

# Trumpeter



## What's happening at Trinity March 2020

### Contacts at Trinity

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## From the Manse

During the early days of trains, a flagman would take his place in the middle of the street - stopping all traffic as a train approached. During the day he would hold up a STOP sign. At night he would wave a lantern. There is an old story about a flagman and his lantern that goes like this.

There was an accident one dark night at a railroad crossing. A lawsuit followed, and during the proceedings the flagman was called to take the witness stand. The prosecuting attorney asked the usual questions. Then followed an important one. He asked, "On the night of the accident, when you saw the car approaching, did you wave the lantern?" The flagman answered, "Yes, I waved the lantern." The attorney for the prosecution continued with other questions, but before long he came to the same one, "Did you wave that lantern?" "Yes," answered the flagman, "I did wave the lantern." The case seemed to hinge on this bit of testimony. The prosecutor realized it, and so once more he thundered, "I ask you again, when you saw the car approaching the crossing, did you wave the lantern?" Once again, the flagman answered, "I did. Yes, I waved the lantern." The railroad company won the case. No damages were allowed. Later, the defense attorney was talking to the flagman. He said, "The prosecuting attorney really had me worried when he kept asking, 'Did you wave the lantern? Did you wave the lantern?'" "Well", said the flagman, "What worried me was that he might ask, 'Was the lantern lit?'"

It was adapted from Letters, Volume 1 by Cecil H. Skibbe.

There is so much waving of dead lanterns. What about ours? The purpose of lanterns and lamps is to give light - to shine, not to wave. We work hard for the kingdom of God in various ways but if we are not shining the light, it would not be as effective as we expect it to be.

Rather, we are more like reflectors which do not have light in themselves. We are to reflect the light of God's Son, Jesus. Yet, Jesus calls us "lights." "You are the light of the world". Matt. 5:14, He says. And as such we are to shine. An unlit lantern is not serving its purpose.

I'm not saying that we are not shining as the light of our community, but I'm thinking of how we can reflect **the light** more effectively in the new year 2020!!!. I think there is only one way to find it: come closer and listen to Him whom we have to reflect.

And as we are approaching lent and Easter, I'd like to suggest that we have an Easter prayer chain from Monday through to the Good Friday service asking every church member and adherent to sign up and pray for 30 min slots including throughout the night.

The chart of the prayer chain will be displayed a few weeks before Holy week to ask sign in. Please pray for it and take an opportunity to pray together for our church, for our community.

## **Praying with Christians in Southern Africa and Britain**

We give thanks for all who carry out your work in the challenging economic and political situation in Zimbabwe and for the aid organizations that continue to support poor communities. We pray for a new generation of politicians who will prioritise programmes that uplift the poor; for job creation in a country where millions of school leavers have never been employed. For the Church in Africa, may it be a champion for peace and justice in a continent ravaged by conflict and misrule.

By Jimmy Dube, General Secretary Methodist Church in Zimbabwe.

From: Responding to the Gospel Prayer Handbook 2019/2020

## Day of Prayer by Kathy Keeley

This is the month for the World Wide Day of Prayer, sometimes known as the Women's Day of Prayer. A group of people changed the name as they felt it wasn't just women who pray and the contributions of others should be recognised. However the message did not get through to the diary makers and many have the Women's Day of Prayer listed to take place in March.

How often this happens in life. Messages get confused, distorted, misinterpreted or forgotten, sometimes deliberately, other times accidentally. Sometimes we do not have the ability, time or resources to get our message across. Sometimes people just don't listen or aren't there to pick it up and others don't feel it is important.

With all the different resources at our disposal often important messages get overlooked, particularly if people are busy or have too many demands on them.

Colossians 4:2 says, "Be persistent in prayer, and keep alert as you pray giving thanks to God."

Frustrated in waiting, Psalms 6:3 says, "How long O Lord will you wait to help me?"

Sometimes it takes time to get resources together, particularly when there is trouble or confusion. Often it is people from other cultural backgrounds who assist us at these times, like Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well.

This is why John 3:16 says, "God loved the world so much that he gave his only son so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

## Early Church Corner

Early Church will be using the Lenten Liturgy as used in Morning Worship, along with it's own cross and objects. We are now getting used to the new AV system and using the new software for projecting songs and Powerpoints. If anyone is able and would like to learn more about setting up and packing down at Early Church, please come and speak to one of the team. The service leaders will always appreciate help setting out chairs and equipment so they can focus on preparing to lead the congregation in worship. There is also more help needed with Coffee& so, again, please do come and speak to a member of the team.



### Coming up at Early Church:

- 1st March—Parade Service— Temptation and saying no!
- 8th March—Jesus's teaching on being born again
- 15th March—Jesus is the Water of Life
- 22nd March—Mothering Sunday—Simeon and Mary
- 29th March—Lazarus's death

## Retiring Collection on Sunday 8th March—Leighton Linslade Homeless Service

LLHS aims to provide a safe shelter to people needing emergency night time accommodation. That's where the journey begins towards building a new future.

We also offer help and support for the problems surrounding individuals' homelessness, so they can secure a permanent home.

Leighton Linslade Homeless Service was established in 2006 by a group of volunteers as a pilot exercise based out of 2 portacabins in the grounds of Hockliffe Baptist Church which helped them identify that there was a need in the local area. Volunteers from the community and local churches worked together to ensure the provision of emergency shelter for those who were facing the devastating experience of homelessness and soon it was running all year round between the hours of 10pm and 8am.

## **Where are they now? Chris and Ali Mesley**

It was at the end of 2016 that we moved to our new home in a little village near Malvern Wells called Upper Welland. Our home is within walking distance of the magnificent hills, but far enough from them that we still see the sun in the afternoon!

We arrived in some trepidation not knowing anyone in the Malvern area, but we knew that the Lord was calling us here and particularly to St Andrew's which is a large and thriving church. We have the privilege of leading a Life Group - things don't change! We have been blessed with good fellowship and growing friendships.

It took us a while to find work, but we have both now settled to what feels like the "right" roles. Ali has been setting up the Art Therapy department at St Richard's Hospice, which is in the process of expanding. Chris has set up a Debt Centre in Malvern for Christians Against Poverty. These roles are challenging, in a good way, and feel worthwhile.

Owen married Rachelle in 2018 and we now have a grand daughter Isabelle born in December 2019. Barny continues to live in Leighton Buzzard.

We have fond memories of our time in Leighton Buzzard and send our greetings to all who remember us

With very warm wishes

Chris and Ali Mesley

## **Pause to Ponder**

“Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night”

Thomas Fuller; Methodist Recorder 1st Nov, 2019

“The only way to perfection is to live in the presence of God”.

Thomas Wilson; Methodist Recorder 8th November, 2019

## From Roger Owers' Housegroup

Paul wrote a letter to the church in Colossae in about 60AD. If he was writing the letter today he would probably be saying similar things. To remind yourselves what Paul said read Colossians 3; 1-17. We have looked at Colossians in our bible study group.

To all at Trinity,

I have heard great things about all that is happening here at Trinity. There are many different ways to meet together in worship and at Trinity you have several different times and places of worship. Whenever you join together in worship always remember to hold onto all you know about Jesus Christ.

However there are many things of this world that can distract us. We think too much about ourselves, but fail to think about the wider world, other people and our affect on the future of this earth we live on.

Always remember that in God's world all people matter. It does not matter who you are, or where you come from, Christ is all and in all.

So as God's chosen people do all you can to work together. Help each other, show kindness and compassion and always be ready to forgive. Always remember that God's love for each one of you should be the basis of your community here.

Let the peace of Christ be with each of you and always be thankful. Let the word of Christ be with you and continue to teach each other in worship, in song and discussion.

And whatever you do or say do it in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, always give thanks to God the Father through Him.

Yours in Christ

Paul

## Church Council Summary

- 22 Church members present with 7 apologies
- Membership of the meeting list was agreed as correct
- **Pastoral concerns & Courtesies:** Since the last meeting Phyllis Tucker & Henry Franks have died. Asked to remember them in prayers as well as those recently bereaved and in hospital
- Minutes of both previous meetings (10th October and 10th November) agreed and signed.
- **AOB:** comment of no young people in the congregation at Trinity; general response that Early Church is well attended by families but a need to publicise more widely. Perhaps a trial of joint 10am services.
- **Appointments:** Anne Gray nominated Jo Baker and Fay Graves as Church Representatives and further to this, Jo Baker, Fay Graves and Sheila Pollard as representatives from Church Council to Leadership Team. Sheila Pollard has also been nominated as reserve Trinity Representative to Circuit Meeting.
- **Vacancies:** on-going discussion to find a Trinity representative to Scouts.

## Life & Mission of the Church

- **Worship Consultation:** Parade Sundays have been agreed as best way to allow all uniformed groups to attend an appropriate service. Rev. Dr. Jonathan Hustler will be leading 10.30am service on July 19th (Church Anniversary)
- **Messy Church:** Very successful Christmas Eve service with approx. 110 attendees. More volunteers needed.
- **Leadership Team:** Retiring collections list circulated. BRF/Messy Church will receive the money in August, Buzzer Buses will be put in the January slot from January 2021. Evening services to continue. Sheila Pollard explained the need for future funding to continue our work on links with the community (more details to follow). Catherine Roots reviewed new AV system is working well, though Early Church set up takes time. Work completed on time and in budget with Circuit and District grants approved.



- **Pastoral Oversight:** Fellowship meeting for pastoral links to be held Saturday 16th May. Pastoral Leaders Commissioning Service has been changed to Sunday 17th May at 10.30am.
- **Property Committee:** Church roof due to try to locate & repair leak in sanctuary. Double glazing work on rooms 3,4&5 , Vestry and Atterbury Room due to be carried out 19th-21st February.
- **Finance/Resources/Reserves Policy:** Meeting approved Reserves Policy, accounts and Treasurer's report accepted. It is estimated we need a total income of £1330/week to keep in line with June 2019's budget.
- **Approval of Annual Report:** With a minor modification the draft report was approved and will be circulated in due course.
- **Safeguarding:** A half-day Advanced Safeguarding Course is being held at Hemel Hempstead on 6th March. See Ann Guy for details.
- **Health & Safety:** supplies in first aid boxes are up to date; repositioning of the organ is being dealt with; risk assessment for Early Church is in hand.
- **Public Issues & Social Action:** Article for Trumpeter has been published, Oxjam concert was a success, with possible initiatives for future harvest events in hand.
- **Churches Together:** Discussion over World Wide Day of Prayer, as reported in June 2019 Church Council a new venue is required for 2020. VE Day celebration Service is on 10th May.
- **Circuit Matters:** Jackie Roberts drew attention to 'Inspirational Day: Inspire though Storytelling—What's your story?' on 7th March and a Youthscape project starting in May. Desperate need for more Circuit Stewards. A probationary minister has been appointed from September 2020 who will take responsibility for Beech Hill, relieving Rev. Seung-Wook Jung of his extra duties.
- **Dates of Church Council meetings:** Thursday 25th June, 7:30pm; Tuesday 3rd November, 7:30pm
- **Date of Annual Church meeting:** Sunday 26th April, 11.30am
- If you require the full reports for the Life and Mission of the Church please contact Tasha Williams in the church office.

## Sunday Services during March

Date & Service	Led by	Steward
<u>1st March—Parade Sunday—First Sunday of Lent</u>		
9.15am—Early Church	Richard Bates & Judy Whyman Bates	Marina Mele
10.30am—Morning Worship	David Mead	Anne Gray
6.00pm—Evening Worship—Tuesday Evening Fellowship Celebration	Elisabeth Bibbings	TFC
<u>8th March—Second Sunday of Lent</u> <u>Retiring Collection (Please see page 5)</u>		
9.15am Early Church	Steven Purton & Jo Baker, with Peter Baker leading Diggin' Deeper	Alison Arnold
10.30am—Morning Worship with Holy Communion	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Elizabeth Hitchcock
6.00pm—Evening Worship	Shepherd Kombo	Chris Lowe
<u>15th March—Third Sunday of Lent</u>		
8.30am— Holy Communion	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Jacqui Donaghy
9.15am—Early Church—Café Breakfast	Steven & Karen Purton	Anne Gray
10.30am—Morning Worship	Brenda Ballantine	Catherine Roots
6.00pm—Evening Worship	Ben Williams	Donald Wray

<u>22nd March—Mothering Sunday—Fourth Sunday of Lent</u>		
9.15am—Early Church	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Alison Arnold
10.30am—Morning Worship	Joan Gregory	Marina Mele
6.00pm—Evening Worship with Holy Communion	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung	Elizabeth Hitchcock
<u>29th March—Fifth Sunday of Lent</u>		
9.15am Early Church	Catherine Roots & Ben Williams	Chris Lowe
10.30am—Morning Worship	Martin Wallis	Charles Horsefield
6.00pm—Evening Worship	Peter Baker	Ann Guy

<b>Door Stewards at 10.30am Morning Worship</b>	
1st March	Irene Hyde & Mary Eagleton
8th March	Irene Hyde & Kathy Keeley
15th March	Janet, Joan & Janette
22nd March	Irene Hyde
29th March	Irene Hyde

<b>Coffee Team</b>	
1st March	Kathy Keeley, Marina Mele & Tony Oldroyd
8th March	Janet Curzon, Heather Watkins & Joan Gregory
15th March	Tim & Elizabeth Hitchcock & Chris Bosworth
22nd March	Charles & Sue Horsefield & Irene Hyde
29th March	The Wray Family

**Tuesday Morning Service (10am) will be led by:**

3rd March	'Cilla & Phil Wagner
10th March	Colin Dimmock
17th March	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung with Holy Communion
24th March	Elisabeth Bibbings
31st March	Rev. Wallace Edwards

## 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.

Mon 2nd, 16th & 30th March, 8pm	Trinity	Lammas Walk Housegroup
Fri 6th March, 3pm	Sacred Heart Church	World Day of Prayer
Sat 7th March, 10am-4pm	The Square, Dunstable	Circuit Inspirational Day. See page 14 for details.
Mon 9th & 23rd March, 8pm	Trinity	Severn Walk Housegroup
Tues 17th March, NOON	Trinity	APRIL TRUMPETER DEADLINE
Wed 18th March, 2pm	Trinity	Edwards' Housegroup
Thurs 19th March, 7.45pm	Trinity	Leadership Team Meeting
Tues 24th March, 8pm	Trinity	Owers' Housegroup
Tues 31st March, 7.30pm	Trinity	Resources Meeting

## **Calling latent youth leaders young and old**

The South Beds Circuit is fortunate to have YouthScape on its doorstep in Luton who do great work with local young people. They have been working with the Circuit to develop a new training course for volunteer youth leaders which is to be piloted in Luton. The 10 week course runs on Tuesday evenings from 5 May to 7 July (6.15pm – 9pm) and aims to give you the skills and confidence to work with young people. They are looking for people of all ages and all levels of experience. See the notice in the corridor or pick up a leaflet from the anteroom or go to <http://youthscape.co.uk/YSeesntials> for more information.

## **Are you inspired to tell your story?**

The Circuit have organised a day with the theme “Inspire through Storytelling – What is Your Story?” to help us all to tell others our Christian story. The day will be led by Trey Hall, Connexional Director of Evangelism & Growth and take place at The Square, Dunstable on Saturday 7 March 2020 from 10am to 4pm. The event is open to anyone within South Beds and neighbouring Circuits. Tea and coffee will be provided but bring your own lunch.

## **What are Trinity's next steps?**

You will remember that Trinity, along with other churches in the Circuit, spent some time to considering how we are going to move forward in mission and outreach – our Next Steps. At Church Council on 12 February we looked at the progress we have made – more in some areas than others. But we must now look ahead. There is a copy of the progress report on the board in the corridor. Take a look and add your thoughts about how we can take this forward.

## Weekly activities

For contact details please see the Church Directory or contact the Church Office (01525 371905 or [tttprojectoffice@gmail.com](mailto: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	Alternate Thursday 2-4pm	Janet Curzon
Games Afternoon	Alternate Thursday 2-4pm	Sandra Digby
Girls' Brigade	Friday 6-9.30pm	Marilyn Powell
Prayers	Saturday 9-10am	Joan Gregory

# Prayer Diary for March

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

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Lord, you've guided us through the difficult days of Lent, encouraging us along the way. We pray as we move towards the darkest day, that you'll not forsake us but remind us of our Saviour's ultimate gift and promise of new, abundant, eternal life for all who believe and trust in him, your precious son, Jesus. **Amen**

From [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

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## **Please pray for:**

- Those of our congregation whose name begins with E & F
- Worship Leaders at Trinity in March (see pages 10-12)
- Events at Trinity and around the circuit (see page 13)
- Leighton Linslade Homeless Service (Retiring Collection charity for March)

## **Teams at Trinity – in particular:**

- Wednesday night Drop-in—led by Charles Horsefield

## **Our local neighbourhood:**

- Brooklands Middle School
- Leighton Middle School
- Beaudesert
- Hockliffe Street
- Tudor Court

## **Pray to God for the world around us:**

- Pray for those affected by Storm Ciara and Storm Dennis over recent weeks
- Pray for the East African countries that are preparing themselves for the second round of invasion by desert locusts over the next couple of months