

CONNECT

Issue 16 December 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 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 & Friday afternoon with Playstation for the Littlemoor children and now Friday Night Live.

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

Prayer points: Please pray for all our activities and services this Christmas – may God give us opportunities to share His love and His story with the local community.



The editor reflects ...

... on certainty!

About the only thing of which we can be certain as we enter December, is that we are heading for uncharted waters ... and more uncertainty!

At the time of writing, the outcome of the vote in Parliament on B... (I still can't bring myself to use that awful made-up word that means the UK's withdrawal from the EU!) is unknown and unpredictable. This despite dire warnings of what damage might be done, should the Prime Minister's proposal for withdrawal be passed, should it fail and even should we crash out of the European Union without a deal at all. Whatever your politics, right or left, remain or leave, referendum or people's vote, you have to admire the resilience of Mrs May, even though one of the possible scenarios is the fall of her government and the end of her leadership of her party.

In truth, I do not think there is anyone who really knows what will happen. Perhaps, yet again, it will be case of turning to Kipling: "If you can keep your head when all around are losing theirs..." and those with the most level heads will lead us out of the impasse and out of the mess we have thus far made of it all.

There are indeed few things of which we can ever be certain in life, other than the oft-quoted facts that we will pay tax and that our life on earth will one day end. When Joseph embarked, with his heavily-pregnant Mary on their journey, there was no certainty for them either. How would they manage on the way? What if Mary fell ill? What if the baby came early? How long would it take? Where would they stay when they got to their destination? Would they have sufficient money? Questions about what they would do to look after their new-born baby would no doubt be swamped by more pressing concerns, prior to the birth.

Yet they were certain of one thing: that they had been called by God to what they were doing. They would therefore be protected and provided for. They chose the path of obedience to God and to what he had mapped out for them. How much easier for us then, who know intimately the ending of the story?

As we falter and fumble in the darkness, may we see the glimmer of light in the Advent story! May we experience the expectation of new birth, the hope of the message of the angels, the excitement of the shepherds, the glorious vision of the future of the Magi! May we know the certainty of the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour! May we spread the word of his promises to all we meet through Advent and into Christmastide!

"For now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part, then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known." (1 Cor 13:12)

Worship in December



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

Ronnie
Tristan, Zoe and Thomas
Janice
Pat
Marion
June
Doreen
Frances
Rev Andrew Taylor



- Sunday 2nd December 9.30 Holy Communion**
with Helen Lambert & Frank Lyden
10.30 Advent Worship with Helen Lambert
- Sunday 9th December Worship with Lesley Taylor**
- Sunday 16th December 10.30 Littlemoor Nativity Youth Service**
6.00 Carol Service
- Sunday 23rd December 10.30 Worship & Christingle Service**
- Monday 24th December 4.00 Noisy Nativity**
- Tuesday 25th December 10.30 Family Worship for Christmas Day**

Other events for you to join:

- Tuesday 4th December Rawdon Shops Late Opening
- Saturday 8th December Christmas Fair and Tree Festival
- Wednesday 12th December Rawdon Littlemoor "What's the story?"
- Monday 17th December: Carols at Sunningdale and Billing View
- Sunday 23rd December Carols at the Princess 7.00pm
- Monday 24th December Carols on Littlemoor 7.00pm
- Tuesday 25th December Christmas Lunch for those on their own (Rawdon and Guiseley Labour Party)

Connect with us this month:

- Ps and Qs (Christmas Pie Night) will be on Thursday 20th December. Please see Andy or Pete for details of menu etc
- The next Trustees' Meeting will be Monday 10th December at The New Manse (32 Micklefield Lane), starting with a meal @ 6.00pm
- Trinity Pub Quiz at the Princess every 4th Thursday - see Linda for details !
- Rawdon Quaker Meeting House continue to run the Rawdon Amnesty Concert Series (see noticeboard for full programme) with events until the end of this month
- Carol singing: Monday 17th December at Sunningdale 6.15 and Billing View 7.15; Sunday 23rd December at the Princess 7.00; Monday 24th December on Littlemoor 7.00pm

Trinity Rawdon Remembered: the people behind the names

Thank you to all who helped in any way to make this a most poignant commemoration in this the 100th year since the Armistice in 1918. The numbers of people joining in the activities suggest that most certainly the people of Rawdon do remember and do care!

Connect with us in fellowship

PRAYER CHAINS There is great power in God's people joining together in a common prayer - we have just seen that with Tristan and so I would encourage you, to join the Trinity prayer warriors on our Prayer Chains!

It's a very quick and efficient way of asking for prayer and informing the church family about those in need of prayer as well as for bringing updates on our prayer progress.

Helen is re-organising the Phone Prayer Chain, so if you would like to go onto either the phone or the eprayer chain speak to Helen.



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.

Ruth and Gordon Carr would like to host a sixth 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 everyone in a group 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!

Our current **LIFE GROUPS** are held on the following days:

Monday Group – 10.30 every other week @ the home of Pat Jennings

Tuesday Group – 7.30 weekly @ the home of Dinah Smith

Wednesday Group – 7.30 every other week @ the home of John & Vicki Haig

Thursday group – 7.30 every other week @the home of Kath Lawson

Our fifth group will be starting in October, led by Rachel Harrison. This will be on the last Thursday of the month starting with tea at the Princess 7.00pm.

Connect with our community

We are delighted to report on FridayNightLive! It is great to see this activity flourishing and we genuinely believe that more will come. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to maintain our relationship with these lovely young people and their families, who had previously been attending Playstation. Thank you to all the volunteers who have turned out to support this exciting new venture. If you would like to volunteer or know any young people who would like to join, please see Haydn for details. Please continue to pray for Haydn and all the team.



“Let the children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14

For your diary: Communion will be on 30th December this month, to accommodate all the Christmas services.

Some good news to finish: The Methodist Circuit has given the go-ahead for the CAP Debt Centre and is now advertising for a Debt Centre Manager (16 hours per week). Please see Pete if you require details of the post.

And finally .. we wish all of you joy and happiness over this Christmastide season. May you and all those you love know the peace and love of Christ and share it with all you meet!