



**Trinity - a place to belong**

**Spirituality - Prayer – Community – Welcome**

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

**OCTOBER 2017**

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The next edition of Trinity Times will be published on 29<sup>th</sup> October. All contributions should be submitted by Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.



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

## ***Pastoral letter***

Dear friends,

The end of this month marks an important anniversary for Europe (and beyond!) On 31 October 1517 a German monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, an event that changed the face of the Church and of Europe in a far reaching way. Luther and many others at that time were distressed by corruption and abuses in the Church and turned back to the words of the Bible for their inspiration as they tried to reform the Church. The Reformation brought division but it also brought a renewing of the life of the church across Europe and beyond. Linked to the development of the printing press it brought the bible to people in their own language and in their own hands. It broke the power of the medieval church and led onto the democratic movement we take for granted today.

Luther took his inspiration from the Bible. A key moment in his life was when he was studying Paul's letter to the Romans and heard for himself Paul's message of our being made right with God not by our own efforts but by trusting in God's love for us.

Luther wrote that there are two ways of believing: 'First to believe **that** there is a God. This kind of faith is knowledge or information, rather than faith as such. Secondly there is faith **in** God. This faith I possess when I not only hold that what is said about God is true, but when I put my whole trust in him and undertake to deal with him personally.'

This personal trust in God, inspired by the Bible and lived out in the company of others, was the great fruit of the Reformation. It was a moment in the church's history that led to deep divisions and conflict, but the desire of the Reformers was to 'restore the face of the Church universal' in the words of the Reformer John Calvin.

Today many of the lessons of the Reformation have entered the life of all church traditions and its divisions have begun to be healed. Trinity Church stands in this Reformation tradition (hence that 'Reformed' word in our church's name). We are proud of that tradition while recognising that it speaks of continuing reforming and renewing of the church, that we may better follow Christ today and share his love with an ever-changing world.

This month we have the opportunity to come together to look at Scripture together and in particular the teaching of Paul, who so inspired those early Reformers. Our Bible course has six sessions and focuses in particular on Paul's letter to the Philippians (see page 10 for details). Do come if you can.

# News of the Church Family

**Not included in this version**

# Worship at Trinity

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

1 October	Worship and Communion led by Terry Hinks
8 October	Morning Worship led by Bridget Powell
15 October	All age Worship led by Ann Maree Campbell
22 October	Morning Worship led by Rev Alan Kirkcaldy
29 October	Community Celebration Service led by Terry Hinks

Worship is followed by refreshments to which all are welcome

## A Service of remembering and thanksgiving

A half-hour reflective service to remember those who have died and bring comfort to the bereaved, followed by refreshments **on Sunday 29 October at 4.00 pm.**

*If you would like someone who has died remembered by name within the service please add their name to the list in church or contact Terry*

**Please Note:** Afternoon Communion was held on 24 September (not 8 October as in last month's magazine). The next will be on 26 November (as part of the prayer circle meeting).

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## Focus on Prayer

**Midweek Prayers at 9.30 am on Wednesdays 4 and 18 October 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 10 September. 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

## Regular events

### Every Sunday where possible

- Prayer ministry after the service

### Every Tuesday

- Movers and Shakers Chinese Style (light exercise, a talk or activity and lunch) 10 am – 1 pm
- The Tuesday Meeting (small, friendly fellowship group) 2.30 - 4.30 pm

### Every Thursday

- Choir Practice (church choir practises Sunday's hymns) 8.00 pm
- Pilates well-being class every Thursday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
- Guides every Thurs, 7:30 - 9:00 pm - EXCEPT IN HALF-TERM

### Every Friday

- Movers and Shakers, Caribbean style (light exercise, a talk or activity and lunch) 10 am – 1 pm
- Rainbows every Friday 5:15-6:15 pm - EXCEPT IN HALF-TERM
- Brownies every Friday 6:15-7:30 pm - EXCEPT IN HALF-TERM

*If you would like to find out more about any activities held at Trinity, please talk to the minister or church secretary*

## Forthcoming events

Tuesday 3rd	Discipleship course (sanctuary)	7:30pm – 9:15pm
Wednesday 4th	Trinity prayers	9:30-10:00 am
Saturday 7th	Saturday Café	11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Sunday 8th	Traidcraft stall	after the service
Monday 9th	Elders' meeting	8:00 – 9:30 pm
Tuesday 10th	Discipleship course (sanctuary)	7:30 pm – 9:15 pm
Saturday 14th	Church & Society Network Day at Palmers Green URC	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Tuesday 10th	Discipleship course (sanctuary)	7:30 pm – 9:15 pm
Wed 18th	Trinity prayers	9:30-10:00 am
Saturday 21st	Saturday Café	11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Tuesday 24th	Discipleship course (sanctuary)	7:30 pm – 9:15 pm
Saturday 28th	Hot Potato Café	12 noon – 1:30 pm
Sunday 29th	Community Celebration Service (am)	
Sunday 29th	Service of Remembering and Thanksgiving (pm)	

## What's on . . . this month

### Tuesday Meeting

*All meetings in Lower Schoolroom at 2.30 p.m.*

Tuesday October 3rd Fairs Ancient and Modern

Tuesday October 10<sup>th</sup> The Disciples

Tuesday October 17<sup>th</sup> Sun and Rain

Tuesday October 24<sup>th</sup> Places Quiz

Tuesday October 31<sup>st</sup> Martin Luther

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This month we would like to wish a

### *HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO*

Andrew L (1<sup>st</sup>)

Nina S (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Claire B (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Matthew S (19<sup>th</sup>)

Margaret L (26<sup>th</sup>)

John T (31<sup>st</sup>)

*With love from us all at Trinity*

# Cores End Church

## New Elder

On Sunday 10 September the church was delighted to ordain Michael W as an elder and to induct him, along with David R, to serve at Cores End.

## Looking into the church's history

A small group of members at Cores End have been delving into our church's history, working through the boxes of archives that the church has accumulated over the years. It was good at the beginning of September to be able to share lots of information about one of the early ministers of the church with his great-great-great-grandson, Ed Harrison. Joshua Harrison was minister of Cores End Church between 1810 and 1831 and there is a memorial to him, his wife Mary and their son in the church. Ed and his wife Ellen were visiting from the United States and were delighted to share in the tea and short service at the beginning of September (after the joint walk) and then to look at the church archives.

## Preparations for next year

Looking at the church's history is in preparation for our celebrations next year when Cores End marks 250 years of its life. Plans are being put together to celebrate this in a variety of ways, including welcoming back previous ministers to lead worship.

## Harvest Thanksgiving

Cores End celebrated harvest on 24 September and focused on the work of One Can.

## A date for the diary

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.



Remember to put your clocks BACK one hour when you go to bed on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October!



## **Harvest**

Harvest focussed on the plight of refugees especially in the Middle East. The collection (and donations for produce) raised £352.60 for Embrace the Middle east working with Christian partner organisations there to help the most vulnerable whatever their faith or background. we also gathered a good number of tinned and other produce to take to the One Can Foodbank. Thank you for your support.

## **Becoming an Eco Church**

After a presentation on Eco Churches at our Church Meeting on 19 September members agreed to register the church and to form a small group to work through the survey on our environmental work. This should be a relatively simple task involving one or two meetings. The group so far consists of Harry Bates, Sue Thorne and Terry Hinks, but they would be very glad to have a few more people involved. If you are interested in joining the group or would like more information please speak to one of them.

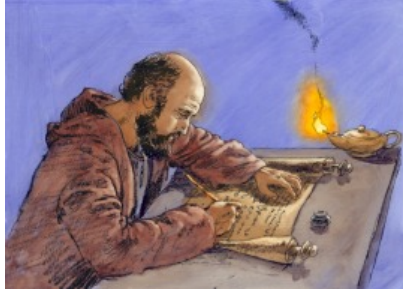
## **Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal Christmas 2017**

### **COLLECTION DATE NOW SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER**

In the last issue of the magazine Daphne S explained that Cores End URC has been supporting Link to Hope for many years by filling shoeboxes which are distributed to under-privileged people living in Eastern Europe at Christmas. Trinity has also chosen to support this cause and we hope a number of you are filling boxes. We ask you to bring these to church on 5 November (not 29 October as in September Issue) when Daphne will be joining us to collect your boxes. Thank you for your support.

***DON'T MISS***

**DEEPER INTO THE BIBLE:  
The apostle Paul  
and his joyful letter from prison**



**Tuesdays at 7.30 pm  
from 3 October 2017**

at Trinity Church (use side entrance)

*Come and explore Paul's letter to the Philippians – a letter full of confidence and joy despite having been written from prison. In it Paul shares his faith in Christ and the strength, peace and joy Christ gives him.*

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|-------------|--|
| 3 October   | Introducing Paul, his letters and churches       |
| 10 October  | Christ proclaimed in prison (Philippians 1)      |
| 17 Oct      | <i>no session this evening</i>                   |
| 24 October  | The way of Christ (Philippians 2)                |
| 31 October  | The value of knowing Christ (Philippians 3)      |
| 7 November  | The peace of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4) |
| 14 November | Closing session: Pizza (or pasta) and Paul       |

**Sign up on list in church or for more information contact  
Terry Hinks (01628 525076)**

## **An Invitation: come to our best ever Big Sleepout**

Wycombe Homeless Connection is ten years old, and so we're inviting you to come and get a taste of what it's like to sleep rough – and to raise vital funds for our work. Please save the date in your diary: Friday 24th November. It will take place in the church yards of All Saints Churches in High Wycombe and Marlow, and will be staffed by volunteer security marshals and tea-makers. Come and join us! Check out our website for more information.

*<http://www.wyhoc.org.uk/>*

WYCOMBE  
HOMELESS CONNECTION

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### **Just be yourself!!**

A 60 year old woman was walking along Oxford Street when she heard a voice from above: "You will live to be 100." She looked around and didn't see anyone. Again she heard: "You will live to be 100."

"Wow," she thought, "that was the voice of God. I've got 40 more years to live!" So she went to a cosmetic surgeon and had everything fixed; from head to toe.

When she left the surgeon's clinic, she was hit by a bus, died, and went up to heaven.

She said to St Peter, "God told me I would live to be 100. I was supposed to have had 40 more years. So how come you let the bus kill me?"

"We didn't recognise you".

## **Supporting the Eye Unit at the Bethesda Hospital in Benin**

It was good that members of both churches were able to meet Dr Andrew Potter at the coffee morning here at Cores End in August and to hear more about Andrew's work in Benin. The morning raised £380 for the Bethesda Hospital. A collection at Trinity and a donation from our 'Coffee and Chat' group raised a further £247, meaning we were able to send £627 to Medical Missionary News (the Missionary organisation that deals with UK fundraising for the hospital).

Having returned to Parakou, Andrew writes: 'Many thanks for this good news. Please pass on my thanks to the congregations and to everyone. Yes I am back in the fray and we are well occupied. Having already done more surgery this year than the whole of last year. So we are heading for over 2,000 ops this current year. No news on the training front. But we have begun to draw up plans for the building project. Next Saturday we will take the architect to the site and he will take measurements. Then draw up the technical plans. Early days of course but it is a beginning.'

There's a discussion to be had about how we might be able to continue to support the amazing work being done by Andrew and Bethesda Hospital.

## **Celebrating Women's ministry**

Revd Pippa Goldring (Harry B's sister and associate minister of Holy Trinity, Heath Town, Wolverhampton) led worship on Sunday 10 September, coinciding with the Church's celebrating of women's ministry (and especially the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of Constance Coltman as a Congregational Minister). It was a joy to have Pippa leading worship and to have her husband John and some of Maggie's family members with us that morning.

Trinity also hosted the Chiltern Area's celebration of this anniversary on 12 September. A short film about Constance Coltman's life was shown and Bridget Powell (Secretary of the Chiltern Area) gave some background to this. Jean Wilkinson (from Gerrards Cross) spoke of her own experience of ministry having just celebrated her own special anniversary the day before (60 years since her ordination). A bouquet of flowers were given to Jean and a cake shared – congratulations Jean!

Thanks to all who helped with welcoming people and serving refreshments that evening.

## ZIMBABWE – A family business



A loan of just US\$200 from her village bank gave Tendani Masendu the chance of security and confidence for her family's future. Like many in Masendu ward, Tendani is the head of the household, as her husband lives and works permanently in South Africa. With many children to look after, the irregular monies from her husband means she needs extra income.

Through Christian Aid partner, Institute of Rural Technologies (IRT), Tendani trained in retailing and was given a loan to start a shop, selling clothes and other goods she bought in Botswana. She was determined to make this work, so was delighted to expand into the shop next door and increase her stock. At one point, she even sold car tyres.

"I used the loan to start selling second hand clothes. With 6 children, 1 orphan and 12 grandchildren, I needed the money. I bought small things at first and resold. My brother gave me a small space where I could sell children's books, salt and other things. I make enough money to pay for school fees and food."

Tendani is part of a village bank. Village banks started helping small businesses in 2008 with contributions from women. At that time, there was no money. The village bank started as a means of pooling money together for people to go to workshops. This changed when IRT, with funding from CA, started lending to the women's groups. The system is credit union style money lending with the village group having responsibility for the fund. They were taught how to identify good projects and monitor progress, so when people come to the committee with a proposal, they can decide if this is a worthwhile project. If approved by the group, then IRT will match fund the local offer and give appropriate training.

If someone defaults on a loan, they are taken to the traditional court. If they have not paid because their circumstances have changed and they are vulnerable, then the debt will be cancelled. If they have not paid because of lack of effort or they have used the money for other purposes, then they are asked to work off the amount owed in community service.

Today, Tendani employs two people and her standard of living has increased. Her daughter has received training in marketing and booking, so it can now be called a family business.

"I feel I am free in life because I can feed myself. I am self-sufficient. I am not going to lose sleep thinking." What a wonderful testament to the work of IRT.

## THAMES NORTH SYNOD CHURCH AND SOCIETY NETWORK

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO:

***The next Church and Society Network Event***  
**on Saturday 14th October 2017**  
**at Palmers Green URC**  
**10.00 am – 1.30 pm**  
**(Lunch provided )**

*An opportunity to meet other people from across the Synod and to learn, share and inspire each other on many topics, including:*

- Disability and Discrimination
- Culture, Religion and Bereavement
- Mental Health
- Inclusion: Who's in and who's out?

There will be a **surprise guest speaker**. Come and share in this special morning: there will be lots of information and resource materials.

*For more information please contact Kate Yates*

ORDERS FOR PRAYER HANDBOOKS AND DIARIES ARE NOW  
BEING TAKEN

See the list in church or contact Kate Y or Terry H.

### COMING UP

Friday 3rd November: 24/7 prayer for Wycombe

Saturday 25th November: DIY Day

# Prayers for October

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
His love endures for ever. Psalm 118 v. 1. (N.I.V.)  
Open the eyes of your children, Lord, in the morning when the mists of  
sleep cloud their vision of you as the autumn mists shroud the land.  
Walk with your workers as they step out in the brightness of morning.  
Break bread for the hungry who hope to eat at midday.  
Comfort those who are overwhelmed when evening comes too soon.  
Watch over those who seek to sleep with the coming of night.  
Bless your people now and always, Lord. Amen

On all sufferers from natural disasters

*Lord have mercy*

On all refugees forced to flee by war

*Lord have mercy*

On all caught up in terrorist attacks

*Lord have mercy*

On all hungry and homeless

*Christ have mercy*

On all forgotten and friendless

*Christ have mercy*

On all depressed and despairing

*Christ have mercy*

On all relief organizations

*Lord have mercy*

On all peacemakers

*Lord have mercy*

On all who help others in distress *Lord*

*have mercy.*

We pray, Lord, for our government and leaders at this time of change for  
our country. May the decisions they make be wise ones leading to a  
settled future where all citizens feel safe and secure and no one is  
neglected or left out. We pray especially for those leading the Brexit  
negotiations. In Jesus' Name. Amen

# Who's who

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