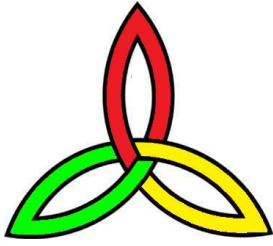


Trinity Times



October 2019

Issue No 225

Diary for October		
Tuesday 1st	7.30 pm	Elders Meeting
Sunday 6th	10.30 am 12.00 pm 5.30 pm	Team Worship led by Mel Mitchell Social Sunday Lunch Evening Worship led by Rev'd John Steele, including Service of Holy Communion
Wednesday 9th	7.30 pm	Church Meeting
Sunday 13th	10.30 am 12.00 pm 5.30 pm	Harvest Festival Service led by Jackie Hall, including Service of Holy Communion Harvest Lunch Evening Worship led by Rev'd Jane Hatton
Saturday 19th	9.30 am	Christian Aid Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre
Sunday 20th	10.30 am 5.30 pm	Morning Worship led by Rosie Berry and Kathy Cole KFC Service for One World Week led by KFC Team, at Trinity
Sunday 27th	10.30 am 5.30 pm	Café Worship led by Becky Amy and Team Evening Worship led by Sarah Peacock
Diary for November		
Friday 1st	3.00 pm	DVD Afternoon
Saturday 2nd	10.30 am	Knebworth Family of Churches AGM at Trinity
Sunday 3rd	10.30 am 5.30 pm	Team Worship led by Maureen Bodden Evening Worship led by Christine Warren, including Service of Holy Communion
Monday 4th	7.30 pm	"Patagonia" – a slide show presented by Colin Stringer
Sunday 10th	10.30 am 12.00 pm 5.30 pm	Remembrance Service led by Jackie Hall, including Service of Holy Communion Social Sunday Lunch Evening Worship led by Paul Burgin
<p>Meeting Point meets on Thursdays: 10.30 am. See below for venues during October Time for Prayer is held in the Vestry on Friday mornings from 9.30 – 10.00 a.m. Youth Club Meetings at Trinity during term times – Friday evenings - School years 7 – 9</p>		

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

Minister: Position vacant

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

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

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

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

I particularly like this time of the year! That which Keats so aptly described as “the time of mists and mellow fruitfulness”. The chrysanthemums and dahlias that I have so carefully cultivated since taking cuttings in the spring are now in full bloom, the tomatoes in the greenhouse are almost finished, I have harvested my main-crop potatoes and this month we have the Harvest Festival at Trinity.

Everything seems to be coming together very nicely but we must make the most of it because, to rather misquote Shelley, can winter be far behind!

Graham Fothergill

FAMILY NEWS

With deep sadness we report the death on 21st September of Marion Bennett. After a time in Lister hospital and then some rehabilitation at QVM, Marion settled happily at Monread Lodge where she spent a week with some very positive visits from family and friends, during which she expressed her faith and trust in God whatever was to be on her horizon. Much will be said in due course of Marion's life and witness but for now we hold in prayer her son Steven, daughter Margaret, granddaughter Lydia and great granddaughter Phoebe, together with her step-family and her many friends.

After several weeks in hospital Hans Meister is now at Knebworth Care Home for rehabilitation. Hans has appreciated our prayers and the visits from the chaplaincy team at Lister and from friends through church and community connections.

Through the networks of fellowship, prayer and pastoral care may we continue to support each other as God calls us to.

I am delighted to report that Jenny Wright and other family were recently able to attend Jamie's passing out from RAF Cosford. He is now very happily stationed at RAF Marham in Norfolk. Well done Jamie for achieving the dream!

Gill Hughes

THANK YOU

Kay and family wish to thank everyone at Trinity for all the prayers, cards, love and support we received after the sad loss of dear Jack. God bless you all.

Many thanks, best wishes.

Kay Loveless

THANK YOU

I am writing to say a big thank-you to everyone who came to my Accreditation Service on Sunday, 15th September. It was lovely to have you all there supporting me, just as you have from the start of my time at Trinity. Special thanks to those who took part in the service in any way, made cakes and helped serve lots of cups of tea. It was a very special occasion and one I won't forget.

Kate Dickinson

KATE'S ACCREDITATION ADDRESS

"When I first came to Trinity Church, eight or so years ago, I was a bit of a mess and I don't think anyone would have thought that I would be standing here today being accredited as a local preacher. I was dealing with my physical disabilities and a mental health condition that had very nearly cost me my life and impacted my day to day life in many ways.

Despite all my issues, I was accepted into the church family and loved for who I was. People, one of those being Marion who sadly can't be here today, saw something in me that I couldn't yet see and I was invited to be a part of team worship and then to take part in the worship leader's course. At the time, many of the terms used sounded like a foreign language, and I didn't even own a copy of Roots!

Although dealing with my anxiety was a big hurdle, I found that the feedback I was getting was encouraging and I started sensing the call to become a Local Preacher, feeling that perhaps it was something that I could do, although I could also come up with double the reasons why I wasn't up to it.

My best friend, Laura, died suddenly in 2015. She was only a few months older than me with a similar neurological condition and that made me realise that I needed to make the most of the life that I had been given.

I decided to ask for a note to preach. However, my self-esteem was still so low that I did not actually attend the meeting because I was certain that I would be turned down. Thankfully I wasn't and gradually with lots of support, I began to find my feet. I especially loved studying, and my time away at Cliff College. One of my reasons for not wanting to train as a Local Preacher was the fact that I would not cope away from home. However, this was actually one of the best parts of the course and Cliff is a place where I have made lasting friendships and had the opportunity to become much closer in my relationship with God.

I had to continuously battle with my anxiety to stand up on my rather wobbly feet and preach, but with God's help this is being overcome. I have developed my own preaching style which is quite down to earth with a bit of humour thrown in, as you can probably tell!

I have gained a lot of theological and practical knowledge but the greatest lessons I have learnt are about myself. I have learnt that, despite my difficulties, I have a lot to offer and in a way my life experiences have given me a deeper level of empathy and understanding of others, especially those on the margins.

I know now that my life does have a purpose and that God has been by my side all the time, even when I thought He was absent. I have finally come to accept myself for who I am and above all know that, despite my quirks, I am a precious child of God, loved and accepted and now a Local Preacher.

I know that this isn't the Oscars, but I would like to say a few thank-yous. There is a saying that it takes a village to raise a child; well in my case, it takes a church to raise a Local Preacher. Members of Trinity Church, including those no longer with us, have been with me from the beginning and have encouraged and supported me in so many ways and I am extremely grateful to every one of them.

Dad and Andrea have been fantastic, constantly at the end of the phone, listening to my ideas, coming to my services and giving me wardrobe advice, although that is Andrea not Dad by the way! Dad has stuck by me through the bad times and I am so glad that he and Andrea can now be part of the good times.

There are so many other people to mention, including my mentor Jennifer, my tutors Richard and Steven, fellow Local Preachers, my amazing nurses at Queen Square who keep me well enough to keep doing what I do and many, many other people. God has put the right people in my path at the right time and for that I am forever grateful.

Kate Dickinson; 15th September 2019

PARISH NEWS ARTICLE

This is the text of the Trinity article which was prepared by Jackie Hall for the October edition of the Knebworth Parish News. (*Ed.*)

I have found an oasis of calm, a steadfast anchor of prayer, a reassurance that, though times do change for both good and bad, some things remain almost the same but are not stuck in history. Let me share this non-secret.

A few years ago, I attended Friday prayers at Trinity, then work hours changed and I could no longer attend. The Prayer Group continued; life moved on as it does and, in truth, I barely gave the Prayer Group more than a passing thought. In June, I suddenly needed the vestry on a Friday morning to store things that needed keeping cool (it was the coolest room in the building). The Prayer Group was there but generously didn't mind being turfed out of their rightful home, simply relocating to another part of the Church building. I smiled my thanks and again life moved on with ups and downs. I was slightly more aware of them and glad they were still going, but that was that.

Then I had a few days off and I felt a strong need to attend the group. I put aside my to-do list and at 09.30 on Friday morning I simply turned up, hoping they wouldn't bear grudges. They didn't! We followed the usual pattern of picking up a stone at random, each inscribed with the names of churches in the Village the North Herts circuit and the North Herts group of churches. The leader said a prayer and we went to silent peaceful prayer. After a while we were invited, but not compelled, to bring forward any situation or people, we felt needed our prayers. Again, we engaged in peaceful prayers the leader finished with a prayer. We parted company to go about our daily lives. I don't fully understand what happened in that half hour, but I felt great refreshed renewed re-energised. Will I go again? Yes, as soon as work allows. Will I recommend it to others? Yes, but if you don't fancy joining why not set aside 30 minutes and simply pray as your mind is guided by God. You might find that, by truly talking to him, he answers in a way you don't expect.

Best wishes,

Jackie Hall, Trinity Elder

MISSION AND CHARITY NEWS

Christian Aid Coffee Morning, Saturday 19th October, 9.30 am to 12 noon

Join us at St Martin's Parish Centre for a drink and a chat, and the opportunity to do a bit of Christmas shopping! Pam Thompson will have a large selection of Christmas cards, Advent calendars, 2020 calendars, notecards and gift ideas on her Traidcraft stall. There will also be a cake and preserves stall, bric-a-brac stall and a raffle; donations to these stalls would be appreciated.

John Whittle

Charity of the Month: October – The Haven

As we celebrate Harvest Festival at Trinity on Sunday, 13th October, we will, as usual, be supporting the work of Stevenage Haven.

As a registered charity, the Haven has, for over 20 years, offered shelter and support for up to 40 residents (male and female). Alongside the accommodation, various therapies and counselling services are provided, helping clients to address drink and drug issues and to receive training in everyday life skills.

One former resident has written:

'I have had some major life traumas in the last two years but have been supported all the way through by staff at the Haven. The care they show is ongoing - it's a genuine desire to give people back the life they crave.'

Please refer to the suggested harvest gifts on the church notice board, noting that no soup, rice, pasta or spaghetti is needed at present.

With thanks, in anticipation.

Hilary Dyster



Commitment for Life is the world development programme of the **United Reformed Church** working in partnership with Christian Aid and Global Justice Now.

Trinity Church traditionally collects for this programme in October, and gift aid envelopes will be put out in the church. Please give as generously as you can. More information will be on the notice board in the entrance hall.

Maureen Bodden

“Link to Hope” Shoebox Appeal

At Knebworth Pre-school, we will be shortly starting our Annual Shoebox project. We have been doing this for several years now, initially in conjunction with Alan Richardson, then on our own.

We wondered if anybody would be interested in contributing to the shoeboxes and, if so, would welcome toiletries, safety razors, small toys or games or a £3 donation towards the cost. From past experience, we have found this to be a worthwhile learning for the children. We are hoping to send around 20 boxes which will join others going to Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine.

Contributions can be brought to the Pre-school at Trinity by Friday, 11th October, otherwise contact us by phone on 01438 234804 or by email at knebworthpreschool@hotmail.com.

Knebworth Pre-school

DIARY INFORMATION

Meeting Point; Thursdays, 10.30 am – 12 noon

The dates for the coming month are as follows:

Thursday, 3rd October at Hilary's (8 St Martin's Road)
Thursday, 10th October at Hilary's
Thursday, 17th October at Hilary's
Thursday, 24th October at Kate's (53 Meadway)
Thursday, 31st October at Hilary's

Hilary Dyster

KNEBWORTH FAMILY OF CHURCHES

ONE WORLD WEEK **CLIMATE CHANGES EVERYTHING** NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT

"We must all share responsibility for the future of life on Earth"
David Attenborough

WAKE UP!
DON'T DRINK
PLANT TREES
DITCH SINGLE USES

20th - 27th OCT 2019

ONE WORLD WEEK SERVICE
SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER 5.30 pm
TRINITY CHURCH, PARK LANE
Speaker Tony Shepherd from
greenchristian.org.uk
Climate Changes Everything
All welcome.

Sunday Lunches

We are holding two Sunday Lunches at Trinity, the first is on **6th October**, the other on **10th November**. Numbers will be restricted to 40; there will be no set charge but it is suggested that donations of £5.00 will be appropriate. The meal will be two courses, with tea and coffee.

I would stress this is not just for Trinity folk, but for anyone who is on their own. I will be advertising these lunches around the churches and in the Knebworth Parish News.

Kathy Cole

SOCIAL NEWS AND EVENTS

News from the Social Committee

The tea and chat afternoons continue on the first Friday of the month and the next one is on **4th October**. For further details, please contact Kate on (01438) 225399.

The Harvest Lunch will be served on **Sunday, 13th October**, following the Harvest Service.

There will be a DVD afternoon on **Friday, 1st November** at 3.00 pm. The film is "Enid" which is described as a surprising and illuminating drama about the life of the children's storyteller, Enid Blyton; it stars Helena Bonham Carter in the leading role. A further DVD afternoon will be held on **Friday, 21st February 2020**.

Colin Stringer will present a slide show about their Patagonia trip on **Monday, 4th November** at 7.30 pm. Proceeds in aid of the National Brain Appeal, a charity that has been very helpful to Kate. (See poster on Page 10)

The date of the Christmas lunch will be **Sunday, 8th December**, a week later than usual due to another hall booking.

A St George's Night celebration is planned for **Saturday, 25th April 2020**; food will be served and there will be some form of entertainment.

The next Social Committee Meeting, to plan for December onwards, is on Wednesday, 20th November at 2.30 pm at Kate's home. All are welcome, new ideas needed please!

Kathy Cole

FREE!! WHILE STOCKS LAST!!!

"Knebworth United Reformed Church; Centenary 1887 – 1987"

This booklet, which was researched and written by Stanley Whiteman, the Church Secretary at the time, contains interesting information from as far back as 1887 when the Knebworth Congregational Church was founded. It presents an essential history of our church up to 1987.

If you would like a free copy, please contact John Neilson on 01438 811223.

The Editor

KNEBORTH FAMILY OF CHURCHES

Christian Aid Coffee Morning: Saturday, 19th October, 9.30 am – 12 noon at St Martin's Parish Centre

As well as having a drink and a chat, there is the opportunity to do a bit of Christmas shopping! Pam Thompson will have a large selection of Christmas cards, Advent calendars, 2020 calendars, notecards and gift ideas on her Traidcraft stall. There will also be the usual range of Fairtrade food products.

United Service for One World Week: Sunday, 20th October, 5.30 pm at Trinity

Theme: Climate Changes Everything
Guest Speaker: Tony Shepherd from GreenChristian

Knebworth Family of Churches AGM: Saturday, 2nd November at Trinity
Refreshments from 10.00 am; AGM commences 10.45 am

This year, there will be no guest speaker, which will allow more time to review the events of the last year and consider how we move forward in the forthcoming year. If you have any thoughts or suggestions and cannot get to the meeting, please feel free to get in touch with me beforehand.

If you would like any more information, you can contact me on christine.goodwin51@btinternet.com or 01438 365918.

Christine Goodwin

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

Wednesday, 2nd October at 11.00 am
Preacher: **The Rev'd Graham Clarke**
Minister of Marshalwick Baptist Free Church

Wednesday, 6th November at 11.00 am
Preacher: **The Rev'd Gareth Garland**
Minister of High Street, Rickmansworth Baptist Church



THE CATHEDRAL AND
ABBEY CHURCH OF
SĀINT ALBĀN

The services will be followed by a fellowship lunch in the Abbots Kitchen and all are welcome

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

METHODIST NEWS

Malcolm's Message

Dear Friends,

Life is always full of changes and surprises. Of course, we know that, but we have to cope with the changes when they come. Some changes are expected, some are worked for, some just happen. Just over 13 weeks ago we became grandparents. We knew it was happening and we knew more or less when it would happen. As the time of Casper's birth (our grandson) drew near our diaries became more fluid and less fixed; for Sarah, holiday was booked for me, flexibility became the key. Casper coming into the world has changed our lives and has changed priorities - more subtly and profoundly than anticipated.

Is this season of changes, Jo received her exam results; she did well and is now preparing and readying herself to go to Swansea to read psychology. It means that Sarah and I are preparing for 'the empty nest', for the first time in 33 years we won't have a dependent child living at home. Of course we know that children come back and grandchildren make a difference. But it is a time of profound changes.

We know too that we are not alone; many, many people are living with profound changes; the impact of poor health, recent bereavement, the causes of changes are many. The challenge facing us is how to cope and manage these changes.

Change often removes us from the familiar and comfortable aspects of our lives and makes us face something new and different, often uncertain and possibly threatening; change also lead us to do new things and different things, not because we want to but because we have no choice.

In recent weeks I have been reflecting on the phrase from the book of Hebrews - "We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses". I find the image of continuity comforting and, when change comes, my faith gives an anchor that allows me to cope. I can't stop change, but my faith in God offers me continuity and certainty despite change. There is something of a paradox in the gift of faith; God is unchanging; the love of God is constant; the grace of God is ever-present. Yet we are always asked by the Spirit of God to keep our faith living and relevant. The constancy of God allows us to face the things life brings. One of the lovely images for faith is that of faith being a sheet anchor. This is an image that comes from the world of sailing and a sheet anchor when set in a storm keeps the bows of the boat facing the wind and the waves so that the storm can be ridden out safely.

Our faith in God, our traditions, the cloud of witnesses all act as the sheet anchor that allows us to live as God wants us to live. Yes, we have to face change and cope with change, but we are not driven all over and left to flounder. Our faith in God holds us and gives us the direction and purpose we need to cope; it doesn't promise always to be easy or straight forward, but it is constant and steady and leads us reliably and truthfully.

Malcolm

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



Patagonia

A land of glaciers, lakes, rivers, waterfalls and volcanoes

Monday 4 November
Prompt start at 19:30
Trinity Church, Park Lane, Knebworth

Colin and Liz Stringer will talk about their trip to Chile and Argentina earlier this year. As always the talk will be accompanied by photographs of their travels and you can expect to see many examples of the indigenous flora and fauna, including condors, pumas and myrtle trees.

Refreshments will be provided in the interval. There is no need to book and there is no charge for the event; there will be a collection at the end of the evening to raise funds for the National Brain Appeal, a charity that raises funds to advance treatment and research at The National Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery and the UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology – together known as 'Queen Square'.

The National
Brain Appeal

NEURO
MUSCULAR
HEAD INJURY
STROKE
EPILEPSY
DEMENTIA
PARKINSON
MIGRAINE
MULTIPLE
SCLEROSIS

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

E-mail gafothergill@gmail.com

Telephone 01438 813371

or drop them in at 7 Stockens Dell, Knebworth