



**TRINITY CHURCH**  
**(Methodist & United Reformed)**

Conduit Road, Abingdon OX14  
1DB

Tel: 01235 520282  
trinity.abingdon@gmail.com



*'Serving God, serving each other, serving community'*

Presbyter: **Revd Ian Griffiths** Email: rev.ian.griffiths@gmail.com

Deacon: **Selina Nisbett** Tel: 01235 521868. E-mail: selina.nisbett@methodist.org.uk

Conduit Centre Office Manager: Eluned Hallas

Tel: 01235 520282. E-mail: trinity.abingdon@gmail.com



**Reminder**  
**Clocks go back 1hr this weekend**  
**(Saturday/Sunday 24/25 October)**



## NOTICES 25 October 2020

Dear Friends

is not a secret to say that I, like many people, find this time of year a challenge as we enter time marked by shorter daylight hours and longer periods of darkness, and to complicate this further we have the clock changes to endure as we go back to Greenwich mean time! Yes it means an extra hour in bed, but that is little consolation to someone such as myself who enjoys more of an equilibrium in terms of daylight hours. "Oh to live on the equator and to go to bed when it gets dark and wake up with the rooster's crowing!" I say to myself.

People over time and in different cultures have, and still do have, various ways of marking time. The swahili clock for instance is rather different to ours in the United Kingdom, as it marks time from sunrise to sunset; so 1 o'clock is the first hour after the sun rises and so where 6 would normally sit on our clock face, theirs reads 1.

God's time we are told is entirely different to our concept of time. 2 Peter 3 verse 8 says this *"do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day"* and my natural inclination for sunlight would concur with the first part of that verse!

About this time of year I turn back scripture and consciously remind myself that God declared both the light AND the dark to be *"very good."*

Ecclesiastes 3 also reminds me that there is a cyclical rhythm to life.

The writer reminds us that *"there is a season for everything"* and there is even a season to *"embrace and to not embrace;"* how true that is today!

Through these pieces of scripture I make a conscious effort to remember that God's equilibrium is one of generosity and sharing, and as I say the words "thy will be done" I know

that I must graciously let go of what I enjoy as others experience God's bounty. The beautiful words of the hymn by John Ellerton, move me greatly;

O'er each continent and island  
The dawn leads on another day,  
The voice of prayer is never silent,  
Nor dies the strain of praise away.  
The sun that bids us rest is waking  
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
And hour by hour fresh lips are making  
Thy wondrous doings heard on high

and as I sing them, I remember those of my family and friends waking up to a new season of blessings and promise which will be ours again too.

*With love and blessings*

*Dcn. Selina*



## CHURCH NEWS

**Thanks:** Lilian Seymour says ‘Thanks for the flowers from the Harvest Festival – they were a lovely surprise’

**British Legion Poppies:** there will be a box of poppies and a box for donations in the Welcome Area until Remembrance Sunday

**The Shoebox Appeal.** Thank you for gifts of money and some wrapped boxes already received. Our Shoebox Appeal is different because of Covid but presents will still be sent to Bulgaria and Eastern Europe and if anybody is able to fill & wrap a box Rick Parsons will be pleased to collect them. We have until November 15th to shop and the following are things suggested to provide: Clothes - gloves, hats, scarves; Stationery - colouring books, colouring pencils, notebooks, pens; Sweets; Toiletries - disposable razors, facecloths, toothpaste, shaving gel, soap; Toys - small dolls, teddies, small vehicles.

Please put items in a bag or box and phone or email me or Scilla & Griff Fellows and we will arrange to collect them from you. Any cheques or cash in an envelope please. Cheques made payable to FSCI(UK) or donate on line to [www.fscinet.org/christmas-donate](http://www.fscinet.org/christmas-donate).

Thank you as always for your generosity. We understand shopping is difficult but we hope next year to be filling shoeboxes again. Griff & Scilla Fellows at

[gandsfellows@gmail.com](mailto:gandsfellows@gmail.com) / 01235 524878

Eve Newton. [pering79@icloud.com](mailto:pering79@icloud.com) / 01235 522278

### This week's rhyme

Oh dear, what a to do  
It's either the virus or the flu  
Or only a bad cold instead  
So, do we need the Dr or just bed?  
But we need the Lord every day  
For love, for guidance and to pray.

Margaret Langsford

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**35 Ock Street:** Provided government guidelines don't change between now and then, 35 Ock Street is reopening on Monday 26th, obviously with Covid restrictions in place. We'll be open Monday - Saturday 10.30 - 12.30, serving tea, coffee, chocolate, cold drinks, cake, biscuits and teacakes.

### **The Church in Abingdon Church Twinning Group**

is selling packs of  
Christmas cards priced at £4.50  
in order to raise funds.  
Packs of 10 cards, 5 each of two designs.  
If you would like to support  
this fund raising effort please contact  
Maggie Greaney or Ruth Sillitoe

**Abingdon Artists' Autumn Art Exhibition:** Tuesday 27 – Saturday 31 October, Christchurch Barn, Northcourt Rd. Open Daily: 10am-4:30pm, Saturday close at 4pm. Free entrance. New and original work by local artists, including sculpture, cards and unframed items. Covid 19 Secure. Please check [website](#) for latest opening information.



## WORSHIP

The [October Edition](#) of **Sharing the Faith** is now available on line, or call the Office if you'd like a copy posted to you

**Online:** Keith leads an on-line Zoom service on Sunday mornings at 10:30am. Moving forward these services will be Zoomed from Wantage Methodist Church. This will mean that the format of the Zoom service will need to change slightly and that there will no longer be break-out groups afterwards. As in all things, it is better to start simply and build on from there, so please bear with us as we enter this new phase of Zooming and do let us know your thoughts and reflections. Helpful and constructive feedback is always welcome. If you would like to join in or know more about this, please contact Keith directly - [keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk](mailto:keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk).

Occasional reflections and thoughts for the day are made available on the [Circuit website](#) and the [Circuit YouTube Channel](#).

The [Methodist website](#) has links to many other live streamed services and resources for worship and reflection at home.

**Free phone line for prayers and news** from the Methodist Church:

Prayer: 0808 281 2541                      News: 0808 281 2478

Content updated Thursday afternoon

## HARVEST

Thanks to Selina for leading a thoughtful Harvest service last Sunday, and to Alastair for these pictures.

