

Trinity News

March 2021

No.506



**Trinity United Reformed Church
Mansel Road, Wimbledon**



Lent at Trinity

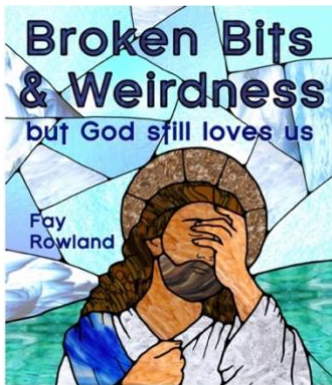
Although Lent began last week, this is still a good time to join others at Trinity who are taking time away from the world to focus on Jesus and his purpose in our own lives. We aren't holding a single Lent course as we have done in previous years, but we want to suggest some resources and materials you might like to use and give you the opportunity to share your thoughts and experiences with Trinity folk.

A very simple individual practice could be to sign up to a daily email. The [URC Daily Devotions](#) are a popular resource sending out a reading, reflection and prayer every day, and will have a dedicated course of reflections for Lent.

The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity will be hosting a 40-day prayer journey on the theme of [Working From Rest](#), about how the Sabbath refreshes us and equips us for good work.

The URC has also produced [Walking Towards Easter Together](#), with lots of suggested activities for all the family, including prayers, craft, recipes and more.

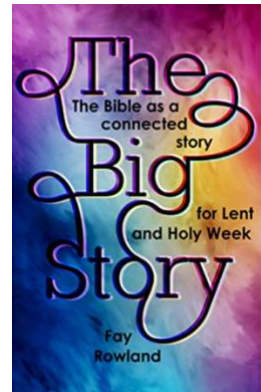




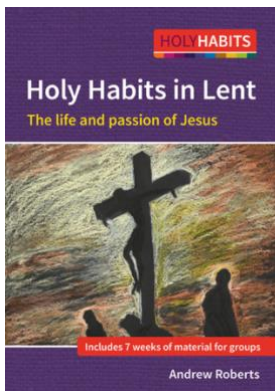
The author of last year's popular Nativity play *God Is With Us - Everywhere!*, Fay Rowland, has two books you might like to try: *Broken Bits & Weirdness*, which is full of creative resources for groups and individuals, young and old, again including crafts and cooking, as well as mindfulness, colouring and traditional Bible study; or *The Big Story*, an opportunity to discover the

Bible as one big story of God and God's people. Both are available [from her website](#).

If you would like a more traditional Lent course, you might be interested in *Holy Habits: Following Jesus*, by Andrew Roberts from [the URC bookshop](#). Explore the Holy Habits through the life of Jesus with this Lent group resource, encouraging Holy Habits through seven weeks of Bible study, prayer, discussion and reflection. You can also find this and many other alternatives at [eden.co.uk](#) or your preferred online bookstore.



You might want to follow a course individually, speak regularly with a friend about what you are doing, or get together with a group to meet up online.



[Whatever you do - let us know!](#) We'll be taking time after every Zoom Sunday service to hear what folk are up to, emailing round updates throughout Lent and then just before Holy Week we will spend time at our online Church Meeting sharing what we have learned and discovered.

Sunday worship

Sunday 7 March – Holy Communion

Led by Revd Bill Bowman

Sunday 14 March – Mothering Sunday

Led by Revd Alistair Cumming with Junior Church

Sunday 21 March

Led by Trinity Elders

Sunday 28 March – Palm Sunday

Led by Revd Andy Twilley (Southern Synod Training Officer)



.....and on weekdays

3 Wed	-	19:30	Elders' Council
5 Fri	-	10:30	World Day of Prayer
10 Wed	-	19:30	Leadership of worship seminar (2) led by Revd Andy Twilley (Synod Training Officer)
11 Thur	-	19:30	Meeting for all Elders
15 Mon	-	19:30	Vacancy Team
17 Wed	-	19:30	Elders' Council
18 Thur	-	16:00	Messy Church launch
	-	19:30	Finance Team
25 Thur	-	19:30	All members meeting
31 Wed	-	19:30	Elders' Council

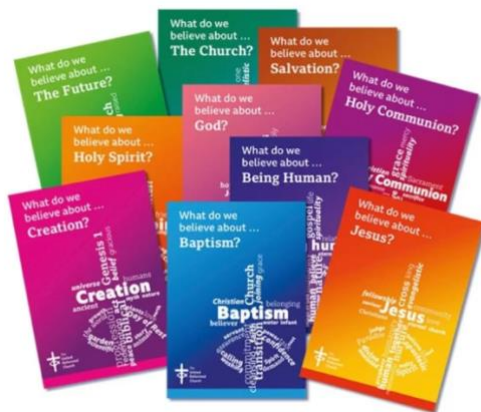
Church Family News

We extend our sincere sympathy to Chris Channer on the death of her husband Richard (Dick) on 20 January. Chris and Dick had been married for just short of seventy years.

Birthdays in February

Many happy returns to those celebrating birthdays this month including Claire Wood, Alex Woo, Cathy Dundee and Ivor Rice-Jones.

What do we believe?



What does the United Reformed Church (URC) believe? Download and read the new series from the URC's Faith and Order Committee. The leaflets cover subjects including God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Baptism, Creation, Being Human, Holy Communion, Salvation, the Church and the Future. [Read more](#)

The ministerial vacancy

The Vacancy Team meets monthly via Zoom video-conferencing, and is making steady progress in the drafting a new Pastorate Profile for Trinity, a key document which, once ready, will be presented to the URC Southern Synod. This is an early and key stage in the process of seeking a new minister for Trinity.

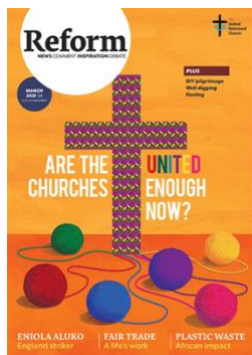
As explained last month, it is unlikely in all the circumstances, that our ministerial vacancy will be filled during 2021. However, we will continue to maintain momentum in our efforts to gain Synod approval to advertise for someone who has the appropriate skills and experience, and importantly, who is interested and feels called to become our next minister.

As soon as possible, the Team will finalise suitable means of consulting the congregation about the draft Pastorate Profile. Until then, it would be reassuring and helpful to the Team to know that all at Trinity are praying for its work.

Please do call or email me if you have any questions.

Sandy McLeish, Vacancy Team Leader
15 February 2021

This month's *Reform* magazine



Are Churches united enough yet? asks *Reform* in this month's issue. After all the years of ecumenical work, including the creation of the United Reformed Church, do the Churches now have all the peace, love and understanding they need? Or should we continue working for further reunion?

Sign up for *Reform* online [here](#).



Wimbledon's service for World Day of Prayer on Friday 5 March will be held at 10:30am on Zoom, or watch from 5pm on YouTube

For zoom link please contact Cathy Field (cathyfield230@hotmail.com). Tech trouble on the day please email charlie@standrewswimbledon.com

Women of the Republic of Vanuatu (located in the South Pacific Ocean) have prepared this year's service. The black and white sandy beaches, coral reefs with coloured fishes, lovely birds, fruits and nuts in the forest, all make the islands a pristine environment, but they are vulnerable to frequent tropical storms, earthquakes, cyclones, tsunamis and active volcanoes. Women, men and children of all ages are called to 'Build on a strong foundation' and live in unity, love and peace in the context of ethnic and cultural diversity like Vanuatu and so many other places around the world.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world; their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans.

The Day of Prayer this year will be different from any we have ever known. All over the world, people will be worshipping on the day as usual but in unusual ways. Our local service comes from St Andrew's church, Herbert Road on Zoom and YouTube.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries. It begins in Samoa, and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 39 hours later.

For further information and resources, see www.wwdp.org.uk.

Our Gift Day charities

Last month we published some letters of thanks from the charities supported by our Gift Day in November 2020. Read here another expression of thanks for your donations.....



FAITH IN ACTION
helping with homelessness

I am writing to thank your congregation for the collection which was recently and specifically made to support the work which Faith in Action undertakes to help homeless and vulnerably housed people in Merton. In doing so I am acknowledging the gratitude of all the service users, staff, volunteers and trustees for the donation of £3,255.50.

At the onset of Covid-19 restrictions, we had to suspend operations at the Drop In centre. However, within a few days of that decision, almost all of our rough sleepers were housed

in hotels, thanks to the efforts of the London Borough of Merton, specialist charities and the Greater London Assembly. We decided not to furlough any members of staff, knowing that many of our service users would continue to need assistance.

We were able to resume limited services in June. More recently, we have been planning for what we expect will be a tricky period in the Spring when hotel places are no longer available, and some people are made redundant and lose their homes. Responding to that situation will require a good deal of effort from volunteers and staff, in what may continue to be demanding circumstances.

We have again had to reduce our services in the last few weeks. But we are assessing whether we could at some time extend our work, by creating new positions enabling us to offer mental health support, deploy extra resources in helping service users to find work, and in practical ways to make the Drop In centre a more secure venue in the face of the pandemic.

With the support of organisations such as yours, we aim to keep the Drop In as a place where people can come and be supported, find comfort and take opportunities to change their life for the better.

Grenville Williams, Chair

URC Daily Devotions available as podcast



Own an Alexa device? To listen to our Daily Devotions, simply say: "Alexa, play the podcast of the URC Daily Devotions." The Devotions are also available on Spotify, Amazon Music, Blubrry, Podcast Index and Deezer.

'New Life' Messy Church – 18 March



The Christingle Virtual Messy Church went online on 22 December and has been viewed over 90 times. We hope it was a good substitute for being in church together on Christmas Eve and that it provided some fun, relaxed worship for families and individuals!

Our next Virtual Messy Church (with an Easter theme) will go online on 18 March at 4pm, and I have heard a rumour that Lavender and Bubblegum have already started rehearsing their song! Join us for arts, crafts, music, story and worship! Don't miss it!

URC Youth launch new programme



To provide a way to learn, contribute, as well as equip young people and adults involved with the URC in as many ways as possible, URC Youth is launching Youth re-ASSEMBLED.

Each month throughout the year, URC Youth will focus on a different theme or topic, along with free Zoom events, Trialogues and more. See [here](#) for all you need to know.

"We really hope that anyone between the ages of 11 to 25 with links to the URC will be able to engage with this content."

From the archives

The Moore Family: Our Victorian predecessors & Trinity's first Baptism



Left to right: Felix Edward, Alexander Henry, Felix Caffyn Moore (father) holding Alfred George, Eliza (Lizzie) (standing at back), Eliza née Tindal with baby Charles Hector, Thomas David, Frederick William (standing right).

On an August Sunday afternoon in 1893 Felix and Eliza Moore pose formally with their children, probably in the garden of their home, "Holmwood", 24 Griffiths Road, Wimbledon.

It might seem to be just another Victorian family group, of people long since forgotten. But, in fact, the photograph is a link between us and the very first days of Trinity's existence.

Felix Caffyn Moore and Eliza (née Tindal) married in 1878 and settled first in Stockwell. They joined Trinity Presbyterian

Church, Clapham. Eliza was Scottish - she was born at Stracathro, Angus. They remained members of that church when they moved, first to Palmerston Road in Wimbledon and then to Griffiths Road. Young Eliza, known as Lizzie, and, possibly, Felix were baptised at Clapham.

But when they heard about a possible new Presbyterian Church in Wimbledon, Felix and Eliza were sufficiently interested to be involved in planning from the start and duly became among the very first members of the new Trinity.

Even before that happened, they brought their second son, Frederick William, to be baptised - the very first baptism in Trinity's Baptismal Register. That was on 20th January 1884 when Frederick was baptised in the Drill Hall in St George's Road, Trinity's first home, by Revd Wm Armstrong, minister of St Leonard's Presbyterian church.

Subsequently seven more Moore children were baptised in Trinity. The photograph was probably taken on the day of Charles Hector's baptism - the other children shown are Felix Jnr, Alexander, Alfred (on father's lap), young Eliza (Lizzie), Charles (baby), Thomas, and on the right, Frederick, nine years after he was Trinity's first baptism. Florence, May and Harold were yet to be born.

The Moore family played an important part in the life of the infant Trinity (especially the Sunday School!). Felix was a member of the Missionary Association and a leader of the Band of Hope, he captained the Boys Brigade and later took an active part in the 'Southey Road Mission', which later became St Cuthbert's District Church. Indeed their house was used for some of the meetings until the church was built. Later the family moved to Sutton and, after the children had left home, to Cheam. Frederick, our first baptism, joined the Royal Navy when he was 15 but we don't know what happened to him after that. The family scattered to many different parts of the world. Felix died in 1934 and Eliza in 1952.