

If you forgive others the wrongs they have done to you, your Father in heaven will also forgive you. [Matthew 6:14]



*June 2012*

# *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,

Queen Elizabeth II celebrates her Diamond Jubilee this month. You probably don't need that reminder! But I hope that you join me in thanking God for her commitment to serving her people for those 60 momentous years.

Bernie tells me that he has just written a church magazine letter about the Queen's Jubilee. In it he posed the questions: What are we celebrating in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee? What is the significance for you of her 60 years as Queen? For Bernie, it is about her reign contributing stability to his own sense of identity, and about the value of holding diversity in unity. He writes, "While my family and I have grown and developed under changes of government and the rise of a multicultural global society, Elizabeth has continued as Queen and Head of the Commonwealth. Living in different countries I became aware that two significant parts of my identity are Christian faith and British nationality. Looking back I realise that some stability in both of these is represented by the Queen ..."

As keen campers we are members of the Camping and Caravanning Club and each month we receive their magazine. Predictably the Club President, conservationist David Bellamy, has also written his magazine letter this month on the Jubilee. For him "the Queen has been a reassuring presence at the heart of our nation's story and also a personal touchstone that has helped us define what it means to be proud and patriotic ... I've always thought being a conservationist represents a profound commitment to place – a true patriotism."

Bernie and David Bellamy have set me thinking about what the significance of the Queen's 60 years reign has for me. I think that above all I value her role as an unelected Head of State outside of the party political system, with limited power and yet having a crucial part to play in maintaining political moderation for our country. I also quite like the glamour, pageantry, romance and ceremony that she embodies.

The Jubilee weekend is going to give us plenty of that! I am particularly looking forward to the pageant on the River Thames on the afternoon of Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Last week I happened to be by the Thames in central London and there was a real bustle of ships, tourist boats and barges. It is going to be spectacular to see the 1,000 vessels planned for the pageant. I'm still debating whether to try and be there to enjoy the atmosphere first hand, or stay in the comfort and peace of my living room and watch it on TV, munching some of those red, white and blue donuts that I've spotted in several supermarkets.

At Trinity we will be giving away New Testaments that have been specially produced to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. These are intended for people who do not have a Bible of their own at home. People who meet at Trinity during the week are being invited to take one of these Jubilee New Testaments if they do not already have a Bible.

The Queen was given a Bible at her Coronation. It was presented to her as the most valuable gift she would ever be given, more valuable even than the jewels in her crown. It is evident from what she says and what she does that her Bible has been well read over the years. Let me end with a quote from her Christmas message last year, also quoted in the introductory pages to the Diamond Jubilee New Testaments.

"God sent into the world a unique person – neither a philosopher nor a general, important though they are, but a Saviour with the power to forgive. Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love."



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## June Services

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

June 3	10.30	Holy Communion ***
June 10	10.30	Morning worship
June 17	10.30	All age worship, Fathers' Day
June 24	10.30	Morning worship led by Amersham Free Church Worship Team
	4.00pm	Praise service

\*\*\* Sunday 3rd June 2012, 10.30am Holy Communion led by the minister will be followed by a short church meeting to decide & vote on which communion table and lectern we would like to have in Trinity.

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### Rotas for June

**Not included in this version**

# What's on in June



9 July

Summer Meal.

Venue and final details will be published next month.

## WOMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday 5th June

NO MEETING

Tuesday 12th June

Members Meeting re June 26th.

Tuesday 19th June

David's Last Years

Tuesday 26th June

Celebration of Summer (in the Sanctuary)



*Meetings start at 2.30 in the Lower Schoolroom unless otherwise stated*

## Diary Dates

Coffee Morning	9.30 – 12noon.	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Lower School Room
Housegroup	8.00pm	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	134 Brands Hill Ave
Caribbean Evening	7.00pm - 10.00pm	Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Crendon Hall
Coffee Morning	9.30 – 12noon	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lower School Room
Praise Service	4.00pm	Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Elders Meeting	8pm	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lower School Room
5 <sup>th</sup> Brigade	9.30 – 12noon	Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup>	(Everywhere!)

June 2012						
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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

\* 3 June - see details on page 3

**Not included in this version**



**CARIBBEAN EVENING**

**SATURDAY JUNE 16th**



**7pm - 10pm**

**GRENDON HALL**

**TICKETS FROM ROSE CORNWALL £6.00**



## ZIMBABWE

### Being a grandparent

Alexander had four sons and a daughter. Today he finds himself and his wife with sole responsibility for two small grandchildren. His son and daughter in law have both died and Alexander had taken responsibility for Tadiwanashe and Mhembe since birth. With one in ten children dying before their fifth birthday, Tadi's health is of particular concern to them and the nurse they see at the clinic run by Mashambanzou. Mashambanzou is a charity that works with people affected and infected by HIV. They run a ward for terminally ill patients, a clinic for those who are mobile and visit the housebound as part of their home care package.

Alexander has been going to the clinic, held in a rundown hall in Highfield, Harare, since Tadi was born and found to be HIV+. Today 1 in 7 Zimbabweans live with HIV\*. He says that the waiting is hard when you have small children but knows that he couldn't afford care or medicine from the large hospitals. Each meeting starts with prayer and then every person is seen by a nurse and given access to medicine and counselling.

Alexander's other grandson, Mhembe, looks much heavier and more aware, which seems to highlight the difference between the two boys. Like so many parents and grandparents, Alexander wants a good education for his grandsons because he sees it as the only way out of poverty. "Parents used to try to get their children taught in Zimbabwe as our schools were good. Now it is not so good."

"Mashambanzou are helping me with Tadi. I know God loves us and we must use everything we can to make a better life for ourselves. I pray to God that the children will have a better life. God will take care of them."

*\*National Aids Council 2009*

## BANGLADESH

### Aren't worms amazing!

Bhabani is able to sign her name in English and Bangla. For a woman from a rural village this is a great achievement. Even more significant is the respect in which she is now held by male members of the Shisamondnay Forum in Dhankhali Village near Munshigonj. Bhabani is responsible for the vegetable gardening in her homestead. As a member of the Forum, started by Christian Aid partner Shushilan, she has learnt how to use worms to produce compost that increases the quality and quantity of crops.

Following a practical demonstration where she was shown how to make a base of vegetable peelings and chicken manure, she was given her own worms which started her own permaculture. This has meant the family do not need to buy fertilizer and it has made a real difference to her crop yield and gets her a better price in the market. By farming organically, the family are also eating more healthily, which means the children get sick less often. Bhabani is particularly proud of the chard she has harvested.

The Forum has seventeen members, ten male and seven female, each representing a family in the village. At meetings they discuss the many problems that affect this area including cyclones, flooding, drought and salination. Shushilan has given them training in managing disasters as well as nutrition, health and sanitation advice. This means living standards have improved. They like it that Shushilan researches and collects other information to help them. The Forum's plan is to make the whole community aware of the problems related to climate changes and make members confident to advocate for their rights at local district level.

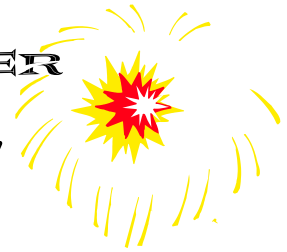
The Womens' Meeting invites **EVERYONE** to a



## CELEBRATION OF SUMMER

on

Tuesday 26th June at 2.30pm in the Sanctuary



**Speaker: Barbara Sparks**

**Followed by a tea.**

**(Please let Olive Shepherd have numbers for tea by 19th June if possible)**

For those who like to plan well in advance - here are the forthcoming events so far planned for the rest of this year.

### **July**

Church Picnic	1.00pm	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	The Rye
Songs of Praise on the Rye	3.30pm	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	The Rye
Prayer Circle for Healing	4.30pm	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Lower School Room
URC General Assembly	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>		Scarborough
Scout Band Concert	Time TBA	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Parade Service	10.30am	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Church Meeting with guest speaker Ruth Richey :-			
	8.00pm	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Evening Communion	4.00pm	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Elders Meeting	8.00pm	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Lower School Room

### **August**

"Window on the World" CWM Europe Conference		Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> July – Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Belsey Bridge, Suffolk
Praise Service	4.00pm	Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Elders Meeting	8.00pm	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Lower School Room

### **September**

Prayer circle for Healing	4.00pm	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sanctuary
Commitment for Life Sunday	Morning Worship	9 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Church Meeting	8.00pm	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Evening Communion	4.00pm	Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Elders' meeting	8 pm,	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Lower School Room
5 <sup>th</sup> Brigade	9.30 – 12midday	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	
Harvest & Back to Church Sunday	10.30am	Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary

### **October**

Elders Meeting	8.00pm	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Lower School Room
Rev'd John Mackerness Heathrow Chaplin	10.30am	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	

### **November**

Church meeting	8.00 pm,	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Sanctuary
Elders' meeting	8.00 pm,	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Lower School Room

### **December**

5 <sup>th</sup> Brigade	9.30 – 12midday	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup>	
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Steven Wright is an American comic scientist, (born December 6, 1955) who sees things from a different perspective to “normal” people. Enjoy some of his gems:-

- 1 - I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
  - 2 - Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
  - 3 - Half the people you know are below average.
  - 4 - 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
  - 5 - 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
  - 6 - A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
  - 7 - A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
  - 8 - If you want the rainbow, you have got to put up with the rain.
  - 9 - All those who believe in psycho kinesis, raise my hand.
  - 10 - The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
  - 11 - I almost had a psychic girlfriend... But she left me before we met.
  - 12 - OK, so what's the speed of dark?
  - 13 - How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
  - 14 - If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
  - 15 - Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
  - 16 - When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
  - 17 - Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
  - 18 - Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
  - 19 - I intend to live forever... So far, so good.
  - 20 - If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
  - 21 - Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
  - 22 - What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
  - 23 - My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
  - 24 - Why do psychics have to ask you for your name.
  - 25 - If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
  - 26 - A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
  - 27 - Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
  - 28 - The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.
  - 29 - To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.
  - 30 - The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.
  - 31 - The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.
  - 32 - The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.
  - 33 - Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.
  - 34 - If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
- And the all-time favourite –
- 35 - If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?





# Happy Birthday

to

John H (7<sup>th</sup>)

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

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

Tim S (14<sup>th</sup>)

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

Alan Y (24<sup>th</sup>)

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# Congratulations



and 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.

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

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

## prayer page

### pentecost

Loving God, we thank you for all the different people and groups who come into Trinity throughout the week. We pray that each man, woman and child would experience something of your love for them.



We pray for your continued blessing on the church congregations who meet here on a Sunday:

- Trinity United Reformed Church
- Church of God of Worldwide Mission International
- Church of Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith
- The Polish Lutheran Church

O just and holy God, you have brought us peace by making the many people into one people, Jew and Gentile, slave and free, male and female, black and white.

We pray for those places where people are kept apart because of the colour of their skin. Help us to root out discrimination in our hearts so that we may welcome every stranger in our midst as a fellow citizen, a neighbour, and a friend of God.

*From "Prayer at Night"*

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Our Father, we pray for those in our land without home or family. We pray for:

- those living in sub-standard accommodation;
- those in hostels or bed-and-breakfast accommodation;
- those afraid to go out after dark;
- those living in cardboard cities;
- those who are stuck in some form of addiction.

We pray particularly in Wycombe for the staff and volunteers of Wycombe Homeless Connection.

#### A blessing

Give us, O God, the warmth of compassionate love, the forgiving Spirit which harbours no thought of revenge and that inner peace which reaches out to embrace the whole world. **Amen.**

*© Bill Wallace from the URC Prayer Handbook 2008*

Living God, when doubts threaten our faith,  
despair destroys our hopes, and when hatred  
and war turn the earth into a valley of bones,  
send us your Spirit and renew our lives.

*From "What does the Lord require?"*

"O God!" – a familiar cry of desperation, weariness,  
frustration or pain:

Respond to us, we pray.

Transform our weaknesses into your opportunities;  
help us to acknowledge to others our weaknesses,  
so that they may be strengthened by knowing that  
they too can share their burdens.