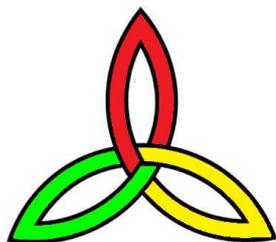


Trinity Times

November 2022

Issue No 259



Diary for November		
Sunday 6th	10.30 am	Team Worship led by Rosie Berry
Sunday 13th	10.30 am	Remembrance Sunday Service led by Rev'd John Whittle, including Holy Communion
	12.30 pm	Remembrance Sunday Service at Knebworth War Memorial
Saturday 19th	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre
Sunday 20th	10.30 am	Open Church
	12.00 pm	Church Meeting
Sunday 27th	10.30 am	Morning Worship; Service prepared by Rev'd Julian Blakemore
Diary for December		
Sunday 4th	10.30 am	Morning Worship: Toy Service led by Rev'd John Whittle
	12.30 pm	Trinity Christmas Lunch
Sunday 11th	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by Jennifer Rogers
Saturday 17th	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre
Sunday 18th	3.00 pm	Service of Lessons and Carols
Youth Club Meetings at Trinity during term times – Friday evenings - School years 6 – 9		

Trinity Times is the newsletter of Trinity Church, Park Lane, Knebworth, Herts, SG3 6PD

Minister: Rev'd Dr JunSoo Park, to be inducted

Please contact one of the Elders or via the church website or office telephone

Church Website: www.trinitychurchknebworth.org.uk Tel: 01438 210321

Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the United Reformed and Methodist Churches. Similarly, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Although I have given it a mention in the Knebworth Family of Churches piece on Page 6 of this edition of the newsletter, I would just like to emphasise that this year we are able to return to the traditional Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Old Knebworth on Sunday, 13th November. We shall employ a full road closure in that part of Park Lane so that the Royal British Legion and the Knebworth Guides and Scouts will be able to parade safely and the Service will not be disturbed by passing traffic. Please try to join us there.

Graham Fothergill

FAMILY NEWS

Hilary and Richard's Golden Wedding Anniversary gives opportunity to acknowledge not only how special they are within our fellowship and the wider community, but also to reflect on the values witnessed by their long and fruitful marriage. It is a rare occasion when the church flowers end up in their home! Our prayers and congratulations are with them both.

As Kathy and Kate both passed significant (but differently numbered) birthdays it was an excuse for a celebration through fellowship and cake.... A very important church tradition which I hope does not get lost in the church of the 2020s! They have also generously added to the stocks at Codicote Food Bank with donations brought by their guests.

Our editor's decision to draw a line (at the end of 2022) under his unfailing commitment to produce this publication for the best part of 12 years certainly leaves one of those gaps that we all fear we cannot fill. Much of that feeling comes from the fact that Graham has done a fantastic job, and even given the impression that he has enjoyed doing it! It began with the challenges of following on after a gifted and dedicated predecessor (Andrew Barclay) who launched it in Trinity. Graham has given it his own imprint over the years, and we are profoundly grateful for all he has done to keep it going especially through the last disjointed years of community life.

As we look, not at how to find a "new Graham", rather at how to keep publication and sharing of news and views alive and well in an era where we need to hold together both physical paper-centred publication as well as internet-based publication – not to mention 'face to face' or 'ear to ear' as well. I believe we do have both known and yet untapped resources who might be encouraged to work collaboratively on how we make sure the connections that Trinity Times has made for us over the decades are not lost.

Meanwhile I know Graham has by no means stopped all his Trinity and community engagements and we pray that drawing a boundary allows him more time for the remaining areas of his commitment to be enriched by renewed energy and enthusiasm.

Gill Hughes

PARISH NEWS ARTICLE

This is the text of the Trinity article that has been prepared by Maureen Bodden for the November edition of the Knebworth Parish News. (Ed.)

November



The squirrel gloats on his accomplish'd hoard,
The ants have brimm'd their garner's with ripe grain,
And honey bees have stored
The sweets of Summer in their luscious cells;
The swallows all have wing'd across the main;
But here the Autumn melancholy dwells,
And sighs her tearful spells,
Thomas Hood 1798 - 1845

The change of season at this time of the year can be a happy time of enjoying the fruits of the harvest, the wonders of autumn colours and the last of the warm sun before we start preparing for the early colder nights. We comfort ourselves with traditional bonfires and celebrations, roasted chestnuts, pumpkin soup and apple tart, but this year many people are dreading the transition from autumn to winter at the end of November, facing worries about keeping themselves warm and fed when facing the rising fuel and food costs. Codicote food bank, that Trinity Church supports, has seen a doubling of the number of its clients, and are appealing for increased donations, and no doubt other food banks are seeing the same increased needs. As Christians we are challenged to 'love our neighbour as ourselves', a tough ideal to follow; we find it difficult to be selfless and generous all the time.

In these difficult times, it is easy to become downhearted, but it is so cheering to see the ways that communities do come together and offer help to others. Hopefully we are not like the squirrels gloating on our hoard of acorns as in the Thomas Hood poem quoted above.

As we approach Remembrance Day on the 11th, and Remembrance Sunday on the 13th, let's not just remember those who passed away in conflicts, but those living amongst us who really need the warmth of a helping hand.

Here is a chant from the Taizé Community:

Ubi caritas, Deus ibi est

Where there is charity and love, God is there

Maureen Bodden, Trinity Elder

MISSION AND CHARITY NEWS

November Outreach Charity

“All We Can”

This is a charity which works in partnership with local organisations in their communities to enable to work towards the end of suffering caused by inequality and injustice.

Climate change is having a huge impact on millions of people throughout the world! e.g. very high temperatures, long dry spells or flooding causing devastation and famine.

“All We Can” supports local initiatives in the face of such disasters. ‘Taking action in partnership’ underlies the work of the charity by identifying local resources in Binga, Zimbabwe.

The charity has helped many who were forcibly displaced by the creation of Lake Kariba to find new livelihoods, including weaving, thereby giving access to markets and securing a sustainable source of income.

Looking for a ‘gift with a difference’ this Christmas? Then please take one of the charity’s gift catalogues and enjoy browsing and choosing!

Hilary Dyster, on behalf of the Mission Group

‘A little child shall lead them’ Isaiah 11 v.6

Two stories in two Sunday Morning Services on Radio 4 told of two children who in their different ways showed kindness that changed the lives of others. Here is one of those stories.

The true story is of Timothy Cho, from North Korea. Timothy now lives with his wife and child in Greater Manchester, but the early part of his life was very different. He was left at the age of nine to fend for himself as his parents escaped the prison state that Timothy himself had escaped from in North Korea twice. The first time, China returned him to North Korea, but he knew that if he was returned a second time he would be shot as a traitor to the state. During his second escape he encountered a group of women also escaping North Korea and they together decided to try and enter the American English College in the city they had travelled to. However, once the Principal became aware that they were asylum seekers he told them he had no option but to call the Chinese police who came and dragged Timothy and his friends out to waiting vans. Students at the school stood on the steps and many wept at what they were seeing. Timothy was thrown into a cell with many other prisoners including a South Korean giant gangster covered with tattoos! Timothy at seventeen was the youngest prisoner and spent each evening crying. The giant came over and suggested Timothy should read the Bible and pray that God might get him out of this hell-hole.

Some time later he was taken from the cell and found some visitors who told him, inexplicably, that the Chinese had decided to send him, not back to North Korea but to the Philippines. Why had this happened? One of the young people who saw Timothy being carted off, e-mailed his US parents who spread it across the internet. The story was taken up by the press to such an extent the Chinese authorities decided not to return Timothy to his death in North Korea!

The kind actions of a child saved Timothy; two thousand years ago a child was born Saviour of the world! A birth that we mark each Christmas with the prayer that he may '*come to us, abide with us, our lord Emmanuel*'.

John Whittle

{The second of John's stories from Radio 4 will appear in the December issue of Trinity Times; Ed.}

NOTES FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The following is a short digest taken from the Notes of the Social Committee Meeting held on 2nd October:

- the Harvest Lunch was well attended, as was the Cream Tea which included some visitors from outside of Trinity
- at the film afternoon on Friday, 28th October, there will be a showing of "The Greatest Showman"; friends from Cutty's Lane URC will be invited
- there will be a Christmas lunch on Sunday, 4th December, following the Morning Service
- it was decided not to hold any more Community Lunches at the moment but this decision will be reviewed in the New Year.

KNEBORTH FAMILY OF CHURCHES, INCORPORATING CHRISTIAN AID



Annual General Meeting

The KFC Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday, 25th September, in the St Thomas More Hall. The introductory welcome by Pastor Yinka Oduwale, the Chairman of Knebworth Family of Churches, was followed by presentations and reports on the various services and events held since the previous AGM, together with a financial statement and reports on Christian Aid and the Knebworth Youth Project, both of which are supported by KFC.

In the absence of other nominations, the Chairman (Pastor Yinka Oduwole), the Treasurer (Jenny Wright) and the Secretary (Graham Fothergill) were unanimously re-elected to serve for a further year.

Forthcoming Events and Activities

At 12.30 pm on Sunday, 13th November, is the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial in Old Knebworth which is being organised by Knebworth Family of Churches in conjunction with the Parish Council and the Knebworth branch of the Royal British Legion. This will be the first time since 2019 that we have been able to fully recognise this important event. All are welcome to attend.

The dates for the next two KFC coffee Mornings are Saturday, 19th November and Saturday, 17th December. You will be very welcome to join us for a drink and a chat in St Martin's Parish Centre from 10.00 am on either or, better still, both of those occasions. There will be the usual selection of cakes and you will also be able to do some shopping at the Traidcraft stall.

Stop Press!

We are pleased to report that the Christian Aid Coffee Morning on Saturday, 15th October, raised a total of £300 which will be donated to the DEC Pakistan Disaster Appeal. Many thanks to all concerned, with a special mention of Knebworth Community Choir who made two guest appearances during the morning.

Graham Fothergill
Secretary: The Knebworth Family of Churches

METHODIST NEWS

Message from Rev'd Graham Claydon-Knights

Helping Hands

"Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love" (Singing the Faith, 566: "Take my life, let it be", Frances Ridley Havergal.)

In the ministry of Jesus Christ, people came to him with needs of various kinds. Mostly they were desperate for help, and that drove what Jesus did and the opportunities that he took. I have been thinking about the story of Jesus preaching in the synagogue on a Sabbath day, when he called forward a woman bent double by a spirit (Luke 13: 10-17). He healed her by his words and by reaching out and laying his hands upon her. Everybody was overjoyed - apart from the synagogue ruler who considered Jesus to be breaking God's Sabbath day laws. It struck me that God calls people to use their hands, skills or energy, to reach out to help. It further struck me that people can find reasons to resist God's work because it doesn't fit with their ideas of God's work, just like the synagogue ruler did.

At this moment we're seeing days of increasing need, and more people can see the value of foodbanks, warm spaces and support for refugees. For this reason, local leaders look more to the goodwill of volunteers, to churches, to help these happen in their area. I am heartened to hear of churches participating with local organisations in this way. I believe that now is the time to ask God to take our hands "and let them move at the impulse of thy love", including partnering with whoever can help in relieving suffering, to add our helping hands to others for the sake of the people that God loves. In this way, there's more helping hands to go around. That's got to be a good thing.

Graham

{The above item was reproduced from the October 2022 edition of the North Herts Circuit Newsletter}



THE CATHEDRAL AND
ABBEY CHURCH OF
SAINT ALBAN

**You are invited to attend the
Free Church Services
in the Lady Chapel on:**

Wednesday, 2nd November at 11.00 am

Preacher: **Reverend Kevin Walton**

Canon Chancellor, St Albans Cathedral

Wednesday, 7th December at 11.00 am

Preacher: **Reverend John Hardaker**

Minister of the St Albans URC Cluster

Free Church Ecumenical Chaplain: Reverend Simon Carver,
Email: simoncarver@btinternet.com

***Please send items for the December issue of Trinity Times to
Graham Fothergill by Thursday, 17th November:***

E-mail gafothergill@gmail.com

Telephone 01438 813371

or drop them in at 7 Stockens Dell, Knebworth