

WEEKLY NEWS

Trinity Methodist Church Woking

Leadership notes:-

What Christmas Trees Teach Us About Staying Alive

Christmas seems to start earlier and earlier. Last weekend we went to choose our tree, only to find that the ones in the size we wanted were a rather motley collection of leftovers. So we upgraded to a slightly posher tree and eventually found one that would do nicely. It now stands proudly in its corner, happily supping up the water we give it. The tree here at Trinity, being much bigger but with a smaller reservoir, needs an even more regular drink. In many homes a Christmas tree stands at the centre of our celebrations. Fresh, green, and fragrant, it brings life into the room—but only if it is watered. Neglect it, and the needles dry out and fall, leaving the once-beautiful tree brittle and bare, more mess than joy.

Who hasn't been so busy in the run-up to Christmas—shopping, school concerts, visitors—that the tree is forgotten? At first, you don't notice. But within days the needles carpet the floor, and the tree begins to look tired and lifeless, its vitality slowly draining away. On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, as we reflect on love and on God's nearness through Mary's faithful "yes" (Luke 1:38), the tree offers us a gentle lesson. God knows what we need to remain spiritually healthy. Just as a tree needs water, we need a living relationship with God through Jesus. Jesus says, "Remain in me, as I also remain in you... apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:4-5). Scripture reminds us that those who trust in the Lord are "like a tree planted by the water... its leaves are always green" (Jeremiah 17:8). At Christmas we celebrate that God did not leave us to dry out. He sent Jesus into the world to bring life, love, and renewal. As we water our Christmas trees, may we also tend our souls, drawing deeply from the living water God so freely gives.

Hugh Bowerman



PLEASE NOTE THAT THE EMAIL FOR
admin at Trinity is admin@trinitywoking.org
and for room bookings is bookings@trinitywoking.org
and for newsletter is newsletter@trinitywoking.org

Forthcoming Services

Reflective Advent Service - 18 December

A gentle, quiet reflective service at 7pm (for about 40 mins) on Thursday 18th December on Zoom - link/log in as follows:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82264641150?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82264641150?pwd=Z1NwbL6aA5RzI8urV00fYmPx0LLOQN.1)
pwd=Z1NwbL6aA5RzI8urV00fYmPx0LLOQN.1

OR

Meeting ID: 822 6464 1150
Passcode: 029876

Sunday 21 December 2025

10.30 am Morning Worship
led by Graham Warr

6 pm Foundry Worship -
Christmas Praise

Wednesday 24 December 2025

11.15 pm Christmas Eve Worship
& Communion led by
Reverend Sam Funnell

Thursday 25 December 2025

10.00 am Christmas Day
Worship led by
Reverend Sam Funnell

Sunday 28 December 2025

10.30 am Morning Worship
Circuit service from Godalming
on live stream

Live Stream Link

[Click HERE](#)

Foundry Worship Christmas Celebration Sunday 21 December 2025

There are many carols I have not sung (yet?). There are some beautiful slightly more modern songs and carols that can be so easily missed at Christmas. This Sunday we will be singing a selection of these, along with some more traditional carols, interspersed with readings and prayers, we plan to have a reflective yet joyful time as we celebrate God's gift of Jesus.

Refreshments from 5.45pm with carols starting at 6pm. We would love as many people to join us on this occasion as our band leads us in a time of Christmas praise.

If you are unable to join us, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone at Trinity a Happy Christmas from those of us from Foundry Worship.

**Hugh Bowerman
Foundry Pastor**

A Methodist Prayer in response to the attack at Bondi Beach

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe, who grants us light, sustains us in life and guides us in the ways of holiness.

On a day when peaceful celebration has been distorted through acts of violence and hatred, we pray for those who have died and been injured in the attack at Bondi beach at the beginning of Hanukkah.

Comfort those who have lost loved ones. Strengthen them and grant them peace.

Stand close to those who seek answers and with those tasked with understanding and responding to these acts of violence. May the deep darkness of this day be met by responses of respect, compassion and solidarity as we continue to draw alongside our sisters and brothers of Jewish faith in our prayers.

We pray for an ending to all acts of religious or racially based hatred that we may dwell in your light and seek a world in which all may walk safely alongside their neighbour.

Amen.



Woking foodbank New Year list.

The next collection will be on **Sunday 4th January.**

Items required for the New Year are,

- tinned vegetables,
- tinned meat/fish,
- tinned fruit,
- long life apple/orange juice,
- Instant coffee

Many thanks for your continued support.

Carole Hymers

TRINITY PRAYER CHANNELS



We want to encourage people to feel able to ask for prayer when needed and to know how best to do so.

If you would like a prayer included in the [Sunday service](#), please contact your Pastoral Visitor and they will pass it on to a Steward for inclusion.

If you have an [emergency](#) prayer need, please go through Allison, as Pastoral Secretary and she will pass this on to the Leadership Team for immediate prayer response.

N.B. – If you are asking for prayer for someone else, please ask their permission first; it is part of our pastoral care for people that we only share what people are comfortable with others knowing.

Thank you!

Rev Sam & Allison



Our December Coffee Donation Charity is...

'All We Can' - Jamaica Humanitarian Appeal

All We Can is an international relief and development movement, rooted in the Christian faith. Their partners represent years of relationship. Together, they find solutions to poverty. **All We Can** does not import solutions and potential to the places they work. Instead, they walk alongside local partners to help communities uncover their own solutions and their own potential.



Methodist relief and development

On October 27, Hurricane Melissa made landfall on

Jamaica. The Category 5 storm caused at least 45 deaths there and more

than \$130 million in infrastructure damage. It also displaced 90,000 people, **All We Can** is responding to Hurricane Melissa in partnership with the Methodist Church in Britain. They are working closely with their regional partner, the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas (MCCA), to ensure that funds raised are directed to where they are most needed. across affected communities in the region



All money raised from Sunday morning refreshment donations will be given to All we Can

More information at www.allwecan@org.uk



Christmas Greetings!
To all our friends at
Trinity, from.....



<i>Marian Nash</i>	<i>Jenny Jackson</i>
<i>Hugh & Helen Bowerman</i>	<i>Wendy Rockhill</i>
<i>Eunice Bunting</i>	<i>Allison Jackson</i>
<i>Wendy Coope & Josie Dog</i>	<i>Leonora Salter</i>
<i>Sue & Mike Tozer</i>	<i>David Emmerson</i>
<i>Lorna Fry</i>	<i>David Reeve</i>
<i>Carol McKinney</i>	<i>David & Lyn Lorberg</i>
<i>David Reeve</i>	<i>Wendy & Geoff Eaton</i>
<i>Brenda Wilson</i>	<i>Sheila Card</i>
<i>Sue Wetherell</i>	<i>Valerie Slyfield</i>
<i>Ian McIntosh</i>	<i>Lufe Lubimbi</i>
<i>Ann Whale</i>	<i>Rev Sam & Daisy Dog</i>
<i>Enid Burman</i>	<i>David & Daphne Lander</i>
<i>Peggy Boorman</i>	<i>Ildi Johnson</i>
<i>Jean Normington</i>	<i>Kevin Bown</i>
<i>Graham & Dan Warr</i>	<i>Ruth Taylor</i>
<i>Elaine & Lee Slatter</i>	<i>Liz & Glen Penfold</i>
<i>Sue Waddell</i>	<i>Selena Chung</i>
<i>Carole Hymers</i>	<i>Pearl Mayo</i>
<i>Janet Atterbury</i>	<i>Mary & Trevor Ledger</i>
<i>Joyce & John Nelson</i>	<i>Keith & Pauline Robson</i>
<i>Andy Meal</i>	<i>Gillian Edwards</i>
<i>Joan Vice</i>	<i>Jill Willis</i>
<i>David & Jenny Broadley</i>	<i>Gill Hockley</i>



**"May the love and hope given to us
by the birth of Jesus fill our hearts
and homes with joy
and peace this Christmas"**





Lovely card
to all the Trinity
congregation from the
children of
Friday night club.
Thanks




Thank you from Amnesty

Amnesty would like to thank everyone who contributed to our recent Write for Rights cards event.


We sent 23 cards, and the total sum of £118, so thank you very much to everyone who took part.








Allison



The Crocus Café at Woking URC

For those affected by dementia and
their caregivers



2nd and 4th Monday of every Month
11:00 to 12:30
Woking URC, GU22 7HA



Trinity News and Views

The next issue will be published in January. This is the **final call** for items to be included in TNV. Please send

copy to

tnv@trinitywoking.org

no later than this Sunday
21st December.

David Lander, Editor TNV

FRESH FROM THE WORD

This is the book of daily Bible Study readings produced by IBRA. A number of our members use these notes every day and we have for some years, arranged the purchase and distribution of them. We will be doing so again soon, ordering the 2026 books.

If you would like a copy for your own use, please let Sarah know by email to admin@trinitywoking.org or tell one of the Stewards.

Please note: Send any articles for this newsletter to be with the editor
by 12 noon on the Wednesday before that Sunday's issue.

Email address - newsletter@trinitywoking.org

Thank you.