

Trinity News

September 2021

No.511



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

Sundays in September

Sunday 5 September at 11:00 – Holy Communion

Service led by the Revd Alistair Cumming (Church of Scotland minister, Clerk of the Presbytery of England)

Sunday 12 September at 11:00

Service led by Dr Steve Tomkins (Editor of 'Reform' magazine)

Sunday 19 September at 11:00

Service led by Mr John Ellis (Synod Area Leader, West Kent & East Sussex, former Moderator of General Assembly)

Sunday 26 September at 11:00 - Harvest Thanksgiving

Service led by members of Outreach & Witness Team



Church Family News

Change of address

Revd Ernest Yu - 3 Old Post Office Walk, Surbiton, KT6 4JF.
Landline and mobile numbers remain the same.

Ms Gemma Canham & Ms Harriet Vary - 79 Elm Road, New Malden
KT3 3HN

Congratulations

Many congratulations to Richard & Edelweiss Dunfield-Prayero who celebrate their Diamond (60th) Wedding anniversary on 2 September.

A very happy birthday to those celebrating birthdays in September, including Winz Cheung, Lydia Khurshid, Elizabeth McLeish, Deon Nunoo, Benjamin Pratt, Kwame Sarpong jnr, and Margaret Tulloch.

The ministerial vacancy



Over the summer, the Vacancy Team has completed the drafting of the Pastorate Profile, an essential step in the vacancy process. Before it is sent to the Synod Pastoral Committee during September, and prior to our discussions with them about filling the vacancy, it is important that the key messages of the Profile are shared with the congregation.

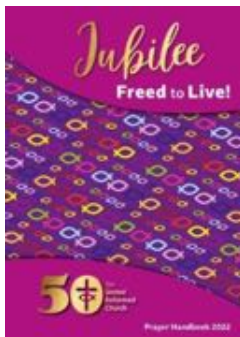
The Profile is a long, detailed document, describing all current aspects of Trinity, our hopes and aspirations for the future, and descriptions of the role, personality and skills that we are seeking in our next minister. We have drawn heavily on the views and suggestions made by the congregation in the Survey carried out in the early summer.

A communication will be sent shortly to all church members asking them to attend an important Church Meeting to be held after the service on **Sunday 12 September**. It is really important that there should be a good attendance at the Meeting, when there will be opportunity to ask questions of the Elders' Council and the Vacancy Team, and to make observations about the Pastorate Profile and the filling of the vacancy. Please do make every effort to attend.

The Vacancy Team will be grateful for your continuing prayers.

If you have any questions about the above, please do ask me.

Sandy McLeish, Vacancy Team Leader



It's 50 years since the United Reformed Church came into being.

Recognising this significant milestone, [Jubilee: Freed to Live!](#) is the theme for the 2022 URC Prayer Handbook. Available in A5 standard and A4 lectern editions. £5.49-£10.99 +p&p from the URC Bookshop.

Working for God's creation - Harvest



Our service on **26 September** will be "Working for God's Creation", our Harvest Thanksgiving. It is being arranged, and will be led by, members of our Outreach & Mission Team, with help from some of our Junior Church.

Our Harvest donations will be taken to the Wimbledon Foodbank. Any of the following would be appreciated:

Noodles - rice - sugar - long life squash/juice - ketchup - toothpaste - toilet rolls - breakfast cereals - soup - pasta sauce - tinned beans - tinned meat - tinned fish - tinned vegetables - tinned fruit - rice pudding/custard - tea bags - coffee - long life milk - biscuits and snacks. (Pasta is not needed.)



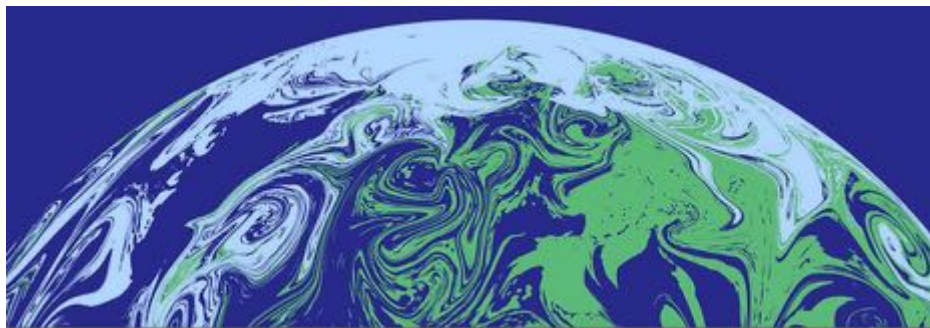
Save the Date - Changing Our Planet - Saturday 9 October 2021, 6 - 8pm

Christ Church, West Wimbledon are organising an in-person speaker evening in the lead up to the COP26 conference.

Speakers will include Ben Niblett of Tearfund speaking about their sustainable development work, and Diana Sterck, CEO of Sustainable Merton, and there will be a question and answer session.

Tickets are free and are available through Eventbrite. More details will follow.

For more information contact Mike Tulloch or Elizabeth Scharinger. We hope for a good attendance from Trinity.



September 'Reform'



As Extinction Rebellion take to the streets again with the message "Stop the damage", **Reform** talks to one of the founders of XR, Ian Bray, a Quaker. It also reports on how churches and charities are responding to the IPCC Report, which concluded that this is our last chance to avert climate catastrophe. Also in this month's *Reform*, John Ellis casts an incisive eye over how the Church has responded to the pandemic. There are features on end-of-life wishes, young people in church, an award-winning church community project, and unpacking that tricky word 'Holiness'. Get *Reform*, [subscribe here](#).

Commitment for Life & Christian Aid Week

The pandemic has caused a huge change in how charities can operate. Church services became virtual and collecting door to door impossible.

We had a special online service conducted by the Rev Kevin Snyman for Commitment for Life (CFL). Afterwards Trinity people donated £975 to CFL which is an excellent result. Susan Pearson from the URC said, *"Your continued generosity towards our support for Christian Aid and Global Justice Now is much appreciated"*.

For Christian Aid week we delivered envelopes door to door inviting people to give either online or by phone. We cannot know how successful this was but it made us realise that this is perhaps the future for Christian Aid Week. Christian Aid in its response thanking for donations described one example of how they are working with local partners to bring about change. With Anglican Development Services Eastern in Kenya they are building earth dams to harvest more water; sow drought tolerant crops, and demand that governments prioritise the climate crisis.

The Car Boot Sale produced an excellent result (£1289.87) and we were lucky again with the weather. It started to rain just as we were packing up!

Christian Aid has produced information and resources for Harvest which you can find on <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/harvest-appeal>.



During the weekend of Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 September Christian Aid is organising a virtual 'Circle the City' on Zoom. Resources include a self-guided tour of the City churches and sponsorship information.

Find out more on christianaid.org.uk/fundraising/circle-the-city.



Thank you very much for your support.

Mike and Margaret Tulloch

What do you think are the great barriers to evangelism in the UK today?

My hunch is that.... people have never actually heard the story.... They think they've heard the story. They think they know about the Church, and have this vague idea that science has disproved religion, or that, if you're going to be a Christian, you've got to believe all these other things, or that Christians are very anti things. These images make them think 'Christianity is not for me'.

I'm trying to say: 'Could you, for a moment, just put that to one side?' I use the image of going to the theatre, where you suspend your disbelief. If you don't you're never going to enjoy the play. I'm saying: 'Enter into the world of somebody who is a follower of Jesus Christ and have a look and see what it's really like'.

Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York

If you've not yet been back to church.....we've
missed you.....
.....and hope to see you again very soon.



Christmas 2021

We've been doing a bit of looking ahead, and now we need your help.

Do you have a nativity crib scene? If so, would you be willing to lend it to the church for a few days before Christmas (probably the weekend of 18/19 December)?

We are thinking of having an exhibition of as many nativity scenes as possible - the more variety the better. Old, new, home-made, wooden, metal, large and small, Chinese, British..... But we can't do this without your help.

Please contact Catherine Paul

(catherine.f.paul@btinternet.com) as soon as possible so we know whether we will have enough scenes to exhibit, or for further information.



Important

Church Meeting **for all Trinity's members**



Sunday 12 September
(following the morning service)

**Hear about Trinity's Pastorate Profile for the
Ministerial Vacancy**

Your opportunity to ask questions

General Assembly round up

The URC General Assembly took place from 9-12 July online. Topics on the URC Learning Hub, action towards an anti-racist church, the Israeli and Palestinian conflict, the URC's 50th jubilee, modern-day slavery, the future of Pilots, ministerial disciplinary process, safeguarding, and the pension scheme. A round up of all the business discussed and decisions made can be [read here](#).

From the archives

A look back to the Seventies



The blue walls



The Minister,
Revd H Burns
Jamieson, and
congregation
leaving church
after the
morning service



Above: The Revd H Burns Jamieson and congregation

Below: The Revd John Weller and congregation, including one or two familiar faces!



Front cover photo: Photo by [Rubén Bagüés](#) on [Unsplash](#)