

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." *Matthew 26: 36, 38.*



April 2011

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,

Holy Week is a very special time for Christian people.

From Palm Sunday when we commemorate Jesus riding into Jerusalem to acclaim and celebration, we move on to see his challenge to the authorities reach crisis point and then stand in horrified awe at their brutal response and his heroically, divinely generous self-giving on Good Friday. The week ends on Easter Saturday as we hold our breath knowing that this is not the last word ...

There is a depth of experience and meaning in these events that surpasses any other week in history. Out of this grim tragedy God brings hope, life and liberation.

We need to give ourselves time each year to appreciate and absorb this spiritual powerhouse. So many concerns, interests, pleasures and problems press upon us as human beings in a busy and complicated world that we really do need a major annual 'MOT' as well as weekly and daily refuelling! We need to take time, that most precious of all commodities, to drink at the well of faith.

As I write we are concerned as a family that our 7 week old baby grandson, Harry, is not gaining weight anywhere near as fast as he should. He seems to be bright and alert, but is hardly growing. Clearly that is not a sustainable situation. I hope and pray that very soon Harry will be putting on weight to thrive.

I suppose that it is because that sweet little boy and his needs are uppermost on my mind, that I see a parable here. We too can be bright and alert as followers of Jesus, but if we are not feeding well our discipleship is not sustainable. Perhaps this is truer now than it has been for many years, as there are so many counter-pressures to turn us and those we love away from this one essential need.

So, to help us to 'feed well', the Sanctuary will be open for a 'Journey with Jesus through Holy Week' at the following times:

Wednesday 20 April	11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m.
Maundy Thursday 21 April	11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.
Good Friday	2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.
Easter Saturday	11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Both adults and children will find things to ponder and do, and prompts to pray. Displays will 'take us through' Jesus' week. We can go around at our own pace, taking as much time as we want.

Refreshments will be served in the Lower Schoolroom each day except Thursday, and on Saturday that will overlap with Easter Saturday Coffee Morning.

Please come, even if you've never done anything like this before. It will be relaxed and comfortable. No-one will be put on the spot! You can pop in for a few minutes or you can take a leisurely hour.

Holy Week service details are on the next page. On Easter Day itself we will have a great celebration, beginning with a new 'tradition', a Church Family breakfast for everyone who can be up and ready to eat at 9.00. An Easter egg hunt on the Rye will keep children busy between breakfast and morning worship.

May God feed you this Easter,



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins

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

Church Secretary: Mrs Sue Saunders

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

April Services

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

- April 3 Holy Communion on Mothering Sunday and visiting speaker,
Erica Holt, Director of Wycombe Youth for Christ
- April 10 Theme: East Asia region of Council for World Mission [CWM]
- April 17 Palm Sunday and All Age Worship
- 4.00 p.m. Prayer circle
- April 21 8.00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion, at Trinity, with Wesley
Methodist Church
- April 22 10.15 a.m. Good Friday worship at Union Baptist Church
- 11.15 a.m. Good Friday walk of witness
- April 24 Easter Day beginning with Church Family breakfast at 9.00
- 10.30 a.m. Celebration of Christ's Resurrection including Holy Communion and
Ordination and Induction of Elders.

Rotas for April

Not included in this version

What's on in April



Wednesday 20th April - Calendar Girls - Swan Theatre.
(Curtain up at 2:30)

WOMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday 5th April Speaker: Andrew Winton
 Tuesday 12th April The King James Bible after 1611
 Tuesday 19th April Service of Holy Communion - Rev Gwen Collins
 Tuesday 26th April *No meeting*
All meetings start at 2.30 in the Lower Schoolroom



Diary Dates

April 9 Coffee Morning 10.30 am
 17 Prayer Circle For Healing 4pm
 23 Coffee Morning 10.30am
 30 Fifth Brigade 9.30 – 12 noon

May 3 Elders' Meeting 8pm
 14 Coffee Morning 10.30am
 15 - 21 Christian Aid Week
 17 Church Meeting 8pm
 28 Coffee Morning 10.30am
 31 Elders' Meeting 8pm

April 2011						
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Not included in this version

Thank you from Pat and Bruce W

Dear Trinity

Bruce and I wanted to thank you all for the present that you gave me last Sunday (13th March) as it was my last Sunday at Trinity. The picture was much appreciated.

When I thought about it recently I realised that we first attended Trinity over 36 years ago and quickly were made very welcome and became involved. Both our sons, Toby and Adam, flourished in Sunday School, Boy's Brigade and Youth Group and talk about it often. Bruce was the first captain of the BB and I taught Sunday School. We all made good friends and felt we belonged and were cared about.

Over the years I have still received a huge amount of support, prayers, friendship and a sense of belonging. I will be taking all this with me and Trinity will be hard to match elsewhere. You however will have a quieter time without hearing me exhort you to buy fairly traded goods!

Thank you once again and I will be back occasionally to get my Trinity fix!

Blessings

Pat



Advance notice of a date for your diaries, Christian Aid Week this year will be 8th – 14th May. I will be looking for collectors for the roads that we have been allocated, so if you have ANY spare time that week, I would love to hear from you. I will have a signup sheet in church a little nearer the time but in the meantime please bear the dates in mind when you are making your plans for that week.

Many thanks

Margaret

Commitment for Life

ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is now well into its annual hunger season, when the worst off families traditionally run out of food before the April harvest. In areas where food security remains chronic, adults and children are making do with one meal per day, and in worse off areas, people have started to exchange livestock for grain at unfavourable exchange rates, leading to greater vulnerability and reducing the likelihood of their economic stability in the year ahead.

The number who are likely to require food aid this year stands at 2 million, a marginal improvement to last year's 2.2 to 2.5 million. This is attributable to a number of factors including: steady rains that came when expected and with no periods of drought in between; work that Christian Aid and others have been doing to encourage people not to eat their seeds for planting, a desperate measure that is often resorted to, and new electronic and paper voucher systems proving successful: these ensure seeds and inputs are available within communities and means people no longer must walk to distribution points and wait for trucks to come with 'handouts' (see below).

The following short partner updates focus on the launch of the electronic paper and voucher system by ZimPro (Zimbabwe Project Trust) and Dabane Trust, piloting new ways of impacting on food security that improve local economies and protect dignity.

ZimPro and Dabane Trust

In a decisive move by Christian Aid to move away from the traditional system of distributing inputs directly to those they support, ZIMPRO and Dabane have launched a new electronic and paper system in the areas they cover. Christian Aid has trained dealers, project staff and all involved in this new initiative. The paper and electronic voucher system had the following advantages:

- Restoring people's dignity – participants are allocated paper or electronic (swipe cards) vouchers, which they take to accredited dealers and use this to purchase inputs of their choice. This method is discrete and enables farmers to purchase from their local dealers just like anyone else, and access what they need, such as seeds and fertilizer.
- The burden of carrying heavy loads from distribution centres has been eliminated; this is especially beneficial for female headed and child headed households.
- The stigma of beneficiaries being seen carrying 'free inputs' by other community members has been removed.
- This method stimulates the local economy by allowing dealers to resuscitate their businesses and employ community members. Because aid agencies were distributing free inputs to communities, local dealerships had been forced out of business.
- Finally the freedom to choose – by giving paper vouchers, participants have been given the freedom to choose what they want to buy but it also means they can buy quantities they are able to carry and then come back for more later.

By early next year, partners should be able to give a full assessment of this initiative, lessons learnt, what has gone well and what needs to be improved. The paper and electronic vouchers have security features to ensure that only the intended beneficiaries can redeem them at the dealers.

Part of report from CA to CforL Reference group

JAMAICA

Moving forward in 2011

The possible implications of climate change are a big concern for Jamaica. Over the last 10 years hurricanes and storms have hit the island almost every year, whereas previously the island was hit by storms every 15 to 20 years. In Jamaica there has been an increase in the frequency and severity of tropical weather systems. For this reason, this year, Christian Aid is supporting a new partner called **Panos**. Panos works with civil society and NGOs on advocacy and lobbying the Government and has built strong links with the Meteorological Office and the office of the Prime Minister who is tasked with overseeing Jamaica's response to climate change. Panos carries out climate change education in schools and communities and will be supporting the Jamaica delegation attending the next climate change negotiations in South Africa.

WROC: This year, Christian Aid will be providing support to Women's Rural Outreach Committee for the completion of tree-planting and check dam construction in vulnerable communities, and provide greenhouse training and livestock and cash-crop activities. This is the continuation of a co-funded livelihoods project.

Revive – alive and still moving!



Once we moved back into our refurbished sanctuary (Phase 2) the Revive committee – and many of us – were glad to take a deep breath and take some time out from the busy-ness of all that had gone before. The preparation, the fundraising, the communication and the building work had all been fairly intensive. It was nice to simply enjoy being in the warm, light, flexible sanctuary!

But of course we have still not completed all the works we wanted to do in connection with the sanctuary. We were not able to afford the disabled access and associated works at the front of the building, nor the new glass doors that would enable us to have a 'window on the world'. And there were some other things we wanted to do, such as putting heating into the toilets that were installed in 2007, and of course repaying the interest-free loans that were generously made to us.

So ... we are continuing our fundraising, albeit at a low-key level at the moment but the outstanding works are still on our minds for Phase 2. The orange envelope scheme is still running, individuals continue to give to Revive, and some events continue to have profits going to Revive.

Watch this space for a more energised Revive fundraising thrust in the future, and thank you to all who continue to give their time, talents and money towards Revive!

PS – And, of course, after we complete Phase 2 there will be Phase 3 – the refurbishment of Crendon Hall with its no-step access, new kitchenette and toilets, and probably other works as well.

Kate Y
March 2011



EASTER EGG RAFFLE

I will be having an Easter Egg raffle at the church coffee morning on Saturday 23rd April. Your gift of eggs, any size, would be much appreciated and you can bring them to church any time between now and Easter Saturday.

Many thanks,
Rose



CWM news

Asia's Christians support Japanese church

17 Mar 2011

Churches across Asia are leading support for church communities in Japan as the country struggles to recover in the aftermath of the devastating disaster.

In a letter to the National Council of Churches in Japan, the Christian Council of Asia (CCA) said they would "get down on their knees" to pray in support of the people of Japan.

CCA general secretary Henriett Hutabarat Lebang said: "Our hearts bleed in unspeakable sorrow for the calamity that befell Japan recently, claiming lives and properties in one quick swoop. The entire CCA family is praying with you, and walking with you in this dark moment."

The CCA is coordinating a disaster response effort with the National Christian Council in Japan (NCC Japan) as one Body of Christ.

They have donated US\$10,000 from the CCA Emergency Fund to immediately support rescue and recovery efforts and have pledged to keep praying for the work of the churches in helping those in distress.

The council has also put out a call to its churches across the continent to unite in supporting Japan.

Ms Lebang said: "Sisters and brothers in the CCA member churches and councils, I take this opportunity to appeal to you to support the churches and people in Japan in this time of difficulty, through your prayers and financial support. Intended to respond in the quickest way to emergency needs that arise, this is our small way of expressing our unity as an ecumenical family."

The support comes in response to an urgent call put out by the NCCJ - a grouping of Anglican, Protestant and inter-denominational organisations - for emergency relief donations.

Meanwhile churches across Japan are coping with the disaster aftermath through coordinated prayer, donations and relief operations.

On 15 March, the first meeting of the interdenominational Earthquake Christian Disaster Centre was held at the United Church of Christ in Japan's (UCCJ) Northeast District Centre in Sendai near the epicentre, ENI reported. The UCCJ also said church members, including UCCJ moderator Rev Hideo Ishibashi, are visiting disaster areas.

The denomination's two local congregations near the Fukushima nuclear power plants were evacuated to one of them but are unable to escape from there, the report said.

The YWCA of Japan is also appealing for donations to support victims and survivors, particularly for women, children, elderly and those who are marginalised.

They are also calling for the shutdown of nuclear power plants in Niigata and Shizuoka in central Japan.

Japan's 11 March earthquake and subsequent tsunamis have claimed the lives of more than 3,700 people so far and injured 2,000. Almost 8,000 more people are still missing according to the National Police Agency.

More than 400,000 people have been evacuated from the disaster zones in northeastern Japan. The earthquake also damaged the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, where workers have been struggling to contain radiation leaks.

CHURCH AGM 2011

Our Church AGM took place on 15 March and was attended by 24 members. At the meeting Janet Roake was voted to serve for a further next three years as an Elder and Sue Thorne was elected as a new Elder. She also will serve for three years. This brings the total number of serving Elders currently to seven, one less than in the past few years but it is possible, according to our Church Constitution to elect a Church Member to the eldership at any time.

Thanks was extended to Andrew Winton after serving three years as an elder and to Marian Mole having completed six years as an Elder and five of these years as Church Secretary – thus now having a sabbatical. Gwen presented Marian with a waterproof Bible on behalf of the church. Barbara Macleod has stood down as a Pastoral Assistant and, of course, due to her move to Gloucestershire, Pat Wallace will no longer be running the Traidcraft Stall or be the Safe Church representative.

An updated Postholders' List will be published in the May issue of The Recorder.

MM

Coach Trip Saturday 16th April

All Saints Church invites you, your family and friends, on a coach trip to Bury St Edmunds Cathedral. We will leave from High Wycombe Station at 8am and return on the same day at 5-30pm getting home by around 8pm

There will be a guided tour of the Cathedral on arrival and you will find a large street market in the town to browse through at your leisure. Refreshments are not included in the ticket price, and are available in the church restaurant.

Ticket price £15 each adult £6 each child

Proceeds after expenses to be divided equally between Mission Aviation Fellowship and Work Aid.

**Please give details in the space below of those travelling and send with your cheque (made out to All Saints PCC)
c/o Helen Byrne, All Saints Church office, Oakley Hall,
Castle Street, High Wycombe to cover all those travelling.
Please mark your envelope Coach Trip.**

Also could the leader of each group, or individual, give contact details, phone and email please, in case they should be needed.

Name(s) of those travelling

**Contact details of one member of the group or individual
Contact phone no**

I enclose a cheque for £ in full payment.

Brief report from Thames North Synod meeting on 12 March 2011

This was the first time a Children's Synod had run at the same time. The children clearly had fun and also brought some powerful poetry to the closing worship.

1. Vision2020

Ms Francis Brien, Secretary for Mission, did a brief presentation on Vision2020. She is involved in developing a mission strategy for the Church. Vision2020 is a framework for local churches to help support them in their local mission. She requested that each church develops a 'local mission pledge' which should go to the Synod office. Synod office will then collate these to gain an overview of what Thames North churches are aiming for regarding mission, and can then help local churches.

2. Elections

The results of various Area elections were confirmed, and elections were held for two posts on Synod Executive and Mission Council.

Edward Sanniez and Elizabeth Lawson were elected to Mission Council.

Sue Chapman and David Lawrence were elected to Synod Executive.

3. Appointments

It was proposed that Liz Boyes (Children's Work Secretary), Soo Webster (Regional Pilots Officer) and Heather Pugsley (Youth Secretary) were all co-opted onto Synod. This was agreed.

Celebration of Stephanie Danso's election to the FURY Advisory Board as British Youth Council Delegation Member

4. LMMR/MASA (Local Mission & Ministry Review and Ministerial Accompanied Self-Appraisal)

This will replace the former Pastoral Consultation Review Visits for churches and the "Taking Stock" reviews for ministers, as agreed at General Assembly 2006.

The LMMR is the "church life review" and MASA is for ministers.

Aims:

- Pastorate Profiles will become living documents, reflecting on church life, mission and ministry needs – not simply to be created for a vacancy.
- Appraisal partners and pastorate partners will be sought for both parts of the review.

5. Religious Education Fund

Revd Jane Bazeley mentioned that there is still money in this fund for youth and children's work. It could be used for an educational day out.

6. URC advertising campaign

We had a brief presentation on the campaign which will "go live" in January 2012. The campaign is aimed at people outside the church who may have been put off church in the past. The campaign aims to be:

- Aspirational
- Inspirational
- Transformational
- Conversational

Any church can sign up to be a participating church and if they do, they will work alongside a "companion" to help prepare them.

More information will follow in due course.

7. Forthcoming events and other information

Information was available on:

- CWM "Window on the World" holiday conference in West Wales from 15-21 August, on the theme of Christians at work, exploring how work and discipleship relate to each other.
- A booklet from GEAR (Group for Evangelism and Renewal within the URC) on *Mission Enabled*.
- A questionnaire about Racial Justice Sunday from the Racial Justice Advocates.
- A TLS (Training for Learning and Serving) taster day on Saturday 9 April from 10.30-12.30 at Ipalo House, 32/34 Great Peter Street, London.
- "Thinking Ahead 2011 – sharing, resourcing, supporting" – events in May on the theme of Harvest and Remembrance, and October on the theme of Advent and Christmas.
- Thames North Synod Elders' Day in Plaistow, London on Saturday 19 November – theme of "Getting The Message Out"

For more information on any of these, please see the Church Secretary or Synod Rep.

Kate Y, March 2011



Happy Birthday



This month we would like to wish

Ella C (7 th)	Erin L (21 st)
Norman G (9 th)	Ella T (23 rd)
Sam G (13 th)	Yan W (24 th)
Rebekah S (15 th)	Alex F (25 th)
Katie H (19 th)	

a very Happy Birthday



Congratulations

With Best Wishes to

Steve & Shevonne J (3rd)
Marian & Michael M (25th)

on celebrating their Wedding Anniversary

with love from us all at Trinity.

Apologies to Readers who were expecting to have had this Recorder on the last Sunday of March as usual. Technical problems have caused difficulties in production. Hopefully, all will be back to normal next month. The February News from the Chiltern Committee has been held over until next month's magazine. [Ed]

*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 24th April.
Closing date for contributions is Friday 15th April*

Recorder Editor : e-mail : editor@trinity-urc.org.uk

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

prayer page

EASTERTIDE

Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death;
Victory is ours through Him who loved us.

Desmond Tutu

Lord God, you have placed in our hands the gift that you want us to share
with everyone:

The Good News of Jesus Christ.
You offer forgiveness to all in their sin,
their brokenness, in their alienation,
in their failure and their guilt.

You offer the way of life to those who grope in darkness,
experimenting with every new religious heresy,
sampling every craze and every novelty,
yet finding no direction, no purpose.

You offer eternal life to all of us,
trapped between our birth and our death,
racing against time.

You give yourself,
the Father of us all,
desiring the greatest good for each one of us,
pursuing us in your love.

From "More Everyday Prayers" IBRA 1982

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2011

Pray for the people of Japan, grieving, bereft, having lost families,
homes, livelihoods and hope following the earthquake and tsunami

God, give me sympathy and common sense
And help me home with courage high.
God, give me calm and confidence
And, please, a twinkle in my eye.

Margaret Bailey



Dear God, it is so hard for us not to be anxious,
we worry about work and money,
about food and health,
about weather and crops,
about war and politics,
about loving and being loved.

Show us how perfect love casts out fear.

Monica Furlong

Pray for the peoples of the Middle East where
many are struggling for a more democratic
government.

Halleluia! Praise God for the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, giving us the
assurance of life after death through our faith in him.