



RINITY
Times



Trinity - a place to belong

Spirituality - Prayer – Community – Welcome

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

AUGUST 2016

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The next edition of Trinity Times will be published on 28th August. All contributions should be submitted by Friday 19th August.



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

Pastoral letter

Dear friends,

After Andy Murray's triumph at Wimbledon, many are now counting down the days to the start of the Rio Olympics with Team GB hoping to do well again. Seeing the immense skill, total discipline and utter determination of top athletes can be thrilling and awe inspiring. Of course there are also times when the athlete succumbs to the pressure to win at all cost, as seen in the doping scandals that have at times blighted modern athletics.

Paul uses the picture of the athlete training in a number of his letters, likening the Christian faith to running a good race. In his letter to the Galatians he asks them how they went off course in their race, given it's a race for true life. In his letter to the Philippians he describes himself as forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, as he presses on towards the finishing line and the prize of God's call. In a glorious mixture of metaphors he writes: 'I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.' In his letter to the Corinthians he develops the theme further, speaking of how everyone competing in the games goes into strict training (1 Corinthians 8.25). In the second letter to Timothy the emphasis is on competing according to the rules.

In the Christian race the Bible has a key role as runner's manual. 'Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and is useful one way or another – showing us truth, exposing rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.' (2 Timothy 3. from the Message) Using the Bible well requires care and effort and the help of God's Spirit as we wrestle with how God is speaking to us today through words written in very different contexts and cultures.

I hope our focus on the Bible in the autumn will give us more confidence in handling the Bible. The course emphasises how the Bible encourages questions, rather than closing them down – this is the opposite to 'Bible bashing' but rather Scripture as a true gift from God to challenge and inspire our lives.

So come if you can to the Bible Course (the Taster session on 16th August and course in September) and even if you can't, reflect on how reading the Bible can be part of your training for God's way in your life.



News of the Church Family

Not included in this version

Worship at Trinity

Sunday Worship at 10.30 am (with activities for children):

7 August Worship and Communion led by Terry Hinks

14 August Morning Worship led by Revd Mike Wallace

21 August Morning Worship led by Terry Hinks

28 August Morning Worship led by John Shaw

Worship is followed by refreshments to which all are welcome

Next Afternoon Communion is on 28 August at 4.30 pm

Midweek Prayers at 9.30 am on Wednesdays 3 and 17 August in church (half an hour of prayer together).

Our Prayer Ministry is available after worship each Sunday morning. We need more people to share in this ministry of listening, supporting and praying. For more information please speak to Marian Mole or the minister.



Wycombe Sharing of Faiths: - forthcoming events in 2016

Sunday 21 August

Family-friendly walk at Aston Rowant

http://www.chilternsaonb.org/uploads/files/Walks_and_Rides/Aston_Rowant.pdf

Regular August events

Every Sunday where possible

- Prayer ministry after the service

Every Tuesday

- Movers and Shakers Chinese Style 10.00 am – 1.00 pm
- Women's Meeting 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Every Friday

- Movers and Shakers, Caribbean style 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Other events

Wednesday 3rd of August

- Trinity prayers 9.30 am - 10.00 am

Saturday 6th August

- Saturday Café 11.30 am - 1.30 pm

Saturday 13th August

- BBQ at Valerie's (tickets £5 in advance, limited to 30 people) from 5 pm

Sunday 14th August

- Traidcraft after the service

Tuesday 16th August

- Bible Course taster session (at Trinity) 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm

Wednesday 17th August

- Trinity Prayers 9.30 am - 10.00 am

Saturday 20th August

- Saturday Café 11.30 am - 1.30 pm

Saturday 27th August

- Wedding of Jody Johnson and Michael Chetram 2.00 pm

Wednesday 31st August

- Worship planning meeting 8.00 pm - 9.30 pm

What's on this month

Prayer Pattern for August

Our weekly pattern of prayer (praying for members and church groups) during August is as follows (with wider concerns in capitals):

- 7 Aug Marian Drake (and Martin) and their pastoral group
OLYMPIC GAMES
- 14 Aug Sue Thorne (and Joan Smith) and their pastoral group
HOLIDAY CLUBS
- 21 Aug Kate Yates (and John Hillson) and their pastoral group
THOSE PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE
- 28 Aug Margaret Lewis (and Marian Mole) and their pastoral group
HOSPITAL AND GP SURGERIES

Prayer requests can be added to the list at the Prayer Table in the sanctuary.

Trinity Bookworms

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, August 3rd at 2pm. We shall be discussing "North and South" by Mrs Gaskell.

Out with the old (name) and in with the new.

Change seems to be the name of the game at the moment so the Women's Meeting is joining in and changing their name to The Tuesday Meeting. The old name no longer represents those who come and we hope that the new one being non-gender/age/etc related reflects our policy of welcoming all who would like to try us out.

Watch out in next month's Trinity Times for details of the September meetings.

Cores End Church

Walk by the Thames

Following the success of last year's Wye Walk we held another joint walk, this time from Marlow along the Thames path to Bourne End. The weather was lovely and 20 people took part in the walk with others coming to Cores End for refreshments and a short Songs of Praise service to complete the event.

Worship Group

The Church's Worship Group leads worship once a term and at the end of July it led worship on the theme of "Conquering our fears", exploring fears and uncertainties in our national life and in our personal lives. Six members shared in leading worship with readings short talks and prayers. The church also has an informal singing group which sings once a month with instrumentalists taking part too.

Mission Group

The church has a small mission group that looks to develop the church's outreach to the local area. It has been looking to develop a 'rhythm of events to deepen the church's relationship with the community

New church members

The church receives Michael Williams and Debbie Townsend into church membership on 14th August and will be holding a bring and share lunch as part of the day.

Summer Children's Fun Day

This is to be held on 6th August (10 am – 4 pm) at Cores End Church hall and is aimed at children aged 5 to 11. Craft, games, singing and cooking (costs £5 per child for the day). Numbers limited so please contact Ann Pendergast (01628 526865) for more information and to book a place.

Forthcoming events

Tues 6th Sept	The Bible Course – get the big picture! and subsequent Tuesdays until Tuesday 1st November (except Tuesday 20th church meeting)	7.30pm
Sat 10 th Sept	Mission Workshop for both churches at Trinity	10 am to 2 pm
Sun 18 th Sept	Harvest	
Sat 22 nd Oct	Revue at Trinity	7.30pm
Wed 26 th Oct	Joint Elders' training at Cores End	7.30pm
Sun 30 th Oct	Service of Remembrance	4-5 pm
Sat 26 th Nov	Quiet morning at Cores End followed by shared lunch	10 am-2 pm



Happy Birthday



This month we would like to wish
a Happy Birthday to

Abigail L (4th)

Ian B (17th)

Aurelia A (11th)

Kate Y (22nd)

Olive S (28th)

Congratulations



and best wishes to

Marian & Martin (4th)

Andrew & Yan (12th)

on celebrating their Wedding Anniversary
with love from us all at Trinity

Trinity BBQ

Saturday August 13th from 5PM

Time to relax with friends
Food and drinks provided

Tickets £5

Please note there are steps-but help on hand to assist.

This will be a garden event, numbers limited to 30 to ensure event can proceed if weather poor.

The Queen at 90

The service held on 12 June was a celebration led by various members of the congregation, with a first-ever appearance of FIVE of the organists who play from time to time, each introducing a hymn of their choice. The photo aside shows the less familiar side of the musicians - the backs of their heads being more usually seen from the congregations viewpoint!



Not included in this version

News from Lawrence Moore at The URC's Windermere Centre

Dear friends

Sabbaticals are dangerous things – or maybe it's having time to pray, reflect and explore "What's next?" that's the danger. Either way, I have returned from my sabbatical and submitted my resignation as Director of the Windermere Centre, with effect from 4 September. After 14 years in post, I am on my way.

So what is next for me? Two convictions have prompted the resignation: the first is to explore ordination to non-stipendiary ministry, and the second is to offer myself within the URC and more widely on a freelance basis as a resource and enabler to encourage members and churches in missional discipleship.

Those of you who have followed developments here at the Windermere Centre will immediately recognise the extent to which this is a direct outflow of the focus on "What's the point of church?" I don't think there's a more important question to ask if we are going to invest the resources of time, energy, personnel, money and organisation that being a church demands.

Neither do I think that the answer is as obvious as it might initially seem: it is very easy to frame our anxieties about the future of the church in the face of decline and apathy in terms of mission, when what is actually driving us is how to maintain as much of our current setup as possible for as long as possible.

There is only one good reason for the existence of the church, and that is to make a Jesus-shaped difference to the life of the world - and when I talk about "Jesus-shaped", I mean "Easter-shaped". Jesus is defined by the Way of the Cross – dying and rising.

I am convinced that what we need to discover most urgently as individuals, local churches and a denomination is what needs to die in order to for us to be resurrected to the New Life that God has for us in Jesus through the Spirit. We need to find ways collectively of discerning what the key choices are that we need to make, and the risks that we need to take. That is how we will become faithful and effective – which may or may not prove to be the same thing as having a long-term future. But it is the same thing as discovering Life and being part of the Good News we proclaim.

Moving on from here is thus the next step for me on the road I've been travelling here at the Windermere Centre. Geographically, it means moving away; in terms of priorities and direction, it is about being on the same journey as the Centre. I hope the Windermere Centre will continue to call on me as part of its own mission of "resourcing the church through hospitality and theological adventure". I will certainly be bringing people to the Centre – and, vitally, operating Pay What You Can as the means of being paid for my future work for the church.

There's a very big "Gulp!" involved. Leaving the Centre and staff and Carver Church after 14 years is going to be a huge wrench – it will be like leaving home and family. I will miss the interactions with people and churches that I've built up over that time. And then there's the fear and apprehension (as well as the excitement) of changing radically the pattern of daily life, and of all the unknowns of where this stretch of the road will take me.

What will sustain me is the conviction that this is what God is calling me to, just as that same conviction has sustained me through all the wonderful and appalling times of the past 14 years. On a daily basis, though, it is the nourishment I have derived from sharing your own journeys of discipleship, and being allowed into your lives that has held and encouraged me. That has been an immense privilege. "Companion" literally means "bread-sharer": thank you for your companionship and friendship of the past years.

May the God who has brought us all to the place where we are be with us and bless us as we navigate the next bend in the road – wherever that may lead.

Lawrence



The Future of Churches Together in Bucks

At a recent meeting of the Presidents of Churches Together in Buckinghamshire the role and future of the organisation was carefully considered.

The Presidents recognised with thankfulness the continuing life and work of local Churches Together groups and Local Ecumenical Partnerships in many of the communities across Buckinghamshire, but felt that their relationship to the county organisation was becoming tenuous and increasingly irrelevant. Considering recent difficulties in finding volunteers to serve on the Enabling Group the Presidents feel that Churches Together in Buckinghamshire has outlived its purpose and its ability to support and encourage ecumenical work across the county.

The Presidents have come to the reluctant conclusion that Churches Together in Buckinghamshire should close. Unless there is strong disagreement to this decision it will close at the end of the year (end of December 2016). If anyone wishes to disagree with this decision please send your comments to Barrie Cheetham, County Ecumenical Development Officer, email barrie@bernwodeforest.org.uk before 26th August so that the Presidents can consider their decision at their next meeting in early September.

WHC Big Sleepout



In November last year, almost 100 brave souls defied the bitter wind to raise funds for Wycombe Homeless Connection by sleeping rough. We're doing it again!

A sleepout cannot not match up to what our homeless friends have to go through, but it gives a taste and raises awareness. This is WHC's main fundraising event of the year, so if you want to help us keep fighting homelessness, plan to join in!

The next WHC Big Sleepout will be on Friday 18th November – this could be the moment for you, or a team from your workplace, so save the date! More details closer to the time.

Please spread the word.

Open the Book – Bringing the Bible to Life in the Chilterns – from the Bible Society

Children love stories – especially Bible stories when they're interactive, engaging and fun

Open the Book began in 1999 and since then over half a million school children have discovered Bible stories, during assembly and collective worship.

Today, so many children could miss out on the great classic stories from the Bible – Noah, Daniel and the life of Jesus could be closed chapters if youngsters don't get an opportunity to engage with the Bible.

That's why Open the Book is so important. It's a [three-year rolling programme](#) of themed and dramatised storytelling presented by a team from the local church, or churches together, going into the local primary school. Teams of volunteers from churches throughout the country use drama, mime, props, costume – and the children – to present the Bible stories in lively and informative ways. See for yourself - click on website page address: openthebook.net



Changes to recycling at Trinity



We have just updated our recycling policy at Trinity as there are now some items that cannot go in the recycling bins. The new policy is displayed around the building but you may find it helpful to know what can actually now be recycled - from the church premises.

Please put [all mixed dry recycling](#) in the big red plastic tub on the kitchen trolley or in the designated bin in the Lower School Room, or directly into the Recycling Wheelie Bin outside the side entrance (code is displayed on the policy posters).

Mixed Dry Recycling includes:

- Paper and Cardboard
- Plastic bottles
- Clean yogurt pots and Tetrapak type drink cartons
- Drinks cans
- Glass bottles (not broken glasses)
- Plastic bags (*these are NOT recyclable from domestic premises*)

NO POLYSTYRENE. NO WOOD. NO METAL. NO FOOD

We'd be very grateful for your help in making sure the right items go in the right bins. If you've got any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks, Kate (on behalf of the Lettings Management Team)

Leading a Big Anxious Family



A Bridge Builders Open Workshop

Thursday 15 September 2016, 9:30-4:30

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, London

Cost: £60 for the day including a light lunch and refreshments.

The programme includes worship, presentation, personal reflection, group discussion and experiential exercises:

- Explore how patterns of behavior in families and churches are similar
- Understand better the systems of emotional forces that are at work
- Discover tools for charting the triggers of anxiety in church life
- Practice managing your own reactive behavior
- Reflect on Jesus model of non-anxious leadership

This workshop is designed for people who are part of a church's leadership group (e.g. a staff team, ministry team, eldership, diaconate, church council), especially those with pastoral responsibility. A brochure is attached, and you can book on our website at: <https://www.bbministries.org.uk/course/leading-a-big-anxious-family-london/>

The workshop is **open to all**: you don't need to have done any prior Bridge Builders training.

Don't forget - Inkjet Cartridges can also be recycled. Bring them to church and leave them in the box by the piano in the Lower Schoolroom. These are processed with resultant profits going to the "Army of Angels".



Trinity and Cores End Churches

MISSION WORKSHOP
with Anne Sardeson (Synod Training Officer)

10 am – 2 pm
Saturday 10 September
at Trinity Church

Workshop begins with worship and ends with lunch.

Sessions will look at mission and evangelism, sharing ideas between congregations and focussing on work in our communities. The aim of the morning is to deepen our knowledge, strengthen our vision and develop some practical ways forward.

Come and be encouraged.

*Open to everyone from both congregations.
Bring your ideas, questions and insights.*

Please sign up for our mission workshop as soon as possible (list at church) or contact Kate or Terry

What is Mission?

- models and purpose of mission
- where to focus energies – what are we ready to do now?

Looking at where we are: existing and new mission thoughts:

- good practice examples (particularly sharing faith)
- what would we like to do?
- challenges and excitements

Taking things forward:

- practical outcomes and ways forward – where to focus
- what support do we need?
- taking today back to those who aren't here

STARTING THIS AUTUMN



BIBLE COURSE: Get the BIG picture

Come and explore the Bible in a new and refreshing way. Using DVDs, group discussion and a helpful manual, the 8 week course will help us see how the Bible fits together (from cover to cover) and how to apply its message to our lives today. Whether you are new to church or been a Christian for years or are just exploring, this is the course for you.

There is still time to sign up for the course

*We begin the Course here at Trinity on Tuesday 6 September **at 7.30 pm** (PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME) and continue every Tuesday evening up to 1 November (apart from 20 September when we have Church Meeting). It will be held at church (either in lower room or sanctuary) according to numbers. Transport can be provided. Please sign up on list at church or let Kate or Terry know if you would like to take part in the course.*

TASTER SESSION:

**Come and see what's it's all about
on Tuesday 16 August 7.30-8.30pm
at Trinity Church**

(use side entrance)

Launch of Bible focus on Sunday 4 September at 10.30 am
Worship: please bring a bible you use to church (and any unusual bibles too)

Prayers for August

Be joyful in the Lord
Thank him for his goodness in the fields
Worship him in the streets
Glorify him in the sunshine and the rain
The Lord is good. Praise him!

We confess, Lord, that we do not always enjoy your goodness to us as we should. We do not always thank you, worship and glorify you in this wonderful world you have made for us and the summer season you have bestowed on us. Too often we grumble in the rain and walk with heads down unable to smile and give a friendly greeting to someone desperate to be noticed. In the heat tempers flare over trivial matters, families and friendships are disrupted and other people considered nuisances invading our private space. In your mercy grant us true repentance for our shortcomings and lead us to deeper faith, hope and love for you and for our neighbour. *Amen*

On all travellers for pleasure and holidays, business or politics
Lord have mercy

On all wayfarers seeking a place to rest, refugees and immigrants
Christ have mercy

On all going about their ordinary lives of work, daily duties and leisure
Lord have mercy.

Almighty God, Heavenly Father grant your peace and blessing on those suffering from terrorist attacks, revolutions and riots, Guide those in authority responsible for the safety of their people as they seek for the best ways of protecting them. Be with the police and military as they carry out their everyday duties in contact with people and in the dangerous situations they are called on to face. May they act with courage but without prejudice and undue violence, *Amen*.

Who's who

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Home Groups

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Guiding Units (all sections)

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