

Trinity News

Thank
you
LORD



**Harvest Festival Service
on Sunday 7th October
October 2018**

Ministers Muse

At this time of year we think about the farmers harvesting wheat and hay and have been looking forward to our harvest services and suppers. Today the wind has been howling as Storm Ali hits the North East of England and it made me realise how powerful nature is and how we should be harvesting more of her energy to use for ourselves. Talking about the harvests of yester-year today at a care home, people remembered bringing apples, other fruit and vegetables and having loaves of bread shaped like a wheat sheaf at their harvests in church. I remember having coal and water on our harvest table. My grandad was a coal miner so coal was an important harvest, not only for heating but also because it created much needed jobs. Some Harvest celebrations in church these days are different. So the hungry can be fed we now ask for tins and packets, that won't go off, a sign of the times. However, in all our remembering's we must not forget that harvest is a time of hard work for many people and it doesn't all happen in the autumn. Lambs and calves are born in spring, they too are a harvest. Let us thank God for all the harvests and the people who work so hard so we may eat, be clothed and kept warm all year round.

Young and old from prehistory to today have celebrated harvest. The writers of the Bible tell us:

*Celebrate the Festival of Harvest with the first fruits of the crops you sow in your field.
For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands,
and your joy will be complete.*

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us.

May God be gracious to you, who are a harvest of his nature and love and may you bless others in turn.

Your friend and minister, *Janet*

Shoe Box Packing

Sylvia and Janice will be packing Shoe Boxes on Friday 5th October from 10 a.m. Anyone who could help with this good work would be very welcome.

Shoe Box Appeal 2018

Each month we are asking for donations of items to go in our Shoe Boxes.

This month we are asking for sweets (no chocolate and sweets must be dated after March 2019) balls, cards, dominoes, small games and skipping ropes.

At this time of year we also ask for financial donations to help with the delivery costs of the Shoe Boxes. Envelopes are available near the collection boxes.

Our continued thanks to everyone who contributes to this very worthy cause.

Prayers for the world

Most loving God, among us there are many shades of both strength and need. We are the people of much knowledge who lack wisdom, the people of many possessions who lack fulfilment, the people of abundant technology who lack hope, the people of pleasures who lack contentment, the people of many comforts who lack peace, the people of much pride who lack dignity, the people of ideals who lack vigour, the people of belief who lack faith, the people of faith who lack love. Most merciful God, please forgive our sins, refresh that which is stagnant, and invigorate everything that shows promise in your eyes. In the name of Christ Jesus, our Saviour, we pray. Amen

From bruceprewer.com

A Prayer of the Church

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Luke 1 verses 68-71. ESV

Persecution is a reality for too many Christians in the world. But why should we believe that we are a persecuted minority in this country? The real danger is that we retreat to a safe corner and stop trying to reach out to the world. Jesus is our rock, but he is not a stone to shelter under. Pray for courage for the real fight- the fight to end indifference and win souls for Christ.

Prayers for Trinity

Lord, we are called by your name and we are healed by your grace. We have been appointed to be disciples and we have been enabled by your Spirit. We are called to be your people and we walk as your children. Now, Lord, send us out to discover Christ in our community; to offer his love to our neighbours and to be Christ to all whom we meet. (David Clowes)

*May the love of God the Father surround you;
May Jesus, the Good Shepherd, walk with you;
May the joy of the Holy Spirit fill your heart with peace;
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us this day and for evermore. Amen*

Bible a Month: Jordan

“I rely on your constant love; I will be glad, because you will rescue me. I will sing to you, O Lord, because you have been good to me”. Psalm 13, 5-6 (GNB)

Jordan is a land-locked country and is surrounded by Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, West Bank, Israel, and Iran. It covers an area of 89,000 sq. km, which is approx. 37% of the size of the UK. It has a population of 10.2 million- about 16% of the UK. The literacy rate is 95%. Languages include Arabic and English, which is widely understood among upper and middle classes.

Jordan is often described as an “oasis of peace in the Middle East, surrounded by a circle of fire”. It supports freedom of religion and the Jordanian Royal Family are openly supportive of Christianity. Nevertheless, Christians are under pressure making up just 2.2% of the population of 10.2 million.

Last year, Bible Society’s team in Jordan pulled off the first ever Christian festival to take place in the country- bringing together 10,000 Christians over two days from every single one of the 12 denominations in Jordan. All 12 leaders came together, on stage, to confess their unity, in humility, under Christ.

The festival is called “Watad” meaning tent-peg. The peg may be small but the tent can’t stand without it and the harder you beat it, the deeper it goes and the more secure the tent becomes.

One of the team’s key objectives in Jordan is to strengthen Christian witness, encouraging the Christian community to remain and to reach out and bless their local community. Watad was a wonderful example of this.

Prayer Pointers

- Praise God for last year’s Watad festival and ask him to continue building and encouraging the Christian community in Jordan.
- Pray for Bible Society’s team in Jordan as they work to share the light of the gospel in Jordan and the Middle East.
- Ask God to work powerfully through the marriage counselling offered by the team in Jordan. May this help to draw families together and protect vulnerable women and children.
- Thank God for the Jordanian Royal Family and their support of religious freedom. Pray that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, the freedom of Christians to meet and worship God in Jordan would not only be protected but would increase.

Thank you for your support. Together, we’ll do something amazing: build a world where everyone has access to the Bible and can recognise its value for them, their families and communities.

Harvest - A Short History

Harvest is from the Anglo-Saxon word *hærfest*, "Autumn". It then came to refer to the season for reaping and gathering grain and other grown products. The full moon nearest the autumnal equinox is called the Harvest Moon. So in ancient traditions Harvest Festivals were traditionally held on or near the Sunday of the Harvest Moon.

An early Harvest Festival used to be celebrated at the beginning of the Harvest season on 1st August and was called *Lammas*, meaning 'loaf Mass'. Farmers made loaves of bread from the fresh wheat crop. These were given to the local church as the Communion bread during a special service thanking God for the harvest.

Nowadays the festival is held at the end of harvest, which varies in different parts of Britain. Sometimes neighbouring churches will set the Harvest Festival on different Sundays so that people can attend each other's thanksgivings.

Farmers celebrated the end of the harvest with a big meal called a harvest supper. Some churches and villages still have a Harvest Supper.

The modern British tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches began in 1843, when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. Victorian hymns such as "We plough the fields and scatter", "Come ye thankful people, come" and "All things bright and beautiful" but also Dutch and German harvest hymns in translation helped popularise his idea of harvest festival and spread the annual custom of decorating churches with home-grown produce for the Harvest Festival service.

A Reflection for Harvest

"Yours is the day, and yours also the night; you established the luminaries and the sun. You have fixed all the bounds of the earth; you made summer and winter. (Psalm 74, 16-17)

In the fading of the summer sun, the shortening of days, cooling breeze, swallows' flight and moonlight rays, **we see the Creator's hand.**

In the browning of leaves once green, morning mists, autumn chill, fruit that falls, frost's first kiss, **we see the Creator's hand.**

Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude, the spiritual blindness that prevents us from appreciating the wonder that is this world, the endless cycle of nature, of life and death and rebirth. Forgive us for taking without giving, reaping without sowing.

There is a winter in all of our lives, a chill and darkness that makes us yearn for days that have gone, or put our hope in days yet to be. Father God, you created seasons for a purpose. Spring is full of expectation, buds breaking, frosts abating and an awakening of creation before the first days of summer. Now the sun gives warmth and comfort to our lives, reviving aching joints, bringing colour, new life and crops to fruiting.

Autumn gives nature space to lean back, relax and enjoy the fruits of its labour; mellow colours in sky and landscape as the earth prepares to rest. Then winter, cold and bare as nature takes stock, rests, unwinds, sleeps until the time is right. An endless cycle and yet a perfect model.

We need a winter in our lives, a time of rest, a time to stand still, a time to reacquaint ourselves with the faith in which we live. It is only then that we can draw strength from the one in whom we are rooted, take time to grow and rise through the darkness into the warm glow of your springtime, to blossom and flourish, bring colour and vitality into this world, your garden. Thank you Father, for the seasons of our lives.

For summer's passing and harvest home, we thank you. For autumn's splendour and winter's chill, we thank you. For seed that has fallen and the promise of spring, we thank you. May we become fruitful in thought and deed and may the seed of love that falls to the ground linger beyond our time on this earth.

Adapted from worship material by John Birch available on www.faithandworship.com

The Sound Guy

A new study performed by LifeWay Research confirmed on Monday that absolutely everything that went wrong at the last church service you attended was the sound guy's fault.

The study looked at worship slide misfires, lyrical errors, broken microphones, bad song selection, faulty theology, bad preaching, lack of commitments to Christ and more, and concluded that every single one of the issues was the fault of the guy sitting in the sound booth or operating the system.

“Many people have historically assumed that everything is the minister's fault, but the data doesn't corroborate this hypothesis”, head researcher Paul Lyle told reporters. “Every single problem in a church service can be laid at the feet of the sound guy. It's science”

One church in the study was exhibiting a high number of off-key notes in the worship songs, and researchers were able to isolate the problem, confirming once again, it was the sound guy's fault. The church also had poor lighting and bad coffee at refreshments afterwards, both of which showed evidence of being the wrongdoing of the sound guy.

The study further recommends that any time something goes wrong at church, every person in the service should turn their heads and look judgementally at the sound guy, since it's most definitely his fault.

Babylon Bee Newsletter, (USA). From the Internet.

From one of the “Trinity Sound Guys” It's obviously true !!!



**You want to crash!!!
I show you how to crash!!!**

St Francis of Assisi

The Feast day of St Francis of Assisi is 4th October, and many churches will be holding services to remember his life and work. The following is a little potted history.

He was born in Assisi, as Giovanni Francesco Bernardone, son of a wealthy merchant. As a young man, Francis led a worldly, carefree life. In 1202 he marched off to battle against the city of Perugia, full of a young man's dreams of military glory. But he was taken prisoner during the battle, and a year passed before his father could arrange ransom.

One day as he prayed in a dilapidated church in San Damiano, at the edge of Assisi, he heard Christ say three times from the crucifix: "Francis, go repair my house, which, as you see, is falling completely to ruin". Francis understood that he was to repair the church he prayed in (though his followers later would see this as his call to reform the church), so he proceeded to sell off family goods to raise money for repairs.

When his father caught wind of this, he was furious. He dragged Francis before the local bishop to force his son into changing his unseemly behaviour and to pay him back. In the course of the interview, Francis took off his clothes and laid them neatly in a pile before his father. "Up to today I called you father" he said to him, "but now I can say is all honesty, Our Father who art in heaven". He walked out of the cathedral to become a hermit- to be "alone in solitude and silence" and to "hear the secrets which God could reveal to him"

Though known for his infectious joy, Francis abhorred laughing or idle words. Not only did he wish that he should not laugh, but that he should not even afford to others the slightest occasion for laughing. One contemporary noted as a result of the preaching of the Franciscan brothers and sisters, "persons of both sexes, rich and worldly, have renounced possessions and for the love of Christ, turned their backs on the world". In short, Francis had begun a religious revival that spread over Europe.

Such was the impact of the death of Francis, whose life was committed to God's "holy will" that he was canonized within two years- exceedingly fast by the Roman Catholic standards.

After Francis's death, the Franciscans continued to grow- and, ironic for an order once told by their founder to "appropriate nothing for themselves, neither a house, nor a place, nor anything else" – soon became quite rich. A stunning basilica was built in Assisi and Francis' relics were moved there in 1230. The most famous prayer that is ascribed to him was not in fact his own, but sums up his spirituality. "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace"

Let us now remember all those places and people in this world who need peace. For all those affected by war, crisis, evil and disaster. We pray for each one of us as we strive to live out the gospel.

A few thoughts attributed to Francis of Assisi:-

- Start by doing what is necessary, then do what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible.
- Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received- only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage.
- Lord, help me to live this day quietly, easily; to lean upon thy great strength, trustfully, restfully; to wait for the unfolding of thy will, patiently and serenely; to meet others, peacefully, joyously; to face tomorrow confidently, courageously.
- Do few things but do them well, simple joys are holy.
- The journey is essential to the dream.
- A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.
- I have been all things unholy. If God can work through me, he can work through anyone.

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.

Witticisms

- You can tune a piano but you can't tuna fish.
- To write with a broken pencil is pointless.
- No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
- If you don't pay your exorcist you can get repossessed.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- Today, a girl said she recognised me from the Vegetarians Club but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.

Top 12 Facts about Fairtrade Bananas

by Heather Nicholson

In the UK we eat 5 billion bananas every year. How much do you know about this delicious and versatile fruit?

1. A third of bananas sold in the UK are Fairtrade

That comes to around 240,000 metric tonnes. All bananas sold at Waitrose, Co-op and Sainsbury's are Fairtrade. Other shops sell Fairtrade bananas too so make sure to look out for the FAIRTRADE Mark.

2. Fairtrade Premiums totalled £25.5 million in 2016

Banana farmers and workers received £25.5 million in Fairtrade Premiums in 2016, an increase of 5% from the previous year. Fairtrade Premium is an additional sum of money which goes into a communal fund for workers and farmers to use to improve their social, economic and environmental conditions.

3. Use banana skins to calm itchy mosquito bites

Next time you peel a banana, pause before you chuck out the skin. Do you have any bites? Banana peel contains an anti-inflammatory agent.

4. Bananas are the backbone of many countries' economies

Trading bananas is the cornerstone of many developing countries' economies, with an estimated global export value of \$7 billion. They are also the staple food for millions of people.

5. Is a banana a fruit, herb or tree?

It's a herb and a fruit! Distantly related to ginger, bananas are classed as an herbaceous plant rather than a tree because what appears to be a trunk isn't actually a trunk. Instead the leaves are tightly wrapped around a single stem, which leads up to a fruit-bearing flower stalk.

6. Bananas have tons of health benefits

Bananas are loaded with potassium, which helps regulate heart function and blood pressure. Potassium-rich foods help to lower blood pressure and protect against heart disease and strokes. Nutritional and tasty!

7. How many calories are there in a banana?

It's a popular question so here's your answer – approximately 105 calories. Banana cake, however, may contain a few more...

8. Where do bananas come from?

Originally, bananas came from Asia but today they come from all over the world. Most of the bananas sold in the UK come from Latin America, whereas India produces the most bananas overall. Farmers and workers in Latin America and the Caribbean produce 94% of all Fairtrade bananas consumed worldwide. There are currently 22,000 banana farmers and plantation workers in the Fairtrade system working in 91 certified co-operatives and 56 certified plantations.

9. You can use banana skins to shine your shoes

The potassium found in bananas is a key ingredient in shoe polish. Simply peel your banana and use the inner lining of the skin to rub all over your shoes. Buff up afterwards with a soft cloth.

10. 47% of bananas grown worldwide are Cavendish

There are many different types of banana but almost all bananas exported to the western world are Cavendish bananas. The popularity of different types of banana has been driven by disease. When the Gros Michel banana, the exporter's pick in the 1950s, was practically wiped out by the fungus known as Panama disease, farmers turned to the Cavendish banana which was less tasty but immune. These bananas are sterile and depend on propagation via cloning. However, the Cavendish banana is no longer immune...

11. Panama disease is a major threat to the banana trade

17 million tonnes of bananas are exported globally each year, almost all of which are Cavendish bananas. The current strain of the Panama disease attacks Cavendish bananas and some 10,000 hectares of Cavendish have already been destroyed. Experts warn that the fungus could spread to Latin America, where many of the bananas we buy come from. Scientists are attempting to create a robust variety that could replace the current crop.

12. Fairtrade has improved the lives of banana farmers

In 2016, Fairtrade banana farmers and workers earned €28,503,060 in Fairtrade Premiums. 96% of banana smallholders surveyed in Colombia said that their economic situation had improved since joining Fairtrade. These farmers reported an average 34% increase in income because of Fairtrade.

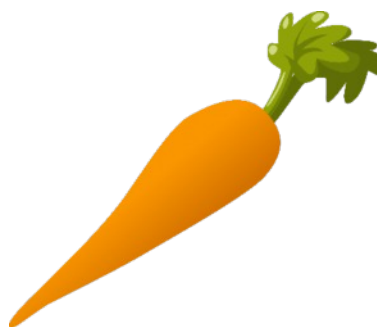
HARVEST DINNER **Saturday 13th October**

1pm – 3pm

1st Wallsend Girls' Brigade would love you to
join them for a Harvest Dinner
at Trinity Methodist Church,
Station Road,
Wallsend NE28 8SA

Our girls will help prepare and serve your meal.
All the fruit and veg used has come from our
allotment.

RSVP by 10th October to Pamela
07595759981



Is the Coffee Industry Guilty of Exploitation?

by Peter d'Angremond of Max Havelaar Foundation

The price for Arabica coffee beans has plummeted in recent weeks to below production costs, jeopardising the livelihoods of 25 million coffee farming families worldwide. Peter d'Angremond of Max Havelaar Foundation discusses the impact of the price crash and what we must do now to protect coffee farmers.

Coffee farmers rang the alarm bell due to the price of coffee beans dropping to a dramatic low. This threatens the already fragile existence of 25 million farming families worldwide. We can no longer turn a blind eye to what is happening.

Brazil and Colombia, who together produce half of the world's coffee, published a joint statement affirming the fact that farmers are forced to sell their coffee far below cost price. The disastrous situation in the coffee sector is confirmed by recent figures. At the end of 2016, the price of Arabica coffee on the New York Stock Exchange was \$1.55 per pound (454 grams). Since then the price has dropped further to a dramatic low point this week of less than one dollar per pound. Due to the extreme decline of 30% in price, farmers could be facing an annual loss of more than 11 billion dollars of income. No development programme can bridge this gap.

Sustainability is on everyone's lips these days and often we think we are doing a good job. The coffee-producing countries state that while many large multinational companies do promote and act on sustainability, these activities are completely negated by their commercial practices. The recently released report 'Coffee Barometer' comes to the same conclusion. Of the total value of coffee (around 200 billion dollars in 2015), only 10% stays in the countries of origin. In total, large companies spend approximately 350 million dollars a year on sustainability. Set against the income loss of 11 billion dollars, this is a drop in the ocean.

FOR 3 QUARTERS OF ALL PACKS OF COFFEE IN THE UK SUPERMARKET, NO PRICE SECURITY IS OFFERED FOR COFFEE FARMERS.

By paying prices that are too low, the coffee industry is at least partly responsible for human rights issues such as poverty, child labour, poor working conditions as well as environmental damage. In sustainability discussions, talking about a 'decent price' is taboo. Industry largely refuses to commit to decent prices for farmers.

In the UK, Fairtrade, which is the only certification mark that requires a minimum price of coffee buyers (\$1.40 per pound), has a market share of around 25%. This means that for 3 quarters of all packs of coffee in the UK supermarket, no price security is offered for coffee farmers. They are then dependent on the vagaries of the market.

It is time that coffee brands, supermarkets and the industry take structural responsibility by adjusting their purchasing policy.

And do we, as consumers, want to be involved in the exploitation of coffee farmers by buying their products?

From the online blog of the Fairtrade Foundation (Sept 18)

Trinity Church is an affiliated “Fair Trade” Church and we encourage all our congregation, friends and users to Use Fair Trade coffee, tea and other food products.

Call to Prayer: the Church in Algeria under threat.

Since May 2017, the Bible Society in Algeria has been trying, without success, to obtain a license to import Scripture materials. Today, the entire Algerian Christian community is under threat.

The Protestant Church of Algeria (Eglise Protestante d’Algerie- EPA), has issued a statement objecting to the closure by the authorities of four of its places of worship across the country: in Oran (the north east), in Bejaia and Tizi Ouzou (the north) and in Ouargla (the centre). They were told to “cease all activity” and all EPA member churches are worried that they will be closed too.

The EPA- the only Algerian Protestant Church body recognised in the country- has been officially registered since 1974. Its registration was confirmed in July 2011, and its statutes were updated in accordance with the 2012 law.

In its statement, the EPA also denounced the intimidation of its members, including recent lawsuits filed against three Christians wrongly accused of proselytising (converting people), the targeted searches of Christians at Algiers airport, and the confiscation of Christian books. Other incidents mentioned by the EPA are the “closure of a bookshop in Oran because the owner is a Christian” and an “attempt to close a quail farm in Layada Oran, also owned by a Christian.

In each of these actions against Christians, the authorities have been using the 2006 law which governs “non-Muslim cults” and in particular article 11, which forbids anybody from “seeking to shake the faith of a Muslim”. This vague wording means that Christians can face accusation no matter what they do.

Ali Khidri, General Secretary of the Bible Society in Algeria, is very concerned about his brutal turn of events for the church in his country. We are asked to pray for Algerian Christians and for the ministry of the Bible Society in that country. Their freedom of worship is facing a grave threat and there is a clear violation of fundamental freedoms.

Please share this information and call to prayer as widely as possible, including the media.

From Word in Action, the newsletter of the Bible Society, Summer 2018.

Traidcraft faces end of 40 years' trading

Ethical consumption is challenged in difficult economic climate

Traidcraft plc, the Fairtrade pioneers whose church-based retailers have transformed shopping in the UK, subject to consultation, could cease trading by the end of 2018 unless a solution can be found in the coming month.

The plc, which generates £10m in annual sales was founded by six people in Newcastle in 1979. It's now in formal consultation with staff and other stakeholders following recent poor trading figures. The business has experienced shocks caused by the decision to leave the EU, and along with other retailers, sales have been hit by economic uncertainty and stagnating wages.

Chief Executive Robin Roth said:

“We are the sort of business that pays up front – that’s in our nature as an ethical business. So when the pound fell after the Brexit referendum, we took a hit. We also stand by our published prices, so unlike other retailers we stood by our customers, absorbed a lot of the additional cost, and kept price rises to a minimum.”

These factors, together with a disappointing online relaunch, contributed to the decision by the Traidcraft board to propose to cease trading at the end of the year unless a solution can be found. Traidcraft plc's charity arm, Traidcraft Exchange, is a separate organisation and will continue its work with producers and in campaigning and lobbying for trade justice in the UK regardless of what happens to Traidcraft plc.

All the plc's 68 staff, based at Traidcraft HQ in Gateshead, are facing redundancy.

Traidcraft's 4,300 Fair Traders, 85% of whom are motivated by faith, account for about half of Traidcraft's revenue. Their sales of tea, coffee, cards and crafts at church fetes and school fairs have even changed the buying decisions of major supermarkets.

“Our wonderful, committed Fair Traders make a daily difference in the life of fledgling enterprises in hard-to-reach parts of the world”, says Robin. “Because of their love for the cause, Fairtrade got on the High Street, and a new generation is growing to understand justice as an everyday matter.”

Fair Traders, customers, and supporters have been encouraged to continue supporting Traidcraft plc as a good autumn season is a pre-requisite if the company is to have a future model.

Alliances between Fair Traders and Traidcraft's charity arm will continue, by means of fundraising events, donations and campaigning for change, even if trading ceases.

The Chief Executive wants people to get in touch with ideas for a future for Traidcraft plc: lovetraidcraft@traidcraft.co.uk

All media enquiries to W North:

Christian Cerisola 0191 375 9100 or 07824 553170 christian@wcommunications.co.uk

Becky Beaumont 0191 375 9100 or 07875 649303

becky.beaumont@wcommunications.co.uk

Points to Ponder

- If you don't take a Sabbath, something is wrong. You're doing too much, you're being too much in charge. You've got to quit, one day a week, and just watch what God is doing when you're not doing anything . *Eugene H Peterson*
- The church must be reminded that it's not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and the critic of the state and never its tool. If the church does not recapture its prophetic zeal, it will become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority. *Martin Luther King Jnr.*
- In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possession and human success, but rather on how much we have loved. *Clergy Coaching Network*
- We must talk about Poverty, because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it.
- If your church loves a past era more than the current mission, it loves the wrong thing. *Ed Stetzer.*
- Too many churches die of small thinking. Small thinking says: We don't have enough; it can't happen here; who will pay for it and we've never done it that way before. Those who serve an infinite God should never have their imaginations deadened by small thinking. *Carey Nieuwhof.*
- Sometimes memories sneak out of my eyes and roll down my cheeks.
- Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. *C.S Lewis*
- Do not ask your children to strive for extraordinary lives. Such striving may seem admirable, but it is the way of foolishness. Help them instead to find the wonder and the marvel of an ordinary life. Show them the joys of tasting tomatoes, apples and pears. Show them how to cry when pets and people die. Show them the infinite pleasure in the touch of the hand. And make the ordinary come alive for them. The extraordinary will take care of itself. *William Martin, Kissing Fish*
- A lie does not become truth; wrong doesn't become right and evil doesn't become good, just because it is accepted by a majority.
- When it rains, look for the rainbows. When it is dark, look for the stars.
- It is never too late for a new beginning in your life.

All the above quotes are feely available on the Internet



Preachers and Pastors



Rev'd Billy Graham tells of a time in his early ministry when he arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Needing to post a letter, he asked a young boy the way to the post office. When the boy had told him, Dr Graham thanked him and said, "If you come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven". The boy replied, "Thanks, but I don't think I'll bother...you don't even know your way to the post office"

Early one Sunday, a mother went to wake her son. "Wake up, son, it's time to go to Church!" "No, mum, I don't want to go. The choir don't like me, the congregation hate me and the sermons are boring! Give me two reasons why I should go to church"

"Well, son, for one, you're 55 years old. And for another, you're the vicar!"

An elderly vicar was not the best of drivers. One Sunday he was driving home from church when he had a minor bump with a cyclist. The poor man was knocked into the ditch. The vicar immediately stopped the car, got out, and apologised, then he gave the cyclist his visiting card saying that if he ever needed help, the man should not hesitate to ask. As the man rode home, he looked at the card which said, "The Reverend Johnston is sorry he missed you today"

The new minister's car broke down so he took it to the local garage on Monday. The mechanic identified the fault and said it would take a few days to fix. "Please go easy on the costs" said the minister, "I'm just a poor preacher" "I know" said the mechanic, "I heard you yesterday"

And some church magazine misprints (not this magazine!)

- A worm welcome to all who have come today.
- While the minister is on holiday, massages can be given to the church secretary.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a creche in the basement.
- Weightwatchers will meet at 7pm. Please use the double doors at the back of the hall.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
- Men's Prayer Breakfast. No charge, but your damnation will be gratefully accepted.

From Bloopers and Blessings, published by TLM Trading.

Smile!

- What starts with “w” and ends with “hat”
- Where are mathematicians buried?
The Symmertery.
- I’ve asked my girlfriend to polish my medieval battle uniform whilst I go to the pub. She always said she wanted a night in, shining armour.
- Just found out my uncle has left me a stately home in his will. I have no idea where Sod Hall is, but I’m just off to Google it now !
- I’ve applied for a job with Citroen. I don’t know why, but they wanted two CV’s.
- My wife refuses to go to Karaoke with me. I have to duet alone.
- My uncle works for a company that makes bicycle wheels. He’s the Spokesperson.
- One of the Russian acrobats in our human pyramid has been deported. We don’t have Oleg to stand on.
- My dad is 83 and still doesn’t need glasses! He just drinks straight from the bottle.
- I’ve accidentally swallowed some Scrabble tiles....my next trip to the toilet could spell disaster.
- The police stopped my car. “Do the letters H.S mean anything to you?” they asked. No”. “What about W.D. then?” . “No, means nothing to me”. “How about F.J ?” “Am I suspected of something? What’s this about?” “Just initial enquiries, sir”
- Apparently if you buy any Adam Ant sheet music from Amazon, they’ll throw in a stand and deliver.



With thanks to LIVErNEWS, the Liver Patient support Newsletter.

Autumn days and ways



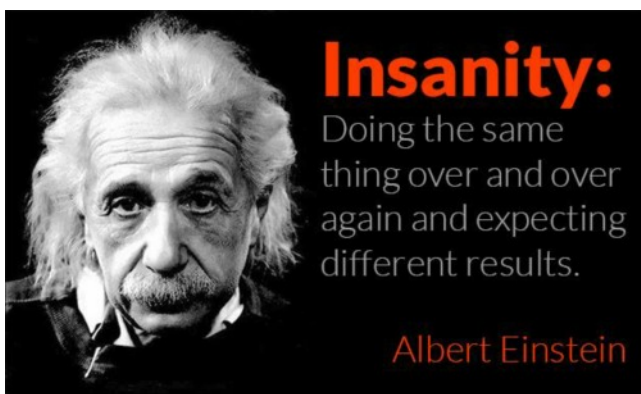
Even on wet miserable days like we've had this week it's hard not to be amazed, yet again at the wonderful colours of autumn. It's nature's way of course, of preparing for winter. It discards all the unnecessary parts, all the extra commitment of feeding the leaves. I remember a few years ago when I was fully committed to life within the organised church and working 3 days a week as assistant manager at the charity shop connected to the local church, I had this

strange sense that I shouldn't be taking on any more commitments. In fact, I was feeling that I should be relinquishing some of the things that I had been doing until then. I didn't understand it but felt that God was leading me in a different direction and he wanted me to be free of commitments, free and ready to go or do whatever he wanted. Eventually I laid everything down and felt quite naked spiritually. All my life I had been involved in church activities and projects and yet now, here I was without anything, just me and God, no frills or attachments. And that's the way I am now but what an enriching time I'm having.

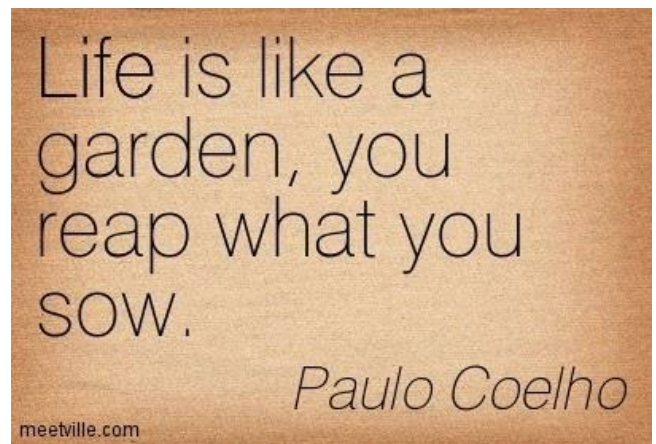
The other day I shared a status on Facebook that said (in Spanish) 'From autumn I learnt that even though the leaves fall the tree remains standing.' Sometimes it's necessary to shed commitments to some things but that doesn't mean that the tree is dead. The commitments must go but the tree remains standing firm and upright and regains strength for a new spring. Nature evolves through the seasons and we need to evolve also. Personally I struggle when Christians don't believe in evolution. Looking around at creation, it all speaks of evolution. Everything evolves all the time, changing, adapting and moving on to new phases in their lives. For me in recent years this evolution has been to shed religiosity, busyness and commitments, change the way I feed my soul so I can stand before God stripped of all superficial appearances and doing stuff and just be.

The other great lesson of autumn is the harvest. Those who are gardeners (or farmers working the land) will be coming to the end of a very busy time of harvesting. It seems that in our garden every year at this time I rethink and plan what I want to do next year. I clear out the old and harvested and decide whether I'll do the same again next year or change things a bit. Sometimes when things haven't turned out as I thought or expected, then I change things. I don't do the same thing again. It would seem a bit foolish. If it hasn't worked then why waste

time doing it again. As Albert Einstein said, you can't go on doing the same thing again and again and expect a different result. What a waste of time and effort. And yet on a spiritual level we so often do just that. We do not always have the deep satisfaction we hope to find, there is always something missing. We go week after week, still searching and hoping. So often we come away thinking, 'that was good but'



As young people we were full of enthusiasm - we were going to change the world. Yet we haven't changed our own town never mind the world. In the big picture, nothing seems to have changed. If a business doesn't get the result it's looking for then it changes how it does things. Yet in 2000 years Christianity has failed to bring the world to God. Maybe we are doing it all wrong. Maybe we should change the way we do things or maybe look at the seed we're sowing. After all you reap what you sow. Maybe we should take notes from creation and shed whatever might hinder us. We need to change, evolve and adapt.



From the blog of Mavis Andradez.



Preachers and Services

- October
- 7th 10.45 a.m. Deacon Gail Morgan
Harvest Festival
- 14th 10.45 a.m. Mr Tim Rogers
- 21st 10.45 a.m. Rev Paul Cleever -
Thorpe
- 28th 10.45 a.m. Pastor Tom Leighton
- November
- 4th 10.45 a.m. Rev Gavin Hume

Door Stewards Rota

(All 10-45 a.m. unless otherwise noted)

- October
- 7th Mrs L Morgan.
- 14th Mrs D Kirkley
- 21st Mrs M Mills
- 28th Mrs M McCullough.
- November
- 4th Mr R Falcus.



Coffee Morning Rota

October
 6th Sylvia Aston &
 Janis Duff
 13th Mick & Zoe Watson
 20th Susan Bewley &
 Lynda McQuillan
 27th Maureen Mills &
 Lorna Morgan

November
 3rd Sylvia Aston &
 Janis Duff

Audio Visual Operators

Church Steward

Oct 7 th	Mark Burdon	Alan Barker
14 th	Alan Barker	Susan Bewley
21 st	Susan / Lynda	Mark Burdon
28 th	Alan Barker	Bill Filmer
Nov 4 th	Mark Burdon	Alan Barker

Flower Rota

Sunday 7th October
 Bill & Shirley Filmer

Sunday 14th October
 Joan Keltie

Sunday 21st October
 Lynda McQuillan

Sunday 28th October
 Olive Lindsay

Sunday 4th November
 Janis Duff

During the last months our Communion Table Flowers have brought their beauty and our thoughts and prayers to Agnes and Bill Paterson, Alan Barker, Shirley Filmer and Eileen Bunn.



Articles By ?

All articles for the November issue of Trinity News MUST be handed in by Sunday 21st October.