

CONNECT

Issue 7 March 2018



Church is ..

a human connection of love,
not a building

a lifestyle, not a weekly
activity

an act of service, not a
service to attend



Minister
Rev Helen Lambert

Welcome to Trinity Rawdon!

At the heart of our ministry here at Trinity, Rawdon is the welcome we extend to all and so we are really happy that you have made this connection with us.

Whether you are searching for answers to the big questions in life, exploring your faith, or looking for a new home church, we hope that we may be able to draw alongside you as you make your journey.

Our church family is made up of members from our local community of Rawdon, Yeadon and Guiseley and further afield too. Trinity has existed in its present form for over forty years – since the Baptist, Methodist and Congregationalist (United Reformed) churches in Rawdon came together to form one church, hence the name Trinity – in the unity of the Father, the Son and the Spirit.

We like to think that no two Sundays are alike at Trinity Rawdon and we enjoy exploring new ways of journeying and drawing closer to God in worship.

Although we may have our own individual denominational identities, what unites us is the belief that church is who we are, not where we go, not just a building, but also the act of sharing God's love.

Connect with us:

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Helen's Diary

Helen's Community days are **Tuesday afternoon - Knit Café** at Brown's Greens & **Friday afternoon** with **Playstation** for the Littlemoor children.

Wednesdays will be Pastoral days. If you would like a pastoral visit or through your 4X4 team know someone who would like a visit and Home Communion, please let Helen know.

Tuesday Morning is put aside for study, either preparing sermons or working on her MA in Contextual Theology.

Helen's days off are **Monday, Thursday & Saturday**. In case of emergency, please contact the Leadership Team.

Prayer points:

Please pray for Helen this month as she prepares for our Easter services and outreach – may this be a time for us to connect with our community.

For your information, Helen, Pete and Polly will be away on the Isle of Skye from 2nd to 15th April.



What's your view?

It may be the first day of March, the first day of Spring, but on the surface, it does not much look like it. All is shrouded in white, ... deep and crisp and even. However, we know what lies beneath, waiting to burst forth into new life. We know, because we have seen it before and ere long we shall see it again. For Winter never fails to turn to Spring! The significance of all lies in the way we look at it and what we see in it.

I was moved by two things I heard on the radio recently, both separate and apparently unconnected. A listener had emailed in about the recent cold weather. "Nothing unusual in that", I hear you say. Except for the fact that this was someone who was living and working in Siberia, a part-time teacher nearing the age of 60 and sharing the time out between comfortable rural Middle England and cruel inhospitable Central Siberia. Snow and cold are normal occurrences. Schools rarely close and certainly not until the temperature has descended beyond -32 degrees C. Huge machines shift snow as soon as it arrives. Life goes on. His advice to people venturing outside is to wear "long johns", several layers and definitely a hat, as the head is where most of the body's heat is lost (it's to do with surface area). No problem.

The other I heard on the programme for the blind and partially-sighted, "In touch". A listener described how he had decided, with much trepidation and reluctance, to join his family on a boat trip off the Scottish coast to observe whales. "What on earth is the point of a blind man doing this?", I hear you cry! Yet, the excitement the man related on feeling a school of whales near the boat and when one arched its colossal frame out of the water, flipping its tail over as it re-entered the waves, was palpable. Was it the reactions of the fellow passengers, the sounds

The editor reflects ...

this awesome creature made, or something only an unsighted person could experience, because such as these see in a very different way to sighted people.

As the Spring begins gently to re-assert its dominance, as it surely will, a new addition will appear in our front garden. It might at first look like an over-sized bird table, but on closer inspection, passers-by will note that it contains books. This is to be the latest in a series of Little Leeds Free Libraries to pop up all over Leeds. The idea is that people will take a book, swapping it for one they have already read and thereby encourage more people to read. On the face of it, simply a good idea. However, it is far more than that. The £500 required to fund this acquisition was raised within a week from a single request on "Rawdon - Our Community" Facebook page and will, we firmly believe, help us to engage more closely with the community who pass by our home. What opportunity for mission and witness this could be, but moreover what does this say to the stranger about a community who wish to invest in the Little Leeds Library and what does it say about those who are prepared to host it?

It is all a question of how you look at things. I believe it is God's insight (excuse the pun!) which enables us to perceive the reality. It is through His eyes that we shall see opportunities to share his love and reveal the truth:

¹² Now it is like looking in a looking-glass which does not make things clear. We cannot see and understand things plainly. But when things become perfect, then we shall fully know and understand everything, just as God knows.

1 Corinthians 13:12 Worldwide English (New Testament) (WE)

Worship in March



Sunday 4th March 10.30 Worship with Helen Lambert
Sunday 11th March 10.30 with the Worship Team
Sunday 18th March 10.30 Worship with Rev Lesley Taylor
Sunday 25th March 10.30 Palm Sunday Youth Service with Littlemoor Primary School
Sunday 1st April Easter Breakfast @ 9.15 followed by Easter Sunday Service including Communion

Due to a spate of cold weather at the end of February and into early March, all services will take place in the New Hall. For the same reason there will be no 9.30 Communion Service until May.



People to Pray for:

Lord, may those named be wrapped in Your love, found deep in Your everlasting wings, carried and kept, safe and cherished.

May the healing power of Jesus breathe across them all. AMEN

Joan
 Audrey
 Marion
 June
 Doreen
 Frances
 Baby Thomas
 Andrea Walker

Connect with us this month as we gather for:

Trustees' Meeting Monday 19th March 7.30pm

at The New Manse (32 Micklefield Lane)

Missions Team – Bacon butties will be available after our Palm Sunday

Youth Service to raise money for Uganda



Thank you from Thomas, Zoe and Tristan: "We have raised £403.50 for the Neo-Natal ward at St James' Hospital. We would like to thank all who have donated to this worthy cause".

Coming soon... There is a plan to hold a short mid week communion service on the **third Wednesday** of the month in Room 2. This will be a time of reflection and prayer for others as we break bread together and remember. See Helen if you would like to attend. We plan to start in April.

Please note that the **9.30am Communion Service** will be cancelled on 4th March due to the concerns of the majority of our regular attenders regarding potential inclement weather. Services will resume from 6th May, all being well. Please see Helen for more information.

Connect with us in fellowship

Walk and Talk meet each Friday for a short local walk lasting approximately one hour, exploring areas that many of us had forgotten existed. We have a good chat and enjoy a cup of tea to finish with. You would be most welcome to join us! We meet each Friday outside the church at 2pm.



Knit Café meets every week on Tuesdays 2.00pm at Browns Green Vegetarian Café, 3b Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds. We love to knit, chat and of course eat cake! All are welcome, not just knitters, people who want to learn and those who want to make new friends.

Prayer Breakfast gather once a month (fourth Saturday) at 8.30am for a short time of fellowship and prayer at The Manse. This is followed by a simple breakfast. We ask only that people bring their prayers, concerns and thanksgiving, either spoken or silent, be they personal/family matters, Church or local issues or situations in the world which require God's intervention.

Life Groups Our Life Groups meet in homes in order to share life together and study the Bible. This is where people really get to know others and discover the value of their prayers and practical support. It is also the place to chew on difficult issues and to unpack further what the preacher may have been saying the previous Sunday. Please contact Helen to find out more.

We now have a third **LIFE GROUP** which meets alternate Wednesdays at the Haigs'. See Linda for details. If you are interested in leading a **LIFE GROUP** or joining one please see Helen. We would love to see a fourth group form from the fellowship in 2018!!

Connect with our community

Messy Church Saturday 24th March 3.00 - 5.00. All are welcome and we are always glad to take on extra helpers.

Rawdon Library Occasional Lecture Series – "What is Gospel about the Gospels" by Dr Mark Radcliffe (NHS Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist) Thursday 8th March 2.00 pm. Tickets available from the Library or on the door - £4.

Trustees' Group We need two new Trustees to take over from Amanda and Frank Lyden. The intention was for Amanda, Frank and Linda to continue as Trustees for a limited period whilst the new regime established itself. Now they wish to focus more on their leadership role and so there are opportunities for "new blood" to serve God in our Trinity Church Community. Please consider carefully if you might be able to fulfill this role and feel free to have a word with any current Trustee or with Helen. We hope to take a vote on new nominees at our Annual Congregational Meeting on 24th April.

Connect with God If you would like to be involved in any of the Easter Services at Trinity, from reading the word to writing and saying prayers, please see Helen. We especially require help for the Good Friday Tenebrae service with lights/ slides and sound technicians.

Mission Matters: 1st March onwards "Trinity rocks Easter". The Messy Church team are hiding stones decorated with images from the Easter story around Rawdon for everyone in the community to find and re-hide - something to encourage families to talk about the Easter story. **Fri 23rd March** - PlayStation Treasure Hunt around Rawdon. **Sun 25th March** - Church service with Littlemoor pupils. The Missions Team will be serving bacon butties after the service to raise money for Uganda. **Weds 28th March** – "What's the story?" event at Trinity with Littlemoor pupils