



Skinner Street United Reformed Church Poole September 2026

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.



CC544280

**"Live in each season as it passes:
breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit."**

**- Henry David Thoreau
(July 12, 1817 - May 6, 1862)**

Dear Friends

Over the last few weeks I have been planning the windows for the church open days in September. The idea being that we would chronicle over 3 years the events in the years 1662 to 2027 when we are going to celebrate our 250th anniversary as a church in Skinner Street.

Last year the theme was church and world events 1662 to 1787. This year we have moved on to 1787 to 1918. A lot happened in those 131 years. The difficulty was deciding what to feature and what not to include. I'm not going to say at this stage what the windows will look like, come and see!

It made me think of the decisions that were made when the Revised Common Lectionary (this is the one most often used by the URC) was compiled in 1994 and follows a three-year cycle for Sunday readings, designated as Year A, Year B, and Year C. Each cycle begins on the first Sunday of Advent (between November 27 and December 3) and continues through the liturgical year, including seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. Each year emphasizes one of the synoptic Gospels: Year A focuses on Matthew, Year B on Mark, and Year C on Luke, while the Gospel of John appears in all three years, especially during Easter and other key seasons.

As a reformed church we do not have to stick rigidly to this format but it certainly helps when preparing worship and gives continuity when we welcome visiting worship leaders.

The disadvantage is that there is much that is not included. How often is the Old Testament preached on or explained? But Jesus grew up learning from these passages, some he agreed with some he did not and was not backwards in saying so.

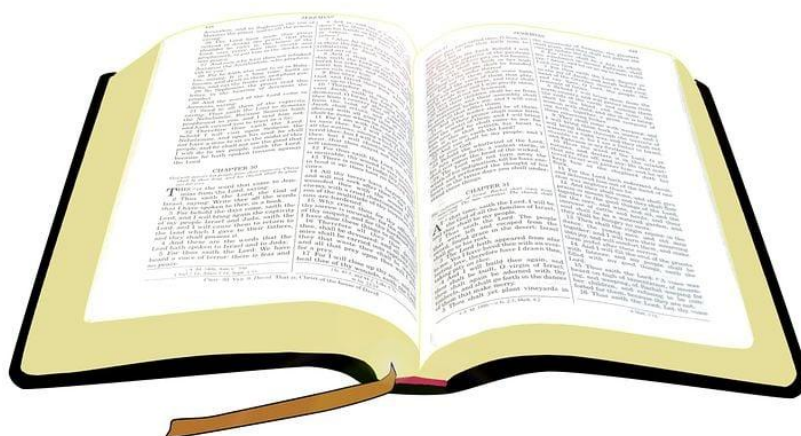
Much like life really, things happened in past generations that are not tolerated now, but we learn from them. Another disadvantage could be that we have heard the texts so often and are so familiar with them we cannot see anything fresh in them.

The advantage is that we can proclaim a breadth of Biblical texts in which there are many resources available to help and I personally have also found that by revisiting a certain text there is always something new to learn, you see something you might have missed before.

Like most things in life there is no perfect solution but maybe, like life, if we look for something new in the familiar we will be inspired and have our eyes opened to fresh opportunities.

With every blessing Tricia Knapp

Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank You for Your Word that is available to us every day.
It encourages us, lifts our souls, and points us back to You
when we become distracted or lose focus.
Your Word speaks into our circumstances, strengthens us, and provides
wisdom and direction.
We ask You to give us a greater desire for Your Word
and to draw us closer to You through it.
Thank You that Your Word always provides
hope, truth, guidance, and renewal.
In Jesus' name, **Amen**



Worship and Prayer in September

SERVICES Sundays at 10.30am

- 6th The Elders
- 13th Tricia Knapp
- 20th Rev Sally Taylor & Tricia Knapp – The Pet Service
- 27th Rev Julian Macro *Holy Communion*

Servers: Chris Proudley & Patricia Arnold

There will be Coffee and Fellowship after the services

DUTY ELDER and VESTRY PRAYER

- 6th No Elder needed
- 13th Janice Williams
- 20th No Elder Needed
- 27th Chris Proudley

DOOR STEWARDS

- 6th Vera
- 13th Ross
- 20th Ross
- 27th Ross

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

- 3rd Patricia
- 10th Dave
- 17th Sally
- 24th Shirley



The Pet Blessing service is on September 20th. We hope to be in the garden. Please bring your pet along or if you have lost a furry friend a photo and all will be remembered in the service.

SEPTEMBER 2026 AUTUMN FROM THE CHURCH TREASURER

This lovely, long, hot summer weather has been challenging and I know my energy levels have been reduced. Although I am sure we will welcome cooler Autumnal temperatures, wet, dull days may be hard to adjust too!

This heat has reduced the utility bills which is a great help to our bank balance.

I am delighted to report that the hall, kitchen, toilets, office and Parlour are 'back to normal', with fresh eyes in some areas keeping us busy.

The Sunday morning congregation is holding up but it will be good to get all our friends back once this hot, holiday time is over. The Sunday Morning Freewill Collection is appreciated. The monthly Standing Orders together with the car park donations are still our main income, together with the regular lettings.

We hope to see some new groups using our hall, for local children.



Saturday, September 12, 2026

Shortly after this Newsletter reaches you, it is a busy Open Weekend, Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 September. This is the Dorset Historic Churches Trust annual Ride and Stride fund raising event. Patricia and I are undertaking a short walk, which will include some 'sister' churches in the area. We would appreciate any sponsorship. Please see me or Patricia or text or email if you would like to donate. 50% of any sponsorship we raise is returned to Skinner Street and we know that DHCT will be supporting our repairs in the future.

Bishop Karen (C of E) may well call into us before she finishes her walk at St James, quite an honour for us.

The Church is open, with archives, as it is also Dorset Heritage Architectural Week, so we hope for many visitors. Any help to welcome them will be appreciated! Please volunteer!

All these events are a run through for our 250th Anniversary celebrations we are planning for next year! Ideas are still very welcome and offers of help even more so!

Many families have already let me know that they are looking out 'family wedding or baptism' photos in preparation. I know Tricia is planning very interesting history information about what has occurred over the life of this building, both in it and in the wider world. I am still interested in collecting YOUR story and connection to Skinner Street. Remember to write a little paragraph for yourself, as you are the one who knows!!! (there is a form in our August newsletter)

Looking forward to chatting with you soon.

Gail Nuttall

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Pastoral Notes

We send our love and prayers to all who are not as mobile as they would like to be, for whatever reason. We think especially of those who are well into their 9th decade. We also pray for those who support Skinner Street but from other places. Of course our regular congregation are in our prayers as too, are the Elders.



Also happening on 12-13 September:
on Poole Quay, Old Town and town centre.

*Seafood & Sounds -
Where Poole's heritage of
seafood & music come together
for an amazing weekend.*

Seafood & Sounds is a free town-wide festival celebrating Poole's maritime heritage. The programme includes a colourful parade, seafood stalls, chef demonstrations, artisan traders, children's activities and more than 20 live music performances across several town-centre locations.

Seafood & Sounds the history: Three years ago, five local business owners, came together with a simple idea. They wanted to increase footfall in Old Town and Poole Quay, encourage visitors to stay longer, support independent businesses, and celebrate what makes Poole special. And what started as an idea has grown into a major weekend event attracting thousands of visitors across Old Town and Poole Quay.

Details of events and times can be found on their website.



BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE CHART

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

23RD September is Sign Language Day

Deadline for October newsletter Wednesday 23rd September

Contributions to Tricia: 01202 632399

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



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