



Trinity - a place to belong

Spirituality - Prayer – Community – Welcome

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

NOVEMBER 2017

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The next edition of Trinity Times will be published on 26th November.
All contributions should be submitted by Sunday 19th November.



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

Pastoral letter

Dear friends,

In John's gospel Jesus tells the Samaritan woman he meets at Jacob's well that the time is coming, is indeed here when people will worship God not in one particular temple or holy place but 'in spirit and in truth'. He goes on to say: 'God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' (John 4. 24)

God is not confined to building or liturgies or human concepts. The God who stretched out the universe and exists beyond time and words is awesome and worthy of the deepest praise and highest worship. When we lose that sense of wonder at God then our worship becomes thin and un-nourishing.

Worship 'in spirit and in truth' involves recognising our need for God's help to offer true praise. It means asking God's Spirit to enliven our words and refresh our spirits. In a world that is so confused about what is true and what is fake, Jesus comes to speak God's truth – and to live it out in his healing work, his sacrifice on a cross and his victory over death. He is God's truth – the truth that can set us free. He releases us from fear and selfishness into his way of love and life, grace and peace. His truth enables us to live well and abundantly. In the words of 2nd century Christian St Irenaeus 'The glory of God is a human being fully alive.'

So what of the worship we offer week by week? Does it connect with the vision Jesus gives of all people worshipping their heavenly Father 'in spirit and in truth'? Does it enable us to continue that worship in our daily lives and connect our faith with our daily experiences, joys and challenges? Does it help us, in the present URC catchphrase, '*walk the Way and live the life of Jesus*' today?

I hope so, but I recognise that we come to Sunday worship with different personalities and experiences, gifts and needs. It's important we find ways to share those different experiences and also find ways to offer worship within the week and not just on a Sunday. We also need more people to share in leading our worship (be it readings or music, preaching or praying). The 'Worship in focus' sessions (see page 11) are aimed at encouraging more people to share in some way in leading worship and I hope a number of you will be able to come to one of these.

In the words of Richard Baxter, 'Let all our days, till life shall end, whate'er God send, be filled with praise.'



News of the Church Family

Not included in this version

This month we would like to wish a
HAPPY BIRTHDAY to

Julia S (9th)
Taye A-C (14th)
Ben L (16th)
Michelle B (19th)
Connie B-D (22nd)
Ellen C (26th)

With love from us all at Trinity

Worship at Trinity

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

- 5 November Worship and Communion led by Terry Hinks with collection of Shoe boxes
- 12 November Remembrance Sunday Worship led by John Shaw
- 19 November All age Worship led by Terry Hinks
- 26 November Morning Worship led by {TBA}
- 3 December Advent Sunday Worship and Communion led by Terry Hinks

Worship is followed by refreshments to which all are welcome

Next **Afternoon Communion** will be held on 26 November (as part of the prayer circle meeting).

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Focus on Prayer

Midweek Prayers at 9.30 am on Wed 1 and 15 November in church (half an hour of prayer together).

Prayer Ministry

Our Prayer Ministry is available after worship each Sunday morning. We need more people to share in this ministry of listening, supporting and praying. For more information please speak to Marian M or the minister.

Prayer Circle

This group will next meet on at 4 pm on 26 November. The circle is committed to pray regularly for people in need. If you would like to join the group (or have prayer requests) contact Audrey R.

24/7 Day of Prayer for Wycombe on 3 November

We need your help covering this day in prayer. There will be a rota to sign up for an hour over the 24 hours. See Marian M for more details.

What's on this month

Wednesday 1st	Trinity prayers	9:30 am - 10:00 am
	Trinity Elders meeting	8:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Friday 3rd	24/7 prayer for Wycombe	
Saturday 4th	Saturday Cafe	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Sunday 5th	Traidcraft (1st Sunday of month in November)	Noon - 12:30 pm
Tuesday 7th	Autumn Bible course	7:30 pm - 9:15 pm
Wednesday 8th	Worship planning group	8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Tuesday 14th	Tuesday Meeting communion	2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
	Autumn Bible course pizza/pasta	7:30 pm - 9:15 pm
Wednesday 15th	Trinity Prayers	9:30 am - 10:00 am
Friday 17th	CRCW accreditation meeting	2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Saturday 18th	Saturday Cafe	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Tuesday 21st	Church meeting	8:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Saturday 25th	DIY day	10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Sunday 26th	Prayer Circle for Healing	4:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Monday 27th	Wedding rehearsal	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

What's on . . . this month

Trinity Bookworms

Trinity Bookworms will be meeting on Wednesday 1 November at 2pm. We will be discussing '*The Thread*' by Victoria Hislop.

Newcomers are very welcome to join us.

Tuesday Meeting

All meetings in LSR at 2:30 p.m. (unless otherwise stated)

Tuesday November 7th. War and Peace.

Tuesday November 14th. Communion Service led by Revd Terry Hinks in the Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to join us. Refreshments in LSR afterwards.

Tuesday November 21st. Fog and Wind.

Tuesday November 28th. St. Andrew and other disciples.

Cores End Church

Learning about the church's history

A small group of members at Cores End continue to look into the church's history, working through the boxes of archives that the church has accumulated over the years. It hopes to produce a booklet or small exhibition as part of the 250th anniversary celebrations next year.

Christmas Charity Morning

Cores End's Christmas Charity Morning is to be held on Saturday 2 December (10 am – 12 noon) at the church, with refreshments and stalls, all in aid of charity. The charities this year are Wycombe Homeless Connection, Wycombe Refugee Partnership and Commitment for Life.

Commitment for Life

Angus M from Trinity came to lead worship focussing on Commitment for Life on 15 October, assisted by Geoff B, the Cores End elder who acts as the church's link person. While Trinity has been focussing on Zimbabwe, Cores End have taken the Palestinian project to heart (and in particular PARC – the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee).

Change and challenge

Members are watching with interest (and some concern) possible plans for major development in Bourne End, both on Slate Meadow opposite the church and on the greenbelt land behind the church. The latest draft of the Local Plan is now out for consultation.

NEWS FROM THE CHILTERN AREA

You can get more news from the local area group of which Trinity is a part from its new online blog urcchilternlocalareagroup.blogspot.com

Regular events

Every **Sunday** where possible – prayer ministry after the service

Every **Tuesday** - Movers & Shakers Chinese Style group 10am to 1pm

The **Tuesday** Meeting every Tuesday 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Every **Thursday** - Pilates well-being class 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Every **Thursday** - Trinity Guides , 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Every **Friday** - Movers & Shakers Caribbean Style group 10am to 1pm

Every **Friday** - Trinity Rainbows 5:15-6:15 pm

Every **Friday** -Trinity Brownies 6:15-7:30 pm

To find out more about any activities held at Trinity, please talk to the minister or church secretary.

Forthcoming events

Sat 2nd	Saturday Cafe	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
	Wedding of Hannah and Aaron	2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Mon 11th	Night Shelter volunteer familiarisation session	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Wed 13th	Night Shelter volunteer familiarisation session	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Sun 17th	Carols by candlelight service followed by refreshments	4:00 pm
Wed 20th	Trinity Prayers	9:30 am - 10:00 am
Sun 24th	Midnight communion	11:30 pm
Mon 25 th	Short Christmas Day service	10:00 am

Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal Christmas 2017 COLLECTION DATE IS SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER

Trinity is supporting Link to Hope by filling shoeboxes which are distributed to under-privileged people living in Eastern Europe at Christmas. We hope a number of you are filling boxes (we know the Tuesday Group is doing this!) Please bring the boxes to church on 5 November when Daphne S from Cores End URC will be joining us to collect your boxes. Thank you for your support.

DEEPER INTO THE BIBLE:

The apostle Paul and his joyful letter from prison

Tuesdays at 7.30 pm at Trinity Church (use side entrance)

Over twenty people have been involved in the autumn Bible Course exploring Paul's letter to the Philippians – a letter full of confidence and joy despite having been written from prison. The final sessions are:

7 November The peace of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4)

14 November Closing session: Pizza (or pasta) and Paul

BECOMING AN ECO CHURCH

Task Group formed

In September Terry gave a presentation about Eco Churches and the response Christians are making to the environmental challenges facing our planet and humanity. Church Meeting agreed to register Trinity as an Eco Church and form a small Task Group to work on the Online Survey that assesses the work we are doing in this area and how this could be encouraged or developed. We have three members (Harry B, Sue T and Terry H) and would love to have one or two more people join us. Please speak to any member of the group if you want to know more.

CRCW UPDATE

Our application to be accredited as a Church Related Community Worker (CRCW) project continues to progress. The CRCW Programme Sub-Committee met on 21 September and were very positive about our application and were excited about the potential for CRCW ministry in Wycombe and Bourne End. However as part of the process they decided to visit Trinity to meet with some of the people involved in the application. This is to take place on **Friday 17 November** when Steve Summers and Ruth Maxey of the United Reformed Church CRCW Programme Sub-Committee will meet with representatives from the church and local community. Please keep that meeting in your prayers as we seek God's will for our churches and communities.

Are you a knitter - with a bit of spare wool?

Calling all knitters!

Churches Together in High Wycombe are looking for people to knit small Christmas angels to give out in the churches and local community. If you are interested in receiving a pattern and having a go - then read on!

The Pattern

Angel, Body

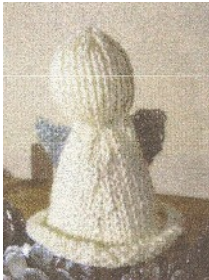
Cast on 48 sts

1. Knit row
2. Purl row
3. K2TOG, K10*, repeat until end
4. Purl row
5. Knit row
6. P2TOG, P9*, repeat until end
7. Knit row
8. Purl row
9. K2TOG, K8*, repeat until end
10. Purl row
11. Knit row
12. P2TOG, P7*, repeat until end
13. Knit Row
14. Purl Row
15. K2TOG, K6*, repeat until end
16. Purl row
17. Knit row
18. P2TOG, P5*, repeat until end
19. Knit row

20. Purl row

21. K2TOG, K4*, repeat until end, 20 sts

22. Purl row
23. Knit row
24. Purl row
25. Knit row
26. Purl row
27. Knit row



At this point, you can change your colour to create the face if you want.

28. Purl row
29. Knit row
30. Purl row
31. Knit row
32. Purl row
33. Knit row
34. Purl row
35. K2TOG · repeat until end
36. Purl row
37. Knit row
38. P2TOG • repeat until end

Using a darning needle, thread the end of the yarn through the stitches and tighten to create the top of the head. Turn the angel inside out and sew up the head and the body.

Around the neck, take a small amount of stuffing and place at the top of the head, then thread some yarn between stitches and pull loosely together.

Angel- Wings

Cast on 27 sts

1. Knit row
 2. Knit row
 3. Decrease at each end (Knit)
 4. Knit
 5. Knit 12 rows, decrease at each end
- Cast off.

How true . . . ?

Little Johnny and his father went fishing one day. After a couple hours out in the boat, Little Johnny suddenly became curious about the world around him.

He asked his father, "How does this boat float?"

The father thought for a moment, then replied, "I don't rightly know, son."

Little Johnny returned to his contemplation, then turned back to his father, "How do fish breath underwater?"

Once again the father replied, "Don't rightly know, son."

A little later Little Johnny asked, "Why is the sky blue?"

Again, the father replied. "Don't rightly know, son."

Worried he was going to annoy his father, he says, "Dad, do you mind my asking you all of these questions?"

"Of course not, son. If you don't ask questions ... you'll never learn anything!"



A completed angel

‘Anything that improved the lives of

people is technology’ Professor Carroll Khombe, Director of the Institute for Rural Technologies (IRT)

Christian Aid has recently partnered with IRT, who are working in Bulilima district in Matabele South. They are passionate about fighting rural poverty. Young people in this area are leaving Zimbabwe to find work over the borders in Botswana and South Africa, so the economy is not growing and the gap is widening between the educated rich and the rural poor. IRT encourages communities to be independent.

Although drought and flooding sometimes lead to the need for emergency aid, the best approach is a longterm one – encouraging rural communities to develop their own income, so that they are not dependent on aid. The people there really understand this, “People come with food, then they don’t come! You (IRT) come with hope for our future. This is long term hope.” One of many initiatives, promoted by IRT is the village bank system, which enables money to be gathered, shared and used for small business initiatives. The difference between this and using national banks is that wealth remains in the community. Communities trust one another and are given the opportunity to work together.

Samukele Moyo is happy with life. She received a small loan from the village bank and started buying and selling second hand clothes just over the border in Botswana. Gradually, she expanded the business to sell items such as popcorn. Using the profit from this she bought



herself some broilers and eventually earned enough money to rent a shop space. “All this gave me enough money to buy a shop. This has been beneficial to my family. There are always challenges and presently my stock is very low as I can’t get mealie meal.” It is great to hear that Samukele’s original loan of US\$ 200 has been paid back and this makes her very happy.

Samukele Moyo with her son outside her shop

Pastoral Groups

Not included in this version

Not included in this version

Forced marriage recognised as slavery – a big win for Anti-Slavery

Over 40 million people worldwide - one in four of them children - are living in slavery, according to the latest estimates from the International Labour Organisation (ILO). This includes 15.4 million people in forced marriage, the vast majority of them women and girls.

Anti-Slavery has long been advocating for the recognition of forced marriage as a form of slavery and this could not have been achieved without the backing of supporters. Although we are pleased that this has been acknowledged, the numbers highlight the fundamental denial of rights to women and girls around the world.

Shocking levels of slavery in India's brick kilns

Anti-Slavery's [new report](#) and [short film](#) reveal appalling levels of slavery in India's brick kiln industry and call for an overhaul of a payment system that traps entire families in bondage year after year.

Families take a loan before migrating to brick kilns and are forced to work for an entire season without being paid their wages. The kiln owners then regularly pay them much less than what they're owed, leaving families in debt and having to borrow money again.

In this system women are invisible - not paid or registered as workers, and even young children are forced to work for long hours every day instead of going to school.

[Anti-Slavery and our partners in India are calling for systemic change.](#) The Government must ensure workers are paid individually - including women - and regularly, and that children can go to school.



Chiltern Area Group

WORSHIP IN FOCUS

**on Saturday 18 November
(10.30 am – 12.15 pm) at Cores End URC**

or

**on Wednesday on 22 November
(7.30 pm – 9.15 pm) at Amersham Free Church**

An opportunity for anyone involved or interested in leading worship

- to meet others,
- to see what resources and training is available,
- to look at how we can support each other
- to hear new possibilities for worship in our churches.

Two different days/ times / venues to encourage your attendance

Are you a lay preacher or worship leader?

Are you involved in a Worship Team?

Do you read the bible lesson in church and might do more?

Are you interested in the future of worship in your church?

**THEN PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY
AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO COME WITH YOU.**

RSVP

***Let Bridget Powell know you are coming (and to which session)
bridget.powell@cheshamurc.org.uk 01494 7784786***

I once had a friend who grew to be very close to me. Once when we were sitting at the edge of a swimming pool, she filled the palm of her hand with a little water and held it before me, and said this: "You see this water carefully contained on my hand? It symbolises Love." This was how I saw it: "As long as you keep your hand caringly open and allow it to remain there, it will always be there. However, if you attempt to close your fingers round it and try to possess it, it will spill through the first cracks it finds. This is the greatest mistake that people do when they meet love...they try to possess it, they demand, they expect ... and just like the water spilling out of your hand, Love will retrieve from you. For love is meant to be free, you cannot change its nature. If there are people you love, allow them to be free beings. Give and don't expect. Advise, but don't order. Ask, but never demand. It might sound simple, but it is a lesson that may take a lifetime to truly practice.

It is the secret to true love. To truly practice it, you must sincerely feel no expectations from those who you love, and yet an unconditional caring." Passing thought... Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away.

Attributed to Swami Vivekananda.

[Submitted by Andrew Winton]

How to stay safe in the world today:

1. Avoid riding in automobiles because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking on streets or footpaths because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
4. Avoid travelling by air, rail, or water because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in Hospitals.

So, ... above all else, avoid hospitals.

BUT, You will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders. Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church!

Prayers for November

**Through calm and storm, light and dark, day and night,
the Lord's name be praised.**

As children prepare to enjoy trick and treating, fireworks and bonfires we pray that their evenings will not be spoiled by accidents. Keep the bold from being reckless, Lord, and calm the fears of the timid so that all may go home tired and happy. We pray in the name of Jesus. *Amen*

Thank you, Lord, for the example of your saints who stood firm in the faith in the face of persecution in past ages. We remember before you all those who in this present day are hunted and persecuted for their faith. Some are known to us by name, others are not but all are known to you. Preserve us, we pray, from facing such trials but give us the sense of your presence and love so that we may be prepared to stand up and be counted if need arises. In Jesus' name. *Amen*



The earth is crying out for peace.

Your Kingdom come, Lord

It needs a new way of living.

Your will be done, Lord.

Too many wars have been fought to end war.

Forgive us, Lord.

The peacemakers call for understanding and reconciliation

May we forgive each other, Lord.

The scattered and homeless need a leader.

Guide them in right paths, Lord.

The oppressed and marginalised long for recognition and justice.

Deliver them from evil, Lord.

Only You can do this for yours is the Kingdom, now and for ever, *Amen*.

Who's who

Minister <i>minister@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01628 525076 07599 294252
Secretary <i>secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	07818 853069
Lettings <i>lettings@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 440965
Treasurer <i>treasurer@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 564635
Magazine editor <i>editor@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 444560
Junior Church <i>juniors@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 464152
Tuesday Meeting <i>tuesday.meeting@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 531943
Bookworms <i>bookworms@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 531943
Coffee & Chat <i>coffeeandchat@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 528041
Choir <i>choir@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 473140
Prayer Circle <i>prayer.circle@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 711967
Prayer requests <i>minister@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01628 525076
Saturday Café <i>saturday.cafe@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	07985 382531
Home Groups <i>home.groups@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	07985 382531
Guiding Units (all sections) <i>guides@trinity-urc.org.uk</i>	01494 522965

Church contact number
☎ 01494 520365 (answer phone)