**WARMINSTER UNITED CHURCH**

**(Methodist /URC)**

**George Street BA12 8QA**

**Minister: Revd David Coppard**

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**Bookings & room hire: tel 07506065235**

Dear Friends

 It is good to be here in Wiltshire, thank you for your kindness and especially for your prayers both on my visit last November and also since moving here, already it feels like home.  Although I have moved from North Devon the area is partly familiar as a previous appointment was in Blandford Forum and also my sister lives near Radstock.

This September sees a significant milestone as exactly half my life will have been spent in full-time ministry, much of which has been ecumenically focussed.  I come from a family of both Methodists and United Reformed members.  My former main church in Devon was a United Church.  I also have spent 6 years as the Methodist Ecumenical Officer for Dorset as well as sharing in worship at a variety of United Reformed Churches in both Somerset and Devon.

The call to ministry first began when I was a child, though crashing out of school at 16 with just one O Level in woodwork meant employment as a carpenter apprentice, interestingly my first construction site was just over the county border in Frome.  Eventually I returned to full-time education and then worked for Social Security in Taunton for a number of years working with single parents, those unemployed as well as with people who were retired or widowed.  From there began the journey into ministry, which now has brought us together.  It will be so good to work with you over the coming months and years as together we seek to take further footsteps in our journey of Christian discipleship and commitment and discover more of God's kingdom.

May God’s blessing be upon us all.

Rev David.

**A warm welcome to our new Minister Rev David Coppard** who we look forward to getting to know and sharing his ministry.

His official Welcome service will be at Westbury Methodist Church on 9th September at 5 p.m. This service will be followed by tea giving everyone a chance to mix and talk to one another.

![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\MM12AMJR\MC900048044[1].wmf]() Here at Warminster we will have a chance to meet David before this as he is leading the communion service here on the morning of the 9th.

**CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

**Welcome:**To **Andy Simmons**from Banbury, living at Homeminster House, **Gabriella Nici** from Romaniaworking in Warminster and **Hannah Kangethe** who has been studying pharmacy in Manchester and is now on a year's placement  living in Warminster and working in Westbury.    We hope they will find fellowship with us as we worship the Lord together. Also welcome to Abi White, David and Ruth Dodge's daughter and her sons Matthew and Ethan, who have moved back to Warminster. The boys have joined the young people's group at Christchurch and the family are also joining us in worship. We wish them well as they start their new school life at Kingdown and Abi starts her new job at Bath College.

**Dennis Stevens**has now been received into Membership and is getting involved with many of the church's activities.

**Congratulations:** To**Portia**and **William Akuffo** whose baby Wilma safely arrived on 29th July.

**Your prayers are asked for** the protection and safe return of **Rudolph Glover, Augustine Forkuo**, and **William Akuffo,**serving in Afghanistan with the 3rd Yorks.

**Your prayer and support** are also asked for **Tony**and **Margaret Reade, Howard** and **Audrey Spurr** and **Hazel Andrews** who have been unable to be with us at church recently. Also **June Laird** who is struggling with various health issues and **Beryl Pimm** in hospital while she and **Arthur** find the best way forward.

**CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL**.

![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ELMCX68Z\MM900283482[1].gif]()We will once again be sending Christmas shoe boxes to Bulgaria through Trusssell Trust this year.

**A COFFEE MORNING IN SUPPORT OF THIS WILL BE ON SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER.  OFFERS OF HELP AND ITEMS FOR SALE WILL BE APPRECIATED.**

Please start collecting and covering shoeboxes and bringing them along to the church

There will be a collecting box for items to go in the shoe boxes at the coffee morning and each Sunday from then on.

Pam Copeland is coordinating this project this year and would appreciate all the help and support possible!

![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\MM12AMJR\MC900439767[1].png]()![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\MM12AMJR\MC900356397[1].wmf]()We are only filling boxes for children and teenagers this year.

![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ZCFJGY92\MC900432655[1].png]()![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ELMCX68Z\MC900300219[1].wmf]()ITEMS NEEDED INCLUDE: **Small toys**, **sweets** , **toiletries** (eg. soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, flannels, combs**),hats, gloves, small scarves**, **socks**, **pants/knickers**, **stationery** eg. pencils, pens, notepads, **hair accessories/cheap jewellery** for girls**.**

Completed shoe boxes have to be taken to Salisbury mid November so look out for the date and time of a box packing session before then!



is holding a coffee morning in our church

Sat 20th October 10 a.m to 12 noon

Please come along and support this worthy cause

This is an extra coffee morning in addition to the regular monthly charity coffee mornings on the 2nd Saturday each month.

**CHURCH FINANCES**

I am sure that everyone is aware that we have recently had a great deal of expense to get our Boiler and Heating sorted out (£5275 in Total).  I have also had the details of our Assessment for the next 12 months.  This has increased by £1176, which means we now have to make a payment to the area of £384 per member per year (over £7 per week!)

As a church we are lucky that we have reserves to make up any shortfall, but these are diminishing.  May I ask everyone to review their giving to the Church with this in mind.  You can pay your offering by standing order or join the envelope scheme (this is a commitment to give a weekly donation even if you are not in church), which guarantees the church a regular income in order to pay our outgoings.  You can also Gift Aid your offering which returns us an extra 25% on your total annual donations.  Last year we claimed back over £3000.

 Please ask me if you would like information on any of these schemes.

With thanks to everyone for your support.

Hilary Reynolds

Treasurer

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**DO YOU LIKE TO SHARE A MEAL WITH FRIENDS?**

**Do you ever wish you could get to know others at church better?**

Helen Dawson has suggested that maybe church members and friends would like to invite others for dinner or lunch from time to time as a simple charity fund raising opportunity which also helps us get to know one another.

If anyone is interested in either hosting a meal, or attending one please have a chat with Helen. She suggests that people attending should pay something around £5 and that the host can take the cost of the meal from this and any surplus should go either to the church or a chosen charity.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL- 7th October**

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**Service at 10.30**

**led by Rev David Coppard**

**Followed by**

**a Bring-and-Share lunch**

**Look out for the board to write up what you would be able to bring for the lunch.**

**As usual we will be collecting non perishable foods for Warminster & District Foodbank.**

Foods needed by the Foodbank which go into the emergency boxes handed out are:

Cereals, UHT Milk, Instant mash potatoes ,fruit juice, sugar, pasta, pasta sauce, biscuits & biscuit/choc bars, tea bags, coffee, rice, snack noodles

**Tins of** ; vegetables, fruit, tomatoes, rice pudding, sponge puddings , meat, fish, baked beans.

(Soup also goes into the boxes but at the moment there is plenty in the Foodbank store)



 WARMINSTER UNITED AREA

**HELP!**

**It’s a Local Arrangement**

What to do when there is a Local Arrangement

Saturday 6th October 2012

2 pm to 4-30 pm

at

Melksham United Church

What is Worship?

Workshops on

Leading Prayer

Choosing Hymns

Presenting the Word

Sharing Resources

Sharing How Your Church

Has Filled a Local Arrangement

Who should come?

 Anyone who might be responsible for a L A in your Church

 Stewards, Elders, Worship Leaders ...

If you think you already know what to do, come anyway and help those who are less confident

**Christmas in coming.........From September![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ELMCX68Z\MC900383358[1].wmf]() THE CHOIR will be practicing every Saturday morning at 10.30 to be ready for all the wonderful musical opportunities of that season! New members welcome!**

**Music in Worship Day, 10 November** A day of workshops, presentations and worship is taking place in the Wiltshire Music Centre in Bradford on Avon on Saturday 10th November.

The key-note speaker will be **ANDREW MARIES** who will also be leading workshops.
Cost for the day, including lunch is £15 with concessions.

The day begins at 9.30am and ends at 4.00pm with tea and cake!

Workshop Leaders are: Andrew Maries, Nigel Groome, Michael Ford, Trevor Jarvis,Robert Fielding, Chris Totney, Sal McDougall and Stephen Ball.

Workshops will include:

* Use of Psalmody in worship
* Plainchant, a beginner's guide
* How to use instruments in worship
* Composing for worship
* Finding your musical niche
* The Minstrel Gallery
* Using limited resources for excellent results
* Workshop for Volunteer Organists
* The use of music in alternative worship

*and more!!* If you are interested in booking for the day, please contact Danela Adams: Email danela.adams@salisbury.anglican.org
Telephone 01380 729808.

BERT COLGRAVE 1928 to 2012

Herbert Francis Colgrave born on 1st November 1928, in Wickford, Essex, the eldest of Hilda and Herbert Colgrave’s three children. He was 8 when the family moved to Newbury Park, in Ilford, where Bert’s school report showed that ‘he was a diligent boy and very well liked.’ Fitting into new surroundings and making new friends was an attribute that remained with Bert throughout his life.

When war broke out in 1939 his parents decided that the children would be safer staying with the relatives in Cambridgeshire rather than at home in the London area. Between 1939 and 1941, the Colgrave children, like numerous others, became evacuees. Mum made regular visits to them and Dad whenever possible.

In '41 the family moved to Stow-cum-Quy. Bert loved the outdoors and enjoyed cycling ,walking, Scouting and the Air Training Corps. The ATC and watching spectators being taken for joy rides in a Tiger Moth plane near their home that gave Bert a lifelong interest in aircraft.

He was educated at Bottisham Village College where he especially enjoyed science and gardening which became very much a feature in his life. At 14 Bert started his first job, at the Cambridge University Chemical Labs then moved to the Path lab where he found his niche.

In 1947 he was called up for national service and joined the Royal Army Medical Corps, finishing his two years service in the rank of sergeant. After his national service he joined the Territorial Army and was a member of a Field Ambulance unit serving with them in the UK, Germany and Belgium for 26 years, ending his service in the rank of captain. He was awarded the Territorial Efficiency medal for service in the ranks, and the Territorial Decoration for his twelve years service as an officer.

In 1953 he married Mary and his daughter Kay was born in 1959, at this time he was chief technician at the Equine Research Lab in Newmarket. In 1960 he moved to the Ministry of Defence establishment at Porton Down where he remained until his retirement. Bert often spoke with great fondness of the friends he had made and worked with at Porton Down.

Jean and Bert married in 1982 and in 1983 made a home for themselves in Warminster. Bert, a keen gardener was Chairman of the Warminster Gardening Club, treasurer of the Basketball club, a keen golfer and a most enthusiastic member of the North Nibley Romania Team. The Romanian children adored him and thought of him as their very own ‘Mister Bert’.

Bert Colgrave was honest, straight forward, loyal and inoffensive. A gentleman and pure pleasure to be with, a truer friend you could not wish for. All of this was topped with a delightful sense of humour. He will be missed by many.

**SERVICES SEPT - NOVEMBER 10.30 A.M.**

**SEPTEMBER**

2nd: Jacky Williams

9th: Revd David Coppard HOLY COMMUNION

16th: Tom Hill

23rd: Pat Smith

30th: Revd Alison Morley

**OCTOBER**

7th: Revd David Coppard HARVEST FESTIVAL

14th : Revd Heather Morgan HOLY COMMUNION

21st: Peter Walker

28th : Local arrangements \* see weekly notices for details

**NOVEMBER**

4th: John Williams

11th: Revd David Coppard HOLY COMMUNION

18th: Local arrangements\* see weekly notices for details

25th Revd David Coppard

**ONE WORLD WEEK EVENTS**

 **Wednesday 17th October 7.30 p.m.**

**Oliver Dowding speaking on Sustainability**

**hosted by Mere Garden Club**

**£2 entry for non-Garden Club members**

 **Sat 20th October 11-3p.m One World Fair**

 **Tuesday 23rd October 7.30p.m.**

**Film: The Age of Stupid sponsored by SW Co-operative Society**

**All in The Grove Building, Church Street ,Mere BA12 6DS**

Rota for Opening the Church

October November December

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 7thPauline Howell | 4thBarry Treadwell | 2ndMarion Barton |
|  | 11th Karen Woollard | 9th Joan Jones |
| 21Diane Bennie | 18thBrenda Goodwin | 16thPauline Howell |
| 28Joan Stevens | 25thHelen Dawson | 23rdHilary Reynolds |
|  |  | 30thDiane Bennie |

If any of these dates are inconvenient please swap!

 Message from the Area meeting:

The Area is urgently in need of Property Stewards. Following the death of Lorna Letters and the retirement of Geoff Mann at the end of August (he in fact stayed in post an extra year to facilitate replacement) there will be no one filling these appointments. A job description is available. If anyone is interested in helping fill this post the Area Officers would love to hear from you.

 Prayer

![C:\Users\Joan and Evan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ZCFJGY92\MC900048046[1].wmf]()Would you like to join the church in prayer? Maybe like many of us you cannot get to the prayer meeting in the foyer on Fridays at 3.30pm. But in your heart you would like to be there. Why not join us by praying where you are.

**PRAYING WHERE YOU ARE**

This means at work, at home, in the garden, in the car, on holiday - you can pray with the rest of the church, all of us together, at the same time.

The Wendy House Group is studying Great Prayers of the Bible and we chose 3 times in the week when we might be able to join many members of our church in prayer. You might not be able to pray at each time, but choose one that fits around your own busy life.

**3.30pm on Fridays** – praying where you are for our church meetings (Sewing Group, Bible Studies, Worship); praying where you are for friends you know are sick or in distress; praying for world issues.

**6.30pm on Sundays** – praying where you are for our town, the schools, churches, hospital services, shops and industry.

**12noon on Monday** – praying where you are for peace: peace in our town, in our nation, in the world - offering our prayers with the prayers of the Christians meeting in St Lawrence’s chapel every Monday at noon.

**LET’S START THIS SEPTEMBER TO PRAY WHERE WE ARE, TOGETHER.**