



# Trinity Baptist Church

## News Sheet

## Sunday 3rd January 2021

### Welcome to Trinity!

**From 10am** Zoom meeting led by David Linley; details in Kerry's email to you.

**10.30 am** Morning Service. Speaker Andy Banks. Reading: Hebrews 11:39 - 12:3

**'Let Us Run With Perseverance, Fixing Our Eyes On Jesus.'**

 **YouTube** Click here to watch the service streamed live: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8vTabe\\_7Y0\\_2Ka7BtCdRUQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8vTabe_7Y0_2Ka7BtCdRUQ)

### Verse for 2021

'And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.'

Hebrews 12: 1b - 2a



### Happy New Year!

As we begin 2021, I want to wish you all a happy, healthy and blessed new year. 2020 was an incredibly difficult year, which stretched us all individually in one way or another and brought considerable challenges for us as a church too, but God has carried us through it all. I want to thank everyone who has prayed, worshipped, preached, welcomed, taught and prepared children's materials, played, sung, produced our online and live-streamed services, ran Zoom meetings, visited people, cooked for people, supported buddies, and many other jobs we never envisioned at the beginning of 2020, but which have enabled us to meet virtually and in person throughout the year. I also want to thank the diaconate, who have willingly and sacrificially shouldered a huge burden of collective decision-making during this unprecedented year.

2021 begins with some hope – the Oxford vaccine was passed for use beginning on Monday – but also with considerable difficulty, as a more virulent strain of Covid sweeps across the country. We may well be in for a few more rough months together before we really start to see some improvements. But as Christians, our hope does not rest solely on scientific advances, nor on the excellent care of our NHS. As I shared in our Watchnight service, our hope for this life and the next rests ultimately in Jesus Christ, in whom is life, which is the light of all people. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness *has not overcome it*" (John 1:4-5). We have seen this over the last year, not least in some wonderful answers to prayers for healing, and I believe we can see it all the more in 2021. Our God is greater than this darkness – nothing and no-one can extinguish his life-light in his world. We are called to be his witnesses, and I pray we will increasingly have the courage to be so in 2021. Therefore, "let us throw off *everything* that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run *with perseverance* the race marked out for us, *fixing our eyes on Jesus*, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." Andy.

### January Services

This is to confirm that, as a diaconate, we have taken the difficult decision to close our face-to-face services for January and move to live-streamed only services. We do not do this lightly, but we believe on balance it is the right thing to do in the current circumstances. We do not envisage this lasting beyond January.

### For Your Prayers

- Praise God for the witness of our Christmas services.
- Give thanks for the development of the Covid vaccines and pray for the huge undertaking of rolling it out.
- Pray for our children and young people as they face further disruption to schooling.
- Pray for all those working to keep Foodbanks running and supporting so many in need right now.

### Annual Leave

Andy will be taking annual leave on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th January.

### Trinity Diary

Monday 4th January	1 - 3.30 pm	Foodbank
Wednesday 6 January	8 pm	Zoom Prayers
Friday 8th January	10.30 - 12.30 pm	Foodbank



This Wednesday @ 8pm. Via Zoom. Email kerry@trinitybexleyheath.org.uk for details.

On Wednesday 6th January at 8pm we will be resuming the fortnightly Zoom Prayer meetings with the first of the Through the Year with Prayer (TTYWP) sessions. All of the work we are engaged with for God needs to be underpinned with prayer.

We have known much prayer answered in 2020 so our time together will start with praise and a couple of songs too. Caz will be leading the session and there will be a couple of breakout groups to discuss and pray together for various topics. It will be great to see you!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86581400097?pwd=aXMxK2Q0dU5ibUNKVEtqOGI1S3lTUT09> Meeting ID: 865 8140 0097 Passcode: 238745