

And now, our God, we give thanks to
you and praise your glorious name.
1 Chronicles 29:13



July 2010

The Recorder

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An edited version of this magazine is available on the Church Website.
(Personal details are NOT included)

Church web site: <http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

Trinity - A Family Church

Worshipping together - Caring for one another - Sharing with others

Dear Friends,

This is a thank you letter.

On the church anniversary at the end of May we had a gift day. Trinity members and friends were invited to give what they could towards paying the final amount for Revive phase 2 to the builders, due 12 months after completion in September this year. The gift day total stands, as I write on 22nd June, at a staggering £9,380.60. This includes a very generous anonymous donation of £5,000. Even before that gift was received the total, then at £4,380.60, had exceeded all our expectations. Thank you so much to everyone who has given so very generously. That's the first 'thank you'.

We have just had our first 'Open Week' at Trinity. It came about through our connections with the Wycombe Winter Night Shelter (WWNS), and in particular the trial scheme of two mornings a week at Trinity to give further support and friendship to people who are homeless, or have been homeless recently. We wanted our neighbours to know about this work, and everything else that is now going on in our building every day of the week. A Bucks healthcare communications company called Succinct had contacted WWNS wanting to support the work done. WWNS suggested that Trinity's Open Week might be a suitable project for Succinct to assist. They responded positively and designed and produced a superb 'coffee cup flyer'. Most of you will have seen it. For those who haven't, let me just say that it was a highly professional job that we have been proud to distribute. Thank you WWNS for linking us to Succinct, and thank you to Succinct for such an excellent publicity tool. That's the second 'thank you'.

The Open Week itself involved 14 groups and activities open to visitors during the week, and free tea or coffee Monday to Saturday in the front garden and Sanctuary, where there were also displays and leaflets about our children's and young people's groups, as well as other activities. Some of the groups did get visitors, either from within Trinity or outside. But the best 'supported' was the free tea and coffee! Those on duty were charged with sitting at coffee tables in the front garden, drinking coffee, chatting and enjoying themselves. The garden gates were open and a variety of people took the opportunity to come in and talk and see. Not huge numbers, but every day on average 4 or 5 people came in. Thank you to groups for being ready to be 'open' and to those who were on duty for the coffee. That's the third 'thank you'.

At the end of that week it happened to be the Caribbean Evening. The Sanctuary looked beautiful, with large paper flowers made in the Movers and Shakers craft classes decorating tables and pillars. It was full of people, including the Mayor, and there was a terrific atmosphere. We had a feast of goat stew, rice and peas, plantain, okra, salt fish cakes, spiced chicken and more. St Vincent heavily defeated Wycombe in 'board cricket', 101 runs to 21. Children [of all ages] left laden with teddy bears, lions, ducks and various other tombola treasures. Well over £500 was raised for the church. A huge thank you to Rose Cornwall, ably assisted by Dawn, Steve, and many of her friends, for her commitment and hard work in making this event such a success. That's the fourth 'thank you'.

During June a new Movers and Shakers group began. Movers and Shakers Chinese style is running on Tuesdays for a six week pilot. As with the Movers and Shakers Caribbean style on Fridays it is a well constructed programme for enhancing well being, particularly for older people. Thank you to the PCT team, and Bucks Chinese Association for working with us on this project, and to Yan and Andrew Winton for taking the lead for Trinity. That's the fifth 'thank you'.

I have run out of space – but cannot end without one more thank you. I'll leave you to work out who that thank you is to ...



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins

e-mail: gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk

Church Secretary :Mrs Marian Mole,

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July Services

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30am - led by the Minister unless otherwise stated

July 4	Holy Communion, service led by the Revd Bernie Collins [Gwen will lead the service at Ickenham URC, where Bernie is minister]
July 11	Morning worship, followed by Church Picnic and ...
3.30pm	Songs of Praise on the Rye with town centre Churches Together in High Wycombe. If wet, in our church.
July 18	All age worship
July 25	Morning worship

Rotas for July

Not included in this version

Not included in this version

The marvels of technology!!

Observant readers may have noticed that this month's magazine has been published a week later than expected. Apologies if you have been experiencing extreme withdrawal symptoms because of this!

The answer lies in what I believe to have been a serious computer virus which made my computer totally unusable. Fortunately, all my data files are held elsewhere, so all that was lost was the "operating system" and all the various programs I use to produce the Recorder. However, any contributions sent to me by e-mail towards the deadline date may not have been processed and stored outside the computer and have therefore been lost. I have endeavoured to obtain copies of the bits I think were lost, but if I have not remembered to request a repeat contribution from you, please accept my apologies. This month's magazine seems to be extremely thin - which makes me think that there could well be things that should have been included but are not, though it may simply be due to the summer season when not so much happens.

Angus.

The Smart Son

A young boy had just received his driver's licence and inquired of his father if they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son.

"You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, read your Bible a little, get your hair cut and we'll talk about the car." The boy thought about that for a moment decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, "Son, I am really proud. You brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm real disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The young man paused a moment then said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair and there's even a strong argument that Jesus had long hair."

To this, his father replied, "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

Commitment for Life

ZIMBABWE

Chickens, Clinics and classrooms

When Stanley Muzingwa gave up his job to be part of his minister's dream, little did he realise that a few years on he would be responsible for a clinic, a school with sixty children and forty hens in the empty manse garage.

The Uniting Presbyterian Church of South Africa in Lomagundi church, Chinyhoi has a five hundred strong congregation, two hundred of which are children. Since the departure of many of the white farmers in the area, due to the violence against them, they have lost many of their English speaking congregation. They still have two services, one in English and the other in Shona but the Shona service is now by far the largest. Today, as a congregation, they are responsible for a clinic, an informal school and have big plans for the future despite the hardships they face.

The clinic, which is the only one in the area, the nearest being five kilometres away, provides a life line for the local people. There are three staff, two nurses and a doctor. Small sick children nestled in parent's arms wait patiently to be seen. Most come for family planning, HIV testing and anti retroviral drugs given by their Presbytery in Denver, Colorado. The clinic is small and cramped so the church are looking to make the now empty manse into a new clinic with a small ward. Plans are already in hand for this change of use but Stanley explained that these things take time and will need a little help along the way. Corruption is rife in all part of Zimbabwean society and planning officers are no different.

They will then buy a new Manse away from the church for a new minister when he or she comes. At present the garage is being used as a hen house to give food to those in the congregation who struggle because unemployment is so high at ninety two percent.

In the church hall, sixty children cram round large tables, diligently listening to their teachers. Whilst the head teacher is qualified the rest are volunteer church members brushing up on their maths and science. With school fees often out of reach for most parents, a generation is growing up with no formal education. The ramifications of this are disastrous for Zimbabwe, which is why the church answered their needs with this temporary arrangement. The pupils have been able to register at the local school to take their exams but Stanley hopes that soon the school will itself be registered.

In the afternoon the children enjoy lifestyle activities and games. These include sewing and football. Before independence schooling was free but many were prepared to pay for education as a way to develop the nation. Sadly this did not happen and the children are suffering.

To see a church so in tune with the needs of the local community and congregation is astounding. Stanley is creating the old Minister's dream but it is evident he has made it his own. He looks forward to the day when they can open the new clinic and children can be taught in proper classrooms with modern facilities and resources. With a faith that seems to move mountains and chickens I am sure he will succeed.

Christian Aids Prayer Diary for 16-22nd May asked people to pray for the people of Zimbabwe for whom the past two years have been a rollercoaster ride. The politically motivated violence, the collapse in the economy and desperate food shortages meant that at least 5.5 million Zimbabweans are estimated to have depended on food aid to survive during 2009. Christian Aid partners have pioneered simple and cost effective farming techniques to help poor, small-scale farmers there to survive.

During the week please pray for:

- ZimPro, promoting agricultural techniques that help poor farmers in Zimbabwe to grow more food in a changing climate
- the Dabane Trust, building dams and pumps that bring water to market gardens, ensuring crops all year round
- the Habakkuk Trust, encouraging community 'action teams' to restore water pumps ensuring clean and safe water for their communities
- the estimated 4 million Zimbabweans who fled the country during the violence
- the 3 million Zimbabweans believed to be in South Africa, living in appalling conditions in informal settlements.

Amen



Happy Birthday

to

Luke K (9th)

Olivia P (24th)

Birthday Congratulations



to

Sue T (24th)

on celebrating her 60th birthday



Congratulations

and best wishes to

Julia & Tim

on celebrating their Wedding Anniversary

with love to all the above from all at Trinity

*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 25th July.
Closing date for contributions is Friday 16th July*

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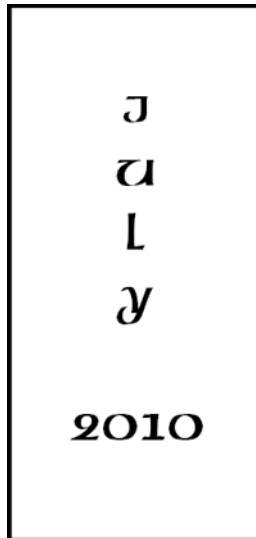
Church web site: <http://www.trinity-urc.org.uk>

prayer page

Music in worship

God of all beauty and joy,
we praise you for the heritage of holy song,
we praise you for soaring voices and heavenly harmony,
we thank you for all hymn-writers and composers
who have enriched our common worship. Alleluia.

© Oliver Tomkins: *Asking God*



Look at your hands,
see the touch and the tenderness –
God's own for the world.

Look at your feet,
see the path and the direction –
God's own for the world.

Look at your heart,
see the fire and the love –
God's own for the world.

Look at the cross,
See God's Son and our Saviour –
God's own for the world.

This is God's world
and we will serve him in it.

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(*A Wee Worship Book: Iona Community 1989*)



Father, we know that the Church will die in this generation unless people go on doing what was done for us – sharing their faith in action or explanation. We pray for those who have a special gift for making the gospel relevant and attractive ... we pray for those who have a special way of living that draws others to Christ ... we pray for those who have a special opportunity for mission coming up soon ... and we thank you for the opportunities of our Open Week. Amen.

Try a different way of praying this week – look at a newspaper or internet news story ...let your eyes alight on something that attracts your attention ...take this to God in focused, thoughtful prayer, asking for a deeper understanding of the situation and a wider perspective. Does God want you to take some action? Is there something to be thankful for? Or something to continue to pray about?

Sunday	Pray for church ministers, interim moderators and lay leaders that you know
Monday	Pray for teachers and pupils coming to the end of another busy academic year
Tuesday	Pray for Anti-Slavery International in their work to combat slavery throughout the world
Wednesday	Pray for Women's Aid
Thursday	Pray for all who hire and use our building
Friday	Pray for the new Movers & Shakers Chinese Style, and for Andrew and Yan Winton who are helping lead it
Saturday	Pray for your next-door-neighbour(s)