

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control.
[Galatians 5:22-23]



June 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,

This month we celebrate the festival of Pentecost, remembering the day when the Holy Spirit came to the first disciples with power. It is a very familiar story, but if you want to refresh your memory you can read about it in Acts 2. It is often thought of as the birth-day of the church. It was a fantastic day. Many disciples spoke about Jesus that day (v.7). The speech recorded in the Bible, though, is Peter's, and he certainly doesn't pull his punches!

“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

The people were “cut to the heart” and responded to his call to repent, be baptised and receive the Holy Spirit. Three thousand people joined the little band of followers that day.

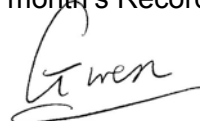
Pentecost, then, is about celebrating the foundations of the faith, going public with the message, and having people added to the Christian community. So it is a most appropriate day on which to have new members join our church too. Pentecost this year falls on June 12th. On that day we will receive into membership at Trinity: Mrs Arthalie Pope, Erin Lockhart, Rebecca Hawes, David Poole, and Marian and Martin Drake. Erin and Rebecca have been part of Trinity since childhood. They will be confirmed, as well as received into membership. Arthalie, Marian, Martin and David have been valued members of other churches and still have active connections beyond Trinity, but believe with us that God is calling them to take this step of commitment to our local church at this time. We thank God for each of them, and look forward to celebrating with joy on Pentecost Sunday.

Looking ahead to next year, there are plans afoot for a large Pentecost Festival service in High Wycombe bringing many churches together. This initiative is coming from those linked with organising Lighthouse. I have been asked to a meeting for ministers to hear more about these ideas so will pass on what I learn. Pentecost 2012 will be on May 27th. Put the date in your diary.

Back to 2011, and on that same weekend as Pentecost Sunday, Rose is organising another of her enjoyable Caribbean evenings (Saturday 11th June). It will be a good social occasion as well as raising funds for the church. Many thanks to Rose and her helpers, in anticipation. Rose has asked me to bring my cricket ‘board’ and run a test match. I wonder if England will balance out the score this year and beat last year's triumphant St Vincent team. We are looking for new talent!

Because of all that is happening on June 12th we will postpone the CWM Africa Region focus for a month, moving it to July 10th. Some readers will recall the programme issued earlier in the year and will know that July 10th was to have focussed on the Pacific Region and would have been the final CWM service in our series of six. That will now happen on August 14th.

This timing should work out well. The United Church in Papua New Guinea is one of our sister churches in CWM Pacific Region. At last, after many months of uncertainty Bernie and I have had confirmed dates for the event that the Moderator of the United Church in Papua New Guinea has asked us to end our visit with, so our flights have now been booked. August 14th will be my last service at Trinity before flying out to Papua New Guinea later that week for two months. In next month's Recorder I will write more details of what we will be doing there.



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins e-mail: gwen@trinity-urc.org.uk
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Church Secretary : Mrs Sue Saunders, e-mail: secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk
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June Services

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

June 5	10.30	Holy Communion, led by Revd Alan Kirkcaldy
	4.00	Prayer Circle
June 12	10.30	Pentecost & reception of new members
June 19	10.30	All age worship on Trinity Sunday, and Fathers' Day
	4.30	Holy Communion
June 26	10.30	Morning worship

Rotas for June

Not included in this version

What's on in June



- 13 June Macmillan Charity Talk [*Hostess: Ellen Murray*]
- 27 June Summer Meal at The Mayflower, Penn Road, Hazlemere 7.30pm

WOMEN'S MEETING

- Tuesday 7th June Meeting at 18A Lucas Road, the home of Olivia Price Subject:- Favourite things
- Tuesday 14th June Speaker:- Marian Mole. The Arctic and the Midnight Sun
- Tuesday 21st June Quiz. Bring & Buy
- Tuesday 28th June Preparations for a Celebration of Summer
- Tuesday 5th July A Celebration of Summer (in the Sanctuary)
[See separate article on next page]



Meetings start at 2.30 in the Lower Schoolroom unless otherwise stated

Diary Dates

- June 4 Elders' Conference** at Amersham Free Church
- 5 Prayer Meeting for Healing** 4pm
- 8 Churches Together** 7.30pm Oakley Hall
- 11 Coffee Morning** 10.30am
- 12 Traidcraft Stall**
- 25 Coffee Morning** 10.30am
- 28 Elders' Meeting** 8pm

June 2011						
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		

Minister's Phone Numbers

My mobile phone has been unreliable recently, because of difficulties getting a signal. I am sorry if you have tried to phone me unsuccessfully. I have now changed to a new provider, so hope that all will be well. My number stays the same.

Gwen

News of the Family

Congratulations to **Janet Roake** on the arrival of grandson Harry Charles. A second son for Lesley and Neil, and a brother for Oliver. Congratulations also to **Aurelia Awuku** on the birth of granddaughter Noa born five weeks early to daughter Michelle and husband Stan.

Congratulations to **Rose** on the marriage of her daughter Trish, to Andy.

Congratulations also to **Andrew Winton** who is a step closer to being accepted on the Mission Exchange Programme.

Robin Garden is home again after a spell in hospital.

Sadly, **Revd Andrew Busby** died on 1st May after a ten year battle with cancer. We remember his wife Angela and family. We also remember **Shirley McCorkell** and family following the funeral at Trinity of her husband Gerard on May 9th. Shirley is the daughter of the late Pastor Johnston.

Members of our congregation who continue to suffer with ill health, pain, disability and may be undergoing treatment are: **Erica Hoskings, Rose Cornwall, Gwenda Dicker, Marianne Hillson, Win Garred, Abigail Lokko, Elaine Smith, Arthalia Pope, Olivia Price, Joan Standage** and **Pauline Starck**.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the above, their families, friends and carers.

SS

A Celebration of Summer.

The Women's Meeting usually break up for the summer with an informal tea among ourselves. This year we have a special service and tea on Tuesday July 5th to which everyone is invited. This is not only for women.

We have Ruth Richey, deacon in the Methodist Circuit, as our speaker and Andrew Winton will be playing the organ. We have invited other churches to join us and, whatever the weather, we look forward to our Celebration of Summer as a happy occasion of worship and fellowship.

Please put this date in your diaries. On a practical level we should be glad of help in serving tea, particularly carrying heavy kettles etc. We hope to see as many of you as possible. Remember 2.30p.m. Tuesday, July 7th.

Brief notes from the Central Aid newsletter – May 2011

Central Aid is 150 years old, doing the same good things for those in need in the local area. The Furniture Warehouse is open more frequently, the Pop-In is increasing its number of customers and we now have a charity shop in Desborough Road! This was opened on 4 April. Willing volunteers for this and other projects are invaluable and more volunteers are welcome. Small grants come from Chiltern District Council and Bucks Housing Association. The Society is grateful to friends who give money regularly.

Since the Society was founded by Dame Frances Dove in 1906, Wycombe Abbey School has maintained a close relationship with the Society and the girls gain experience of the charity environment and give extra help in the office.

The number of food parcels given out has increased for those in need and especially to those youngsters moving into new flats on the old sewage works if they are referred by Social Services.

This is a brief account of the newsletter sent to me by the Secretary so that we in Trinity are informed of how our annual grant is appreciated. I have received an invitation to a 'get together' lunch. I hope to go and meet other supporters.

Olivia P

ZIMBABWE

Representatives of the United Reformed Church have expressed their anger and concern at the news of the violent disruption of an ecumenical prayer service for peace at a church in Harare by Zimbabwean police earlier this month.

Their comments are based on the press statement from the Zimbabwe Christian Alliance (full copy below) which describes a vicious attack by Zimbabwe armed riot police on a Harare congregation of approximately 600 people. The brutal actions of the police caused serious injury to many – and 14 people were arrested and taken to Harare central police station where they were charged with “causing public violence” and held for two days.

Commenting on this, Simon Loveitt, public issues spokesperson for the United Reformed Church, said: “This brutal attack on people gathered to pray for peace represents a new level of oppression and violence in the long litany of human rights violations by the Zimbabwe Republic Police. It now appears that even places of worship can no longer be considered as sacred or safe spaces – and this raises serious concerns about the fundamental human rights of freedom of thought, conscience and belief in Zimbabwe.

“The greatest irony is that people praying for peace were charged with “causing public violence” while the only violence was from those who are charged with the protection of citizens from the very acts they perpetrated; this resonates with the message of Holy Week on which we are currently reflecting,” added Mr Loveitt.

Mr Frank Kantor, the URC’s secretary for church & society, and a South African national, personally knows many of the victims of this recent violence and says: “Although I have a strong and personal connection to the Christian community in Zimbabwe, I believe that these atrocities are something all Christians should be concerned about. It is our prophetic mandate to speak out against injustice and oppression in whatever form – and I am proud that the United Reformed Church is prepared to publically stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ.”

Mr Kantor concludes: “As we come to the climax of Holy Week, and the eyes of the Christian Church turn towards the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we appeal to all Christians to remember the on-going suffering and distress of our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe in their Easter prayers. Their suffering has been long and painful – and yet we are reminded by the Easter message that hate and turmoil is not the final reality for Christians. Faith, hope and love endure – and will overcome in Zimbabwe.”

The United Reformed Church has urged its congregations throughout the UK to continue to pray for a just and peaceful solution to the political and economic crisis in Zimbabwe. Statements on recent police brutality in Zimbabwe:

[Zimbabwe Christian Alliance Press Statement on police violence]

Get Involved in the Big Climate Reconnection!

People across England and Wales are lobbying their MPs this Spring to make sure their Climate Concerns are represented and that the UK delivers on its Climate Promises.

To see what's going on in your area and to get involved please visit this website:-

www.thebigconnection.org and sign up to the interactive lobby map
<http://www.stopclimatechaos.org/10/aug/big-connection-climate-map>

Stop Climate Chaos coalition need YOU to make a connection with your MP this spring to make sure we pave the way for warmer homes, a cooler planet and fair finance for the world's poorest.



Due to holidays and other events at Trinity, the Traidcraft Stall will be available on the 12th June as normal and then again on 31st July to cover July and August. After which, we will be back to our normal 2nd Sunday for September 11th. If you would like to order anything from the catalogue please let us know.

The Two Sues

Missionary's book sheds light on Bangladesh climate change

12 May 2011



CWM missionary James Pender is reaping widespread acclaim amid the launch of his first book exploring the impact of climate change in Bangladesh.

Published in English and Bengali, James' new book is the culmination of five years research spanning his work with the Church of Bangladesh Social Development Programme.

Entitled 'What is Climate Change, its Impacts and possible Community Based Responses in Bangladesh', the book has already been lauded by Action of Churches Together (ACT) as well as environmental ministers and church leaders in Norway and Scotland.

A summary of James' findings have been presented to UK Prime Minister David Cameron.

But the key purpose of the research, says James, who has served at the Church of Bangladesh since 2004, is to provide local development workers in Bangladesh with vital information on future climate change predictions and how they can adapt to the changes.

"Even to the author, a book or report can get boring," he said. "But the four years of work I put into the book were all worth it to see the thrilled faces of people realising they now have comprehensive information on climate change in their own language for the first time."

James Pender's appointment to Bangladesh is the result of a partnership between CWM and British-based missionary organisations with CMS as the lead society.

CALLING ALL THESPIANS - AGAIN !!



Just imagine, this could be you in December 2011. We are going to be putting on the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk at Trinity on December 2nd and 3rd - OH YES WE ARE - provided we have the volunteers. Of course we need actors, singers and dancers but also people to help backstage, front of house, costumes, lighting, sound, refreshments and advertising. Kate Pryde has written a wonderful script so all we need now is YOU !

Rehearsals will start in September so, if you would like to be part of this great adventure, please have a word with me. I look forward to being inundated with volunteers.

Margaret L

Caribbean Evening

Our annual Caribbean Evening will take place in Crendon Hall on
Saturday 11th June starting at 7.00pm.

Please make a note of the date in your diary and come along for an evening of
Music, Food and Fun.

Tickets are £7 each (£5 for concessions) and available from Rose.



"VISION DAY"

"TOGETHER WE CAN"

SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2011

Guest Speaker

The Revd Dr David Cornick

(General Secretary for Churches Together in England)

The Church on Fairford Leys, Hampden Square, Fairford Leys, Aylesbury, HP19 7HT
9.30am - 1.30pm

- *Interest Groups
- *Ideas Exchange
- *Excellent Fellowship
- *Christian Bookstall
- *Buffet Lunch

Reservations through Kate Yates or

e-mail MaryCotes@aol.com Tel: 01908 226886

Registration forms back to Revd Dr Mary Cotes by Saturday 1st October
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After nearly five years' service, Captain David Scott retired as County Ecumenical Development Officer for CTiB at the end of May.

David says, *"I have always believed that the CEO should be seen very much at the coal face of ecumenism and this I have tried to do by visiting and supporting local CT groups and ecumenical partnerships or just attending and enjoying special events."*

Through my work as CEO my personal vision of ecumenism has been strengthened and I hope also in some small way I have been able to be supportive to you where you are."

From 1 July 2011, the Revd Dr Mary Cotes will take on the role of CEDO for Bucks. Her telephone number is 01908 226886 and e-mail address MaryCotes@aol.com

CHILTERN AREA COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2011 [Edited]

News from the churches

Beaconsfield

Shortly after his arrival in Beaconsfield, Revd Nigel Douglas issued a questionnaire to members of the congregation to discover where their interests lie. The responses have resulted in a number of new developments:

- a “Test of Faith” course, examining the discoveries of science which can challenge traditional Christian understanding,
- another course entitled “Holy Curiosity”, which examines such esoteric subjects as post-modernism
- a monthly men’s breakfast, which is about to commence
- plans for a literary group, which is in the process of being formed.

Nigel and his wife Barbara have taken over the running of the weekly Babies and Toddlers group, providing a focus of stories and singing. Nigel has been actively involved in visiting retirement homes which has resulted in some individuals attending Sunday worship regularly.. He also regularly takes assemblies at one local school. A monthly café service, which is always supported by the Douglas family though run by others, attracts several young families who rarely attend the regular services.

Burnham

We are actually in very good spirits at the moment having just enjoyed a visit from the Synod Moderator which we (particularly the Elders) found uplifting & very reassuring. We are also feeling very positive now the first meeting for the joint discussions with Gerrards Cross and Iver have been arranged which, together with the Vacancy Consultation the following evening, keeps our vacancy moving forward.

Earlier this year we were delighted to welcome two of our younger church family into full church membership so although more than half our 'family' are getting-on-in-years (six at 90+ years) we are all young at heart and working as a team within the church & our local community. Attendances at services have remained constant and thanks to all the friends who visit us to lead services, challenging and stimulating our thinking, our faith continues to grow strongly.

2012: the URC’s 40th birthday celebrations – seeking your ideas



2012 marks the 40th birthday of the URC. Chiltern Area is considering holding a celebration day in the summer for all our 17 churches to participate in. We would value your input:

- **Do you have ideas of what event we might hold?**
- **Would you be willing to be part of a working party to plan it?**

Please contact Kate Yates with your replies (yates.kathryn@gmail.com)

“Everybody Welcome” Checklists

From January to March we worked through the ‘Everybody Welcome’ programme, in worship, mid-week groups and at Church Meeting. As well as much discussion there was opportunity to fill in checklists looking at 17 specific ways in which churches can be welcoming, or not. Thank you to all who did so. Overall Trinity comes out pretty well, but there is also room for improvement.

54 checklists were returned.

Some were group responses, some individual.

Not enough to be statistically valid; but interesting nevertheless.

SCORES:

We scored best¹ on [in no particular order]

- ‘The Premises’ – thanks to Revive ☺
- Pastoral care
- The Worship event
- Community life
- And on people getting involved in Christian Service.

We scored worst² on [in no particular order]

- Using special services to make new contacts
- Making new friendships
- Christian nurture
- Publicity

PARTICULAR COMMENTS on most urgent and relevant issues to tackle

3 comments each for:

- Worship – informal, less traditional and more modern hymns/songs [x3]
- Sort out front doors [x3]

1 comment each for:

- Worship - opportunity to experience God and prayer.
- Personal invite - leaflet
- Better follow up – befriending
- More members attending special services i.e. funerals, weddings etc.
- A sign indicating toilets from Sanctuary
- Coffee bar in Sanctuary
- Hot water
- Initial welcome – do we need an extra person(s) to do this?
- Encourage users to clear up after use
- More for young people; is all age once a month enough; special service for teenagers?
- Needs of poor readers
- Large print O o S / Recorder / Minutes of Church Meetings for partially sighted
- Indicate presence of dairy / nuts in food
- Needs of people with English as a second language / improve signage in other languages.
- Alpha? --- membership?
- Draw more attention to details on back of Order of Service
- Visitors book – is it used much?

ACTION TAKEN SINCE that relates to some of these responses:

- Leaflet produced for Easter Services, for members to give family and friends.
- Start an informal Praise Service, and evaluate after 2 or 3 have been held.
- Offer ‘Life Streams’ nurture course May – July 2011; can repeat if good.
- Hot water being installed early June.
- Membership classes run May 2011.

¹ Best – means all forms returned on this topic scored at or above ‘doing pretty well in this area’.

² Worst – means more than half the forms returned on that topic scored below ‘doing pretty well’ suggesting that this area need improvement

Trinity's website

Tim Sparks has put a lot of work into redeveloping our website. It will be easier for people to find their way around it but do give us feedback if you notice anything that needs amending or adding to.

The home page is shown below, but there are other 'menus' which include:

About us:

- Contact us
- Vision statement
- Worship
- Prayer page
- What's on when
- The Recorder (our church magazine)
- Weddings
- Rooms for hire
- Revive (our redevelopment project)
- History
- Links
- Listen again

Who meets here:

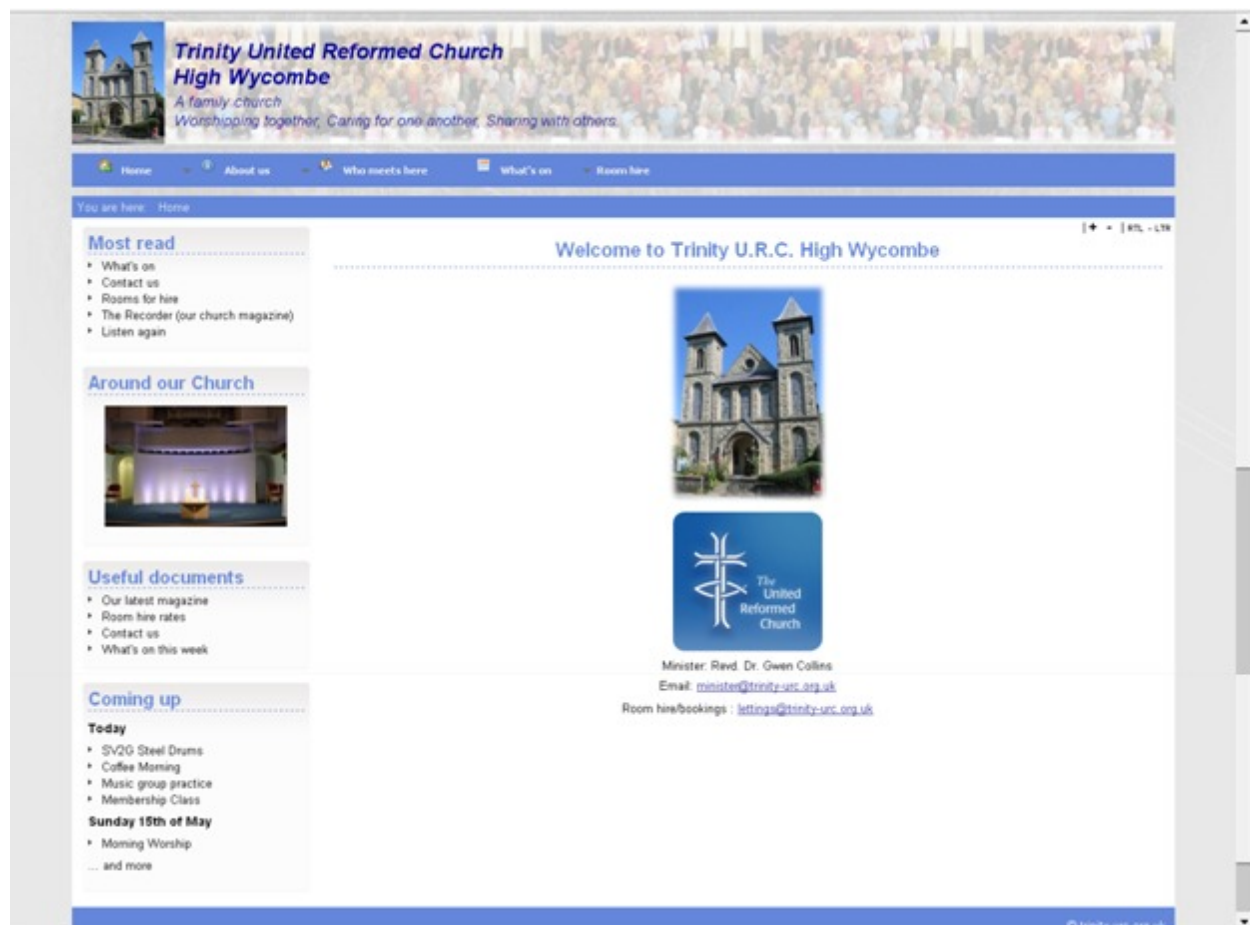
- Church groups
- Other regular groups
- Other churches based at Trinity

(Note: the details of all the relevant groups or churches are under each of those headings)

What's on:

- Room hire

(Note: documents, information and contact details for room hire are in sub-menus)



Ponder this . . .

A **birth certificate** shows that we were born. A **death certificate** shows that we died. **Pictures** show that we live! Have a seat. Relax . . . and read this slowly.

I believe... that just because two people argue, it doesn't mean they don't love each other. And just because they don't argue, it doesn't mean they do love each other.

I believe... that we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.

I believe... that no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while, and you must forgive them for that.

I believe.... that true friendship continues to grow, even over the longest distance. The same goes for true love.

I believe... that you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

I believe... that it's taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.

I believe... that you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.

I believe... that you can keep going long after you think you can't.

I believe... that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

I believe... that either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I believe... that heroes are the people who do what has to be done, when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I believe.... that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

I believe... that sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up.

I believe... that sometimes, when I'm angry, I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

I believe... that maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had and what you've learned from them, and less to do with how many birthdays you've celebrated.

I believe... that it isn't always enough to be forgiven by others. Sometimes you have to learn to forgive yourself.

I believe... that no matter how badly your heart is broken, the world doesn't stop for your grief.

I believe... that our background and circumstances may have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become.

I believe... that you shouldn't be so eager to find out a secret. It could change your life forever.

I believe... Two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.

I believe... that your life can be changed in a matter of hours by people who don't even know you.

I believe... that even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you, you will find the strength to help.

I believe... that credentials on the wall do not make you a decent human being.

I believe.... that the happiest of people don't necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the most of everything they have.



Happy Birthday

This month we would like to wish

John S (8th)

Ellen M (12th)

Tim S (14th)

Daniel H (16th)

A Very Happy Birthday
with love from all at Trinity.

Birthday Congratulations



to

Alan Y (24th)

on celebrating his 60th Birthday



Congratulations

With Best Wishes to

Neil & Pennapa (2nd)

Ellen & George (3rd)

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

*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 26th June.
Closing date for contributions is Friday 17th June*

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

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

prayer page
pentecost

We pray especially at this time for youngsters in our Trinity family and those we know who are in the midst of – or coming to the end of – exams at this time. We pray too for their families and all who support them.



Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name.

Amen.

O God our mystery,
you bring us to life, call us to freedom,
and move between us with love.
May we so participate in the dance of your trinity,
that our lives may resonate with you,
now and for ever.

Amen

© Janet Morley from *All Desires Known*

Loving God,
Open our hearts,
so that we may feel the breath and play of your Spirit.
Unclench our hands
so that we may reach out to one another,
and touch and be healed.
Open our lips
that we may drink in the delight and wonder of life.
Unclog our ears
to hear your agony in our inhumanity.
Open our eyes,
so that we may see Christ in friend and stranger.
Breathe your Spirit into us,
and touch our lives with the life of Christ, Amen.

Anon from New Zealand, from *Bread of Tomorrow*

J
u
n
e

2011

Lord, you came to give us new life – life in abundance:
We thank you for all our blessings and abundance
but urge you to niggly away at our comfort
so that we always look outward to those who are in need.

Lord, you come and disturb us when we want peace.
You challenge us to change our thinking and our way of living.
Our hearts and spirits desire you
yet at the same time we turn from you.

Give us courage to face ourselves, our neighbours and you,
knowing that love in its fullness is not always 'nice' but should always be truthful.
And then may we know your peace,
by being faithful to your call. Amen.

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