

# **Trinity United Reformed Church Wigan**

**[www.trinityurcwigan.org](http://www.trinityurcwigan.org)**



**March 2025 Magazine**



## MISSION STATEMENT

Trinity United Reformed Church, Wigan, seeks to offer and extend the love of God, spiritually, emotionally, supportively and caringly to all people and by doing so to make a positive difference to our neighbourhood and the wider world.

Trinity United Reformed Church, Milton Grove, Wigan. WN1 2PG

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### Church Secretaries:-

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***(Should anyone need to contact Trinity, the Church Secretary and the Elders will be happy to respond. Ed.)***

Trinity's Facebook page <http://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/Trinity-United-Reformed-Church-Wigan/298023660250351>

## MARCH REFLECTION

I always think that March is a funny old month. It starts as if it is the depths of winter but by the end of the month we are firmly in spring with spring bulbs, longer days and a slight rise in temperature. Such is it with our Church month - we begin Lent on Ash Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Lent is a time of preparation, of letting go, of clearing room very similar to Advent in fact. We spend much of the time of Lent waiting, gradually moving along the journey from dark to light, from the darkness of the tomb to the sunrise on Easter morning and with it the glow of new life.

Easter, like Christmas, is a religious event in a secular setting. Whether it is bunnies and chicks or hot cross buns and crosses, it is a very public event in the life of the Church. It is the time of the year when churches can do something and throw open the doors of invitation. **I'm going, it's going to be good, do you want to come with me?** Perhaps a hot cross bun salvation giveaway – handing out buns and verses with an invitation to an event or even the Easter service.

Lent is perhaps a quieter time, a time for personal preparation. You may have Lent groups or a Lent book for the church. These activities of shared experience help to build a framework for our personal devotions. The fellowship of collective action, be it a Bible Study or knowing that others are reading the same book as you (can I recommend "Let Me Go There: Reflections for Lent" by Paula Gooder) can be inspirational and build you up on your own journey to the Cross.

*As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? - Psalm 42:1-2*

This Lent, return to the Lord with your whole heart. Reflect on His grace and mercy. Seek His living and life-giving refreshment as you journey to the Cross.

Emma Howarth

## CALENDAR OF SERVICES, MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### MARCH 2025

|                              |                   |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| <b>March 2<sup>nd</sup></b>  | <b>10.45 a.m.</b> | <b>Morning Worship led by Pat Cansfield</b>                              |
| March 5 <sup>th</sup>        | 11.00 a.m.        | Elders' Meeting  |
| <b>March 9<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>10.45 a.m.</b> | <b>Morning Worship with Communion led by<br/>Rev. Stuart Radcliffe</b>   |
| <b>March 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>10.45 a.m.</b> | <b>Morning Worship led by Mary Foley</b>                                 |
| <b>March 23<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>10.45 a.m.</b> | <b>Morning Worship led by Helen Bennett</b>                              |
| <b>March 30<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>10.45 a.m.</b> | <b>Morning Worship for Mothering Sunday led by<br/>the Worship Group</b> |

## WEEKLY & MONTHLY CLUBS/GROUPS

### MARCH 2025

|            |                  |   |
|------------|------------------|---|
| Mondays    | 9.30- 11.30 a.m. | Little Fishes Toddler Group<br><i>(In school term time)</i>               |
| Tuesday    | 2.00 - 3-00 p.m. | Cuppa and Chinwag   |
| Tuesday    | 2.00 – 3.00 p.m. | Malcolm's Valentine's Singalong<br><i>(Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March)</i> |
| Tuesdays   | 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. | Closeknit Craft Club  |
| Wednesdays | 6.30 – 7.30 p.m. | Trinity Junior Players  |
| Thursdays  | 8.00 – 9.00 p.m. | Church Choir Practice   |

# **SUNDAY WORSHIP ROTA FOR ELDERS, HELPERS AND CHILDREN'S CORNER**

**MARCH 2025**

| <b>Date</b>            | <b>Lead Elder</b> | <b>Helper</b>    | <b>Children's Corner</b> |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>  | <b>K. Peet</b>    | <b>L. Heys</b>   | <b>S. Ledwidge</b>       |
| <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>L. Lowe</b>    | <b>T. Reilly</b> | <b>G. Lowe</b>           |
| <b>16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>T. Reilly</b>  | <b>K. Peet</b>   | <b>G. Mangham</b>        |
| <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>G. Lowe</b>    | <b>L. Lowe</b>   | <b>T. Reilly</b>         |
| <b>30<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>K. Peet</b>    | <b>L. Heys</b>   | <b>S. Ledwidge</b>       |

**PLEASE ARRANGE FOR A SUBSTITUTE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO DO  
THE DUTY ON THE ABOVE DATE.**

**THANK YOU.**



# LENTEN STUDIES

This year's Lenten Studies are all to be held here at Trinity URC.

Meetings will be on Mondays from 7.30 to 9.00 p.m.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April (Agape Meal)**

The Agape meal is at the beginning of Holy Week. The meal consists of a bread roll or cross bun and a drink. This will take place at St. Michael's Church.

**STUDY THEMES for the week are:**

**PROPHETIC**

**GENEROUS**

**LOCATED**

**HOPEFUL**

**TOGETHER**



# CHURCHES' PARTNERSHIP (WIGAN N.W.) PRAYER DIARY 2025

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup></b></p>  | <div data-bbox="469 219 778 427" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>All asylum seekers, refugees and those who make the perilous journey to escape tyranny.</b></p>                      |
| <p><b>MARCH 9<sup>th</sup></b></p>  | <p>The Vicar, congregation and activities at St. Michael and All Angels Church.</p> <div data-bbox="1024 607 1355 855" data-label="Image"> </div>                                      |
| <p><b>MARCH 16<sup>th</sup></b></p> | <div data-bbox="469 949 762 1240" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Those helping people to overcome addiction,<br/>- Alcoholics Anonymous and the drug and alcohol teams</b></p>       |
| <p><b>MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup></b></p> | <p>The Minister, Elders, congregation and activities at Trinity United Reformed Church</p> <div data-bbox="1123 1352 1391 1592" data-label="Image"> </div>                             |
| <p><b>MARCH 30<sup>th</sup></b></p> | <div data-bbox="469 1760 807 1980" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Those who work in local government including the local Councillors and those who work in the Civil Service</b></p> |



## Prayer Partners 2025

‘Prayer Partners 2025 explores through prayers based around ‘Life giving faith, defiant hope and generous love’ - our new strapline.’



## MARCH

### Pray for Bangladesh

1. Pray for Christian Aid staff members in Bangladesh as they work on humanitarian response, economic justice and gender equality in the country.
2. Pray for the elimination of gender-based inequalities and the work of up skilling women to have more opportunities to contribute to the society.
3. Pray for the humanitarian support work of Christian Aid with the Rohingya refugees and the severely disaster affected population.



These prayers have been produced by Commitment for Life. [www.cforl.org.uk](http://www.cforl.org.uk)



## FLOWERS FOR MARCH

(Arranger Katrina Peet)

2<sup>nd</sup> Lilian Pollard

9<sup>th</sup> Gill Barber

16<sup>th</sup> Katrina Peet- family flowers

23<sup>rd</sup> Margaret Ashcroft, Paul and Mark  
in memory of Frank

30<sup>th</sup> ---



## BIRTHDAYS TO CELEBRATE IN MARCH

Sam Maiden

Luke Chesney

Neil Chesney

Hannah McGailey

Lynn Heys

Jane Boast

Bob Inglis

*To those who celebrate their birthdays during  
March, we send our greetings.*



## RETIRING COLLECTION FOR MARCH

The Retiring Collection in March is for MENCAP. This charity supports people with a learning disability. It also supports their families and carers.

## TREASURED POSSESSIONS

As most of you will know, my dad passed away when I was just 10 years old. Dad was a pilot in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. He flew a mosquito and was what was called a hedge hopper – flying very low over enemy territory to drop incendiary bombs, which marked the targets for the big planes like the Lancaster bomber. He loved flying and he also loved driving a car.

At weekends Trish and I were allowed to help Dad clean his car and I distinctly remember how he polished his car with great pride and care, including the badges he displayed on the front of the vehicle, his favourite being his I.A.M.\* badge. (The Institute of Advanced Motorists) The Institute was formed in 1956, so Dad was a very early member. All members have to have passed the advanced driving test in a car.

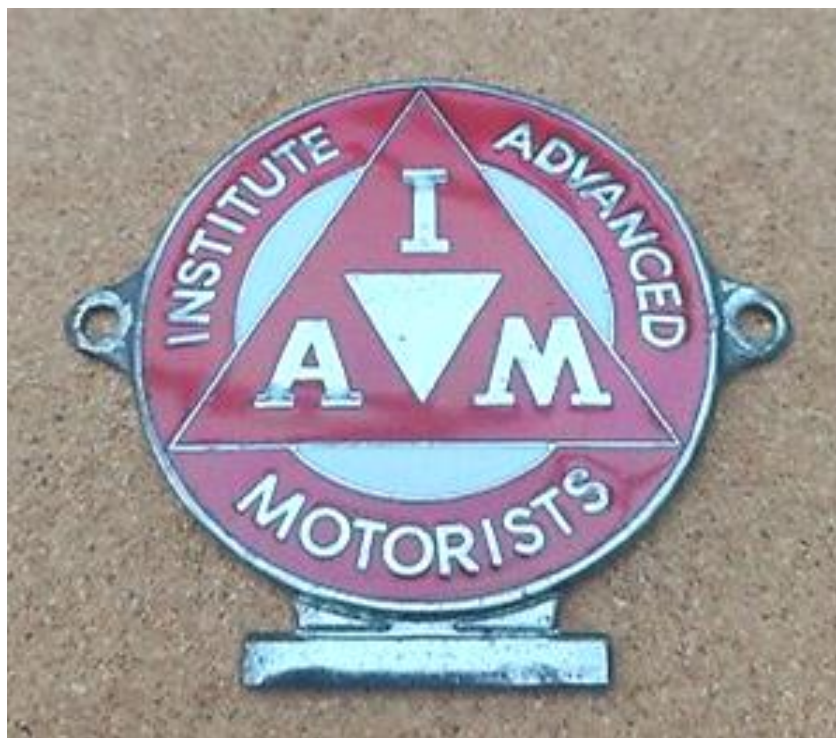
On leaving school, I went to a teacher training college in Leeds, but then came back to Wigan to start my teaching career. My first jobs were local, so I could walk there. Later on, after I had my two daughters, I got a part time job in Hindley Green. I was very lucky to have a lift there from a colleague, but had to catch a bus home. Not only did most of the buses go all round the housing estates, but their destination was Wigan town centre bus station, so I had to drag my wheelie case (very heavy with books for marking) back home on a twenty minute walk.

Around this time, my younger sister, Ros, passed her driving test and could not resist saying to me, “ Ner, ner, ner, ner ner! There’s only you that can’t drive now Jen!”

That did it. I booked myself in for driving lessons and was pleased to pass a few months later. When I received my driving certificate, there were also some information leaflets and adverts connected with driving. One of the leaflets was an invitation to train in increased driving skills, including on the motorway. This was with the I.A.M. Memories of dad came flooding back – how proud he was to have his badge on the car. I just felt compelled to go for it. The lessons were led by trained volunteers and they met the trainees down at Asda car park at a given time at weekends.

Six weeks later I took the test and was pleased to pass first time. I went round to Mum's to let her know my good news. She congratulated me and said how very pleased she was. To my joy and amazement, she took something from a kitchen drawer and quietly said she would like me to have it. Yes you have guessed – it was dad's precious I.A.M. badge.

Jenny



## LITTLE FISHES TEAM MEMBERS CLEANING THE TOYS AT HALF TERM



Thank you to the team for the work they do. Jen



## CALLING ALL SINGERS

The choir will be leading worship and singing on Palm Sunday.

**Palm Sunday Service 10.45 a.m. on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025**



This is an open invitation to anyone who enjoys singing, to come and have a good sing as we build up to Palm Sunday. Rehearsals are at 8.00 p.m. on Thursdays, starting on 6<sup>th</sup> March, followed by 13<sup>th</sup> March, 27<sup>th</sup> March and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Don't worry if you can't make every Thursday – most of us are unable to do that!

Please speak to any member of the choir, or myself, if you are going to join us, or just come along on the 6<sup>th</sup> March.

I look forward to seeing you,

**Martin.**



Registered Charity No. 1050223

presents a piano recital by

# Juan Blazques Garre



## Saturday 8th March 2025

7:00 pm for 7:30 pm Start

Trinity United Reformed Church, Milton  
Grove, Wigan, WN1 2PG

**Tickets at the door or On-Line: Members £10  
Guests £15, at the door or scan the code below.**



Further details at : [www.wiganmusic.org.uk](http://www.wiganmusic.org.uk)



**Happy Mother's Day!**



**Sunday 30th March**