



RINITY Times



Let's We Forget

Trinity - a place to belong

Spirituality - Prayer – Community – Welcome

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

NOVEMBER 2019

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The next edition of Trinity Times will be published on 24th November.
All contributions should be submitted by Sunday 17th November.



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

Pastoral letter

Dear friends,

Over the last month or so we have been exploring the Holy Habit of 'Making more disciples'. It has become clear that disciples are not made overnight and in fact there are many steps involved in someone becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ. In fact it is a lifetime journey and just because we may have been involved in church life for many years doesn't mean we have discipleship sorted. We have to be daily disciples, learning anew what it means to follow Jesus in 21st Century Britain and to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves where we are.

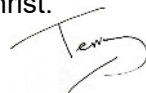
Christians are in the business of life-long learning – adapting and evolving in our relationship to our Maker and our Saviour. It also means that each one of us can play a part in encouraging others to make steps in their journey with God; each of us can help 'make disciples', but none of us can do so alone, without other people or without God's Spirit at work.

Another lesson from our discussions at the Autumn Course has been of the value of conversation, as a way of building relationships, encouraging and challenging each other, sharing the journey and the love of God. The Course material included this quote: 'We need to provide safe and loving spaces in which to share honestly the deepest concerns and questions of our lives, to become vulnerable to one another, supportive of one another and challenging of one another.' (Time to talk of God)

I want us to think about three areas where we share in conversation:

- First at church on a Sunday: Are we making sure everyone is welcomed and included? That no one sits on their own over coffee? (unless they tell us to go away!) That we truly get to know each other and each other's joys and challenges?
- Second in small groups linked to the church: Are we part of a smaller group where we can feel more able to open up? Do we need to set up more regular home groups to discuss the faith and encourage each other?
- Finally our conversations in other contexts: At work or leisure? Among family and friends? Or those one off conversations with people passing by (on the bus or wherever)? Can we find ways to remember Christ with us in those situations even if we don't always name him?

One journalist has described our present national situation as 'bellowing Brexit'. May we find a better way to speak and listen to each other (and the voiceless in our society) as we journey with Christ.



News of the Church Family

Not included in this version

Worship at Trinity

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

3 November	Worship and Communion led by Kate Yates & Harry Bates
10 November	Morning Worship led by Amersham Worship Team
17 November	All age Worship led by Terry Hinks
24 November	Morning Worship led by Pippa Goldring

Worship is followed by refreshments to which all are welcome

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Keep praying

Our Prayer Ministry is available after worship each Sunday morning. For more information please speak to Marian Mole or the minister.

Midweek Prayers at 9.30 am on **Weds 6 and 20 Nov** in church.

The Prayer Circle is committed to pray regularly for people in need. If you would like to join the group (or have prayer requests) contact Terry Hinks or Kate Yates.

24/7 Prayer for High Wycombe is shared by all the churches. If you would to receive the 24/7 monthly prayer sheet please contact Marian Mole or Terry Hinks.

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A prayer from Commitment for Life

As we look at all we possess,
We see your words in the lives of
the poor -

'Do justly, Love mercy,
Walk humbly with your God'

May we never be found wanting.
As we pass by on the other side,
We see your words in the lives of
the poor -

'Do justly, Love mercy,
Walk humbly with your God'

May we never be found wanting
As we live by the faith we inherit
We hear your words in the lives
of the poor -

'Do justly, Love mercy,
Walk humbly with your God'

May we never be found wanting
Amen.

© *Helen Garton
and Sally Whitehead*

What's on this month

Regular events

Every Sunday where possible

- Prayer ministry after the service

Every Tuesday

- Movers and Shakers Chinese Style 10 am – 1 pm

Every Thursday

- Guides every Thurs (term time only) 7:30 - 9 pm

Every Friday

- Movers and Shakers, Caribbean style 10 am – 1 pm
- Rainbows every Friday (term time only) 5:15-6:15 pm
- Brownies every Friday (term time only) 6:15-7:30 pm

Every month

- Saturday Café (first Saturday of the month only) 11:30am – 1:30pm

Talk to one of the church members if you want to know more

Wed 6th Nov	Trinity Elders meeting	7:45 pm - 9:30 pm
Sun 10th Nov	Traidcraft stall after worship	Noon - 12:30 pm
Sat 16th Nov	DIY Day	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
	Hot Potato Cafe: topic of Advent	Noon -1:30pm
Sun 17th Nov	Centenary Parade Service	10:30 am - 12:30 pm
	Guide centenary celebration and reunion	12:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Sat 23rd Nov	Quiet Morning at Cores End,	9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Sun 24th Nov	Trinity church lunch and short church meeting after worship	Noon - 1:30 pm

COMING UP...

Sun 15th Dec	Junior Church Gift Service	10:30 am
Sun 22nd Dec	No morning service – Carol service in afternoon	4:00 pm
Sat 7th March 2020	Induction service for Karen Campbell, Church-Related Community Worker	3:00 pm
	Celebration Tea to mark Karen's induction as CRCW	4:30 – 5:30 pm

What's on . . . this month

Tuesday Meeting

All meetings in the Meeting Place at 2.30 p.m. except where stated otherwise

Tuesday November 5th The work of art I should most like to own.

Tuesday November 12th Communion Service in the Sanctuary
taken by Revd Terry Hinks.

Friends are invited to join us, Refreshments afterwards.

Tuesday November 19th A historic place I have seen.

Tuesday November 26th Psalms, hymns and songs.

Trinity Bookworms

Trinity Bookworms will be meeting on Wednesday 6 November 2pm at 21 Fremantle Road to discuss 'Started Early, Took My Dog' by Kate Atkinson.

Coffee & Chat

Coffee & chat will be meeting on Wednesday 20 November 10.30am at the home of Barbara Macleod

Thanks . . .

I would just like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who has ever provided food, time and support over my time on catering committee and coffee rota. I did coffee rota for 27 years and 11 years on catering and your support was unstinting. Thank you again, it was appreciated, and I am sure you will help Suzanne just as admirably. I will still be helping out when needed and almost certainly at Christmas Carols.

Bless you all, Anne x

Editor's note: I think the congregation would agree that the thanks should actually be expressed in the opposite direction. We are all extremely grateful to Anne for her efforts over nearly three decades!

Cores End Church

Church's wildlife area

Work on the church land continues, with another work party in October. The land is now fenced with grass paths around it and plans to work on one quarter of the land at a time. More trees will be planted in the Spring (£263 has been raised to buy trees so far.)

Eco Concert on 5 October

The concert went very well with folk songs from Geoff and Debbie, classical and show songs by David, organ music (Sheep may safely graze) by Charles and worship songs by the church's praise group. Readers from Trinity and Cores End reflected on the seasons and on the beauty of trees. £342 was raised towards buying trees for the church's wildlife area and Berkshire Buckinghamshire & Oxford Wildlife Trust.

Sponsored Walk

16 members and friends took part in a sponsored walk on Saturday 12 October, raising over £1000 for the refurbishment of the church toilets. Despite the drizzle it was a lovely walk to and from Marlow (on either side of the Thames). Thanks to the walkers and all who sponsored them.

Children's Fun Day

This is to be held on 30 November and primary school children are very welcome. For more information contact Ann Pendergast (01628 526865)

Charity Coffee Morning

The church's charity coffee morning is to be held on 14 December (10 am to 12 noon) with a variety of stalls and refreshments. This year all the proceeds will be going to Commitment for Life (PARC and other Palestinian projects) and to Hearts and Souls (the local charity formed in 1966 and working in Buckinghamshire for Cardiac Prevention and Rehabilitation). Please put the date in your diaries.



WE need YOUR help!
at our next DIY day



Saturday 16 November 10am – 2pm

There are lots of jobs around our premises which get overlooked week by week. Some of them are small, like cleaning & tidying the Coffee Bar, whilst others may need tools. We can always find a task to suit you so please come along and help, even if you can only spare half an hour. Your assistance is valuable and appreciated!

If you can help please sign up on the sheet in The Meeting Place or let me know.

Hot Potato Cafe will also be happening on the same day so you're welcome to stay to lunch and enjoy a meal with some stimulating discussion.

Many thanks,
Marian M

Trinity Church

Cores End Church

QUIET MORNING



at Cores End United Reformed Church

Saturday 23 November 2019

10:30 am – 2 pm

(coffee from 10.10 am)

Worship, Bible exploration, reflection, stillness

Ending with a shared lunch

For more information contact Terry Hinks

Notes from Thames North Synod meeting – 19 October 2019

1. **Various moves of ministers** in and out of the Synod were announced and confirmed.
2. **Synod staff changes** – Patrick Daykin, Finance Officer has left, replaced by Lawrence Sinderson (agency staff). A new Safeguarding Officer shared with Southern Synod is being recruited.
3. CYDO Commissioning – **Lorraine Downer** was commissioned as Thames North’s Children and Youth Development Officer.
4. **Andrew Prasad retires in February 2021**. Process for new Moderator (Assembly appointment) was outlined: advert in March 2020 *Reform*, nominations by 1 April, applications by 15 May, shortlisting 8 June, interviews 25 June, announcement at General Assembly 2020. Two lay people and two ministers (one being Terry) on panel.
5. **New appointments** were made on Exec Committee, Discipleship Committee and Listed Buildings Advisory Committee – do ask Kate for details if you’d like them.
6. **Address by Nigel Uden, General Assembly Moderator** – URC Children and youth work highly regarded within and outside the URC. His deep thanks and affirmation to every Elder (recognise they’re feeling under pressure). He affirmed ministers at a time of changing understanding of what ministry is, but said it needs to evolve to reflect the world in which God has put us. Nigel also encouraged Synod staff. Key points: **The church’s task is to help the world realise what God offers us in Jesus Christ. “Justice is what love looks like in public”. The church must be agents of reconciliation post-Brexit. Churches are temporary – there for a place and time, and when they die, God has a new plan for mission. We need to discern what God is saying to the church about what we need to be.**
7. **Finance** – accounts approved.
8. **Fossil-free investment** – Synod will be divesting holdings in M&G Charifund, to be achieved by March 2020 Synod meeting. Synod is moving towards more fossil-free investments.
9. **Palestine/Israel visit** – Rachael Williams reported on this: happy to visit churches to talk about this over next 12-18 months. Complex part of the world. Colonial settlements built by Israelis on Palestinian land. We need to: (1) hear (2) learn how to pray, (3) start to engage and act for justice.

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10. General Assembly and Mission Council matters – Synods have to agree before these go back to General Assembly: **(a)** proposal for one Moderator of General Assembly in future serving for one year (Minister, CRCW or Elder) **(b)** Name of Mission Council will be changed to “Assembly Executive”. Agreement to these proposals.

11. Proposed revised spread of 16 Thames North reps at General Assembly – discussion on proposals which were agreed. Please talk to Kate for more info.

12. Notices:

- Pastoral Committee has looked at **bullying**; intend continued talk and action.
- **Church & Society Network:** “Inside Outside” event (climate change, celebrating diversity, grappling with growing poverty).
- **New resources available for children and youth work**
- **Youth Assembly** coming up. Taster Saturday for 11-16 year.
- **Synod Youth Rep** needed from January 2020.

13. Amalgamation of Brickwood and Chiswell Green URCs as Greenwood URC.

14. New church building and community facilities at Upper Clapton URC – it’s taken 16 years to get to this point. Kept stained glass window from old building.

15. Stepwise – a theological learning opportunity for any level. Unlike TLS you do it online on your own but meet with others on six occasions. Pilot group say conversations really good; help recognise God’s presence in daily life. One approach to exploring discipleship and what it means to walk the way. Shared learning experience. Hope to start a new group in New Year.

16. (1) Assembly-accredited and (2) synod-recognised lay preachers: Several individuals were accredited and recognised. Bryan Long of Amer-sham Free Church was recognised as a Synod lay preacher.

17. Building projects – Upper Clapton URC completed, after 16 years. **Adeyfield, Hemel Hempstead** is nearing completion after 16 years. **Christ Church Newham:** have planning consent but have a shortfall of £940k. Synod voted on a proposal to realise funds to enable work to start.

[This summary prepared by Kate.]

Christian Aid article for Christmas 2019

‘Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.’ (James 1:17)

At Christmas, Christians come together to remember how, against all odds, one mother’s bravery and devotion brought her family out of danger. She enabled God’s message of hope, love and peace to enter the world.

Today, millions of women around the world are raising children in the toughest of circumstances because of poverty and prejudice.



In India, Ranjita, 30, started accompanying her mother as a manual scavenger when she was just nine-years-old. As a manual scavenger, she endured 10-15 hours of degrading work a day that involved the cleaning, carrying and removing of human excrement from latrines and sewers – by hand. In return she earned scraps of stale bread and a few rupees (as little as 20 rupees (23p) a month). As a Dalit – the most excluded of the caste system – she is poor and marginalised, and has little opportunity to escape the systemic cycle of poverty she finds herself in.

In Afghanistan, widow Bibi Aisha, 25, was displaced by the conflict and drought, forcing her to relocate with her children, aged seven and eight. Decades of warfare, drought and civil unrest have created turmoil across communities in the country, where women are often seen as second-class citizens.



In terms of violence against women, gender equality and rights, today women are facing increasing barriers. Things are not going forward – they’re going backwards.

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All of God's children have the power within them to change their lives and achieve wonderful things, yet women and mothers are often denied the chance to use their gifts to the full.

This Christmas, help mothers – like Ranjita and Bibi Aisha - use their God-given gifts to escape poverty, and create new hope and a new future for themselves and their children.

Amid inequality and injustice, together we can change lives.



Just £19 could provide a woman like Ranjita in India with skills training, like tailoring, to enable her to set up a business; or £141 could pay to replace 50 dry toilets with flush toilets, and help eliminate manual scavenging. Women escaping conflict in Afghanistan, like Bibi Aisha, could receive the materials to weave a silk carpet to sell (£25).

To donate,
visit <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christmas-appeal>





THAMES VALLEY POLICE

We have been alerted to a scam in another part of the country involving parking meters.

The scam happens when you are approached by someone who pleads with you to help them with a parking meter that won't accept their foreign card.

They ask you to use your card to make their car park payment, and they will give you the cash.

Once you have entered your card and PIN number, your card will not come out of the machine. They have used a device to capture it. They ring who they say is the meter company who tells you they will send an engineer to fix the machine and will contact you later to return your card.

Once you have left, they retrieve your card and use it.

Protect Your Money



If you enter your card into any form of payment machine and are unable to retrieve it for any reason, you should immediately contact your bank to stop the card.

Whenever you enter your PIN number, ensure that nobody can see the number. Use your other hand to block the view of any onlookers.

If you are approached by someone in the manner described above, please decline their request and report the suspicious behaviour to police.

Message Sent By

Ian Stacey (Police, Neighbourhood Policing Administrator, Chiltern & South Bucks)



Prayers for November

There is a poem headed November in which every line begins with “no”. This prayer is the beginning of an answer to that. Add other yesses.

Let us say yes to November
And praise God for the sparkle of frost,
For the mystery cloaked in the mist,
For the emerging pattern of the bare branches,
For the blanket of early nights,
And the seeds and life below the mud
For God is good and in them all. Amen

Lord Jesus on this All Saints Day we remember your faithful followers who are not shown in stained-glass windows, have no feast-days and have never been named to the church authorities for canonization. We thank you for their steadfastness through the ages and name for ourselves those who have helped us with their words and example not seeking any reward for themselves. Help us to be worthy to be counted among those ordinary everyday saints, the members of the body of the church in its witness to the world. *Amen.*

Come, Holy Spirit, and teach the world the way of peace and reconciliation. Come, as we remember those who have lost their lives through war: service men and women, child soldiers and defenceless civilians. Come as we remember with pride mixed with sorrow relations and friends who died in conflicts on behalf of this country. Come as we remember those who died on the other side as they are also our brothers and sisters. Come to the battlefields of today and to the minds of the leaders and turn their thoughts to better ways of sharing lands and wielding power.

Come to the people who are afraid of those who are different and teach them not to hate

but see them as vulnerable folk like themselves. Come and comfort those who mourn the deaths of loved ones, particularly the pointless random deaths of young people. Come to those who carry knives and weapons for their own safety and to those who are trying to help them so that they work together.

Come, Holy Spirit, refine all our thinking with your holy fire and spread your wings of peace over the world. *Amen.*

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