



Trinity Baptist Church

News Sheet

Sunday 31st January 2021

Welcome to Trinity!

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

10.30 am Morning Service. Speaker Andy Banks. Reading: Mark 3:20-35

'Jesus: Mad, Bad or God?'

 **YouTube** Click here to watch the service streamed live: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8vTabe_7Y0_2Ka7BtCdRUQ

12.15 pm Church Members Meeting, held on Zoom. The agenda and joining details were emailed out on the 15th January.



Pastor's Message

Last week, David Linley began his sermon by reading from the start of Psalm 42. Psalms 42 and 43 are one psalm in the Hebrew Bible, and together they make for a very interesting read. The Psalmist seeks to encourage himself to put his faith in God to counteract his very real feelings of depression and despair, the cause of which is unstated. The refrain appears three times:

"Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me?"

Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God."

Yet, in the very next verse from the verses David read comes the reality check: "My soul is downcast within me" (v.6, emphasis mine). The Psalmist knows that he will find no relief from his pain unless he acknowledges the truth of it. Indeed, as these Psalms progress the pain is expressed more and more forcefully. But equally, his expressions of faith in God become stronger too, as he addresses his pain with the truth of who God is. As we look out into an unimaginable statistic of in excess of 100,000 Covid deaths, there is a place for mourning and lament, and even for questions and doubt about our faith. The Psalmist shows us what best to do with those feelings and questions: we take them directly to God himself and allow the firm truths of his word to quicken our faith even in the midst of them. I commend these Psalms for your meditation this week.

With my love to you all.
Andy.

For Your Prayers

- Give thanks that new Covid infection numbers are falling. Pray that the trend continues and that this translates into less pressure on our hospitals.
- Give thanks the vaccine rollout is on schedule
- Continue to pray for all those have been, and are continuing to be, affected by COVID-19 and all those working to help others during the ongoing crisis.
- Pray for wisdom as we seek God's mind together at the church meeting.
- Pray for children, especially, following the extension of the lockdown to March.
- Pray for those awaiting treatment or operations that have been postponed.
- Pray for those living alone or suffering with loneliness.

GodZone Social

Our first GodZone Zoom has been arranged for next Saturday 6th February at 4.30 pm. GodZone parents have been emailed with the joining instructions.

Funeral of David Osenton

David's funeral will be on Monday 15th February, 11:30am at Eltham Crematorium. Attendance is strictly by invitation only to safeguard adherence to Covid protocols however the service will be live streamed - email Kerry for details.

Manse Garden

We are looking to get together some working parties to tidy up the manse garden ready for rental. Saturday mornings in February, weather permitting; 4-5 people in each party to adhere to Covid social-distancing regulations; please contact Malcolm Grist by phone or email for more details.

Trinity Baptist Church Staff

Pastor: Revd Andy Banks

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Pastoral Care Assistant: Janet Grist

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Community Worker: Alexa Moody - on furlough

Administrator: Kerry O'Sullivan

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Registered Charity Number: 1130034

	Trinity Diary	
Monday 1st February	1 - 3.30 pm	Foodbank
Wednesday 3rd Feb	8 pm	Zoom Prayers with focus on local outreach
Friday 5th February	10.30 - 12.30 pm	Foodbank
Saturday 6th February	4.30 pm	GodZone Zoom



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