

Once you were not a people, but now
you are God's people; *1 Peter 2:10*



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

Trinity - A Family Church

Worshipping together - Caring for one another - Sharing with others

Dear friends

At the July Elders' meeting I agreed to write this letter, to give Gwen a 'month off' (not literally!), and someone quipped that once Gwen retires next year the Elders will have to do this more often. This certainly focused me on change and what Gwen's leaving will mean to us at Trinity for lots of different reasons.

For most of us, change is unsettling. We like familiarity and we can be thrown by events that cut across our plans and expectations. We have the very human tendency to mentally map out aspects of our lives in the short, medium or long term.

But both our life experience and the words of Scripture should remind us that we can only ever make provisional plans. God is the creator and architect of our lives, and although he designs the blueprint, I personally don't believe that our lives are fully mapped out. That's partly because I don't believe that God creates suffering for us (even though our characters may be shaped through it) –

but he does work with it and with us as raw material, just as the potter shapes the clay.

I sometimes find it a sobering reminder to read the following verses from the book of James:

Now listen to me, you that say, "Today or tomorrow we will travel to a certain city, where we will stay a year and go into business and make a lot of money." You don't even know what your life tomorrow will be! You are like a puff of smoke, which appears for a moment and then disappears. What you should say is this: "If the Lord is willing, we will live and do this or that." James 4.13-15

And then of course I have to also remind myself of Jesus's words about my life, and the challenge they bring:

"And he said to them all, "Anyone who wants to come with me must forget self, take up their cross every day, and follow me. For whoever wants to save their own life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for my sake will save it. Will people gain anything if they win the whole world but are themselves lost or defeated? Of course not! If people are ashamed of me and of my teaching, then the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. Luke 9.23-24

This is probably the most difficult passage of Scripture for me – my selfish human nature rebels against it, putting up a barrier between me and God, and sometimes I feel like I'm hanging on for dear life to the things I hold dear, not those that God wants me to focus on. Thank God for Jesus with his self-sacrificial death and resurrection opening up constant new life through the power of the Holy Spirit!

With the challenge of change happening around us and within us all the time, it's important to remember that our Lord is with us, will help us, and wants to be involved in our decision-making, both large and small. In the perpetual giving over of our lives to God, asking for help and guidance, we can be renewed in our hearts, minds, souls and spirits so that we are better-equipped to live life God's way.



Minister : Rev Dr Gwen Collins
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September Services

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

Main theme for September: DOERS OF THE WORD – 5 weeks in which we use the letter of James to celebrate God's gifts and consider our response.

2 Sept.		Holy Communion
	4.00pm	Prayer Circle for healing
9 Sept.		Commitment for Life annual service
16 Sept.		All age worship
	4.00pm	Holy Communion
23 Sept.		Morning worship
30 Sept.		Harvest festival on 'Back to Church' Sunday

Rotas for September

Not included in this version

What's on in September



WOMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday September 4th Welcome Back. Bring and Share Tea
 Tuesday September 11th Naomi, Orpah and Ruth
 Tuesday September 18th Stories of Favourite Hymns. Bring and Buy
 Tuesday September 25th Speaker: Willie Macleod



All meetings start at 2.30pm in the Lower Schoolroom

Diary Dates

Event	Time and date	Venue
Prayer Circle for Healing	Sunday 2nd 4.00pm	Lower School Room
Coffee Morning	Saturday 8th 10.00am – noon	Lower School Room
“Ride & Stride” (we are a refreshment station)	Saturday 8th 10.00am – 2.00pm	Trinity
Commitment for Life Sunday followed by African Lunch (please sign up)	Sunday 9th 10.30am	Sanctuary
Church Meeting	Tuesday 11th 8.00pm	Lower School Room
Evening Communion	Sunday 16th 4.00pm	Sanctuary
Coffee Morning	Saturday 22nd 10.00am – noon	Lower School Room
Elder's Meeting	Tuesday 25th 8.00pm	Lower School Room
5th Brigade	Saturday 29th 9.30am -midday	Sanctuary/LSR
Harvest & Back to Church Sunday	Sunday 30th 10.30am	Sanctuary

September 2012						
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Not included in this version

THE BUZZARD

If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner.

The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

THE BAT

The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place.

If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

THE BUMBLEBEE

A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

PEOPLE

In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up!

That's the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem... Just look up!

[submitted by Margaret L]

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Starting in the bottom right corner, this map shows the planned overnight stops for our intrepid cyclist on his End to End journey.

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|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 - 2 Land's End to Liskeard | 8 Kilmarnock |
| 3 Tiverton | 9 Inveraray |
| 4 Tintern | 10 South Laggan |
| 5 Shrewsbury | 11 Tain |
| 6 Preston | 12 Thurso |
| 7 Carlisle | 13 John O'Groats |

If you have not yet sponsored Alan in his mission, see last month's Recorder for more details - or ask any Elder.

Back to Church Sunday / Harvest

Sunday 30th September is "Back to Church Sunday". This is an initiative by churches to invite friends back to church who, for whatever reason have got out of the habit of coming every Sunday. Please give this prayerful thought, who could you invite? Someone who used to go church or someone who has never been before. Here at Trinity it will also be our Harvest Sunday. So whoever you invite please let them know its Harvest. We shall be collecting tins/packets etc. for Wycombe Homeless Connection and One Can. We shall also be having our usual auction of fruit and vegetables, the money from the sale will go towards our Night Shelter expenses. So, think about who you could invite and pick up an invitation from the Lower School Room and stay for Cake & Coffee after the service. If you need any more information please ask Gwen or myself.



High Wycombe Central Aid

The High Wycombe Central Aid has sent me the 106th Annual Report for the year 2011-2012. The new address is West Richardson Street, High Wycombe, tel. 01494 535890. After many difficulties it is settled into these new premises. The changes were lengthy and complicated but all seems to be settled now regarding tenure, rent, activities, etc.

I shall keep this long account I have received – very interesting reading, which I shall be happy to lend to any of you who would like to read the details.

A charity shop has been opened next door to the Reggie Goves Centre, and all activities are back to normal. All the details were followed by an account of the committee elections. Mrs Rosemary Vere remains Chairman.

The Mayor and Vice Chairman of the Council (District) were present at this meeting. The report which I have is 11 pages long, and several pages relate to the start, need, progress, history and changes, revealing a wonderful history of the Central Aid Society (est. 1906!). DON'T MISS THIS HISTORY! It's all part of the history of High Wycombe.

Objects of the High Wycombe Central Aid Society:

1. Alleviation of distress of residents of the High Wycombe area
2. To promote the welfare of aged and disabled people
3. To establish a system of personal service in the area, to encourage voluntary and official agencies, and to promote new efforts

Olivia P

Sound advice from kids - to kids

"Never trust a dog to watch your food." [Patrick, age 10]

"When your dad is mad and asks you, 'Do I look stupid?' don't answer." [Hannah, age 9]

"Never tell your mom her diet's not working." [Michael, age 14]

"Stay away from prunes." [Randy, age 9]

"When your mum is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair." [Taylia, age 11]

"Never let your three-year old brother in the same room as your school assignment." [Traci, age 14]

"A puppy always has bad breath -- even after eating a Tic-Tac." [Andrew, age 9]

"Never hold a Dustbuster and a cat at the same time." [Kyoyo, age 9]

"You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk." [Armir, age 9]

"Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts." [Kellie, age 11]

"If you want a kitten, start out by asking for a horse." [Naomi, age 15]

"Felt-tip markers are not good to use as lipstick." [Lauren, age 9]

"Don't pick on your sister when she's holding a baseball bat." [Joel, age 10]

"When you get a bad grade in school, show it to your mom when she's on the phone." [Alyesha, age 13]

"Never try to baptize a cat." [Eileen, age 8]

A 65 year old woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital.

While on the operating table she had a near death experience.. Seeing God she asked "Is my time up?"

God said, "No, you have another 33 years, 2 months and 8 days to live."

Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a face-lift, liposuction, breast implants and a tummy tuck.

She even had someone come in and change her hair colour and brighten her teeth! Since she had so much more time to live, she figured she might as well make the most of it.

After her last operation, she was released from the hospital. While crossing the street on her way home, she was knocked down and killed by an ambulance.

Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 33 years? Why didn't you pull me from out of the path of the ambulance?"

God replied: "Sorry, I didn't recognize you."

Whilst the above story may raise a smile, there is a moral to the tale. Don't try to be something you are not. Be yourself. You are what you are. We are not all the same - and whatever foibles we each may have, they will have their purpose in life.



Happy Birthday



This month we would like to wish

Sarah H (3rd) Iris H (18th)
 Sue S (5th) Denzel J (22nd)
 James F (8th) Saskia F (24th)
 Simon E (14th) Valerie L (27th)
 Becky H (15th) Michael M (28th)

a Very Happy Birthday
with love from all at Trinity.



Birthday Congratulations

to

Audrey B (17th)
celebrating her 90th Birthday

Congratulations



and Best Wishes to
Joy & John (10th)
Lesley & Ian Bogart (18th)

on celebrating their Wedding Anniversary

*The next edition of the Recorder will be published on 30th September.
Closing date for contributions is Friday 22nd September*

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

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

prayer page
september 2012

Lord, our God, we ask that you would take our prayers for these areas of our lives and transform us.

Amen.

