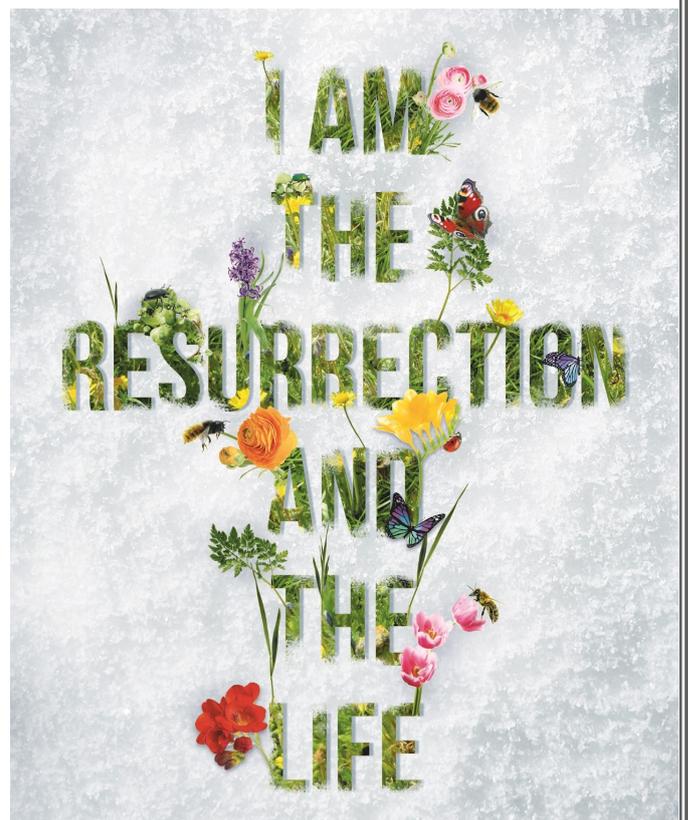


The Messenger



APRIL 2019

Trinity
United
Reformed
Church
Upminster



Minister's Letter

Dear friends,

How is your Lent going?

I have decided to do something different this Lent by taking part in the "Living Lent" challenge by the Joint Public Issues Team. Its aim is "Creating a climate of change". This is done by practical challenges to our lifestyle:

- Giving up single use plastics for Lent
- Going meat-free (or animal-product-free) for Lent
- Finding alternative modes of transport (eg bicycles) for Lent
- Giving up electricity for an hour every day in Lent
- Living (and shopping!) locally during Lent
- Buying nothing new during Lent (excluding food, of course)

People are invited to focus on one of these challenges to change their attitude and lifestyle a bit during Lent. I have chosen to be meat-free for Lent, and as animal-product free as possible. It is actually proving quite a challenge, but with the evidence mounting drastically for a serious need to stop climate change urgently, I feel it is a sacrifice worth considering for our world.

From the Living Lent Website: **"Transforming our climate is not just a one-off activity, but requires whole-life change. As we journey through Lent together, towards the hope of Easter, let's explore what God's world-changing transformation can look Like for us as individuals and as a society."**

Lent reminds us of the sacrifice of love Jesus made during his life on earth, which culminated in his death on the cross. At Easter we celebrate the new life God offers, which transcends our human understanding and offers us eternal hope and new life.

Jesus assures his disciples of this, and promises:

"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live" (John 11:25, NRSV)

The Easter story is a story of transformation and change. Grappling with the resurrection was not a glorious moment for the disciples and the women at the tomb, but a startling encounter, challenging everything they had ever known, and confusing them with the possibility of a different reality. Change is often met with scepticism. People don't like things to change. We enjoy the rhythms of life and we feel settled in our patterns of living and of thinking.

In the words of the Rt Rev Martin Seeley, Bishop of the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich diocese, (of the Church of England), Easter is the gift for people to live their lives differently. He says: **"Jesus' resurrection from the dead frees us from living defensively, and instead we can live generously and hopefully. "We let go bit by bit of our fear of death, which lurks in the background of our lives, to live differently out of love."** (quoted from the *East Anglian Daily Times*, published 28/03/2018)

Minister's Letter (cont.)

May we all recognise Easter for ourselves not only as the celebration of our hope in God's eternity, but also as a reminder to change some of our unhealthy habits and patterns into signs of God's love and our own liberation from "what we have always done".

Change is on the horizon for our churches too. At the March meeting of Thames North Synod, Alan Yates, immediate past-moderator of General Assembly, spoke powerfully of the reality of change in our denomination - will we still be a viable denomination in 20 years' time? Will we still be able to have several Synods? What roles will ministers have, if we continue to decline in membership but refuse to close struggling churches? He spoke with the image of a "burning platform". We have not yet reached the stage of a burning platform as a church. When we do, it may be too late to prepare ourselves for the change that will come. But if we acknowledge that our society and culture have changed, can we accept our need to redefine our expectations of church? And if we want to do this, what drastic changes do we need to make as a denomination and as individual churches?

Easter follows on from Lent and Good Friday. The Resurrection takes place after a painful period of mourning and death. Some things will come to a natural end in our own churches and in our own lives. This is at times hard to accept, but we trust that new life does indeed emerge.

This spring and summer, for me, is a time of ending. I am sure that many of us will experience feelings of loss and bereavement, as my family and I prepare to move on from the Heath & Havering Local Area Group and from the wonderful churches I have been privileged to serve for (what will be) six years. A time of blessing and growth in my own life and ministry has reached a poignant moment. God has called me (and us) to move on.

God's calling often unsettles us and reminds us not to get too comfortable or even complacent. Only when we journey on with God, can we continue to grow in faith. Our churches will become unsettled by the process of looking for new leadership and pastoral guidance. But I can reassure you that you will all be absolutely fine. We have wonderful Elders and members in all our churches who work together as Christ's Body in our local areas. We give thanks for loving and devoted colleagues within the URC and from other churches, who will continue to support our churches. For us all, this will be a time to evaluate, truthfully, where we are as God's people, and where we envisage God calling us to be.

I look forward to hearing about your continuing journeys as churches when I have moved to Austria. Who knows what resurrection promises lie ahead for our churches and for our own lives... We will mark the ending of my ministry in the H&H LAG during the July H&H Evening Communion Service and AGM with a time of sharing fellowship and worship. I would like to remind you of the significance of the words to a hymn, which is probably used too much for our liking, but is very special to me:

"One more step along the world I go, from the old things to the new keep me travelling along with you ... All the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me." (Sydney Carter, © 1971 Stainer & Bell) May God bless us all, as we follow in the footsteps of Christ and walk in his ways.

With love and thankfulness for all that has been, your minister Dorothee

Easter Flowers

As in previous years we will be decorating the church for Easter and having the cross on the church lawn. As two members of the flower arranging team are away this Easter we are appealing for

- Donations of foliage – please speak to Brenda if you are able to help.

People to help water the cross on the lawn - if you are able to help please add your name to the rota sheet on the notice board in the flower passage.

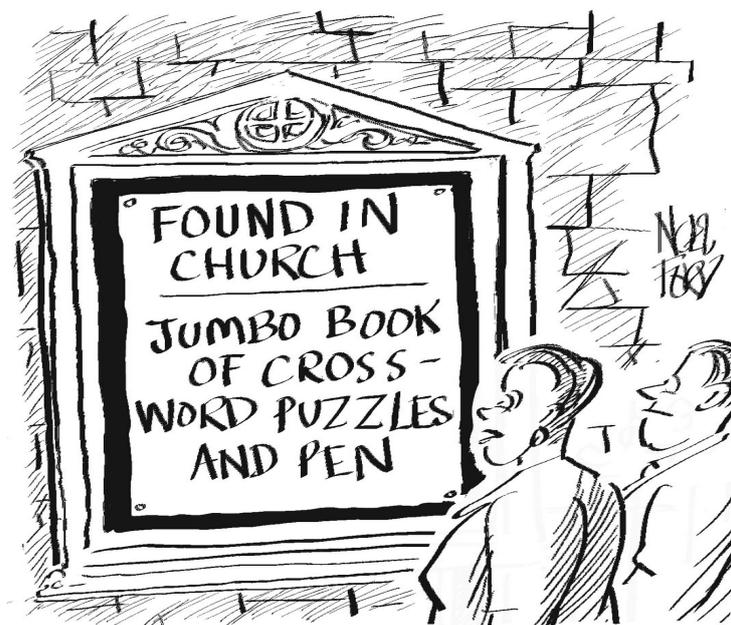
We have felt that in the last few years, people have found it easier to give a donation towards the flowers we purchase to decorate the church and the cross on the lawn. With this in mind we will have collection boxes in the church porches in the weeks leading up to Easter.

If you prefer to bring your own flowers (yellow or white) to put in the cross on the lawn after Easter Sunday Service (21st April) to ensure that the flowers last as long as possible, we would be most grateful if you do not bring daffodils or tulips as they do not like being in the oasis that we tape to the cross. However flowers with hard stems such as carnations or chrysanthemums will be suitable and last longer.

We do hope you will be able to join us to decorate the cross on the lawn so it looks stunning with the yellow and white flowers and be an impressive statement and witness to all who pass through Station Road.

Many thanks

Linda Legrand On Behalf of the Flower Group.



"It'll be interesting to see if anyone has the nerve to claim them."

Message from the Elders

The Elders have been reviewing the 2018 Christmas services and events and concluded that providing refreshments was difficult as very few people had come forward to help.

We would like to continue to offer refreshments after Christmas events and services but in order to do so volunteers are needed. The dates for this year are:

1st December - Mulley's Bereavement service

7th December – German Advent service

20th December – KCG concert

22nd December – Carols by Candlelight

Although it is very early in the year to be thinking about Christmas, could you please give the dates your consideration and let Chris Willis know if you could help. 3-4 people are needed for each occasion.

Thank you

Evening Communion Services. Every second Sunday of the month, apart from August and December, there is a joint Heath and Havering evening communion service, held in rotation at one of the five churches. It is an opportunity for a more reflective and intimate service and is very enjoyable and uplifting. We would like to encourage more Trinity people to attend if possible.

If you are unable to drive, or prefer not to go out in the evening on your own, please ask any of the Elders who will be only too pleased to organise a lift for you.

This is the plan for the next few months.

The themes come from "Holy Habits". This is a way of life for those exploring or already actively living out the call of Jesus to 'follow me'.

So far the themes of Fellowship and Breaking Bread have been explored. This is the plan now up until June next year.

Sharing Resources -	April 2019 (led by Revd Jim Dalglish)
Making disciples -	May 2019
Eating Together -	June 2019

It's not a course of study, you don't need to come every month, but think about giving it a try.

Details will be on the Trinity News each month.

Pat Gothard (on behalf of the Elders)

Messenger Deadline for May issue

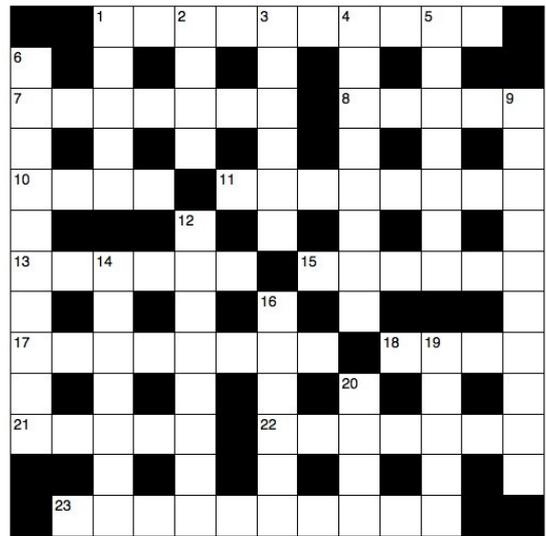
Please submit any articles for the May issue by 6pm on Wednesday 24th April with dates up to and including 2nd June The Messenger will be ready for distribution on Sunday 5th May

mikeaddis1@btinternet.com

Puzzle Page (answers on page 11)

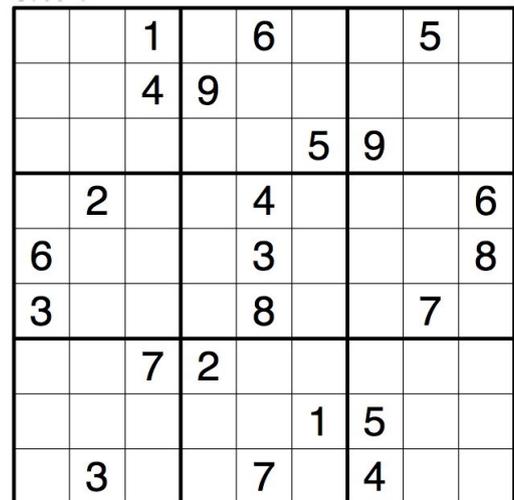
Across

- 1 'You are a chosen people, a royal — ' (1 Peter 2:9) (10)
- 7 Exact copy (Joshua 22:28) (7)
- 8 Jesus' first words to Jairus's daughter, 'My child, — — ' (Luke 8:54) (3,2)
- 10 Idol made by the Israelites while Moses was on Mount Sinai (Exodus 32:4) (4)
- 11 Role allotted to Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 42:6) (8)
- 13 'Lord, when did we — — hungry and feed you?' (Matthew 25:37) (3,3)
- 15 'Though seeing, they do — —; though hearing, they do not hear or understand' (Matthew 13:13) (3,3)
- 17 Happening (1 Kings 21:1) (8)
- 18 'Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the — of Christ' (Philippians 3:7) (4)
- 21 National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (1,1,1,1,1)
- 22 Stamp on (Amos 2:7) (7)
- 23 Liable to rot (1 Corinthians 15:42) (10)



Down

- 1 Of the pope (5)
- 2 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything — — ' (Psalm 24:1) (2,2)
- 3 Hebrew word for the kind of peace that Jesus promised (6)
- 4 Member of a 16th-century Protestant reform movement in France (8)
- 5 Sing out (anag.) (7)
- 6 Ceremonial column of people on the move (1 Samuel 10:5) (10)
- 9 One of the things love always does (1 Corinthians 13:7) (10)
- 12 Esther's cousin who foiled a plot to assassinate King Xerxes (Esther 2:7, 22) (8)
- 14 See cape (anag.) (7)
- 16 'No one can — them out of my hand' (John 10:28) (6)



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Kids and the Bible (cont.)

1. The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with the unsympathetic Gentiles.
2. Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.
3. Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.

The Beth Chatto Gardens

One of the most influential plantswomen in Britain, Beth Chatto OBE VMH transformed an overgrown wasteland into an extensive, beautiful garden. Continuing to oversee the developments well into her 90s, Beth created a pleasant place to visit, attracting people from all over the world. Whether visitors intend to have a peaceful walk followed by relaxing in the tearoom or arrive with the intention of purchasing from a wide range of plants, the Beth Chatto Gardens are a place that can be enjoyed by all. Since Beth's death on 13th May 2018, her family and 50 plus workers are determined to keep the gardens alive and continue to develop and build on Beth's aims and visions. The Beth Chatto Gardens are a legacy and a memorial of the fantastic, green-fingered gardener.

Situated near Elmstead Market, Colchester, the Beth Chatto Gardens are home to over 2000 varieties of plants. Split into several smaller gardens, habitats suitable for all types of plants have been developed, allowing native and exotic flowers and shrubs to blossom. From drought-tolerant plants to those that live near water, Beth Chatto has them all, however, the state of the land when Beth first purchased it was a completely contrasting, sorry sight.

Betty Diana Little was born in Good Easter, Essex in 1923 to Bessie (née Styles) and William Little, who were both keen gardeners. In her 20s, Betty began using the name Beth, by which she is now recognised throughout the world. Initially, Beth trained to be a teacher and worked at Hockerill College, Bishop's Stortford from 1940 until 1943, when she married her husband Andrew Chatto.

Like Beth, Andrew was passionate about plants and worked as a fruit farmer until 1960. To begin with, the Chattos and their two daughters lived in Braiswick, Colchester, however, Beth was disappointed that she was unable to have a proper garden on account of the quality of the soil. The Chatto family fruit farm in Elmstead Market, however, had far more potential for a garden, so Beth convinced her husband to build a new home on the land.

Unlike other fruit farms in the area, the Chatto's farm was less successful owing to the dryness of the soil in some parts and wetness in others. As a result, only plants such as wild blackthorn, willow and brambles had been able to grow naturally. Nevertheless, Beth was determined for her garden to be a success, and today, only the ancient oaks along the boundary survive from the original farmland.

Instead of being discouraged by the mix of gravelly soil and boggy ditches, Beth sought out plants that would thrive in these areas, rather than fight a losing battle trying to get anything else to grow. Today, the Beth Chatto Gardens span five acres of land with a variety of plant environments, including sun-baked gravel, water, woodland, heavy clay and alpine planting.

On arrival, visitors enter the newly developed Gravel Garden, which was once used as the car park. It was originally formed as an experiment by Beth Chatto and her team of workers. Famous for never needing to be watered, the free-draining soil is perfect for the Gardens' selection of drought-tolerant plants, including ornamental grass and a tall eucalyptus tree, a plant native to Australia. Of the whole Beth Chatto Gardens, it is these plants that coped best during Britain's July-August 2018 heatwave. Another species of plant in the Gravel Garden is the *genista aetnensis* or Mount Etna Broom, which is endemic to the Italian islands of Sicily and Sardinia. This Mediterranean shrubby vegetation typically needs stony soil to thrive and a sunny climate, i.e. little rain. Although Colchester is not the driest of places (heatwave notwithstanding), the light gravelly soil prevents the rain from having a disastrous effect on these dry-thriving plants.

Once past the main entrance to the gardens, where only those who have paid can enter, the path leads to the Water Garden which surrounds four cloud-shaped ponds in which many water plants are growing. All the plants in this garden need moisture in order to survive and, although they can be watered by hand, the roots can get what they need directly from the ponds.

Following on from the Water Gardens is a long shady walk under tall ancient oak trees. The plants that are seen here grow well in the shade, out of the direct sunlight. These include ferns and various carpeting plants, which brighten up the surroundings. The Beth Chatto Gardens' leaflet tells visitors to look out for strands of Solomon's Seal, whose roots bear depressions which resemble royal seals.

Beth Chatto Gardens (cont.)

Other interesting roots to look out for are the “knobbly knees” or *pneumatophores* of the swamp cypress. These can be seen above ground in areas near the newly developed area of clay soil near the reservoir. These plants are prevalent in places such as the Everglades in Florida and are not native to England, however, the damp soil in this area of the Beth Chatto Gardens is a great place for them to thrive.

On the far side of the Gardens is the Woodland Garden, which, as can be inferred from its name, is full of trees. Most of these are the remaining oaks from the original fruit farm but beneath them are shade-loving flowers, perennials and shrubs that provide a number of different colours. In the summer months, whilst there may be less blossom and flowers, there are numerous shades of green ranging from light to dark depending on the plant.

The Woodland Garden is the most peaceful section of the Beth Chatto Gardens. Out of the way of the entrance, it is easy to imagine you are in a country park or forest rather than a cultivated garden. It is also a great place for wildlife, particularly insects, who can live in the bug houses made of dead wood. Other areas to investigate are the New Planting and Scree Garden. The former contains recently planted shrubs that had been started in the Nursery until strong enough to survive outside. The Scree Garden is made up of a series of raised beds where easy-to-grow alpine plants can prosper despite the stony growing conditions.

Some parts of the Gardens are restricted to staff either because they are developing new areas or because the ground is used as stock beds. Over 60,000 plants are grown on site every year, which are either placed in the Gardens or sold. Most of the plants in the garden can be found for sale in the nursery, which has been running successfully since 1967. Many of these are offcuts or seedlings and may not look like the full-grown versions in the Gardens, however, staff working in the nursery are very good at identifying plants from photographs visitors have taken and can help people make the correct purchase. Staff are also keen to help gardeners find plants that will thrive in the particular type of soil they have at home. There is a selection of plants that have been carefully selected to suit dry, shady, or damp gardens, therefore, rarely does anyone go away empty handed.

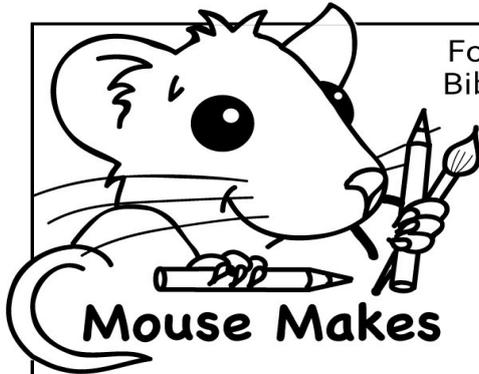
Although her death is still fresh in the minds of many people, there is no risk of Beth Chatto being forgotten. The Gardens will continue to open to the public, courses will still run, and staff will always be hard at work. Apart from at Christmas and New Year, the Beth Chatto Gardens are open every day and can be accessed for a fee ranging between £4.50 and £8.45 depending on the season.

Visitors do not need to wander the gardens every time they visit, some people, who just want to purchase plants from the Gardens' impressive stock, can enter the Plant Nursery and Gravel Garden for free. Also worth visiting is the Tearoom and Gravel Garden Restaurant, which specialises in freshly baked home-made scones, sausage rolls, homemade cakes and afternoon teas. Coffee lovers can enjoy a cup of the unique Beth Chatto Gardens coffee, which has been specially blended by the team. Whilst it is sad to lose a life, Beth Chatto will live on through her garden, inspiring new gardeners, young and old, throughout the world. Whether you have green fingers or not, the Beth Chatto Gardens are worth a visit just to see the hard work that Beth and her workers have put in for almost 60 years.

More information about opening times, ticket prices and upcoming events can be found on the website: www.bethchatto.co.uk

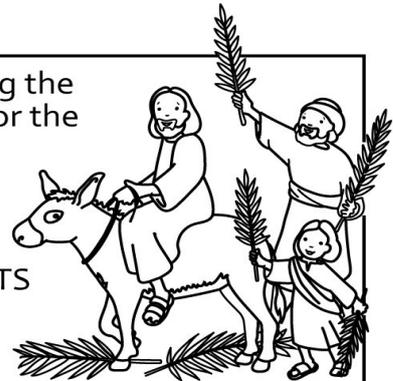
Hazel Stainer

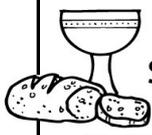
Children's Page



Follow the **Easter story** using the Bible references, then look for the words in the puzzle.

Into Jerusalem
 read *Matthew 21:1-11*
 DONKEY • ROAD • COATS
 BRANCHES • PALMS
 KING • HOSANNA



 **The Last Supper**
 read *Matthew 26:17-30*
 TWELVE DISCIPLES
 PASSOVER
 ROOM • BREAD
 WINE • SON • MAN
 BODY • BLOOD
 CUP • MEAL

 **Betrayal and Death**
 read *Matthew 26:36-27:56*
 GETHSEMANE
 PRAY • BETRAY
 KISS • ARREST
 MESSIAH • CHRIST
 SON • ACCUSED
 CRUCIFY • JESUS
 CROWN • THORNS
 ROBE • TREE
 NAILS • CROSS
 DARKNESS
 QUAKE • DEATH
 LOTS • DICE

C	B	R	A	N	C	H	E	S	S	E	T	S
E	L	O	R	D	O	N	K	E	Y	H	K	O
A	L	T	S	K	M	E	S	S	I	A	H	J
T	I	R	S	C	U	P	A	S	S	O	V	E
W	A	A	K	J	E	A	N	O	S	W	I	N
E	M	Y	M	E	A	L	N	N	O	Q	U	B
L	W	R	O	A	D	M	A	N	B	L	O	O
V	I	S	L	C	K	S	C	R	O	S	S	D
E	T	U	Q	O	Y	C	R	U	C	I	F	Y
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I	Y	M	I	T	G	R	W	M	A	R	Y	C
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P	R	A	I	S	E	A	S	T	E	R	R	



Burial and Resurrection
 read *Matthew 27:57-28:20*
 TOMB • STONE • LINEN • BODY • BURY • THREE DAYS
 MORNING • MARY • ANGEL • HEAVEN • LORD • GOD
 RAISED • JOY • GO TELL • GOOD NEWS • PEACE • SPIRIT
 SAVIOUR • PRAISE • EASTER • I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

Saturday Coffee Rota

6 April	Badminton		
13 April	Clare & Richard Brindle	Elain Upson	
20 April	Evelyn Charlton Heather Stainer	Giovanni Anastasi	
27 April	The Gould Family		
4 May	Susan Neville	Leanne Coppin	Mavis Jones



Sunday Coffee Rota

7 April	Susan Neville	Brenda Mole
14 April	Eileen Pullin	Heather Stainer
21 April	Pam Addis	Mandy Haines
28 April	Margaret Sida	Jane Whittington
5 May	Susan Neville	Brenda Mole

Flower Rota



	WW 1	Communion	WWW 2
7 Apr	Eileen Pullin	-	Eileen Pullin
14 Apr	Sonia Gould	Sonia Gould	Sonia Gould
21 Apr		EASTER FLOWERS	
28 Apr		EASTER FLOWERS	
5 May	Linda Legrand	-	Linda Legrand

8	9	1	4	6	3	7	5	2
7	5	4	9	2	8	6	3	1
2	6	3	7	1	5	9	8	4
1	2	8	5	4	7	3	9	6
6	7	5	1	3	9	2	4	8
3	4	9	6	8	2	1	7	5
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		P	E	R	I	S	H	A	B	L	E		

Diary April

Tues 2	10.00am	Lent Study group - Chapel
Thurs 4	11.30am	Service at Freshfields
	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 6	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Badminton
Sun 7	9.30am	Morning Worship inc Communion - Revd Dorothee Bührma
	11.00am	Church Meeting and AGM
Tues 9	10.00	Lent Study group - Chapel
Thurs 11	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 13	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Group D
	10 00am	Lawn Sale
Sun 14	9.30am	Palm Sunday Parade Service – Revd Dorothee Bührma
	5.00pm	Bring & Share Tea at Western Road
	6.30pm	Evening Communion – Revd Jim Dalgleish - Western Road
Thurs 18	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Supper and Communion
Fri 19	9.15am	Reflection—Trinity Rev Ann Woodhurst
	10.00am	Good Friday Walk of Witness to Upminster Park
Sat 20	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Group A
Sun 21	9.30am	Easter Sunday Worship - Revd Ann Woodhurst
Wed 24	6.00pm	Messenger Deadline
Thurs 25	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 27	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – The Gould Family
Sun 28	9.30am	Morning Worship – Revd Ann Sardeson
May		
Thurs 4	11.30am	Service at Freshfields
	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 4	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Group B
Sun 5	9.30am	Morning Worship inc Communion - Revd Dorothee Bührma

Trinity United Reformed Church

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Heath & Havering Group Web Site: www.heathandhaveringurc.co.uk

Worship**Sunday Morning Worship 9.30am**

Holy Communion 1st Sunday in month

All-age Worship and Parade (term time) 2nd Sunday in month

Young Church 3rd Sunday in month

Saturday Morning Prayers—in the Chapel 9.30am

Weekly Programme

Monday	Beavers	6pm
	Explorer Scout Unit (as arranged)	7.30pm
Tuesday	Cubs	6.30pm
Wednesday	Badminton Club	8pm
Thursday	Trinity Leisure Club TLC	1pm
	Rainbows	5.30pm
	Brownies	5.45pm
	Guides	7.30pm
Friday	Parent & Toddler Group	9.30am
	Scouts at Methodist	7.15pm
Saturday	Coffee Morning	10 am