

# BE-NEWS



Bournemouth New Church, Tuckton Road, BH6 3HT

Issue 29

Find us at: [www.bournemouthnewchurch.org.uk](http://www.bournemouthnewchurch.org.uk)

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Our mission  
is to express,  
share and experience  
with others in life,  
an inclusive,  
non-judgmental vision  
of God's kingdom.

If you would like to support the work of the church financially please do so using our church  
account sort code 09-01-55 account number 34513085,  
reference: Bdonation

## WORSHIP LEADERS

### **JANUARY**

14<sup>th</sup> National Service led by Revd Clifford Curry

21<sup>st</sup> Service led by Revd Gillian Gordon

28<sup>th</sup> National Service led by Revd Becky Jarratt

Zoom at 3:30pm

Bournemouth Church at 10:30am

Zoom at 3:30pm

### **FEBRUARY**

4<sup>th</sup> Service led by Mr Stephen Thomas

18<sup>th</sup> Service led by Revd Clifford Curry

Bournemouth Church at 10:30am

Bournemouth Church at 10:30am

### **MARCH**

3<sup>rd</sup> Service led by Revd Gillian Gordon

17<sup>th</sup> Service led by Mr Stephen Thomas

31<sup>st</sup> Easter Service led by Revd Clifford Curry

Bournemouth Church at 10:30am

Bournemouth Church at 10:30am

Bournemouth Church at 10:30am

## STEWARDS

### **JANUARY**

21<sup>st</sup> Church Duty - Barry Gordon

Tea/Coffee - Anita Turner

### **FEBRUARY**

4<sup>th</sup> Church Duty - Julie Wight

Tea/Coffee - Steph Drake

18<sup>th</sup> Church Duty - Jane Pike

Tea/Coffee - Deb Sutton

### **MARCH**

3<sup>rd</sup> Church Duty - Barry Gordon

Tea/Coffee - Steph Drake

17<sup>th</sup> Church Duty - Caroline Buick

Tea/Coffee - Anita Turner

31<sup>st</sup> Church Duty - Jane Pike

Tea/Coffee - Deb Sutton

## New Beginnings for 2024!

Life can seem so terribly dreary sometime. Familiar patterns are repeated and ruts can appear. The bills keep coming and our joy and zest of life can seem to disappear. We seem to be caught in a dull routine, and as we grow older our bodies signal the rapid passing of time. Our energy levels decline and our aches and pains seem to come from nowhere! From being unthinkable, our own death can be seen as a real possibility. Emotionally we can feel trapped by what has gone before, and our previous actions and mistakes which have hurt others can haunt us. Those depressing patterns of petty frustrations and useless arguments can scar and desensitise us. We can feel numbed wandering through the day trying not to feel anything!

In the 37<sup>th</sup> chapter of Ezekiel the prophet Ezekiel had a vision which was addressed to a lifeless and hopeless frame of mind. He saw a valley of dried out bones and as he prophesied the bones came together, flesh was put upon them and finally breath entered them. The result was that the dry bones became a great living army. With us too, our bones can seem dry and our hope lost with our lives becoming repetitive and dreary, but only if we choose to look at our lives in that way. If we look around us there is a constant continual renewal of life such as in nature, animals, plants, flowers etc and so new beginnings are taking place constantly!

As our earthly life has new beginnings so spiritually there can be a constant renewal of life with all of us. Without us realising it, the Lord is gently guiding our thoughts and feelings, inspiring new ways of looking at life, stimulating new feelings of warmth and compassion for others. The Lord is raising up our apparently dry bones with our co-operation and is putting sinew, muscle, flesh, and skin upon them and then breathing new life within us.

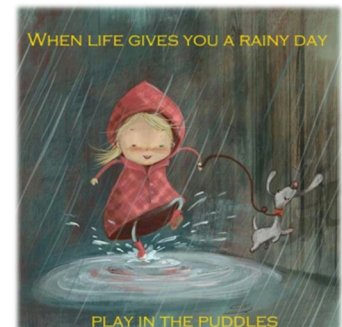
We can look upon our lives this new year as a deterioration of our physical and mental abilities, see the dark side of every event pessimistically awaiting the next cruel blow of fate and cry out about dry bones and hopelessness. But those dry bones can have flesh on them and new life breathed upon them!

Regardless of what has happened to us in the past, new beginnings are possible if we are willing, and they start with our thoughts and intentions. We have the freedom to think about life in any way we wish. We can think negatively or positively. We can desire what is loving or good or we can desire what is selfish. We are not trapped by previous choices or patterns of behaviour. We are trapped only by our fears and our refusals to think again and try.

Our change of attitudes will certainly make all the difference in how we view this year of 2024! Change ourselves and the world will begin to change as well. But this new year it must start with all of us. A very happy new year to you all.

With every blessing.

Stephen.



## **NEWS**

Thanks from Noreen Williamson for the lovely cards that she received from church friends on the occasion of her 90th birthday in early January.

Gill and Barry Gordon wish to thank all the lovely kind people who gave us Golden Wedding Anniversary cards which will go into our wedding albums for all time.

Marion will continue to lead Circle Dancing in the large hall on 2nd & 4th Monday afternoons from 2 - 4pm. Please contact her if you are interested in taking part.

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43 vs 18&19