Our Mission Statement:
Our Mission is to proclaim the love of God, in Jesus to all people by:
Being a place of welcome, worship & nurture.
Belonging, learning & growing together.
Serving the community in whatever way we can.

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Charity No: 1144617
Sad news received from Michael Kliskey that Margaret Kliskey died on 12th March 2023. Thanksgiving Service to be held on 4th April at Broomfield Methodist Church at 2.30pm. Please see page13

**FRIENDSHIP LUNCHES**

After the ‘Friendship Lunch’, usually on the third Sunday of a month, a short Communion Service is held. All are welcome even if you haven’t attended the lunch, please do come along for the communion. The time of this short service would enable anyone who is finding the 9.30am Sunday service difficult to attend.

**Baptism Service**

On Sunday 2nd April we will be welcoming Jessica Amal daughter of Alfred and Monalisa into our church family.
I was in a meeting recently where a question relating to finance in the future was posed. The treasurer responded that they 'hadn't got a crystal ball' with them! Last week I was asked if the idea of time travel appealed to me, and if it were possible, what would I do with a time machine?!

Both of these incidents have reminded me that there is a great challenge in facing the future, but knowing how things might all pan out would, perhaps, be more of a hindrance than a help.

The contrast between the divinity versus the humanity of Jesus is called to mind when we approach Holy Week and the events of The Passion. The origin of the phrase *the passion* is to be found in the Latin verb *patior, passus sum*; which means "to suffer, bear, endure", (from which we also derive the English words "patience, patient"). This usually refers to the events of Holy Week, leading up to the death of Jesus, (although the phrase can be used by others to include the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and go through as far as the Resurrection); I use it in the sense of enduring the suffering and pain of the trial and crucifixion here.

*continued on page 4...........*
Given an insight into all that was to come could Jesus have bravely gone into the darkness of Gethsemane when he was betrayed to the Roman authorities? People will debate this, but I have always leaned towards the humanity of Jesus, over the knowledge and insights of the divine Christ, as being the most dominant. Theologians have tried to square this circle by describing Jesus as 'fully human and fully divine'. Nevertheless, my feeling is that Jesus did not have either a crystal ball, nor a time machine, to allow him to anticipate the future details of his human life, to do so would be to deny a critical aspect of our humanity - that we don't know what is going to happen to us (in detail) tomorrow.

When the uncertainties of our lives, or the lives of our churches prey on our minds I suggest we might offer a prayer of thanks, instead of seeing this as a human inadequacy. Such human frailties remind us of the need to trust in God's peace and strength day by day, as Jesus did. The Easter story is the ultimate 'surprise ending' that we can encounter, but 'little Easters' can be found constantly around us. I pray you will see them as we approach this Holy Week.

Easter blessings,
From our Student Presbyter..........

Dear Church family,

I am getting towards the end of my training before I become a Probationer (Minister with L plates on), so I am knee deep in essays and forms to fill out. Whilst I am very excited about the coming months, I am also a tad nervous, okay more than a tad!

We all have our ‘stresses’ whether it be our health, worrying about our families, the rising cost of living or hearing the news of what is happening in the world.

When I am in a whirl wind because life is too hectic and stressful I find it helps me to turn to scripture, particularly the Psalms or to reading hymns.

This one I found today by Bryn Rees (StF 466) was perfect to calm my mind, strengthen my heart, soothe my fears and give me peace. I will share it with you here, that it might do the same for you:

**Have faith in God, my heart,**
*trust and be unafraid;*
*God will fulfil in every part each promise he has made.*

**Have faith in God, my mind,**
*although your light burns low;*
*God’s mercy holds a wiser plan than you can fully know.*

**Have faith in God, my soul,**
*his cross for ever stands;*
*and neither life nor death can tear his children from his hands.*

**Lord Jesus, make me whole;**
*grant me no resting place until I rest, heart, mind, and soul, the captive of your grace.*
Below is a message received from John’s son:

My name is Mark Gardner, son of John Gardner. Bad news I am afraid. My Dad passed away recently at home in Great Baddow.

He had spent the Christmas period with my family at our house in Kent along with my sister’s family including all of his grandchildren. He was in good spirits and it was great to have everyone together, although at this stage we didn’t know it would be the last time. He had various underlying health issues and didn’t go far from his home nowadays and although we knew he wasn’t getting any younger his passing was still a shock to us all.

He had lived in Pertwee Drive for 51 years which was also our childhood home. It had special memories for him and he would not consider moving anywhere else. Only recently he discussed giving up driving when I was sorting out his car insurance which was a first, this was always a taboo subject!

Since my Mum (Sheila Gardner) passed away back in 2005 from cancer, my Dad has seen all of our offspring come into the world (five girls and one boy all now in their teens or thereabouts), and grow up through their childhood years, which I think has been a great inspiration to him. He has always been a great part of their lives as he has been to my sister, Nicky, and I. We will all miss him greatly.

I know that a while back he used to help out on the sound desk at Trinity church before he became less mobile. So, if you can let anyone know who knew him at the church we would be most grateful.

The funeral was held at Chelmsford crematorium on Wednesday 22nd February.
Margaret Kliskey  
11th August 1933–12 March 2023

The Kiwi Kliskey Clan send their thoughts and love to Mike, Steve, Claire, Sophie and Andrew as you gather to celebrate Auntie Margaret’s life.

We have many happy memories of our time with Margaret in Chelmsford, London, Cornwall and in New Zealand. Our first visit to the UK was in 1974 when we spent four months including time in Chelmsford and Cornwall with Margaret, Jeffrey, Mike & Steve – I particularly remember building sandcastles at Gwithian and then having pasties while the tide rushed in.

I also had the enjoyable opportunity to see Margaret regularly in the 1990’s when I lived in London. We explored all over Essex and East Anglia with Margaret who always had a fast stride particularly with the dog on the leash! Margaret was a great host each year at Christmas – once it was a white Christmas and we had a good walk around Constable Country in the snow on Boxing Day – I can still hear Bing Crosby.

We were delighted to be able to have Margaret stay with us in New Zealand during both her visits down under. On many occasions during those visits Margaret would strike up conversations with complete strangers. This was a skill she had throughout her life and she made many friends that way. Margaret also introduced us to her cousin Ian, his wife Maureen and family who also lived in Auckland. We have kept up that connection and we plan to get together over a meal to share our memories of Margaret.

I was fortunate to be able to visit Chelmsford last May when Margaret had just moved into the Nursing Home. Steve and I were able to take her for a drive around the local villages and byways that she had originally guided me around.

Margaret had a wonderful life and touched many of us. I will always cherish those memories.

God Bless and be at peace, Margaret.

With love from, Keryn, Andrew, Murray, Lisa, Bryn, Jenny, Mathew, Jadon and Samuel
AN EXTENSION TO MISSION MATTERS:

PROFILES— Introduced by Eric on Sunday 12th March.........

How many times have you been to a funeral and heard something about the deceased that you never knew before? We all have our close friends and even some acquaintances that we tend to know a lot about. But even then – we don’t know everything about them that’s of interest.

Thinking back to our Away Day, we spent quite a lot of time talking about how we could be more inclusive and even more welcoming than we are. So we, (the Steering Group) have been giving some thought to that and have come up with this idea.

We should ask everyone to complete what we’re calling their personal profile. This will tell us about their background, their childhood, their work, their family, their hobbies and their likes and dislikes. It sounds like quite a tall order but we believe that it will bring the Trinity family even more closely together than it is now.

We do hope that you will see your way to completing such a profile and sending it in to the office. We would then hope to share these profiles over the coming months so that we all get to know each other just a little bit better.

We’re going to put these in the notices in the next few weeks and you might like to choose five or six to answer; where you feel you would like to tell about some of these.

Please do complete one of these profiles.

We have also drawn up a dozen or so ‘preference questions’ so choose 5 or 6 where you would like to share your answers.
What’s your favourite colour?
What’s your favourite piece of music?
What’s the best place you’ve ever visited? And so on.
Who would you say was your biggest hero?
What two things are at the top of your bucket list?
Have you ever had a pet? If so, what were they called?
What one thing can you not do that you would love to have been able to do?
Is there somewhere in the world that you would like to have lived in?
Do you have a regret that you would be prepared to share?
What would be your preference out of theatre, sport, or music and why?
Do you have a favourite meal and/or restaurant?
Are you an early bird or a night owl? Has that changed over time?

OUR MINISTERS’ CONTACT NUMBERS

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I’ve been asked to give a short presentation on the work of the Trinity Steering Group. Some of you may not be aware that such a group exists and you may be hearing about it for the first time. Back in June of last year, whilst Mark was on sabbatical, a few people got together to discuss some issues that had been swirling around in our minds about how we could do things better. I think we even surprised ourselves when we saw the extensive list that was drawn up. Anyhow, what I want to bring to your attention is what some of the outcomes have been from that initial and subsequent meetings.

We have introduced free lunch-time concerts and these will recommence on 25th April at 1pm; the Chelmsford Guitar Orchestra will be playing.

We now have a welcome leaflet which is handed to new visitors to the church and there is a formal process for following up on these.

Coffee mornings have long been a feature at Trinity and the Friday morning one and the Tea at Two sessions are going to be opened up with specific invitation being issued to residents of Spalding Court and Walter House.

There is, of course, a coffee rota for preparing drinks after the Sunday morning service. The numbers on this rota have dwindled over the last 6 months and we earnestly need some of you to step up if you feel you can help in this way.

We have held one session hosted by Val Scott and Janet Wintle where anyone that’s interested can come and learn about how to get the best out of their phones and other devices such as tablets or laptops. These will continue, subject to demand.

We have introduced a card reader to allow those who prefer not to use cash, to make donations to the church and support other events financially.

We have undertaken a specific project to contact members of the congregation who have not returned to church post covid in an endeavour to encourage them back into the fold.

We decided to remove some of the chairs in the worship area and created side aisles for easier access. This has also allowed us to have a small seating area at the back of the church for those who are less able to stand when coffee is served there.
Have you heard of Trinity Singers? Many of the congregation had made comments about the lack of a choir following the covid restrictions being lifted. Some thought was given as to what could be provided in place of the choir? We have had very successful services with our, now familiar band, at all-age services and we now hope to get a group of singers set up to provide music supplements at special services throughout the year. Watch the notices for how you could join that group.

It will not have gone un-noticed that the role of door-stewards has now been reintroduced and Kay & Russell would be delighted if you could offer to join the rota for this task.

We have installed a bookcase in The Link and it is proving to be a welcome addition. You can donate books and borrow books for a small donation.

Litter picking is a very important function and we have decided that we, as a congregation, are going to do this once a month. The first session will be on 2 April and all are welcome to join us. You will be provided with rubbish collection bags, a High Vis Trinity Church jacket and litter grippers. We will start after coffee, following the service.

We are looking to upgrade the entrance vestibule with brighter colours and a more welcoming layout. Watch that space!

We decided that we might speak to groups who hire these premises to make them aware of our church and our activities in the hope that we might attract some new members. This has happened to some extent but with little success. We are not giving up on this!

We would like current church groups to try to recruit new members to join them. Singles lunch has been renamed Friendship Lunch in this endeavour.

A series of rolling slides now appear before services commence on Sunday mornings which helps to keep people informed of forthcoming events.

Plans have been drawn up to provide a ramp leading into the front vestibule. This might be an expensive project and a decision will be taken once quotations for the work have been received.
I now need to ask you all to cast your minds back to the very enjoyable and successful Away Day we held earlier in last year. At our last steering group meeting we decided that we were the group probably best placed to review the issues raised there and to come up with some actions in response.

One issue was how we manage to include all members of the congregation in everything that goes on here at Trinity. We have decided to register as an ‘inclusive church’ and we will be reporting back on what that means in the next couple of months.

The subject of EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) has come to the fore in recent weeks and was touched on in our discussions at the away day. There is training available for all (for some it will be mandatory) and this will help us to better address the issues that arise from this topic.

One way to include you, irrespective of age, gender, sexual orientation, colour or ability is to get everyone to sign up to do one thing – join the rota for coffee, be a communion steward, offer to serve communion, be a church or circuit steward, help to run Sunday Club, join the Trinity Singers, read the lesson, be a door steward, offer to be a pastoral leader/visitor, volunteer to work in the office – there are many ways in which you can help out.

The introduction of Personal Profiles was suggested, and I talked about that in our Mission Matters slot this morning. We hope to hold a Friendship service in the near future.

People who may be shy or unable to go up to the lectern to read, may now read from the pew armed with the travelling microphone.

Everyone who speaks from the front will be encouraged to use a microphone to assist those with hearing impairments.

Invite those whose first language is not English to lead us in The Lord’s Prayer in their own first language. The words of the Lord’s Prayer and the blessing will be put up on the screen.

We will source some name badges to help visitors know who we are. They too, will be asked to wear them, so that we can speak to them in a personal way.

Our efforts in regard to EDI are only just beginning but we will be expanding these in coming months. BUT the big message out of all of this is that YOU are an important member of this church and we want to include you in as many activities as you feel you can be involved in.
TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

CORONATION CELEBRATION LUNCH

SUNDAY 7TH MAY 2023

12 FOR 12.30PM
(Our service will start at 11am on this Sunday)

SIT DOWN FORK BUFFET LUNCH

£5.00 Per Person
(PRE-BOOKED ONLY—CASH ON THE DAY)

Non-alcoholic fruit punch
Buffet & Desserts

(Homemade desserts gratefully received)
Please contact Janet/Karen to co-ordinate.

Please put your name down on the list in the vestibule.
Numbers are limited. We will only accept friends and family if we have sufficient places available.
TRINITY MUSIC AND DRAMA
PRESENT

IAN FLEMING’S
CHITTY CHITTY
BANG BANG

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Based on the MGM Motion Picture
Licensed Script Adapted by Ray Roderick

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk
This message was on a birthday card sent to me by a very special friend. The message, so meaningful and thoughtful....... I thought I would share it with you as my Trinity family. Ed

For a special friend

FRIEND

After all these years
it means to much
that we two friends
still keep in touch
and at times like this
It’s nice to send
a warm ‘hello’ to you,
dear Friend
Our 2022 Church Cross which was decorated on Easter Day

Closing Date for June / July 2023 edition of Trinity News 17th May 2023 for publication on Sunday 28th May 2023

Articles to be sent to Anthea Tayler AND the Church Office or give a hard copy to the Church Office.

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