

CONNECT

Issue 18 February 2019



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



TRINITY CHURCH
SHARING GOD'S LOVE

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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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 together with 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 the coming Vision day in March that together we will discern what God is calling us to be and do in order to serve this community as a church'

Please also pray for wisdom as Helen works with folk in the community who are struggling with life at the moment.



The editor reflects ...

... on what you call yourself!

Yorkshire first! European second! British third! I think that is where I stand, although I consider the latter to be the hardest thing to define. I guess most of us, if not all of us, feel an affinity to the place we were born and a tug back when we are away. For much of my life, we have been closely tied to Europe and this has not always been a smooth ride, nor has it prevented war on its fringes, yet it has done much to facilitate cooperation and collaboration between an ever-growing number of countries. As a linguist, I have spent the greater part of my life helping young people to develop the skills needed to communicate with others, especially, but not exclusively, in Europe. To attempt to define the term "British" has long been an issue with me. We as a nationality are an amalgam of a host of influences, cultures, civilisations, sometimes through historical invasion: Roman, Saxon, Viking, Norman and otherwise through constant travel and migration immigration between our constituent islands and countries overseas.

One of the things that most concerns me about the impasse we have reached over our planned departure from the EU, is the rise of the extremes in society and of the right in particular. If, as seems more and more a possibility, we do proceed to a "People's Vote", there could be a great deal of trouble and unrest, which will be seized upon by those who have extremist agendas. To my mind, those who are confident that to leave the EU is the right decision, should not fear the outcome of such a vote, were it to happen. Perhaps it has now become clearer what it may in fact mean, to cast ourselves adrift at the whim of the tides and the oceans, without a deal, or even a paddle! I had thought that the idea that we are such a great country that we can survive on our own and do not need anyone else, was long gone and that blaming the stranger was a thing of the past.

Whilst our politicians continue to wrangle in vote after vote after vote, whilst all face delay after delay, we perhaps need to prepare, should we be asked again where we stand, who we are and what we call ourselves. First and foremost we are followers of Christ and this is the essence of our being, coming before allegiance to region, federation of states, nation state, political party or focus group. The Bible is clear on what our role is: to be his hands and feet in our communities, to care for the vulnerable, provide for the needy, welcome the stranger, not to lay the burden of blame at that person's feet, as so many would have it. The richness of our culture is in its diversity, melded over centuries and by wave after wave of new influences. If that stranger we turned away happened to be Jesus, what then?

Only a couple of weeks or so ago, we had a homeless gentleman sleeping rough in the bus shelter at Rawdon Lights. Many people showed kindness to him, bought drinks and food for him, stopped to chat. That Friday evening, we hoped to encourage him to go to St George's Crypt, to have two nights in a warm bed followed by an assessment. He said he would think about it, but that he was OK for now. We gave him an extra layer, the Tour de Yorkshire Team Coat which had been living at Church and went on our way. The next day he was gone! Maybe it is stretching the text a little: ²⁹If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6: 29-31)

Worship in February



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
Audrey
Marion
June
Doreen
Frances
Rev Andrew Taylor
Abi and her children

Sunday 3rd February 10.30 Worship with Helen followed by Congregational Meeting

Sunday 10th February 10.30 Worship with Helen and the 'Ordinary Hero' team followed by bacon butties!

Sunday 17th February 10.30 Worship and Communion with Helen

Sunday 24th February 10.30 Worship with Gaynor Hammond Followed by Safeguarding meeting in room 2

Connect with us this month:

- **Congregational meeting Sunday 3rd February 2019 (postponed from 27.1.19)**
- Ps and Qs (Pie Night) will be on Thursday 21st February. Please see Andy for details
- The next Trustees' Meeting will be Monday at The New Manse (32 Micklefield Lane), starting at 7.30pm
- Trinity Pub Quiz at the Princess every 4th Thursday - see Linda for details (Princess undergoing refurbishment at present!)



Trinity Firm Roots Group

Back in October, a small group of us went to the first Firm Roots Conference to explore the idea of setting up a regular support group for those affected by Cancer at Trinity Rawdon.

Firm Roots is a cancer support organization, whose mission is to walk alongside people whose lives have been affected by cancer and to support them with God's love. Their belief is that if you are rooted in the Lord God, He will hold you with His love, in the storm of cancer. Their motto is 'Strength for today; hope for tomorrow.'

Firm Roots have offered support and training for those interested in forming the team at Trinity. Please see Helen if you would be interested in being involved in this valuable outreach.

For more information about Firm Roots: <http://www.firmroots.org.uk>



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. If you would like to go onto either the phone or the eprayer chain please 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 2019 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
- Thursday Princess group - starting with tea at @ 7.00pm. Led by Rachel Harrison

For your diary:

Sunday 24th February Safeguarding meeting to complete all Safeguarding forms with Monica and Alison straight after the service in room 2 – bring your coffees.

Trinity Vision Day Saturday March 2nd 10 am – 2pm – New Hall - Shared lunch

Please do your best to attend, as we discern together what God is calling us to be and do in order to serve this community as a Church. The day will be led by Graham Ensor, YBA regional Minister, Helen and the Leadership team.

Big Life Ministries – a new model for evangelism. The YBA will be hosting a training event with the Big Life Ministries Team to look at how we can share the Gospel with those outside our doors. If you wish to attend on **16th March 2019**, please see Helen.

Some good news to finish: The Methodist Circuit has appointed a new CAP Debt Centre Manager (16 hours per week). Please see Pete if you require further information. In addition, the Bradford North Foodbank has just advertised two paid part-time, fixed-term management positions. If you are interested in either of these posts, please also see Pete.