



Trinity Methodist Church



DECEMBER 2021



JANUARY 2022



Mission Statement:

**Our Mission is to proclaim the love of God,
in Jesus to all people**

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in advance to our flower team because I know the church will look 'Festive' for us over Christmas. As things are still a little different, don't forget to give a donation to Mary Stevenson if you can so we can continue to enjoy our wonderful flower arrangements. Ed.

A big thank you to Karen and Nigel for putting up and decorating our church Christmas tree.



Diane is delighted to announce the safe arrival of her grand daughter, Connie, on 9th November, a beautiful daughter for Laura and Ben. Trinity Blessings are with them all.

Many of you know, since Autumn 2019, I have been through a very difficult time following escape of water underneath flooring in several areas of my home. I had to move out for what was meant to be 10 to 12 weeks but was over 48! I am now home, almost straight and tidy, with just some snagging to be completed by the second contractors. I'm slowly learning to live in my bungalow again but had totally underestimated how hard that would be.

I would never have got through such an awful experience without the support – prayers, phone calls, cards, bookmarks, emails and more – from many of my Trinity friends (and others). I just want to say a very big thank you to you all from the bottom of my heart.

With love and prayers, *Margaret Gellatly*



From our Student Minister, Heather



Dear Church family,

It has been wonderful being back amongst you and getting to meet more of you in person.

I very much enjoyed the events at Trinity Methodist: Singles Lunch, the church council meeting and Friday coffee morning. Last Sunday was also very welcome to have the beautiful photos of Alex and James while we shared cake together. I use the word 'welcome' because it is good to remember and take part in joyful events, when around us we have had such atrocities. Here, in my home town, everyone is devastated by the tragedy of Sir David Amess' death. Belfairs Methodist Church is where I had my service to become a Local Preacher and I know the members well. It has been a huge strain on our Superintendent, Rev Pete Moorhouse, dealing with the press whilst trying to care for Sir David's family when they visit the church. I thank you all so very much for your kind words and prayers which I have passed on to our circuit here.



I have been delighted to meet some of the children here at Trinity and their families. I have had some beautiful rainbow pictures drawn for me and good chats about football. I particularly want to thank Leah for her delicious cakes and biscuits. Leah does all the baking herself and the money we donate for her cakes all goes to her chosen charity. She is also her own banker and carefully counts and makes note of the donations. I have her parents permission to include this lovely photo of Lia and her baking.

I have also been asked to include the intercession prayer I wrote with the rainbow theme. Please forgive the slightly inaccurate colours (I based them on the childhood song rather than the scientific colour spectrum!)



Let us pray.....

continued on page 4.....

RED

Lord of light and love, be with those people who are in danger, those who are frightened, who are victims, who are experiencing pain. Give them strength and courage to come through their ordeals.

May your light shine through the rain.

RESPONSE: Like a rainbow

YELLOW

Lord of light and love, when the sun shines it can make so many of us happy. May those events and souls that need the sunshine, feel the warmth of your love. For those who the sunshine is too strong may they find shade and water.

May your light shine through the rain.

RESPONSE: Like a rainbow

PINK

Lord of light and love, be with all the baby girls being born, may they grow to know you and your amazing gift of Grace. For the women who are victims of abuse, unequal opportunities and oppression, may they find their strength and hope through being made in your image.

May your light shine through the rain.

RESPONSE: Like a rainbow

GREEN

Lord of light and love, thank you for our beautiful Earth. We pray for those people who are responsible for the huge task of rescuing our green spaces, our trees and wildlife. May we each take our part in this work. Help us to make individual sustainable decisions and to join organisations to make a bigger impact together.

May your light shine through the rain.

RESPONSE: Like a rainbow

ORANGE

Lord of light and love, orange is our colour for 'being ready', help us to be ready to always see you in each situation. Help us to be ready to serve and be alongside those people who need your love the most. Let us not take being ready to mean panic buying. Let us think of the needs of others first who may be more in need than us.

May your light shine through the rain.

RESPONSE: Like a rainbow

PURPLE

Lord of light and love, purple is often associated with healing. May we pray for the healing of those people who are sick or in pain, be it physical or mental suffering. Be with those who attend to them, that their service may fulfil their needs and warm their hearts in your name.

May your light shine through the rain

RESPONSE: Like a rainbow

BLUE

Lord of light and love, be with all the baby boys being born. May they grow to know you and your amazing gift of Grace. Men who are made in your image, just like women, may they be the body of Christ and fulfil their calling with love, peace and respect.

May your light shine through the rain

RESPONSE: Like a rainbow

Lord of light and love you know all our true colours and you love each one of us in equal measure.

May your light shine through us so that our unique rainbows reflect your love to all.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

On a personal note...

I am back studying at Queens Theological College in my second year. It is amazing to be in person with my colleagues rather than on Zoom. Queens is a beautiful place with a gorgeous chapel, which has brilliant acoustics for singing. Already we have gathered together singers to harmonise our favourite hymns and worship songs. I am hoping to video it for you!

Presently we are studying Mission and Evangelism. Something that really struck me in my study of mission - what do we think of when we use the word mission? Well, suffice to say, it is a very complex subject but at its core is this ...

“mission is to be **with** someone,” rather than “mission is to do something **for** someone”. Obviously there are times when doing something for someone is what is required but how often do we take the time to just be with someone, walk their walk, encourage them, listen to what they need (not what **we think** they need)....? I would like to suggest that we ponder this together particularly as we enter into the Advent season.

God bless

Heather xx

(Student Minister)





TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Time of Sunday Service at Trinity

It was agreed at this summer's Church AGM that the minister and stewards would organise a survey to canvas opinion on the question of what time the main Sunday service should commence. The survey results (66 responses), have been widely circulated now and the Church Council meeting, after careful consideration, has decided to maintain the service at 9.30am. Although there was a small majority (3 votes) in favour of 10.30am over 9.30am, there were also 8 votes with no strong preference. Rev'd Mark has tried to be at Trinity services more frequently (almost every other week) in recent months. Staying with 9.30am will allow this pattern to continue. We are sorry that this decision will cause difficulties for some who cannot manage the earlier time, and to respond to that we will try to offer another opportunity for worship on an occasional basis, perhaps mid week. Sincere thanks for your prayerful participation in the survey and all that has brought us to this point of discernment.

Mark Pengelly (Minister), Carol Kellingray & Eddie Cassels (Senior Swards)

Towards One World



“It made a difference to that one!”

We are at the time when we shall shortly be ending one project and beginning another one. So, firstly, many thanks to all who have supported the current one, giving much needed help to communities in Ethiopia. Any donations received by the end of November will go towards it and I will announce the eventual total raised early in December.

It is hoped now that the new project will be launched during the 9.30am service at Trinity on Sunday, 12th December. I do not wish to pre-empt that here, so I will just say - Zimbabwe, here we come!



Donations received from 1st December onwards will be used for the new project. I regret that I shall not, by that time, be in a position to receive donations in the foyer at the end of each month, but the situation may change. We will continue with the temporary scheme whereby they may be put into the collection bag at any service, either in an orange envelope, for those registered at the church for Gift Aid, or in any labelled envelope. The alternative is to send accumulated donations, as a cheque, to Nigel Murrell inside your orange envelope if appropriate. (I will try to remember to jog your memory about this from time to time!).

Could I please stress that the labelling of gifts given by any means becomes particularly important now, as I understand the use of envelopes at the church is to be changed. Monies in unlabelled orange envelopes are likely to be allocated to general church funds, so “Towards One World” or just “One World” will avoid this! If anyone would like a set of pre-stamped envelopes for this purpose, Pam French is happy to provide.

It would be really good to have new supporters on board when we begin the new project. Please contact me if you would like any further details. Many thanks to all who, I am sure, will continue to give support.

Jeff Green



Message from Jeff Green.....

John Daeth

Those of you who remember the Daeth family will be sorry to hear of the recent death of John.

Sheila and John were very well-known members of our congregation in the 1970s and 1980s, and their children, Julie and Mark, were regular members of the Junior Church. Sheila and John were founder members of our then Young Adult Group and John was prominent, along with Chris Abbott and Alan Marie and others, in setting up and running the Cubs and Scouts at the church.

John died peacefully in Edinburgh on Remembrance Sunday.





ACTION FOR CHILDREN

2021 Home Collection Boxes

Well, let's hear it for Trinity and other collectors for their notable efforts again this year in making donations to Action for Children through the Home Box Collection scheme. For 2021 you amassed almost £600 for this most worthy cause. These days we tend to look to the State to fill most of our social needs but all too often there are gaps which such services are not able to fill. Charities, like Action for Children in this instance, step in to provide vital support for children in the most unfortunate of circumstances. Your contributions this year will continue to make a difference to their wellbeing and outcome. Thank you for your support.

With all the upheaval occasioned by Covid, change - coins and notes – has been difficult to come by; several collectors have made cheque donations instead. Next year you may wish to consider this as an alternative to using the collection box.

Anthea Tayler
Trinity Co-ordinator, Action for Children

Seasons
greetings





CHRISTMAS AT TRINITY METHODIST

Friday December 3rd

Coffee Morning 10-midday

Bring and Buy Gifts & Cakes for Christian Aid
Fairtrade Stall - Coffee and Cakes

Friday December 17th

Coffee Morning 10-midday

Carols with Val Scott
Christmas Quiz - Coffee, Cakes and Mince Pies

Sunday 19th December

The 'Big Sing' 4pm

Family Carols, followed by refreshments

Friday 24th December

Pyjama Service 6pm

For the young and
young at heart

Midnight

Communion

11.30pm

Saturday 25th December

Christmas Day Celebration Worship 10am

Led by Kay and Russell Burton

Sunday 26th December

Online service

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitymethodistchelmsford>
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or give a hard copy to the Church Office.

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