

Trinity Quarterly

Issue No 5 March – May 2024



Diary for March

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|----------|------|-----------------------------|--|
| Sunday | 3rd | 10.30 am | Team Worship led by Mel Mitchell |
| Sunday | 10th | 10.30 am | Mothering Sunday led by Catherine Edmonds |
| Saturday | 16th | 10.00am | KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre |
| Sunday | 17th | 10.30 am | Morning Worship led by Kate Dickinson followed by church meeting at approx 12.15 |
| Sunday | 24th | 10.30am | Palm Sunday Worship led by Rev Zdzisiu Hendzel |
| Thursday | 28th | 7.00pm | Maundy Thursday Service at Stevenage URC led by Revd Jonathan Hyde |
| Friday | 29th | 10.00am 11.00am | Good Friday led by Sandra Robey/Rebecca Washington KFC Walk of Witness – starting at St Thomas More ending at Trinity for Tea/Coffee and hot cross buns |
| Sunday | 31st | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am | Easter early Service led by Jackie Hall with Holy Communion Easter Breakfast Morning Worship led by Jackie Hall with Holy Communion |

Diary for April

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|----------|------|----------|---|
| Sunday | 7th | 10.30 am | Open Church led by Kathy Cole |
| Sunday | 14th | 10.30 am | Morning Worship led by Jennifer Rogers |
| Saturday | 20th | 10.00 am | KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre |
| Sunday | 21st | 10.30 am | Morning Worship led by Christine Warren/Yvonne Johnson |
| Sunday | 28th | 10.30 am | Morning Worship led by Revd David Chapman , Methodist District Chair |

Diary for May

| | | | |
|----------|------|----------|--|
| Sunday | 5th | 10.30 am | Team Worship Café style led by Mel Mitchell |
| Sunday | 12th | 10.30 am | Open Church led by Rosie Berry |
| Saturday | 18th | 10.00 am | KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre |
| Sunday | 19th | 10.30 am | Morning Worship led by Kate Dickinson with with Holy Communion |
| | | 3.00pm | KFC United Pentecost service at St. Martin's |
| Sunday | 26th | 10.30 am | Morning Worship led by Frank Needham |

Youth Club Meetings at Trinity during term times – Friday evenings - School years 6 – 9

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

Minister: appointment pending

Church Website: www.trinitychurchknebworth.org.uk

Opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the United Reformed and Methodist Churches. Similarly, they do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Team

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

Spring is here at last, hopefully your bulbs and spring flowers have survived the cold and winter storms. We can now enjoy more hours of daylight and plan different activities. For some it will mean getting down to revising for exams or tests, our thoughts and best wishes are with you.

Spring is a time to be optimistic and plan new things. For the North Hertfordshire pastorate of Knebworth, Ashwell, Walkern and Sandon it certainly has brought the welcome possibility of change. We have now met and enjoyed the company of the Rev. Stanslous Chatikobo from the Presbyterian Church in Harare, Zimbabwe. He has preached at our churches and met the congregations of the group.

Following a joint meeting of the church members at Knebworth on the 12th February a vote was taken and a decision made to invite the Rev. Stanslous Chatikobo to become our minister. We are delighted that he has accepted the invitation and we now have much to do in preparation for the arrival and welcome of the Rev. Stanslous and his family, and await news concerning visa arrangements for him and his family.

Perhaps some will be taking up new roles in the community or in Trinity, others we hope will continue with the good job they already do. I'm sure all those who use the church premises or attend services will join us in saying thank you for the many hours, seen and unseen, that so many give to the Trinity and our local community.

Trinity Quarterly is now in the second year of publication and our team remains the same. We welcome suggestions regarding changes you might like to see. Also, we like know to what you enjoy most. If you are interested, we would welcome you at our meeting to see how we eventually get it to the printers. Just give us a call, for email or telephone see Trinity website. Also, many thanks to our contributors and all who have helped prepare this issue.

Please send your articles for the June to August edition as soon as possible, and before 3rd May.

*Rosemary, on behalf of the Editorial Team
Camilla, Maureen, Tricia and Rosemary*

SAFEGUARDING

We would like to thank Glenys for all her years of loyal service as our safeguarding lead at Trinity. We wish her all the best. Your new safeguarding team will be Mel Mitchell, Kate Dickinson, Camilla Straughn and Cathy Bowers. Although we are new to this at Trinity, in our day jobs we have some experience with ensuring safeguarding is taken seriously and we have all had some training. Please bear with us as we establish ourselves and begin to work out our roles etc. If there are any concerns, please do speak to any of us or to Jennifer Rogers or Sue Chastney. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and covers lots of areas from health and safety to child protection.

Thank you.

Mel

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

CONTRIBUTION FROM REV'D JOHN WHITTLE

Facing the Storm?

In December 2023 the Reverend Jennifer Smith, Methodist Minister, gave the 'Thought for the Day' on Radio 4. In it she told of the lifeboat crew of Oban, in the North of Scotland, who were delighted to learn they were to receive a new up-to-the-minute designed life-boat. Now they were faced with a choice, to either have the boat delivered by road from Dorset, or to sail the vessel around the coast of Britain, via Ireland, in the stormy seas of winter. The brave crew decided on the latter course of action, in order they might learn how the boat would handle in the kind of stormy seas they would be facing, when called out to an emergency at sea.

This crew chose to travel into the storm, to face the difficult choice, that they may be better prepared to save lives, when the call came. How often do we make the opposite choice? We choose the easier way, and yet it is often the harder challenging experiences of life that enable us to grow and mature. Any top-class athlete will tell you of the suffering they have had to endure in training, in order to reach their peak performance. So, Saint Paul, when writing to the Corinthians, likens himself to an athlete in training for a race that awards an imperishable crown.

Today, we see migrants prepared to face the storms of the English, often forced from their home security by wars, violence and persecution. Jesus, as a child, along with his parents had to migrate, under threat of death at the hands of the megalomaniac - Herod, who never hesitated to dispose of any whom he saw as a threat -including members of his own family. Thankfully, the Holy Family did not face the threat from the Egyptians of deportation to a distant country; so, when the time was right, they could return to their homeland.

We read an account of Jesus stilling the storm on the Sea of Galilee, and the way he brought calm to his troubled disciples - surely a parable of life, when faced with the rough storms of suffering and loss, He can calm our troubled minds and enable us to face the fearful waves unafraid.

A Sankey Song, which I first sang as a lad in a Men's Choir at our Methodist Chapel on Men's Sunday, is this :

**'Jesus, Saviour, pilot me
Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treacherous shoal.
Chart and compass come from Thee.
Jesus Saviour, pilot me.'**

John Whittle

THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER

Take Time

Take time to laugh, it is the music of the soul.
Take time to think, it is the source of power.
Take time to play, it is the source of perpetual youth.
Take time to read, it is the fountain of wisdom.
Take time to pray, it is the greatest power on earth.
Take time to love and be loved, it is a God given privilege.
Take time to be friendly, it is the road to happiness.
Take time to give, it is too short a day to be selfish.

Tricia Easdale

CONTRIBUTION BY STEPHEN MITCHELL

Hello to all at Trinity - I have missed being at home! Many of you will have noticed my absence over the last few months, since I have been at Uni. I'm studying Philosophy at the University of York, and I'm thoroughly enjoying it. It's a brand-new experience, living by myself, and I'm learning how to live as an adult and in a new place. But I'm glad I took the leap.



I have missed my cats at home, but I'm kept company on campus by a few resident furry friends. I frequently see Tigger (left) on my walks around the grounds - he's a very short-tailed ginger and white fellow who lives at the extraordinary redbrick Heslington Hall, on which grounds the University is built. I've even seen a hedgehog within five minutes' walk of where I live (pictured right).



I've been attending the weekly meetings of the Anglican society at York and staying involved in church life. It is a brilliant and necessary anchor in my life that reminds me how lucky I am to be where I am, and who has guided me in my life and how. The community at the church is a wide-reaching mixture of students and residents, and there is a very strong Christian community around me in Heslington, and of course in York as a whole. We also visited the nearby Rievaulx Abbey, a remarkable abbey ruins on the North Yorkshire Moors, where the Anglican Society does an annual trip. Four of us sang Taizé chants at sunset there before we left.



Living so close to Leeds, I have also had the chance to go and see music events there, such as when my current favourite band Slow Pulp (left) played at the Brudenell Social Club. They were absolutely brilliant, and on the same night I discovered a love for Lebanese shawarma chicken!

I've endeavoured to keep trying as many new things as possible. I am staying involved with music while I'm here, and I've joined a four-man band. We have two singers, a bassist and a guitarist, so we've been practising some songs by Bob Dylan so far until we can find a guitarist. I've also taken part

in a games show on the student television channel, which was brilliant fun. I'm hoping to join in with the Shakespeare society's summer comedy this year. I have also been attending New Testament Greek sessions on Mondays with the University Chaplaincy.

Philosophy has been challenging, but well worth taking. I have attended a few lectures in other subjects out of curiosity, but I have been always looking forward to my debating seminars. My favourite module so far was on knowledge and perception, and the different ways we define knowledge (and the most important problems thereof). We've analysed all sorts



of arguments, such as Aquinas on money lending and the debunking of the traditional analysis of

knowledge by Fred Dretske.

Lucy and Sophie came up to visit me before Christmas, and showing them York has been one of my highlights of my time here. I showed them the Minster, the ducks, the campus and the Christmas market. York tends to get very busy at Christmas, so in the city centre it was a real squeeze for space.

Stephen Mitchell

CONTRIBUTION BY MELANIE MITCHELL

When Jesus Christ was yet a child
He had a garden small and wild,
Wherein He cherished roses fair,
And wove them into garlands there.

Now once, as summer time drew nigh,
There came a troop of children by,
And seeing roses on the tree,
With shouts they plucked them merrily.

"Do you bind roses in your hair?"
They cried, in scorn, to Jesus there.
The Boy said humbly: "Take, I pray,
All but the naked thorns away."

Then of the thorns they made a crown,
And with rough fingers pressed it down,
Till on His forehead fair and young,
Red drops of blood like roses sprung.

Composer: [Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky](#)

I have always found this poem moving so thought I would share it. I am unsure whether Tchaikovsky wrote the original words or if the English translation is inspired by the composer but, whichever it is, they are very poignant words, particularly around Easter time.

Mel

TRINITY SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

ARTICLE FROM MEL MITCHELL

We re-started our **Bible for all** sessions on the 18th February. The March date is to be confirmed. Please come along if you can.

Everyone is welcome to come to share in looking at a Bible passage in an informal style. There is no previous knowledge or experience needed. You are welcome to come and listen or join in if you would like. Some like to bring a sandwich or soup for a quick lunch before the session and there's always spare so don't worry if you forget yours. We will aim to start around 12:15/30 and finish by around 1:30. If anybody would like to volunteer to choose a passage for the session and lead the conversation, please speak to Mel. Thank you.'

We are hoping to run another '**away day**' or afternoon at Trinity but this time with a visitor leading - Revd. Eddie Boon, Synod Discipleship Enabler and the theme will be Discipleship. This is likely to be late summer/autumn, the date to be confirmed.

CONTRIBUTION FROM SANDRA ROBEY - SPRING

SPRING IS SHOWING ITS MAGNIFICENT HEAD....

and is for me **the most spectacular of Seasons**...primroses and snowdrops seem to arrive earlier each year, the bulbs pushing up, regardless of the very cold spell and wet days. What a lift their beauty brings. It's the end of January as I pen this, these early miracles, simply lift my heart and soul....seeing crocuses too, with their faces to the sun... Oh! WHAT A DELIGHT....

There is always the odd plant that seeps through the cracks, against the odds. It represents all of us I guess, that from the deep depths of winter, and in whatever we face ourselves, God gives us all we need to shine and to speak of His great love for us all.....

Isn't that the real miracle?



AN EASTER REFLECTION:

With **OUR EYES** we see
The beauty of Easter
as the earth awakens once more...

With **OUR EARS** we hear
The birds sing sweetly
to tell us Spring again is here...

With **OUR HANDS** we pick
the golden daffodils
and the fragrant hyacinths...

But only with **OUR HEARTS**
can we feel the **MIRACLE of GOD'S LOVE**
which redeems all men...
And only with **OUR SOUL**
can we make our 'pilgrimage to God'
and inherit His Easter Gift of **ETERNAL LIFE.**

Alleluia, I say! Alleluia indeed.

Sandra

CONTRIBUTION BY HANS MEISTER

MY HOME (Wyndley Care Home) from October 2019 to date.

I would like to give you some impressions, mainly concentrating on our activities. Our home had been a Rectory along with other usages. I first recall it as a residential care home in the 1980s when I was given to visit Ella Morris and Helen Stewart here as their pastoral carer when Rev Gordon Bellamy was our minister. I was an Elder for 20 years. There were three more residents with strong Trinity connections in the last few years, Marjory, Anna and most recently Kay.

But I want to point out the big garden with trees and two lawns. Albert our excellent maintenance man made 4 wooden planters 180-200 cm long and ca.50 cm wide and 60 cm high filled with compost. One the other side of the house. In that lawn I donated 5 trees – 3 apple trees and 2 plum trees (Victoria and Gage plum) in memory of 19 resident friends who we suddenly lost through Covid 2. The apple trees did not survive as branches were broken due to overuse of the lawn.

We supplied a wooden plaque with an appropriate inscription to remember our friends when we lost close to a third of the residents. The Covid outbreaks 3 and 6 hit us again, quite severely. I could no longer walk after Covid 3, maybe that was a coincidence. But also, Covid 6 for me was a fight of survival, by the Grace of God I came through.

The height of the planters allows the wheelchair users to plant flowers and vegetables. Will, my resident friend, put tomato plants into hanging baskets. He also purchased fruit trees to later be grown on patios and other plants. I planted winter pansies which are in bloom at present and other flowers. In order to complete the outside activities, I bought bird feeders for the front and back of the house as well as bird food to keep the feathered varieties happy. But a larger kind of grey and black creatures can cause havoc as they are extremely keen on nuts - these are of course the squirrels who wreck bird feeders completely.

We now turn our interest to some of some indoor activities.

The list from Monday to Saturday might look like that where the duration is from 2-4 pm. max.

MON.: Quiz;

TUES.: Darts (Magnetic when Activity Man brings a dartboard at suitable distance for resident.

WED.: Art: Artist brings her own painting and then discusses painting and gives tips for us to apply when we do water- or acrylic painting.

THUR: Bingo

FRI: Entertainers  Tap dancing by professional or singing with residents' participation using a wide range of music, our own Karaoke (equipment donated to home). The first 2 items are by invitation.

SAT: Beat the Clock; pick letter out of box and then answer during one minute requested item with that. letter, boys name, piece to go on holiday, thing in your house, car name, professions. Should you answer all correct in time you Beat the Clock, otherwise quite often you are thinking too long and fail.

EACH MONTH we have a short Communion Service, not Sundays, where the vicar of St Ippolyts comes with a small choir. We have been issued a very detailed order of service with well-known hymns. Everybody attends the service the way he or she feels. Personally, for me, when I receive the wafer with wine it gives me renewed strength to put all my hope in our Lord. May this be so with my friends from Trinity and far more so, over the whole world.

With Christian love.

Hans Meister

CONTRIBUTION FROM HILARY DYSTER

As I write on a cold and frosty January morning, perhaps you have been tempted to browse through one of the travel brochures which arrive at this time of year, and make summer holiday plans. One organisation already deeply involved in forward planning is Scripture Union, particularly those involved in children's work, both through beach missions and outreach in urban settings. In the late 1960's and early '70's I joined the S.U. team based in Sutton-on-Sea, which boasts an extensive sandy beach on the Lincolnshire Coast. Sutton's beach mission was established over 130 years ago, and continues to attract visitors in August, many of them returning every year.

The team was based in a spacious house, the property of Oliver, the leader, whose wife Renée held sway in the kitchen. Days began early, by 7.15 a.m. we were joined by the more enthusiastic youngsters for beach hockey or 'soggy hockey' if the tide just retreated! Then small groups shared a time of Bible Study and-at last-breakfast! Planning and prayers followed, then it was off to the beach for the main event, the service. The lads built a new sand pulpit every day, and the girls' job was to inscribe the verse of the day on it, using anything to hand – pebbles, shells, the green lichen-like growth on the breakwaters, even flowers. By 11.a.m. all was ready, the old harmonium in place and children and parents sitting on the stepped area at the back of the beach, whilst others participated from the prom. Every year featured a missionary speaker – a challenge for the pulpit decorators to fashion a map of the world in the sand. Daz washing powder came in handy for the sea!

Afternoon activities varied. Sand modelling and tide fights featured, as did rambles and picnics. But 'Hunt the Worker' was the most popular, whereby members of the team disguised themselves around Sutton, perhaps working on an ice-cream stall or cleaning windows. In twos and threes, the youngsters had to track them down and elicit an autograph. Evenings found groups of teenagers in the garden, sharing 'twilight talks' and the occasional barbecue. Parents also gathered for fellowship and strong links were established with the local churches.

Saturday, the 'day off' began with cleaning the house (sand everywhere) followed by an outing, perhaps to Lincoln or to Gibraltar Point to view the birds and recharge our batteries. Sunday's afternoon beach service and evening community hymn-singing marked the start of a new week. I value the memories of those times of new friendships and of growing in the faith.

Hilary





The above is a picture of a piece of the Japanese art of Kintsukuroi (*golden repair*) this art is thought to date back to the 15th century, when a powerful Japanese man sent a damaged tea bowl back to Japan to be repaired. I wonder what he thought about his bowl when it was returned to him repaired by gold with all the breakage points clearly revealed!

Most of us when we are faced with such a breakage, seek to so repair the object that the cracks don't show. It is as though we wish to turn back the clock to before the accident that produced the shattered pieces of a beloved object.

The Kintsugi (golden *joinery* a second name for this art) approach accepts the brokenness, and transforms the object into something with a beauty of its own; it takes on a new life. Is there not a parable here of the Christian message that, by the grace of God, the broken, the apparently useless life can be mended, and enhanced with an all-new value. St Paul wrote: **'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! That God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them.'** The scars are not removed, just as those of the Risen Christ were still visible following the Resurrection.

As I write this piece, a mother and her daughter are recovering from, what may prove to life changing scars, as a result of a vicious attack. When Radio news programme was reporting this terrible crime, a woman of 29 years, was interviewed who had experienced a similar attack some ten years ago. In a moving testimony, she told how she had come to accept her scars even, she said, to rejoice in them; wholeness restored by the golden repair of human spirit in the face of terrible events. I don't know if that young woman held a religious faith, but surely God's healing Spirit was at work in her life, and through her testimony that of many others who are encouraged by her example.

Graham Kendrick, captured something of the spirit of Kintsugi, when he wrote: **'Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair, Lord in your suffering world this is our prayer. Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace, sunrise to sunset, your kingdom increase!'**

John Whittle

CONTRIBUTION BY BECKY WASHINGTON

Hang it on the cross by Logan Parker

If you have a secret sorrow,
a burden or a loss,
an aching need for healing...
Hang It On The Cross.

If worry steals your sleep
and makes you turn and toss,
if your heart is feeling heavy...
Hang It On The Cross.

Every obstacle to faith
or doubt you come across,
every prayer unanswered...
Hang It On The Cross.

For Christ has borne our brokenness
and dearly paid the cost
To turn our trials to triumph...
Hanging On The Cross.

CONTRIBUTION BY SANDRA ROBEY

PROJECT DORA

MWiB (Methodist Women in Britain) are supporting a new Charity, called Project Dora.

Location: Sub Carpathia Ukraine

Baty Church: Batova

Previously part of Hungary and close to the Hungarian Border, protected from the brunt of the war by the Carpathian Mountains

PROJECT DETAILS

After school support for very vulnerable teenage children – fifteen girls and five boys, plus four girls who are graduating, but who are not supported into further education. All are vulnerable to being trafficked. The project provides education, skill, training, food, clothing, bedding and TLC.

AIM

To provide a safe and better future for those attending.

Project leader: Dora Kacso

Part time teacher employed

Open ten months of the year

Costings about £350 per month including heating, lighting and food.

Want to know more? Have a word with Sandra, please pray for this outreach and bring into your hearts and minds, these young souls coping with much. Thanks so much

Sandra

KNEBWORTH PARISH NEWS ARTICLES

ARTICLE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE PARISH NEWS BY JACKIE HALL:

How has your year been so far? The clocks go forward at the end of this month so summer is officially on its way. But first a question: what do you think about Easter? It's coming up fast. Perhaps you think chocolate – yum. Perhaps you think that it is a chance to get together, with family and friends, to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. But what about Lent? We munched our pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and the very next day we were stepping headlong into Lent, a time when Christians remember the time that Jesus spent in the wilderness.

Did you give anything up for Lent this year? Use it as a time of self-denial and self-reflection? Some do, many don't, and some are surprised that there is even a name for that period leading up to the season, yes, the season of Easter.

It can be a time of reflection of journey, as the days grow lighter and the garden begins to emerge from its winter hibernation and the list of jobs grows wearily longer. Can we not find time during our day to look at where we were when Lent started; look at what Jesus went through to understand us complex humans; look at the depth of God's love for us and start our journey one tiny step at a time to a slightly better us? So that, on Easter day, amid all the celebrations, we can see just how far we have come and feel encouraged to continue making the world a better place for all.

Happy Easter, one and all,
Jackie Hall Trinity elder

ARTICLE FOR THE APRIL ISSUE OF THE PARISH NEWS BY CHRIS OYETUNDE:

I spent two weeks in Colwyn Bay Wales in the summers of 1993, 1994 and 1995 as part of a team on a Churches Youth Fellowship Association (CYFA) camp. Those times in my early 20s were memorable, formative and are largely responsible for shaping the faith that I have today.

The leadership team was from all over the country with a variety of denominations represented, at the time I attended a non-denominational church in St Albans. The team were mainly in their 20s with a large diversity of backgrounds and experience, but all sharing the same faith. Leaders would arrive at the weekend to set up activities to start on the Monday when the children arrived and ran until the Friday, the leaders then stayed another weekend to put the boarding school that we hired back to how it was. During the week each leader was responsible for 3 children (aged 11 to 15), each day started altogether with breakfast, then activities during the day (sports events, day trips) dinner in the evening followed by our worship time, followed by 'entertainment' (leaders making fools of themselves mainly!). The worship was amazing, a combination of great songs and hymns, incredible musicians, and talks that were punchy and thought provoking. As the week progressed the leaders got to know the 3 children in their care with the aim of challenging their thinking and sharing personal testimony with them. The talks in the evening worship were aimed at sharing the gospel message progressively culminating in 'the way talk' at the end of the week. By this point the gospel message had been explained, the leaders had talked personally with the children they got to know, and the hope was that those who were not Christians would be able to make a commitment following 'the way talk'. Amazing times, and incredible to see the change in some of the children by the end of the week.

Not only did the children go on journeys during the week, but so did the leaders. It was an incredible environment where likeminded – yet different – Christians came together with one goal, to share the gospel of Christ. We shared laughter, fun, anxiety, trepidation and joy together as a team, we built each other up and offered help where needed. I am still friends with some of the leaders some 30 years later, and I reminisce often of those times. One Bible verse has stayed with me since my first CYFA camp in July 1993, and that is 1 Peter 5:7 which says 'Cast all your anxiety on Him, because he cares for you.'

As we move into a new era with a new minister, let's celebrate our differences and remember that we worship the same Lord. *Chris Oyetunde*

CONTRIBUTION BY TRICIA

Below is a letter from Our Father:-

Continued from last Quarter

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Every good gift you receive comes from my hand. | James 1:17 |
| For I am your provider and I meet your needs. | Matthew 6: 31-33 |
| My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. | Jeremiah 29:11 |
| Because I love you with an everlasting love. | Jeremiah 31:3 |
| My thoughts towards you are countless as the sand on the seashore. | Psalms 139: 17-18 |
| And I rejoice over you with singing. | Zephaniah 3:17 |
| I will never stop doing good to you. | Jeremiah 32:40 |
| For you are my treasured possession. | Exodus 19:5 |
| I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. | Jeremiah 32:41 |
| And I want to show you great and marvellous things. | Jeremiah 33:3 |
| If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. | Deuteronomy 4:29 |
| Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. | Psalms 37:4 |
| For it is I who gave you those desires. | Philippians 2:13 |
| I can do more for you than you could possibly imagine. | Ephesians 3:20 |
| For I am your greatest encourager. | 2 Thessalonians 2: 16-17 |

..... Concludes Next Quarter

Pentecost Prayer

May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace
As you trust in him, so that you may overflow
With hope by the power of the Holy Spirit
Amen. Romans 15: 13

Tricia Easdale

CONTRIBUTION FROM JACKIE HALL

Trinity Walkers Circuit Good Friday Walk

The date: 29th March Time: 1.30pm

Come rain or shine or even snow (it did one year) the Trinity walkers will be putting best foot/feet forward. Instead of relaxing on Good Friday afternoon with a cup of tea and a hot cross bun, the Trinity walkers are doing the Methodist Circuit Good Friday walk We will be walking from Trinity Knebworth to Codicote and back again in aid of two Charities, details to be confirmed.

If you are able to sponsor any amount, big or small, please contact either the Mitchells or the Halls.

Many thanks

Jackie

Easter Breakfast

The date: 31st March Time: 8.30am

The Easter breakfast will take place straight after the 8am service on Easter Day.

Please don't worry if you miss the service after all it is Easter Day.

Everyone is welcome.

There will be a sign-up sheet in church from the beginning of March or if it's easier simply contact Jackie or Steven Hall whenever convenient just to give us an idea of numbers and of any dietary restrictions e.g. gluten free. If you wake up on the day and decide you feel peckish, please just come, and join us there will be plenty I promise.

The cost is free but there will be a plate for voluntary donations.

Hope to see you there.

Happy Easter

Jackie and Steven

Easter Day 10.30 Service

I am leading worship at Trinity and I would like to make a change to the Easter Day Service and have more people participate in the service. So, if you have any ideas - A reading, a particular hymn that you would be willing to share, the reason why its special, a poem, a sketch, a piece of music (even better if you are or know someone willing to play it), pictures we can display in the worship hall, really anything connected with Easter, **please get in touch with me** as soon as possible, even if it's something you would like but would prefer not to read out yourself as I'm sure I can find some willing volunteers?

Hilary has said she will make an Easter Garden, thank you Hilary.

If you are not sure of the date its 31st March it's also the day the clocks go forward.

So, thinking caps at the ready and over to you please I await all your wonderful ideas with eager anticipation.

Many thanks

Jackie



MISSION AND CHARITY NEWS

These are the charities we are supporting at Trinity in the next 3 months, through our charity offering at services, coffee money donations, or directly if you can't make it to church.

March



The Living Room premises are at the Glebe in Stevenage and the organisation helps young people with addiction problems. For a number of years now they have provided a day care service for adults receiving about 200 referrals each year. Thanks to a grant from the Hertfordshire Community Foundation the service has been extended to 13 to 17 year-olds.

The Living Room helps young people addicted to - or at risk of becoming addicted to - alcohol, street drugs such as cannabis and cocaine, or prescribed drugs such as sleeping pills. The scheme also caters for eating disorders and gambling addictions and it is hoped to extend the service to prevent the young binge drinker of today becoming the alcoholic of tomorrow. Living Room hopes its success will inspire other organisations to invest in its work.

<https://www.livingroomherts.org/>

April



World Mission Fund

Our **Easter** offering and charity of the month for April this year is **The Methodist Church World Mission Fund**.

The World Mission Fund supports programmes which are currently administered through Global Relationships.

See more at:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/support-our-work/about-our-funds/world-mission-fund/>

May Christian Aid



Christian Aid is the official relief and development agency of 41 Christian churches in the United Kingdom and Ireland, and works to support sustainable development, eradicate poverty, support civil society and provide disaster relief in South America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia.

Christian Aid also organises the UK's largest door-to-door collection in Christian Aid Week, which takes place in May each year. Our Knebworth Committee will be organising the local collection and other events.

To find out more and to see how to donate, go to <https://www.christianaid.org.uk>

DATES FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE (and KFC coffee mornings)

29th March :- Good Friday Service at 10.00am followed by Walk of Witness 11.00am at St Thomas More, back to Trinity for Hot Cross Buns Tea/Coffee

31st March:- Easter Breakfast 8.30am Once again our thanks go to Jackie and Steve

14th July:- Church Family Barbeque

August:- Afternoon Tea - Date to be confirmed

September:- Quiz Night - Date to be confirmed with more details nearer the time

Would YOU be interested in an “**Away Day?**” If the answer is Yes, then we would welcome your input:-

A - Where would YOU like to go?

Suggestions:

Capel Manor, Waltham Cross Enfield
which is wheelchair friendly and has
easy access
or Jordans Mill Biggleswade
or Coastal resort
or ?

B - What would YOU like to do?

We look forward to your comments

All Welcome

at the

Knebworth Family of Churches Monthly Coffee Mornings.

We look forward to seeing you at St Martin's Parish Centre on the following **Saturdays** between 10.00am and 12.00 noon:



16th March

20th April

18th May

TABLETOP SALE



We're pleased to announce that our Church Tabletop Sale was a huge success. The sale was held throughout the church on the 2nd December, and the day turned out to be a very well supported event, especially considering this date was a very popular day for other local activities being put on in the area. We would like to start by thanking you all for making this such a wonderful event.

There were several independent stall holders, selling many varied handmade crafts. These included a variety of cakes, Christmas cards, candles, glass beads, and Christmas trees. There was also a stall where we sold donated unwanted gifts. There was a great atmosphere and it was a great start to the festive season.

The workshops again proved very popular, with Michelle running the felting workshop, where plenty of Christmas decorations were made, and Tricia running the book folding workshop, where you could turn an old book into a Christmas angel, Christmas tree, or even the slightly less festive, but ever-popular hedgehog. Many participants went to both workshops, and a very productive and joyful experience was had by all who attended. The workshops definitely proved a great hit, leaving people wanting more.

The kitchen also did a marvellous job throughout the event, providing soup, sandwiches and beverages, including mulled wine and mulled cider (non-alcoholic, of course), as well as festive mince pies. There were also cakes that were made by the young people of the Youth Group, which were enjoyed by all lucky enough to try them.

It was an absolute pleasure to see so many people participating on the day, and most importantly, the sale raised £420, which will go half towards the Knebworth Youth Project, and half to church funds.

Tricia Easdale, on behalf of the social committee.



KFC Coffee Morning, Saturday 16th March, 10.00 am – 12 noon

You will be very welcome to drop in to **St Martin's Parish Centre** for a drink and a chat - and there will be the usual selection of cakes. Hopefully, you will also be able to purchase Fair Trade products, including some which are suitable for vegetarians and for vegans. Come along on the 16th and have a look what is available.

Every month, the money raised at the Coffee Morning is donated to a charity, both local and further afield. This month it will be for The Living Room but then, for the next three months a new charity, Waterways Experience, will benefit from the Coffee Morning proceeds. This is an all-volunteer charity operating three canal boats from a beautifully landscaped boat base on the Grand Union Canal near Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire. It enables everyone, regardless of age, physical ability or social disadvantage, to experience the fun and the beauty of our waterways.

Good Friday Walk of Witness, 29th March

This year the Walk is planned to start from St Thomas More Church at 11.00 am. We will proceed through the village, stopping at St Martin's Green and the station forecourt on the way, and finishing at Trinity Church for light refreshments. Please feel free to join us at any point on the Walk.

Have You Ever Been to a Silent Auction?

We hope to hold one soon to raise money for the Christian Aid Gaza Appeal. In a recent article on the work of Christian Aid we made it clear that its staff and local co-workers are still carrying out humanitarian work, in spite of the ongoing war.

What, you may ask, is a Silent Auction? People are invited to bring along items they no longer have a use for, and want to dispose of by recycling them. The items are placed on display, along with a paper and pen, inviting written bids to be submitted. After a fixed time, say one hour, a bell is sounded to end the bidding, and the final amount is the price to be paid for the item. Owners can then opt to give all the profit of the sale, or a portion of it, to Christian Aid. Watch this space for the date of this event and begin now to think which items you would like to donate.

Looking Ahead

Christian Aid Week, 12th to 18th May

This year, Christian Aid Week will focus on the cost of living crisis faced by many people around the world. House-to-house collections for Christian Aid will follow the practice of last year. We will be delivering envelopes during the early part of May, there will be a note on them asking you to return them - with your donation, of course - to the collection points, probably at the Co-op or the Post Office. Additionally, we hope to set up an online donation process. Full details of these arrangements will appear in the May issue of the Parish News

Pentecost Service, 19th May

Knebworth Family of Churches is pleased to announce that this year we will be holding a Pentecost Service in St Martin's Church at 3.00 pm on Sunday, 19th May, followed by light refreshments in the Parish Centre. The Service is expected to also contain some element relating to Prayer for Christian Unity and there will be musical accompaniment by The Eden Consort.

Graham Fothergill, Secretary. The Knebworth Family of Churches

URC NEWS

Thames North Synod :

The main item for Trinity is the great news that the Rev. Stan Chatikobo has accepted our invitation to be minister for the Pastorate group of Trinity Knebworth, Ashwell, and Walkern and Sandon. We were able to get to know Rev. Stan over a long weekend when he came over from Zimbabwe and preached at both Trinity and Ashwell, but also met many people involved in the churches at informal gatherings/meals. Thanks to all involved in helping during the visit. We are now praying that the visa arrangements required for Rev. Stan and his family will go smoothly.



TNS events:

“THE NARROW ROAD” on TUESDAY 12TH MARCH AT 7.30 PM at Hertford URC.
The Narrow Road is a communal experience of theatre and worship for the season leading to Easter. More information on ridinglights.org/thenarrowroad

'Everyday Faith - Everyday Fruitfulness' on Saturday 13th April 10am-1pm at Lumen <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/urc-thames-north-synod>

Thames North Eco Day Saturday 8 June 2024 10am - 4pm at Vine Church Ilford

RIDING LIGHTS THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

The NARROW ROAD

POWERFUL THEATRE ON THE JOURNEY TO EASTER

BY PAUL BIRCH

HERTFORD URC
TUE 12TH MARCH 7.30PM
11 Cowbridge, Hertford, SG14 1PG
Tickets: £12 Box Office: 07930141446

RIDING LIGHTS

Amid the heat and beauty of ancient Palestine, a man stands alone on a dusty road. An extraordinary journey will take place, retracing the footsteps of Jesus into a world of miracles and madness, violence and liberation. As The Narrow Road is walked, this turbulent world is turned upside down; its inhabitants confronted by an unexpected and surprising vision.

As we walk with these people to the cross and on into the challenge of the life beyond it, The Narrow Road asks each of us to review our understanding of our own faith in relation to the journey.

The Narrow Road is a communal experience of theatre and worship for the season leading to Easter.

More information on ridinglights.org/thenarrowroad

March 2024 Letter from the Circuit Superintendent

Dear Friends,

During this month we will be entering the season of spring. Spring is a time when everything is growing and bursting into life. Birds are singing, leaves are unfolding, butterflies are starting to be seen and mammals are beginning to wake from their winter sleep. Early spring is a great time to see the glorious carpet of wildflowers popping up throughout our beautiful landscape. I am sure you all have a favourite flower that brings you joy and hope after the dark winter. My favourite wild flowers are: daffodils, tulips, crocus, snowdrops and violets. Going for walks are filled with sights of buzzing bees and gambolling lambs to the scents of spring blooms. What a refreshing experience for body and mind. It is time to say goodbye to winter and hello to the beginning of new life. During this beautiful season of new beginnings, take time to be in the presence of our God of all Creation!

During this time of hope I would like to remind you, that as Christians, we are also approaching two important seasons in our spiritual journey. I am referring to Lent and Easter. Lent is the period of 40 days which comes before Easter in the Christian calendar. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians imitate Jesus Christ's sacrifice through prayer, doing penance, mortifying the flesh, repentance of sins, almsgiving and self-denial. The purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer for Easter.

Easter is the most important spiritual time of the entire year. It marks the anniversary of Jesus' resurrection and ascension to heaven – and by observing this holiday, Christians can learn a lot more about their faith and realise it is not about giving and receiving chocolate bunnies but acknowledging what Jesus did for them on the cross.

So, despite the pastel-coloured decorations and kids' games, Easter celebrates the Christians' belief in the divine power of Jesus and the hope that loss leads to something new. I would like to urge you to take time to attend church. This is a time that you will feel closer to God and have fulfilment and new hope will be poured into your hearts.

As a Circuit we are involved in so many activities during this period of time. I would like to encourage all of us to take the opportunity to increase and share our faith with others. As believers we are called to know Jesus and make Him known.

The Circuit Leadership Team met in February for our away day in Pirton. With guidance of the district discipleship enabler Angela Brydon and the district property officer Steve Watson, we looked at the current work of our Circuit and formulated the draft Mission plan with a statement and a set of objectives. The draft of the mission plan is published in the Circuit Newsletter. As a Circuit we need to coordinate many activities and fulfil the Methodist church requirements relating, for example, to safeguarding, equality, diversity inclusion (EDI), property, statistics for mission, annual returns and many more. I would like to express my gratitude to all stewards across our Circuit for your cooperation and support.

Our Circuit is vibrant and active and my participation in some activities such as the recent healing service in All Saints church, the big breakfast in Bennington, children and youth services in High Street MC, ecumenical cooperation with churches in our Circuit, bible study, an activity day for refugee children organised by our youth worker Adonna and her team from High Street MC and many more are examples of excellent activities which we are encouraged to share with others and support. I also would like to say thank you to our circuit ministers for their pastoral work, guidance, preaching and involvement in life of our Circuit.

Good news came from Trinity Church in Knebworth as they successfully appointed a minister, Rev Stan Chatikobo to serve as a minister in the United Reformed Churches in our area. Rev Stan is currently serving in Zimbabwe and he will arrive after receiving the necessary permits. Meanwhile we keep him and his family in our prayers.

My prayer is that this Easter will bring your home peace, love and happiness and a renewed faith in the Risen Christ.

Happy Easter!

Zdzisiu Hendzel

March Methodist Circuit Stewards Newsletter 24

There is much going on around the Circuit, with many Lent groups taking place, giving us all a chance to reflect, or study, or maybe just take a different perspective on our faith.

In the coming months Trinity hope to be welcoming their new Minister, and we shall be saying a sad farewell to Val. It seems that nothing has remained constant for long, and as a team we have been very busy keeping up with everything, bearing in mind we also have three church buildings that are no longer used for worship.

So, Lent provides a welcome break, and space to reflect on God, away from 'church business'. We recently enjoyed a CLT Away Day, where we were able to reflect and focus on mission.

One point of note to come out of that day, is that we do not know very much about each of our churches' Mission Statements, consequently, this is something we will be seeking to learn more about over the next 6 months, enabling us to draw up a Circuit Mission Plan.

In the Spring, Christchurch are hosting the Spring District Synod, providing a place of connection with those from each area of the District, and to show fellowship and hospitality in Jesus' name.

During this Lenten period, we pray that each of you are able to find some extra space to simply be with God. Also, that each church is able to reflect and discern what God is calling you to do and be, in each of your communities.

We are all called to serve and love our neighbours; may God's light show us all the ways in which we can do that best.

Allison and Janet

ECUMENICAL CHURCH SERVICES IN THE LADY CHAPEL

A **Free Church** service is celebrated monthly on a **Wednesday** of each month at **11am** with our Free Church chaplain and other ministers, and with a congregation from all denominations across St Albans.



THE CATHEDRAL AND ABBEY CHURCH OF SAINT ALBAN

March 6th

The Reverend Stephen Copson
Retired Baptist Minister

April 3rd

The Reverend David Jebb
Superintendent Minister of St Albans & Welwyn Methodist Circuit.

May 1st

Captain Mark Scoulding
Salvation Army, North Watford

June 5th

Maggie Dodd
St Albans Anna Chaplain

Contact: The Rev'd Simon Carver

simoncarver@btinternet.com

www.stalbanscathedral.org

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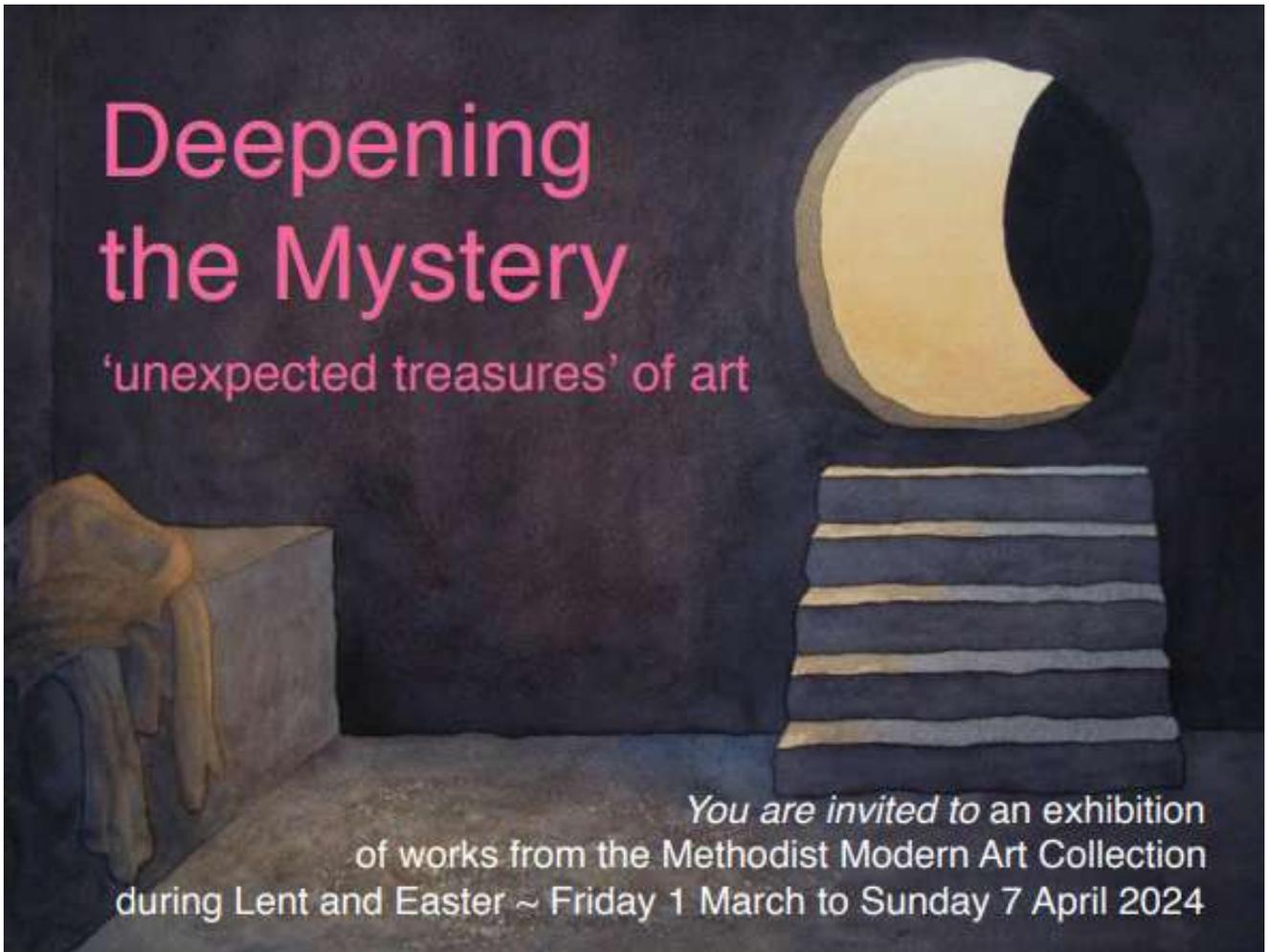
Please send items for the March issue of Trinity Quarterly to a member of the Editorial Team by Friday 3rd May at the latest:

Maureen Bodden: maureen.haycock@gmail.com, Tricia Easdale: peasdale@aol.com

Camilla Straughn: camillastraughn@yahoo.co.uk, Rosemary Rudkin

Deepening the Mystery

'unexpected treasures' of art



*You are invited to an exhibition
of works from the Methodist Modern Art Collection
during Lent and Easter ~ Friday 1 March to Sunday 7 April 2024*

**Focolare Centre for Unity,
69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JG**

The Methodist Modern Art Collection

*'... one of the art world's unexpected treasures, including some of the most
powerful and arresting religious art of the 20th and 21st centuries.'*

Tim Marlow, Chief Executive and Director of the Design Museum, London,
and former Artistic Director of the Royal Academy

The Collection includes paintings, limited edition prints and reliefs by key figures of 20th and 21st century British art, as well as works by international artists. The exhibition will include a programme of workshops and lectures for all ages.

For more information, please contact:
paulghill@hotmail.com

'The Empty Tomb' by Richard Bavin. Image from the Methodist Modern Art Collection
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