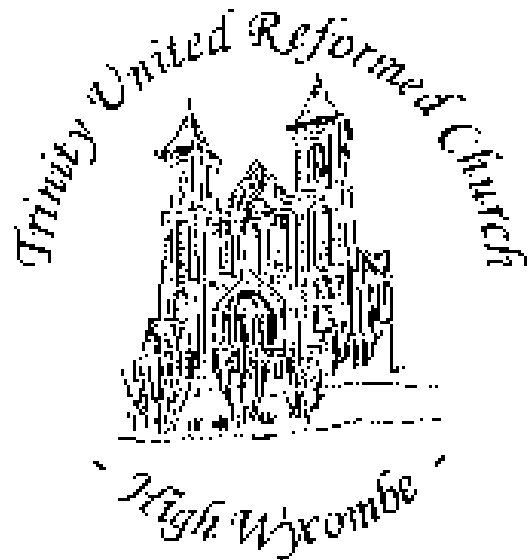


One of his disciples said to him,  
"Lord, teach us to pray ..."  
*Luke 11:1b*



*June 2010*

# *The Recorder*

## **Inside - this month . . .**

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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,

Do you find prayer easy, difficult or a complete mystery? It's interesting that one of Christ's disciples asked Him to teach them to pray; as John the Baptist had taught his disciples (see front cover). They saw the power of prayer in Jesus' life and knew they needed that too.

The busier we are the more we need to pause to pray. Maybe you work under pressure of deadlines and targets. Maybe you have to juggle the demands of family and work. Maybe you are one of those retired people who are involved in so many worthwhile and enjoyable enterprises that you rarely get a day 'off'! Perhaps you are in the midst of exams.

Busy lives come in all shapes and sizes, and they are the rule rather than the exception these days. Busy lives are a bit like productive machinery, consisting of many parts all of which are necessary but which need oiling if they are not to grate together and ultimately cause everything to seize up. Prayer is the oil in busy lives. It really can and does make all the difference; the difference between gritted-teeth endurance and hope-filled stamina, for example.

Busy lives need prayer lubrication, yet it is no less essential for those of you who live at a more leisurely pace now than you used to. When our bodies no longer allow us to rush around, prayer is possibly even more vital than ever. It can make the difference between bitterness and acceptance.

And then there are times when we cannot pray ourselves. Maybe we are too weak or ill to summon the energy to do so. Maybe we are in a tunnel and have, for the moment, lost the light. That is when we can and should lean on the prayers of others.

As many of you know, the United Reformed Church is half way through a 'Prayer Year' as year two in our three year Vision4Life programme. Last year the focus was on the Bible. Next year the focus will be on Evangelism. But this year is the year of prayer. So at Trinity this year we are joining with hundreds of other United Reformed Churches in new opportunities to pray and to learn more about prayer.

This month and next we are having a series of study sessions on prayer. There is a sign up sheet in church. Or you can ring me for details. Whether you are a Trinity regular or a visitor who happens to have picked up this magazine you are welcome to join in. You don't have to be an expert (there aren't any!). You won't even have to talk if you don't want to. All you need is a desire to get to grips with prayer and grow in your ability to pray. If that describes you then come along.

'Prayer is not a skill we learn, or an idea we understand, but a relationship we grow into. In prayer we try to draw closer to God, and learn how to let God come closer to us. Praying in this way is about recognising how God is with us all the way on our life's journey. It's also about tuning in to the ways in which God communicates with us and listening for God's guidance.' So says the introduction to the Vision4Life study book that we shall be using.

If you are one of those people I've written about above and you really are too busy to take on another commitment, then let June be for you a month when you more consciously offer your days to God in prayer in moments of stillness. And if you would like a copy of the study book to dip into at home, just ask.



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins e-mail: <a href="mailto:gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk">gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk</a>
--

Church Secretary :Mrs Marian Mole, e-mail: <a href="mailto:secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk">secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk</a>
--

## June Services

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

During June we shall be completing a 5 week series on the Holy Spirit.

June 6	10.30	Holy Communion, theme: The Holy Spirit builds the church.
June 13	10.30	Morning worship, theme: The Holy Spirit brings hope.
June 20	10.30	All age worship, theme: The Holy Spirit shapes character.
	5.00	Holy Communion
June 27	10.30	Morning worship, theme: The Holy Spirit lives in us.
	4.30	Prayer Circle

Our three services on June 13 and June 20 are included in our Open Week [see Coffee Cup flyer].

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### Rotas for June

Not included in this version

# What's on in June



June 14th Charity Talk & Presentation

A talk by Simon Evans about the charity we've been supporting this year - Mencap. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary at 8pm and everyone is invited as it is also part of Trinity's Open Week.

*Only one meeting this month*

## WOMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday 1st June

Signs of Spring and Summer

Tuesday 8th June

Looking to the Future

Tuesday 15th June

Canal Life - Marian Mole

Tuesday 22nd June

Celebrating Midsummer. Bring & Buy

Tuesday 29th June

Break up for summer. Bring & Share Tea.



*All meetings start at 2.30 in the Coffee Bar*

## Diary Dates

- June** 8 Movers & Shakers Chinese style commences for six weeks  
 12 Coffee Morning  
 13 - 20 Open Week for most organisations & activities happening at Trinity  
 19 Caribbean Evening  
 20 Communion Service 5pm  
 26 Coffee Morning  
 26 Early Harps Concert  
 27 Prayer Circle For Healing 4.30pm  
 29 Elders' Meeting
- July** 9 & 10 Churches Together Barbeques  
 11 Church Picnic followed by Songs of Praise on The Rye at 3.30pm  
 20 Church Meeting  
 21 - 24 Gwen on holiday  
 26 - 30 Lighthouse Week  
 27 Elders' Meeting  
 31 Fifth Brigade 9.30-12noon
- Aug** 27 - 30 Greenbelt Weekend

June 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Not included in this version

### TRINITY'S OPEN WEEK

13 – 20 JUNE

The aim of the Open Week is to let people in the vicinity know about what is going on in our church. Every day some of the usual groups and activities for adults will be open to anyone who wants to come and see what they do. Coffee and tea will be served Mon – Sat. at London Rd end of Sanctuary, 12.00 – 2.00. Bring your friends. If people would like to help, Marian has a sign up list. There will be information about all the children's and young people's groups, as these cannot be open because of child protection issues. A publicity company in Amer-sham that wants to support Nightshelter's work have produced a 'Coffee Cup' flyer for us as a contribution to the work. There may be things happening at Trinity that you do not know much about. Go along and see, you will not be committing yourself, just go and see what happens and encourage those groups by being interested enough to visit. And if a visitor turns up at your group please make them feel comfortable and welcome.

**We are looking to raise funds for selected charities in a way which does not simply ask you for money.**

**Another way can be seen at [www.traders4charity.co.uk](http://www.traders4charity.co.uk) where recommended tradesmen work for you and tithe to charity in doing so. Please use them & let us have the names of tradesmen you can recommend.**

**Please post entries to 34 Hithercroft Road High Wycombe  
For Queries on this and for the website please contact:- Joe Arthur on  
01494 534582 email [joeassist@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joeassist@hotmail.co.uk)**

## ZIMBABWE

In Britain, If we pay our stamps then most of us will receive a state pension. For Mercy, living in a high density housing area in the capital of Zimbabwe, Harare life is not like that. Her husband died many years ago and she bought up their three children on her own, whilst still working full time. There was never any money left over to save, so now she has no money on which to live in her retirement. Getting a job might be an answer as she speaks Shona, English and Ndebele but that is not easy in a country where unemployment is over ninety percent. So today she keeps herself active with Church administration and work with the local community. Other people sell what little they can at crossroads and in markets to make a few dollars.

To live, Mercy relies on money from her children. However, last month they did not approve of how she spent this money and so they stopped it. Mercy laughed as she explained that she often uses the money they give her to buy presents for her grandchildren and children. Imagine being so beholden to your offspring that you don't know when they will decide to start the payments again. She seemed to take it in her stride; The Lord will provide for me," she said

She is now behind with the rent and water bills. Her electricity is free because one of her sons works for the company. "You can come and bake as many cakes as you like in my oven, she said, "Just bring all the ingredients and take home the washing up."

Happily this state of affairs has now ended and Mercy is again receiving money. She is typical of many elderly people who find themselves without work and therefore no income. It is only with the help of family that they can survive. With no care homes families usually care for parents at home. However this often means leaving them on their own all day and lacking basic hygiene. This contributes to the low life expectancy of 34 years for women and 36 years for men. With a whole middle generation lost to violence, poverty and AIDS one wonders how communities will cope in the future.

But Mercy continues to get the most out of life, changing from a recent present of a new pair of tights into an old pair, she heads for a 'Kitchen Party.' She and a friend are off to give marriage advice to a bride to be, a week before her wedding. Now that is an interesting idea!!!

## JAMAICA

The Mission Statement of Children First, who receive a grant from Christian Aid is:-

'To work with street and potential street children to improve their life chance enabling them to make positive contributions to society. '

Children First is a newly transformed independent non-governmental agency. The original project began in 1989 with the support of Save the Children Fund (UK), with 50 street children. Children First presently serves approximately 620 children aged 3 - 18 years. It is the largest of its kind in Jamaica. The focus of the project is to work with and for children using the child participation technique, empowering them to become actively involved in decision making.

The project operates five days per week from 8:30 am. - 4:30 p.m. The first three days account for remedial education and basic skills training, while the fourth day caters for recreational and group activities. The fifth day is reserved for home and school visits and also staff development.

'Children First' have an interesting web page that can be found at:-  
<http://www.jamaica-kidz.com/childrenfirst/>

## **Traidcraft update**

- There have been many positive achievements to celebrate over the past year. Many thousands of producers and their families have been benefiting directly and indirectly from Traidcraft's work in promoting fairer trade.
- It has been exciting to see the continued progress in sales of Fairtrade labelled goods in the UK, and the successful pioneering of fairly traded rubber and charcoal has underlined Traidcraft's ability to innovate and bring new sectors into fair trade. Traidcraft Exchange had a successful supermarket campaign leading to proposals to establish a supermarket ombudsman.
- However, in common with many organisations, Traidcraft plc has been finding the current economic climate tough - perhaps made more difficult by increased commercial competition in fair trade. They are in many ways "victims of their own success").
- Sales through "traditional" channels, especially Fair Trader activists and mail order/internet sales, have held up well. Sales in mainstream and wholesale markets have had a marked decline in the last twelve months.
- Traidcraft's financial situation has meant some cutbacks but they are optimistic about the future. They would value support through prayer, purchases and donations to the work of Traidcraft Exchange, their charitable arm.

It's great to support Traidcraft through Trinity – and thanks to Pat W for her dedication in doing this.

**Not included in this version**

## OutCry! campaign - NEWS FLASH! (as at 12 May 2010)

Amazing news! The new coalition Government have now published their agreed policy priorities and within the document is a commitment to "**end the detention of children for immigration purposes**". This is a huge step forward for the campaign and for every one of you who has helped demand this change. Thank you and well done!

This, of course, is not the end! We do not yet know the detail of their policy – how it will be implemented, what other proposals they may put forward, and crucially, how quickly they will stop locking up children in immigration detention centres.

In the coming days and weeks it will be vital that we hold the Government to its promise and demand that they make this change as soon as humanly possible. Please stand ready – in the next few days we will be calling on you to help maintain the pressure until we finally have an end to the immigration detention of children.

Thank you.  
OutCry! national co-ordinator



A big thank you to everyone who contributed to Christian Aid Week this year. To those who went out collecting and those who contributed through the Christian Aid envelopes in church. The house to house collection raised £547 and the Sunday morning collection and the Women's Meeting Rally raised £391. With £560 of the money collected being gift aided, this will add another £156, so I make the grand total raised £1094. Well done !

Margaret

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Not included in this version



## **NEWS FROM CHILTERN AREA COMMITTEE MEETING - MAY 2010 (Edited)**

**1. 'Meet the Area Committee and ask questions' – Wednesday 9 June, 8.30 pm at Burnham URC, Stomp Road, Burnham SL1 7NR**

Open to all - come along ... grill us, support us, encourage us, let us encourage you, meet us, meet each other!

### **2. News from the churches**

#### **a) Chesham**

Making good progress on the buildings. A decision has been made to replace pews with chairs. Agreed to move out completely while the work is being done; alternative venue being sought.

The vacancy has been declared and enquiries received. Have been well served by a variety of Preachers during vacancy, not least the Interim Moderator.

The AGM is on 26 May; have four nominees for Elders to fill four vacancies. A secretary has yet to be chosen as Tom Hickling's term of office is coming to an end.

#### **b) Trinity High Wycombe**

Developing community use of redeveloped building. Wycombe Winter Night Shelter wants to establish a base through the year; trial of two mornings a week began last week. Homeless or recently re-housed people will get support and help to move on.

Having open week in June for neighbours (residential and office) to find out what goes on at Trinity. An Amersham communications company which is supporting the Night Shelter has produced free publicity for the open week with a coffee cup flyer saying "something's brewing at Trinity Church", giving info on the numerous community-based activities and groups, and stating which are open to visitors.

Trinity recently hosted a well-received meeting for regular hirers and users of the building. Aim is to build community and share information. There have been some signs of engagement by some of the groups with the spiritual life of the church.

#### **c) Trinity Slough**

AGM took place last night and reports were presented. They seem in good heart. Membership has decreased slightly but adherents have increased slightly. They are looking forward to church anniversary next month which is always a good event. They feel well-served by visiting preachers. They are having a Christian Aid quiz night on Friday run by Linda Hillier's husband.

Catherine McFie, an elder and acting joint church secretary, is candidating for ministry. Church meeting unanimously commended her for training. She is doing an assessed service on 30 May which Alan Yates and David Trafford are attending.

### **6. Area Day on Children's and Youth Work - Saturday 16 October**

We will be holding a day for anyone in our area to attend, focusing on Children's and Youth Work. Simon Rudiger, our newly appointed CYDO, together with Soo Webster and Heather Pugsley, will be joining us.

- What would you like the content to be?
- What do you need?
- Is this something your youth and children's leaders would like to attend?
- What issues and challenges do you face?
- What exciting and encouraging ideas and news can you share with us?

Our **Trinity Rangers** carried 4 of the banners at the recent County Banner Service which is unique to Bucks Guiding. Every banner in the county was paraded at RAF Halton on 9 May including several from High Wycombe as seen in the photos.



## **Israel /Palestine – Dialogue**

**(Listening to each other – the Jewish and Muslim perspective)**

**Wednesday, 2nd June 2010**

**11.00am – 3.30 pm**

Church House 86, Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT

### **Speakers:**

Paul Usiskin: former soldier in the Israeli Defence Forces, writer, peace activist, TV producer, board member of The Abraham Fund seeking reconciliation between the Christian, Jewish and Muslim perspectives in the conflict

Reverend Paul Dean will be chairing the discussions

Afternoon workshops will be led by: Reverend Helen Garton

Please reply to: Gill Hillman (Commitment for Life Programme Administrator) if you are able to join us. Email: [gill.hillman@urc.org.uk](mailto:gill.hillman@urc.org.uk)

Lunch is provided.

Please let us know if you have any special needs, dietary or otherwise

## **This is a Community Message from Amersham Watch office on Mon 10 May 2010**

This report demonstrates how co-operation between Neighbourhood Watch and the authorities can help prevent crime.

During the evening of Thursday, 22nd April, a member of Neighbourhood Watch contacted the Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association, to seek advice regarding his elderly father who had responded to a leaflet put through the door from a business offering to do paving and landscaping.

The father had asked that organisation to do some work for him and he had accepted a verbal quotation of £8,400, which was very quickly changed to £18,400. He paid a cash deposit of £5,000 and the work, which involved paving a drive, paving a path behind the house, and building a brick wall had already started.

It was felt that the father had probably been grossly overcharged and the son was urged to phone the police without delay and then to phone Consumer Direct (Trading Standards) immediately afterwards, to advise them of the circumstances.

This was done and, the next morning, both the police and Trading Standards arrived at the father's house.

The public need to take steps to ensure they are not victims of doorstep crime. Doorstep selling, also known as cold calling is when someone comes to your door without prior arrangement, or you receive an unsolicited leaflet, and they then try (often persistently) to sell you something. Visits to your home to follow up a cold call telephone call, where the visitor then tries to sell to you, are also covered by the same rules.

Some examples of cold callers include, amongst many others:

- Driveway contractors
- Roofing contractors
- Burglar alarm sellers
- Double glazing sellers

If you are unexpectedly subjected to a sales pitch at home, the law protects you if your purchase is for more than £35.

What you can do?

- Never let an uninvited tradesman into your home.
- Think carefully before entering into any agreement either written or verbal.
- Check the internet; see if the company is known.
- Get at least three separate written quotations.
- Only use companies that have been recommended by a friend or relative.
- If you hear about a rogue caller, tell everyone you know especially the elderly or vulnerable.
- Say NO. In the cold light of day, your purchase will look less of a bargain and may be of standard workmanship.

If in any doubt contact the Police or Trading Standards.

### **Cores End United Reformed Church**

**All Keyed Up - Flute Ensemble**

present a

### ***Summer Serenade***

at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Cores End United Reformed Church, Bourne End, SL8 5HZ

Music for an early Summer Evening by Handel, Vivaldi, Gershwin and Others

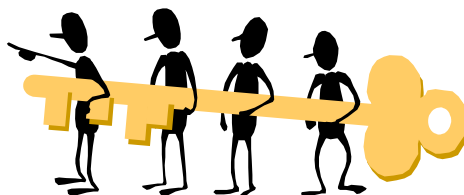
*Tickets on the Door - £8 with Refreshments*

The United Reformed Church  
Thames North Synod

# THE DOOR IS OPEN

## Chiltern Area Committee

INVITATION TO ALL URC CHURCHES/LEPs IN THE CHILTERN AREA



**Convenor:** Alan Yates      **Secretary** : Kate Yates

Open forum - come and attend an Area meeting  
Meet the Committee members  
Ask questions

Discuss topics that are important to you  
Tell us what's happening in your church  
Meet up with old friends and new

**Wednesday 9 June at 8.30 pm**

**Venue: Burnham URC, Stomp Road,  
Burnham SL1 7LR**

Chiltern Area Committee plans to hold a couple of its meetings a year in different churches to which everyone in our 17 area churches would be invited, as we know that this date won't suit everyone. **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

**Note:-** Those who came to the 'Meet the Moderator of General Assembly' afternoon on Sunday 31 January seemed pleased to find out more of what is going on in the Chiltern Area and to chat to people in other churches.



Gwen, Kate and Alan will be at the Area Committee meeting as members and they would be really pleased if there was some support from Trinity people and interest in the committee's work which is on behalf of all our Chilterns URC and United churches. MM

## Why A Broader View is Needed by Vaughan Jones

*Vaughan Jones is chief executive officer of Praxis ([www.praxis.org.uk](http://www.praxis.org.uk)). He is a minister in the United Reformed Church, an Ekklesia associate, and the think-tank's adviser on migration and related issues. He has also written extensively on human rights, religion and social justice concerns.*

Political debates about migration in general and immigration in particular, not least in the 2010 General Election campaign and its aftermath, revolve narrowly around two concepts: 'numbers' and 'control'. In this paper, the author shows why a broader view is essential. Situating UK concerns within an assessment of global challenges, it looks at the causes of human displacement and how to address them, attending also to the consequences of migration - including its significant benefits. Climate change, conflict, economic inequalities, community cohesion, and participation are among the 'drivers' highlighted. Concluding with a positive alternative vision of people movements as a renewing factor in society, this paper includes links to further resources and analysis from Ekklesia, and from a range of other NGOs and expert agencies / institutions.

### INTRODUCTION: A SHORTSIGHTED DEBATE

It was almost inevitable that migration would creep into (or possibly explode within) the 2010 General Election campaign. The BBC and other media outlets were predicting at the beginning that 'immigration' (it is usually reduced to one component, - rather than the wider phenomenon of migration, signifying the full variety of people movements) would be one of the top issues. Politicians say they hear concerns about it 'on the doorstep' all the time; Gordon Brown's fateful encounter with Gillian Duffy revolved around it; the extremist groups have tried to aggravate the 'issue' (singular) of immigration. Yet polls also suggest that it is by no means the biggest determining factor as to how most people choose to vote.

When they receive attention for their views about immigration, both the British National Party (BNP) and the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) force all of the mainstream political parties to sound, by degrees, both liberal ('not like them') and tough ('no need to vote for them'). By and large, however, the matter gets tackled on the basis of a suffocating sameness that views it through the dual lens of *numbers* and *controls*. The cigarette paper of a difference between the parties is whether or not the numbers have been 'too high', what the 'optimum number' is, and at what skills level - as required for our economic growth given its fragile condition - the 'numbers' might be added to. The corollary question is then how 'we' can make sure that we keep out 'those people' who desire to come to Britain, but who allegedly do not contribute to the balance of skills and accruable economic benefits.

*But if we are truly concerned for the wellbeing of migrants, and for settled populations too, we do not have to engage with 'the immigration debate' on these terms.*

In choosing to vote for a party, or to push for political change after the election, we might instead consider a number of other matters which bear heavily upon the migration debate and which put abstract 'numbers' and artificial 'controls' into a much more realistic perspective.

What follows is a brief commentary on the key issues related to migration that have featured in the General Election campaign barely if at all. This is because of a commonly short-sighted view of 'the issue' imposed by a combination of political timidity, lack of bureaucratic room for manoeuvre, tabloid newspaper scaremongering, the constant repetition of 'the numbers game' as the only show in town, and the popular - but usually ill-defined and questionably researched - perception that 'most people' are 'worried about immigration' and will view anything short of drastic reductions in 'the numbers' as 'soft'.

Christians, people of other faith and those of good faith have a duty and an opportunity, born out of their own experience and concern, to challenge these stereotyped views which condition the entire 'mainstream' debate - and instead to take a necessarily broader view.

### 1. DEALING WITH THE CAUSES OF DISPLACEMENT

It is essential, first of all, to make a distinction between those who have no alternative but to move to another country and those who are doing so more out of a considered personal choice. So what matters in making this distinction?

(a) **Climate change:** This is a major cause of displacement and will be so for many years to come. However, the patterns of migration resulting from climate change will not be uniform. There will be some sudden and urgent humanitarian disasters, but there will also be the slow and continual erosion of a local or regional ecology that makes the environment in a particular place unsustainable. So in some instances people will be moving away gradually.

It is important that migration is factored into all climate change adaptation strategies. So we do not just need a climate change debate about emissions (important though that is), we also need to know what international contingency plans will be in place for those displaced by climate change in the short, medium and long term. The awareness and discussion about this is only just beginning. Yet it is a massive concern.

(b) **Conflict:** The most effective way of ensuring that refugees do not come to this country or to other countries is to stop the wars which create the refugees in the first place.

Besides reassessing the war in Afghanistan, the new government will need to undertake a defence review. An important issue in and beyond the election should be how to develop a coherent security policy, which protects citizens from danger and at the same time contributes to sustainable and lasting peace.

In the modern world, this requires skills for which traditional armies, navies and air forces are not equipped – like conflict transformation, mediation, civilian intervention, peacemaking and peace-building.

It should also be remembered that most refugees are fleeing low intensity conflicts in which small arms, hand-me-down weapons and drug-induced soldiering are the order of the day. Controlling and eliminating small arms is as important as reducing major weapons systems and nuclear arsenals.

We also require a security system which is based on defending the weak, protecting the human rights of all and enabling broad participation – rather than demonising particular groups. Muslims are not our enemy. They are part of us.

(c) **Economic inequalities:** ‘Economic migrants’ are much maligned. But the reality is that failing economies force people to move. So do developing economies.

There is no doubt that *diaspora* communities contribute significantly to the development of home countries. Bear in mind that this is true of the United Kingdom as well.

Britons living abroad send more to the home economy in remittances than overseas nationals living here. But trouble-free movement of peoples between countries will only really be possible and mutually beneficial when there is much greater parity between economies.

As long as injustices exist within trade and finance, and global corporate capitalism functions as it does to the benefit of small elites and the hindering or marginalisation of many, then migration will be a fact of life – because livelihoods and economic survival depends upon it.

We are foolish to ignore all this, and to blame those who move, rather than addressing the reasons why it makes sense for them to do so.

## 2. DEALING WITH THE CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION

(a) **Community cohesion:** There are a number of factors which inhibit the effective settlement of new migrants. Migration needs to be factored into local and regional planning, for example.

There are very specific issues for London and other major metropolitan centres. There is a natural gravitation towards these centres from dispersal regions and from areas that employ people in very exploitative and seasonal work.

New forms of accommodation are needed and a better system of recording the number of migrants in a locality between censuses is also required.

Ultimately the issue of cohesion is not an issue of migration. Many areas of high immigration are also very cohesive. However, the issue remains one of equalities and valuing diversity.

Multiculturalism is no longer a fashionable word, but it is a noble and exciting aspiration. The big issue is to how to learn to adapt to populations made up of those who stay, those who go and those who arrive – culturally, socially, economically, politically and spiritually.

Gathering and dispersal will be continuing factors in a ‘globalised’ environment. People, resources and finance are on the move, all the while we search in different ways and in different geographic and habitation environments for sustainability, security and stability. The overriding task here is human and ethical.

(b) **Participation:** Migration gives an opportunity for renewal of our society and many other societies. Faith groups, among others, are already invigorated by new communities, as are our health service and schools. We should value the participation of new communities in local and political leadership.

The presence of the BNP, UKIP and the English Defence League are anxious, defensive and aggressive throwbacks to an era that has past. We should now be looking forward to building a very different society.

While no one should advocate the displacement or subjection of one culture, faith, community or society by another, the stimulus which migration brings can revitalise and energise depressed communities, if handled well.

To make immigration and emigration work effectively for much-needed societal renewal we need decent leadership and involvement from politicians and civil society. Sadly, the 2010 General Election seems to by-pass all of these opportunities, as well as the challenges set out above. But this democratic event is but one space in which individuals and civil society groups can steer the country (and what has been a stunted debate) in a new, just, hopeful and energising direction.

*Additional research: Simon Barrow*

© The authors and Ekklesia, 2010.



# Happy Birthday



This month we would like to wish

John S (8<sup>th</sup>)

June Ellen M (12<sup>th</sup>)

Daniel H (16<sup>th</sup>)

Tim S

A Very Happy Birthday  
with love from all at Trinity.



# Congratulations



With Best Wishes to

Neil & Pennapa B (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Ellen & George M (3<sup>rd</sup>)

on celebrating their Wedding Anniversary  
With love from us all at Trinity.

---

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

Recorder Editor : e-mail : [editor@trinity-urc.org.uk](mailto:editor@trinity-urc.org.uk)

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

# prayer page

May the grace of Christ, our Saviour,  
And the Father's boundless love,  
With the Holy Spirit's favour,  
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union  
With each other and the Lord  
And possess, in sweet communion,  
Joys which earth cannot afford.  
Amen.

O Lord, who hast mercy upon all, take away from me  
my sins,  
and mercifully kindle in me the fire of thy Holy Spirit.  
Take away from me the heart of stone,  
and give me a heart of flesh,  
a heart to love and adore thee,  
a heart to delight in thee,  
to follow and to enjoy thee,  
for Christ's sake.

*(Ambrose of Milan, c 339-97)*

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Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,  
When our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too little,  
When we arrived safely because we sailed too close to the shore.  
Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess we have lost our thirst for the waters of life;  
Having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity and in our efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,  
to venture on wider seas  
where storms will show your mastery;  
where losing sight of land,  
we shall find the stars.  
We ask You to push back  
the horizons of our hopes;  
and to push into the future  
in strength, courage, hope, and love.  
*Sir Francis Drake (1540 - 1596)*



We pray for those who do not know you and have no one to turn to,  
the many who have been driven to despair and even suicide.  
Lord, in these troubled times, we pray for strength and resilience.  
Cause your church, the Body of Christ, to be a beacon of light and hope.  
Make us ready to stand alongside those who are weighted down by the pressure of living.  
Enable us to bring your compassionate presence through the sharing of each other's burdens.

*M.Y. Lee from  
[www.christianity.about.com](http://www.christianity.about.com)*

<b>Sunday</b>	Pray for persecuted Christians across the world
<b>Monday</b>	Pray for the homeless Day Centre pilot – for the staff, volunteers and clients
<b>Tuesday</b>	Pray for teachers and lecturers, and students, especially at this time of exams
<b>Wednesday</b>	Pray for the Chiltern Area Committee, serving the URC churches in this part of the Thames North Synod
<b>Thursday</b>	Pray for our social workers and those working in local authorities to provide care in the community
<b>Friday</b>	Pray for Movers & Shakers Caribbean Style
<b>Saturday</b>	Pray for anyone you know who is depressed or struggling with life at the moment