



# Trinity Quarterly

Issue No 10 June – August 2025



## Diary for June

Sunday	1st	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by <b>Revd Stan Chatikobo</b> with Holy Communion
Sunday	8th	10.30 am	<b>Pentecost service</b> led by <b>Alison Bryan</b>
Sunday	15th	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by <b>Revd Jacob Donkoh</b>
Saturday	21st	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at <b>St Martin's Parish Centre</b>
Sunday	22nd	10.30 am	Team Worship led by <b>Maureen Bodden</b>
Sunday	29th	10.45 am	Service with Holy Communion at <b>URC Stevenage</b> led by <b>Revd Stan Chatikobo</b>

## Diary for July

Sunday	6th	10.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by <b>Revd Stan Chatikobo</b>
Sunday	13th	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by <b>Jennifer Rogers</b> <b>Church Barbecue</b>
Saturday	19th	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at <b>St Martin's Parish Centre</b>
Sunday	20th	10.30 am	Team Worship led by <b>Kathy Cole and Rosie Berry</b>
Sunday	27th	10.30 am	Open Church led by <b>Camilla Straughn</b>

## Diary for August

Sunday	3rd	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by <b>Revd Stan Chatikobo</b>
Sunday	10th	10.30 am	Café style Worship led by <b>Camilla Straughn</b>
Saturday	16th	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at <b>St Martin's Parish Centre</b>
Sunday	17th	10.30 am	Morning worship led by <b>Revd Stan Chatikobo</b> with Holy Communion
Sunday	24th	10.30 am	Open Church led by <b>Rebecca Washington</b>
Sunday	31st	10.45 am	Stevenage URC morning worship led by <b>Revd John Steele</b>

**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

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**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 Editorial Team**

## **NOTES FROM THE EDITORS**

Thankfully winter has passed and now we can enjoy some warm weather. I must admit it was good to have a short walk on the heath to see the bluebells and listen to the birdsong. The birds have been very active in our garden and bluetits are using our old nest box again. I hope you all are able to sit outside for a while and enjoy nature or take some time to read.

Yet again it is the season for exams and graduations! The Trinity Quarterly Team and those who belong to Trinity hope all the hard work produces the anticipated results. Whatever happens we hope you have the support you need for your next venture.

In April, we sadly learnt of the death of Pope Francis. Following his prolonged treatment in hospital he made a remarkable recovery enabling him to say a farewell to his people. During his ministry he made some headway in dealing with difficult situations, paying particular attention to the problems of the elderly and those who struggled with life. Our minister Stan sent a message of condolence to Canon Daniel Cronin at St. Thomas More on behalf of Trinity Church.

Many of you will be planning time away to relax and explore, please could we have some of your photographs in our next edition.

**Please could we have contributions for the September publication no later than 1st AUGUST though preferably well before. If possible, please send in Microsoft WORD format.**

*Rosemary, on behalf of the Editorial Team:*

*Camilla, Maureen, Tricia and Rosemary*

## **MESSAGE ON PENTECOST FROM REVD STAN**

### **THE POWER OF THE PENTECOST**

The subject of the Holy Spirit is hardly talked about or taught because of the many reasons such as the misunderstanding of how it works today in the church. But we celebrate **PENTECOST** which is characterised by the beginning and the formation of the church through the powerful evangelistic program of the fearless disciples endowed by the Holy Ghost. The fearful and timid disciples who had closed themselves up in the Upper Room, now opened the doors, speaking in tongues to the surprise of bystanders. Ps104:30 says, "You sent out your spirit and they are created, and you renew the face of the earth". When the Holy Spirit came "the disciples were recreated", it was a rebirth or a renewal that changed the face of the earth.

### **HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKED IN JESUS CHRIST**

From the beginning the immaculate conception of Christ was through the Holy Spirit, a fact that denies the human paternity and an affirmation that His coming was the work of the mysterious power of God. According to Mk 1:12, The Holy spirit was the power that drove Jesus Christ into the wilderness and also the power that drove out demons and enabled him to do various miracles (Lk 11:20; Matt 12:28). As he was nearing his end of ministry Jesus appeared to be the dispenser of the Holy Spirit to the followers and the entire church (Lk 24:49) and is given as the comforter/helper (Jn 14:17,26). Therefore, the Holy Spirit is the divine and heavenly dynamic force given to those who believe, the body of Jesus Christ (the Church) apportioned to each member of the church.

### **PURPOSE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHURCH**

1. Christ had earlier taught that the Holy Spirit would **teach the disciples** what to say (LK12:12) which shows the mysteries of God upon those who believe.
2. As the Holy Spirit manifested itself upon the disciples and they became **witnesses** after being transformed (Acts 2:3-4)
3. The Holy Spirit **inspires prophecy** (Acts 13:9-11), **gives wisdom** (Acts 6:3); **gives encouragement** when one is discouraged (Acts 9:31); it **enhances faith** (Acts 6:5), where it reveals and searches out the deep revelations of God (Gal 3:5; 1 Cor 14:14-16).
4. The Holy Spirit enables **Christians to pray** (Rom 8:15, 26; 1 Cor 12:3; Gal4:6).

5. The Holy Spirit is the **principle by which Christians live a life worthy of the Christian believer** (Gal 5:5).
6. The Holy Spirit **awakens love** in the Christian (Rom 5:5; Col1:8) and is the **principle of the mutual love** of Christians (Rom 15:30)
7. The Holy Spirit is **the paraclete- the spirit of truth** (Jn 14:17) which is the continuing life of the church
8. However, in Eph 3:16f, the Holy Spirit is given as **the power of the growth of the church.**

#### **Prayer**

**God make me a vessel of your Holy Spirit to awaken within me the ministry of the early Church.**

## **FAMILY NEWS**

### **REMEMBERING CONSTANCE JOYCE JAMES – “Joy” 13<sup>th</sup> December 1931 – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

It was with much sadness that we learned of the death of Joy on March 4<sup>th</sup>. During her stay for the past two to three years at Jubilee Court in Stevenage, close to where her son Glyn lives, she enjoyed visits from members and friends from the church delivering “Trinity Quarterly”. Joy with her husband David had become members of the United Reformed Church in Knebworth many years ago when they had moved to Welwyn from Brookmans Park where they had also belonged to the URC.

David became an Elder and Joy joined in all the activities that happened in those times.

The opportunity to return to their native Wales came when their house in Welwyn was purchased by the Department of Transport for an A1M widening scheme, and they retired to Aberystwyth.

After Joy was widowed she made frequent visits back to Knebworth waiting for her house in Aberystwyth to be sold. Eventually she was able to move to a small house in Stevenage and come back to Trinity.

Joy had always kept in contact with her many friends over the years with long newsletters, holiday postcards and visits. While living and working abroad in their early married life Joy and David had met and become friends with Lloyd James and his wife, maintaining the friendship over the years after returning to the UK and Lloyd settling in the U.S.A, where his son and daughter were born. The American family still visited England as both Lloyd and his wife had close family links in Welwyn Garden City. It was on one such visit that Lloyd, now a widower and Joy decided to marry, to the delight of their families.

However after living in Joy’s house in Stevenage they decided to move to a larger house, choosing one in Aberystwyth where family and friends visited over more than ten years and they enjoyed a happy life together making new friends and meeting up with family members again.

Unfortunately Lloyd became ill with cancer and died during the pandemic the following year. Helped through the early months of widowhood by her son Martyn who supported her in her home it was decided that she should move nearer to her sons Glyn and Gavin in Stevenage and Hatfield. Her initial short-term stay was at Lowe House in Knebworth before moving to Jubilee Court in Stevenage. In the last year she had been able to watch on a small screen in her room when her grand-daughter got married in Malta, and then last August she was able to celebrate Glyn’s wedding to Magda.

A very happy final year in a long a fulfilled life.

*Ros Sherry*

A Journey to Remember - 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024



It's our 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary in the UK

It's a journey that started with a family leaving the familiar town of Harare for the Northern Hemisphere, relocating to a very interesting location in the rural part of the country, but very different from our Zimbabwean rural setup. Tears flowed at the Zambian airport when Grace was disembarking from the plane from Harare, leaving the reality of going ahead without the other child. "I will come back" were the only words I could say but deep inside, the idea of leaving my daughter was never a decision we were sure was good. Finally, we arrived at Heathrow, and were greeted with the cold weather and warm smiles even though the queues were long to get to the immigration desk and the anxiety of whether the transport provided would fit our baggage. I told God I am not worried about anything, but everything is on Him.

Thankfully, we arrived in Knebworth and found everything as was explained by Brian and Peter. God's assurance that we were not lost but at home was noted with great relief. We are thankful to all our Trinity Family, and all our family at Walkern, Ashwell, and Stevenage; for such a grand welcome and all the goodies we found in the house, not forgetting the cooked meals waiting for us in the fridge freezer. Every item we find in the house is such a blessing to us even today. Thank you for all your support in Stan's induction service, for Stan Junior when he was looking for a place for college, my **welcome** service, and all the support you provided as we were preparing for **Grace** to come. God answered every prayer you gave on our behalf. **A Big Thank You!!!**

As we begin our second year, we are very thankful for what we have achieved together and for your support every step of the way.

*Stan, Victoria and Family*



Stan and Victoria were surprised we hope with a one year anniversary celebration cake after the service on 18<sup>th</sup> May, together with Nyasha and Stan Junior



## MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

### ARTICLES BY JACKIE

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Maundy Thursday some of us attended the agape meal so far so good it's usually a solemn service often with communion and a simple meal remembering the Last Supper. The concept of Maundy Thursday is a known ritual that Christ taught us to continue doing as we remember Easter. It is because of this belief that Christians still participate in the washing of the feet and sharing of the meal.

This year at Trinity it was slightly different - Revd Stan and Victoria met folk OUTSIDE the church and offered to wash their feet just as Jesus did to his disciples!!!

Yes, it happened in other churches but never in Trinity before.



Some folks politely declined but many took up their offer one person was quite overwhelmed saying she had waited nearly 60 years to have her feet washed in church on Maundy Thursday, and all who did have their feet washed seemed to enjoy the experience, many saying it deepened the agape experience, enhanced their spiritual experience of the evening. Some were moved nearly to tears by it. It certainly gave us all plenty to think about.



The service and the meal that followed were very good giving us a great deal to ponder on as we went home. Many thanks to Stan and Victoria for their act of washing of feet and to Kathy and Cathy for providing the meal.



Subtle? hint I think many are hoping for a repeat of the foot washing next year (2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026) What? I just happened to look the date up in my diary. Yes! because Christ taught us to do this in remembrance of him.

## GOOD FRIDAY WALKS 2025

After the 10.am brilliant service led by Kathy and Rosie, giving us a lot to think about, we joined in the Knebworth Family of Churches Walk of Witness, which took us from Trinity through Knebworth Village stopping at various points for a reading, prayers and hymns with music provided wonderfully by Brian, and ending at St. Thomas More Church, where we enjoyed hot drinks and hot cross buns, well it was Good Friday so rude not to really .



After a hurried picnic lunch, the Trinity walkers aka the Halls and the Mitchells made their way by car to Bennington Methodist church, only to park and leave their vehicles and walk through fields, lots of fields - you know it's going to be pretty rough when the instructions say walk across fields for 2 km and walk across fields through 12 gates. As Trinity walkers, we know to dress properly and to expect mud and more, not saying what it was but my roses love it. Apparently, it wasn't as bad as when they were planning the route, when they were knee deep in mud? Happily, we had mud but not to that extent due to lovely weather the week before. Thank you, God, for the lovely sunshine. We went on our merry way to Walkern United Reformed Church, yes you saw that right Walkern United Reformed Church. In the spirit of friendship, they opened their church for us and provided tea coffee and hot cross buns also bikkies and use of their facilities.

We went as you might expect up hill and down dale through puddles along paths, roads and byways through very pretty woods; the bluebells were particularly lovely this year. We went through horse fields complete with horses who seemed a little surprised when a trail of folk just walked through their field - I wonder quite what they were thinking?

I do think this was the most scenic route we've walked for many a year and one of the longer ones but when chatting with family and friends, the miles or kilometres quickly disappear and before you know it or if you have been following the instructions you end up back where you started ready for the cup of tea and refreshments that await you and yes, they were yummy.

Many thanks go to the organizers of the circuit walk and also to the good folk of Bennington who opened their church and provides refreshments for the weary walkers and also to Olga of Walkern URC for giving up her afternoon for us walkers.

Yes, it was fun but it was also to raise money for good causes, this year Garden House Hospice and Methodist Homes. The Trinity walkers have raised £300, so many thanks to everyone who sponsored us.

*Jackie*





## EASTER BREAKFAST

On Easter day Steven and I arrived at church at 7am yes that right 7 am. Strangely the roads had been very quiet not sure why but when we got to church, we went into operation breakfast mode. Cue the dramatic music - tables were laid complete with flowers, cereals and fruit set out with low fat yogurt for those wishing to eat healthily. Cooking began with a very well-practised routine – bacon, sausages, mushrooms, beans, eggs, hash browns, black pudding were quickly ready and in the hot trays, toasters at the ready, bread both wholemeal and white the choice was yours - croissants and pains au chocolat heating nicely, jam and marmalade waiting, chocolate eggs on the tables - yes well it is Easter day after all so a little chocolate is surely allowed.



Into the service led by Stan, another great service. Trinity was truly blessed by leading worship over the Easter period; many thanks to them all for their hard work. Then as the service ended, juices were poured, tea and coffee were made and everyone ate, drank and chatted hopefully having a good time - looking at the smiles, I think they did. Thanks to everyone who came, it would have been lonely without you, and to all the folk who helped with the clearing up and especially to Steven who did a lot of the cooking. Not going to say how many croissants sausages etc we cooked but there was very little left over, just enough for the chefs to have a cold sausage sandwich later that night which was brilliant.

Hope everyone had a good Easter, we certainly did,

*Jackie and Steven*



## CONTRIBUTION FROM JOHN WHITTLE



*Frances Jane Crosby was born on March 24, 1820, in the village of Brewster, about 50 miles north of New York City. She was the only child of John Crosby and his second wife Mercy Crosby. At six weeks old Jane, later known as Fanny, caught a cold and developed inflammation of the eyes. Mustard poultices were applied to treat the discharges. According to Fanny, this procedure damaged her optic nerves and blinded her, but modern physicians think that her blindness was more likely congenital and, given her age, may simply not have been noticed by her parents. Her father died in November 1820, when Fanny was only six months old, so she was raised by her mother, and maternal*

These women grounded her in Christian principles, helping her memorize long passages from the Bible, and she became an active member of the John Street Methodist Episcopal Church in Manhattan. When she was three, the family moved to North Salem, New York, where Eunice had been raised. In April 1825, she was examined by the surgeon, who concluded that her condition was inoperable and that her blindness was permanent.

At age eight, she wrote her first poem which described her condition. She later stated: **"It seemed intended by the blessed providence of God, that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dispensation. If perfect earthly sight were offered me tomorrow I would not accept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been distracted by the beautiful and interesting things about me.** According to biographer Annie Willis, *"had it not been for her affliction she might not have received so good an education, or have so great an influence, and certainly not so fine a memory".* Fanny memorized five chapters of the Bible each week from the age of 10, with the encouragement of her grandmother, so by the age of 15, she had memorized the four gospels, the first five books of the Old Testament, the Book of Proverbs, the Song of Solomon, and many of the Psalms. From 1832, a music teacher came to her home twice a week to give singing lessons to her, and some of the other children. Around the same time, she attended her first Methodist church services at the Methodist Episcopal Church, and she was delighted by their hymns.

Fanny enrolled at the New York Institution for the Blind in 1835, just before her 15th birthday. She remained there for eight years as a student, and another two years as a graduate pupil, during which time she learned to play the piano, organ, harp, and guitar, and became a good soprano singer. While she was studying at NYIB, her mother Mercy remarried, and the couple had three children together. However, six years later Mercy's husband abandoned her and the family.

After graduation from the NYIB in 1843, she joined a group of lobbyists in



Washington D.C., arguing for support of education for the blind. She was the first woman to speak in the United States Senate, when she read a poem there. She appeared before the joint houses of Congress and recited these lines:

**O ye, who here from every state convene,  
Illustrious band! May we not hope the scene  
You now behold will prove to every mind  
Instruction hath a ray to cheer the blind.**

In 1858 Fanny met Alexander van Alstyne Jr. He also was blind and enrolled at the NYIB, where he was a casual acquaintance of Fanny, and sometimes a student in her classes. He was a teacher at NYIB for two years from 1855; during this time, the couple were engaged to be married, necessitating her resignation from NYIB three days prior to their wedding at Maspeth, New York, on March 5, 1858. After their wedding, the van Alstynes lived in a small home in the rural village of Maspeth, New York, population of about 200 people.

At her husband's insistence, Fanny continued to use her maiden name as her literary name, but she chose to use her married name on all legal documents. However, according to biographer Edith Blumhofer: "Despite her education, her handwriting was barely legible, and on legal documents she signed her name with an X witnessed by friends".[179]

In 1859, the van Alstynes had a daughter named Frances, who died in her sleep soon after birth. Some believe that the cause was typhoid fever, and that the hymn "**Safe in the Arms of Jesus**" was inspired by her death.

For many years, the van Alstynes had "a most unusual married life", and lived together only intermittently. By 1880, they had separated, living both separately and independently due to a rift in their marriage of uncertain origin. At one point soon after, Fanny moved to a "dismal flat" at 9 Frankfort Street, near one of Manhattan's worst slums in the Lower Eastern Side. Despite living separately for more than two decades, Fanny insisted that they "**maintained an amiable relationship**", kept in contact with one another, and even ministered together on occasions in this period. Her only recorded admission of marital unhappiness was in 1903, when she commented once that her husband: "**He had his faults—and so have I mine, but notwithstanding these, we loved each other to the last**". In 1880, aged 60, Crosby "**made a new commitment to Christ to serve the poor and to devote the rest of her life to home missionary work**". She continued to live in a dismal flat at 9 Frankfort Street, near one of the worst slums in Manhattan, until about 1884, and from this time, she increased her involvement in various missions and homes.

Crosby died at Bridgeport of arteriosclerosis and a cerebral haemorrhage on February 12th 1915, following a six-month illness, aged 94. She was buried at Mountain Grove Cemetery in Bridgeport. near her mother and other members of her family. Her family erected a very small tombstone at her request which carried the words: "**Aunt Fanny: She hath done what she could; Fanny J. Crosby**".

*John Whittle*

## CONTRIBUTIONS FROM JACKIE

### LWPT TEA PARTY

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April I, John Kathy and Rosie attended the first ever circuit wide Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust (LWPT) tea party at Central to raise money and to raise awareness of it as an organisation. Everyone was invited and a few of us turned up it was a great afternoon sitting chatting with friends drinking tea/ coffee and eating cake we had a very short talk by David Latter about LWPT then some of us mentioning no names (me) might have had seconds of tea and cake. We were the trial circuit and it's hoped that other circuits will follow our example. It was a lovely afternoon and one I hope will be repeated next year.

*Jackie*

### ABSEIL

It's amazing what you can get in supermarkets these days - I simply popped into the Tesco at Broadwater for a couple of things and at the checkout was a big poster asking if you had ever thought about abseiling down Lister hospital? I hadn't, then it asked if you wanted to? Hmm I looked at the details and thought, why not if anything goes wrong at least I should be near the top of the queue at A&E shouldn't I? A little excited and a little apprehensive I signed up then told the family don't worry; they are used to getting WhatsApp messages from me saying I'm going to do daft things and inviting them to join in. They usually prefer to do the very valuable job of transport and cheerleaders; to be honest, I can't blame them. A tip - always read the small print- did you know the Lister hospital has 11, yes 11 storeys. I didn't until I read the small print which was long after I had signed up oops.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> March I approached Lister hospital getting more excited and nervous by the minute. Strapped into my harness, helmet on I was given a piece of paper with number to call in case of emergency???? Quite who I was supposed to call whilst halfway down the tower I didn't like to ask. At the roof, my harness was checked again, my safety rope attached, instructions given then the moment of truth but first a chance to back out and go back down the stairs with family at the bottom waiting eagerly. I knelt at the edge then leant backwards so far so good big deep breath, then the first step wow then the next. It was exhilarating and still a bit scary - I was walking down the side of a building just like in the films but probably a little slower. Someone called out that I was halfway down, yay it was fun, but the wind was getting gusty. I reached the bottom to loud cheers from family and everyone around me lots of photos were taken. It was great fun and I got a t-shirt and a certificate and was allowed to feel smug for at least 1 hour. But I raised £300 for the Lister hospital which is what it was all about. After the abseil, it was great to relax sharing a meal with family who are always very supportive of whatever I do.



## **BUNGEE JUMP**

Hi! Some breaking news. I have signed up to do a 160ft bungee jump in aid of Isabel Hospice on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August. On that day, please pray for a good landing as I have never done a bungee jump before, but it is in aid of a very good cause.

Thanks

*Jackie*

## **QUIET DAY RETREAT**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2025 I went on a circuit quiet retreat led by Malcolm Knowles. Why? -good question- sadly not because I was on a deep spirituality quest or even because I wanted to prepare for Lent by that time, I was as ready as I would ever be or so I thought. "The retreat promised to help prepare us for Lent."

I went because I was curious, I had never been on a quiet retreat and yes, some family and friends laughed when they heard what I was going to do.

I arrived slightly nervous why not sure, but I was feeling apprehensive, possibly fear of the unknown?

A welcoming cup of tea calmed the nerves, and we were off. Malcolm explained what would happen and that we weren't to get upset if our mind wandered, God would take it where it needed to be at that time.

We had a reading, a prayer and were given a picture if we wanted something to look at and encouraged to move wherever we wanted within the church or indeed outside, to sit, to walk, whatever we wanted to do, whatever felt right and if we needed to change something that was ok too, arranging to come back together later. Off we went spread throughout the church; one man found he was better walking up and down so went to a back room, I found a room with a window to sit by, others also found spaces they felt comfortable in. Quiet descended on Norton church; you could almost hear thoughts as minds ticked over in what seemed like a flash - honestly no time at all, but in reality, we were gently called back together after 45 minutes.

Another reading, a meditation, another picture and a prayer followed, then we were again off to "our spaces".

Again, thoughtful silence descended it was very peaceful and comforting but also very conducive to just thinking and letting the mind wander.

So, so, quickly we were called back; astonishingly time had again raced by.

A few more words from Malcolm and a prayer finished the retreat, though most of us shared our packed lunches together to continue our fellowship.

What do I think of the day? Brilliant, wonderful, hard work. I was surprised to find how tired I was when I got home, but also felt refreshed, renewed, uplifted, ready for Lent or anything else.

Go on another one? Yes absolutely.

My thanks to Malcolm Knowles for leading this retreat and to the good folk at Norton church for letting us take over their building for the morning

*Jackie*



## TRINITY SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

### ARTICLE FROM MEL MITCHELL

#### FAITH AND DEVELOPMENT

##### **Bible for All.**

Our regular sessions of Bible for all will be on the following dates:

Sun 20<sup>th</sup> July

Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Oct.

We look at different passages together after the Sunday service in an informal interactive way using some great resources. We have put some notes up from a couple of sessions on the notice board in the large hall next to the coffee hatch. Please take a look and please join us if you can.

##### **Worship planning**

Our next worship planning group meeting will be Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm. Please let any of the group know if you have any worship styles or ideas you would like us to discuss for Trinity.

##### **Singing/musical group.**

We are aiming to keep building on the musical talents we have at Trinity. Please join us if you would like to on most Sundays when Victor is around after the service for 20-30 minutes for a practice. We will be learning some new songs/hymns and perhaps adding some harmony and percussion to the ones we already know.

##### **Knebworth Village Festival Saturday 21st June.**

We hope to have a stall at the village festival again like last year. Please share activities ideas for this. Please pray for calmer, dry weather, as last year we seemed to experience all the seasons in the few hours we were on the rec.

##### **Mission statement and Trinity action ideas.**

If anybody has any new ideas on how we can put our agreed mission statement and vision for this year into action, please discuss them with each other and share them. Thank you.

*We worship the living God by:*

*- sharing God's love by continuing to welcome all and by participating in and supporting community events including The Youth Project.*

*- building on the sense of belonging, using God given gifts and nurturing the future growth of our church across all age groups and encouraging participation in all aspects of its life.*

*We seek to deepen our faith and become devoted followers of Jesus Christ through prayer and worship, developing our music and our understanding of Scripture, and to be a church that cares for God's creation in all our activities.*

*Thank you.*

*Mel*

## **KNEBWORTH PARISH NEWS ARTICLE**

### **ARTICLE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF THE PARISH NEWS BY ROSEMARY BERRY**

This month we celebrate Pentecost and the birth of the church. The Day of Pentecost was an annual Jewish festival which drew Jews from all over the known world. It was 50 days after Passover and 10 days after the last appearance of Jesus. As His followers wait in a room, the Holy Spirit descends on them with a sound like a roaring wind and what looks like fire. They start to speak in other languages – which can be understood by the other Jews present. You can read a list of the people concerned in Acts, Chapter 2. Peter is inspired to address the crowd, some of whom accuse the disciples of being drunk. “No”, says Peter, “it’s only nine o’clock in the morning!”

The response to Peter’s simple sermon is amazing; over 3,000 people repent and believe. The followers start meeting together, the first church. They are like a family and their openness, distinctiveness and love lead others to join them. From these early beginnings, the good news of the gospel, Christ’s death and resurrection spread throughout the world and through history.

*Based on an extract from ‘The Bible Book’ by Nick Page*

*Rosie Berry*

### **ARTICLE BY JOHN WHITTLE**

#### **IN WHAT DOES TRUE GREATNESS LIE?**

Across the pond we hear much of the President’s promise to make America great again. But what makes a country great, indeed, what makes a person great? We think of nations which in the past have been so labelled- the Roman Empire, Persian Empire, Chinese etc. Not forgetting Great British Empire on which the sun never set and coloured the world’s map pink or was it red! When it comes to individuals we think of Alexander the Great, Peter the Great, Catherine the Great etc. Though I don’t think we have attached that title to our monarchs with the exception of Alfred the Great.

So the world seems to judge as great the men of war who conquered nations, enslaved whole tribes of people, raped the cultures of so much of their inherited works of art and skilled artifacts. And it would seem that the desire for such greatness lives on in Putin with his desire to rebuild the Empire of the former Soviet Union by invading Ukraine and seizing its land and murdering thousands of his citizens. And his seeming buddy Donald is intent on acquiring more lands to make America great again to expand its landmass to take in Greenland, Canada, Panama Canal and Gaza where he wants to plant a new play ground for the rich and famous!!

At the same time this great nation has cut aid for the poorest suffering peoples of the earth resulting in many charitable works being strangled for funds. Surely, sign of US greatness!

Cardinal Vincent Nichols in his thought for the day on the day the Pope died (22<sup>nd</sup> April) ends his words with the signs of true greatness such as that found in the life and ministry of Francis. They are: great in strength of service, great in depth of compassion and great in richness of generosity.

That is a high bar to reach and I wonder if our nation is meeting it when it is prepared to house refugees in tents!

*John Whittle*

## CONTRIBUTION FROM SANDRA ROBEY

### FROM AN IONIAN THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

To walk in the light is to walk freely not fearfully, to see and delight in all the beauty around us: in people, in nature, desiring it to be allowed to remain beautiful.

It is to walk with a light heart, relaxed not tense, to have choices. The light is in the world.

There is an old Jewish saying, 'Do not say, God is in my heart. Rather, say, I am in the heart of God.' The gospel of Jesus says precisely this thing. I am in God's heart, and you, and you and you. Loved, valued, unconditionally accepted, we live and move and have our being in the heart of God, which is the light of God.

## MISSION AND CHARITY NEWS from Maureen Bodden

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:

### June



**GARDEN HOUSE HOSPICE CARE** provides free specialist palliative care for patients, families and carers facing life limiting illnesses from across North Hertfordshire, Stevenage and towns and villages in Central Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire, serving a population of around 230,000 people. They have developed a new programme for the frail at home, and a system of care hubs.

<http://www.ghhospicecare.org.uk/support-us/donate> or call 01462 679540

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### July

#### ANNIVERSARY APPEAL -TRINITY DISASTER RESPONSE FUND

This is a recent initiative to build up a fund for the church to respond to disasters as they occur. We have recently sent £150 to the Christian Aid Sudan Appeal, and £150 to the Myanmar Appeal. We now need to build up the fund again.

### August

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ZIMBABWE FUND FOR ORPHANS

We have agreed to support orphans in Zimbabwe that our minister Stan and his wife Victoria previously supported, after their orphanage home closed. We will be supporting them during their higher studies. See the article opposite for more details.



## August Mission of the month focus on Orphans in Zimbabwe



In my previous article a couple of months ago I talked about the orphans in Zimbabwe, and I am happy to let you know that our Mission Group has decided that the month of August shall be dedicated to the Orphans in Zimbabwe.

1. The boys have requested decent clothing, cell phones and laptops and they wear shoes size 7 and 8 and clothes 32 to 34 respectively. We intend to collect the items here at church, and we will arrange a way that we will have the items reach Zimbabwe. We have 6 boys in total.
2. Milan Tasunungurwa is struggling with upkeep money during the semester break as he has no known relatives and is staying at our home in Chirumhanzu during the holidays. He requires at least **£80 per year, (Clothing, Laptop and Cell phone)** He is currently at MSU in second year doing Supply Chain and Management
3. Brandon Muganhiri is currently in second year at MSU, and he is doing Human Resource Management **(Clothing, Laptop and Cell phone)**
4. Wilderness Nyirenda is currently in third year at MSU, and on attachment doing Supply Chain and Management. **(Clothing, Laptop and Cell phone)**
5. Nyasha Runodada fourth year student at MSU, doing Radio and Television **(Clothing, Laptop and a Cell Phone)**
6. Brandon Chinyanga is our most recent graduate who is at Ruwa rehab centre due to drug and substance abuse **(He requires at least £350 to enable him to complete his six months rehabilitation program and clothing, a phone to help him look for a job after he is released).** He is one of the boys who has no known relatives and grew up in the home since birth.

If you feel moved to support this just cause, please do not hesitate to talk to Maureen or myself for more details. If you feel persuaded to support one child our prayers will be answered. Just to know that they are loved will make a huge difference to them. It is our desire to see the boys finish school and they are currently struggling with these basics. Their fees and tuition are all paid by our Partner church in USA and unfortunately their budget is only enough to cover their fees and boarding fees during term time.

*Humbly Submitted by: Victoria Chatikobo*

Prayer for Peace - Contribution by Camilla Straughn

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon  
Where there is doubt, faith.

Adapted from the Prayer of St Francis



## **Good Friday Walk of Witness**

On a bright spring morning, about forty members of the churches in Knebworth joined together on Good Friday for the Walk of Witness through the village. We started outside Trinity Church where Reverend Stan Chatikobo led the opening service – a prayer, a Bible reading and a hymn. Then, accompanied by the large wooden cross, we carefully made our way to the station forecourt for the next part of the service, with Pastor Andrew of the Passion for Christ Church led the worship. We then proceeded along the “High Street” onto the lower edge of St Martin’s Green where Reverend Charles King led the service. From there we moved to our final destination, the front of St Thomas More Church where, led by Canon Daniel Cronin, our Walk was brought to a close.. We then all decamped into the church hall to partake of some light refreshment, including the traditional hot cross buns.

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Walk, it was a strong demonstration of our faith and of the importance of the Easter message. Thanks also to the St Thomas More “caterers” for ensuring that we rounded off the event in an appropriate manner!

*Graham Fothergill, secretary of KFC*

## **Christian Aid Report**

This is the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christian Aid, an organisation which was born out of the sufferings and displacement of people caused by WWII, and still finds itself facing the same kinds of needs caused by the same warmongering and gross injustices as those that led to its establishment, but made worse by the realities of climate change, which seems to be hitting the poorer world communities more than the rest of the nations.

Knebworth Christian Aid Committee, which has existed, I estimate, for some 50 years, founded by people like Alan Richardson, Ken Emsdon, Michael Lucas, and later included Saxon & Yvonne Denning, Hilary Dyster and Pat Peters, has worked to support the various projects which Christian Aid has initiated across the globe.

We heard of one such project from Annabelle Grassini at the Frugal Lunch held at St Martin’s Parish Centre on April 27<sup>th</sup>. **Over £400 was raised for the CA Sudan appeal.** She spoke of the work being done in South Sudan, where there is conflict not only in that nation but also in its northern neighbour Sudan. The result is an influx of refugees from the north as well as displaced citizens of South Sudan.

An issue in South Sudan of which I was unaware is one highlighted in a recent publication from Christian Aid, is that of flooding. It tells the story of Grace from Kenya, who one night heard her neighbours screaming: ‘Get out! Water is coming!’ She and her children escaped, but her home was swept away and she lost her small grocery business. Christian Aid’s partner in Kenya CREAM has offered food and counselling and is hopeful of helping her to start up a new grocery business. Similar stories of flooding come from Libya (2023: 20,000 dead or missing or injured) and Bangladesh (2024: 4.6.million impacted with 800,000 displaced).

Christian Aid believes in working in partnership using people who understand the local contexts and champion solutions that are designed and led locally. It seeks too, to help communities build their resilience by training farmers to use resilient farming techniques that will protect their crops. And by supporting people to develop new income streams to enable them to build homes that better resist extremes of weather.

It is only thanks to your support, that in 2024 Christian Aid offered humanitarian aid to 3.1 million people, and we must be ready to face the challenges of 2025 by being resourced and ready to act.



*Photo of John Whittle and Annabelle Grassini at the Christian Aid Frugal lunch*

## **Christian Aid Week**

During Christian Aid week 11th May to 17th May volunteers delivered Christian Aid envelopes to every household in the village and residents were asked to return them, with a donation, to nominated collection points. A total of £1,728.27 was raised from the envelopes collection and also the coffee morning.

*John Whittle*

## **'I am Mark' staging in Knebworth**

Knebworth Family of Churches organised a different kind of event on 9<sup>th</sup> May, a dramatisation of the Gospel of Mark, performed by Stefan Smart, a Christian professional actor. He had staged this one-man, one-chair act at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival last year to great acclaim.



Mark is the shortest and fastest moving gospel, full of action, and Stefan certainly gave a compelling, moving, and at times humorous performance. It was a thought-provoking and sincere telling of the story of Jesus, followed by an interesting question and answer session. We were pleased to see a good attendance of 50 people, including four ministers from Knebworth. Stefan would welcome any feedback. Many people were very moved by this performance, and will ponder on scenes and words from it for some time to come.

Thanks are owed to all who helped organise this event in any way, and those who attended. We are pleased to report that we just covered costs.

*Maureen Bodden*



## DATES FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE (and KFC coffee mornings)

- 14<sup>th</sup> July**      **Church Family Barbeque** after the morning service
- 2<sup>nd</sup> August**      **International shared meal**
- September**      **Quiz Night** - Date to be confirmed with more details nearer the time

### **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:



**21<sup>st</sup> June**

**19<sup>th</sup> July**

**16<sup>th</sup> August**

## RECIPE CORNER

### **ROSEMARY'S GINGER LOG**

#### Ingredients

1-2 packets of ginger biscuits or other hard biscuits

1-2 tablespoons sherry (undiluted orange juice could be substituted)

A small pot of double cream whipped (let it warm up before whipping) then put back in fridge.

Decorations: whipped cream, oranges, raspberries, strawberries or blueberries or grated chocolate. If using tinned fruit put on just before serving.

#### Method

Cover a long dish, platter or chopping board with foil and cut a small piece of foil and place on work surface.

Lay out your ingredients, a small spoon and a pastry brush ready for use (once you start you need to be quick).

Quickly, either dip first biscuit into the liquid or using a pastry brush lightly apply liquid. Then place damp side down onto the small piece of foil.

Put a teaspoon or so of cream on to the other side. Repeat using about 5 biscuits to make a small stack and place them on their edges on the platter.

Now repeat, stacking a few at a time, the idea is to make a long shape with the biscuits stuck together on their edges.

Decorate the top with cream, fruit or grated chocolate

Store in the fridge and consume within 24 hours.

Sorry this is not gluten free but perhaps can be adapted. Hope it works out it is some time since I made it.

*Rosemary Rudkin*

## DATES FROM THE URC THAMES NORTH SYNOD NEWSLETTER

**Synod Eco Day** on Saturday, 7 June 9:00am – 4:00pm Location:  
St Albans Greenwood AL2 3HG.

**Holy Communion Presidency Training** 9 June 2025 7:30-9:30pm via Zoom Contact Julian  
Templeton [training@urcthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:training@urcthamesnorth.org.uk)

**IOPT in Focus: Antisemitism** Wednesday 18 June 2025. For the Zoom  
link [commitmentforlife@urc.org.uk](mailto:commitmentforlife@urc.org.uk)

**Christian Aid's 80th Anniversary Service at Westminster Abbey** 12 June 2025 at 12pm

**Jazz Vespers** 25 June 2025 19:00 at the American Church in London [music@amchurch.co.uk](mailto:music@amchurch.co.uk)

**The Theology, Rhythm and Feeling of Hymns in Worship** on Saturday 28 June 2025 10:30  
to 12:30 at The Lumen Community WC1H 9RS [lpa@urcthamesnorth.org.uk](mailto:lpa@urcthamesnorth.org.uk)

## 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.

**4th June** The Reverend David Jebb  
Superintendent Minister  
of St Albans & Welwyn Methodist Circuit..



THE CATHEDRAL AND  
ABBEY CHURCH OF  
SAINT ALBAN

**Contact:** The Rev'd Simon Carver [simoncarver@btinternet.com](mailto:simoncarver@btinternet.com) [www.stalbanscathedral.org](http://www.stalbanscathedral.org)

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***Please send items for the September issue of Trinity Quarterly to a member  
of the Editorial Team by Friday 1st August at the latest:***

Maureen Bodden: [maureen.haycock@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.haycock@gmail.com)

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Rosemary Rudkin: [rosemary@tonyrudkin.f9.co.uk](mailto:rosemary@tonyrudkin.f9.co.uk)

## Summer Wordsearch

The wordsearch below has been put together by Camilla Straughn and the theme is Summer.

M	E	T	E	K	C	U	B	E	I	I	C	T	L
S	S	A	N	D	A	L	S	G	C	S	E	V	E
W	G	S	E	L	G	G	O	G	E	U	C	E	M
I	S	S	E	V	O	E	L	N	C	M	I	E	O
M	S	E	M	K	A	H	S	E	R	M	N	L	N
M	U	A	S	A	B	W	B	E	E	E	C	T	A
I	N	S	I	S	E	R	T	L	A	R	I	S	D
N	S	H	T	H	A	R	T	A	M	S	P	A	E
G	H	E	A	B	C	L	C	R	E	T	I	C	G
N	I	L	A	M	H	S	G	N	U	H	P	D	S
T	N	L	M	M	M	I	E	N	U	N	W	N	E
L	E	S	E	U	M	O	L	O	U	S	K	A	S
H	T	M	R	A	W	U	C	O	M	S	V	S	R
I	C	E	L	O	L	L	Y	K	S	P	A	D	E

SUNGLASSES  
 SWIMMING  
 SEASIDE  
 HEATWAVE  
 ICE CREAM  
 HAMMOCK  
 SUNSHINE  
 SPADE  
 SANDALS  
 SEASHELLS  
 BARBECUE  
 WARMTH  
 BEACH  
 BUCKET  
 LEMONADE  
 ICE LOLLY  
 SANDCASTLE  
 TRUNKS  
 PICNIC  
 GOGGLES  
 SUNCREAM  
 SUMMER