urc.org.uk and we will let you know where to take or send them.

On the last day of the festival volunteers will head out to distribute the food. An attached postcard will say that this food is a gift from the URC to remind them of Greenbelt and will include a food for thought/challenge to take away with them.
Patterns for Greenbelt 2017 URC treasure hunt

Crochet

selection of food Z <http://www.molliemakes.com/interiorsZ2/16ZfruityZdiysZfoodieZtutorials/>

Strawberries Z <http://www.innerchildcrochet.com/patterns/strawberries.html>

Hotdog (US version stitches) <https://bittersweetblog.com/2007/05/22/hotZdog/>

Ice cream cones <http://www.garnstudio.com/includes/patternZprint.php?id=6173&cid=17>

Knitting

Cupcake <http://www.oddknit.com/patterns/food/cc/cupcakes.pdf>

Corn, aubergine, carrot

<http://www.theyarnloop.com/2013/08/12/freeZpatternZknitZvegetables/>

There are many other patterns available on the web or you can make up your own.

Build an Ark? You must be joking?

And lo in the year 2007, the Lord came unto Noah, who was now living in England, and said: "Once again, the earth has become wicked and over-populated, and I see the end of all flesh before me. Build me another Ark and save two of every living thing, along with a few good humans."



He gave Noah the CAD drawings, saying, "you have six months to build the Ark before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights.'

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his yard, but no Ark. "Noah!" He roared, "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?" "Forgive me Lord," begged Noah, "but things have changed. I needed Building Regulations Approval. I've been arguing with the fire brigade about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbours claim that I should have obtained planning permission for building the Ark in my garden because it is development of the site even though in my view it is a temporary structure. We had to go to appeal to the Secretary of State for a decision.

Then the Department of Transport demanded a bond be posted for the future costs of moving power lines and other overhead obstructions to clear the passage for the Ark's move to the sea. I told them that the sea would be coming to us, but they would hear nothing of it.

Getting the wood was another problem. All the decent trees have Tree Preservation Orders on them and we live in a Site

of Special Scientific Interest set up in order to protect the spotted owl. I tried to convince the environmentalists that I needed the wood to save the owls - but no go!

When I started gathering the animals, the RSPCA sued me. They insisted that I was confining wild animals against their will. They argued the accommodation was too restrictive, and that it was cruel and inhumane to put so many animals in a confined space.

Then the County Council, the Environment Agency and the Rivers Authority ruled that I couldn't build the Ark until they'd conducted an environmental impact study on your proposed flood. I'm still trying to resolve a complaint with the Equal Opportunities Commission on how many BMEs I'm supposed to hire for my building team. The trade unions say I can't use my sons. They insist I have to hire only CSCS accredited workers with Ark-building experience.

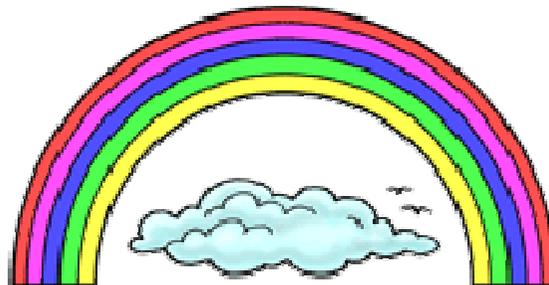
To make matters worse, Customs and Excise seized all my assets, claiming I'm trying to leave the country illegally with endangered species.

So forgive me Lord, but it would take at least 10 years for me to finish this Ark."

Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky. Noah looked up in wonder and asked: "You mean you're not going to destroy the world?"

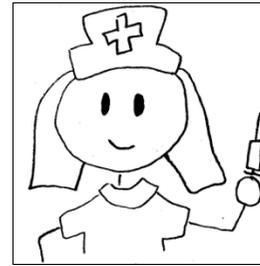
"No," said
"Looks like

the Lord.
the



Getting to know you

Not Featured in the web version







Messy Vintage

Messy Vintage is a missional offshoot of Messy Church, which began in a Methodist Church in Jersey. It is a movement that takes Messy Church values and good practice to older people. It is



aspirationally multi generational and open to all.

Like Messy Church, it is Christ-centred, creative, full of celebration, hospitality and aspires to be for all ages together, whilst acknowledging that in some cases, having all ages together is impractical

Katie Norman, Messy Vintage Coordinator, shares what Messy Vintage is and how it came about.

"Messy Vintage for us at Philadelphie Messy Centre, Jersey, grew out of the joy that we witnessed Messy Church brings. We felt that same joy would be valued by those who, for various reasons, would find it difficult to experience God through more formal styles of worship so took the Messy Church pattern but varied it's form to meet people's needs. We currently run two styles of Messy Vintage the 'in-house' version and the 'on the road' version.

The former takes place at the Centre and offers to our more mobile friends the opportunity to share in a time of a themed craft activity which is then woven into the message either as a thirty (ish!) minute block of worship or interspersed within the activity. The afternoon is then rounded off with a delicious home-made tea served on three-tier cake stands along with other little touches to let everyone know just how special and loved they are. We also occasionally bring our Messy Church and Messy Vintage family together. The former still have their

once a month session in the form of Messy Church but also come along to the Messy Vintage session thereby having two that month. This has proved very rewarding for both young and older folk alike.

Messy Vintage on the Road is the programme we offer within five Residential Care Homes two of which are high dependency dementia units. The theme followed in the Care Homes is the same as that at the Centre but is uniquely tailored to suit each gathering and condensed to cater for shorter attention spans and more limited ability. Sometimes delight comes in simply choosing a colour or texture. Worship time is always enthusiastically embraced with percussion instruments being a very moving way of giving people a voice.

As you may well already be aware, Messy ministry is highly dependent on a lively, innovative team and this definitely is the case when taking Messy Vintage into Residential Care Homes as, whenever possible, we aim to offer one to one engagement. We have a wonderful team of 30 volunteers

who God has raised up from a variety of channels to cover our ever growing outreach programmes, but don't let that number put you off; an enthusiastic, passionate team of 6-8 is generally sufficient to meet the needs of most venues.

It's a real blessing and privilege



Happy 60th Birthday

British churches founded Christian Aid in 1945 to support refugees who had lost their homes and possessions in the Second World War. Twelve years later, they launched Christian Aid Week to help fund this ongoing work. This year Christian Aid week celebrated its 60th birthday.



What makes Christian Aid (CA) different

CA fights poverty, but they also fight the **causes** of poverty. And they do both these things through the involvement of people worldwide – overseas, through local organisations, partners; and in the UK and Ireland, through hundreds of thousands of individuals and churches who support their stand against injustice.

They don't parachute aid into the nearly 50 countries in which they work. They rely on the judgement, courage and hard work of people right at the frontline. Their partner organisations know how to make change happen.

Backing them up in this fight for freedom are hundreds of thousands of people, mainly in British and Irish churches, who campaign, speak out, shake collection tins and buttonhole their politicians. There are few other instances of such a loud, clear voice for justice.

Some of the current appeals your Christian Aid donations will help

Nigeria Crisis appeal

Ongoing terrorist attacks have displaced around two million

people in Nigeria. Christian Aid launched a Nigeria Crisis Appeal to reach families in desperate need of food, water and shelter.

Violent attacks by terrorist group Boko Haram have affected millions of people. The scale of the Nigeria crisis is widespread, exceeded only by emergencies in Syria, South Sudan and Yemen. Yet media recognition has been slow. We need to act fast.

The head of humanitarian work, Nick Guttman, recently witnessed Nigeria's situation first hand. He said: 'Families are clinging to life in utterly desperate situations. We are supporting people in north-east Nigeria: in Borno, Adamawa and Gombe states.'

Nearly 80% of displaced people live with families who offer them shelter. CA is one of few humanitarian organisations giving life-saving support to both displaced people and these host families.

Yemen Appeal

Two years of conflict have pushed Yemen, already one of the world's poorest countries, to breaking point. Half of the population – 14 million people – is going hungry and needs help before it's too late. A child is dying every 10 minutes because of preventable diseases and child malnutrition is at an all-time high.

In December, the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), of which Christian Aid is a member, launched an emergency appeal for people facing hunger in Yemen. This raised an amazing £17 million.

Together, DEC member charities are already reaching millions of people across the country with life-saving aid, including food and treatment for malnutrition. These funds will help that work to continue, but much more needs to be done to help those in

dire need.

Through the funds raised Christian Aid will be supporting the work of Action Against Hunger (ACF), who have been working in Yemen since 2012, treating malnourished children and improving families' access to food.

Lent lunches

Sue Gannaway would like to thank all who supported the preparation and consuming of the Lent Lunches this year. A profit of £1,085.23 was realised and has been sent to Christian Aid (via Tony Boyden)."

Ed—Thank you Sue and all your helpers for all the hard work that goes on in the background enabling these Lent lunches to



Ideas for birthday presents for the children in your life . There is even a Christmas edition discussing the Christmas story.

Bake Through The Bible

20 cooking activities to explore Bible truths with your child

by Susie Bentley-Taylor & Bekah Moore

Bake through the Bible helps parents or those who work with young children to explore the Bible while having lots of fun cooking together. It contains 20 Bible stories, told in a simple, engaging style, with each story supported by a cooking activity that reinforces the main teaching. In addition there are questions to discuss whilst cooking, and a simple recap to use



Loneliness Project at Dorset County Hospital



Dorset County Hospital is seeking to set up a loneliness project. Staff in our hospital are very aware of the spiritual and emotional needs of our patients and their families and carers. We recognise that there is often a sense of anxiety, apprehension and even fear. Patients and their loved ones can also feel quite isolated and lonely. In a busy NHS hospital, staff do what they can to meet these deep emotional and spiritual needs but frequently they simply lack the time. We are therefore seeking to recruit volunteers who would be willing to spend a few hours each week in the hospital being a friendly face and a listening ear to those who may need it, patients and their visitors alike. Training and support will be provided, so if you might be willing to consider this further, please contact Reverend Ron Martin, the Lead

The Winds of Change

Nearly 70% of the poorest fifth of the population in developing countries now own a mobile phone. More households own a mobile than have access to electricity or clean water. In Africa there was never a landline structure, but now, across the continent new technology is allowing small businesses to grow using mobile banking, people can get basic information about health and medicine, they can access news from across the world, they can talk to relatives anywhere, and also in the most

The Spire



Originally five church communities, Poole Methodists came together as one community to worship, learn, care, serve and encourage people to follow Jesus from Easter 2008. They have been undertaking a radical renovation of their High Street premises to provide a Christian Centre for the community of Poole for worship, service and mission throughout the week and their outreach into the community is expanding as they develop their links with others.

Several years ago when Rev Paul Arnold was Circuit Superintendent, Poole Methodist Church visited our Circuit meeting to ask if we would consider giving them a loan to help them achieve their goal. A loan of £250,000 was agreed and this money has now been fully repaid. An amazing achievement.

Their vision: is simply to use the rejuvenated High Street premises to help make a difference to the people of Poole and the wider world. Simple to state, but not simple to achieve!

What has been achieved so far

Wesley's

Their community café **Wesley's** is now open at **The Spire!** When in Poole why not visit for drinks, sandwiches, soup or

cake between 10am-3pm, Monday to Saturday!

The Chapel

The Chapel is open for private, personal devotion during the operating hours of Wesley's. At 1pm The Chapel hosts **Together at One**; 20 minutes of guided, Christian worship.

Phase 2

The rear annex, housing multi-purpose halls and community rooms is rapidly taking shape! The ground floor is now open and available for use by community groups.

Phase 3 Help to Sea Change in Poole!

In conjunction with Christian and secular partner organisations, they will be offering activities, including:

- early years provision • lone parent support • youth work •
- visual arts • choirs • acting groups • music • performance •
- daily worship • volunteering • outreach • training •
- work opportunities for people with learning difficulties •
- café • catering skills • social events • venue hire •
- local authority services • health information • and others •

Already they have welcomed the Wesley Guild, Computer Group, Slimming World, Diverse Abilities and most recently COAST to The Spire. The Men's Breakfast has also made use



Family News

We give thanks for the life of Neil Parker youngest son of Maureen and Ben. We remember them and their family in our prayers.

We pray for those of our young people, who are busy revising for exams.

We welcomed through baptism Jake David Glass Lane , grandson of the Kennewells.

Dorchester Poverty Action group

(Reg Ch no 1041397)

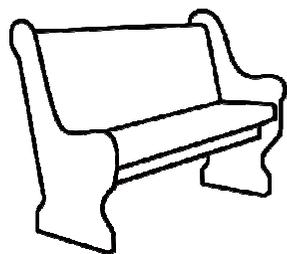
For over 25 years this charity has been helping local people (DT1 & DT2) at points of crisis by providing emergency grants of up to £150. This relatively small amount of money can prevent debt, homelessness and acute stress. Over the last few months, working with local social workers, health visitors, housing support officers etc, grants have included money for a cooker, school uniform and shoes, baby equipment including a cot and buggy and rent arrears following funeral costs.

Recently the number of requests has risen, so please support the group's annual coffee morning to raise money to support more local people, in some very difficult situations. Every penny can make a difference, with all money raised locally and spent locally.



Coffee morning
on Sat 8th July
10-12 noon

at United Church Dorchester
Refreshments with home made cakes, stalls & raffle



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Pun-Gent pieces

Not in our choir? An elderly choir member said to her friends “You know, I once sang for the King of Spain. ”You’re kidding!” said the woman next to her. “Well that’s what he told me. He said that if I was a singer, he was the King of Spain.”

A mother rang her son one Sunday morning to make sure he got out of bed to go to church. “I’m not going he replied, ”give me one good reason why I should.” “I’ll give you 3 reasons “ she said. “One is, I’m your mother and you just do as I say, Two, you’re 40 years old and you’re old enough to know what is right. Thirdly. You’re the minister!”

Ed — These were given to me by a new member who regularly

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

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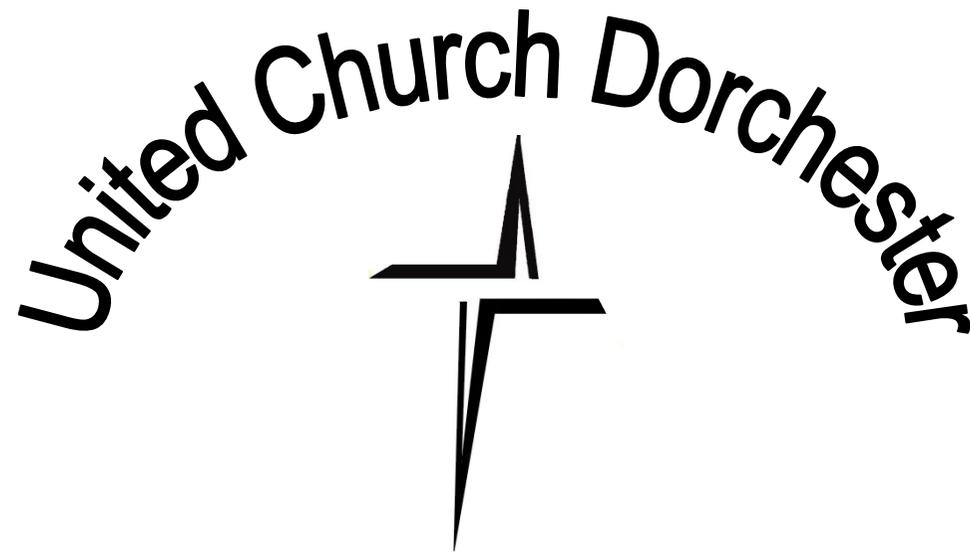
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Vision for a lifetime





Vision statement

Our purpose is to worship God and, helped by the Holy Spirit, to love each other, to care for those in need and to share the love of Jesus Christ with all those around us"

The United Church Dorchester is a Christian Community welcoming everyone. We value our diversity. Whatever our age, background, culture, gender, sexual orientation or ethnicity, we each have something special to share with others.

In Jesus Christ's name, the United Church Dorchester

- ❖ seeks personal and spiritual growth, together as a worshipping community and also individually, and encourages all in faith,
- ❖ cares for and supports all within and beyond the church community,
- ❖ works in partnership with other churches and local groups in Dorchester and district,
- ❖ serves the community and the wider world by caring for the earth and striving for a just and peaceful world, combating poverty and disadvantage, and
- ❖ fosters a deeper understanding of and respect for other

Rev Steph Jenner

7 Capitol Close
Dorchester
Tel. 262421

MINISTERS

Rev Peter Clark

Bridport
01308 425978

SERVICES

Holy Communion (2nd Sunday in the month)	Sunday	9.00am
Morning Worship (Junior Church, Crèche, Coffee)	Sunday	
10.30am		
Evening Worship	Sunday	6.30pm
Shoppers Service	Wednesday	10.30 - 10.45am

NUMBER FIFTY ONE

Church shop	Mon to Sat	10 - 12.30pm
Coffee Shop / Hall	Tues to Sat	10 - 12.30pm
Quiet Room	"	"

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Worship Groups: Church Choir, Instrumental Group, Informal Singing Group, Brass Ensemble, Drama Group, Dance group

Bible Study/Discussion Groups: Fellowship Groups.

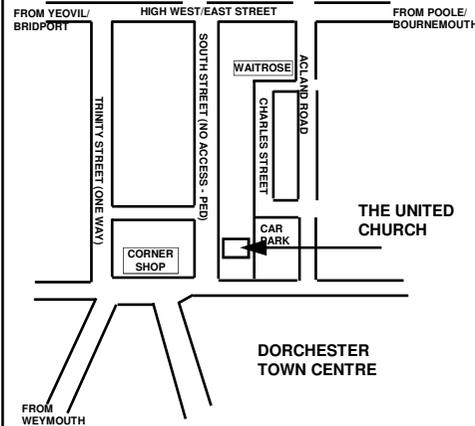
Prayer Groups: Prayer Chain, Prayer & Meditation Meetings.

Children's/ Youth Groups: Junior Church and Crèche, Antics youth group, Storytots

Social Groups: Thursday Night Out, Picnic People, Solos, Knit and Natter, Coffee Mornings, Art Group, Badminton Club, Country Dancing, Book Circle, Solos, Men's Group

Christian Activity Groups: Overseas and Home Missions, Methodist Homes for the Aged, Christian Aid, Bible Society, NCH Action for Children, Dorchester Poverty Action Group, Churches Together in Dorchester

How To Find Us



For more information about the Church or any of its activities please contact either Minister or the Senior Steward, Penny Fennell pennymf65@gmail.com

Your Pastoral Visitor:

**United Church
Dorchester,
South Street**

Methodist and United Reform

Reg Ch No 1137996