

Trumpeter



What's happening at Trinity

October 2019

Contacts at Trinity

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From The Manse

'It is not a holiday' was what I first heard from the sabbatical guide. And it did not take too long to realize that it was right. I traveled to 4 countries and over 25 cities during the three months of my sabbatical. I'm not complaining about it at all, it was a great time to think and learn again about my life and ministry, and I believe it was a great time for my family as well.

While I traveled around the countries and cities, I inevitably visited many churches - like an occupational disease. From beautiful and colossal Cathedral Notre Dame de Strasbourg to a tiny church on the top of the mountain Matterhorn in Switzerland and to many churches in South Korea.

What grasped my mind in Switzerland was not just the beautiful sceneries but the churches in the towns. I could see a church or churches even in tiny little villages. And I found out the reason: 60% of the population were Christians. This means at least half of the people in the village are coming to church. But it was more than 70% a few years ago. Sadly, the population of Christians has been rapidly declining in Switzerland recently. I did not have the chance to discuss it with local ministers or even local Christians, but a similar thing has been happening in South Korea.

The number of Christians in the population used be growing but now it's declining. Most of the pastors and Christians are worrying about it in South Korea, and I had a chance to discuss it with them a few times while I was there.

Furthermore, I preached almost every Sunday and sometimes on Wednesdays and Fridays. I thought that it would be great if I had the chance to share my experiences of ministry in this country, and God gave me much more than I had hoped for. And it reminded me about my calling and what he has done in my ministry and my life.

It was wonderful time of refreshing and it gave me some questions about my ministry to think about. And now it is the time to find out the answer.

Where are they now? By Robin Gurney

It's just a year since Ruth and I left Leighton Buzzard, my home town and Trinity, our much loved church. And it was my old friend Colin Dimmock who rang up and suggested I contribute this column.

As many of you know our move to Witney was quite a wrench. I was born in LB and some in the Trinity congregation were my Sunday School companions some 70 years ago. The move was precipitated by a bout of health issues and the desire of our daughters that we move closer to them. We are now both doing pretty well considering our ages.

We were fortunate in finding a lovely apartment on the ground floor - no stairs to fall down - in a small development just off Witney High Street, five minutes walk from both the supermarket and our new church. High Street Methodist Church is a bit bigger than Trinity with very extensive premises that I have not yet explored fully. Hence, there is much going on both from the church point of view and many different groups hiring during the week, including the Quakers. The church is blessed with a historic three manual pipe organ and I believe six competent organists of a professional standard. We also have a bevy of retired ministers around - Witney is an attractive place to retire. Just a few days ago we welcomed our new minister - direct from college - and his wife. They have quite a task as our outgoing minister was loved by all - can't say that about all ministers.

I have now preached in six of the 12 churches in the Circuit, so gradually getting to know the feel of rural West Oxfordshire. The village churches are much like those around LB, with a few faithful worshippers and often an outreach into the local community.

Ruth is involved in the bi-weekly ladies meeting and I have spoken in two such meetings. I have also been recruited as one of the God Slot speakers for our Boys' Brigade. (how about that Ken!).

Naturally I'm still writing and editing. Writing for our church newsletter and writing and editing for the British Region of the International Ecumenical Fellowship. After a recent visit to Geneva I was invited to write an article for the World Council of Churches blog. Must begin to think about another article for that.

Is there anything we miss? Yes, we are not so close to relatives and friends we have known for years and I must mention the Tuesday morning shoppers' service. It was always good to be among that fellowship. But things move on and we are making new friends but can't invent relatives.

We have been delighted to welcome some Trinity friends to our new home and to be in contact with others by phone and email. More would be welcome - just give us a buzz!

All is safely gathered in by Kathy Keeley

October is the beginning of the winter months. Traditionally September and October were times when we celebrate harvest times as all the crops are safely gathered in. These days with processed food available all year round, climate controlled environments and different seeding varieties we sometimes forget this.

Availability of this food to people who need it is a constant challenge: We have shops open all hours and food banks but you still need resources to access it, prepare it and knowledge or help to do it. What is true for the body is also true for mind and soul. We often need others to prepare it for us and get the resources together. The Bible is part of this process.

October is also a month when some celebrate Hallowe'en when ghostly figures and demons go around trick or treating. Many frown on this opportunity to be ugly as it is too frightening, particularly for young children who tend not to like people in disguise. Yet often we use people who are more attractive in word, deed or physical appearance to represent us as we feel they will be listened to.

1 Peter 3:4 tells us your beauty should consist of your "true inner self." This may be "ugly if we are angry, confused, depressed or sad. In appealing to those seeking to be a loyal soldier of Jesus Christ 2 Timothy 2:7 says, "The Lord will enable you to understand it all." This may take time and we need patience. Genesis 8:22 says, "As long as the world exists there will be a time for planting and a time for harvest. There will always be cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night." This is true of our thoughts and emotions as well as our food.

Toilet Twinning

A few months ago our 'Soup & A Roll' Lunch raised £300, enough money to provide 5 toilets in deprived parts of the world.

For the observant among us you will see that there are now posters in 5 of our toilets stating where in the world that toilet is twinned.

For those who never enter the toilets here is a list of where they are twinned with.

- Kabaya, North Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Sindh District, Pakistan
- Bulaula, Rumphi District, Malawi
- Choma, Southern Province, Zambia
- NamDin, Ptao, Kachin State, Myanmar

Thank you for your support in enabling these areas to have sanitation brought to their villages. If you wish to know more about Toilet Twinning please get in touch with Catherine Roots.

Recycling at Trinity

At Trinity you can recycle

- Low energy light bulbs (box near the Hall door)
- Stamps (box in the anteroom)
- Crisp packets (box in the anteroom)
- Paper and card (bins in the anteroom, kitchen and hall)
- Foreign coins (collection can in the anteroom)

Cakes wanted:

It's almost Messy Church time again - Wednesday 23rd October. If you can bake (or fake) a cake for Messy Church, please will you let me know by Sunday 20th October (even if you don't bring it until the day!)

Thanks, Tasha

Sunday Services during October

Date & Service	Led by	Steward
<u>6th October – Harvest</u>		
9.15am – Early Church	Graham & Jane Seaton	Catherine Roots
10.30am – Morning Worship with Parade	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Anne Gray
6.00pm – Evening Worship	Roger Owers	Donald Wray
<u>13th October – Preaching Series week 1</u>		
9.15am – Early Church	Ben & Tasha Williams	Marina Mele
10.30am – Morning Worship with Holy Communion	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Charles Horsefield
7.00pm Sunday Night Live	At Beech Hill	
<u>20th October – Preaching Series week 2</u>		
8.30am – Early Communion	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Anne Gray
9.15am – Early Church – Café Style	Jane & Graham Seaton	Alison Arnold
10.30am – Morning Worship	Rev. Wallace Edwards	Chris Lowe
6.00pm – Evening Worship	Colin Quine	Charles Horsefield

<u>27th October—Preaching Series week 3</u>		
9.15am—Early Church	Steven & Karen Purton	Catherine Roots
10.30am—Morning Worship	Peter Baker	Jacqui Donaghy
6.00pm—Evening Worship	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Donald Wray

Door Stewards at 10.30am Morning Worship	
6th October	Van Howard & Mary Eagleton
13th October	Mary Eagleton & Kathy Keeley
20th October	Irene Hyde
27th October	Irene Hyde

Coffee Team	
6th October	Kathy Keeley, Marina Mele & Tony Oldroyd
13th October	Janet Curzon, Heather Watkins & Joan Gregory
20th October	Tim & Elizabeth Hitchcock & Chris Bosworth
27th October	Charles & Sue Horsefield & Mary Eagleton

Flowers	
6th October	Harvest—provided by the Flower Fund and donations
13th October	T.B.A.
20th October	Mrs Barbara Dickens—In loving memory of a dear husband and son.
27th October	Flower Fund.

Tuesday Morning Service (10am) will be led by:	
1st October	Elisabeth Bibbings
8th October	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung (with Holy Communion)
15th October	Rev. Wallace Edwards
22nd October	Geoff Best
29th October	Roger Owers

Coming up at Trinity and in the South Bedfordshire Circuit

Please see posters in the hallway or see the Trinity website for more details. Alternatively contact the Church Office.

Sat 5th October, 7pm	High Town Methodist Church	Harvest Quiz Night with Fish & Chip Supper. Please see poster for details.
Sat 5th October, 7.30pm	Trinity	Oxjam concert (please see page 10 for more details)
Sun 6th October, 3.30pm	Christchurch, Hitchin	Awesome Bubble Praise Party. Please see poster for details.
Mon 7th October, 8pm	Trinity	Lammas Walk House Group
Sat 12th October, 9am	Starting at Cedars Upper School	Let's take a walk: Leighton Linslade Homeless Service Harvest Walk. Please see poster for details.
Sat 12th October, 9.30am	Toddington Methodist Church	Safeguarding Refresher Course. Please contact Margaret Pateman (01525 873555) to book.

Tues 15th October, 7.30pm	Trinity	Trinity Church Council (reports to Elizabeth Hitchcock by Thurs 10th October)
Wed 16th October, Noon	Trinity	November Trumpeter Deadline
Wed 16th October, 2pm	Trinity	Edwards' House Group
Sat 19th October, 7pm	The Square Methodist Church	The Circuit Quiz. Please see poster for booking details.
Mon 21st October, 8pm	Trinity	Lammas Walk House Group
Wed 23rd October 2.30-4.30pm	Trinity	Messy Church— God's Armour of Light
Wed 23rd October, 6.30pm	Central Methodist Hall, Westminster	Inaugural Walter Hall Lecture by The Rt Hon Lord David Willetts. Please see poster for details.
Tues 29th October, 10am-3pm	St Paul's, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB21JP	Worship and Engagement in Later Life course by MHA. Please see poster for details.
Fri 1st November, 9.30am- 4.30pm	High Street Methodist Church, Harpenden	Drug Training for Youth Leaders. Please see poster for details.

Early Church Corner

We will start the month with a Harvest celebration and then join with the wider church family at Trinity in following a preaching series on the book of Colossians throughout the rest of October and early November. We will still follow our pattern of Breakouts and Café Style. If you would like to be more involved with Early Church do have a chat with one of the Early Church Leadership Team.



Coming up at Early Church:

6th October—Jesus on How to Pray

13th October—Colossians 1: The Person of Christ

20th October—Colossians 2: Rooted in Christ

27th October—Colossians 3: Old Self versus New Self

Oxjam 2019 Concert

Milton Keynes Rock Chorus with 'Time Warp', The EC Band and the Jung Family.

An eclectic evening of popular music.

Saturday 5th October at 7.30pm.

Free Entry, refreshments and donations in aid of Oxjam 2019.

Started in September 2009, the Milton Keynes choir is run by acclaimed singer/songwriter, Lauren Field. They have regularly appeared at sold out events at The Venue and Stantonbury Theatre as well as making national TV and Radio appearances.

All We Can Harvest Appeal (AKA The Methodist Relief and Development Fund)

All We Can / the Methodist Relief and Development Fund is appealing for donations to help raise funds to grow "Super Spuds" to fight hunger and ensure good harvests in Ethiopia.

For more information visit allwecan.org.uk/harvest.

Encircled in Care Course

3 Foundation Sessions for Class Leaders, Pastoral Visitors, Friends etc. Sep 18—Why we care; Oct 2— Basic Skills; Oct 16—Good Practice; Oct 30—One focused session – Bereavement. All sessions 10.00 to noon at Harlington. Please let Rev Jenny Spouge know asap if you intend to go. 01582 659036 jenny.spouge@methodist.org

Weekly activities

For contact details please see the Church Directory or contact the Church Office (01525 371905 or tttprojectoffice@gmail.com)

Badminton	Monday 8-10pm	Jan Cornfoot
Trinity Toddlers	Tuesday & Friday 9.45-11.15am (Term time only)	Karen Purton
Trinity Fellowship Circle	Tuesday 7.30-9pm	Marilyn Powell
Beavers	Thursday	Richard Bates
Cubs	Tuesday	
Scouts	Thursday	
Drop-in for the homeless	Wednesday	Charles Horsefield
Sewing Circle/ Games Afternoons	Alternate Thursday 2-4pm	Sandra Digby
Girls' Brigade	Friday 6-9.30pm	Marilyn Powell
Prayers	Saturday 9-10am	Joan Gregory

Prayer Diary for October

helping us focus on the needs of our Church and community.

Lord, let us remember that there is no fruit from the orchard
without the bee,
No roaming herds unless first a billion blades of grass grow,
That the big depend on the tiny and the tiny on the microscopic,
Lord, the secret of life is in your hands and so we bow at the feet
of the architect of the ecosystem,
And recognise that the breathe of life within us all is yours.

© 2019 Paul Wardle: "Responding to the Gospel" Prayer
Handbook by The Methodist Church

Please pray for:

- Those of our congregation whose name begins with R/S
- Worship Leaders at Trinity in June (see pages 6-8)
- Events at Trinity and around the circuit (see pages 8-9)

Teams at Trinity – in particular:

- Trinity Fellowship Circle led by Marilyn Powell

Our local neighbourhood:

- Oak Bank
- High Street and local shops

Pray to God for the world around us:

- As the harvests are gathered in
- As we enter a period of uncertainty over Brexit and its realistic implications on the people of our nation