

CONNECT

Issue 12 August 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 has changed her days off due to growing commitments on a Monday. Mondays are now set aside for admin and meetings as well as pastoral visits. So 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 allocated to study, preparing sermons and events and her Community days are still Tuesday afternoon - Knit Café at Brown's Greens & Friday afternoon with Playstation for the Littlemoor children.

Helen's days off are therefore
Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday.

Prayer points: Please pray for Helen this month as she leads worship at Haworth Baptist Church on Sunday August 12th.

Helen and Polly will be taking a short break at Trudy's flat from August 27th – 30th - in case of emergency, please contact one of the Leadership Team.



The editor reflects ...

..... on the power of the elements!

If ever we needed a reminder of how small and insignificant we are in the face of the awesome power of the elements, surely it could not have been more stark than the one we received in this past month of July.

Two months ago we were invited to consider the importance of fire to the development of civilisation as we know it. At the end of this month of July we learnt once again of its destructive power as the forest fires swept through the coastal village of Mati, south of Athens, leaving in their wake large numbers of dead and injured, and many without homes and livelihoods. Though lots escaped into the sea, many more were not so lucky and were engulfed by the flames whilst they tried to get away in their cars, or just simply found there was no way out. The horror is unspeakable. Just over a year ago, we were mourning the loss of those who died in the Grenfell Tower Fire.

Whilst we in the UK and in other parts of Europe have been basking in high temperatures for the longest period I can remember in my lifetime, we should spare a thought for animals and people who have been badly affected by a prolonged lack of rain, farmers in particular whose crops and production will have been severely diminished by drought conditions.

In other parts of the world too, the heat has brought devastation – hundreds in Japan have died due to effects attributable to the heatwave. Whilst in others, it has not been fire that has wreaked havoc, rather water. There has been flooding in Thailand and a dam-burst in Laos which has in turn forced thousands from their homes in Cambodia, a country well-used to flooding already. Now, as I write, the weather in the UK has broken with parts of the country subjected to a month's rainfall in the space of just a few hours. Now holidaymakers are being delayed due to lightning strikes, which have knocked out air-conditioning and signalling systems.

Each disaster brings with it its own crop of horror stories, acts of selflessness and courage and in some cases miraculous escapes – none more so than that of the 13 Thai boys and their football coach from flooded caves in Thailand. Each of them too, if not the direct result of human stupidity, has been exacerbated by it.

I have long wrestled with the idea of the omnipotent God, who is apparently unable to control some of the excesses of nature. The only way I can explain it is to say that I do know that God has awesome power, though not in the way we humans understand it. He gave each of us free will and in exercising this, we have undoubtedly contributed to our own misfortunes. His power lies in the promise of transformation for those that love him. As we contemplate a future punctuated with more extremes of weather, at both ends of the scale, we must act quickly and together as a community of nations to better manage the earth's resources and to limit the devastation caused through the arrogance of our lack of care and concern for the environment.

The power and the glory
Be yours
For ever and ever
Amen

Worship in August



**Sunday 5th August 9.30 Holy Communion with Helen Lambert
10.30 Worship and Dedication of Bertie Dixon with Helen Lambert**
Sunday 12th August 10.30 Worship with Kenny Brown
**Sunday 19th August 10.30 Worship and Holy Communion
with Rev Dr John Billingham**
Sunday 26th August 10.30 Worship with Helen Lambert

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

Neville, Ruth, Sarah and all the family
 Marion
 June
 Doreen
 Frances
 The Dixon family as they prepare for Bertie's Dedication on the 5th.

Connect with us this month:

There will be no Trustees' Meeting this month and so we wish all of them a pleasant rest! Next meeting Monday 17th September at The New Manse (32 Micklefield Lane) @ 7.30pm

Ps and Qs (Pie Night) will next be Thursday 16th August – see Tristan for details. Extra pies may be consumed prior to the 3 Peaks Challenge on 19th August !



Trinity Pub Quiz at the Princess every 4th Thursday see Linda for details !

We are beginning a new sermon series this month: "Summer of Psalms"

Connect next month:

"Russia under Stalin": a talk by David Longley Thursday 13th September 7.30pm Rawdon Community Library

"Cambodia: From despair to hope". Pete Lambert will speak at Rawdon Quaker Meeting House on Saturday 15th September at 7.30 pm as part of the Rawdon Amnesty Concert Series (see noticeboard for full programme)

Christian Aid Walk Sunday 23rd September (see Margaret Thompson for details)

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.

We now have a third **LIFE GROUP** which is led by Linda and meets alternate Wednesdays at the Haigs' and Karen's Thursday group will be starting up again soon at Kath Lawson's house – (please see Karen for more details!)

Ruth and Gordon Carr would like to host a fifth Life Group on Tuesday afternoons 2 – 4pm but need a leader and some members who might prefer to meet during the day. If you feel God is calling you to lead a **LIFE GROUP** at Ruth and Gordon's or would like to join one of the current **LIFE GROUPS** please see Helen. We would love to see five groups running by the end of 2018 as they provide valuable pastoral support and fellowship – ask some of the folk how much they value the groups they are in!

Connect with our community

Trustees' Group. We reported recently our need for two new Trustees to take over from Amanda and Frank Lyden from September. 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. Two names have now been brought forward from the membership and we will vote on these and any others at the next Congregational Meeting on 21st October. Please consider prayerfully if you might be able to fulfil this role and if God is calling you to this work. If you would like to nominate someone, please see any Trustee or Helen as soon as possible.

Playstation volunteers needed. Sadly we have lost some of our volunteers at Playstation and in September we will be running on a minimum team. This work with young people is valuable outreach as we serve 25 children (and their families) every week! If you feel you could help out and would like to know what we do at Playstation, please see Helen.

Cleaning news. Jean Jackson will be retiring as our cleaner in August. We thank her (and Cliff!) for their many years of commitment and service to this Church. As from September, we welcome Helen Brown as our new cleaner and we look forward to working together to the mutual benefit of all.

From Neville and family

We would like to say a big thank you for all your many cards, kind letters, flowers, visits, comments through the Book of Condolence, hugs and continuing support of the Church family following our sad loss. A special thank you to Helen for her love and support. From the donations received in Joan's memory, we were able to forward the wonderful sum of £700 to support the ongoing work of her special charity, Mercy Ships. Due to a generous benefactor, who has promised to match any donations received in July, this sum will be doubled.

Thanks, Neville