



RINITY
Times



Trinity - a place to belong

Spirituality - Prayer – Community – Welcome

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

MAY 2016

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The next edition of Trinity Times will be published on 29th May. All contributions should be submitted by Friday 20th May.



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

Pastoral letter

Dear friends,

There's a Spirit in the air
calling people everywhere:
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world.

Brian Wren's hymn reminds us that the Spirit of God is at work in our world, touching and changing lives everywhere. That Spirit was there at the beginning, recorded in the story of creation itself, as 'hovering over the waters'. Jesus described the Spirit as like the wind, beyond our control or grasp but powerful. It brings life and change and a harvest of gifts and good fruits, those fruits Paul lists as 'love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.' (Galatians 5:22-23).

In the middle of May (Sunday 15 May) we celebrate the gift of God's Spirit and the birth of the church in the festival of Pentecost. No longer linked to a Bank Holiday, Pentecost is in many ways an unnoticed festival. There are no presents to exchange, no chocolate eggs to eat, no cards to send. The shops will not be advertising that it's almost Pentecost. The old church tradition of Whit Sunday walks and processions is long since gone.

So how will we celebrate this festival that stands alongside Christmas and Easter as a special part of the church's year? The Spirit of God cannot be marketed or controlled. Instead we pray that the Spirit may be at work in our lives, the life of our church and in the world around us. The Spirit blows in our lives, calling us to worship and draw close to God and equally calling us out into God's world to show that 'love that Christ revealed.'

This year Pentecost coincides with the beginning of Christian Aid Week, a reminder that the Spirit calls us to action. The festival is not for our private enjoyment, but there to encourage us in the work of God's kingdom for all people and all creation. The Spirit of God is a breath of fresh air, to lighten and refresh our hearts and souls and inspire our living day by day. A very Happy Pentecost to you all,



News of the Church Family

Not included in this version

This month we would like to wish
a **Happy Birthday** to

Sarah E (13th)

Janet R (14th)

Hannah H (15th)

Kay E (15th)

a **Happy Anniversary** to

Sarah & Simon (6th)

Kate & Alan Y (21st)

Rebecca and Neil C (25th)

on celebrating their *Wedding Anniversary*

With love from us all at Trinity

XXX

Worship at Trinity

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

- 1 May Worship and Communion led by Terry Hinks
- 8 May Morning Worship led by Beryl Taylor
- 15 May Pentecost: All age Worship led by Terry Hinks
- 22 May Morning Worship led by Peter Montague
- 29 May Morning Worship led by Terry Hinks

Worship is followed by refreshments to which all are welcome

Afternoon Praise Service at 4.30 pm on 8 May

Worship for all led by Marian and Martin Drake

Midweek Prayers at 9.30 am on Wednesdays 4 and 18 May in church (half an hour of prayer together)

Our Prayer Ministry is available after worship each Sunday morning

Kathleen Emily Bell PRIOR

Nov 1917 March 2016

On April 5th we celebrated the life and said our farewells to Bell who reached the grand age of 98+

On reading the cards and tributes received the recurring theme was of a wonderful lady, kind, witty with a great sense of humour . This was our mum, grandmother and great grandmother and we will miss her.


So may we take this opportunity in thanking you all for your support, prayers and condolences sent and received.

Mole, Prior and Evans Families

Family changes to note:-

Arthur & Marie have moved. They can now be found at:-

5 Ledborough Court, 47 Ledborough Lane, Beaconsfield. HP9 2DB

 01494 671760

What's on this month

Trinity Bookworms

The next meeting will be on THURSDAY May 5th at 2.p.m. We shall be discussing "The Lincoln Lawyer" by Michael Donnelly.

Trinity Birds

Trinity Birds will be meeting on Weds 11 May 10.30am at the new home of Marie in Beaconsfield. We'll be sharing 'Memories of the Queen' and sharing a House Warming with Marie & Arthur.

Women's Meeting

All meetings in LSR at 2.30 p.m.

- Tuesday May 3rd The Ascension
Tuesday May 10th Poems and readings for Spring
Tuesday May 17th Christian Aid. Bring and Buy
Tuesday May 24th John Hampden
Tuesday May 31st. Bring an ornament/picture/photo/... to talk about
-



Fund Raising FUN GAMES Evening - MAY 7th

Tickets at £5 are now on sale for this social evening so why not come along and bring your family and friends.

The evening starts at 7.15pm with easy, point scoring, individual games of skill, observation and fun and after a break for supper we conclude with a couple of easy team games – no running or jumping, just more skilful, competitive fun. You might even win a small prize !

We look forward to seeing you there.

Margaret & Harry

What's on this month



Wycombe Homeless Connection is holding a fund raising event (70's style party) on Saturday 21st May at Davenies School, Station Road, Beaconsfield, at 7pm for 7.30.

For more information, or to purchase tickets (£25 each) please contact Heather Morley on morleyfamily1039@aol.com. Tables for 8 people can be reserved. Organising committee - Rosemary Anderson, Caroley Cory, Terry Belinsky, Heather Morley.

See noticeboard near the west entrance door for more information



Caribbean Style

present

A VARIETY SHOW

In memory of

Armintha Walcott

Sat. 21st May 2016 - Time: 7.30pm - 10.30pm

Tickets Adults £10 - Children under 12 £6.00

**Venue: Trinity United Reformed Church, London Rd,
High Wycombe, HP11 1BJ**

Cores End Church

Easter Fun Day

About 20 children attended the Children's Easter Fun Day on Saturday 2 April and thoroughly enjoyed the activities that included craft, games, singing and cooking. An Easter banner was created which was displayed at the back of church.

AGM

The Church holds its AGM on 16 May, which will include the election of elders.

Christian Aid Week

The Church continues to take part in the street to street collection and is very grateful to those who undertake this each year. There will also be a simple lunch in aid of Christian Aid on Sunday 22 May.

European Referendum Public Meeting

A public meeting arranged by the church is to be held on Friday 27 May at 7.30 pm. There will be speakers on both side of the argument and they will include the local MP for Beaconsfield, Dominic Grieve QC. The event is open to all. We hope it will be a helpful and informed discussion of the issues surrounding this important decision.

Virtuoso Wind Ensemble Concert

Looking ahead, the church's main organist Derek Holland is arranging a concert for Saturday 18 June at 7.30 pm. More information and tickets to come.

Sharing stories of our faith

Wycombe Sharing of Faiths and All Saints Church invite you to an evening to share Stories of our faith. Come prepared to tell a story from your faith tradition and how it touches or inspires you. The event is on Tuesday 3 May (correction from last month's magazine) at 7.30 to 9.30pm including light refreshments. The venue: is Oakley Hall, 8 Castle Street, High Wycombe HP13 6RF (Parking: free on street from 6.00pm; free in the Castle Street NCP car park from 7.00pm).

Further information from Anne Bowker 01494 564 445

Regular May events

Every Tuesday:

- Movers and Shakers Chinese Style 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Women's Meeting 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Every Thursday:

- 2nd High Wycombe Trinity Guides 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
- Choir Practice 8:00 pm

Every Friday:

- Movers and Shakers, Caribbean style 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
 - Rainbows 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm
 - Brownies, 2nd High Wycombe 6:15 pm - 7:30 pm
-

Other events

Tuesday 3rd May

- Trinity Elders meeting 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Wednesday 4th May

- Trinity prayers 9:30 am - 10:00 am
- At Union Baptist Church - Wycombe Homeless Connection Celebration Service 7:30 pm

Saturday 7th May

- Saturday Cafe 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
- Trinity Games Evening for Christian Aid 7:15 pm - 9:00 pm

Sunday 8th May

- Traidcraft Noon - 12:30 pm
- Praise service 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
- Wycombe Arts Festival Concert 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Wednesday 11th May

- Worship planning group 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Tuesday 17th May

- Church meeting 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Wednesday 18th May

- Trinity Prayers 9:30 am - 10:00 am

Saturday 21st May

- Saturday Cafe 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
- Caribbean Gospel Concert in memory of Armintha Walcott 7:30 pm - 11pm

Wednesday 25th May

- Trinity & Cores End joint Elders' meeting 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Bible Course: 'Get the Big Picture'

We are planning to put on an eight week course on the Bible in the autumn, using a course produced by the Bible Society. 'Get the Big Picture' provides an excellent overview of the Bible and ways of reading and applying the Bible to every day life. Each session uses DVD teaching, small group discussion and daily readings to help open up the Bible in creative ways. We are arranging an evening group to begin on 6 September moving around different homes. Transport can be provided. If you are interested in finding out more please contact Terry or Kate.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION SERVICE

on Sunday 17 April at 10.30 am

The service proved to be a real celebration of the very varied work being done in our community by so many local groups and our links with these groups as a church. Within the service people shared the different groups they were part of and we had the opportunity to hear about a few of these. Ying from Chinese style Movers and Shakers spoke of the group's gratitude to the church for providing such good facilities and shared that the group is looking for new members. Rebecca from Wycombe Youth for Christ received the Active Kids tokens we have been collecting at church and told how they are to be distributed to schools across the area. Heather from One Can Trust also gave an excellent update on the Trust's work and its plans for the future. She asked for our prayers as the group looks to take on new premises and works to identify the root causes of poverty as well as continuing to provide food to many people in crisis situations. The collection raised £214.67 for the work of One Can. In his address Terry spoke of the need for a big vision (reflecting on Isaiah 65) and a sense of obligation to others (reflecting on Romans 13) – that debt of love we owe our neighbour. After the service people stayed to enjoy refreshments, talk, look at the displays and learn more about the different groups. Our thanks to all involved in the event.

Not included in this version

Summary of March Church Meeting (21 members attended.)

Finance – a revised budget for 2016 was presented in the AGM together with the Book of Reports – thanks to all who contributed and for the work that goes on year-round.

Funds in reserves – suggestions for using funds accrued were considered, including liabilities over the next few years, quinquennial works, work on Crendon Hall, or funding a Church-Related Community Worker (CRCW).

Hot Potato Café – jacket potato lunch and discuss a “hot potato” idea. Trial run on Saturday 23rd April 12 noon to 1.30 pm on “the meaning of Easter”. Would like some practical help but also participants – please see Terry or Kate.

The Bible Course – Get the bigger picture: course on how the Bible fits together. Plan to run this in the autumn.

Social events:

- Games Evening in aid of Christian Aid - Saturday 7th May, 6 pm. Ticket admission (price tbc)
- Summer BBQ - Saturday 13th August, probably 5 pm
- Revue – Saturday 22nd October. Please volunteer to help!
- A joint walk with Cores End from Marlow to Cores End afternoon of Sunday 17th July, ending with tea and worship

Update on discussions on Church of God lease:-

- They are seeking initially a two-year lease for:
- Saturday to Wednesday 24/7 for Crendon Hall so Guiding Unit can continue to use it
- 24/7 use of entrance lobby, Lionel Jowett Room and Kate Smith Room
- Junior Church’s needs can be taken into account, e.g. use of Lionel Jowett Room on a Sunday morning

Lots of detail still to work through but seems to be a practical arrangement for both parties. No commitment on either side at this stage.

Church meeting is happy to continue discussions on this basis with unanimous support.

New children and adult safeguarding policy – approved. To be implemented.

Chiltern Group of churches: Common Understanding and rep nomination – Common Understanding agreed, and Kate Yates nominated as Trinity’s Rep.

Date of next Church Meeting: Tuesday 17th May 2016

ZIMBABWE



Christian Aid in Zimbabwe is working on finalising a Country Level Emergency Preparedness Plan, which will go a long way to help anticipate, cope and recover from shocks and hazards such as prevailing food insecurity. As the drought deepens in Southern Zimbabwe, they are supporting communities in dry areas to produce drought tolerant crops such as sorghum and rosella. In addition, the program continues to promote disaster risk reduction and preparedness among communities as well as conservation agriculture (conserving moisture in times of low rainfall). While these measures and other income generating activities are strengthening household resiliency, the severity of this year's drought has had an adverse effect on whole communities too. Work has begun on finding markets for a variety of climate smart agricultural products, promoting entrepreneurship and empowerment of the marginalised. Prayers are much needed for this region.

Guardian global development editor, Lucy Lamble, reports from Malawi and Zimbabwe where the drought is having a devastating effect.

CENTRAL AMERICA – Guatemala

Guatemala is a middle income country with flourishing industry and some areas of great wealth. It is the fifth highest exporter of coffee and sugar in the world and has the highest number of private aeroplanes and helicopters per head in Central America. But it has one of the lowest tax takes in the world . The Guatemalan government doesn't have the resources to ensure children have enough to eat, that women don't die in childbirth or to prepare for and respond to inevitable storms and floods. Seven percent of all children under five suffer from chronic malnutrition. Spending on education is also one of the lowest in the region, with expenditure focused on primary education. Many children leave school with only a basic level of education. Secondary schools are often too far away and the cost of travel is too high for those living in poverty.

The redistribution of wealth, through a progressive tax system, is essential for development and poverty eradication. National and international companies must accept their responsibilities and pay their fair share.



Update on the Wycombe Winter Night Shelter

Thank you so much to those of you that took part and contributed to the success of the night shelter this year. We ended our ninth season on Thursday 31st March!

With your help we provided 796 bed-nights and 1592 meals to 38 homeless guests. During the night shelter period, we helped 30 people find somewhere long-term to stay.

Despite all that we still had 10 in the shelter on the final night and unfortunately some of those will have become roofless again. We are still working hard to help these folks find somewhere to move on to but the reality is that there is a real shortage of local housing accessible to people we are trying to help!!

A couple of special thank-yous to the churches that let us use their premises as venues each week and to our dedicated church coordinators who worked hard to keep things running smoothly!

Thank you to everyone who played a part big or small – whether supervising, hosting, cooking or doing laundry, your efforts have made a significant difference in people's lives.

Looking ahead – it would be great if you would join us on 4th May 7.30pm - 9.30pm for our Thanksgiving Celebration Service at Union Baptist Church (speaker Rev Malcolm Hazell). This is our chance to remember those we were able to shelter and help; all the support we received and this year we will be remembering those who died during the year. More details to follow later.

Kind regards

Sheena Dykes, WHC, 8 Castle St, HW HP13 6RF



Beyond Difference

invites you to join us exploring our attitudes to culture, faith and Faiths:

Thursday 19th May, 2016, 7.00.p.m. for 7.30.p.m. at Amersham Free Church, Woodside Road, Amersham, Bucks, HP6 6SJ

Immigration: Welcoming the Stranger

exploring together attitudes to 'the stranger' expressed in The Bible and the Koran and how they are relevant today.

Lighthouse - 2016 Appeal for helpers

I am writing to the “core” churches that are supporting Lighthouse at Highcrest School this year. Please advertise to your congregation that we have specific needs for Christians in the following key roles:

Age Group Leaders for the 8-year-olds group (experience with children’s work of some sort preferred)

Sports/Games Co-ordinator

Shop Manager

As every year, we also need more Lighthouse Keepers who also should be Christians. The more we have, the more children we can admit. We don’t have a team from the USA coming to help this year, so we need more of a British effort! I know for people who are working it means giving up a week’s holiday, so not everyone who might want to can do it. Other Lighthouses in the area (Cressex and Hazlemere being nearest) also have need of people, and I certainly don’t want to “poach” anyone away from them.

Thank you for the people who have already applied and for the financial and prayer support we receive every year. We couldn’t keep going without you.

To sign up to help, go to www.lighthouseadmin.org. For more information, click “High Wycombe” under the “Choose your Lighthouse” tab on the same website. Also, I’m willing to be contacted if anyone wants more background information. E-mail: colinehingston@aol.com.

God bless,

Colin Hingston

Trustee and Volunteer Co-ordinator, Lighthouse High Wycombe

From a child’s perspective . . .

After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother: "Mum, I've decided to become a vicar when I grow up."



"That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?" she replied.

"Well: said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen."

Not included in this version

Two-bed flat or house wanted up to £200,000

The church secretary has been contacted by a local Christian couple who are seeking a two-bed flat or house in the Wycombe area up to £200,000. They are on the estate agents' books but if you know of anything coming up for sale that might suit them please contact Kate to pass the information on.



From another child's perspective . . .

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him: "How many women can a man marry?"

"Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly. "How do you know that?" "Easy: the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the vicar said: "4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer." It's simple really ... "

Update from Synod meeting 12th March 2016

1. Reports from the Discipleship Committee, Resources Committee and Pastoral Committee: the three convenors and convenor of Synod Executive have been in constant contact (usually by e-mail) liaising so that decision-making across committees is better informed. These new committees have only just begun and they have a wide remit. Priorities for the Pastoral Committee include (a) getting reps from new Local Area Groups onto the Pastoral Committee, (b) drafting a new Synod Deployment Policy, (c) considering what constitutes a viable Local Area Group, and (d) getting out and visiting Local Area Groups. *If you want to know more, please see me for a copy of the brief paperwork.*

2. Local Area Groups: three more groups were formally recognised by Synod – Forest Group and Heath & Havering Group, both of the Roding Area, and South Lea Valley.

3. Finance Report: overall deficit in Synod likely to be less than anticipated. There are a number of churches who haven't yet responded about their 2016 M&M.

4. FURY has been renamed URC Youth.

5. Queens Park URC has closed.

6. Appointments and Elections: Reps for General Assembly were appointed (short of 5 ministers and 3 lay people).

7. It's the 80th birthday of *Pilots* this year.

8. Statement on Past Case Review (Safeguarding): the URC has been reviewing historic files to ensure that nothing had been missed with regard to the safety of those young people and at-risk adults who are associated with congregations of the URC. A statement was made by Mission Council as follows:

“Mission Council, meeting from 9 to 11 March, agreed the design of the second phase of the Past Case Review. Phase two is a period of open consultation in which anyone who believes they have been inappropriately dealt with by the Church is invited to give an account of their experiences. The Church is promising that everyone who comes forward will be carefully listened to. The timing of phase two is yet to be confirmed, once confirmed it will be announced. It is vital that the consultation is widely known within and without the denomination and to this end we will communicate using national and local media release and all URC communication channels including social media, Reform and the national website.

“The process design includes provision to listen, deal with allegations, offer appropriate care for those bringing allegation and those again whom allegations are brought. It is our intention that at the end of what is likely to be a difficult and sensitive process we will all be breathing cleaner air.” *Richard Church, Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship) – 10 March 2016*



Wycombe Youth for Christ update

As you may recall from our previous Newsletters, we have seen God present many opportunities to us and our heart is to continue to follow His leading, wherever that may take us.

Given the opportunities laying ahead of us, we are delighted to announce that Rebecca Hawes will be joining the Wycombe YFC Team as a member of staff from September 2016. Rebecca's upcoming employment is exciting, and we are partnering with St. Michael's & All Angels Church this new role as 'Children's & Youth Worker'. As such, Rebecca will be working with ourselves and at the church, looking to lead and develop the ministry as God leads, over the coming months and years ahead.

Although Rebecca has been with the team and church as a student on the Wycombe YFC Training Scheme, please do join with us in congratulating her as she starts this new role and step in her ministry. Could we also ask that you pray for her too, especially as she finishes her degree course over the next couple of months.

God Bless, Erica

Update on rebuilding project at the School of Theology and Mission, Papua New Guinea

We have heard via Gwen & Bernie Collins that the principal of the college, Revd Garo Kilagi, has said that the work on the renovated toilet block is not quite finished. The School resident carpenter has returned to his region and will not be replaced as his flat is needed for a student. They will instead use local carpenters for future jobs, and this will be a better solution in some ways.

Gwen and Bernie send their thanks again for the generous help with this project. They were very grateful indeed to know that the awful facilities would be made safe and healthy.



This is a photo of the dorm 4 toilet minor renovation work which is nearing completion. The college has a total of 70 students and accommodation is a problem now. Garo sends his thanks to all who are funding the toilet renovation programme.

Prayers for May

Praise the Lord this Springtime
Praise him in the home and garden
Praise him in the fields and woods
Praise him in the office and factory
Praise him in the school and study
Praise him in the meeting house and church.
Praise the Lord at all times and in all places.

On all people who live in comfort
Lord have mercy,
On all people who struggle to make ends meet
Lord have mercy,
On all people in the grip of hunger and drought
Lord have mercy.
On all people living in peace together
Christ have mercy,
On all neighbours quarrelling with one another
Christ have mercy,
On all nations at war
Christ have mercy.
On all people with hope for the future
Lord have mercy,
On all people afraid of the future
Lord have mercy,
On all people who see no future for themselves
Lord have mercy.

Gracious God, as we approach the days when we remember the Ascension of our Lord Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit, and try to understand the Trinity, help us to accept what may seem difficult and mysterious and immerse ourselves in your love and presence, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Who's who

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