



Abingdon

**All Saints  
Methodist Church**

Appleford Drive  
Abingdon

[www.allsaintsabingdon.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsabingdon.org.uk)

Registered Charity: 1184115



**Trinity Church  
Methodist & United Reformed**

Conduit Road  
Abingdon

[www.trinityabingdon.org.uk](http://www.trinityabingdon.org.uk)

Registered Charity: 1148634

**Presbyter: Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson**

[g.bondzi-simpson@methodist.org.uk](mailto:g.bondzi-simpson@methodist.org.uk) / 01235 219070

**Deacon: Selina Nisbett**

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Administrator: Eluned Hallas: 01235 520282.

[office.allsaintsab@gmail.com](mailto:office.allsaintsab@gmail.com) / [trinity.abingdon@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.abingdon@gmail.com)

## Notices Sunday 2 February Worship

All Saints	Trinity
<p><b>Sunday 2 February</b> <b>10:30am</b> Morning Worship led by Revd Alan Grist</p>	<p><b>Sunday 2 February</b> <b>10:30am</b> Morning Worship led by Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson</p>
<p><b>Sunday 9 February</b> <b>10:30am</b> Morning Worship &amp; Holy Communion led by Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson</p>	<p><b>Sunday 9 February</b> <b>10:30am</b> Morning Worship led by Peter Hemmings</p>

**Friday February 14**

**'Share the Love' Coffee Morning**

filter coffee, hot chocolate, tea ♥ Valentine's Day treats

**All Saints Hall 10.30am – 12:30pm** bring yourself, bring friends, everyone welcome

## **CIRCUIT NEWS**

### **Statement from the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) to all Churches**

The Wantage & Abingdon Circuit consists of 7 churches and is currently served by 4 ordained ministers. From September onwards, following the retirement of Revd Keith Underhill and the relocation to another Circuit of Deacon Selina Nisbett, there will be just 2 ordained ministers to have pastoral oversight of all seven churches.

It has been agreed that Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson will be the Superintendent Minister with specific oversight of All Saints Abingdon, Trinity Church Abingdon, and Grove, with occasional involvement with Peachcroft; and that Revd Bruce Thompson will have specific oversight of Didcot, Milton, Wallingford, and Wantage.

The reduction in staff numbers brings with it many changes and challenges, not least the pastoral care of each church, plus additional calls on the time of our ministers. In the coming weeks we will be addressing this at each of the Church Councils. The Circuit Leadership Team strongly encourages all to consider how, from September 2025 onwards, we might together ensure that not only are the members of churches cared for as effectively as possible but also the ministers too.

A booklet will be produced that will highlight these changes and possible ways forward as together we work towards ever more meaningful ways of being church in each of our local settings.

Please remember all the ministers in your prayers, Revd Keith as he prepares to retire from Circuit ministry, Deacon Selina as she prepares to move to another Circuit, Revd Georgina, and Revd Bruce as they prepare to take up additional responsibilities in the Circuit. Please pray too for the future of our Circuit, for the Lord to continue to lead and direct the Circuit Stewards as we plan for the changes we are going to be faced with.

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

We have a family at Trinity Abingdon who have been flooded 4 times in a year, and are now seeking some **URGENT accommodation** as the landlord is taking back possession of the property.

They have 2 lovely girls at local schools, who need to have continuity in their education.

If you can help or know of someone who can help please get in touch with Georgina or Selina at Trinity church.

## ALL SAINTS NEWS

**Quest** will meet at Valerie & Alan's at 7:30 on *Wednesday February 5th*. The subject for reflection and discussion is, *Our Pilgrim Journey*.

### **Lent Study Groups:**

During lent it is planned to hold two weekly study groups jointly with our friends from Trinity. One of these will be on a Monday evening when the Tubb house group will join with folk from Trinity. The other day is yet to be decided. This will be a daytime group on either a Tuesday or Wednesday morning or afternoon. To help with the planning of this second group please indicate by placing a tick on the sheet in the foyer which of these daytime slots you would prefer.

**Next Knitting Project:** Can I suggest that for our next knitting project, following our scheme to make dainty garments for pre-med babies at the JR Hospital in Britain, we now make some 'Fish and Chip' jumpers for new born babies supported by the Nasio project in Africa. The title is used because babies used to be sent home from hospital wrapped in newspaper! Matching bonnets, if possible, also welcome. The brighter the colours from your wool stash the better, but please **NO WHITE** as this colour is used at funerals. Ask me for a pattern.

This may well be a useful occupation during these dark winter evenings! A big Thank You to all you knitters for your readiness to be involved in these various projects.

*Eileen*

**Easter Egg Hunt & Coffee Morning: Saturday 29 March, 10.30-12 noon.** The Uniformed Organisations are organising this event as a new way of linking with the church. The leaders of the Squirrels, Rainbows, Beavers, Brownies, Cubs and Scouts invite you to join them for coffee and to watch the Easter Egg Hunt (or join in if you want!) Please note the date JPB



## NOTICES

### **Have you ever thought about becoming a Trustee?**

We are looking for a new trustee to join us at **TrinityLearning**. Trustees are essential to the running of TrinityLearning and work as a team to provide inclusive, strategic leadership and ensure proper governance for the charity. They meet around five times a year – both in person and online. There is lots of training and support available, so whether you are an experienced Trustee, or are thinking of becoming a Trustee for the first time, we would love to hear from you. We welcome applications from all ages (16+) and levels of experience. As a charity working with volunteers and young people, TrinityLearning is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all those with whom it works. All Trustees are expected to hold DBS clearance and the relevant safeguarding training, which TrinityLearning can provide. A keen interest in children and enthusiasm for promoting their needs is essential.

If you would like an informal chat about this voluntary role, please email Nicola on [nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com](mailto:nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com)

**Foodbank:** Among needs at the moment are fruit juice, tinned hotdogs, tinned mac and cheese, tinned ravioli, kidney beans, hot chocolate, plain flour, UHT milk, honey, fruit squash and coffee. Shampoo, washing up liquid, deodorant and anti-bac cleaning spray would also be useful and there is a real need for any strong carrier bags as the foodbank is short of bags at present. Many thanks to all who donate to Abingdon Foodbank. *JPB*

**A message from Keith Underhill:** Liz, Becca, Jon (Liz's brother) and I will be taking on the London Landmark's half marathon on Sunday 6th April. We are running to raise money for **the Skye High Foundation** and the brilliant work they do. It is a small charity specifically providing support to hospital staff, medical professionals and families during and after the loss of a twin, or a baby from a multiple birth and we wanted to do something practical to help them as a way of saying thank you for all their help and support to our nephew and his wife. We run in loving memory of Nuala, never forgotten, and of Nancy who brings so much joy. It's great to have Jon, Papa to Nuala and Nancy, running with us. We would value your prayers for this venture and if you felt able to sponsor us that would mean a great deal. The link to our Just Giving page is : [https://www.justgiving.com/page/keith-underhill-1736248913715?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/keith-underhill-1736248913715?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

## TRINITY NEWS

### Lent Groups 2025

This Lent, All Saints and Trinity will be offering two groups to explore the season.

- **Fortnightly Evening Group:** Starting on Monday March 3rd, this group will meet at Maurice Tubbs' house near the Radley Road. Alastair will be attending from Trinity and would love to have 3-4 others join him. If you're interested, please let him know, and he can share more details.
- **Daytime Group:** We're still finalising the best day and time for a daytime group. A poll is available in the welcome area for the second time this Sunday, so please cast your vote!

We hope you'll consider joining us for a time of reflection during Lent.

**Margaret and Alwyn Langsford are inviting their friends at Trinity Church** to join them and their family on **22nd February** in the Conduit Centre (between 3.00 and 5.00 p.m.) for a Tea Party to celebrate their 90th birthday anniversaries. If you wish to come, please will you sign the form in the Welcome Area so that we can better establish guest numbers. Thank you.

**Please note:** Eve Newton has handed the **catering organising baton** to Judith Fear.

### Trinity Anniversary

The first Sunday Worship at Trinity was likely to have been on Sunday 30th May 1875, following the church's official opening on Friday 28th May. The Trustees felt that this should be marked by a special service, likely to be 3.00 pm on **Sunday 1st June 2025** replacing our normal morning worship.

The hope is that the church will be filled to the rafters and an invitation will go out to all the past presbyters to participate in the act of worship in some way. We hope to invite "our neighbours", other churches in Abingdon and their officials, the circuit, local dignitaries etc etc.

We would like everyone who feels able to contribute to get involved in some way. There will be the usual sign up sheets no doubt, but we would appreciate some volunteers to come forward to help Neil Oastler and Heather Townsend with the pre-planning.

Please let them, or Revd Georgina, know if you feel you can help in anyway especially if you have an inspired idea of how to make our 150th birthday a very special one-off event.

## DATES

**Saturday 8 February, Crown Singers Concert;** St Michael's Church 3pm  
Sacred Choral works by Bach, Brahms and Bruckner. Tickets £10 (children free) on the door. Refreshments available. Free parking

**Sunday 9 February, Abbey Chamber Concert,** 3pm St Nicolas. Simon Watterton piano – Brahms, Schubert, Debussy and Beethoven. Tickets £12 available online or on the door. More information: <https://abbeychamberconcerts.org/event/simon-watterton-piano-brahms-schubert-debussy-and-beethoven/>

**Church in Abingdon AGM:** Advance notice that the CiA AGM will be held on **27th February** at 7:30 pm at Abingdon Baptist Church. All are welcome to come along and hear about the work of the CiA.

**World Day of Prayer: Friday 7 March, 2.30pm St Helen's Church.** This year's service has been prepared by Christian women from the Cook Islands and is entitled *I made you wonderful*. All welcome. Any questions to Helen Appleyard or JPB (at All Saints), Scilla Fellows (at Trinity)

## DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

The deadline for **submissions for the 2026 URC Prayer Handbook – *Touching God*** is fast approaching. Under the new editorship of the Revd Dr Susan Durber and the Revd Jonnie Hill, prayers are invited which express gratitude for, or a yearning to experience, the touch of God in our lives — moments when the sacred mystery of God breaks into the everyday, filling it with awe and wonder. Prayers that celebrate the sacramental nature of all life, affirming the presence of the divine throughout the world we share. Please make your submission by the deadline of 21 February. You can email your prayers to [phb@urc.org.uk](mailto:phb@urc.org.uk).

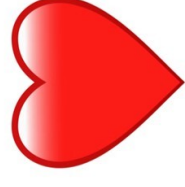
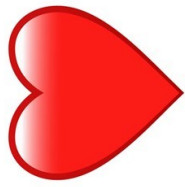
### **A prayer for LGBT+ History Month 2025**

Life-giving God, in You we live and move and have our being.  
We thank You that You made each one of us unique,  
in Your own image, as Your beloved child.  
We trust that You love us for all that we are, and all that we can be,  
through the grace of the Spirit and the example of Jesus.  
Help us to glorify You, by living more fully in that knowledge  
- for ourselves, for everyone You entrust to our care,  
and everyone with whom we struggle to live in harmony.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, who came to live among us  
so we might live more abundantly.

Amen

*Kieran Bohan, a student presbyter at the Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education, and Director of the Open Table Network. Via Methodist eNews*





# SHARE THE LOVE

## Coffee Morning

All Saints Hall Friday Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 10.30-12.30pm

FRESH COFFEE HOT CHOCOLATE TEA VALENTINE TREATS FREE TO ALL

bring yourself bring friends everyone welcome

An initiative by All Saints Methodist Church to our community

