



**Skinner Street
United Reformed Church
Poole**

July 2025

Guided by the Holy Spirit we aim to show the love of God the Father for everyone by sharing the work of his Son, Jesus Christ, among our neighbours in Poole and the wider world.



Dear Friends

Did you know there was an International Day of Friendship? It is celebrated on July 30th and is observed annually to promote the role of friendship in fostering peace, understanding, and unity among diverse communities and cultures where people can live together in harmony. The idea originated from the World Friendship Crusade, founded in Paraguay in 1958. The United Nations General Assembly later proclaimed the international event in 2011, acknowledging the need for promoting friendship among individuals, countries, and cultures to inspire peace efforts and bridge divides.

Here in the UK it celebrates our country's diversity in the people, religions and customs and recognises the importance of fostering healthy relationships in our multicultural society.

It made me think about the friends I have made over the years and you are probably the same, some fleeting for the time we spend in the same place, others longer and deeper that stay with us for ever.

A friend is someone we can trust, who is there when we need them and not just in the happy times.

A friend is someone we can talk to about anything and everything, ask their advice. Sometimes the answer is not the one we necessarily want to hear, sometimes they do not answer at all but just listen and hold our hand or give a hug.

A friend is someone who sees us 'warts and all!' but doesn't run away. A true friend has staying power.

With all these qualities listed for what a friend is it's maybe not surprising that many hymn writers speak of their longing to have Christ as their friend. We often sing 'What a friend we have in Jesus (I have printed it on page 3). The hymn was written by Joseph Scriven, a wealthy Irishman, whose fiancée drowned on the night before their wedding. He was so upset he decided to leave Ireland for a new life in Canada. He saw so much suffering in the work he undertook there that he wrote the hymn, in which he shared his belief that he, in his loss and suffering, could only find the solace and support he needed in Jesus.

The bible, in both the Old and New Testaments, says a lot about friendships but it is in John 15:15 we read that Jesus calls us his friends, so not only is he our friend we are his.

Graham Kendrick wrote in his hymn 'The Servant King' the words – 'not to be served but to serve' so maybe that is the greatest thing, to be a friend to someone as much as them being a friend to us.

Tricia Knapp

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!
2. Have we trials and temptations,
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Burdened with a load of care?
Jesus is our only refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Joseph Scriven (1819-86)

WORSHIP IN JULY Sundays at 10.30am

6th Mrs Mandy Hibbert

13th Mr Dave Vincent – Café Church

20th Mrs Tricia Knapp ***Holy Communion***

Servers: Chris Proudley & Janice Williams

27th Mrs Tricia Knapp

There will Coffee and Fellowship after the services

DUTY ELDER and VESTRY PRAYER

6th Muriel Coombes

13th Janice Williams

20th Chris Proudley

27th Shirley Marden

DOOR STEWARDS

6th Vera

13th Ross

20th Ross

27th Ross

THURSDAY PRAYERS 10.15am *(Followed by coffee and fellowship)*

3rd Patricia Arnold

10th Vera Brown

17th Rev Sally Taylor

24th Tricia Knapp

31st Rev Dave Harkison

Pastoral Notes

Our Thursday Morning Prayers followed by coffee are well attended. Those who are known to the church but cannot join are remembered as well as friends of ours. Thankfully, we have good care in this area, for which all are grateful. But age and infirmity cannot be kept at bay. We pray for all, those with illnesses and those with age related conditions or whatever the need. Loneliness is not 'seen' but can be felt by many. We think and pray about you all and we hope you can take comfort that you are certainly not forgotten.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP AND SUPPORT YOU.

Please get in touch. Every person is valued.

MORE NEWS FROM THE TREASURER JULY 2025

I'm writing this a bit early as I am having a weeks holiday in the middle of June. But we have been busy to date and there is plenty of news!

The Open Gift Day on 7 June to raise funds for the replacement boiler was successful and quite a few visitors, old and new friends, came along. The day raised £401 pounds but overall we have raised close on £2000.00 towards this project. Thankfully, the Synod has generously agreed to fund 80% of the cost. With all our recent necessary expenditure, the Church bank balance is still lower than sensible but we are on track to keep the church on a steady financial footing before the end of the year. (Any help can still be sent to the church account, details below!)

The boiler will be replaced before you read this news! (Hopefully!).

The good weather has given our garden a great boost and it is looking amazing! I know many enjoyed a strawberry or two. Don't forget, you can help yourself to the vegetables, I enjoyed some tasty chard. Thank you as always to those who keep this area tidy and neat for us to enjoy. I hope you will also notice that the railings have been given a fresh coat of paint!

Plans to further improve the hall and kitchen are well underway.

Our Sunday services do vary in the numbers in the congregation, but it is summer. The singing we enjoy though, under the great organ playing of John and Dominic, is often commented on by our visiting service leaders. The message we are sending out to the local community though, is important and the general improvements we have been doing are definitely 'putting us on the local map'.

In July, we have no major events but you are invited to a Sunday Pic Nic Lunch, at the church, on Sunday 13 July, after the service to celebrate a certain birthday but also all our birthdays. Numbers are requested please, no charge but donations will be appreciated. (grn23g@gmail.com).

The big church birthday will be 2027, the 250th Anniversary of this building. We are working on how to mark this occasion and have already prepared some information leaflets to help inform visitors. You may enjoy reading them too! We have a plan of the building, listing various points of interest around it. Try it out and tell me (Gail) the errors!

August is a holiday month but in September we have the Dorset Historic Churches Trust Annual Ride and Stride fund raising event together with Dorset Historic Architectural Week. The Church will be open on Thursday 11 September and Saturday 13 September. I will be asking for sponsors for my fundraising ride!!

Enjoy the summer in our lovely Poole, we are blessed to live in this area.

Gail Nuttall

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Lloyds Bank Code 30 96 73 account number 00208804

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23 Crichel Mount Road, Poole Dorset BH14 8LT



Diary For July

I do not seem to have anything in my diary for July except the Elders meeting on Monday 7th.

Have you ever wondered what happens at Skinner Street URC when you're not there? Wonder no more!

Contact details for group leaders can be found on the notice board in the hall lobby.

SUNDAYS

10.30am Sunday Worship, traditional style but not boring! In the Church and sometimes Café style Church in the parlour.

11.35am Coffee and chat following the service.

12.00noon Garden Church on 1st & 3rd Sundays.

4.30pm Sunday Night AA group.

MONDAYS

6.30pm Monthly Service in the Church.

7.30pm Poole Juggling Club in the hall .

TUESDAYS

9.45am Dolphin Art Group in the hall.

12.30pm Pop In group in the hall.

6.45pm Dolphin Marching Band group in the hall.

WEDNESDAYS

8.30am Quiet prayer time in the Church.

2.30pm Monthly 3rd Wednesday Hard of Hearing Social group.

7.30pm Cornelia Badminton Group in the hall,

THURSDAYS

10.15am Prayer meeting in the main Church or Parlour.

10.35am Coffee and Chat.

(Seasonal) 2.30pm Walking Hockey in the hall.

6.30pm Marching Band in the hall.

FRIDAYS

11.00am Healing Rooms 1st Friday each month in the Church.

SATURDAYS

Special and one off events as advertised.

As you can see from the varied activities Skinner Street URC is a valuable part of the community.



BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

BASIC WORD OF THE BIBLE

G	E	N	T	I	L	E	B	I	B	L	E	D
O	B	A	A	B	R	T	J	E	M	D	I	I
D	P	I	I	E	S	I	M	N	I	P	B	N
T	E	M	P	T	A	T	I	O	N	J	A	H
H	R	P	S	H	L	H	R	P	I	E	P	O
E	S	R	A	L	V	E	A	N	S	R	T	L
F	E	A	C	E	A	H	C	A	T	U	I	Y
A	C	Y	R	H	T	O	L	Z	R	S	Z	S
H	T	I	F	M	O	Y	J	R	H	L	N	I
E	E	S	I	N	N	A	J	E	W	E	H	R
R	W	E	C	L	F	A	I	T	H	M	L	I
B	S	J	E	S	U	S	C	H	R	I	S	T

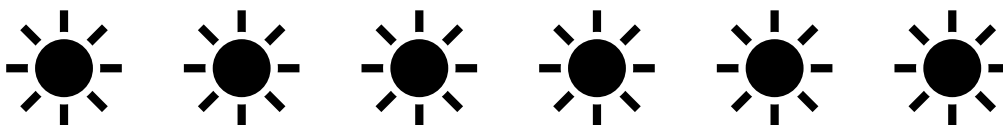
JESUS CHRIST
SALVATION
JEW
GENTILE
HOLY SPIRIT
GOD THE FATHER
PERSECUTE

PRAY
TITHE
MINISTRY
BIBLE
HOLY
SACRIFICE
FAITH

MIRACLE
NAZARETH
BETHLEHEM
JERUSALEM
BAPTIZE
TEMPTATION
SIN

For church matters or to discuss arrangements for a Baptism, Wedding or Funeral: Shirley Marden 07980 923217

For Hall Lets and Carpark: Gail Nuttall 07774 283179



Deadline for August newsletter Thursday 24th July
Contributions to Tricia: hp.knapp@ntlworld.com