

SPRING

March to May 2018

**WARMINSTER UNITED
CHURCH**

(Methodist/URC)

George Street, Warminster BA12 8QA



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SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES 10.30 a.m.

MARCH

- 4th : Margaret White**
- 11th : Rev A. Ward Jones**
- 18th : Rev Susan Holden HOLY COMMUNION**
- 25th : Rev David Coppard ALL AGE WORSHIP – Palm Sunday**

APRIL

- 1st : Rev Heather Morgan HOLY COMMUNION –EASTER DAY**
- 8th : Rev David Coppard ALL AGE WORSHIP**
- 15th : Rev Mike Burrell**
- 22nd : Rev David Coppard**
- 29th : Rev Susan Holden**

MAY

- 6th : Rev Mary Teed**
- 13th : Local arrangements**
- 20th : Rev David Coppard HOLY COMMUNION**
- 27th : Tom Hill**

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**Wednesday morning services 10.15 a.m. weekly**

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Children are welcome at all services . On Sunday mornings (other than All Age Worship weeks) they can join in their own age appropriate activities in the foyer for part of the service.

AFTER ALL MORNING SERVICES ALL ARE INVITED TO STAY FOR A FURTHER TIME OF FELLOWSHIP ,TO SHARE COFFEE/TEA AND BISCUITS AND TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER.

There is no charge for the refreshments but any donations towards the cost of providing them is gratefully received.

Dear Friends

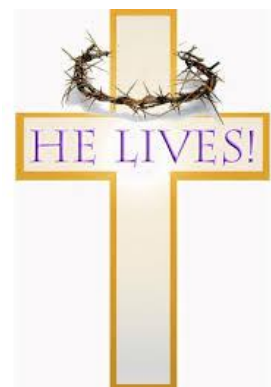
Compiling these thoughts on a very cold Ash Wednesday in the middle of February with the rain lashing down it feels a very sombre beginning to Lent. Traditionally this is a time for inward spiritual reflection, not least the concept of having to recall Good Friday and allowing Christ to die for us!

Within the Gospels there are many occasions when Jesus refers to his impending death, one of those in John 12 states, “a grain of wheat remains no more than a grain of wheat unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. Powerful imagery! A few verses later he says, “Whoever wants to serve me must follow me, so that my servant will be with me where I am.” This brings home that our faith demands we each have to make personal sacrifices to be a follower of Christ, in-effect an individual choice to live not solely for ourselves but for the God who created us, redeemed us and loves us to the uttermost. It is a theme taken up in the annual Covenant Service which states,

“I am no longer my own but yours. Your will, not mine be done in all things, wherever you may place me, in all that I do and in all that I may endure; when there is work for me and when there is none; when I am troubled and when I am at peace. Your will be done when I am valued and when I am disregarded; when I find fulfilment and when it is lacking; when I have all things, and when I have nothing. I willingly offer all I have and am to serve you, as and where you choose. Glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. May it be so forever. Let this covenant now made on earth be fulfilled in heaven.”

It is not hard to imagine Jesus praying a similar statement during his earthly ministry, especially in the months and weeks leading towards that first Good Friday.

As we again journey through Holy Week, as we again have to witness the pain and grief of a blood-splattered cross, a torn and broken body lying dead in a tomb and then the hope of life on Easter morning may we find within ourselves not only the joy that Easter day brings but also the commitment that it calls us to have ... *“you are mine and I am yours...”*



Wishing you peace

Rev David J Coppard



PALM SUNDAY – 25th March - 10 .30 a.m.: All Age Worship

**MAUNDY THURSDAY 29th March:
Joint service, at our church, with friends from the
Baptist church**



Jesus said to his disciples.
"Do this in remembrance of me."

**GOOD FRIDAY – 20th March :
Churches Together in Warminster Walk of Witness
through the town**



**Will start at 10.30 at the Baptist Church then walk to the
library, post office, Three Horse Shoes Mall, Atheneum, and
St Lawrence's by 11.30 where there will be a final song and
prayer**

EASTER SUNDAY 1st April:



9 a.m. Easter Breakfast .

**10.30 a.m. Morning service including
communion**



**ALL CHURCH MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO
A CHARITY SOUP LUNCH**

FRIDAY 6TH April 12 noon - 2 pm

This lunch will be hosted by the 1st Friday Fellowship to raise money for their chosen charity. All are welcome, bring your friends along too.



Cost £5 per person (includes soup with roll, cheese & biscuits, fresh fruit and tea/coffee.)

1st Friday Fellowship



Our monthly meetings continue to be popular with membership now at 30. Instead of guest speakers, during the next few months members who feel able are going to give 'Living Eulogies' to get to know and support each other better.

Choir

Over the past years a small choir - usually ladies only - has sung at the annual Carol Service. Sometimes, the choir has also enhanced our worship by singing a new hymn or anthem during a Sunday morning service. We will be doing this again by singing on 25th February & future occasions.

Practice dates are printed on the weekly Notice Sheet or announced at morning worship and are usually on a Saturday morning. Do please, feel free to join us if you enjoy singing!



Each of the choir has a black folder to contain their music but many folders seem to have disappeared along with some of our music!

If you are a former choir member, please can you check whether you still have a folder or music. Thank you!

Heather

JAM (Jesus and Me)

As a church we continue to work with the children, on a weekly basis. In December we followed the birth of Jesus and in January Jesus' childhood. During February we looked at miracles and then LENT, including Jesus' baptism by John and the temptations in the wilderness. Helen Richards is having to take a break from this for a while so if there is anyone else who would like to help and go on the rota to lead sessions we would be pleased to hear from you. Having been awarded a grant for Children's Outreach (activity days) we are planning an Easter event.



FREE EASTER ACTIVITY DAY

**For children aged 4 – 10 with a parent/carer
Tuesday 3rd April 9.45 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.**

“CHARLIE SEES IT ALL!”

As he flies back and forth to his nest, Charlie sees all the events around the Garden tomb as they happen on the First Easter Morning.



Children will hear the story and join in Craft activities, an Easter Egg hunt, songs and a buffet lunch.

Room for 25 children, booking recommended.

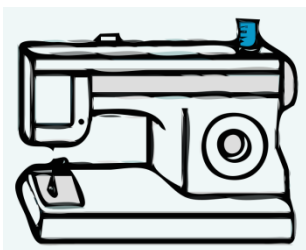
If you feel able to help with this in any way please speak to Penelope, Joan Jones or Marion Hornby.

SUMMER WALKS

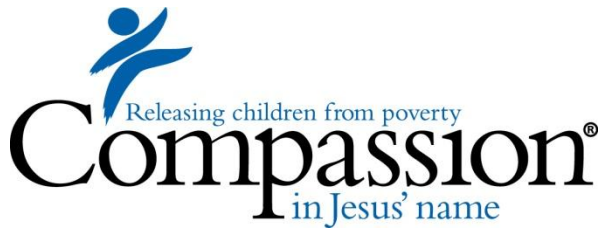
It would be good to start going on our summer evening walks from late April. Ideas for routes and meal venues would be welcomed, as would offers to lead walks. Please let Joan Jones have your thoughts

Rota for Church April, May and June, 2018

April	Vestry (V)/ Opening(O)	Books/Welcome	Coffee	Flowers
1 Easter	Karen O/V	Muriel May and Margaret Edwards	Brenda and Ron	Flower Team
8	Pauline O/V	Sylvia and Dennis	Mary and Barry	Helen Richards
15	Marion Barton O/V	Dennis and Pat Mills	Helen and Kevin	Mary Treadwell
22	Sue Hewitt O/V	Andy Simmons and Arthur Pimm	Wendy and Diana	Sandra Mathews
29	Hilda O/V	Jack and Penelope Harrison	Helen Richards Marion Barton	Margaret McDonalds
May				
6	Barry O/V	Erica Castle and Christina Walton	Mary Treadwell and Claire Johnson	Jean Colgrave
13	Brenda O Helen V	Pauline and Anita	Brenda and Ron	Helen Dawson
20	Marion Barton O/V	Paula and Stuart	Helen and Kevin	Hilda Hanks
27	Joan J. O Karen V	Pam and Derrick Copeland	Joan and Evan	Pat Mills
June				
3	Diana O Pauline V	Muriel May and Hilary	Diana and Wendy	Claire Johnson
10	Karen O/V	Dennis and Pat Mills	Pam Copeland and Paula Johnson	Joan Jones
17	Barry O/V	Sandra Matthews and Claire Johnson	Brenda and Ron	Erica Castle
24	Sue Hewitt O/V	Andy and Arthur Pimm	Hilda Hanks and Hilary	Helen Richards



An appeal from Area Meeting for any unused sewing machines which along with tools are 'saved' by Tools for Self Reliance who send them to Africa where they aid folk to become self sufficient. (Ask Karen who to contact)



Compassion is a Christian organisation and has been in operation for 65 years. Their aim is for each child to have one sponsor so that a relationship can be built up through

letters and sharing bible verses. I saw Compassion at work in Uganda last year and I know that all money is well spent. The £25 a month that I send to each of the 2 children I sponsor pays for their school fees, uniform, plus food and medical checks for all the family. It also pays for them to go to a project each Saturday to learn life skills and ways to earn money. Each project is church based so they learn about Jesus too.

The boy I went to Uganda to meet is called Tumusiime and he is now 16. He loves to play football but has no boots so cannot do any training. He was trying to save up for some so when I returned home I sent a gift of £25. He soon replied and he bought:-

Football boots, Shirt and Trousers, Sandals and Socks, Sweets, 2kg sugar, 1kg Salt and paid for some transport.

It is amazing how far my £25 went!!

There are magazines and leaflets about Compassion in the Foyer so please take one if you want more information.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who contributed and helped with the coffee morning on 19th Feb.

The final total was £332 raised for the Child Survival programme

Why the child survival programme is so important:

Everyday a shocking 17,000 children under the age of five die, most from completely preventable causes.

It's heart-breaking that often the simplest of interventions like basic healthcare, hygiene and sanitation, vaccinations, nutritious food and safe water could have prevented these deaths. It's to save these precious children that our Child Survival Programme exists. We make sure we reach babies and their families early, even before they have been born if possible. We provide Mentoring, Critical Medical Resources, Baby and Toddler Supplies, Emotional Support Basic Nutrition and Spiritual Guidance .

Marion Hornby

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**the Area Project - £2,828.40 donated to date which would have the Government 'doubling'. 'Send a cow' is celebrating 30 years with a Celebration Thanksgiving Service in Wells Cathedral on 28<sup>th</sup> June, 7.00pm, booking necessary**

## CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS 2018

|                           | Charity                       | Organiser      | Raised |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--------|
| January 13 <sup>th</sup>  | Epilepsy Action               | Claire Johnson | £205   |
| February 10 <sup>th</sup> | Compassion                    | Marion Hornby  | £332   |
| March 10 <sup>th</sup>    | Warminster Stroke Club        | Elaine Hunter  |        |
| April 14 <sup>th</sup>    | Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund | Pam & Derrik   |        |
| May 12 <sup>th</sup>      | Christian Aid                 | Karen          |        |
| June 9 <sup>th</sup>      | Water Aid                     | Helen Richards |        |
| July 14 <sup>th</sup>     | Guide Dogs                    | Anita          |        |
| August 11 <sup>th</sup>   | Cancer Research               | Penelope       |        |
| September 8 <sup>th</sup> | People Against Poverty        | Joan Jones     |        |
| October 13 <sup>th</sup>  | Rwanda Education              | Karen Woollard |        |
| November 10 <sup>th</sup> | Shoebboxes                    | Joan Jones     |        |
| December 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Riding for the Disabled       | Paula Johnson  |        |

Charity coffee mornings - 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month 10a.m to 12  
Offers of help and contributions of cakes are always welcome.

### News from Churches Together in Warminster Meeting reported by Karen

**Wellspring** – Baptists Reaching out to the community 'to build each other up', Meeting term times on Wednesdays 12.15 to 3.15 at the Baptist Church. £3 entry. A warm welcome to anyone who might benefit from exercise towards mobility, board games with a good meal. Your prayer support is asked for.

**Refugee Support Group** – After one year we have three families who, with the Wiltshire Council, are being supported in settling into our area. DBS problems and Wiltshire Council have limited the number of volunteers but generally things are working well and this has been an inspiring experience.

**Women's World Day of Prayer** – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2pm at Baptist Church.

**Homelessness in Warminster** was discussed – asking :what are we doing? There is no structure in our town. Cornerstone is heavily involved with many of the homeless people and Wiltshire Council has a member of staff responsible. Ideas were put forward and be discussed at next CTW meeting.

### **Treasurers Report**

I am pleased to report our last 3 months income from Offerings:

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| November | £1959.90 |
| December | £1880,60 |
| January  | £1759.54 |

These figures are supported by our income from letting the Cameo Room as our average monthly outgoings amount to £2427.00.

The next set of Offering envelopes will start in April so if anyone would like to use them please let me know. I can also help if you would like to pay by Standing Order. If you are a taxpayer you can Gift Aid your donation which gives the church an extra 25% . If anyone who Gift Aids stops being a taxpayer or changes their address please let us know as we have to keep our information up to date.

I can also advise the very generous giving from our church over Christmas for several charities. Our Christmas Card raised £180 for Shelter ( as usual), this was supplemented by our Christmas Day service collection of £110 so we gave Shelter a total of £290. Our Carol Service raised £220 for Send a Cow- the area charity this year, this was doubled by the Government. Finally our Crib raised £70 for the Warminster Food Bank Christmas Boxes.

Thank you all for your generous giving and support, I am always available to help if anyone needs advice.

*Hilary*

**Your help  
is needed!**

**Hilary needs an assistant!! She will unavoidably be missing from church several weeks this year and needs someone to take charge of the collection money etc when she is not there.**

**If you think you could help her out please have a word with her.**

## THE SOUND OF SUNDAYS BY DAVID PROWSE

Submitted by Heather Morgan

Every now and then, as I trekked homeward from the cove  
Along the land towards the chapel stile,  
I'd hear the sound of Sundays drifting down upon the breeze  
And I'd lean against the granite wall and smile.  
My mother played the organ at the service every week  
But, upon a whim on any given day,  
She'd camouflage her working clothes beneath her Sunday coat,  
Then cross the downs to sit a while and play  
She didn't need the practice, it was something more than that,  
It went deeper than a gesture of belief  
It was therapy, her way of drawing comfort for the soul  
Her renewal, restoration and relief.  
She had absolute conviction in a deity above  
And the chapel brought her closer to his side  
A place to shed her troubles and a place to share her dreams  
Which the nuts and bolts of farming life denied.  
As a mother she was everything a child could ever want  
A loving loyal understanding friend  
Whose insight granted access to the truth behind our words  
Should we presume to posture or pretend.  
I think she saw her Godhead in the same, parental way  
As one who shared the secrets unconfessed,  
And just as we were grateful for her presence in our lives, she saw herself as  
singularly blessed.  
And on the wings of Crimond, I would hear her faith declared ,  
as I waited and reflected in the lane ,  
respectful of her need for these few moments to herself  
Before her smile could light the world again  
In a while , the door would open and the smile would be in place,  
'Hello, my love , how long have your been there?'  
'Just come,' I'd say, dispelling any thoughts she might have had,  
of intrusion in a personal affair.  
Faith has many faces, its expressions are diverse  
Some rant and rave, some crawl upon their knees  
While I received instruction on the power of true belief  
From the sound of Sundays drifting on the breeze.

