

OUTLOOK



***THE JOURNAL OF
WAREHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH***

October 2018



In Ministerial Vacancy

Our Vision

- † To Worship God, Father Son and Holy Spirit
- † To make god's love known to all people
- † To show God's love by the way we lead our lives



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Stewards Rota for October 2018

Date	Elder	2 nd Reader	Vestibule	Flowers
7 th	Janet Communion Brian/Reg	Liz	Felicity/Liz	Sheila
14 th	Marion	Felicity	David/Brian	Shirley
21 st	Shirley	Tom	Liz/Judith	Felicity
28 th	David	John	Marion/Liz	Pat
Nov 4 th	Brian Communion Marion/David	Pat	Pat/Reg	Judith

Thursday Coffee Rota for October 2018

4 th	11 th	18 th	25 th	1 st Nov
Marion/ Sybil	Pat/Reg	Liz	Janet/ Judith	Marion/ Sybil

Thank you to everyone who helps. Please change with someone else if you are not available.

Please send items for the Journal to:
janetcjennings@gmail.com
 by the 12th of the month

Dear Friends,

October 2018

It's a joy to be invited to share some thoughts for your Church Magazine. Before I proceed, may I say how much blessings there is in doing things together, and whether in Swanage or Wareham, the opportunity to develop a healthy relationship between our respective denominations can only be seen as a positive and healthy sign for the days ahead, whatever the pattern of future ministry.

In relation to the world in which we live, with all the modern advances in technology and communication, it seems to me that some people are becoming more callous and downright rude in the manner in which they talk to each other or show total disregard to people and their individual right for respect, often making ill informed criticism to events and circumstances to which they have little or no knowledge.

'A still tongue makes a wise head' says the proverb. Well, in this 'Advanced age'? A 'still finger/thumb' prior to texting, emailing, tweeting' or communicating through the social media, might stop irrational, hurtful, irreversible damaging harm to the recipient and their communities.

Whatever community we are part, locally, nationally and Internationally, Church or secular, I believe we all have a responsibility.

The Revd John Wesley (1703 - 1791) encouraged the people of his century and ours "to do all the good we can. By all the means we can. In all the ways we can. In all the places we can. At all the times we can. To all the people we can, as long as ever we can."

Let's be encouragers and supportive to each other. And be assured, with no strings attached, the 'Good News of the Gospel' is that You are special! And let no one tell you any different.

Finally, and by no means least, both our Churches are going through a transitional time of change in leadership and reorganization. Please be assured of my prayers and support for each fellowship during this period.

May the God who knows us better than we know ourselves; guide and direct according to his blessed Will and purpose.

Thank you for all you do in His name. *"In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct your path"*. (Proverbs 3:6)

Rev. Chris Moreton Purbeck Methodist Churches.

Parable and Paradox



Parable and paradox - neither are quite what they seem. One, a fictitious story with an important hidden meaning; the other an absurd statement on first acquaintance, that becomes more understandable on further thought.

Jesus uses both. On one level he was talking to the crowd whilst training his disciples, (and us), to look beyond the obvious of what he was saying.

Para, a Greek prefix, can mean 'beyond', 'by the side of' as in paraphernalia and parenthesis, as well as parable and paradox. Phurra was a dowry that was due to the husband on marriage under Roman Law, but paraphernalia covered the woman's personal clothes and toilet things that would be uninteresting to a husband. They were things that 'ran alongside' and 'beyond' the dowry. But prefixes are fickle, for 'para' can have other meanings, such as: 'shelter from' as in parasol and parachute. As in many cases, a little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

Why does Jesus use parables and paradoxes? In their own right they are initially arresting and interesting and easily remembered. He is, however, anxious that we should learn to look beyond the obvious. He, Himself, is able to assess the inner man, a person's potential. Hospital scanners and x-rays can separate bones and organs from flesh, but we have only our senses to understand friend and stranger.

Perhaps by training ourselves to 'look beyond the obvious' and 'beyond', we shall glean a truer picture of a companion, perceive the loneliness behind the camouflage, and see the need behind the pretence and so be better able to help.

Marion
Elder Wareham URC

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival took place on September 15th. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers and a table full of fruit, vegetables and packaged products, which were sold off for charity.

After the service, led by Robert Pearce, fourteen people sat down to a delicious lunch cooked by Liz and Shirley.

Donations for the children's work at local charity 'Not Just Sundaes' raised over £150. Many thanks to anyone who contributed in any way.



Harvest Humour

Why shouldn't you tell a secret on a farm?

Because the potatoes have eyes and the corn has ears!

Why did the scarecrow win the Nobel Prize?

Because he was out standing in his field!



Preachers' List for October

7 th	October	Margaret Leivesley (Communion)
14 th	October	John Walker
21 st	October	Richard Baker
28 th	October	Brenda McCarron



Please remember all these ministers of the Word in your prayers.

Refreshments

are served every Sunday morning in the Guild Room after the service.
Please join us if you can.

Visitors please sign the visitors' book.

Thursdays at 10.30 am

there is a 20 minute Shoppers' Service in the church followed by coffee.

Prayer requests to Janet 555108 please.

Everyone is welcome to share the fellowship.

The Good Shepherd



I expect some of you remember when there were lots more fields around Wareham, some of them used for grazing sheep. Or maybe you grew up in a big city, like I did, where there were no fields. My mother, born in 1913, would describe the area where we lived in South London as surrounded by fields when she was young, fields with sheep grazing.

We do not have to know much about farming to understand Jesus when he says 'I am the Good Shepherd' who would lay down his life for his sheep. In biblical times the sheep pen would have an opening and after the shepherd had got all the sheep in the pen, he would sit by the opening to protect his sheep from danger. If however the shepherd did not own the sheep, but was looking after them for others, Jesus says, he is likely to run away at any sign of danger. Jesus is the Good Shepherd and we are his sheep, his children, who he will sustain and protect, just because we are his. He even knows us by name because we are his and he watches over us and loves us.

Everything changes doesn't it? Fields disappear to make way for houses and other buildings or roads. As we grow older we find change more and more difficult. Maybe we lose friends or family, our bodies become more frail, so we can't do the things we used to do.

God is the good shepherd; he knows us all by name, he knows our joys and difficulties and he loves us for just being ourselves. We don't have to do anything or be anyone, because God accepts all of us. Whatever we have done or not done, God loves us. We are precious to God because we are his, his children and as St Paul said, 'nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.'

Every blessing - Janet

We serve the whole community every day of the week and we welcome you to our services and activities.

MONDAY:

Splitz Studios (dance school for all ages) 4.00 – 7.15 pm

The Wareham Choral Society 7.30- 9.45 pm

Band Practice 6.30 – 9.00 pm

TUESDAY:

We continue to offer a **cooked lunch** to all who live alone and enjoy the support which friendship gives. This is an unbroken service we have offered for over 30 years, thanks to a small group of volunteers; and is available every other week.

Splitz Studios 3.45 – 7.30 pm

WEDNESDAY:

Daisy Chain Fitness 2.00 - 4.00 pm

Splitz Studios 3.45 – 6.15 pm and 7.30 – 8.30 pm

Dorset Buttons 7.45 – 9.45 pm (winter only)

Boys Brigade Anchors 6.15 – 7.15 pm

THURSDAY:

Wareham Home Producers Market 8.30 – 11 am

(local food, produce and handmade items)

Thursday Service 10.30 am – 20-minute service to which everyone is welcome.

Refreshments in the small hall from 10.00 - 11.45 am open to all.

Fair Trade Stall (1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays) 10.30 – 11.45 am

Discussion Group 1st and 3rd Thursdays 12 noon

Splitz Studios 4.00 – 7.00 pm

Town Band rehearsals 7.00 – 10.00 pm

FRIDAY:

Daisy Chain Fitness 2.00 – 4.00 pm

Melodies for Memories 1st and 2nd Friday 10.30 – 12 noon

(friendly sing-along with a musician; drop in or call Jules on 07342 88344)

Splitz Studios 4.15 – 5.45 pm

Badminton Club 7.45 – 9.45 pm

SATURDAY:

Splitz Studios 10.00- 12.45 pm

The halls are available for hire for local events.

SUNDAYS:

We meet at 10.30am for an inspirational service followed by refreshments.

Details of Church services are in the magazine

We thank all those who contribute to these activities and services.

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Dates for your Diary ~ October 2018

Lunch Club

Tuesdays 2nd and 18th October

Please contact Liz on 01929 459440 if you would like to join

Discussion Group

Thursdays 4th and 18th October

12 noon in the small hall. All welcome.

Elders Meeting

Thursday 11th October ~ 11am

Synod Meeting

Saturday 13th October

(see Brian if you want to go)

Sunday 14th October

Joint service with the Methodists at Wareham URC

Led by John Walker 10.30am

Saturday 4th November

(postponed from September)

Church Open Afternoon 2 - 4pm

Everyone is needed on this special afternoon,
so please come if you can.

The church and the hall users will be showcasing their activities.

There will be a short service, children's activity stall
and refreshments.

***For other events, please look at the notice board
or listen to notices in church***