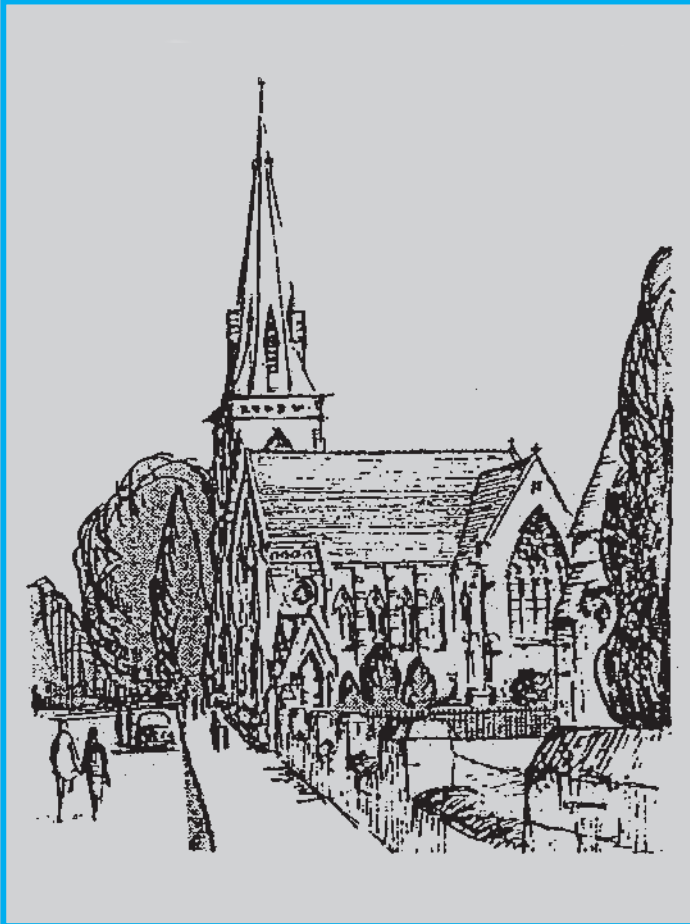




TRINITY TRIANGLE

JULY/AUGUST 2022



'Serving God, serving each other, serving community'

TRINITY CHURCH

Methodist/United Reformed/Church in Abingdon

Conduit Road, Abingdon

TRINITY'S WEEK

Sunday Services at 10.30 am, occasionally 4.00pm.

JAM (Jesus and Me) normally meets every 2nd and 4th Sunday morning during the Church Service. It is designed for children who are aged 3+ and parents may stay with their children if they wish.

Communion is normally on third Sunday of the month at 10.30am and as announced in the Calendar.

Monday	2.00 pm Evergreen Club: 3rd Monday in month. 2.00 pm The Stroke Club: 4th Monday in month. 5.30 pm Beavers. 6.45 pm Cubs. 7.15 pm Scouts.
Tuesday	7.30 pm Abingdon Operatic Society.
Wednesday	5.00 pm Brownies. 7.00 pm Guides.
Thursday	9.30 am Toddler Group. 7.30 pm Thursday Group. Ladies' Monthly Meeting.
Friday	10.00 am Prayer Support Group (in their homes).
Monthly	7.30 pm Friendship Group - see calendar.

Conduit Centre, Conduit Road, Abingdon OX14 1DB

Church Office Manager: Eluned Hallas, Tel 520282

e-mail: trinity.abingdon@gmail.com

Office open : Thurs and Fri 9.30am -4.30pm. Closed Mon, Tues, Wed

TrinityLearning: Education Development Officer: Nicola Williams, Tel. 07754 116004

e-mail: nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com



JULY AUGUST



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*Give us Lord a vision of our world as your love would make it;
a world where the weak are protected and none goes hungry or poor;
a world where the benefits of culture are and everyone can enjoy them;
a world where different races, nations and classes live in mutual respect-
a world where peace is built on justice and justice is fired with love.
And give us the inspiration and courage of your Spirit, to build it.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen*

Triangle Joint Editors:

Cynthia Bartlett, Valerie Dalby, Barbara Deakin,
Carolyn Hawkes, Gloria Sandford.

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Distribution

Through Church
Office

The editors reserve the right to edit articles.

Trinity Website: www.trinityabingdon.org.uk

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

It was with great joy that we were able to hold our Summer Fair back in June. It was delightful that some of those who came found us because of our website and facebook pages. These are places in which we do our best to show our presence and share our joy and our news. Who knows how far and wide Trinity reaches?

This summer many people will be on their holidays seeking relaxation and refreshment, possibly adventure! Some of this comes from the opportunity to be somewhere different yet to still encounter God. God is so often a God of surprises, and a different environment helps us to notice God. We believe that God is with us in all things, in all places, at all times. Yet we know what is said about familiarity, and maybe these special times of encountering God in different places in different ways are also an important part of our journey of faith and discipleship.

I remember being in church during the summer months and many a preacher picking the hymn 'Summer suns are glowing', and of course, on the Sunday in question it was nearly always damp! Yet that hymn goes on to say, 'Everything rejoices in the mellow rays, all earth's thousand voices swell the psalm of praise.' It is perhaps easier to praise God when the sun is shining brightly (even if some of us have found the recent heat a bit too much!). But what an opportunity it is for us to sing our praises and give thanks to God. And even if it rains, how many of us have heard the chorus of gardeners everywhere say, 'Oh we really needed that rain!' So come rain or shine we have an opportunity to be thankful to God and to share in the delight of his creation, providing all that is needed.

The hymn 'Summer Suns are glowing' talks also about our journey of faith. Verses three and four strike me particularly as they talk about God pouring out his radiance upon our blindness: 'and when clouds are drifting dark across our sky, then the veil uplifting, Father, be thou nigh.' 'Light of light, shine over us on our pilgrim way; go thou still before us to the endless day.'

God does indeed go before us and sheds light upon our path. So may we go ahead with confidence trusting in the God who accompanies us and guides us always. May the Holy Spirit guide our feet that we may walk in the ways of God offering our thanks and praise all the day long. Wishing you every blessing



Dear Friends



Some of you may know that I was due to go on my sabbatical in January of this year, but due to unforeseen circumstances, it had to be deferred. Now that the two operations on my wrist are behind me, I do believe that I will, God willing, be taking my sabbatical from September to November this year! This gift of time will enable me to do two things; to recharge my physical and spiritual batteries and to embark on a project, which I hope I will be able to share with you when I return!

Most of you will be aware of my association with Carswell School, and in the course of my ministry there, addressing some of the emotional needs of children, it became apparent to me that adults seldom address funereal rites when a loved one dies.

Without factual information, children will often formulate an idea of what they will encounter when attending a funeral, and some of their ideas can be quite alarming and cause them great distress.

In order to find a way of addressing this and with my sabbatical in mind, I felt called to use the time to create a resource which parents or teachers could use to demystify the experience and provide children with greater confidence in what they will encounter when a loved one dies.

If you have ever owned a dolls house as a child, and remember playing with it, you may well recall how a child enters into that "small world." Through play and the manipulation of figures and the set, children often "rehearse" real life scenarios and explore their own emotions. During such play they will also wonder and ask questions, as they engage with the people, the furniture and the space within.

My project will aim to provide children, and the adults working with them, with a portable resource, slightly smaller than a dolls house, which will open out and provide a safe space for the child to ask questions and to wonder, as they explore and demystify funereal rites at a crematorium or cemetery, regardless of faith.

It may seem to be rather an odd undertaking, but I hope and pray that what results will ease the trauma that is faced by children due to an adult reticence about being open with them. Part of this project includes the start of a search for a publisher and illustrator for a short children's book written in verse, about going to a funeral, which offers an explanation of the facts in a gentle and sensitive manner.

If you have any questions about it, please do ask me before I go off in September!

With love and blessings

Dcn. Selina

Tribute to Jenny Cadman

Jenny was Mother to Darren and Mark, Granny to Bethany, Alfie, Harry and Nicole. She was born on 8th November 1948, the eldest of 4 siblings, to Jack and Sheila Wheeler.

She spent her first couple of years in Coleshill living with her Mum and Nan, Mary Maude, as her father was away in the army. During her school years Jenny attended Park Hall Secondary School Castle Bromwich. She confessed to Darren that she never really enjoyed school, also admitting to flicking fountain pen ink onto a wall by accident. Some 40 years later she was still expecting to be caught and summoned to school. Those who knew Jenny would concur she would worry and lose sleep over the smallest things.

She spent her teenage years and early twenties in the swinging sixties. She boasted about being around in the best decade ever. She had a great love of music, especially that of the Beatles and the Walker Brothers.

The first job Jenny had was secretarial for a company called Richard Lloyds. She never really enjoyed it and left for a less stressful environment at BHS in Birmingham.

During the late sixties she went on her first independent holiday, with friends to Jersey. Jersey became her favourite place and held happy memories for her. She often referred to it as the best time of her life. Darren is unsure of where he and Mark fitted in the pecking order of Jenny's best times but they know it was below Jersey.

She married in June 1969 to Malcolm with whom she had Darren and Mark. In the early years they lived in Birmingham before moving to Tamworth where she worked in an ice cream factory called Sun Cream Dairies. In the Summer of 1981, after an unsuccessful marriage, Jenny and the boys made a fresh start in Abingdon. She soon became a very well known and popular person in town, working first at Sandford's DIY shop and from the mid 80s at Tesco.

Jenny took on the role of a single parent and did it with great vigour. She did her own DIY and decorating as well as taking the boys to local football matches at Oxford United. She had a couple of favourite players that she always cheered on. Being a single parent and working was a hard role, especially with two teenage boys to feed and discipline. Darren recalls how she would chase them round the house with one of their cricket wickets. It should be said that she never hit them with it.

After Darren and Mark settled down Jenny spent the last 25 years able to think more of herself. She took herself on coach holidays, not just in this country but she was brave enough to go to Croatia. She also visited Mark and his family in Brisbane after they emigrated in 2010.

Jenny had funny holiday stories to tell. One was of a visit to her brother, Kevin, on the Isle of Wight, when she decided to take herself off for a walk, thinking she knew the island. After being missing for hours the family were considering calling “ Search and Rescue “ when Jenny turned up. She had walked 4 miles in the wrong direction and was completely lost with no phone signal. She had stopped a man leaving choir practice and asked for help.

Since retiring from Tesco Jenny loved volunteering at Trinity. The kitchen in the church hall was her domain when helping with Evergreens or Toddlers. Her hobbies included Tai-Chi and meeting up with friends on a regular basis.

Jenny Myfanwy Mother, Granny, Sister and friend to all.
She will be deeply missed

THE ABINGDON BRIDGE

I attended the Annual General Meeting of the Abingdon Bridge at the beginning of June and as usual was greatly impressed by what I heard of their work so would like to share with you what I learned.

Trinity has been supporting TAB financially and by interest and prayers for many years as the scope of their work has grown. They have outgrown the headquarters in the Old Police House on the Bridge and moved to the much larger and more convenient premises over the Coventry Building

Society on the Market Place, though the old premises are also still used. TAB works with young people aged between 13 and 25, the largest number being between 15 and 18. During the past year, 355 young people who have unusually high levels of anxiety or other mental health problems have attended counselling sessions where they can talk individually with a counsellor who helps them to address their difficulties. 114 young people whose life-styles are unhealthy have been supported on a one-to-one basis by being taken to a gym, taught about healthy eating and possibly attending cookery sessions in the TAB kitchen. A further 134 young people with risky life-styles such as drug abuse have been supported one-to-one. TAB has also engaged young people in workshops and taken sessions on healthy living into local schools. There is a waiting list of young people needing to access these services. There are also sessions for the parents of clients, helping them to give appropriate help to their children. These are much appreciated.

These statistics are impressive, but it was obvious from what we heard in the annual report and from the Chief Executive Officer that it is the individual youngsters behind the statistics that really matter to both him and all the staff. There are 16 staff, some full-time but most part-time, all of whom are appropriately trained. The following quotes from two young clients are examples of what motivates them.

One client said “ I felt so stuck, so low, I never thought I was going to make it through. Luckily, I found TAB. Initially I thought nothing would work. With time and the support from a great Counsellor I am now back up on my feet and enjoying life again”

Another said “I felt so misunderstood. I felt like nobody cared. I did not even know who I was or how I felt. Doing the gym project and my healthy lifestyles sessions has raised my confidence and I am slowly finding my self-worth – it’s been life-changing.

The financial report was encouraging. Some substantial donations from large organisations were supplemented by local fund-raising and individual donations. It was emphasised that applications to organisations such as Children in Need have to show that there is a certain amount of local financial support. The support of Trinity Church and individuals is still important.

The Evergreens were privileged to have Gary Hibbins, the TAB CEO to talk to them in June and experienced his enthusiasm. I hope this much drier account will nevertheless convey to you the value of TAB.

Ruth Dams



Fri 1st		Virtual Prayer Group
Sun 3rd	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Selina
	1.00pm	Baptism
Mon 4th	5.00pm	Beavers 6.45pm Cubs 7.30pm Scouts
Wed 6th	5.00pm	Brownies 7.00pm Guides
Thurs 7th	9.30am	Trinity Toddler Group
Fri 8th		Virtual Prayer Group
Sun 10th	10.30am	Morning Worship, with Communion, led by Ian, and JaM, Church Meeting - after the service <i>(Last JaM before the summer break)</i>
Mon 11th	2.00pm	Evergreen Club: Entertainment by HUG (Hungerford Ukulele Club)
	5.00pm	Beavers 6.45pm Cubs 7.30pm Scouts <i>(Last sessions until September)</i>
Wed 13th	5.00pm	Brownies 7.00pm Guides
Thurs 14th	9.30am	Trinity Toddler Group
	7.00pm	Thursday Group Barbecue at the home of Val and Paul
Fri 15th		Virtual Prayer Group
	7.00pm	CIA Inter-Church Quiz Peachcroft Christian Centre
Sun 17th	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Daphne Savage
	6.30pm	Circuit service with Communion at Grove Methodist Church with refreshments from 5pm
Fri 22nd		Virtual Prayer Group
Sun 24th	10.30am	Morning Worship, and JaM, led by Alan Grist
Fri 29th		Virtual Prayer Group
Sun 31st	10.30am	Morning Worship led by Pauline Main



Sun 7th Morning Worship led by Selina

Thurs 11th 7.30pm Thursday Group: Coffee evening with Ruth Sillitoe
 Sun 14th 10.30am Morning Worship, with Communion, and JaM, led by Ian
 Fri 19th ***Deadline for September Triangle***
 Sun 21st 10.30am Morning Worship led by Geoffrey Caudle
 Sun 28th 10.30am Morning Worship led by Peter Hemmings

SEPTEMBER

Sun 4th 10.30am Morning Worship
 Sun 11th ***JaM resumes after the summer break***
 Mon 12th ***Beavers, Cubs and Scouts resume***

Abingdon Blog

Our own Alastair Fear does wonderful work on Abingdon Blog. I found it relatively recently on my computer and smart phone. He tells Abingdon's story. Not only does he inform about events but he writes about nature and wildlife. Sometimes he recalls historical events. It is not to be missed for the photography alone. Thank you Alastair for all you do. Barbara Deakin

Evergreen Club Monday 18th July.

For our final meeting before our Summer Break we are being entertained by HUG - Hendred Ukulele Group.

Normal start time of 2.0 pm..
Tricia Cook

Church Twinning

The planned visit to Sint Niklaas, Belgium, for their Passion Play in April was postponed until 2023 because of Covid. However, the Oberammergau Passion Play performance and stay at Schongau, Germany, in July is still going ahead (see below). This year's visit here will take place at the end of October and is based around a green, ecological theme and is open to all twinned towns. Anyone interested in this subject can contact Eileen Bontempelli on epkbontempelli@gmail

Pilgrimage to Oberammergau – July 2022

The 2020 Oberammergau Passion Play pilgrimage led by the Revd Dr Charles Miller, originally scheduled for 2020, has been rescheduled for 13-21 July 2022. The 'pilgrims' will be accommodated in the Gutshof outside charming Salzburg for most of the week then travel to Oberammergau for the famous Passion Play itself. A large number of the original group cannot now go so there is plenty of space, especially double occupancy rooms. If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage, please contact Charles Miller either directly or through the Parish Office (01235 520144).



Children at Trinity Church

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14

Trinity Church has a compassionate heart for children. Here are details of what we can offer...

Trinity Toddlers

Pre-school children.



Trinity Toddler Group meets on Thursday mornings from 09.30am-11.15am, during term time. (Please check Facebook Page for dates)
We have a waiting list at times, so worth contacting us first.

Trinity Toddler Group Abingdon Facebook Page Contact: Hayley Webb trinitytoddlersabingdon@gmail.com

Children in Church Services

JAM (Jesus and Me) Age 3 years up

1st Sundays are **All Age Worship** led by Deacon Selina Nisbett, and Baptisms are normally held on these days too

JAM happens on the **2nd and 4th Sundays**. Two of us will take the children over to the Conduit Centre after the first hymn and aim to return just before the end of the service.

(This does not mean that children aren't welcome on the other Sundays, **they are!**)

3rd Sundays are often Communion services and children are welcome to receive communion as parents deem appropriate.

The Welcome Area is always available during a service if parents want to take their children out, particularly under 3 years. There are some colouring and sticking activities available and the service is audible from here.

Four of us currently help with JAM:

Deacon Selina Nisbett,

Lindsay Busby,

Eve Newton

Katie Doney

Please look at our Website: trinityabingdon.org.uk

or contact Katie kdoney77@btinternet.com

or Lindsay lindsay.j.busby@ntlworld.com

And, just in case you wonder where we disappear to....



When JAM is on, we all start in church for the first hymn,



then we cross the grass,



go through the church hall,



up the wooden stairs



and into our JAM room!



Trinity Learning School age children.

Trinity Learning is a charity hosted by Trinity Church and aims to support and enhance well-being in Abingdon's school communities through volunteer activities and projects. It runs a singing group at Kingfisher School, Thinking Books (a project to promote emotional literacy in schools), Experience Easter and much more!

You can find out more about Trinity Learning's work and volunteer opportunities at <https://trinitylearning.org.uk/> or contact: Nicola Williams nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com

We take safeguarding very seriously at Trinity Church and regularly update our safeguarding policy, which is available on our church website trinityabingdon.org.uk and displayed in our church entrance.

Uniformed Organisations meeting at the Conduit Centre next to Trinity Church

(Term Time Only)

Mondays:

5:30 pm Beavers

6.45pm Cub Scouts

7.30pm Scouts.

Contact: email:

gsl@sixthabingdon.org.uk

Phone: 01235 522696

or 07902 316049

Wednesdays:

5.00 pm- 6.30pm Brownies

Contact email:

6thabingdonbrownies@gmail.com

7.00pm-830pm Guides

Contact: email:

6thabingdonguides@gmail.com

WATER AID

Trinity Church's charity for September 2022-August 2023

Will you help transform lives today?

When a community gets clean water for the first time, it's the start of something truly life-changing. Right now, millions of people living in some of the lowest-income countries in the world don't have clean water to drink, decent toilets to use or good hygiene to protect themselves. Without these basics, overcoming poverty is just a dream.



That's why WaterAid digs a well or installs a tap in a community, because it's changing the lives of people for the better. Clean water helps people dream again.

771 million people in the world – one in ten – do not have clean water close to home.

We owe it to each other to keep working until everyone, everywhere has clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.

We can help transform the lives of so many people in so many places around the world.

Water is vital to our lives yet we take the supply for granted. We flush our toilets, wash our hands, take a shower or a bath, wash our clothes, water our gardens and, yes, we drink it! Without it we would die!

We rarely think about where our water comes from and still less about what we would do without it.

Think about all the people we depend upon to bring us our water. How much does that cost?

Our idea is to follow our success with toilet twinning. From how many places do we access water in our homes? If we count the outlets in our homes and give Water Aid a relative amount per outlet, or whatever we could afford, we will make a difference and enable the charity to supply life-giving water to those who are in desperate need.

Following our Church Meeting in June, we celebrated the work of WaterAid at our service on Sunday 19th June, and we shall re-visit it at a service in the early autumn, when JaM will be able to join in. In the meantime, members of the congregation are contributing handsomely to the appeal, and we hope that our wider community, too, will take a part in raising funds for this very necessary work. A big 'thank you' to everyone who got us off to a flying start!

Lynnette Seymour-Jackson and Malcolm Newton



TrinityLearning – volunteer with us and support the wellbeing of students and staff in local schools

Here at TrinityLearning, we couldn't run our projects without our wonderful base of volunteers who share their time and skills so generously to support our work.

Do you want to join our friendly team of volunteers? We are currently looking for volunteers to join us in two-school based projects, as well as looking for a new Chair of Trustees.

School-based projects

- Thinking Books is TrinityLearning's emotional literacy mentoring scheme for Abingdon primary schools. Our volunteer mentors go into schools regularly to meet children one-to-one, or in small groups, to share carefully selected books which start conversations about feelings and relationships. We also organise meet-ups for volunteers to share ideas and discuss, as well as to allow ongoing evaluation of the project.
- Kingfisher Singer Group is a group that meets once a week to sing nursery rhymes and action songs with children from Kingfisher School who have a range of health conditions and impairments. It's a joyful, exciting and rewarding activity that takes just 1 hour per week. There are no solos and no auditions so don't worry if your voice isn't top-notch, as long as you're enthusiastic and happy to join in!



All volunteers are DSB checked, receive training, and are fully supported by TrinityLearning. If you would like to learn more, please contact our Education Development Officer, Nicola Williams at nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com

Chair of Trustees

Sadly, our current Chair is planning to step down in September 2022, which means we are now seeking a new Chair of Trustees who can support us in our aim of helping to improve the quality of life among students and staff in local schools. This is a great opportunity to work with us as we look to build on our popular and trusted existing projects, as well as identify and obtain sustainable funding so we can continue to support school communities in the Abingdon area. The Chair's role is supported by a strong Board of Trustees as well as a small team of dedicated staff. Find out more about the role at <https://bit.ly/3xAzZyl>

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

On Saturday 11th June the Trinity Friendship Group went on an outing to The Donkey Sanctuary at Brightwell- Cum- Sotwell. We had visited the sanctuary a couple of years ago but Selina couldn't attend so we decided to sponsor a donkey called "Chocolate" for her as she was very disappointed that she couldn't come on the trip. Three years on Selina has kept up this sponsorship! We had a wonderful day with lots of fun and laughter and of course a definite must was visiting "Chocolate"!

After all the upset and uncertainty with covid it was wonderful to be able to go out together and share a lovely day.

Angie



Volunteering Opportunities Are you looking to give a few hours of help? If so, here are some ways of volunteering for local community groups.

The Abingdon Bridge

The Abingdon Bridge is a well-regarded Abingdon charity that supports young people aged 13-25.

We are currently looking for more volunteers to act as a receptionist at our new premises at 3 Market Place, Abingdon. As we have a bank of volunteers, you may only do a slot once a week or fortnightly or monthly. Currently, our opening hours are Monday to Thursday 2-7 pm and Friday 2-6 pm, subject to change as we follow current government COVID guidelines. The work is not onerous and mainly involves buzzing clients in and showing them to the waiting room, but this is a vital role that supports the counsellors. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Sandy Kruger at sandy@theabingdonbridge.org.uk

Volunteers will be DBS checked.

Abingdon Street Pastors - helping to make the community a safe place
Street Pastors is a worldwide network of Christian volunteers from local churches who have concern for the community and provide help as needed in neutral and reassuring ways at the point of need. Abingdon Street Pastors has been part of the night-time economy in the town centre on Saturday nights since 2011, going out from about 10pm till everyone is safely on their way home. We work in close collaboration with the police, the local council and other local groups and bodies. We would love to have more volunteers working with us – either as Street Pastors out on the street or as Prayer Pastors who stay and pray at our base during a shift. If you feel that this is something close to your heart and would like to give it a try, please contact the Coordinator Debra Mcknight at abingdon@streetpastors.org.uk Jane Cadogan at jane.cadogan@btinternet.com

CiA Inter-church Quiz: The Peachcroft Christian Centre will be holding the postponed quiz on Friday 15 July 7.00pm. Further details to follow.

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