

News and views for Trinity Methodist Church  
Leighton Buzzard



*Dunstable Downs Circuit Service banners.*  
*Photo: REG*

From the Manse .....	3
The Editor Writes ..	4
Eco concerns .....	5
Church Council .....	6
Methodist women visit Palestinians .....	8
Safeguarding changes at Trinity...	10

News from Eaton Bray ..... 20  
Prayer Corner ..... 21

*and much more*

**JULY 2017**





## Sunday services at Trinity will be conducted by:

### JULY

- 9 9.15 Early Church  
10.30 Rev Dr David M  
Chapman - Church  
Anniversary  
6.00 Rev Nigel Bibbings
- 16 10.30 Rev Nigel Wright - HC  
6.00 Revs Nigel Wright/  
Wallace Edwards -  
Remembrance Service
- 23 9.15 Early Church  
10.30 Richard Armiger  
6.00 Rev Julie Bradshaw —  
Circuit Service.

Farewell service for  
the Rev Nigel Wright

- 30 9.15 F4T Ben Williams  
10.30 Peter Baker  
6.00 Roger Owers - Cafe

### AUGUST

- 6 8.30 Rev Wallace Edwards  
- HC  
10.30 Fiona Arscott-Smith
- 13 10.30 Local arrangements
- 20 10.30 Robin Gurney

## ***Tuesday Worship at Trinity*** *(followed by refreshments)*



10.00 am to 10.30 am will be led by:

### JULY

- 11 Rev Nigel Wright - HC  
18 Frankie Fisher  
25 Colin Dimmock

### AUGUST

- 1 Rev Wallace Edwards  
8 Hyacinth Taylor  
15 Rev Wyn Jones  
22 Cilla/Phil Wagner  
29 Roger Owers

It doesn't seem possible that this is my last piece for Trumpeter – the past seven years have gone quickly. It's been a time of incredible change for us as a church, and incredible change too within my family as we've seen my daughter grow up. When we arrived she was seven and went to Pulford Lower School. Now 14, she catches the bus every morning to Aylesbury High School.

One of the changes that has happened over the past seven years is the introduction of an annual service of remembrance led by Wallace Edwards and myself. This will be happening on 16 July at 6.00 pm and there will be an opportunity during the service to light a candle in memory of loved ones who have died. I will also read out the names of people whose funerals Wallace or myself have taken between April 2016 and April 2017, but if anyone would like me to read out the names of anyone else who has died during the past year or so,

## From the Manse



then please do let me know and I will make sure I include them.

Another change that is taking place at the moment is the implementation of the new pastoral system agreed by the Church Council in November last year. This has followed an extensive period of consultation with church members and others in our church family and more details are contained within this edition of Trumpeter on page 18.

As you will be aware we will be moving to Amersham in August and Seung-wook Jung and his family will be moving here to Leighton Buzzard. I wish you well as you embark on the next stage of your journey together at Trinity.

*Nigel*

---

### Don't let me forget it

Jesus,

Keep reminding me of the bigger picture as I look ahead.

Keep me in your hands when all other hands disappear,

for I am convinced that neither entry requirements nor exam results,

neither anticipation nor doubts, neither success nor failure, nor any expectations,

neither last minute fears nor anxieties, nor anything else in life, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Please, don't let me forget it!

Amen

## ***The Editor writes***



In the May issue of Trumpeter we were anticipating the General Election and I wrote: "The General Election might tell us which way our nation is going". I confess that like most other people I did not see that we were going to enter a period of even more uncertainty and confusion. The election did not point in one direction but in several, like the tentacles of an octopus.

Contrast that with France. There a relative newcomer to the political stage stormed the battlements and gained an impressive hold on the country and its parliament.

What can be concluded from these two situations? I suggest very little in the global context. The world is still in turmoil, people are still being massacred in places like Iraq, Syria and the Yemen, where cholera is also taking its toll of human lives on top of a civil war. At home we have had the horror of the fire at Grenfell Tower as well as multiple terrorist attacks.

Does this uncertainty, war, division have anything to say particularly to us as Christians? It is too easy to say "just pray". Yes, that's important but I recall again the words of the writer of James: *"Dear friends, do you think you'll get anywhere in this if you learn all the right words but never do anything? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it? For instance, you come upon an old friend dressed in rags and half-starved and say, 'Good morning, friend! Be clothed in Christ! Be filled with the Holy Spirit!' and walk off without providing so much as a coat or a cup of soup — where does that get you? Isn't it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense?"* (The Message).

This issue is a bumper one. There is much going on in our churches and some of that is reflected here either through local events like the open-air service on Dunstable Downs, or more widely the report of the Methodist Women in Britain's visit to the Palestinian people.

Just a reminder that as we go into the holiday period get your cameras clicking and enter our Trumpeter photo competition - details on the backpage.

REC





Climate change seems to be always in the news. We were reminded of it recently when we had very high temperatures.

Climate change results in more intense heat, droughts, storms and floods. New research has found that nearly one third of the world's population is exposed to deadly heatwaves. Climate change has escalated the heatwave risk across the globe and nearly half the population will suffer extreme heat by the end of the century even if greenhouse gases are radically cut now, according to Nature Climate Change.

Global warming is causing glaciers across the world to shrink. The melting of glaciers, the Greenland ice cap, and the Antarctic, at the current rate, with the expansion of the oceans as they warm, will result in a metre rise in sea levels by 2100.

As climate change takes hold, we need to think of more ingenious ways to try to maintain

conditions, also for wildlife.

*Lord raise up your church to take action on climate change which is hitting poor communities hardest.*

I was dismayed to read the warning from a former government chief scientific advisor that “children travelling in cars are at a far greater risk from dangerous levels of pollution from fumes than when walking”.

Asthma expert Professor Holgate estimated exposure to air pollution is nine to twelve times higher inside a car than outside. It's like sitting in a box collecting gases from vehicles in front of you and the fan sucking in exhaust fumes, straight into the back of the car. Parents think there is less pollution inside the car than outside. Professor Holgate says that in his view, the government has not taken it seriously, and needs to get tough; and for car companies to provide clean vehicles — technology already exists.

I could not write about Eco Concerns without mentioning the terrible and horrific disaster at the Grenfell Tower block and the devastating effect on all concerned. We pray for all.

*Janet Graham*

# Trinity Church Council

**14 June 2017**

The following is a summary of the main points from Church Council on 14 June: Church membership currently stands at 164.

- \* Sue Horsefield and Patience Owers have now met with all the Group Leaders and are starting to meet with the Pastoral Visitors.

- \* Anne Guy has succeeded Catherine Roots as Safeguarding Representative. As required, the Church Council reviewed the policy, agreed the amendments and accepted the revised policy.

- \* A letter has been received from Major Norma Tasker thanking Trinity for the donation to buy new carpets for the bedrooms at the Black Horse Night Shelter and for the cheque from the retiring collection in March 2017.

- \* At the Leadership Team meeting on 17 May, it was decided that new members at Trinity should be proposed and seconded by members of Church Council before being accepted into membership. This is to ensure that more people are aware of new members. Lawrie Renfrew has resigned as a Vestry Steward and the Church Council expressed its thanks to him for the service he has given.

- \* The Property Committee reported that the Quinquennial survey took place on 3 May and the draft report has been received. The only Immediate Action is for a Fire Risk Assessment to be carried out. The Church Council approved the proposal to go ahead with re-roofing the anteroom this summer, though this will use up all the reserves allocated to be spent on Property matters this financial year. A five-year plan for prioritising further Quinquennial maintenance will be drawn up for the next Church Council.

- \* The recommendations for charitable donations for the year, included in the Neighbourhood, Mission & Family Committee report, were approved.

- \* Roger Owers had prepared a report of the present financial position. There is likely to be a deficit of about £5,000 by the end of the financial year (31 August). There were a number of matters to be resolved: to agree the proposed donations; to agree a 2% rise for paid staff; to agree that contracts for staff should be renewed until 30 Sept. 2018; to agree that we should apply for a District grant for outreach work of £7,000 per annum for 2 years; to adopt the budget for the next financial year (Sept. 2017-Aug. 2018). All these proposals were agreed.

- \* Health & Safety: it was reported that the various risk assessments are being worked through.

- \* Catherine Roots thanked Sheila Pollard, Marina Mele and Donald Wray who

*(Continued on next page)*

# Trinity Church Council

have stood down as members of the Leadership Team. She also thanked Sue Stokes who will be standing down in August. There is the opportunity to work towards becoming an Eco-church, but we need a committed person to lead this project. Thanks were expressed to all who helped with the May Fair. There will be a Nativity Festival this year, but it will have a different format. Picnic in the Park will not happen this year, due to lack of support last year.

\* The purchase of a house in Linnet Way, Sandhills, as a new manse is progressing slowly. The sale of Linslade Chapel has been agreed. It is understood that it will be used for community activity.

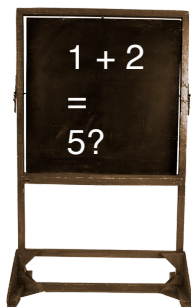
\* There will be a Circuit celebration on Dunstable Downs at 11am on Sunday, 25 June. Rev Seung-wook Jung & Rev Eric Mustapha will be joining the Circuit in September. Clive Salmon will be stepping down as Circuit Steward at the end of August. He was thanked for his contribution to Trinity Church Councils over recent years.

\* There is now a page on the Trinity website for 'Social Issues & Initiatives'. Charles Horsefield will co-ordinate any input.

\* A de-fibrillator has been found which costs about £750. The issue of installing one in church was re-visited, but in our present financial position, after a vote, it was decided we could not go ahead. If anyone were prepared to 'champion the cause' and organise fund-raising, it would be welcomed.

\* Roger Owers noted that this was Rev Nigel Wright's last Trinity Church Council, and thanked him, on behalf of all those present, for his care, diligence and leadership over the last 7 years. Nigel responded by thanking Roger and wished the church well for the future.

*Elizabeth Hitchcock*



## David Dawes sets us some brain teasers

Pat and Chris buy bricks at the same price but Pat sells his bricks at 5 for £4 while Chris sells his at 7 for £6. After both have sold the same number of bricks, Chris has gained £4 more than Pat. How many did each sell?

*Answer on page 19*

# Methodist women visit Palestinians

In May, Nichola, who used to be a Minister here, spent a day at The Square, Dunstable Methodist Church, talking about her latest visit to Israel/Palestine, in particular Bethlehem, on behalf of Methodist Women in Britain. Nichola has a long engagement with that part of the world and particularly with the Palestinian people through the World Council of Churches/Quaker peace initiative.

MWIB has a particular focus on bringing women to know Christ and make him known through equipping, encouraging and enabling women to serve God in the church, the community and the world. An aim is to connect women in Britain with women worldwide not least those living lives of oppression and suffering.

The latest team to visit the country, led by Nichola, visited refugee camps, schools, clinics, orphanages, residential homes, private homes, projects for adults with learning disabilities and schools for seriously disturbed children.

The team carried 18 suitcases around with them as they visited the different projects and areas.

These contained a variety of items for children and adults who are so deprived of everyday essentials as well as toys, books and games.

Nichola's description of how the team left Bethlehem contrasts the way that visitors and Palestinian citizens live day-by-day. "We left Bethlehem in our minibus via two checkpoints packed with soldiers who, upon realising we were internationals, waved us through without comment". This contrasts with the treatment of locals who have to transit via "ghastly cages...with body checks, conveyor belt for shoes, jackets, bags; soldiers behind glass barking orders in Hebrew, jostled by a queue of men and a few women carrying sick babies in their arms".

The team's first visit was to a L'Arche workshop for people with learning difficulties. Here Nichola writes that the people "use local sheep's wool to make beautiful grottos with Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus plus angels, sheep and even Easter chicks, love hearts and doves. What light and joy in that place, providing useful em-

*(Continued on next page)*

# Methodist women visit Palestinians

ployment for over 42 persons and, more than anything else, respect and dignity for each there, all made in God's image and beautiful in his eyes."

An important stop was at Hope Secondary School, known as the "last chance" school. Here children who have been neglected or marginalised in other ways are taken in and given a basic education. Ninety boys and 36 girls receive teaching to empower them to study and become the best person they can be despite living under occupation with soldiers ever-present.

Talking about the future the headteacher of Hope School said: "I tell you the truth, I have no hope. Here Muslims and Christians study and work together and we teach tolerance, love, accepting one another. Because we are

sealed off behind The Wall, the only Jews we see are soldiers and they are not a good example. How will our students ever know that Jews can be good people! Our life is not easy. We only get water once a month if the Jews turn it on and then we have to rush round filling the tanks, doing all the washing and cleaning. I stay up all night to get it done while we have water. Imagine? We don't see the sea: it's forbidden. You tourists know the country better than we do!"

In her newsletter following the visit, Nichola ends by saying that there is so much work to do in the name of Christ. She thanks all for "helping us bring a smile to the face of some very sad people in Bethlehem." The team hope to go back to carry more love and goodies. In the meantime we are urged by Palestinian Christians to read widely about the situation, to pray often and to visit and see for ourselves how people live and work.

EN

## **London Bible Week**

*"Meeting Jesus in God's Word"*

Hear from the UK's best Bible teachers and experience the Bible brought to life as never before

Tickets and information at  
**[londonbibleweek.com](http://londonbibleweek.com)**

# Safeguarding changes at Trinity

*Ann Guy writes*

Hello everyone. No doubt you will have noticed via the weekly news that Catherine Roots has stood down as the safeguarding officer for Trinity after 16 years sterling service. I am sure that we would all wish to express our thanks to her for this. She will still be dealing with any DBS (police check) queries, however, all other matters, including new volunteers with children and vulnerable adult groups and anyone requiring Creating a Safer Space training or the four-year refresher training should be passed to me. Catherine will still be a safeguarding course trainer and I too am hoping to qualify as a trainer for this course as soon as possible.

I wanted to briefly introduce myself as many of you will have seen me in church, on the organ, on the sound desk or in the choir. I have been a member at Trinity since November 1980, when we arrived in Leighton Buzzard with me seven months pregnant with our first child. For all of my working life as a teacher/inspector safeguarding has been a key

aspect of my work and I have attended in depth training on this almost every year. One of the roles I had was as the teacher based at The Moorings Family Centre in Leighton Buzzard. I was employed by social services as teacher to work with the children and families who had a variety of particular needs where an in depth knowledge of safeguarding was essential. Until my retirement, for almost 20 years I was working as an inspector of childcare facilities for under eights which included nurseries, playgroups and childminders as well as some school inspections. Again safeguarding of the children at all settings was a key part of my role together with ensuring the staff and facilities were also not a risk.

I look forward to working with everyone to ensure Trinity continues to be a safe place for us all to enjoy worship, friendship and the many other activities that take place on our premises.

One aspect of safeguarding has immediately come to my attention

*(Continued on next page)*

# Safeguarding changes at Trinity

and I have spoken to Tim Hitchcock who is chair of the property committee with regard to this. We are very aware there are probably in excess of 100 sets of keys to the property currently in circulation, however, the key holders list only shows a fraction of this number. We feel for everyone's security and safety it is essential to know where these keys are. We are not looking to remove keys from anyone, just to try and locate who has them. If this article makes you realise you

have a set but no longer need them, then please return them to one of the stewards or Tim Hitchcock. I would like to set up a list of key holders so that in the event of an insurance issue we are able to provide this information.

To that effect please will you tell me as soon as possible if you have a set of keys to the premises. This can be in person, via the church mail rack, email or phone. If I am not around speak to one of the other stewards who will pass the information to me.

May we continue working together to create a safe space in our church for all.

*Ann Guy*

*01525 371712; email:*

*[guy.taylors@btinternet.com](mailto:guy.taylors@btinternet.com)*

---

## Plane prayers

### A thoughtful idea for holiday time

Do you ever feel nervous before getting on a plane? Travellers at one German airport can now have some peace by entering a booth and listening to a prayer of their choice before boarding a plane. A terminal at Stuttgart Airport has a new prayer booth. There are 300 prayers from various religions in 65 different languages available. An airport spokesman said, "Often, passengers have a bit of time before their departure at the gate and the prayer booth is an offer by the airport's chaplains to provide a moment of contemplation." The former photo booth includes the Christian Lord's Prayer and American TV preachers on the touch-screen display. The booth is free of charge and will be available initially for three months at one of the boarding areas.



# Circuit Service - Dunstable Downs

Sunday 25 June churches from across the Circuit abandoned their buildings and gathered at the National Trust beauty spot on Dunstable Downs for a service described as mission “outside the walls”.

Introduced by the Rev Nigel Bibbings and with the support of various musicians, actors, singers and speakers from a wide cross-section of the Circuit’s churches some 200 or so people braved the chilly wind and worshipped the God of Creation.

With a great view across large portions of the Circuit, including Leighton Buzzard (with the Heath and Reach wind turbine prominent on the horizon) it was a joyful occasion and an opportunity to

enjoy the views and appreciate the vastness of the universe.

Many people throughout the Circuit had been involved in preparing the service and thanks should be extended to all for their



work, cooperation and willingness to make such an event possible and successful.

*Above: The banner announcing the church “Outside the Walls”.*

*Below: Some of the 200 or so attendees at the Circuit Service on Dunstable Downs*



# Trinity Budget 2017

The June Church Council accepted a budget for the financial year that runs from September 2017.

The main item of the expenditure will be the contribution to the Circuit of £61,200. This amount is calculated by a formula which includes the number of members and income from premises. The Circuit pays for our ministers and the manses. The budget for our church buildings is £28,000 which includes £10,000 put aside for ongoing refurbishment work.

Thanks to your generous response the outreach appeal stands at £16,500 and this will enable us to continue that work next year. The total budget for this is about £14,000 a year. We hope that with grants we will have enough to continue our outreach work for the next two years.

The total budget, excluding outreach work is £98,390 and we will need offertories and gifts for church work of £68,480 which will be an increase of nearly £5,000 over this year. Regular giving is the main source of income for our church. The rest comes from the use of our premises and gift aid.

In a note such as this, it is impossible to give all the details of the budget but I hope I have given

you a perspective of the cost involved in running Trinity. I would be pleased to answer any questions, provide a copy of the budget or church accounts.

*Roger Owers, Treasurer*

---

## New Assistant Secretary of Conference

At its meeting in Birmingham in June the Methodist Conference appointed the Rev Dr

Jonathan R Hustler as the Assistant Secretary of Conference, from 1 September 2017.

Jonathan will be remembered by

many from his time as a Minister at Stewkley in the old Leighton Buzzard and Stewkley Circuit. He has returned to Stewkley on various occasions since.

Jonathan trained for the Methodist ministry at Wesley House Cambridge from 1987-90, and spent a year prior to his first station at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

Jonathan read for his PhD while a circuit minister. From 2011-14 he served as Vice-Principal of Wesley House Cambridge, and since 2014 he has been serving as Ministerial Co-ordinator for the Oversight of Ordained Ministries in the Methodist Connexional Team.



# Notes from the Circuit Meeting

The Circuit meeting in June was the usual mixture of information and business.

There was a presentation from Nigel Hopper representing A Rocha Charity which is offering Eco Church in the UK. He encouraged all churches to register as an Eco Church. Those involved can achieve a Bronze, Silver or Gold award. A Rocha UK is a charity committed to helping Christians in the UK to care for the natural world and the Eco Church programme is supported by the Methodist Church.

As well as Rev Seung-Wook Jung who will become our minister in September, the Rev Eric Mustapha will also be joining the circuit as a replacement to Rev TJ

Wesley, who has returned to the USA.

It was announced that an offer has been accepted for the sale of the Linslade Chapel, and that the circuit is in the process of buying a new manse in the Sandhills area of the town. The circuit staff are also working with other denominations as plans develop for a major new housing development in Houghton Regis.

We were asked to help with the District synod which will be held at Harlington on 16 September.

Finally, Oakdale Methodist Church told us about their Book of Faith which is a helpful way of sharing information about people who attend their church.

*Roger Owers*

## A plea from Alan Scott

Methodist Preachers,  
man or woman,  
black or white,  
All are precious in God's sight,  
But the hard of hearing's choice  
Has a loud, clear, carrying voice!



# Remembering Ron Duggett

Many were saddened when we heard of the death on 28 May of our dear friend Ron Duggett.

Hearing before Easter that his health was deteriorating the news was not unexpected but when it came it signalled an end of a chapter in our lives.

There are people who are automatically linked to a certain church or chapel; Ron's was Linslade, where he had been senior steward and where he shouldered the responsibilities of leadership single-handed.

Ron confided to me on several occasions: "I know the day will come when I will have to leave Leighton Buzzard and go to live with my daughter in Poole but I worry as to what will happen to the chapel at Linslade". I reassured him that these matters are in the hands of God.

Then at a church council meeting Phyllis Savage volunteered to be steward and with the help of others that cause seemed to have a

new lease of life.

Ron especially enjoyed the Wednesday Coffee Shop, a grand opportunity for fellowship. On that theme it must be mentioned that Ron was a faithful member of the Trinity Fellowship Circle (formerly The Regnal). His literary contributions were greatly appreciated at Members' evenings. He had his own way of reading poetic passages and bringing out their true meaning — one of his favourite poets was Rudyard Kipling.

The time came when Ron had to move to Poole to make his home with Ann, his daughter and her husband, David. It was comforting to know that he was well cared for during the last stage of his life.

In his transition from one life to the next we can imagine that he heard the voice of the Great Master saying "Well done, thou good and faithful servant — enter thou into the joy of the Lord".

*Wallace Edwards*

---

Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.



# Remembering Brian Norrington

Brian and Margaret Norrington came to Leighton Buzzard as newlyweds. Donald Wray remembers how they met. Brian was in hospital. Margaret came along to take his blood sample. She fell into his tender trap (remember that film) and he never let her go.

They came to Leighton Buzzard at a time when the minister would visit somebody who moved near and welcome them to church.

After Margaret passed away Brian became more and more concerned about his diabetes —. It became his main topic of conversation.

Before those days Brian demonstrated a wide range of knowledge on many subjects. He loved recording radio programmes and would bring them along for us to listen to.

Brian helped us many times when we didn't have a car. He came with us when we collected Trevor whom we adopted and collected his stuff from University at the end of term.

Brian would take us out once a year to say thank you for helping

him. Donald and Sarina came too but Brian would never say where we were going. We usually ended up at a Best Western Hotel to remember Margaret's birthday.

Brian was in charge of music when North Street Players performed a Pantomime. He always played the same tune before the start and rang the bell three times when it was three minutes to go.

Brian was never an actor himself but there will be those reading this who will remember the Floral Dance!!

Another interest was the sound system in church. Brian sat behind the controls for years. He came into his own on Remembrance Sunday when he tuned us into the service at the Cenotaph just before 11am. When a new sound system was installed it was agreed that training would be needed. Brian could not cope with that and was heard to say I can't come to church anymore as I will have nowhere to sit now.

Brian would make annual trips to Thursford for the Christmas Extravaganza, as well as trips to the Albert Hall and Kings College. I

*(Continued on next page)*

# **“An indelible stain...”**

Writing 100 years after the Balfour Declaration and 50 years after the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories captured in the 1967 War, the World Council of Churches' (WCC) executive committee lamented the ongoing failure of the parties to seek a just peace and remarked on “an indelible stain on the conscience of members of the international community” for their failure to resolve the situation.

Gathered in Switzerland, in June, the statement said: “During the past five decades, the WCC has always recognized the State of Israel and its legitimate security needs as well as those of the Palestinian communities of the region,” adding: “It has consistently appealed for non-violent approaches and denounced the use of armed force and violence by whosoever committed” as well as the occupation.

Yet, the executive noted, “half a century after the 1967 war, there is still no peace and no justice among the inhabitants of the land of Christ’s birth, death and resurrection. The Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories continues without any political solution on the horizon.”

Indeed, international acquiescence “has encouraged and enabled the Israeli occupation to become effectively a permanent colonization,” they noted.

Urging redoubled efforts and new approaches to sustainable peace by “all churches and people of good will around the world,” the statement encouraged all “to hold fast to this vision, not to despair, but to renew their commitment to speaking and acting in support of justice and peace in Palestine and Israel.”

---

## **Remembering Brian Norrington**

member a trip to the London Eye on 5 November and other events that will keep for another day.

There will never be another Brian. He has gone from us to be with his Lord whom he served in many practical ways and with his Margaret.

We send out love and sympathy to Pam his daughter and her partner, and to David his son and his wife Victoria and to their son Thomas, Brian’s grandson of whom he was very proud.

*Colin and Jean Dimmock.*

# Pastoral Review – Changes to the Pastoral System at Trinity

On 3 November 2016 the Church Council made the decision to introduce a new pastoral care system. This was the result of a long period of research and consultation concerning our current pastoral needs and resources. We weren't however able to make further progress until we were able to appoint a couple of Pastoral Co-ordinators who would be able to take it forward. Sue Horsefield and Patience Owers agreed to take on that role and were appointed by Church Council on 16 March and are in the process of contacting group leaders and pastoral visitors.

Whilst the existing pastoral care system at Trinity has worked well for many, this has not always been the case for everyone. Over the years it has become increasingly difficult to recruit new pastoral visitors and since many existing visitors have inevitably needed to stop or reduce their involvement, this has meant an increasing burden on those who remain and some members have been left without a pastoral visitor. In addition, feedback

from a number of members has indicated that they do not feel that they need a pastoral 'visitor' as such, as they feel that their main pastoral support comes from their small group within the church.

Others stated that in general they would prefer someone to ring or get in touch by email rather than visit. On the other hand there were those, including the housebound, who strongly welcomed and appreciated regular contact from a pastoral visitor.

As a result of this feedback and of research which we carried out into the practices of other large Methodist churches, the following pattern of pastoral care will be introduced over the coming months:

- Those people who are part of a church group (e.g. house group) will receive pastoral care from the group and this will be overseen by a **Pastoral Link** person from within that group. This will not necessarily be the group leader.

*(Continued on next page)*



# Changes to the Pastoral System

- Those who do not belong to a church group will be allocated a **Pastoral Friend** who will provide pastoral care in the most appropriate manner for them as an individual (e.g. visits, telephone calls, emails etc.) unless they indicate that they do not want such a person to be allocated to them. Visits will continue for those in most need of them and wherever possible people will continue to receive pastoral care from the same person as now.
- The new system will be put into place and overseen by two **Pastoral Co-ordinators** (in liaison with the Minister), who will report to the Church Council.
- The **Minister** will continue to visit those in need of a Ministerial visit, in liaison with the **Pastoral Coordinators, Pastoral Links** and **Pastoral Friends**.
- There will be an annual meeting for all **Pastoral Links** and **Pastoral Friends** together with the **Minister** and **Pastoral Co-ordinators**.
- Once this system is in place, further thought will be given to the proposals to set up a **Telephone Friendship Group** and **Bereavement Care Team**.
- Until the new pastoral care system is put into place, existing arrangements will continue.

*Nigel Wright*

## **Answer to David Dawes math question on page 7.**

If they both sell 35 (5x7) bricks then Chris will make £30 and Pat would make £28 and hence if they sell a total of 70 bricks each then Chris will gain £4 more than Pat. Answer is 70.

# News from Eaton Bray

Our Cafe Worship in May, led by Belinda Freeman on the second Sunday, focussed on the need to “lean on Jesus in the darkest night”, rediscovering God’s great goodness when he transfers our grief into hope and our weakness into strength.

Our Sunday School Anniversary Service on the third Sunday was a complete joy. The young people and their teachers had worked hard to create a lively ‘extravaganza’, dramatising the Bible Story in four scenes. It was beautifully prepared, very meaningful and much appreciated by the congregation. Afterwards the prizes were presented to the children and gifts to their teachers.

Jenny Spouge took our Communion Service on the fourth Sunday. In her sermon she explained that we are all involved in bringing about God’s kingdom on earth and offered suggestions as to how we can help achieve this - the key ingredient being love.

John Enejo was our preacher on Pentecost Sunday, focussing on the power the Holy Spirit gives to all followers of Christ.

In our Cafe Service on the second Sunday, Rev Nigel Bibbings helped us think about the difficult concept of the Trinity. There was a lively discussion and some meaningful and moving prayers and many of us left with a clearer grasp of the three-fold wonder of God.

The following week, on the third Sunday in June, Steve Rogers, a young preacher on trial, visited us for the first time. In the context of the recent terrible national events, he outlined occasions in the Bible when care and hospitality was offered to strangers and pointed out that meeting another’s needs is the most practical way of obeying God. We found his message inspiring and look forward to welcoming him back.

## **Dates for your Diary:**

*Social Afternoons*

Weekly on Thursdays

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Chat, meeting friends, games, refreshments. All Welcome. First meeting free, then £2 per session.

---

The power of the Church is not a parade of flawless people, but of a flawless Christ who embraces our flaws.

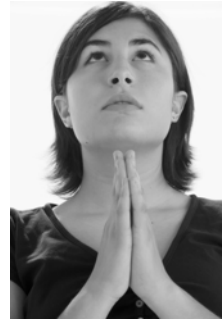
# ***Prayer Corner***

O God, that we may receive your blessing,  
touch our brows, touch our heads, and do  
not look upon us in anger.

In a hard year, offer us mercy; in a year of  
affliction, offer us kindness;  
dark spirits banish from us, bright spirits  
bring close to us;  
gray spirits put away from us, good spirits  
draw near us.

When we are afraid, offer us courage;  
when we are ashamed, be our true face;  
be over us like a blanket, be under us like a  
bed of furs. Amen

(A prayer from Mongolia)



**You are invited to attend a  
Free Church Service in the  
Lady Chapel on the following  
Wednesdays at 11.00 am:**



THE CATHEDRAL AND  
ABBEY CHURCH OF  
**SAINT ALBĀN**

- 5 July 2017:** Preacher: **The Very Reverend Dr Jeffrey John,**  
Dean, St Albans Cathedral.
- 2 August:** Preacher: **The Reverend Rosemary Fletcher,**  
Superintendent Minister,  
The St Albans & Welwyn Methodist Circuit.
- 13 September 2017:** Preacher: **The Reverend Stephen Copson,**  
Regional Minister, Central Baptist Association

**All services are followed by a fellowship lunch in the Abbots Kitchen and all are  
welcome**

Free Church Ecumenical Chaplain: Reverend Simon Carver,  
Email: [simoncarver@btinternet.com](mailto:simoncarver@btinternet.com)



# **Trinity Fellowship Circle**

**Tuesdays at 7.30 pm**

## **JULY**

- 15 (Saturday) Cream Tea @  
Sarina & Donald's home.

*This will be the last meeting in the  
current programme.*

*Meetings will recommence as  
follows:*

## **SEPTEMBER**

- 5 AGM  
12 Harvest Festival  
19 Members' evening  
26 Rev Noel McGeeney (Vicar of  
Heath & Reach)

---

## **Flowers in church**

### **JULY**

- 9 (Church Anniversary)  
Flowers given in  
remembrance of Brian and  
Margaret Norrington
- 16 Jan & Andy Cornfoot, for  
family anniversaries
- 23 Rev Wallace & Mary  
Edwards, in loving memory  
of family and friends and in  
thanksgiving for the  
fellowship we have at Trinity
- 30 Flowers today are kindly  
given to celebrate Joan and  
Jean's 80th birthdays. With  
grateful thanks for the love  
and fellowship at Trinity



### **AUGUST**

- 6 Frances & Michael  
Underwood, Michelle,  
Anna-Marie, Adam, Bella &  
Rosalie in loving memory of  
Frances' parents, Len & Elsie  
Thompson
- 13 Mrs Pam Preston in loving  
memory of dearest partner  
Trevor
- 20 The Wray family in loving  
memory of Ceri, beloved  
daughter, sister and aunt

# ***Weekly activities at Trinity***

## **SUNDAY**

- 8.30 Holy Communion. Optional breakfast (usually 1st Sunday in month)
- 9.15 Food 4 Thought (Chatteris Suite - 5th Sunday in month)
- 9.15 Early Church, All Age Worship followed by 'Coffee&' in Chatteris Suite (2nd and 4th Sundays in each month)
- 10.30 Morning Worship (coffee afterwards in the hall)
- 5.30 Freedom Generation (Youth group for ages 11-16) in Chatteris Suite
- 6.00 Evening Worship

## **MONDAY**

- 8.00 Badminton in the hall

## **TUESDAY**

- 9.45-11.15 Mothers & Toddlers (Chatteris Suite) Term time only
- 10.00-10.30 Half hour market day worship + refreshments
- 7.00-8.30 Cubs
- 7.30 Trinity Fellowship Circle

## **WEDNESDAY**

- Evening Drop-in for homeless

## **THURSDAY**

- 2.00 Sewing Circle (Every two weeks. See Sandra Digby for details)
- 6.15-7.30 Beavers
- 7.30-9.00 Scouts

## **FRIDAY**

- 9.45-11.15 Mothers & Toddlers (Chatteris Site) Term time only
- 6.00-7.30 Girls' Brigade - Explorers
- 6.30-8.00 Girls' Brigade - Juniors
- 7.00-9.00 Girls' Brigade - Seniors
- 7.30-9.30 Girls' Brigade - Brigaders

## **SATURDAY**

- 9.00-9.30 Prayer Service

**For introduction to any of the above, please see a Steward**

Trumpeter is edited by Robin Gurney at  
3a Littleworth, Wing, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 0JX (robingurney37@aol.com)  
and printed at The Print Place, North Street, Leighton Buzzard

The next issue of Trumpeter will appear on  
Sunday, 20 August. Deadline for contributions will be **NOON** on  
**FRIDAY, 11 AUGUST 2017**  
Deadline for the following issue will be Friday, 29 September 2017



Website: Trinity: [www.trinitylb.org.uk](http://www.trinitylb.org.uk)  
Follow Trinity also on Facebook and Twitter

Trinity Methodist Church is a Registered Charity, No: 1151861

# Trumpeter Holiday Photo Competition



Everybody, it is said, now takes photographs. Trumpeter invites you to submit memories of your 2017 holiday. Entries will be judged by outstanding photographer, Chris Lowe and the Editor (that excludes them from taking part!). Closing date - 15 September 2017. The results will feature in later editions of Trumpeter. Prizes — that's a secret for now but winning entries will be printed in Trumpeter. Printed copies of photographs only will be accepted. Digital versions will be requested from winners. Entries may be given to either of the judges or placed in the Editor's rack at Trinity.

Go on — give it a go!