



Trinity Quarterly

Issue No 2 June – August 2023



Diary for June		
Sunday 4 th	10.30 am	Team Worship led by Mel Mitchell
Sunday 11 th	10.30 am	Team Worship led by Maureen Bodden
Saturday 17 th	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre
Sunday 18 th	10.30 am	Open Church led by Rosie Berry
Sunday 25 th	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by Frank Needham
Diary for July		
Sunday 2 nd	10.30 am	Team Worship led by Rebecca Washington
Sunday 9 th	10.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Kate Dickinson
Saturday 15 th	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre
Sunday 16 th	10.30 am	Open Church led by Gill Hughes
Sunday 23 rd	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by Hazel Beadle
Sunday 30 th	10.30 am	No service at Trinity – joint service at Stevenage URC
Diary for August		
Sunday 6 th	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by Kate Dickinson
Sunday 13 th	10.30 am	Team Worship led by Camilla Straughn
Saturday 19 th	10.00 am	KFC Coffee Morning at St Martin's Parish Centre
Sunday 20 th	10.30 am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Val Reid
Sunday 27 th	10.30 am	Morning Worship led by Kate Dickinson
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: Position Vacant

Please contact one of the Elders or go to the church website

Church Website: www.trinitychurchknebworth.org.uk

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

Welcome to the Summer Edition of Trinity Quarterly and our thanks to those who have sent in contributions.

Contributions are welcome and we encourage our younger people to contribute too. It may be that you have attended a special occasion, begun a training or study. Perhaps you have enjoyed an event on Coronation Day. You may have a photograph, poem, a picture or a personal story that others will enjoy.

We know for some, now is busy time preparing for examinations. We remember you at this time and hope all goes well.

As our plan is to reduce the cost of producing Trinity Quarterly, we ask if you would let us know if you are happy to receive a copy electronically, or read it on the Trinity website. If we don't hear from you, you will continue to receive a paper copy.

Wishing you all a warm and wonderful summer.

Please could we have contributions for publication of the next edition no later than 7th August, though preferably well before. If possible, please send in WORD format.

Editorial Team

MEMBER NEWS

Anna Kinloch

About 10 years ago Anna Kinloch moved from Blairgowrie to spend her final years close to her nearest family. Her sister, Sheila, welcomed her into her home in Knebworth and we were privileged to include Anna as a valuable member of our fellowship in Trinity. Anna quickly made friends across all ages and regularly joined enthusiastically in worship and social activities.

She is particularly remembered for her enjoyment of the regular pub lunch outings. For a time Anna engaged in the weekly "Trinity Two Step" afternoons, combining exercise, refreshment and friendship. She was a regular too at the Monthly KFC Coffee mornings in the Parish Centre.

Anna always enjoyed time and laughter with friends, old or new, and showed real interest in the lives of us all. The curtailment of activities during the pandemic, and Anna's failing health meant that few of us spent time with her over the last couple of years.

Anna lived for the last year at Wymondley in the care home where she died peacefully on 6th March. Her nephew, Angus, led a service at Harwood Park where we were able to join Sheila and her daughter, Denise, remembering and giving thanks for her full, active and faithful life. Afterwards we shared refreshments at Trinity and were invited to give to a charity of our choice, or to give a random act of kindness in Anna's memory. What a fitting way to remember someone who lived over many decades.

Margaret Frost

Margaret moved to Welwyn Garden city recently and as she is no longer able to get to Trinity to join us in worship, she is now attending her local church, which happens to be where she got married, so although we miss her we send her our best wishes for the future.

Zena Watts

Zena has recently moved to Warwickshire to be near her daughter. We hope she will settle in there and we also send her our best wishes.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

PERSONAL HISTORY FROM KAY LOVELESS

September 3rd 1939, we were on a family holiday on the Norfolk coast in a self-catering chalet. I was 11 years old but was aware that the grownups were worried (we had grandparents with us). I went with my father to the local shop to hear Mr Chamberlain - the Prime Minister, announce over the radio (no TV in those days) that we were at war against Germany. In haste everything was packed in the car to return home to Colchester where we lived. Colchester is a garrison town so could well be bombed. The following day some family friends - including my best friends came to say good-bye as they were going to the Lake District where they had relations.

However, by the following day and many phone calls later my Mother and the four of us (I was the eldest) were also on the train to Windermere.

How exciting for us. My Father worked in the City and the Bank of England was being evacuated to Hampshire (still not a safe place!!) so would be away from home.

After an exciting and long journey, we were met and taken to a hotel in Ambleside. We later "took over" one of the boarding houses (B and B nowadays!). My Mother then had to find schools for three of us. My brother John went to the local school but they had no room for me so I and later my two younger sisters went to a private school attached to a teacher training college also in Ambleside. There we stayed until the end of the war when we returned to Colchester (which had had only a few air raids!).

I left school in 1946 as I was to start a four-year training course as a nurse at University College Hospital. A really happy and busy time. This was followed by a year doing midwifery - partly in Cornwall - then a return to UCH as a ward sister. I met my future husband there. He subsequently had a research job in Stevenage where we lived until Judith arrived. We moved to Welwyn where we had, in due course, David and Wendy, and lived in the same house for over fifty years before moving to Knebworth. Jack died three years ago and I am wonderfully supported by David who lives locally, Judith in Leicestershire and Wendy in south Wales and five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. I am very blessed.

Kay Loveless

THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF LOVE

There is a song, from the musical '**Aspects of Love**', in which we are told that '**Love changes everything, how we live and how we die**'. Back in March, this year, there was an item in the Sunday Programme on Radio 4, which seems to support that. It was about the film '**Stranger at the Gate**', which was up for an Oscar.

It tells the remarkable story of, a former US Marine, Richard Mac McKechnie, who planned to detonate an ID outside an Islamic Centre on a Friday afternoon, hoping to kill at least 200 or more Muslims. To that end he began visiting the centre, raising the suspicions of many of its members. Soon the rumour went around concerning Richard's plan, so one of the Centre's leaders a lady, named Beebe, invited him, along with other members of the Centre, to a meal at her house. At the meal she challenged him about the rumour, and he confessed it was true. Beebe was impressed by his honesty, and she and the community accepted him and offered him friendship, care and support, even going to far as to making him responsible for some of the work of the Centre.

Later, he converted to Islam, though this actually made some Centre members more scared that he was simply infiltrating the group to carry out an even more devastating attack. However, Beebe mentored him and he ended up as President of the Islamic Centre! What a change from bomber to President! Could our church offer that kind of loving embrace to the outsider and transform them to insiders?

One of my favourite texts from the New Testament is found in the 1st Epistle of John Chapter 4 verse 7: '**God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him**'. That makes the message of the Gospel - as wide as the ocean and deep as the deepest sea. Wherever love is found there the Spirit of God is found, by love is not meant simply Eros-love between humans, which can so easily be selfish love. This love has been compared to a vacuum cleaner sucking

in seeking a full bag! True divine love (agape) is likened to a spring or fountain giving out of its deep-down fullness.

Let us with Graham Kendrick in his song 'Beauty for Brokenness' call for God's Spirit to '**come change our love from a spark to a flame**'.

John Whittle

SUNRISE OF WONDER



“At the back of our brains there is a forgotten blaze or burst of astonishment at our own existence. The object of the artistic and spiritual life is to dig for this submerged sunrise of wonder.”

Words by G.K. Chesterton

Autobiography 1934

Photo Sandra 2023

GOOD FRIDAY



On Good Friday at Trinity, we attended a solemn service led by Sandra in which we reflected on Jesus' death on the cross and His betrayal by one of His own. This was followed by the Good Friday Walk of Witness around Churches in Knebworth carrying the cross.

Camilla

GOOD FRIDAY METHODIST CIRCUIT WALK



This year the Circuit Good Friday walk was around Letchworth with Central Methodist church as the start and finish and Norton our middle point for refreshments. Joining Jackie and Steve as Trinity representatives we bring our family group, which seems to grow every year and this year we walked with Adam's sister, brothers and some of their partners, his aunt, step mum and one of Stephen's friends. The trophy we are holding is called the Encouragement Cup, which we were given as a big family group (not just for the five of us). The sun shone brightly, not a single moan was heard as we walked together in fellowship, laughter and conversation, joining friends from the Circuit that we only see a handful of times a year. It is always an enjoyable walk and thoroughly rewarding time together. Thank you so much for those who have sponsored us and offered words of encouragement.

Mel



On Good Friday, after excellent Good Friday services, we joined the Trinity Walk of Witness in Knebworth and enjoyed a quick hot cross bun for strength. The Hall's and the Mitchell's families then gathered at Christchurch, Letchworth and became the "Trinity Walkers" (see photo). This merry band set out with others on a lovely sunny but slightly chilly Good Friday afternoon walking up hill (several) down dale along footpaths, some very muddy, past ponds, over bridges along part of the Letchworth Greenway and somehow ended up where we were supposed to at Norton Church, which was 6.9 km from where we started. With the chance to pause, relieve, rest and refresh which meant the kettle was on, tea brewing and the bikkies were open, yay! By that time, we had completed instructions A to Y then turn over and start at instruction A finish at Z the way back was 7.2 km. But we ended back at Christchurch without too many wrong turns to a lovely cup of tea. Sandwiches cakes crisps and fruit were all spread before us. What did the Trinity walkers choose? My lips are sealed, but if we had a tiny sliver of cake who could blame us as it would have been a shame to waste folks' hard work on providing it all, and the crisp and Kit-Kat wrappers were recycled. Oops. The Trinity walkers didn't just have a lovely walk they raised £400 for the 2 charities which this year were Herts Young Homeless and All We Can, and would like to thank all of the generous folk who sponsored us.

Jackie

EASTER SUNDAY AT TRINITY



The day began with an 8 o'clock service led by Jackie Hall, who along with her son Steven provided an excellent Easter breakfast.

Our 10.30 am service led by Kate Dickinson who encouraged the congregation to bring life to the cross with flowers.

Some flowers from Anna Kinloch's funeral also helped with this request.

Tricia

RAINBOWS



Rainbow Photo by Tony Rudkin

Many of you know how special rainbows are to me. I attended a weekend at High Leigh and our theme was “Colours of the rainbow”. It was at times a hard call, but our leader had put so much feeling into exploring the Bible through the different colours and we were truly blessed. After the retreat I found these words to a familiar hymn. I wonder if you can guess what it is? Below I share the words with you. You can either choose to sing it (why not) or use it as a prayer for yourself or others you know who are in need of some HOPE

God sent a rainbow after the rain
Colours of hope, gleaming through pain
Bright arcs of red and indigo light,
Making creation hopeful and bright

Colours of hope, dance in the sun
While it yet rains, the hope has begun;
Colours of hope, shine through the rain
Colours of love, nothing is vain.

When we are lonely, when we're afraid
Though it seems dark, rainbows are made
Even when life itself has to end
God is our rainbow, God is our Friend.

Where people suffer pain or despair
God can be seen in all those who care;
Even when war and hatred abound,
Rainbows of hope are still to be found.

People themselves, like rainbow are made,
Colours of hope in us displayed;
Old ones and young ones, women and men
All can be part of love's great AMEN!

Wherever you find yourself, hold on to the fact,
that you are never alone.

God bless

And special thanks to all those who are putting this newsletter together and for all the outreach Trinity friends are committed to. Perhaps we do not acknowledge this enough, But God knows you... and we are truly blessed through your works in His Name. AMEN
Sandra

PARISH NEWS ARTICLE

This is the text of the Trinity article which was prepared by Becky Washington for the June edition of the Knebworth Parish News. (*Ed.*)

TIME

Recently, time seems to be in short supply. Speaking with a member of my darts team, she remarked that since the pandemic there doesn't seem to be time to do anything, and I had to agree, spare time seems to be in short supply. However, there are still 24 hours in the day and 7 days a week; so what has occurred? Maybe we have just taken on more. If we read Ecclesiastes 3: v 1 to 8, we are reminded that there is a time for everything.

A Time for Everything

- 1 There is a time for everything,
And a season for every activity under the heavens
- 2 a time to be born and a time to die,
A time to plant and a time to uproot,
- 3 a time to kill and a time to heal,
A time to tear down and a time to build,
- 4 a time to weep and a time to laugh,
A time to mourn and a time to dance,
- 5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
A time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
- 6 a time to search and a time to give up,
A time to keep and a time to throw away,
- 7 a time to tear and a time to mend,
A time to be silent and a time to speak,
- 8 a time to love and a time to hate,
A time for war and a time for peace.

This reading was shared at my father-in-law's cremation and I am aware that it is used a lot at funerals, but I had chosen it for my mother-in-law's funeral two years ago and we decided to use it once more. I had people say afterwards how it made them think that maybe they should take time, time to remember those who have passed, and time to be with those still with us. You have taken time to read this, and I hope you find time to do what you have to do. But don't forget to take time for yourself and make time for prayer, reflection and rest.

Rebecca Washington

TRINITY SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

LEADERSHIP AWAY DAY

At the beginning of March, some of those who have a leadership role at Trinity came together for a few hours. We had a time of prayer, singing and reflection followed by a Bible session in groups looking at passages where Jesus shows himself as our servant - Mark 10, v35-45, John 13, v1-17 and Matthew 16, v13-24. We shared in a time of fellowship over lunch, discussing some of what was said in the groups. Before our closing worship we watched a TED talk

(https://www.ted.com/talks/simon_sinek_why_good_leaders_make_you_feel_safe/comments), looked at effective leaders in the Bible, in the world and the best leader of all - Jesus. We heard how we can be encouraged by His example and the things we are already doing well in His name.

We were so moved by what God seemed to say to us throughout the day that we want to hold a church away day. Please book Saturday 4th of November in your diaries for a time of fellowship and encouragement as we continue to grow in faith together as a church.

Mel

BIBLE FOR ALL SESSIONS

Since January we have met together after a service once a month to look at a Bible passage. Each session has been led by a different person who chooses a few verses. We look at some questions and those who feel moved to, share their thoughts. It is an extremely worthwhile activity and I have been really enthused by what is said each time and always look forward to the next. There is no prior knowledge of the Bible needed and no need to speak if we don't wish to. So far we have shared in a short lunch before the discussions begin. I would encourage anyone who is even just a little curious to come and join us. Thank you to those who have come so far.

Mel.

MISSION AND CHARITY NEWS

The charities of the month at Trinity for June to August are as follows:

JUNE - The Garden House Hospice in Letchworth



providing free specialist palliative care for patients, families and carers facing life limiting illnesses from across North Hertfordshire, Stevenage and wider area, a population of around 230,000 people.

01462 679540 www.ghhospicecare.org.uk/support-us/donate

JULY - The anniversary offering this year will be used to build up a **Disaster Response Fund** which Trinity will hold in reserve so that we can respond to any major disaster appeal.

The anniversary service will be on the 23rd July. The Eden Consort is staging a recital in the afternoon of the Saturday, 22nd July to thank Trinity for their use of the church to rehearse. Refreshments will be provided.

AUGUST – Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders UK)

MSF is an international, medical and humanitarian organisation working in more than 70 countries around the world. Their medical teams work fast to save people's lives in conflict zones, natural disasters and epidemics. They go where they are needed most.

Go to their website to see the work they do - <https://msf.org.uk/home>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Full details to be sent nearer the time

*Saturday 22nd July:
Eden Consort 10th Anniversary Concert*

*Sunday 23rd July:
Church Family Barbeque*

*Saturday 5th August:
Crafts, games and cream tea*

*Saturday 9th September:
Open Church*

*Saturday 23rd September:
Quiz night*

*Saturday 2nd December:
Table top sale*

KNEBORTH FAMILY OF CHURCHES, INCORPORATING CHRISTIAN AID



KFC Coffee Morning, Saturday 17th June, 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. You will also be able to purchase Fair Trade products, including some which are suitable for vegetarians and for vegans. Come along and have a look what is available. Every month, the money raised at the Coffee Morning is donated to charities, both local and further afield; this month it is Action for Children who will benefit from the event.

Good Friday KFC Walk of Witness

Members from the KFC churches gathered outside Trinity at 11am for the start of the KFC Walk of Witness through the village, with a prayer, reading and hymn at each stop, and a wooden cross carried at the front of the procession. The event was very well attended, with stops at Lowe House, St. Martin's Green, and the final stop at St. Thomas More, followed by refreshments and a chance to socialise in their church hall.

Christian Aid Week; 14th – 20th May

Just prior to the start of Christian Aid Week, an envelope was delivered to every household in the village. On the envelope was a note asking you to return it - with your donation, of course - to the collection points in the Co-op or the Post Office. Alternatively, you were able to donate online at <https://bit.ly/KnebworthCA23>. When the monies have been totalled up, we shall be able to let you know how much was collected for this worthy cause.

The Service for Christian Aid Week held at St Thomas More Catholic Church on Sunday, 14th May was a well-attended and inspiring event. In addition to prayers, hymns and Bible readings, there were musical items from the Eden Consort but especially we heard from Lucy Hamilton about the important work, supported by Christian Aid that is going on in Malawi and other parts of Africa.

Holiday at Home 2023 – Save the Date!

We are very pleased to announce that, after last year's very successful event, the Reverend Karen Turner will be organising another "Holiday at Home". The date is Friday, 18th August, the venue is St Martin's Parish Hall.

Watch this space for further details!

Graham Fothergill
Secretary: The Knebworth Family of Churches

URC's 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



On Saturday, 15th April, about 1,200 people joined together at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster for the postponed 50th Anniversary Service of the formation of the United Reformed Church. It was a joyous occasion with folk from the Synod taking an active part in the service and by volunteering. The service can be viewed here [50th Anniversary Service](#). The Moderator placed a candle for Thames North Synod on a map of the UK and received a candle at the end of the service to process out with and take back to the Synod. The service was preceded by Open House at Church House with Lumen open with additional displays and refreshments. There was an optional walking tour between Church House and Methodist Central Hall. If you weren't in London or able to do the walk, here is the [virtual walk](#).

Several members of Trinity Church attended and sent this report:

Camilla, Becky, Stephen, Mel and Sophie headed to Church House and then on to Methodist Central Hall, Westminster to join hundreds of others to celebrate the URC's 50th Anniversary. Church House was filled with information about the URC - youth, outdoor church and other fresh expressions, the discipleship programme Stepwise etc. There was a display of the history of the URC's contributions to social justice, environmental care and peace and lots of opportunities to ask questions and chat. At Central Hall we had a service with uplifting music with a large choir, sermons, contributions of poems, prayers and stories. It was a great way to celebrate 50 years.

Mel, Stephen and Sophie.

THE CORONATION



Steve, resident in New Close, pictured here with his grandson, organised a street party for the Coronation Celebration.



The United Reformed Church issued the following statement on the occasion of the Coronation on 6th May.

At the heart of the Coronation is a service where the King will be anointed in a rite going back to the earliest days of the English monarchy. The Church of England, as the established *English* Church, has the honour, and burden, of presiding – with other denominations, and religious traditions, getting cameo parts.

In a typically British piece of ritual, much pomp and ceremony will take place to anoint and crown someone to a purely symbolic office with no real independent power. Such authority that the King has can only be exercised with the advice, and consent, of the government. Such guidance and advice that the King may give to ministers is necessarily private and, of course, can easily be ignored.

The URC stands in a tradition of British Christianity which was, at best, rather ambivalent about the monarchy. Our spiritual ancestors welcomed the Commonwealth in the Civil War era and argued, after all, for the execution of Charles I! Passages in the Old Testament which showed God warning against the Jewish people establishing a monarchy were used as guidance in the Civil War era and the identification of the monarchy with the Church of England added another layer of complexity to our history.

Thankfully, the turmoil of those years is long behind us and, in a much more secular age, differences between Christian denominations are less acute. The URC, and its antecedents, were – and are – eager to play a key part in the civic life of our nations; each year we continue a long tradition of sending an Address To The Throne from our General Assembly where we comment on the issues of the day, presumably in the hope that His Majesty will send those comments on to various government departments.

In our contemporary society, and certainly within our congregations, there are a variety of views on the monarchy, yet we can unite in wishing Their Majesties, The King and Queen well today. We pray that they will feel God's presence as they are anointed and throughout His Majesty's reign. We hope that they will use their office well and use their voices at the centre for those on the margins of our bitterly divided society. We pray that His Majesty, The King reminds us of the importance of spirituality and religion in the lives of our nations. Above all, the URC commends their Majesties, The King and Queen, to God's care and protection.

[This item has been reprinted from the May 2023 issue of the URC News (Ed)]

METHODIST NEWS FROM THE METHODIST CHURCH WEBSITE

Representing the Methodist Church at the Coronation

By the Rev. Graham Thompson, President of the Methodist Conference

It was an amazing privilege to represent the Methodist Church at the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla. The arrangements for the day were kept from public attention for as long as possible.

My invitation came about three weeks beforehand and the requirement to attend a full dress rehearsal about a week later. All of which meant that plans had to be changed and I am grateful to those (especially the Methodist Diaconal Order) who accommodated these.

The Faith Leaders who were invited to attend the Coronation were led into the Abbey just after 10 a.m. and seated in the North Transept behind the pulpit. We couldn't see all that was happening but had the benefit of television screens that we could watch but we could hear everything. The music was incredible; chest pounding and moving.

The overall message - I have come not to be served but to serve - was clearly enunciated from the beginning of the service and reinforced throughout, including a reference by Prince William in his speech at the Coronation Concert the next day.

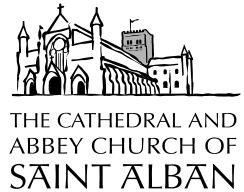
The call to service; to live for the benefit of others, is a call that we should all recognise. After all, we are disciples of the Servant King and discover how much we can receive as we give ourselves to meet the needs of others.



Hugely significant were the number of departures from the Coronation of seventy years ago. On Saturday, ecumenical partners took part (including Helen Cameron as Moderator of the Free Churches Group) as they invoked a corporate blessing on the King.

**You are invited to attend the
Free Church Services in the Lady Chapel
on the first Wednesday of each month at 11am**

**Wednesday 7th JUNE THE REVEREND IAN GREEN,
Minister, Amersham Free Church**



For July and August services, see the website or contact the
Free Church Ecumenical Chaplain: Reverend Simon Carver

Email: simoncarver@btinternet.com www.stalbanscathedral.org

BIKE AND HIKE EVENT

On September 9th, the area's Bike and Hike event will take place. Cyclists call at churches to get their cards signed. I would like to have an open church that day, with prayer stations around the building. There will be a light lunch on offer. Tea and coffee will be available all day, with the church open from 9.00 am until 5.00 pm. If you feel you could come and support me as we need two people in the building at all times for safeguarding, then I would be very grateful; if all you can spare is an hour - that's fantastic. If you can provide a prayer station/display, I would be grateful if you could contact me as soon as possible so I can work on spaces needed.

Thank you.

Becky Washington

***Please send items for the September issue of Trinity Quarterly
to a member of the Editorial Team by Monday, 7th August:***

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Tricia Easdale: peasdale@aol.com

Camilla Straughn: camillastraughn@yahoo.co.uk

Rosemary Rudkin

The Eden Consort

presents a

Café Concert

with Andrew Lewis, organ and keyboard

as part of the celebrations for the

Anniversary weekend of

Trinity Church, Knebworth

Saturday, 22nd July 2023 at

Trinity Church, Park Lane, SG3 6PD

Doors open at 3.30 pm - music from 4 pm.

Entrance and refreshments are free - contributions will be welcome with all proceeds shared between Trinity Disaster Response and general church funds.



Singing together for 10 years

www.edenconsort.org