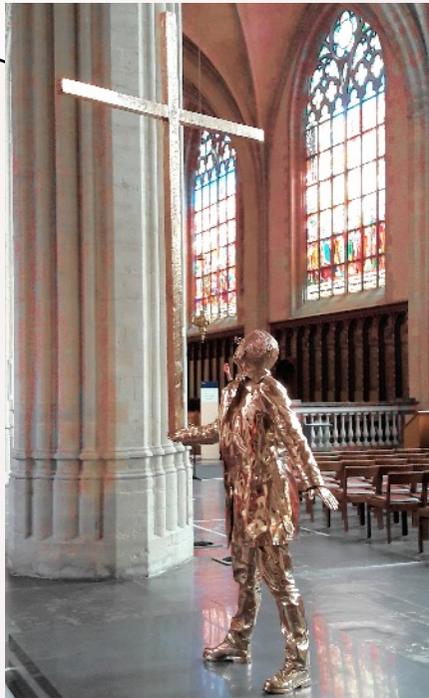


# T RINITY NEWS & VIEWS



**"For I am the LORD your God, who upholds your right hand, who says to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you'" *Isaiah 41:13***

**Oct /Nov 2017 Issue 37**

## Message from Rev. Dave Faulkner

Dear Friends,

There is a pious and well-meaning saying that I often hear Christians say, and it makes me wince. If I'm honest, I've said it, too, but the more I ponder it the more I want to rephrase it. Of course, I could just be one of those annoying pedants. The saying in question is ... 'God is in control.' With my spiritual gift of pedantry, I would rather say, 'God is in charge.'

Maybe it's how the words hit me, but to speak of God being in control makes him sound like a micro-manager, ordering every tiny detail. I believe that God reigns, but I don't believe God is a puppet-master. Or to put it another way, God is sovereign, but not a control freak.

Think of it like this: the New Testament speaks of the kingdom of God having been brought in by Jesus, yet it is clearly not here in all its fulness. Sin and all kinds of brokenness are still unwelcome guests in our world. That doesn't change the fact that God reigns, any more than citizens disobeying the law of the land disprove that there is a monarch and a government in power in the UK.

So, yes: God is in charge but it is not right to speak of God controlling things. As one recent book from the Methodist tradition put it in the title, we believe in 'the uncontrolling love of God.'

The flip side of that is that we're not in control, either, and we can find that unnerving. We long for certain people we care about to do certain things, but we cannot control them. It leaves us vulnerable. We are so used to flicking switches, pressing buttons, and clicking mice to make things happen

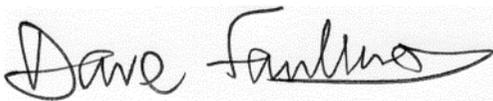
that we carry that attitude over into our approach to other human beings (despite all that we affirm about free will). I was recently asked how I dealt with recalcitrant members of congregations. I think my questioner was looking for some secret formula to make things right. However, I replied that my job is to witness to the truth, and to uphold what is right in the church, but I could never guarantee a positive response from such people. In fact, when I once advised such a member of the awkward squad that what she was proposing would be counter-productive for the church, she simply responded, "You can't control me!" More fool her, but I had done my job of witness.

So what do we do when things are not going our way? There is no alternative but to pray. Not that God will force the situation – although we need to remember that he has more free will than us.

But if prayer is where this lands us, then that's good news. It means God has got us where he wants us: dependent upon him.

That can't be a bad thing, can it? God is in charge but not in control, and we bow the knee both in obedience and dependence.

Your friend,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Franklin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## **Dates for your Diaries**

22nd October	08.45am Early Morning Communion 10.30am Compassion 16.00pm Neighbourhood Tea Party
28th October	18.00pm Talk & Dine Building & Living in an Ice Hotel
5th November	16.00pm All Souls
12th November	10.30am Remembrance Sunday
26th November	08:45am Early Morning Communion
10th December	10.30am Nativity Service
17th December	18.30pm Carol Service
24th December	10.30am Morning Service 17.00pm Christingle 11.30pm Midnight Communion
25th December	10.00am Christmas Day Service
7th January	10.30am Covenant Service

## Message from the Circuit Leadership Team

The circuit team wish to extend a big thank you to everyone who generously gave up their time on Saturday 23 September to help at the District Synod held at Trinity Methodist church. The number of volunteers allowed tasks to be shared out and completed swiftly and efficiently resulting in a successful day and allowing all district delegates to enjoy a fruitful time together.

Once again, thanks to all who were involved.

God bless The Circuit Leadership team



*Pictures of Synod courtesy of John Nelson*

**All Souls Service  
Sunday 5 November, 4pm**



**Come and join us for a quiet time to remember friends and loved ones who have recently passed away. A quiet time to reflect on their lives.**

**We light candles and have an opportunity to speak, pray and listen, followed by refreshments.**

**If you would like to have the name of your loved one read out, please send a note to  
*The Administrator, or email  
trinitywoking@btinternet.com***

**Please feel free to pass this invitation to friends or neighbours you know who have been bereaved.**

**Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road, Woking  
GU21 4LH. Tel 01483 730754**

## Beyond Trinity

### Refugee Tales walkers and supporters

The BBC 1 Panorama programme at 9pm on Monday 4th September was focused on an undercover investigation of an immigration removal centre. The centre is Brook House at Gatwick, where many of our friends have been detained.

Detention Forum, the network that GDWG helps to coordinate, have put out a statement which draws attention not only to the allegations of abuse by G4S staff, but also to the need for scrutiny of the UK government's use of indefinite immigration detention.

<http://detentionforum.org.uk/our-response-to-brook-house-g4s-staff-abuse-allegations/>

Please feel free to use the statement to engage with your MP, peers, family and friends who might not yet be aware of the issue of indefinite immigration detention.

### Charities of the Month

*Amounts raised*

January CAB	£125
February SOS Children's Villages	£120
March Brigitte Trust	£115
April Syrian Refugees	£110
May Christian Aid	£145
June Agape	£90
July/August Let's Read	
September Crisis at Christmas	
October Harvest Appeal - The Gambia	
November Operation Christmas Child	
December Action for Children	

## **Sing to the Lord a new song!: Personal reflections on music in July and August**

**I** am sure that many of you will have your own personal reflections on the music during services in July and August, but as I have been instrumental in the 'experiment', I thought I would share some of mine.

My daughter, Anna, as you will have gathered if you have been to the services, is passionate about music and over the last year or so at Trinity has become more involved in the leading of music. As she has grown and matured in her own faith through attending other events outside of Trinity, she has experienced worship that has inspired and challenged her and has taught her what worship really is.

Worship defined in the dictionary is: 'The feeling or expression of reverence and adoration for a deity'

This led her to offer to lead the worship at Trinity for the services during July and August as her exams were finished and she had the time required. The leadership team

were all in favour of this and have been most supportive of it. We believe that only by having a sustained period of modern worship would we really start to find out how it can change and challenge us and, also, would give the congregation a chance to really get to know the songs so that they become familiar with them, enabling people to concentrate on the words and begin to really sing them for themselves. In all, we have learnt in the region of 20 new songs – isn't that great?!

### **Structure of services**

I know that some people might wonder why we have been having such a sustained period of worship at the beginning of the services, often singing 2, 3, or even 4 songs together, sometimes lasting for 15 – 20 minutes. Is this really that long when thinking about praising God? One of my favourite songs has the words 'For endless days I will sing Your praise'. So let us not complain about praising God for more than 5 minutes!

For me, the sustained time enables me to begin to focus my mind and my heart on God Himself more and more. The more I sing about how amazing He is, the more I want to sing about Him and praise and adore him. The other things that I have been thinking about, worrying about, felt anxious about, such as; 'What does the rest of the congregation think about this?', 'Is everyone else singing?', 'Should I stand up or sit down?', 'Can I raise my hands if I feel moved to?'... fade away and, as the weeks have gone on, I have been able to leave these thoughts behind and make my worship between me and God. I have felt excited, joyful, overwhelmed, loved, forgiven, inspired. For me to worship fully I need to 'feel and express reverence and adoration' for my God and, unless I do this wholeheartedly and give my all, it is not worthy and I may as well not bother. Jesus calls us to: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind" Matthew 22:37. This commandment starts with heart and demands our all. Hearts are where we feel passion, love, peace, joy... so

the way we love and worship God needs to be passionate, full of love and peace and joy. Another reason for having this style of worship is that we are called to "Sing to the Lord a **new** song; sing to the Lord all the earth" Psalm 96:1. A quick Google search will find at least 9 Bible verses that speak about singing new songs. At the risk of being facetious, I can't find a single command that tells us to sing an old song! My point is, that the Bible tells us to sing **new** songs (and isn't it exciting when we learn new things?!). Anna was very clear when starting out on this project that we would sing songs that have been written in the last 10 years. The songs that we as a congregation have previously considered 'modern', I'm afraid no longer are. There is a whole community out there who are writing such rich, inspiring, modern, relevant words and music, we are missing out big time unless we make efforts to get to know it.

### **A church fit for 2017 and beyond**

I understand that I might well be in the minority of the congregation in my enthusiasm for, not just modern worship music, but

also a change in style of service to a less formal, more expressive, freer format, but I often look around on a Sunday morning and am struggling to find more than 5 people who might possibly be younger than me. As my daughters remind me often – I am now ‘middle aged’ and two of my daughters are now adults and are soon to be leaving home. I can no longer truly put myself in the ‘young’ age bracket, even if I feel young! We are lacking at Trinity swathes of generations, which, unless this is turned around, can only mean one thing. Our services in many ways have not changed in style and format in any significant way since I came to Trinity as a child nearly 40 years ago. If a business fails, it can usually be put down to the fact that it didn’t change with the times. If Marks and Spencer had continued to sell clothes that were in fashion in the seventies, they would certainly have been out of business a long time ago. You may find this analogy rather simplistic or maybe even crude, but it is quite simple. When Paul preached a few weeks ago, he told us that modern music on its own is not going to bring

new people into Trinity and he is right, but he also said that we need to be ready and relevant when people do come. Society around us is changing at a phenomenal rate in its values, in the way it communicates, its expectations of life and, for most people, going to church or developing a Christian faith is not anywhere near their radar. Life for working people, teenagers and young children can be hugely pressured and stressful, but we have the answer! Jesus is the answer! We need to be asking ourselves how we can communicate that to so many hundreds and thousands of people in our town who don’t yet know about Jesus. If our style of ‘expression of reverence and adoration’ of our God is not accessible to the world around us, we become outdated and irrelevant. We have lost our teenagers in recent years and many of their parents too and we need to start asking why.

I am aware that there has been a very mixed response to the changes in recent weeks. Some people have been most appreciative and have described it as ‘inspirational’, some have asked for copies of

the words to take home, the preachers have been encouraging and encouraged by it (the more observant of you will have noticed that many of the preachers have spontaneously referred to the words of the songs in their prayers or sermons). On the other hand, some have stayed away from church during this time, choosing not to experience worship in this way, others have expressed how much they dislike it to members of the leadership team and to me and I'm sure there has been much talk about it amongst people that we don't know about. Everyone will have an opinion. I understand that it is not everyone's 'cup of tea' and that if your upbringing has been a 5 hymn sandwich all your life, you will find it hard to adapt to a new style of worship, but unless the whole church starts to embrace a new way of expressing its reverence and adoration of God, I believe we are destined to die and can see Trinity closing within the next few years. We are each responsible for this in the way that we speak about it, in our attitudes towards it and we must all start to take that responsibility

seriously. If we take the attitude that 'as long as the services are conducted in a style that I am used to and comfortable with, then that's what's important', then what we are saying is that we don't care for the next generation and that if they don't hear about Jesus in their own language, or a way that is accessible and relevant to them, that's OK. We ignore the younger generation at our absolute peril.

I know that what I have said above might seem all doom and gloom, but I do believe we can change (or more accurately, that God can change us). We must adapt to a new way of expressing our worship or we are missing out. Our God is amazing – there are not enough words, or words adequate enough to express this, so let us allow ourselves to feel excited, inspired, passionate, joyful.. Let us speak to each other about what God is doing in our lives and how our faith is deepening and moving. Let us develop the desire to move forwards with God and praise and adore Him more each day. Let us sing with all our hearts and shout for joy for all He has done for

us (and all that is to come if we let Him!).

This period of experimentation on a very personal note has changed me and my understanding of worship. I think for the first time ever, I have felt truly excited about coming to church and worshipping God (which is quite a confession, so I hope you'll forgive me!). Many of the songs and their words and expressions have come to me in the week and I have found myself singing and praising God far more than ever before. I hope that some others in the congregation feel similarly. We don't yet know the way forward with music as Anna is leaving, but I would urge every member of the congregation to think about what we can learn from new ways of worshipping and what God might be saying to us about it individually, so that we can move forward collectively and become a church that could be fit for 2017 and beyond.

I'll finish with the words from one of our new songs:

'Your love never fails, it never gives up, it never runs out on me.' Isn't that great?!

## **Knit and Knatter.**

**B**eyond Trinity would like to invite all who knit to get out your needles and wool and make some of these Christmas Angels as part of our outreach. The idea is to offer them as small Christmas gifts from Trinity to the community around us. Jill Willis will display them amongst her Advent pots and they would be free to members of the Church, or our tenants or passers- by. Please feel free to knit them in any colour or any wool you choose and either make them by yourself or why not invite some friends round and have a knit and knatter group? It is suggested that each angel has a small label attached saying "Please take me, I'm free – Happy Christmas from Trinity". Beyond Trinity committee will arrange the labels for you and you can give the completed ones to me or Jill. So do please get knitting!

*Pattern on pages 13 &14*

**Gill Kozlowski**

**Daphne Lander**



# CHRISTMAS ANGEL

## What you will need.

Some wool (in any yarn or colour)

Knitting needles (between size 10-8 (thats 3.25mm and 4mm))

Darning needle (like a big sewing needle)

Small amount of stuffing

The angels have been designed to be as simple and as flexible as possible so everyone from a beginner to a more advanced knitter can have a go. Feel free to adapt the pattern if you want by adding in different colours or making a larger angel.

If you want a place to start we have used size 9 needles with double yarn to knit some of ours.

You will need a basic knowledge of knit and purl to make these angels but don't let that stop you if you haven't done it before. Find someone who can teach you and ask them to help you learn a new skill.

And most of all have fun.

## The Pattern

### Angel - Body

Cast on 48 sts

1. Knit row
2. Purl row
3. K2TOG, K10\*, repeat until end
4. Purl row
5. Knit row
6. P2TOG, P9\*, repeat until end
7. Knit row
8. Purl row
9. K2TOG, K8\*, repeat until end
10. Purl row
11. Knit row
12. P2TOG, P7\*, repeat until end
13. Knit Row
14. Purl Row
15. K2TOG, K6\*, repeat until end
16. Purl row
17. Knit row



This angel is knitted in sparkly cream, with sparkly mohair wings.

18. P2TOG, P5\*, repeat until end
19. Knit row
20. Purl row
21. K2TOG, K4\*, repeat until end - 20 sts
22. Purl row
23. Knit row
24. Purl row
25. Knit row
26. Purl row
27. Knit row

Pattern is continued on the other side.



CHRISTMAS ANGEL  
[www.christmasangel.net](http://www.christmasangel.net)

At this point, you can change your colour to create the face if you want.

28. Purl row
29. knit row
30. Purl row
31. Knit row
32. Purl row
33. Knit row
34. Purl row
35. K2TOG - repeat until end
36. Purl row
37. Knit row
38. P2TOG - repeat until end

Using a darning needle, thread the end of the yarn through the stitches and tighten to create the top of the head. Turn the angel inside out and sew up the head and the body. Around the neck, take a small amount of stuffing and place at the top of the head, then thread some yarn between stitches and pull loosely together.

#### Angel - Wings

##### Option 1

Cast on 27 sts

1. Knit row
2. Knit row
3. Decrease at each end (Knit)
4. Knit
5. Knit 12 rows, decrease at each end  
cast off

##### Option 2 (more advanced)

The wings are knitted in short rows, with the yarn wrapped around the last stitch in the middle of each ridge. To complete this you need to bring your yarn forward, slip the stitch over purlwise, take the yarn back again, replace the slipped stitch, bring the yarn forward again and turn the work.

w&t = wrap & turn

Cast on 9 sts

1. K8, w&t, K8
2. K6, w&t, K6
3. K4, w&t, K4
4. K2, w&t, K2
5. K4, w&t, K4
6. K6, w&t, K6

Repeat these 6 rows, 4-5 times as necessary. Sew wings to the body.



Wings as they should look using option 2.

## Neighbourhood Party – how to get involved

Over the past 25 years or more Trinity has hosted a Neighbourhood Party for house-bound people in the local area. Each time we provide entertainment and high tea for over 50 guests. The next party is booked for Sunday 22 October 2017.

Now it is time to get involved, because we only can do this with your help. You can help by making Trinity aware of any potential guests, such that the people, that really would enjoy the party most, can be invited. Then by helping with the invitations, transport, welcoming, hosting, entertainment, tea, and, yes, even with the washing up. Any help, however small, is very much appreciated and does not take a lot of time. For your convenience I have attached a reply slip, which also can be found in the notices nearer the time.

I look forward meeting you on 22-OCT.

Henk Innemee (W 762715)

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**Neighbourhood Party, October 22, 4-6 pm:** There are opportunities to join the team for this much-appreciated event, either by providing a lift, baking, hosting or helping to serve on the day. Contacts for more information, or to indicate your willingness, as follows (please tick and leave in the East Entrance):

Lifts on the day: John Craig W 762059

Host at a table: Peggy Windsor W 763605

Baking beforehand: Henk Innemee W 762715

Serving on the day: Pauline Robson W 773403

**Name**.....

**Tel No**..... **Thanks on behalf of our guests!**

## The Garden - Update.

*.....to set budding  
more  
And still more, later  
flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days  
will never cease;  
J.Keats.*

Summer has seen the main island bed bursting into bloom with spires of deep blue salvias, massed dark red Bishop of Llandaff dahlias and bright yellow rudbeckias cheering up the rather gloomy weather. The bees love the



catmint, and the sedums have now turned deep pink and are attracting all sorts of winged insects.

In the side beds the sunflowers and sweet peas are now over, but are replaced by a spectacular display of zinnias. The dazzling colours of these amazing flowers, which grew from seed sown directly into

the ground in May, are causing great deal of interest to passers-by. The screening of the compost waste bins is now complete, and already there has been a beautiful display of pink, blue and purple clematis on the trellis. These have looked lovely and create a really pretty area, offset by the lawns which have settled down under Ian's care.

It will soon be time to overhaul the Advent pots and to think about the stable for Christmas!

There have been so many complimentary comments from people who pass by, or through, our premises. Some just smile as they pass and say that the garden looks lovely, but others stop and chat.

There is a cheerful man that we now know is a member of Christ Church who comes most weeks, and who loves the garden. There is a lady with a grandson in a pushchair who says that every time she comes to Woking to visit her family, she always makes a point of coming to see what we are doing. Just this morning a lady paused to say that she walks through the garden every morning on her way to work, and that the flowers 'give her a lift'. One man

jokingly told his wife that they had no need to go to Wisley after seeing our zinnias! The Cremona parents enjoy seeing the plants, and there is one young Dad who pops round when his daughter is dancing to ask gardening questions, as he has recently got a new garden and is a bit daunted.

It is not only gardening comments we receive. One



man was keen to start a theological discussion. He was visiting his mother and I was glad to see him in church the next day. A young lady asked if she could go into the church to light a candle and pray. We couldn't manage the candle but we found her a peaceful place in the Sanctuary.

The garden at Trinity gives people happiness and witnesses to God's love, and is a great point of contact with our friends and neighbours.

People talk to us when we are watering and weeding in a way that they otherwise would not. It must be the grubby hands and old clothes that make us approachable!

**Elaine Slatter**

**Book review**  
**Dethroning Mammon**  
(making money serve grace).

*The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2017 published by Bloomsbury Continuum*

Rowan Williams, the late Archbishop of Canterbury was widely regarded as a mystic, a Celtic mystic at that, and a man not of this world. His successor, Justin Welby, is cut from a different cloth. The product of a self-confessed "messy", if well heeled, upbringing, he had been the group treasurer of a large oil company before taking Holy Orders. He seemed to be just the man to deal with the budgetary and human resource issues that beset any large sprawling organisation such as the Anglican Communion.

But there is more to him than that. This book, first published in 2016 as a series of reflections for Lent, betrays a deep commitment to Christ and Christian values. The underlying theme is that Mammon (money) enslaves people: "the more interconnected the world

becomes, the more power is held over individuals and nations, by economics, by money and the flows of finance. Mammon,- a name given by Jesus to this force - gains strength through our obedience. The more we let ourselves be governed by Mammon, the more power he has, and the more the vulnerable suffer”.

This is not to say that we should dismiss money as an evil force in our lives but rather that we should live our life as Christ would wish us to do and in so doing use Mammon as our servant and not our master.

There are six chapters. Each examines the way that we relate to the generosity of God and the love of Christ and each is underpinned by relevant texts from the New Testament. Chapter one deals with our tendency to value only what we see, what is immediately apparent. We value visible wealth and are impressed by confident people, particularly when they have a track record of “success”. We tend to dismiss the views of the poor and the needy. Jesus challenges this way of seeing and valuing people

Chapter two looks at how we value things and the effect that judgement has on ourselves and those around us

Chapter three reflects on the very human tendency to hold on to possessions, to say that “what is ours is truly ours, not truly God’s”. In this chapter he asks how we might overcome this tendency.

Chapter four “looks at the links between power and money and the way in which we settle into thinking that what we have gained is by our own efforts rather than by the grace of God” “the recovery of a sense of grace as the origin of all things opens the way to humble service, the common good, and the love for one another that dethrones Mammon”.

Chapter five examines the prevailing assumptions about the way that economies work. Awareness of the influences that shape our thinking should enable us ensure that our influence is Christ not Mammon.

The book is not an easy read but it provides a useful introduction to the moral purpose that underpins our faith. As such it is a text that one could proffer to non-churchgoers enquiring about

Christian beliefs. Some of Dr. Welby's reflections may make uncomfortable reading for those of us who treat money as an essential tool for everyday living without realising that it has wrapped its coils around our thoughts and activities. It could also serve as a warning to the congregation at Trinity as it plans for the future of its mission in the town of Woking.

### **Gareth Davies**

*The book was discussed at a recent meeting of the Trinity book group (convener Lisa Barrott). There will be a copy in the Trinity library*



The oldest computer can be traced back to Adam and Eve. It was an Apple, but with an extremely limited memory, just one byte and then everything crashed.



# **RIPLEY**



**R**ipley village fair will take place on Sunday 3rd December starting at 12 noon. There will be 100 stalls along the grass verges through the village selling gifts, jewellery, clothing, cupcakes, hot food etc. There will also be fairground rides on the village green, Father Christmas in Richardson's shop and a grand procession of Harley Davidsons at 3.50pm leading up to the switching on the Christmas lights.

Put the date in your diary and come and join in the fun.

Barbara Phillips

## The Fair Trade Revolution



This book is a recent addition to Trinity's library.

A minor miracle has shaken sections of the UK supermarket scene over the last 40 years. This book takes us behind the supermarket facades, and shines a light on dubious trading practices round the world. Read just a few of the contributions from people directly involved in trade between producers, in the southern continents, and consumers in Europe or U.S.A. and you'd agree YES some changes on a revolutionary scale have been achieved.

***The Fair Trade Revolution*** edited by John Bowes, is a series of reports straight from the front-line covering various aspects of Fairtrade. Only a dedicated economist would read this book cover to cover, but you can dip in to a section and find answers to many Fairtrade questions. There are details on Divine Chocolate's close links with Cocoa growers in Ghana, on how Fairtrade in Italy – or Japan - works in a distinctly different way from Britain's system of sales via

mainstream retailers. The story of Garstang in Lancashire shows how an Oxfam Group overcame local inertia to make this the first Fairtrade Town and underlines the value of grassroots campaigners – there are now more than 1000 Fairtrade Towns world-wide.

I found ***Banana Breakthrough*** a Sainsbury's banana buyer's blow-by-blow account the most eye-opening story. He describes the firm's year-long struggle to 'make a difference' by converting ***all*** Sainsbury's banana sales to Fairtrade. He sheds light too on the value of the Fairtrade Mark and the relatively poor return for producers via Rainforest Alliance

By 2010 7 million people world-wide were said to benefit from Fairtrade. But this success must be set against hard facts, with the UK grocery trade's annual sales estimated at £140 billion, only 1 % comes from Fairtrade sales. John Bowes assessment is timely and realistic : 'Fairtrade has come a long way in a short period .... it still has an awfully long way to go.'

**Margot Craig**

**Condemnation is  
Human Nature  
Graciousness is Godly**

**I**t is the nature of man to see condemnation preside over Graciousness. Being human even a preacher would in most cases want to see those who have repented to be punished. Saying sorry would not be enough. People have been sacked from employment even after admitting having made a mistake and reflecting on the poor practices that they would have performed. I have seen this in the time I have been manager as well as a support worker. You begin to say to yourself who is really the perfect one who would not accept people's repentance and give them a second chance?

The above is reflected in Jonah's story of Nineva. The question that comes into mind is 'Why was Jonah angry that the Ninevites repented (Jonah 4:1-2). It seems strange that a preacher is angry that his audience repented of their sins, but this is exactly what happens in human nature. We flee away from people who

need repentance and condemn them forever.

There are several possible reasons for our desire to see other people we think are evil destroyed. We might view other people as ruthless and undisciplined to be members of any society and enemies of the rest of the people in our neighbourhood. This is exactly what Jonah saw of the people of Ninevah and so he decided first to run away and go to Tarshish. Our sense of justice is not God's sense of justice. God is a God of grace and peace. God is a merciful God. We are always bent on seeing the downfall of those we perceive to be trouble makers. We do not take time to think and put ourselves in their place and say would I have loved it to happen to me.

I was disturbed to read an article of a Pastor boasting that he is praying for the death of a ruthless leader. He boasted that he was fasting and doing all sorts of things to ask God to kill the ruthless leader. There some people who come out in the open on the hatred they may have on individuals and also there are some people who still keep to themselves

and still would wish bad on the people they think cause problems to society. This is not what God is like. God gives each one of us a chance to repent and turn away from the evil ways. God's heart is for the redemption of all who will come to Him. God extends his salvation to all people irrespective of the evil they might have committed. In the sight of God all people deserve to be saved. In God's goodness to the Assyrians, before sending judgement, gave them a chance to repent. This shows that God is concerned for all people which we as preachers fall short of like Jonah. We forget the great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20 which centres on God's call to take the good news to all nations.

To live a gracious life will require us as people of God never to look at the negative aspects of our fellow people be it children or spouses, people at work places and the community around and rather focus on the positive and those things that they do best. Praise all the good, be it small or meaningless. By so doing many will be saved and will also focus their attention on

aspects that bring harmony to society and the rest of the world. We need to highlight our love and concern for fairness and not dwell on how justice should have been carried out. God is willing to forgive all those who repent and who are we to judge and press for justice to be done.

Well that is human nature. God works exactly the opposite of human nature. God cares for people of every kind.

**Rabson Ziso**



## **Deep Cleaning The Kitchen**



*Everything Out!*



*Just a bit higher!*



# ***SAVE THE DATE***

***SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER AT 17:00 FOR A  
TALK & DINE EVENT.***

***THE TALK WILL BE ON "BUILDING AND LIVING  
IN THE ICE HOTEL" WITH MIKE & SUE TOZER***

***RAISING FUNDS FOR THE TRINITY 2020  
BUILDING PROJECT.***





## Praying Together



I have been reading a biography of Mother Teresa written by Kathryn Spink. It is an extraordinary book that highlights the faith of Mother Teresa.

Mother Teresa was born in a small village in Albania and



named Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. Agnes joined the Loretto

sisters an Irish branch of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She changed her name to Sister Teresa of the Child Jesus after Teresa of Lisieux the Little Flower who pointed the way to becoming holy through faithfulness in small things. She sailed to India to begin work in Calcutta.

God was her rock on which she built her faith. Mother Teresa tried to rely totally on God and her wish to look after the poor flowed out of because in them she found Christ. Mother Teresa believed in a God who lived among us and she saw

Jesus as both fully God and also fully human. Life she saw was precious and something to be every thankful about and praise God.

Life is – written by Mother Teresa and quoted in the preface to Kathryn Spink’s book

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.

Life is beauty, admire it.

Life is a dream, realize it.

Life is a challenge, meet it.

Life is a duty, complete it.

Life is a game, play it.

Life is a promise, fulfil it.

Life is sorrow, overcome it.

Life is a song, sing it.

Life is a struggle, accept it.

Life is a tragedy, confront it.

Life is an adventure, dare it.

Life is luck, make it.

Life is too precious, do not destroy it.

Life is life, fight for it.

To use this poem in prayer time - I wondered about trying to add more Life is lines to it for example Life is exciting enjoy it

Life is busy, slow it down  
Life is noisy quieten it down  
What would you add?  
Also you could try pondering a  
line – Life is beauty admire it  
– Where in your life is the  
beauty? Thank God for it

Everyone matters to God. This  
idea was important to Mother  
Teresa and she cared for the  
poor always with this mind.

J.B. Phillips New Testament  
Jesus himself was now in  
Bethany in the house of Simon  
the leper. As he was sitting at  
table, a woman approached  
him with an alabaster flask of  
very costly spikenard perfume.  
She broke the neck of the flask  
and poured the perfume on  
Jesus' head. Some of those  
present were highly indignant  
and muttered, "What is the  
point of such wicked waste of  
perfume? It could have been  
sold for over thirty pounds and  
the money could have been  
given to the poor." And there  
was a murmur of resentment  
against her. But Jesus said,  
"Let her alone, why must you  
make her feel uncomfortable?  
She has done a beautiful thing  
for me. You have the poor with  
you always and you can do  
good to them whenever you  
like, but you will not always  
have me. She has done all she

could—for she has anointed  
my body in preparation for  
burial. I assure you that  
wherever the Gospel is  
preached throughout the  
whole world, this deed of hers  
will also be recounted, as her  
memorial to me."

*Prayer written by Erin Finch page 53  
Prayer Handbook Freedom to share  
2016/2017  
and adapted by me*

Dear Lord, please wrap your  
warm loving arms around our  
world

Please protect the people in  
the world who are suffering  
great loss and grief

Please keep all your children  
safe and protected from wars,  
famine, natural disasters and  
plagues.

Please help the people of the  
world help their neighbours in  
myriad small ways

Please help the people of the  
world look for the good, and  
banish bad and evil.

May we not give up hope, in  
the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

The verses below reportedly  
were written on the wall of  
Mother Teresa's home for  
children in Calcutta, India, and  
are widely attributed to her.  
Some sources say that the

words below were written on the wall in Mother Teresa's own room. In any case, their association with Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity has made them popular worldwide, expressing as they do, the spirit in which they lived their lives.

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centred. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

*From Mother Teresa website called Prayer Foundation*

Mother Teresa also wrote about relying and trusting in God. The sisters of the Missionaries of Charity, which was founded by Mother Teresa, spoke in terms of having the spirit of loving trust, total surrender and cheerfulness as lived by Jesus and mother.

Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all. Run to God! Run from evil! Your body will glow with health; your very bones will vibrate with life! Honour God with everything you own; give him the first and the best. Your barns will burst; your wine vats will brim over. But don't, dear friend, resent God's

discipline; don't sulk under his loving correction. It's the child he loves that God corrects; a father's delight is behind all this.

*Proverbs 3:5-12 The Message Bible*

Lead me from death to life,  
From falsehood to truth;  
Lead me from despair to hope,  
From fear to trust;  
Lead me from hate to love,  
From war to peace.  
Let peace fill our heart,  
our world, our universe.  
Amen

*World Peace prayer quoted on page 185 of book written by Kathryn Spinks*

Mother Teresa first publicly used the prayer in July 1981 in the Anglican Church, St. James', Piccadilly in London. Each day at noon people of all faiths and none use this universal Prayer for Peace. This forms a wave of prayer and hope rippling each day around the globe.

Mother Teresa – An Authorized Biography – Kathryn Spink 2011 edition, which was updated from 1998 edition

## **Feeding the 5,000 in Hull**

The week after Trinity Book Circle's visit to Hull, the Council of Churches recreated the famous biblical story of the feeding of the 5,000 as fryers cooked an average of 160 portions of fish every 15 minutes for the crowds gathered at the Rosebowl area of Queens Gardens Hull.

Supported by the Bible Society, North Atlantic Fishing Company and Yorkshire Bakery Cooplands, this was the biggest community event to be staged by Believe in Hull to celebrate Hull's City of Culture status.

For the thousands of people who tucked into a fish sandwich, there was also entertainment from a theatre group, singing from some Brownies, drummers and a puppet show.

The people were also handed a knitted fish with a greeting from the churches involved. Altogether 5,700 fish were knitted by people all across the county as well as Hull.

**Ann Dawson**

**Barbara Phillips**



## ***October Half Term***

**24<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Thursday**

***10am - 1pm***

***Free!***

**Lunch included  
Everyone welcome**

**Organised fun for the whole family**

**Abundance of Tea and coffee for the adults**

**Messy craft, Cooking, Science & lots more**

**Trinity Methodist Church, Brewery Road,  
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**[www.trinitywoking.org.uk](http://www.trinitywoking.org.uk)**

**01483 730754**





All We Can helps find solutions to poverty by engaging with local people and organisations in some of the world's poorest communities to end the suffering caused by inequality and injustice. All We Can is able to help communities become all that they can, because of our dedicated and generous supporters.

Malawi, often fondly titled the 'Warm Heart of Africa', is a nation known for its friendliness and stunning scenery but is also sadly one of the world's poorest countries. All We Can has started working in the southern-most regions of Malawi with local organisations committed to seeing long-term and transformative change in the communities they work in.

Unpredictable and insufficient rainfall has meant that poor rural communities in Zimbabwe are struggling to grow enough food. All We Can is helping these communities

find alternative ways to provide for their families' needs, such as by starting new businesses. This Harvest time, pray for the communities in Zimbabwe who are faced with poor harvests, through the support of All We Can may they be successful in developing new ways to provide for their families that are reliable and long term.

*Creator God*

*Thank you for your provision through the world that you made*

*Help us to be good stewards, imaging you with our care*

*May we be willing to share the good gifts of your earth so that all people can flourish*

*Be with those who are struggling to grow enough food and stir us to respond in love*

*Amen*





**WOKING  
CHORAL  
SOCIETY**

# BEETHOVEN

## Missa solemnis



**COVENT GARDEN  
SINFONIA**

**Ben Palmer** *conductor*  
**Nina Bennet** *soprano* • **Katherine Nicholson** *alto*  
**Ruairi Bowen** *tenor* • **James Birchall** *bass*

**SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER 2017 • 7.30pm**  
**H.G. WELLS CENTRE • WOKING**

**Tickets:** £18 full • £5 students and children  
**Book online:** [www.wokingchoral.org.uk](http://www.wokingchoral.org.uk)  
**Enquiries:** 01483 767852



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## **A note to contributors**

It is our practice to publish each edition of TNV on the Trinity website. It is an important source of information about church life at Trinity and something we want to share with others. At the same time we recognise that some contributors may be uncomfortable for their personal details to appear on the internet in this way. We will be happy to omit names and any other personal details in any future issue if requested to do so.

## **From the Editor**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed and helped with the preparation and distribution of this issue of TNV.

The picture on the front cover is "The man who bears the cross" and is a sculpture by Jan Fabre. It is installed in Antwerp Cathedral

I will be editing the Dec/Jan 2018 issue & David will be back in charge for the Feb/Mar 2018 issue.

**Jean Normington**

**Articles for the Dec/Jan issue should be submitted by**

**26th November 2017**

**TRINITY NEWS & VIEWS is the magazine of  
TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH WOKING**

**"Trinity is a welcoming Church seeking to live  
in the love of God and share the message of  
Jesus Christ**

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written, typed, left in the newsletter  
pigeonhole at the Church or emailed to  
[tnv@trinitywoking.org.uk](mailto:tnv@trinitywoking.org.uk)**

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