

# CONNECT

Issue 8 April 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:

**Minister:** Rev Helen Lambert

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**Website:** [www.trinityrawdon.org.uk](http://www.trinityrawdon.org.uk)



# 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.

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 re charges her batteries on  
the Isle of Skye from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>  
April



**“For the times, they are a-changin!”**

Those of us fortunate to hear Roy Searle speak recently at Harehills Baptist Church were reminded of these words penned by Bob Dylan. Whilst I agree wholeheartedly with Roy on Dylan's skill as a lyricist, I differ in that I also like his singing – its uncomplicated earthiness actually lends weight to the words too.

That we are living in changing times, is self-evident. How long before we are calling it "Cold War II", I wonder? At the time of writing, the West has taken the unprecedented step of uniting 23 countries to point the finger at the Kremlin for its direct involvement in the outrageous attack on Sergei Skripal and his daughter Julia in Salisbury a month ago. It seems highly likely that the people in the top positions of power, at the very least knew about it, but the rapidity of the adoption of our uncompromising stance is truly frightening and has unleashed a ferocious tit-for-tat exchange, whose end cannot be foreseen. That such states as Estonia and Ukraine feel emboldened to join the chorus of condemnation of Russia should also make them feel nervous. We in the West have a poor record of standing up for those in the firing line, when push comes to shove. Nor are we ourselves completely innocent: "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone", said Jesus (John 8:7)

As always seems to happen, those with little power and influence are the worst affected by the machinations of those who exercise power. As we hurtle towards the closing down of all channels of communication with the Russian people, with whom we state that we have no issue, it is the young, the poor, the vulnerable who will suffer the most. At the very time when we need more than ever to talk to people, we are cutting off the means by which to do so.

# The editor reflects ...

The change to which Roy, that Megalith of the Baptist Church, refers is that which affects the whole Church. Numbers of regular attendees are continuing to decline and change is essential, lest we should see the Church as we know it disappear from view. I believe that there are too many people who are aware of this to let it happen. However, change we must!

The deep message of Easter is surely that of renaissance, renewal and transformation. The change we seek is for everyone we meet to come to know the love of God. We have to be a pioneering Church – one that goes out into the world and does not expect our neighbours to come to us.

We all have our own stories of transformation made possible by knowing Jesus Christ, but I have a new one to tell. You may remember us praying for Peter Baruch, the son of a colleague of mine at my Mandarin evening class. He was released from gaol in Kazakhstan in January and I met him for the first time last week. He told me of the power of the prayers of the many Christians who have been praying for him, writing to him and supporting him and that he now has become a Christian too.

So we have to go out and meet people where they are, in the certain knowledge of Christ's Resurrection and that he will equip us with the tools we need to spread his word. At the same time we pray for transformation - in Russia, in the West, in Syria and Turkey, in the Democratic Republic of Congo and in all places where there is strife, keeping it simple, for Jesus said:

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

## Worship in April



**Easter Sunday**  
**7.00 at the Cross on Otley Chevin/Surprise View**  
**9.15 Easter Breakfast**  
**10.30 Worship with Helen Lambert**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April 10.30 Worship with David Skeet**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 10.30 Worship with Communion Mary Taylor**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 10.30 Worship with Helen Lambert**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April Worship with the Worship Team**

### 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

### Connect with us this month as we gather for:

Trustees' Meeting Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April at The New Manse (32 Micklefield Lane) 7.30pm

Annual Congregational Meeting

after Church Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 12.00 noon



## Thank you

**Missions Team – Thank you to all who bought Bacon Butties for Africa.**  
We have raised £200 for work with the needy in Uganda.



Please pray for our next project on May 13<sup>th</sup> where we will be raising awareness and money for Christian Aid by holding a Big Brekkie after the service. This is an alternative means of raising funds to replace the envelope distribution.

## 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.

**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. A fourth LIFE GROUP is being planned to happen alternate Thursdays at Ruth Ashton-Ward's - See Ruth for details. If you are interested in leading a **LIFE GROUP** or joining one, please see Helen. We would love to see another group form from the fellowship in 2018!!

## Connect with our community

**Messy Church** Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup> 3.00 - 5.00. All are welcome and we are always glad to engage extra helpers.

**Trustees' Group** We need two new Trustees to take over from Amanda and Frank Lyden. The intention was always 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 Helen. We hope to take a vote on new nominees at our Annual Congregational Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

## Connect with God

The **9.30 Communion** on the **first Sunday of each month** will recommence on 6<sup>th</sup> May. In order to help ease Helen's workload, there will be no sermon as such in these services, though they will contain a short reflection.

**Midweek Communion** – so far we have had little response to the idea of holding a 10.30 once a month Wednesday Communion to replace the monthly Saturday Prayer Breakfast. Please speak to Helen or Pete about this.