# **Trinity News**

Sunday 19th & 26th December



## The Front Page by Rev. Seung-Wook Jung

In a long dark wintery night, with the brightest star in the sky (if there is a bright star, it normally means that there is no bright moon, so it must be a very dark night) Jesus was born. It was hope for the hopeless, light in the darkness, and ending of long waiting which might have applied to us as we have been waiting a while to have proper Christmas this year after a long time of separation, isolating, but now we have more sad news.

You might say 'no, not anymore' as I did after watching the Prime Minister's announcement on TV about plan B for the Covid situation. By following the guidance and concerning the situation, we've had to cancel some services and refreshments or fellowship meetings which we planned to celebrate Christmas with excitement as we could not have it last year.

However, it could not ruin the meaning of Christmas because the real meaning of Christmas is hope, like Jesus was born in the dark wintery night. And the hope doesn't come from the circumstance but from the message of Christmas, proclaiming that God is watching us, that he cares for us, that he still loves us.

Because of it, we still celebrate Christmas whatever circumstances we are in. And it would be more meaningful this year, if we remember the meaning and share it with others.

I wish that all of you have a lovely and meaningful Christmas and a blessed new year.

# Sunday 19th December 2021

## Advent 4

Time	Service (at Trinity unless stated otherwise)	Led by
9.15am	Early Church	Catherine Roots
10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion	Rev Seung-Wook Jung
6.00pm	Carol Service at Trinity	Rev. Seung-Wook Jung

# Activities during this week at Trinity

Date	Time	What?
Friday 24th December	11.30pm	Midnight Holy Communion led by Rev. Seung-Wook Jung
Saturday 25th December	10.30am	All Age Christmas Day Worship led by Rev. Seung-Wook Jung

# Sunday 26th December 2021

## Boxing Day

Time	Service (at Trinity unless stated otherwise)	Led by
9.15am & 10.30am	There is no Early Church or Morning Worship	
6.00pm	Christmas Fellowship (for Zoom link please see page 4)	Catherine Roots

# Sunday 2nd January 2022

Christmas 2

Time	Service (at Trinity unless stated otherwise)	Led by
9.15am	Early Church	Jo Baker
10.30am	Morning Worship	Rev Seung-Wook Jung
6.00pm	Evening Worship on Zoom (for Zoom link please see page 4)	Rev. Nigel Bibbings

# <u>Zoom Links</u>

Sunday Evening Worship & Christmas Fellowship

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/94865623492? pwd=RlozVHRhYnFrcEU1cUJjdHZxUDQzQT09 One tap mobile +442080806591,,94865623492#,,,,\*494002# United Kingdom Dial by your location +44 208 080 6591 United Kingdom Meeting ID: 948 6562 3492 Passcode: 494002

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study 2pm

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/92877340921? pwd=Y2x3MUdTeFpWT0YvenUxMXZDNTArdz09 One tap mobile +443300885830,,92877340921#,,,,\*869411# United Kingdom Dial by your location +44 330 088 5830 United Kingdom Meeting ID: 928 7734 0921 Passcode: 869411

<u>Wednesday Evening Bible Study 8pm</u> Join Zoom Meeting *https://zoom.us/j/97662553267? pwd=ektDbjZ4VkVxdVNxUWp2cUxtb3dIUT09* One tap mobile +442034815237,,97662553267#,,,,\*873153# United Kingdom Dial by your location +44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom Meeting ID: 976 6255 3267 Passcode: 873153

# **Trinity Notices**

#### Carol Service

The decision has been made, in light of current circumstances surrounding COVID-19, that the refreshments after the Carol Service have been cancelled. The Carol Service itself will still go ahead although you are encouraged to wear a mask unless you are exempt.

#### All Age Nativity Service

The sad decision has been made to cancel the All Age Nativity Service with Messy Church activities and refreshments on Christmas Eve. It is not a decision that has been made lightly but has been done so to ensure the safety of the families and church members who would attend.

## **Church Family Christmas Card**

With the level of COVID-19 still high the Leadership team decided not to have our Christmas post box again this year. The Church Family Christmas card will be available to collect your copy from Sunday 12th December.

#### **Additional Christmas Greeting**

To all my dear friends at Trinity, wishing them a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year, love from Jenny Webb.

#### **Trinity Nativity Trail**

The Trinity Nativity Trail is now available around Leighton Buzzard town centre. The information booklet can be accessed via the website https://www.trinitylb.org.uk/Groups/271960/ Whats\_On.aspx or there are paper copies in the Ante-Room.

#### Knit and natter

Please note that Knit and natter is taking a Christmas break and will resume on 6th January.

## <u>Sunday 26th December 6pm via Zoom—Christmas</u> <u>Fellowship</u>

There is no 'planned' evening worship on 26th December but you are invited to join us for Carols and readings followed by the opportunity to have a chat with friends afterwards.

If you would like to join us you can find the zoom link on page 4.

#### **Refreshments at Trinity**

Hopefully, Covid restrictions permitting, we can restart the Fellowship with refreshments anew following Morning Worship in the New Year.

However, we do need volunteers to prepare the refreshments and set up the tables and chairs in the Hall. If you would be happy to help, please contact: Anne Gray or any of the stewards.

## Giving at Trinity

The amount given to Trinity during November was £5,138.81. In addition we budget income equivalent to £1,125 per month from gift aid. The amount required in income to balance our books is £6,620 per month.

## Advanced Safeguarding Training

There are now some online Advanced Safeguarding Training available for the new year. If you think you need to do this training, please check with Ann Guy.

# Circuit & District News

## Vacancy

South Bedfordshire Methodist Circuit have a vacancy for Circuit Administrator. This role will support the circuit staff and leadership team in a variety of tasks on a flexible basis, working from home and at the circuit Office in High Town Methodist Church, Luton.

Computer skills with a working knowledge of Microsoft office – in particular Word and Excel, is essential.

This is a permanent appointment at 20 hours per week at £10.14 per hour.

A satisfactory DBS check will be required.

For further details and an application form please contact the Circuit Office at

office@southbedsmethodist.org.uk;

or Rev Patrick Kandeh, Superintendent Minister on 01582 731997

Deadline for applications 17th January 2022

Interviews will take place week commencing 31st January

## **Churches Together in Luton**

An event for Christians in Luton marking the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Reflecting on the Church post Covid. Saturday 22nd January 2022, 10am-12.30pm at Holy Ghost Catholic Parish Centre, Westbourne Road, Luton, LU4 8JD. Keynote speaker is Rt Rev David J Oakly, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Northampton.

#### **District Discussions**

Angela Brydon, District Discipleship Enabler has been in contact to let us know that the next District Discussion is on the theme of Christmas - as in what did you do as a church? It is an opportunity to come together to share and learn from one another, on zoom for an hour. Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 7.30pm. Registration is required using this link - https://zoom.us/ meeting/register/ tJcuduusqDwsH9w8YamOGNGIxU3jtHS2dFOG

## Public Issues (from Charles Horsefield & Cilla Wagner)

No soap-boxing from me this week, you may be relieved to readjust a reminder about Christmas Food Parcels and then a Thank You letter from Cilla. As I mentioned in the last issue, CBC Childrens' Services and Family Services have put in a huge order for the LLHS (Black Horse) to provide food bags with a strong Christmas flavour that they can deliver to needy families before Christmas. We were very short of mince pies a couple of weeks ago but now anything edible and Christmassy that appears in the box in the Trinity anteroom this weekend will go into bags that go out before 23 December. Or possibly in the Christmas Meal boxes that will be taken out on Christmas Day to housebound people recommended by local GP Surgeries.

Cilla says Christmas time seems the right time to say a heartfelt "Thanks" to all our knitters as well as doners of wool and other items in support of charities this year. For example Hope and Aid Direct are very grateful for the many knitted squares and strips for making blankets for refugees in Greece and France. We were also able to send them no-longer-wanted shop-bought blankets as well as new underwear. Nearer to home, lovely cot blankets and baby garments were given to Emily's Star. They support families with babies and small children affected by life-limiting illnesses in the Milton Keynes area. And jumpers etc for older children and teenagers went to Knit for Peace, who operate worldwide.

As we open our Christmas gifts it's good to know that many

children will be excited and delighted to receive colourful shoe boxes packed with goodies and treats. We played our part by contributing cute teddies, cosy hats, gloves, scarves and mittens etc to help Toddington Methodist Church to fill 100 boxes which were passed to Samaritans' Purse for distribution to children in poor countries at Christmas.

Christmas Greetings to all and keep up the good work.

## **Circuit Christmas Message from the Superintendent**

#### Dear Friends,

Season's Greetings! Yet again we are all watching and waiting to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus with great joy on Christmas Day. The festive season is one of the most family-oriented celebrations for each one of us. A time when we come together again to eat turkey dinner, to light the Christmas trees, to give and receive gifts, above all to thank God for his goodness and mercies.

Christmas Day has traditionally been a day for children, a day when our children wake up early in the morning to find out what present Santa or Father Christmas has brought for them. Christmas is a time of giving and receiving of gifts in the same way that the wise men (the Magi) brought gold, frankincense and myrrh to the new-born king to Jesus. Before the Covid 19 pandemic of 2019, Christmas Day is also the time when our Churches are usually full with members of our families and friends from all over, joining us in the singing of carols and celebrating the birth of Christ. Although this may or may not be so this year. I hope that this Christmas brings you all the good news of hope, peace, joy and love as the whole world look forward to getting through this difficult time of Covid 19 pandemic and economic crises.

I pray that the Almighty God through the coming of his only dear Son on Christmas Day will once again transform the world as a place of hope, peace, joy, and love. I know I can count on you to take the message of Christmas around the community by personally reaching out to your friends and families, members of your community over this extra-ordinarily strange Christmas festive season.

My prayers are with you all and your love ones at this time, especially when we cannot get together in fellowship in ways we would have preferred and know best, traditional Christmas parties, worshipping in the usual way and organising carol services on a big scale.

Wishing you all a joyful and wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year in advance, and

may the God of every season bless you all now and always.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. P. G. Kandeh

# Prayer Diary

Creator God, we ask that this story, the amazing birth of Jesus, Will bring us all closer to understanding the wonderful gift of your Son Jesus and all that he means and stands for. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with us. Amen.

#### Mark & Jane Hird-Ritter (Messy Church, BRF)

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#### Please pray for....

- Those who are leading and preaching at Trinity over the coming weeks.
- Trinity members preaching around the Circuit: Peter Baker, Roger Owers & Catherine Roots
- Events at Trinity and around the South Bedfordshire Circuit over the coming weeks.
- People who live on: Sandhills Estate
- People who attend Trinity but who are not in the church directory
- Children, parents and staff at Headstart Day Nursery
- For the world around us especially those isolated and affected by COVID-19

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The deadline for the next Trinity News will be Wednesday 29th December,7pm. Please send contributions to trinityweeklynews@gmail.com