



*February 2005*

# *The Recorder*

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*An edited version of this magazine is now available on the Church Web-site.  
(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**

## Being Passionate about our Mission Statement

Revd. Michael Shrubsole

Minister of Trinity United Reformed Church

A memory question for you: can you recite the summary of our church's mission statement on the cover of this magazine from memory without looking? Don't peek. Try it. Now look if you have to. They are good words to know, but more importantly they need to live in our hearts and our lives. They need to become a living reality.

Bill Hybels, the leader of the Willow Creek group of churches, a fast growing network of large and growing churches uses a little catch phrase at the moment. At its heart are the same three principals that are at the heart of our mission statement. But Bill says it with passion, and his words call out to those who hear to live out those same principles with passion in their lives. This is how Bill puts it:

"Think what the local church would be like if its people were **radically devoted** to Christ, **irrevocably committed** to each other, and **relentlessly dedicated** to reaching those outside God's family with the gospel of Christ. It would be a church against which the gates of hell could not prevail."

Many of you who read this will personally recall the work we did together composing our Mission Statement in the year 2000. It attempted to sum up for ourselves, and for others, our realistic assessment of who we are, and where we hoped to be going as we looked forward into the future. I still refer to it and use its words to assess whether new and existing church activities are in line with the mission of the church meeting. For example, last year there was a question about whether our Architect's Brief was getting things quite right. I got out our Mission Statement and assured myself that the two documents did indeed seem to fit together. I checked that the Brief looked like a practical expression of the intentions of the Statement. The plans for our building are just one way in which we will make the words of our Mission Statement live.

But how else are you helping make the Mission Statement live? How passionate are you about it? When you are 'Worshipping together', is it an expression of being "radically devoted to Christ"? When you do things together which are part of your way of 'Caring for one another', are you really "irrevocably committed to each other"? Do you do anything under the category of 'Sharing with others', which is an expression of being "relentlessly dedicated to reaching to those outside God's family with the gospel of Christ"? Do you live out the church's mission with a passion?

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ☐ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ☐ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ☐ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3:12-17 NIV)

Mike

Minister :  
Rev Michael Shrubsole,

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Church Secretary:  
Mrs Margaret Lewis,

e-mail: [secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk)

## February Services

### Morning Worship at 10.30 a.m.

Children of all ages meet for part of morning worship using the 'Light Years' material from Scripture Union. Adult worship usually follows the texts of the Revised Common Lectionary.

6<sup>th</sup> February - Morning Worship with Communion

Matthew 17:1-9; Exodus 24:12-18; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Psalm 2

13<sup>th</sup> February - Morning Worship

Matthew 4:1-11; Genesis 2:15-3:7; Romans 5:12-19; Psalm 32

20<sup>th</sup> February - All-age Worship & Parade Service

John 3:1-17; Genesis 12:1-4; Romans 4:1-17; Psalm 121

27<sup>th</sup> February - Morning Worship

John 4:5-42; Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-11; Psalm 95

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Rotas for February

**Not included in this version**

# What's on in February



- Monday 14th Feb - "Mystery Evening"  
(8pm. Hostess - Norma G)
- Monday 28th Feb - Mayoress for a year  
(8pm. Hostess & Speaker - José B)

## WOMEN'S MEETING

- Tuesday 1st Feb Barbara & Willie Macleod - "Our Holiday"  
Tuesday 8th Feb Speaker from Chiltern Air Ambulance  
Tuesday 15th Feb Our pets - past and present. Bring & Buy  
Tuesday 22nd Feb Eileen Edwards: Update on R.O.P.E.



*All meetings start at 2.30 in the Lower Schoolroom*

## 4th and 18th February

at 2pm - 21 Westover Road

You know the ropes - but do you know the score?

See if you can outplay the regulars.

Scrabble

## Church Walk

No church walk arranged this month



**Not included in this version**

**Diary**

**Our own events:**

**Elders Meeting** - Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>, 7.30pm. in the Schoolroom

**TLS LITE** - Wednesdays 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 2.00pm  
at 21 Keep Hill Road

**Trinity Theological Discussion Group**

*"Why did Christianity have to split from Judaism?"*

All welcome to come and share in discussion and Biblical investigation.

Led by our Minister: Revd. Mike Shrubsole.

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>, 8.00pm. in the Schoolroom

**Church Coffee Mornings** - Saturdays 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>  
10.30-12.00am in the Schoolroom

**Church Meeting** - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>, 8.00pm in the Schoolroom

**Prayer Circle for Healing** - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>, 4.30pm in the Sanctuary

**OTHER EVENTS**

**AFTER THE TSUNAMI - *By Opera2Order***

***A rich ensemble of music and songs.***

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, 6.30 for 7.00pm

City Temple, Holborn Viaduct.

Details on noticeboard

**SYNOD QUIET DAY**

Led by Revd. Keith Green

Ash Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February

10.00-4.00pm

All Saints Pastoral Centre, London Colney

Details on noticeboard

[continued on page 6]

## **SYNOD DAY - with Kathy Galloway of the Iona Community**

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February, at St. Albans

see poster on church noticeboard for further information.

## **TRAINING THE TRAINERS**

### ***Learning how adults learn!***

Want to be a better leader of Bible Studies? Need to help teach courses in church?

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Epping Church

Details on noticeboard

## **CHANGE THE WORLD - SCHOOL OF PRAYER**

### ***Led by Eric Leach***

*Highly recommended by folk from Beaconsfield Churches Together*

Friday 25<sup>th</sup>, 7.30-9.30pm

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>, 9.00am-4.00pm

A Teaching Seminar about 'Prayer'

With Study Guides and children's Creche

CHEAP! - Suggested donation of minimum of £10 requested.

Part of the work of the 'Every Home for Christ' missionary organisation. (Formerly the 'World Literature Crusade'.) See website [www.ehcuk.com](http://www.ehcuk.com)

Telephone Capt. Barry Newman (674074) for more information.

Details on noticeboard. Leaflets to be available at back of church.

## **GODLY PLAY**

### ***How to communicate the Bible to children***

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2.00-6.00pm

St Andrew's Church, Ealing

Details on noticeboard

## **LIBERATING SEXUALITY**

Organised by 'Free to Believe' the URC's open and progressive network.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April

Westminster College, Cambridge.

Details on noticeboard

*(And there is even more on the Church Noticeboard in the Schoolroom. Do take the time to peruse its ever-changing contents on a regular basis.)*

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## **DIBLEY VICARS TALK POVERTY WITH PM**

Six hundred women ministers joined actress Dawn French, from the BBC series *The Vicar of Dibley*, in a march to Downing Street recently in support of the "Make Poverty History" campaign. With their sights set on getting trade justice, cancellation of debt and more aid for the world's poorest countries, organisers had only expected 100 to attend and were thrilled at the turnout. Reverend Alison Tomlin, chair of the Oxford and Leicester Methodist district, joined Dawn French and a party of eight others to speak directly with the Prime Minister. Ms Tomlin commented "The Government may be making progress on debt relief and aid, but on trade justice they are going in the wrong direction. The free trade agenda pursued by Western Governments is flooding developing countries with mass-produced goods, against which local producers cannot compete."

## **MakePovertyHistory** Information - January 2005

1st Jan - *MakePoverty History website relaunched go to [www.makepovertyhistory.org](http://www.makepovertyhistory.org)*

13th Jan *Vicars March in London - women clergy join Dawn French march on Downing Street*

**29th January Churches launch at Bloomsbury Baptist Church** February - *Comic Relief events leading up to Red Nose Day*

1-13th March - **Fairtrade Fortnight** - *firmly linked to MakePovertyHistory*

10-16th **April Global Week of Action for Trade Justice** 'night vigil on 15th April

1st July - *White band day (the white armband/wrist band is the symbol of the campaign)*

2nd July - *big rally in Edinburgh URC General Assembly ~ a raft of ideas to link Catch the Vision and MakePovertyHistory*

**Fairtrade Fortnight** 1-13th **March**. Copies available of **Church action Guide for Fairtrade Fortnight** with stories, prayers, actions, and connection between Fairtrade and Trade Justice.

**Global Week of Action for Trade Justice 10-16th April**. 100+ organisations have endorsed the call to action across the world. Events during the week are already planned in 40-60 countries. See [www.april2005.org](http://www.april2005.org) In the UK a day long fast is being organised and there will be an all night vigil in central London through the night of 15th April. The Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance has prepared an Action Guide and also a Worship 6uide for the 6WA. See [www.e-alliance.ch/gwa.isp](http://www.e-alliance.ch/gwa.isp) We commend the use of their order of service for Sunday 10th April. Methodist churches are being asked to use that service on 10th April. Ask for a copy or download it from the website: [www.e-alliance.ch/gwa.isp](http://www.e-alliance.ch/gwa.isp) The Vote for Trade Justice cards need to be handed in by April - can we achieve a million votes?

### White Wrist Bands

The visual symbol of MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY, in the UK and around the world, is the white band - a simple band worn around the wrist or arm. Available from the major agencies or OXFAM shops for £1 but we have some stock to give out especially to younger folk. Email [anmartin@onetel.com](mailto:anmartin@onetel.com) Our goal is to get white bands worn by large numbers of people in the UK during 2005 and delivered in large numbers to decision makers.

Also White Cards are being produced, addressed to the Prime Minister, asking him to use his leadership to deliver policy changes on trade justice, debt and aid.

**G8 Mass Rally in Edinburgh** in 2nd July - Put the date in your diaries and plan to be there if you can.

**The Substance: Trade Justice, Drop the Debt and More and Better Aid** More information is forthcoming all the time about the issues for which we are campaigning. Christian Aid briefing on Trade, Debt and Aid: explaining the links - available from us or online.

1. Trade Justice - go to [www.christiQn-Qid.org/campaign/mph/index.htm](http://www.christiQn-Qid.org/campaign/mph/index.htm) or [www.tjm.org.uk](http://www.tjm.org.uk) Find out what stories you already know about rich nations subsidies and their impact on the agricultural sector of poorer nations. A monthly trade justice email goes to the FURY network. You can join it. The unfairness in trade is now focusing on pressure for poor nations to open their markets to an ever wider range of services (GATS) and non-agricultural goods under non-agricultural market access (NAMA) agreements. Go to [www.tjm.org.uk/briefings.shtml](http://www.tjm.org.uk/briefings.shtml) or [www.maketrade4fair.com](http://www.maketrade4fair.com)
2. Drop the Debt. two page briefing of [www.cforl.org](http://www.cforl.org). Or visit [www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk](http://www.jubileedebtcampaign.org.uk) or [www.wdm.org.uk](http://www.wdm.org.uk)
3. More and better aid. Go to Christian Aid briefing.

## **Open letter:**

Dear friendly members of URC High Wycombe,

Greetings from Blenheim, New Zealand! My holiday has been great so far - family, taxi service to get children to and back from part time holiday jobs, shopping, barbecues, etc! I also managed to mow the lawns and do some garden maintenance ..... and today is the big annual "spring clean" in and around the house!

We had a lovely Christmas Service - combined with Presbyterian Church - I played the organ and my wife the piano. Yesterday my wife took the service in our local church and I once again played the organ! She will soon be official a lay preacher in the Methodist Church New Zealand.

The weather is generally good - we had rain on new years day but yesterday was a lovely warm sunshine day - today looks just as promising!

I have finally decided to pursue my graduate diploma in teaching studies at Christchurch College of Education - and have also found a part time social work position that will allow me to do my studies. Sadly I will not be returning to the UK for the last 3 months of my original contract - financially and practically not worth the travel, etc.

In the light of above, I wish to thank you for all your prayers, friendliness and support the past 18 months! I really enjoyed playing the organ but also to be part of the URC in High Wycombe. You have actually become my extended family whilst in the UK. It would be true to say that my weekends were very lonely - sometimes the only conversations I had was with church members before service and whilst having a quick cup of tea afterwards! Thank you very, very much for everything I learned and experienced!

I have brought with me a photocopy of the latest Recorder but also the lona song "Be still and know that I am the Lord" - which I loved and played several times when we had communion. It is now part of my favourites which I will definately use in New Zealand.

Once again, thank you very, very much for a wonderful time and all the love and support. Give my warmest and sincere love and wishes to .... the list could just go on and on and on ..... perhaps I should have rather just said: all the members of URC High Wycombe. You have certainly enriched my life and made my time in Buckinghamshire so much more bearable. Thank you for all your prayers, support and love I experienced.

Best wishes for the future and God bless!

Regards  
J Pelcher

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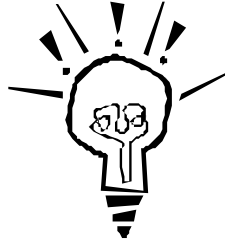
Below, and on page 10, there are two prayers from  
**Commitment for Life**, for the month of February

**Lent is a time of repentance and also recognition that the changes we might want to see in the world start with each one of us.**

Forgive us, Lord, our obsession with ourselves. We are not able to recognise our own limits. We are so concentrated on our present needs and on our own work that we forget to be grateful for the gifts You have given us through the generations who have gone before us. Forgive us, Lord, for our closed horizon preventing us from looking toward tomorrow, preventing us from handing over to our children a fertile and clean earth. Forgive us, Lord, for our greedy selfishness, for our closed hands grasping to hoard all we can to squeeze our natural resources dry. *Open our hands*, Lord, to the joy of sharing. Teach them the sower's generous gesture, so that we may sow seeds without caring who will who will benefit from the fruits of the harvest. Amen.

Luca M Negro. From European Christian Environmental Network (ECEN) used with permission





**CAN "SIMON & CO" RETAIN THE QUIZ TITLE?**

**or**

will The Jolly Jokers, Motley Crew 1, Tartan Army, Winnings, Motley Crew 2 take the prize,

**or**

are there any newcomers willing to try.



Come and join us for another fun night on Saturday 19 March for a quiz and French theme evening.

Tickets are £15 which includes quiz, meal and wine.  
Evening starts at 7.30pm for 8pm start.

Team transfers will be allowed, so you don't have to be in the same teams as before.

*See Marieke, Jan and Andrew for tickets and more details*



# Commitment for Life

Dear Commitment for Life churches

6th January 2005

At this season of Epiphany we think of the men from the East invited by God to be witnesses to His coming, so opening up the salvation of God to the whole world. The Asian Tsunami has opened up to us the most immense disaster, rippling out from the East but touching every one of us, sometimes personally. The response has been similarly immense. But think what could happen if we truly put our energy not just into more aid but into bringing justice in trade and debt relief to the poorest nations of the world. It must not end with giving money.

The United Reformed Church is fully backing **MakePovertyHistory**. The mobilisation is already being spoken about on the TV, by politicians and others, and the white wristband, the symbol of the 2005 mobilisation, is being seen. It is going to be a huge phenomenon - a real change in the way we respond to the scandal of poverty. Have you begun to talk about it in your church? Invite your church to see the links between *Catch the Vision* and MakePovertyHistory, and take the opportunities offered to make our churches relevant to the big issues in our world in Christ's name. Put up the enclosed poster to remember the faces of children behind the statistics of poverty.

As we close the year 2004 we are delighted that giving to Commitment for Life reached **£569,000** (£565,000 in 2003). We have enabled programmes to empower women, teach skills for self-reliance and deliver real change in some of the most deprived communities around the world. Thank you to all who have given generously, even sacrificially, to help our partners through Christian Aid deliver a way out of poverty. If you have not given in 2004, perhaps a special effort could be made in 2005.

I am delighted to share with you Daleep Mukarji's note of gratitude to us. 2005 will involve working very closely with Christian Aid's Trade Justice campaign within **MakePovertyHistory**.

In 2005 let us truly discover what it means to be "committed to making a difference to the world's kingdom as we serve God's kingdom." (*Catch the Vision* prayer)

Dear Anne,

*I just wanted to send you a personal note to congratulate you and everyone at the United Reformed Church for all your work in 2004 with Commitment for Life. The year on year success of the programme shows how important our partnership is for making these issues real to people in churches. The amount of money you consistently raise allows us to plan with confidence in Zimbabwe, Bangladesh, the Occupied Territories and Jamaica. The importance of the partnership to Christian Aid and our partners cannot be overestimated.*

*With 2005 being such a crucial year for campaigning it is exciting to see Commitment for Life taking the campaign agenda to the whole church. We have achieved so much together over in the past that I am excited by the possibilities that the coming year holds.*

*Please pass on my thanks and best wishes for 2005 to all who support and help Commitment for Life in many different ways.*

*Daleep Mukarji*

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Merciful God, in the name of **the prince of peace**, we remember . . .

Those who live in lands that have long been affected by acts of violence, asking for a new beginning.

Those who silently bear the violence of strangers and close ones, asking for courage and deliverance

Those who commit violence against themselves and against others in loud and subtle ways asking for forgiveness and repentance.

Those who remain apathetic to news of violence in distant lands, asking for a renewed heart.

## **Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00 p.m.**

It's that time of year again! Time to remind all church members of an important forthcoming date. Time to encourage you to begin your preparations for our Annual General Meeting. There are four main things to think about at this time. One - have you got the meeting in your diary? Two - are you needed to submit a report about your organisation or area of responsibility? Three - think about what you volunteer to do in the church. Four - consider the Eldership needs of the church.

Secretaries of Organisations and Committees – Angus M would like to receive your annual reports by 28 February please. If they can be submitted as ASCII text or RTF on floppy disc, or be sent by email so much the better. Otherwise, typed text would be appreciated. When writing reports bear in mind the value of brevity. Tell us i) who your organisation is for, ii) what your aims and objectives are, iii) what the highlights and low points for you were over the last year and, iv) what are some of your plans for 2005?

At this time of year we reconfirm, or re-elect many of our church members to many different posts, committees responsibilities, appointments, delegations and representations etc. It makes for an impressive sight listing how much is done by so many different people. I invite you to dig out last year's book of reports and look at the list of post holders listed there. Some have of course changed, and some are vacant. Some of you will thankfully continue with a task you have been faithfully undertaking in the past. Some posts are being held by people who are quite rightly ready for a change. Some of your names don't appear in the list, or don't appear very often, or don't appear in a post of responsibility. There are lots of things to think about. I encourage you to prayerfully consider the ways in which you would like to continue to serve the church into this coming year, and to consider the changes you wish to make in your service of others. Do let the Minister, or the Secretary, or an Elder know where you feel you are being led to serve at this time. A sign-up list for 2005 will appear in the church soon. Please indicate on it your willingness to serve as a post holder for 2005.

Nominations for Elders for the coming year are required. Elections will be held at the A.G.M. Please use the slip provided, (or a hand written alternative) and ensure your nomination is with the Church Secretary on or before Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March so that a complete list of nominations may be announced on Sundays 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

In 2004 we had nine serving Elders. Sue Saunders has come to the end of a three year term and is eligible to be re-nominated and re-elected for a further three years. Rose Cornwall and Margaret Lewis have come to the end of a six-year term and are due a sabbatical of at least a year. We also had one vacancy throughout the year. We therefore have four vacancies and one possible name at this time. You, the members, are required to do the work of seeking Elders for 2004. Who is God calling to a position of Eldership at this time? Is there a non-serving Elder on sabbatical who it is right to ask to return to active Eldership? Is there a new person who has mature spiritual, pastoral and leadership qualities that make them right for Eldership at this time? Talk to one another about this. Our church needs to call out the people from amongst us who are gifted in leadership and pastoral skills, who have a heart, and time, and energy, to work for the needs of the people, and who can work with the Minister and other Elders in helping shape our future.

There is an additional complication to this. Margaret has served the church wonderfully as Church Secretary since taking over from David Townsin. Church Meeting has indicated that it believes our church Constitution is correct not to differentiate between the Secretary and any other Elder. Therefore Margaret is due a sabbatical and one of the other Elders in 2005 must become our new Church Secretary. This nomination process is the responsibility of the Elders Meeting to find a

*[cont on page 12]*

Secretary from amongst themselves, but church members ought to have an eye on making sure someone suitable to become Secretary is an Elder in the first place.

I am sure we will say more about Margaret at the AGM. But for now let us briefly state without fear of contradiction what a brilliant Church Secretary she has been; how much she has earned her sabbatical in our service; and how much she will be missed in this role. I am sure God has someone equally wonderful lined up for us. But thanking Margaret with all our hearts is the first task in hand.

If you are invited to stand as an Elder don't dismiss it straight away, please talk to our Minister about the duties and qualities required. Mike has papers about the post of Elder to distribute to interested persons. Please ask. (M.S.)

**Elders Election - A.G.M. 2005  
Nomination Form**

NAME NOMINATED: .....

NOMINATED BY: .....

SECONDED BY: .....

If elected I am prepared to serve the Church as an Elder.

NOMINEES SIGNATURE: .....

*Return to Church Secretary by Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March at the latest.*

[If you do not want to cut this form out of the magazine, a plain piece of paper will do - as long as it has all the information as shown above.]



**Christmas and January Appeals and Restoration Fund**

Empty Plate: £224.10

Christian Aid: £321.09 (from Empty Plate, Carols by Candlelight and other donations)

Crisis: £56.02 (from Empty Plate)

Women's Refuge: £56.03 (from Empty Plate)

The Old Tea Warehouse: £56.03 (from Empty Plate)

DEC Asian Earthquake: £187.00 to date

Hoveraid Trust (Sri Lanka Tsunami Fund): £971.90 to date

Church Christmas Card raised £160.50 for the Restoration Fund

Many thanks to everyone for this marvellous response.

*Jan B*

# Our history

Chapter 9 of the writings of Rev Auty in 1924

## TRINITY CHURCH BEFORE THE AMALGAMATION.

**T**HE Rev. Benjamin Charles Matthews succeeded Mr. Davies, coming to Wycombe. in 1879, and remaining till 1882, when he removed to Wisbech and subsequently to Australia, where he joined the Presbyterian Church. His resignation was followed by the union of Crendon Lane and Trinity Churches, under the Rev. G. P. Jarvis.

From the beginning of 1883, when Mr. Jarvis assumed the oversight of the amalgamated Churches, until the present time, the story has been told in the preceding articles.

What of the future? In closing his little book on the History of Crendon Lane Meeting House, the late Mr. John Parker, sen., used some words which have a bearing now even more apt than in 1848, when they were penned: — "The circumstances under which our forefathers possessed these Christian privileges were less favourable to their full improvement than those in which we are placed. The expression of their religious convictions subjected them to violent persecution. Their testimony to the truth was borne at the peril of incurring fines, imprisonment, and in some instances death itself. The hardships and sufferings to which they were exposed we are happily strangers to. We are living in the midst of the blaze of Gospel light, each permitted to 'sit under his own vine and under his own fig-tree, none daring to make us afraid.' Each is enabled to exclaim 'Blessed are our eyes, for they see; and our ears, for they hear.' The position we occupy is more advanced than that of our forefathers. ... Their responsibility was great, but ours is much greater ... The past and the present combine to inspire us with gratitude to God and encourage us to confide in Him for the future. The Christian Church occupies at the present time in our country a position which most loudly summons all its members to thoughtful, prudent, regular, persevering, and unanimous efforts for the promulgation of the Gospel, in all its fullness and freeness, throughout the world. The summons is addressed to us, as a part of that Church, by our Lord Jesus Christ. If we be faithful unto Him, if His Spirit pervade our hearts in action, if there be more earnest prayer for the success of all our religious efforts, we shall soon witness still brighter days, when all shall know the Lord, from the least even to the greatest.' "

What may not be accomplished by a Church united, working on these lines, eschewing jealousies and rivalries, full of brotherly spirit, each member doing the work best suited to his or her capacity, remembering that—

All service ranks the same with God.  
If now, as formerly He trod  
Paradise, His presence fills  
Our earth, each only as God wills  
Can work—God's puppets, best and worst,  
Are we; there is no last nor first.

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*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 27th February  
Closing date for contributions is Friday 18th February.*

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**prayer page**  
(prepared by the guides)

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r  
y**

**2005**

At our first meeting back after Christmas, the guides spent some time talking and praying about the victims of the tsunami. We made a prayer chain and lit a candle to help us remember all those who suffered and are still suffering. The guides wanted to share some of the prayers and thoughts they wrote at our meeting with you

Dear God, Please help the supplies reach all the countries and Islands that need them and please comfort them, whatever faith they are. Amen

P.S. Help all the children who have lost their parents and the other way around. Let them know that you have not forgotten them. Amen

Dear God, Please help the people who have lost family and friends and the people devastated by the tsunami. Help people all round the world raise money for those in need and animals too. Amen

I hope that the homeless and affected people get treated nicely and will live a happy life.

I want to thank God for letting none of me or my friends & family be affected so we can now join together to raise money for the relief effort in the tsunami disaster areas.

Dear God, look after everyone who was affected by the tsunami and make sure everyone has enough to eat and drink. Amen.

Dear God, please help the 150,000 people who are thought to be dead and their friends and relatives too. I really hope that the survivors can start rebuilding their lives and houses and have enough money and food supplies to survive. Please help people who are momentarily lost be found safe and well. Finally, please help the whole of the Southeast Asia region to regain it's natural and man made beauties and that the dreadful event will never happen again. Amen.

I pray for all the grieving people around the world, I hope that everyone will be happy again one day.

