

Trumpeter

News and views for Trinity Methodist Church
Leighton Buzzard

Hark!



The
herald
angels
sing

Glory to the new-born King

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<i>and much more</i>	

DECEMBER 2017





Sunday services at Trinity will be conducted by:

DECEMBER

- 17 10.30 Rev Wallace Edwards
- HC
6.00 Rev Seung-Wook Jung
Carol Service
- 24 10.30 Rev Nina Johnson
4.30 Nativity Service - All
age
23.30 Rev Seung-Wook Jung
HC
- 25 10.30 Rev Seung-Wook Jung
- 31 10.30 Rev Seung-Wook Jung

JANUARY 2018

- 7 8.30 Rev Seung-Wook Jung
- HC
10.30 Colin Quine
6.00 Fiona Arscott-Smith

- 14 9.15 Early Church
10.30 Geoffrey Best
6.00 Rev A W Trotman
- 21 10.30 Rev Seung-Wook Jung
- Covenant Service
6.00 Shepherd Kombo
- 28 9.15 Early Church
10.30 Local arrangements
6.00 Rev Seung-Wook Jung
- Covenant Service

FEBRUARY

- 4 8.30 Rev Seung-Wook Jung
- HC
10.30 Peter Baker - Songs of
Praise
6.00 Steve Rogers

Tuesday Worship at Trinity

(followed by refreshments)



10.00 am to 10.30 am will be led by:

DECEMBER

- 19 Roger Owers
26 No Service

- 16 Colin Dimmock
23 Joan Gregory
30 Rev Wallace Edwards

JANUARY

- 2 No service
9 Rev Seung-Wook Jung - HC

FEBRUARY

- 6 Rev Seung-Wook Jung - HC
13 Robin Gurney

The living room at home is filled with lights on the Christmas tree. And the carols on the street and the Christmas songs from speakers in cars are getting louder. All of them speak that Christmas is coming!

Early Christmas cards are arriving already. What sort of Christmas messages have you received this year? It's probably not very different from previous years. Because it comes from the original message of Christmas, Jesus Christ.

He was the first and true message from God to us. His love and his will towards us appeared perfectly through baby Jesus. It has been delivered to us. But not just as a message of Christmas but it also invites us to be a message of the love of God to the world.

You might listen to the Advent messages a few times in the

From the Manse



services. During the season of Advent, we are being reminded to look around and think of the people who are in need - those who cannot have a Christmas as we do. It is good to think about them but Advent doesn't only remind us that there are people in need but also reminds us of who we are and how we should be in the world as a Christian. Not just in the season of Christmas but in every day of our lives.

I hope that all of you have a blessed and meaningful Christmas and a happy new year with the love of God.

Seung-Wook



*For unto us a child is
born... and he shall be
called Emmanuel —
God with us.*

The Editor writes



As we come towards the end of a difficult year in world poitics it seems to me that the phrase that should be on everyone's lips is "pray for the peace of Jerusalem".

The recent decision taken in Washington concerning that city has brought anguish to many peoples and many parts of the world. As I write it is reported that the lights on the Christmas tree in Bethlehem were extinguished last evening as a sign of protest.

There is never a more opportune moment to call on the true followers of the Prince of Peace to do all they can to alleviate what will become, unfortunately, a violent outcome with blood being shed on the streets of that great city.

In a statement the World Council of Churches expressed grave concern over the decision and also shared and strongly affirmed the concerns expressed by King Abdullah of Jordan, that the measure will have "serious implications for security and stability in the Middle East, will undermine

the efforts of the American administration to resume the peace process and fuel the feelings of Palestinian Muslims and Christians alike".

Will we in this country feel the consequences? Who knows? There are many waiting to take advantage of divisions in the world around us.

Meanwhile, we in our church and community will continue to witness to the healing and reconciling love of Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary in that stable so long ago, but living among us today. As many express in their greetings in this issue Christmas is a tme of rejoicing and celebration. Let us recognise once again that we are the lighbringers in a world of darkness. Let your light so shine...

There is little space for anything more than your greetings in this issue but give a glance to the Council Minutes and don't forget the Eco Concerns. Janet Graham is a most faithful correspondent and always has something relevant to add to the ever growing conerns surrounding our environment.

Finally, may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a more peaceful and productive New Year.

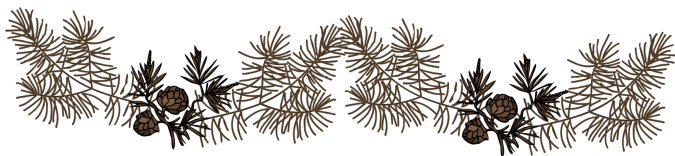
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Christmas Eve Nativity Service at Trinity at 4.30

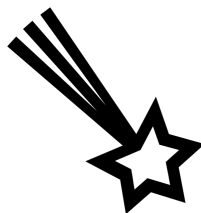
Children are invited to come dressed as a character
from the Nativity.

***The whole family is welcome to this interactive
service***

Refreshments and craft activities for children will be
available afterwards



Trumpeter opens its pages to
pass on Christmas and New Year
greetings from far and near



*To all my friends
at Trinity
have a very
Happy and Blessed
Christmas.
God bless you all.*

Jean Staples

ALAN CURTIS SENDS
BEST WISHES TO ALL
AT TRINITY
WISHING YOU A
HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A PEACEFUL
NEW YEAR

*Carol and Philip
Scribbins wish all
old (!) friends at
Trinity a very
Happy Christmas
and a
peaceful new year.*



*Ruth and Robin Gurney
wish all friends at
Trinity,
past and present,
a very
Happy Christmas
and a peaceful
New Year*

(Donation to Church Mission Society)

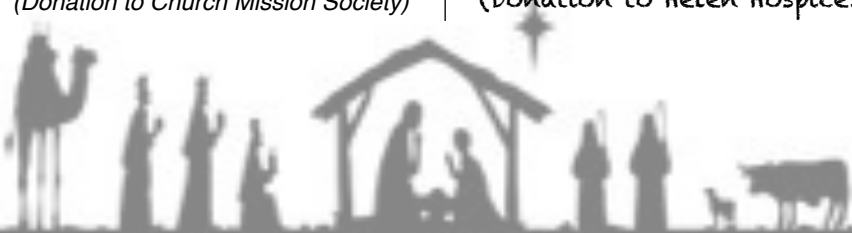
*Peace, Joy and Love
to all at Trinity
together with our very
best wishes for both a
Happy Christmas
and a bright and
blessed New Year*

*From
Julie and David Kellett*



*Greetings to all
friends at Trinity
from
Ann and Graham
we send our love
and prayers for
peace in our
troubled world this
Christmas*

(Donation to Helen Hospice.)



*Colin and Jean
send
Christmas Greetings
and a
Happy New Year
to all our friends at
Trinity and to all
readers of Trumpeter.
Thanks for help
received again this
year.*

*(Donation to Buzzer Buses and
Retina Blastoma)*



Valerie and Alan
Scott
wish everyone at
Trinity a very
Happy Christmas
and a peaceful
New Year.

*(Donation to Trinity with thanks
for lifts to church)*

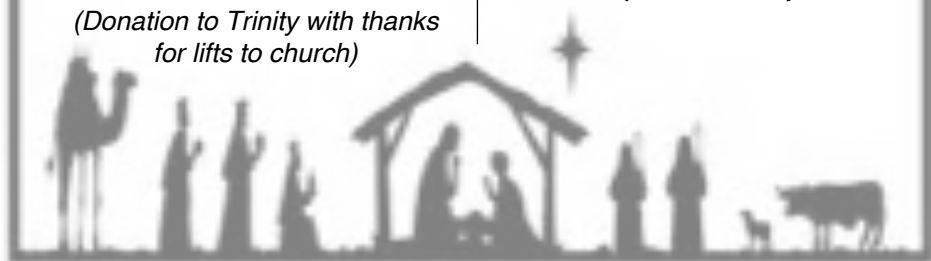
*Seasonal Greetings
from
Jim and Audrey Wood
to all our friends at
Trinity.*

*Enjoy the season
Give thanks in prayer
For God his Son he has
given for people
everywhere*

*(Donation to British Heart
Foundation)*



SANDRA AND JOHN
WOULD LIKE TO
WISH ALL OUR
FRIENDS AT
TRINITY A
VERY, VERY,
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR.





May you have a very
Happy Christmas and a
God blessed New Year
from Diane

(Donation to the Barnabas Fund)



Happy Christmas
to all my friends
at Trinity
from
Van

(Donation to Action for Children)

May the beauty
and joy of Christmas
bring praise
to your heart
and God's peace
to your home.

Best Wishes

Mary, Wallace &
Helen

*(Donation to the
British Heart Foundation)*



Roger and Anne wish
you all another very
Happy Christmas.

(Donation to Methodist Homes)





*To all our friends at
Trinity,
Happy Christmas
and a
Peaceful New Year.
with love from
Sue and Charles
(Donation to the Homeless)*



*Best wishes to all at
Trinity
for Christmas
and the
New Year 2018 from
Elaine Green*

(Donation to Cancer Care)

*Gwen Daly
sends seasons
greetings
and best wishes
to all friends at
Trinity*



*May God bless you
this Christmas
as we celebrate his
gift to us.
Fondest wishes from
Catherine Roots*



*God bless you all this
Christmas
And keep you in His care
May his Peace and Love
surround you
That is our wishful
prayer.
Happy Christmas
everyone.
Sarina, Donald,
Gwyneth and Helen.*

(Donation to the NSPCC)



**Wishing all my
friends at Trinity
a very happy and
peaceful
Christmas.
Anne Gray**

(Donation to Crisis at Christmas)

Wishing you and
yours God's rich
blessing
and
love, peace and joy at
Christmas and
throughout a
Happy New Year
with love
Phil, 'Cilla and family

(Donation to Action for Children)



Christmas wishes to
everyone.

From Ann and John
Guy



Janet Graham
wishes all at
Trinity
a
Happy Christmas
and for
many blessings
in 2018

(Donation to Christian Aid)



*I wish all at Trinity a
very Happy Christmas
and a good
New Year.*

*Thank you to all who have
given me lifts to and from
church.*

*May the peace of the
Lord be always
with you.*

Mavis Edes

(Donation to Action for Children)

*Best wishes to all at
Trinity
for a
wonderful Christmas
and a very happy
and healthy
New Year in 2018.*

*From Chris Bosworth
and family.*

(Donation to NSPCC)



*Happy Christmas
from Patience
and Roger*

(Donation to Leprosy Mission)





*Wishing you
Peace and Happiness
at Christmas
from
Marilyn and Philip
Titcombe*

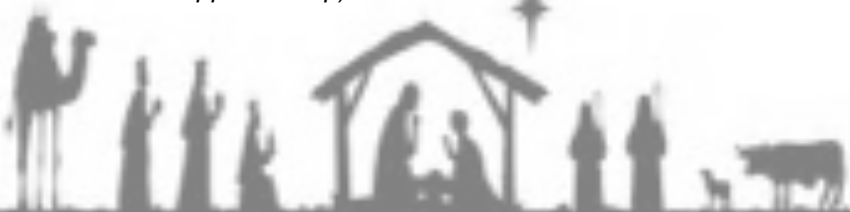
*(Donation to Leighton Linslade
Cancer Support Group)*

**Merry Christmas
to
all our friends
at
Trinity.
From
Fay, Tim and Eddie
Graves**



*Andy and Jan Cornfoot
would like to thank their
friends at
Trinity
for their love and support
this past year and wish
them a very
Happy Christmas
and a healthy
New Year.*

*(Donation to the
British Heart Foundation)*



Trinity Church Council

The following is a summary of the main points from Church Council on 2 November:

- * Jan Cornfoot was appointed as the new Baptism Secretary and Terry Sissons was welcomed as the new Circuit Representative.
- * The Worship Planning Meeting has decided to suspend Food for Thought (F4T) until 29 April 2018, when a new format will be introduced. It was decided to continue with 6pm Sunday services.
- * Sue Horsefield and Patience Owers are continuing to implement the new system, which now includes those who attend Early Church.
- * The Leadership Team is pleased that donations from two sources have enabled us to purchase a defibrillator and cover the cost of training in its use. It was agreed that evening services be held in the Anteroom, particularly in the winter. There is still a great need for more Door Stewards and Communion Stewards. It was agreed that the Leadership Team goes ahead with work to achieve the Bronze Award of EcoChurch and pursue recognition for the Silver Award. Feedback on the monthly Prayer Diary would be appreciated, as it has now been running for a year.
- * Plans for Christmas were listed. Further details will be circulated.
- * The Property Committee has drawn up a five-year plan to complete the requirements of the Quinquennial Report. A Fire Risk Assessment has been carried out and actions recommended have been implemented or planned for. The re-roofing of the Anteroom and corridor has been completed. The Buggy Park is finished and well-used. Lighting in the Main Hall has been improved.
- * Charles Horsefield reported that Aldi has just started offering surplus food for distribution to the needy through FareShare. The service will be in need of helpers to distribute it.
- * Roger Owers had prepared a report of the present financial position. The end of year accounts show that the General Fund income was £12,000 less than expenditure. The reasons for this are: expenditure close to budget; cash and envelope giving slightly increased but Standing Orders dropped by £4,000; lower than expected income for room rentals (which is now less than half it was a few years ago), which resulted in income being £10,000 less than budget. The general fund balance of £14,000 is below the lower reserves limit of £22,000 and we will need to recover £8,000 this year. The church has received a bequest of £10,000 from the estate of Anne Pape. It was agreed that it should be used in accordance with her interests – outreach, eco-matters and worship. Alison Stokes has been awarded a seven-month contract as Administrator, to cover the Maternity Leave of Tasha Williams.

(Continued on next page)

Trinity Church Council

(Continued from previous page)

- * Anne Guy reported that three people need Safeguarding refresher courses and two people need to complete the Creating Safer Space course.
- * Date of next Church Council:
Thursday, 1 March 2018.
- * Date of next Annual Church Meeting:
Sunday, 29 April 2018.

Elizabeth Hitchcock

Through the Year with John Wesley, a new book by Stephen Poxon. Published by Lion Hudson.

"A Little gem of a book" (Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths.)

It can be viewed now on Eden.co.uk, from where it may also be ordered.

(Also available from all good bookshops.)

Buy a "Square" calendar and help the Motor Neurone Disease Association

The Square Methodist Church in Dunstable have chosen the Motor Neurone Disease Association for their project this year and have produced a calendar with churches of the South Beds district featured (including Trinity).

If you would like to buy one of the calendars to help such a worthy cause contact Ann Tegerdine by phone on 01525 222138 or by email Ann.tegerdine@gmail.com.

The price of the calendar is £5 and all of this goes to the charity. We would really appreciate your support. The calendar makes the ideal Christmas present for all your friends and also the ideal stocking filler for your nearest and dearest.

Future "Square" dates for your new calendar:

19 May: Dunstable Town Band concert.

9 June: Organ Recital at the Square

Summer Circuit car treasure hunt
- date to be arranged.



David Attenborough's Blue Planet 1 was aired 16 years ago. There is incredible life, colour and strange species in our oceans which "are the richest, most diverse, most beautiful, most exciting, and the least known of all earth's eco systems" he said then.

Now, marine life is suffering from over-fishing, global warming, bleaching coral reefs, and threatening cold water species. Acid seas is a by-product of burning fossil fuels. Ocean acidification occurs quickly and marine organisms that need shells are hindered in making them.

By the end of the century cod in the Baltic seas could be much smaller because of the effects of CO₂ in the atmosphere being dissolved in seawater to produce weak carbonic acid.

Since that first series David Attenborough has seen how the oceans are changing. Blue Planet 11 currently airing took four years to make. The team visited every

continent and ocean.

An estimated 12 tonnes of plastic enters the ocean every year, with residues found in fish, seabirds and mammals. Discarded plastic is found in the mouths of seabirds and woven into nests. An albatross was seen feeding its young on plastic rather than sand eels, squid and fish. Plastic has even been found in creatures living seven miles deep in the sea.

Mike Barrett of the WWF said: "There is no greater havoc in the natural world".

The UK is to ban micro-beads in cosmetics and personal care products by July 2018. A group of nursery schools has banned using glitter — a micro-plastic — in their crafts and decorations and use lentils instead.

Asda's former boss is calling for supermarkets to stop using plastic packaging. Millions of pounds invested in recycling has failed. The solution is for retailers to reject plastic and use paper, steel, glass or aluminium. Plastic encases fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy products. This reaches landfill and sooner or later the bottom of the oceans.

A radical approach is needed in the use of alternatives to plastic. The once wonder product is now toxic.

Janet Graham

News from Eaton Bray

The first November Sunday Service was a celebration of 'All Saints' which fell in the previous week. Our much-valued preacher, Elisabeth Bibbings, reminded us that we are all special to God, that 'saints' are not only the high-profile specially-named early Christian martyrs but ordinary people like ourselves, children of God with faith in Jesus on a journey through life, dealing with our share of difficulties and sufferings. Jesus has been on the road before us, walks the road with us and at the end stands ready to welcome us in his glorious kingdom.

Our Cafe Worship on the second Sunday was in the capable hands of Belinda Freeman who always brings such zest and joy to our cafe services. She helped us think about God's Grace, his generous gift to us and urged us to pass it on to everyone we meet.

The third Sunday was our Communion Service, led by our Minister, Rev Nigel Bibbings, who

reassured us that, while we may feel unworthy, we may come to God in Jesus' name, clothed in His righteousness.

Our final November Sunday saw the return of Joan Gregory, always a welcome visiting preacher. She made us think hard about how we see ourselves and how we are prone to judge others by their appearances. She reminded us that all society is God's family and we meet God in other people. Jesus challenges us to care for the disadvantaged just as he did.

Dates for your Diary:

Cafe Community

Saturday, 11 February 2018

11.00 am – 1.00 pm

We will be delighted to see you if you come to join us for a cup of tea/coffee and/or a light lunch.

Social Afternoons

Weekly on Thursdays

1.30 pm – 3.30pm

Chat, meeting friends, games, refreshments. All Welcome.

The human brain is a wonderful thing. It starts working the moment you are born and never stops until you stand up to speak in public.

Prayer Corner

A Christmas Day Prayer

Ever-living God,
whose glory was revealed
in the Word made flesh;
may we, who have seen such splendour
in the coming of your Son,
be true witnesses to your self-giving love in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



A Prayer for the New Year

Eternal God,
you sent you Son to be born among us
that we might be born again to newness of life.
Fill us with the gladness of your great redemption,
that as we begin this New Year with your blessing,
we may continue it in your favour,
and live all our days as your children
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*There is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad
in the best of us, that it hardly behoves any one of us to talk
about the rest of us.*



Trinity Fellowship Circle

Tuesdays at 7.30 pm

DECEMBER

- 19 Christmas Party
- 26 No meeting

No meetings during January. Look out for new programme beginning in February

Flowers in church

DECEMBER

- 17 Ken & Joan Gregory and Jean Farmer in loving memory of their parents
- 24 Flower Fund
- 31 Flower Fund



- 21 Gwen Daly in loving memory of husband Mick, son John and their parents
- 28 Peter Baker in memory of Caroline and to give thanks for the fellowship and support of Trinity

JANUARY

- 7 Pauline Peploe, Sue & John North & family in loving memory of their parents Bill & Ruby Lindgren
- 14 Ann & John Guy in loving memory of their parents

FEBRUARY

- 4 Mavis Edes in loving memory of her dear husband Ron

A minister had grown tired of visits from one of his members, Mrs Brown, who was always moaning. He saw her approaching the manse on one occasion and he asked his wife to see to her while he went up to his study. Some time later, and not realising she was still there, he called down, "Has the old bore gone yet?" Quick as a flash his wife replied, "Yes dear, he's gone and Mrs Brown is here now."

Weekly activities at Trinity

SUNDAY

- 8.30 Holy Communion. Optional breakfast (usually 1st Sunday in month)
- 9.15 Food 4 Thought (Chatteris Suite - returns in the Spring)
- 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
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Sunday, 4 February 2018. Deadline for contributions will be
NOON on FRIDAY, 26 January 2018
Deadline for the following issue will be Friday, 9 March 2018



Website: Trinity: www.trinitylb.org.uk
Follow Trinity also on Facebook and Twitter

Trinity Methodist Church is a Registered Charity, No: 1151861

*"Though the winds of change have disturbed my roots a little,
I have never felt uprooted"*

Fred Pratt Green

How dark was the night of his coming!
How bleak was the wind on the hill!
How many, who slept till cock crowing,
Had little to work for but ill!
Good shepherds who stare into heaven,
What see you so fair and so rare?
What glory transfigures your faces?
What songs are enchanting the air?



Those dutiful shepherds saw angels
Where most of us only see night;
Their beautiful vision escapes us
Who cease to believe in the light.
The song is tossed back into darkness
By winds that are bitter with hate;
But shepherds have found in a manger
That Saviour the ages await.

You angels, we see you, we hear you!
We stand with our backs to the wind!
The longer we listen, the stronger
Your message of hope for mankind.
You sceptics and cynics, forgive us
For leaving you out in the cold;
We'll come back with songs of salvation,
Good news that shall never grow old.

Fred Pratt Green

