



February 2019



*Whatever our future holds,
God is always with us*

FEAR NOT, FOR I AM WITH YOU.
I AM YOUR GOD.
I WILL **strengthen**
YOU. I WILL
help YOU.
I WILL UPHOLD YOU
WITH MY **righteous**
RIGHT HAND.
ISAIAH 41:10

Minister's Message

Dear friends

What are you most looking forward to in 2019?

It was my 50th birthday last month. Thank you for all the best wishes, and yes, I know, I know, I don't look a day over 55...

Along with a number of people who have their birthdays around this time of year I've often felt a bit short-changed on the birthday front. It's just a bit too close to Christmas. It's a bit too far past New Year. It often just feels a bit too cold or a bit too dark outside. Whatever the reason this time of year just doesn't really feel like party season to me.

But 'the big five zero' has got to be a little bit different, right?

Last year I wondered at various things that I might like to do. Maybe climb another mountain, walk an amazing trail, swim in an ocean, bicycle across counties, roam or run through a forest, fundraise for people in need, share meals with friends, and, how about, maybe, enter an Olympic distance triathlon? I enjoyed wondering and dreaming about what might be possible.

Last year, as what seemed like a fairly crazy idea at the time, a friend and I both entered the ballot for the Virgin Money 2019 London Marathon. As you probably know, the places are oversubscribed many times over. Still we egged each other on, and at the same time I enquired about a charity place.

I received a 'Commiserations' booklet and a running jacket. At the time this was simply the best of all worlds! I had a new waterproof running jacket, and I could say that I had been prepared to do the marathon...but I didn't actually have to run it! Ideal result!

Into December and events within the Circuit, as well as the

busyness of Advent and Christmas, and the starting to think about the events to celebrate the completion of the building side of the The Spire development, took over and any thoughts about running (or anything else for that matter!) took a back seat.

As we entered into 2019, I admit to feeling a little bit saddened not to be running the marathon, but I had a positive conversation with a good friend about it and told them that I had got over the slight disappointment of it all and that now I really was looking out for triathlon possibilities later in the year.

A couple of days later I got a telephone call. At first, I thought it was my friend playing a joke on me, but it was real. Action for Children were inviting me to take up one of their charity places for the Virgin Monday 2019 London Marathon which takes place on the Sunday after Easter – which is the 28 April 2019.

Many of us have supported Action for Children, formerly National Children's Home – Action for Children, for many years. This year I invite you to help me raise funds for Action for Children by making a donation (we'll work out exactly how later), and I certainly hope that you will support and encourage me through this marathon journey!

I know that a surprising number of people at Poole Methodists have run marathons before and I look forward to hearing about their experiences.

We also have quite a few people who have run the Poole Parkrun, and it would be great to arrange a date for as many of us as possible to run together one Saturday morning. I'd consider that a great birthday present!

So, anyway, how about that. My very first marathon in my fiftieth year. What's going to be your 'first' in the year ahead?
Light and life,

MARK

Pastoral Report

Please let me know of anyone who needs our prayers at this time so that I can link them up with the minister in Pastoral charge.



The names listed are people who have particularly asked for our prayers.

Heather and Ray Cornick
Tricia Creamer – awaiting an operation
Michael and Mary Nance
Peter and Jean West
Mrs Maureen McCabe
Grace Hudson is now in Foxholes Nursing Home
Bill Detheridge
Renee Moore
Christine Smale
Janet Hawes
Mary Logan



June Neil
The Wills family
Winnie Ritchie

Chris McDonnell – we are sorry to hear that Chris has fallen down the stairs and cracked one of her vertebrae. She is in a lot of pain and we ask for your prayers just now. We trust that she will receive some relief and soon be free of pain.

Death

We are sorry to record that Audrey Wilkin died recently. Her funeral was held on Friday 18 January. We send our condolences to all the family.

We have many newcomers joining us now and we are looking for extra people to assist with Pastoral care. If you are interested and feel you can offer to have a small group to care for please contact either Marian Matthews or Rev Mark to find out what it entails. I have found it a privilege and a pleasure to be involved in this service.

Marian Matthews
Pastoral Secretary

NEWS

Changes to Ministerial Cover in the Circuit

Due to unavoidable circumstances within the Circuit Ministerial Team there are to be changes in Ministerial cover previously allocated to churches within the Poole Bay Methodist Circuit.

There is a complete list for all churches available from the stewards; the first name listed under each church has pastoral oversight e.g. Rev Dr Mark Kimber for Poole Methodists. The other name/s listed are available for additional support and/or Governance.

The main change for Poole Methodists is that Rev Sue Gowling is no longer part of the Ministerial Team for Poole Methodists. She will provide main pastoral oversight for Broadstone, Lytchett Minster and Wool, and support Swanage.

Deacon Suzie Viana and Deacon Sarah Wickett will serve as Deacons across the whole circuit, although Sarah's focus is currently still Poole, Upton and Broadstone.

We ask that Poole Methodists pray for our circuit presbyters with their increased pastoral and Governance responsibilities.

The next few months allocated cover for Poole Methodists is listed below.

Poole Methodists	Pastoral Oversight	Additional Support/ Governance
December 2018 - April 2019	Rev Dr Mark Kimber	Rev Tony Cavanagh Rev Betto Viana
May - July 2019	Rev Dr Mark Kimber	Rev Tony Cavanagh

Events for your Diary in February

Every Tuesday 10.15am – 12pm at The Spire

InSpire Daytime Voices

A new daytime singing group based at The Spire. A no pressure, no audition mixed voice choir for ages 18+. £4 per week. Run by Poole & Parkstone productions. Please contact Clare/Jane on 07956 996656. More info at www.pandp.org.uk



Saturday 9 February, 3.30 – 5.30pm in Wesley's Café at The Spire

Family Board Game Café

Please come along and enjoy board games and supper. Suggested donation £4 per family. Everyone welcome.

Saturday 9 February at 7.30 pm at New Milton Memorial Centre

VALENTINE CONCERT by Questa Musica Orchestra



Tchaikovsky Romeo and Juliet overture, Sleeping Beauty Waltz, Ravel Bolero, Adagio Spartacus (Khachaturian), Intermezzo from Cavalliera Rusticana, and much more.

Tickets £14 from www.questavoce.com or TicketSource on 0333 666 3366 (booking charges may apply).



Thursday 14 February

Valentine's Day

Love is in the air! Declare your love for that special someone and show how much you care with a thoughtful gift.

Saturday 16 February – **last day for your registration form to be received for Poole Bay Circuit Music Day** – Singing the Faith in the 21st Century – For both musicians and singers – see back cover for full details.



Tuesday 19 February, 1 – 3pm in Hall 1 at The Spire

Bible Superheroes – Jonah

Come and have fun with crafts for free and learn about Jonah and his adventures.

25 February – 10 March

Fairtrade Fortnight

If you don't already, maybe this is the time to start buying Fairtrade products. See page 20 or www.fairtrade.org.uk for further details.



Monday to Saturday at 1pm in the Chapel at
The Spire

For your information and prayers, here is the list of
appointed Leaders in February

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| 1 | tba | | |
| 2 | Kevin Baker | | |
| 4 | tba | 18 | Tricia Knapp URC |
| 5 | David Chamberlain
St Mary's RC | 19 | Rev Paul Hockley
Reconnect |
| 6 | St Clement's Clergy | 20 | Rev Simon Evans, Vicar of Ensbury
Park
Anglican Ecumenical Officer for Dorset,
Chaplain to Dorset Police |
| 7 | Poole Hospital
Chaplaincy | 21 | Andrew Williams
St Mary's RC |
| 8 | Deacon Nick
Johnson RC | 22 | Poole Quakers |
| 9 | tba | 23 | tba |
| 11 | Kate White | 25 | Aline and Henry Larkin |
| 12 | Barry Matthews | 26 | Yvonne Jones
Salvation Army |
| 13 | tba | 27 | Rev Dr Mark Kimber |
| 14 | Joan Jackson | 28 | Geoff Goodman |
| 15 | Maureen McCabe | | |
| 16 | tba | | |

Gerald and Hilda Beddard

THE SPIRE

People are flocking to THE SPIRE these days;
the young, middle-aged and those set in their ways.

They come from afar to meet their friends,
or gather together to say their 'Amens'.

For it's 'CHURCHES TOGETHER' Time Each Day at One,
and I'm sometimes there with them, and we're united as one,
connected together with faith in the Lord;
It's precious time with each other, so why not come?

Hilary Fry

Reflections of Joy and Darkness

'However long the night, the dawn will break.'

African Proverb

'Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished
by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no
hope at all.'

Dale Carnegie

'The walls we build around us to keep out the sadness also keep out
the joy.'

Jim Rohn

'Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the
overcoming of it.'

Helen Keller

MY FAVOURITE CHARITY



Karibuni Children is a charity I keenly support. They currently support children in 24 different schools in Kenya, some of which are special need schools.

The charity was set up by Corinne, daughter of Rev Bill and Joy Murphy, just over 20 years ago. Bill was a Methodist minister who had a connection with this circuit in the past. The family had done a 2-year exchange in Nairobi, which caused Corinne to be concerned about the plight of the young children from the slums who were sleeping rough on the streets and who were denied education because they did not have school uniforms, which were required for all pupils.

I first came across the trust as a result of a fund-raising event at Ashley Road Church. It started with me being able to link PMG Schoolwear on Poole High Street with the charity, so that by contributing stock which they could no longer sell, Karibuni Children were able to give sports kit and uniforms to some of the children in their schools in Kenya.

In 2017 I travelled to Kenya with my next-door neighbour, who is a self-employed electrician, plus 10 others. Both Graham and I were able to re-roof two classrooms and modernise two other classrooms in one school. We went on to do electrical work and build a security fence around another school in the slums of Nairobi.

This month I and another similar group will be building three new classrooms and a storeroom/office for a social worker in Meru, northeast Kenya, near Mount Kenya. If you would like to know about our endeavours, just speak to me on my return!

I would like to express my thanks to everyone who has contributed funds towards the project.

Gerald Beddard

If you would like to find out more or donate to this charity, please visit www.karibuni.org.uk or speak to Gerald

POOLE METHODISTS VIEWS FROM



Mondays 2.30pm to 3.30pm-3.45pm, Hall 1 at The Spire
Poole Methodists Wesley Guild
Annual Membership Fee £5 Weekly Subscription £1.50

4 February	Deacon Sarah Wickett – Work in the Community
11 February	Hilda Beddard
18 February	Roy Carr – Friends of Upton Park
25 February	Mental Health Issues

FAIRTRADE STALL WESLEY'S CAFÉ AT THE SPIRE

We will be in the Café selling Traidcraft and other fairly traded craft items and gifts. Our stock changes all the time – come and see what's new!

Fairtrade helps producers in developing countries to achieve a decent standard of living. Please come and support them.

To celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight, we will be at
The Spire

Wednesday 27 February - Wednesday 6 March

See article on page 20 for further details about
Fairtrade Fortnight

Note the dates and come and buy!

Helen Davis and Sue Weal



REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Building

All the building works are now complete, and we now just have what are known as the "snagging list" items (things to fix which haven't been done quite right!) to complete. Unfortunately, one of the snags (slightly leaky windows in driving rain) has meant scaffolding going up at the front of the building again. However, this will only be for 2-3 weeks.

At the same time, we have been installing things like window blinds and less pretty but equally essential things such as toilet roll holders and soap dispensers! The sound, projection and lights system for The Rose Hall is being installed and the new chairs are due to be delivered on 1st February. We are also in the process of purchasing all the new fire extinguishers, safety and wayfinding signs which we will need to ensure that the upstairs is safe and convenient to use.

The various items of furniture and equipment that we stored offsite will be returned at the beginning of February and any new furniture and equipment for other rooms will be purchased in consultation with users.

People

In early January a small group ran a pilot of a "Welcome Desk" arrangement. A staffed desk was set up in the atrium. Volunteers offered a welcome to visitors to the building and were able to offer written information about Poole Methodists and The Spire. People seemed pleased with the welcome and a chance to chat. It is hoped to begin a regular arrangement of having a staffed Welcome Desk for part of each week, but more volunteers are needed. Please consider whether you can help. This is a really important stage in our journey. As we approach the point where the whole of the building will be operational, it is right that we, as Poole Methodists, step forward and tell visitors how pleased we are to welcome them to The Spire. For those who might be interested, we have an interesting story to tell of the journey which brought us here. If you

are new to our congregation, please don't feel you would not make a good "welcomer". We can soon bring you up to speed with what you might need to know about our history! Please speak to Barry Matthews if you can help by joining the rota of welcomers.

The Christmas period inevitably caused a slow-down in our discussions with potential users of our new rooms upstairs. However, talks with a number of different groups are ongoing and we will keep you posted as to progress.

Fundraising

"So, have we got all the money in yet?" People have been asking us that a lot over recent months. These things are never clear-cut because there are always extras and bits to be added to or deducted from bills before the final reckoning. What we can say though, is that we are nearly there, and that Pete is working hard to ensure that we are getting full value for our money.

It doesn't stop when the building is finished though. It needs to be furnished and equipped so that we can ensure that The Spire is a fit and proper place from which we can live out our promise to: Love God, follow Jesus and serve Community. There are things (such as retractable seating in The Rose Hall) that were put to one side as being "nice to have" but not essential when the construction was going on. The Church can now think about whether or not we want to find the funds to get these things.

Development goes on. Even when the bricks and mortar are paid for, we, Poole Methodists, will want to support the development of the excellent work that goes on here. For this reason, the Church Council came to the decision that the Development Fund should stay open so that we could continue to raise funds to enable us to carry on the work. Over the coming months we'll be sharing more about this work and about the continuing development work at The Spire.

*Kate White, Eifron Hopper, Pete Smith.
Redevelopment Project Leaders*

CHRISTMAS REVISITED

Christmas fades into the past. Christmas lights and decorations stowed away in some dark corner for another year, and sadly, for many, Jesus and all the cherished nativity stories will be locked away with them. However, if these much-loved stories were better understood it would enable us to see that their role is a much wider and deeper one than just offering a short-termed magical, even sentimental, setting for our Christmas celebrations. There are deep truths behind these stories, but these can remain hidden if these stories are simply taken literally. Stories do not have to be literally true to convey a truth. Of course, these stories have an historical setting in time and place, referencing real characters and events, but these are sometimes imaginatively used by the Gospel writers to construct their God driven story and message for their situation.

Marcus Borg, an American Biblical Scholar, often introduced his talks by quoting a North American First Nation storyteller who said, "Things may not have happened quite as I tell the story, but I know that the story is profoundly true." That is how I come to the Christmas stories. The Gospel writers use symbolism, metaphor, reflection and Jewish Midrash (taking old Hebrew stories and events and wrapping them around people and events in the present to discern God's message afresh), all of which gives Scripture a deeply rich dimension. Let us see how Matthew, for instance, uses this approach, particularly Jewish Midrash, and how it takes the reader into an understanding of Matthew's view of Jesus' ministry.

In Matthew's account King Herod's jealous rage seeks to massacre all boys two years and under in an attempt to thwart God's plan, mirroring the death of the firstborn under a stubborn Pharaoh. Luke has none of this but has the family living in blissful peace in the same area. The Jesus story is being replayed, by Matthew, as a new Exodus story with Jesus being presented as the New Moses, fulfilling law and prophecy and leading the people into a new understanding of God's Kingdom. Like Moses, Jesus becomes a refugee, goes into the wilderness for 40 days, echoing the 40 years Israel spent in the wilderness. Like Moses, Jesus climbs a mountain

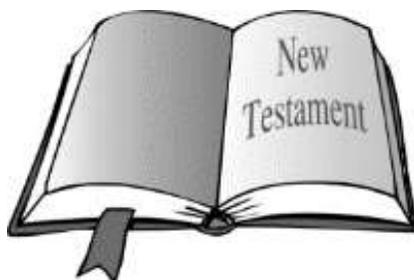
to give a new understanding of God's Law (Sermon on the Mount) and feeds a wandering crowd with bread. Luke has Jesus' sermon given on a flat plain, but Matthew is using it to fit his Moses theme. It is important to understand that Matthew is reframing the setting of Jesus' actions to drive home his message of Jesus being the New Moses leading the people in a new Exodus.

Why was that important to Matthew? He was writing in the mid-80s, fifty plus years after Jesus's death, to a Jewish Christian community whose religious faith in Jesus as the Christ was not to be seen as a denial of their past but as its fulfilment. This was important as the rift between Jewish Christians and their Orthodox brethren had by this time seriously deteriorated. This was the Word of God for that community, Jesus fulfilling the past, enriching the present and bringing hope for their tomorrow.

These stories are the Word of God for us too today as they resonate with our contemporary world. It is a story of poverty, exploitation, fear, massacre and refugees seeking safety in a foreign land. These stories call for a response; an openness to receive visiting strangers, foreign or otherwise. To oppose those who abuse power in whatever context. To be there for the downtrodden and grieving. To find bread in the wilderness for those hungry for justice and hope. To make sure compassion and mercy have their rightful place in our law-making.

These stories need the light of day, every day, and not to be locked away until next Christmas.

Barry Matthews



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – THE GIFT OF PRAYER

‘It’s at times like this, that I wish I were a religious man”, says Homer Simpson, when it seems a comet cannot be stopped from destroying Springfield. In the background, the cartoon embodiment of religion, Reverend Timothy Lovejoy is running away saying ‘It’s all over people, we haven’t got a prayer’.

At the beginning of this week of Brexit debate and vote, it may be tempting to agree with some commentators that disaster looms and we are stuck in a doom-loop. Meanwhile, a number of Christians including myself have been following the lead of the Archbishop of York and regularly praying for the process. But is this a complete waste of time? As someone said to me the other day, ‘What do you expect God to do?’

Now I am not expecting God to change political minds so that they agree with me, as if with ‘God on my side’ my will is done! Nor do I expect that somehow miraculously today God will give MPs an easy and perfect compromise, a Heaven ++ deal.

I do believe, on the basis of the resurrection of Jesus, that God can act in unusual ways in the world. But God’s freedom to act respects his gift of human free-will expressed in democracy, and a degree of unpredictability in the physical processes of the world. For me prayer is located in the interaction of these types of freedom, encouraging me to be open to rather than demanding God’s answer. As Archbishop William Temple once said, “When I pray, coincidences happen, when I don’t, they don’t.”

Some will say that prayer is only a way of calming our minds in the midst of difficult circumstances, fiddling while Rome burns. The trouble is that prayer is much more than that for me. It is in prayer that I feel that God changes my mind and provokes me to action. This is often the case when praying with others. I see new possibilities, am reminded of the importance of grace and generosity, and I become conscious of the needs of others compared with my own. Prayer stimulates hope and subverts the

fatalism of nothing can be done. Today the current Archbishop of Canterbury raises questions to politicians of how a no deal Brexit will affect the poorest and most vulnerable. At the same time, he says that he prays for wisdom, courage and strength for them in such difficult decisions. As a fellow Christian, I too want to use the gift of freedom by participating in the democratic process, without ignoring the possibilities of prayer.

© BBC Radio 4 *Thought for the Day* broadcast of 14 January 2019 by Rev Professor David Wilkinson-

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Services

On the Sunday morning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Poole Methodists welcomed Major Stuart Risdale (from Poole Salvation Army) to lead us in our morning worship. He shared some amusing and magical insights; explaining some biblical concepts such as the various meanings of the Greek word for love – which some of us may continue to associate with the colours – blue, green, yellow and pink!

The evening ecumenical service (held at St Edward's School) was based on the Order of Service prepared by the Church in Indonesia with the theme of "Justice and only justice you shall pursue" (Deuteronomy 16 v 18-20). Christianity is a minority faith in Indonesia and thus the service had special meaning for us, living in a land where Christianity is still seen as the principal faith. The service was led by Rev Penny Draper (St George's, Oakdale) with contributions from several denominations and clergy. Five people from Poole Methodists were present and it was good to catch up with friends and acquaintances from other denominations – sharing a common belief in our Christian faith. Finally, over £400 was received in the offertory at this Churches Together service.

As church attendance is declining in some churches it seems ever more important that we find common ground with our fellow Christians in other denominations across the town.

Andrew Creamer

RESULTS IN 2019

With other campaigners from around the country, and with the leadership of staff at the London office, we continue to advocate for the end of extreme poverty.

This year the UK will be reviewing progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which were agreed in 2015 by all 194 states in the United Nations. Our UK Overseas Aid makes an enormous impact around the world; the number of people living in extreme poverty has halved since the year 2000, and the number of countries classified as Low Income has reduced from 63 in 2000 to 31 in 2016.

But there are still massive problems. Less than half of Nigeria's children have been vaccinated, TB is still the deadliest infectious disease worldwide, and although there are more children enrolled in schools than ever before, many of them are not receiving a satisfactory education. We must also tackle malnutrition, gender inequality and the rights of children with disabilities.

To do all these worthwhile things we need more people, in more places, to take part in our monthly meetings and actions (usually letter writing). Our Poole group is strong, and between us we correspond with five MPs. I can only dream about the effect we might have if there were a Results group in every parliamentary constituency in the country!

So, if you have read this so far, and think that ending poverty would be a pretty good thing to try, see if there is someone you know who might be interested in joining Results in another part of the country. Or come along to find out more and meet us on a Tuesday evening – usually the first in the month.

Helen Davis

www.results.org.uk

Charity number 1015286

Poole Methodists visit MHA Maidment Court 16 December 2018

The re-configuration of the original Care Home at MHA Maidment Court opposite Poole Park is complete and now provides 40 studio rooms with 'well-being' available and 47 privately owned one and two bedroomed apartments.

Some of the residents do not get out much and so any visits are really appreciated and on the morning of Sunday 16 December between 30 and 40 residents of Maidment Court gathered in their lounge to welcome Deacon Sarah and a small group of Explorers, Young People and Adult Helpers.



The group shared greetings, carols and gifts and the visit was much enjoyed. The link between Poole Methodists and Maidment Court was strengthened recently when some of the residents produced a number of knitted Angels to be distributed around the town centre. Deacon Sarah was able to tell Maidment Court how much cheer the Angels had given to shop assistants and customers alike.

It is hoped to find more opportunities for Poole Methodists and Maidment Court to get together.

Janet Baker

National Nest Box Week

National NestBox Week is an established part of the ornithological calendar. Running for a week from 14 February each year, National Nest Box Week encourages everyone to put up nest boxes in their local area in order to support the conservation of our breeding birds. It takes place at a time when tradition has it that small birds pair up ahead of the breeding season



Blue tit in nestbox

Who can take part?

Anyone can take part whether you're an individual or family with space for a box in your garden, a teacher, a member of a local wildlife group, or you belong to a bird club.

When?

Ideally from 14 to 21 February to celebrate National Nest Box Week (NNBW). But you can put up a nest box at any time of the year.

Why take part?

Natural nest sites for birds such as holes in trees or old buildings are disappearing fast as gardens are 'tidied' and old houses are repaired.

Taking part in NNBW gives you the chance to contribute to bird conservation whilst giving you the pleasure of observing any breeding birds that you attract to your nest box.

For more information including how you can build your own nest box or which nest box to buy, and where to site it and take care of it, please visit www.bto.org/about-birds/nnbwnd.

Fairtrade Fortnight – Give Traidcraft a Chance

This year Fairtrade Fortnight will be 25 February – 3 March. Look out for promotional offers in your usual supermarket ... and if they don't have any, shop elsewhere!

Recently Traidcraft suffered a financial setback and the company has had to reduce its workforce and limit the number of different products it can sell; so, it begins this year with leaner staffing and selected grocery products, but a smaller range of craft items.

Traidcraft plc was set up in 1979 and now, forty years later, is once again working hard to build up its ethical business, dedicated to fighting poverty through trade.

What does Traidcraft do? It brings people together, to fight injustice in trade. In its simplest form trade should benefit everyone; goods and money are exchanged, and everyone is better off.

But global trade doesn't work this way – instead it feeds the rich and exploits the poor. It traps people in poverty; people who grow our tea, coffee and cocoa, and people who sew our cheap clothing.

Traidcraft's mission is to challenge the way global trade works, and to create lasting solutions to poverty.

So, come to our stall in Wesley's Café during Fairtrade Fortnight, and try a different, ethical brand of your favourite drink!

Helen Davis and Sue Weal



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(A Women-Led, Global, Ecumenical Movement)

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally at a church near you on Friday 1 March people will gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of Slovenia. One of the smallest and youngest countries in Europe, they encourage us to reflect on the barriers they have faced since the end of the Second World War when their country was a part of Yugoslavia, a Marxist socialist republic. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future.

**Based on Luke 14:15-24 the theme is
"Come – Everything is Ready"**

**The invitation is for everyone –
men, women and children of all ages.**

FRIDAY 1 MARCH

- 10:30am** **Parkstone United Reformed Church**
16 Commercial Road, Poole, BH14 0JW
- 2:30pm** **MHA Maidment Court,**
47 Parkstone Road,
access from Churchfield Road, Poole, BH15 2QW
- 7:30pm** **Skinner Street United Reformed Church**
Skinner Street, Poole, BH15 1RQ

Hilda Beddard

Activ8 is a Christian youth group for young people aged 11+ exploring what it means to live as young disciples of Jesus Christ in the 21st Century, led by Rev Nick 'The Vic' Wood (a Methodist Minister) and his wife Suzannah, with help from Abi.

A wonderful mash-up of fun, faith and friendship every 2 weeks on Sunday night from 6.00 to 7.30 pm @ Nick & Suzannah's home in Winton. For more info please contact Nick and Suzannah: 07801 415692 or activ8@nickthevic.co.uk



SPRING 2019

 <p>JAN 13TH M8Z! </p>	 <p>FEB 24TH Beat It! </p>
 <p>JAN 27TH  plays INDOOR CRAZY GOLF!  Look out for details soon!</p>	 <p>MAR 10TH Desert Survival! </p>
 <p>FEB 10TH You're Worth It! </p>	 <p>APR 7TH Easter Special! </p>

YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 11+ WELCOME!

The Story of Jonah

A Picture for You to Colour



Jonah and the whale
Word Find

VNJKGTWSTNFIVOR
TCNROYEHYBFJDE
IXDDXRHVIOWTIP
GXEODERZPEPJHIE
LHEVENINLOSAXN
WWVDDSXADERXNLT
POAMNOHSAIIPODA
AYLCSWSTORMZJRN
SKDQFPNETSGAKKC
GXGQOKWSYQFRCCE

whale

God

storm

three days

repentance

Jonah

prophet

Nineveh

sea

ship

**Did he sail with Nelson?
Or serve with Wellington?
Or stay at home to tend the fields?
Or preach in Mr Wesley's Chapels?**

Our ancestors lived in exciting times!

Your ancestors – who were they, how and where did they live? What religious practices did they follow? How big was their family? Did they emigrate or immigrate? Would you like to know more about them?

Our ancestors' stories can be, by turns, heart-warming and heart-breaking, full of derring-do or deadening dullness, stories of wealth and flamboyance or abject poverty, but they are **never** less than fascinating.

We never know what we'll find, (one day I'll tell you about "my" murderer, hung at Newgate for killing his wife. My wife has been warned...)

So – how and where to start? Who do you know most about? –
You.

Write down what you think you know. Even the obvious things. Start with these, you'll think of more.

Where and When:

- Your birth and the important life markers that took place, (Baptism / Dedication / Bar Mitzvah / Confirmation, etc.)
- You lived as a child and since, schools attended, qualifications gained.
- Marriage.
- Birth of your own children – the list goes on.

Write it all down. You know it, but will the next generation? Use a bound book, not loose pages that get tatty and lost, nor in a ring bound book, too tempting to rip out a page when you think you've finished with the information on it. Treasure that book, you will refer back to it many times in the months and years ahead and it will end up as a treasure trove of stories, intimate glimpses of other people's lives.

NOW we track backwards; write down what you think you know about your parents' generation.

It's time to talk to **YOLR**. Your **O**ldest **L**iving **R**elative could be parent, aunt or cousin, whoever – talk to them today – while they are still a **living** relative.

Visit them – personal contact is always best when seeking to mine someone's memories. Take along:

- Your notes so far.
- Any Certificates of Birth, Marriage or Death (BMD) you have.
- Photographs of family and of events they were involved in (The Spithead Review, V.E. Day Celebrations...)
- A box of chocolates. (It's not bribery, it's a "Thank You" for their time and willingness to share).

The Interview: Sounds impressive doesn't it? It is an interview but try to keep it informal and low key. We all remember more when we chat and ramble a bit, things come to mind through association. Firing off a string of questions can cause brain freeze.

So, keep it informal, ask if you can tape record the chat, leaving you free to respond, encourage and gently steer the conversation. Slip in one of your listed questions from time to time "Didn't I hear that great uncle Seamus went to Argentina to find his fortune.?" When you get home write it up – word for word, even if you are sure it's wrong – what one contact gets wrong another will delight to correct and expand on.

Always ask to see any documents your subject has, like certificates of BMD, baptism/confirmation; apprenticeship indentures; personal diaries; photographs; Medals and awards. Use your digital camera, you may be allowed to take away the precious items for copying or scanning, but if not take photographs. A plain background, mid colour, not white, good daylight or all-round light, NOT flash and as close as you can get to fit it all in.

NOW you have some parts of the jig-saw that is your family history and there are options for how you go about trying to fill in the missing pieces:

- Puddle along on your own (not recommended).
- Attend a Beginners' Course at your local Family History Society (recommended).
- Go online to search through one of the several major Data Providers e.g. Find My Past, Ancestry, The Genealogist, Family Search etc. (only recommended after you have done the beginners' course).

The recommendation and the conditional recommendation are there because I do not want you to waste time, effort and money; get confused and frustrated (as I did many years ago when I started out) and possibly give up.

Your local Family History Society is run by volunteers who, like you, are interested in their ancestors and their stories. It matters not where you live or where your ancestors did, initially at least the information you need is generic.

In Poole we have the Treetops Research Centre run by Dorset Family History Society. Book a visit and the volunteers will help you with research techniques, try to make sure you are on the right lines and show you how to get the best from the data providers (we have access to all the major firms on our computers). All this and a Library for £3.00 a session!

If you are interested please email contact@dorsetfhs.org.uk, look on our website www.dorsetfhs.org.uk or telephone Treetops on 01202 785623 during opening hours – Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am to 3pm. If your club or group would like a speaker to give you an hour's introduction to getting started please contact us by the same routes.

Genealogy and Family History research are fascinating hobbies and need not be expensive to pursue. If you would like to know something about the people who made you who you are we shall be delighted to help you.

Happy hunting!

David Gynes,

Chairman, Dorset Family History Society

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Please see below details of the proposed readings for the following weeks taken from the Poole Bay Circuit Plan. This information is provided to allow study prior to morning worship for those who wish to do so.

3 February	Miss Kate White	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30
10 February	Rev Betto Viana Holy Communion	Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13) Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11
17 February	Rev Sue Gowling	Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26
24 February	Local Arrangement AAW	Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38
3 March Sunday before Lent	Rev Betto Viana	Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)



Who's Who and how to find them

Church Council:

Rev Dr Mark Kimber	01202 741479
Deacon Sarah Wickett	07801 426483
Treasurer:	Peter Cotgrove
Pastoral Secretary:	Marian Matthews
Secretary:	Melanie Smith
Circuit Steward rep:	Steve Shipton-Ashwell

General Church Meeting Elected Stewards:

Andrew Creamer (Senior Steward)		
Hilda Beddard	Yvonne Butcher	Peter Cotgrove
Denise Gibbs	Cynthia Wall	

General Church Meeting Elected:

Ron Balmer	Edna Daniels	Paul Dredge
Marion Le Poidevin	Barry Matthews	Paul Stigwood
Hilary Windridge		

Church Working Groups:

Worship	Barry Matthews	01202 669427
All Things Youth	Christine Le Poidevin	01202 715829
Social	John Redwood	01202 773362
Communications	Denise Gibbs	01202 669177
Global Perspectives	Helen Davis	01202 741148
Redevelopment	Peter Smith	01202 730673

Younger Member: **Vacancy**

The Spire Centre Manager 01202 916520

Email: spirecentremanager@gmail.com

The Spire Room Bookings 01202 916525

In person at The Spire (Monday to Friday, 9am-3pm)

Email: spirebookings@gmail.com, or write to:

Centre Manager, The Spire, High Street, Poole, BH15 1DF

Pastoral Leader: contact with details of illness or concern

Marian Matthews 01202 669427

Ministerial Team

Rev Dr Mark Kimber Telephone **01202 741479**
Deacon Sarah Wickett Telephone **07801 426483**

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 10.30am MORNING WORSHIP Hall 1 including 'Sunday Explorers' for young people & Crèche
MONDAY - SATURDAY 1pm Together at One, Chapel

ACTIVITIES

MONDAY Prayer @ 10 with Deacon Sarah Wickett 10-10.30am The Chapel Poole Methodists Wesley Guild Janet Cockram 01202 735365 2.30pm (Oct – Apr) Hall 1
TUESDAY Celtic Colours Tricia Creamer 01202 603373 10am-12pm (term-time) Community Room 2 AJ's Funtime Racheal Peck 07766 885612 Parent/carer and child group 1pm-2.30pm Hall 1 (term-time)
WEDNESDAY Friendship Club Heather Cornick 01202 748548 12.45pm St John's Church, Ashley Road
THURSDAY Create, Chat and Celebrate Carrie-Anne Birch 07990975272 A group for women of all ages (babies under one welcome) 9am-12 pm (term-time) Community Room 2 Women's Network Janet Cockram 01202 735365 2.30pm (fortnightly) Buckland Road Baptist Church

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Wesley's 10am-3pm Monday – Saturday

Editorial & Production

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Noah's News welcomes YOUR contributions

Please send your ideas, comments, articles, artwork, poetry, prayers and photos to be included in future issues.

Deadline date for March is 24 February

Please send all contributions to:
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Thank you to all our contributors to Noah's News - we are always pleased and thankful to have your items.

Poole Methodists Mission Statement:

Our calling is to worship and serve God in the power of the Holy Spirit, and to invite people to lead lives inspired by Jesus Christ through our acts of worship, service, care, social action and ministry.

Website: www.poolemethodists.org.uk

Twitter: @poolemethodists

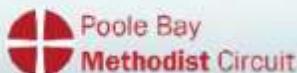
Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/PooleMethodists/>

Poole Bay Circuit Music Day

Sat 16 March 2019 10am to 4pm @ The Spire, Poole

SINGING THE FAITH in the 21st century

- ♪ For both musicians and singers
- ♪ Come along and learn some worship songs from the 21st century
- ♪ Enjoy playing and singing with members from around the circuit
- ♪ Hot and cold drinks will be provided - please bring your own lunch
- ♪ The day will finish with a short service to share what we have learnt
- ♪ The day is free of charge but please complete a registration form to be received by 16 Feb 2019
- ♪ For more information contact Sarah Badley 01202 741479 or Deacon Sarah Wickett 01202 248677



"Spreading God's message of love
through action and word"