

**Trinity
United Reformed Church
Wigan**

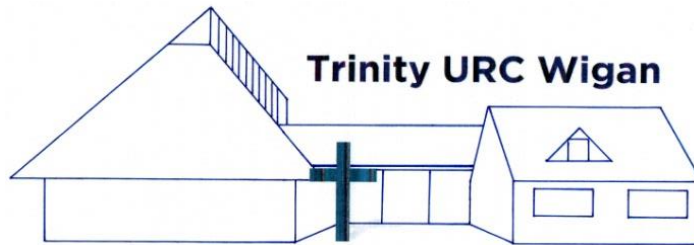
www.trinityurcwigan.org



May 2026

Our Mission Statement

Trinity United Reformed Church, Wigan, seeks to offer and extend the love of God 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

Website trinityurcwigan.org

Find us on **Facebook**..... Trinity United Reformed Church, Wigan

Church Secretaries

Correspondence Trish Reilly
Email: secretary@trinityurcwigan.org

Minutes Mrs. Lesley Lowe

Church Treasurer Please contact the elders

Organist & Choirmaster Dr. Martin Ashcroft
(Please contact Martin via the Church Secretary)

Safeguarding Sue Ledwidge and Lesley Lowe

Lettings Email Contact lettings@trinityurcwigan.org

May Newsletter

Dear friends

There is something about May that stirs the soul. It is a time for celebrations. On 17th May, we have Ascension Day, when Christ ascended into heaven. A week later, on 24th May, it is Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples. Finally, 31st May is Trinity Sunday, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the union of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Celebrations have been at the heart of May for centuries, and we must remember to thank God for giving us the opportunity to celebrate these events.

There's a story about a child playing 'Sunday School' with her dolls. Her mother overhears and is quite impressed that her daughter has taken on the role of teacher. She is less impressed when it turns out that God is a pupil and her daughter has just told him to stop misbehaving!

On the verge of telling her daughter not to be so disrespectful, the mother stopped. After all, wasn't it a good thing that the child had such a close and familiar relationship with God?

We all find our own way into a relationship with God. The important questions aren't about the type of relationship it is. They are: Can we talk to Him? And do we believe he listens?

Yours,

Marjorie

Church Family News

We remember in our prayers those who are currently in hospital and those undergoing tests and treatment.

We remember those who are not able to join us for Sunday worship, but who remain an integral part of our fellowship. If anyone would like to celebrate communion at home, this can be arranged by speaking to one of the elders.

From the Editor

Thanks to Marjorie for preparing our May newsletter, and to all those who send in rotas, information and lists for inclusion in the magazine. I've written a short piece about Mar Thoma church who worshipped at Trinity on 29th March and who hope to continue on a monthly basis.

Chris M

An Update from the Treasury Team

2026 (Quarter 1)

The first three months of the year have flown by and I thought you might like a brief update on our finances.

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who supports the church by voluntary giving. It is encouraging that so many folk give generously, often with Gift Aid, to support the work of our church. Jesus said, 'Where your treasure is, your heart will be also'. Giving financially is an expression of our faith.

Our income and expenditure for the first quarter have been closely aligned to our budget predictions.

Major expenditure has been on the removal of the bees nest, along with winter gas bills and buildings insurance. January expenditure included the payment of our annual music performance licences.

Our lettings income has been helped by hosting Wigan Bridge Club; it is good that our buildings are being put to use and encouraging that the Bridge Club seem settled in their new home.

Our bank balances are reasonably healthy and will allow us to undertake vital maintenance work and cover unexpected bills. We will hopefully be able to undertake some additional improvement works.

I would like to thank Denise, Lesley, John and Isabel for their help in managing our finances. Although Isabel has had to stand down from the treasurer role, she continues to provide support and advice to the team.

Chris M

Calendar of events for May

Sunday 3rd May	10.45am	Morning Worship led by Helen Bennett
Wednesday 6th May	7pm	Elders Meeting
Sunday 10th May	10.45am	Morning Worship led by Gail Rose followed by Church Meeting
Sunday 17th May	10.45am.	Morning Worship led by Trish Reilly
Sunday 24th May	10.45am	Morning Worship with Communion for Pentecost Sunday led by Rev Malcolm Fife
Tuesday 26th May	7pm	Management Meeting
Sunday 31st May	10.45am	Morning Worship led by Rev Kate Gartside

Regular Weekly Groups

Monday	9.30am – 11.30am	Little Fishes Toddler Group <i>(In school term time)</i>
Tuesday	2pm – 3pm	Cuppa and Chinwag
Tuesday	7pm – 9pm	Closeknit Craft Club
Wednesday	6.30pm – 8pm	Trinity Junior Players
Thursday	8pm – 9pm	Choir Practice

Sunday Worship Rota for May

Date	Lead Elder	Helper	Children's Corner
3 rd May	Chris	Glenda	Gill
10 th May	Glenda	Lynn	Sue
17 th May	Lesley	Bob	Glenda
24 th May	Trish	Lesley	Sue
31 st May	Jen	Trish	Gill

Coffee Rota

3 rd May	Lesley Lowe	Josie Martlew
10 th May	Susan Winstanley	Denise Currie
17 th May	Lynn Heys	Lesley Lowe
24 th May	Marion Buckley	Nina
31 st May	Lesley Lowe	Joan Ashcroft

Little Fishes Rota

4 th May	No Little Fishes – Bank Holiday
11 th May	Katrina, Angela, Jen, Paul, Gill
18 th May	Katrina, Angela, Jen, Glenda, Anne
25 th May	No Little Fishes – Bank Holiday

Please arrange for a substitute if you are unavailable

Retiring Collection

Our retiring collection for May will be for Christian Aid and will be taken after the service on Sunday 17th May.

If you would like to suggest a charity to support in 2026, please speak to any of the elders.

Carmel Mar Thoma Church

On Sunday 29th March we hosted an outreach service of the Carmel Mar Thoma Church, based in Liverpool. Several of the church families live in Preston, Warrington and Wigan and the Wigan venue was to explore the option of having a more accessible location for these families.

From 3.30pm, the church was full of activity, preparations for the communion service, assembling of the choir and instrumentalists, tables and chairs prepared for the communal meal to follow the service. The church family was gathered, with plenty of young people, and worship started at 4pm. The sea of shoes in the foyer was a reminder of the church tradition of removing ones footwear when entering a holy place.



The service was mainly in the Malayalam language, but the bible readings were in English, and were the same as at our morning service that day. Some of the hymn tunes were familiar, with the singing joyous and worshipful. The service finished at about 6pm.

I was invited to join the church for their fellowship meal, a 'mild' vegetable korma with pilau rice, raita, pickles and popadoms. Delicious!!

I spoke with a number of the church members, and it was lovely to share fellowship with them. We look forward to hosting their service again in the near future.

Chris M

Organ Music Played In April 2026



Sunday 5 April (Easter Sunday)

Toccata from 5th Organ Symphony

C M Widor

Sunday 12 April

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

Sunday 19 April

Choral Improvisation on "Nun Danket"

Siegfried Karg-Elert

Sunday 26 April

Choral Improvisation on Victimae Paschali Laudes

Tournemire



Churches Together Prayer Diary, May

3 rd May	Health centres, General Practitioners, nurses and staff 
10 th May	Young people in education, especially those who are about to take exams, and their teachers 
17 th May	Those who administer justice in the town – the judges, magistrates, solicitors and the probation service 
24 th May	The Rector, congregation and activities at All Saints 
31 st May	The local police and all involved in enforcing law and order. Prisoners and their families. All victims of crime and their families 

Life-giving Faith | Defiant Hope | Generous Love

Action for Fairer Tea – Brew it Fair

Do you enjoy a cuppa? How do you like it – with sugar? Strong? With milk?

Apart from water, tea is the world's most popular drink.

However, it is more than a drink, it's a daily ritual,

a comfort, enjoyed during a break or while catching up with loved ones. In Britain we drink over 100 million cups of tea every day!

However, behind every cuppa lies an untold story – the people who carefully

pick the tea leaves and carry up to 30 kilograms on their backs at a time. They face poverty, unsafe working conditions and

climate change, leaving them unable to plan for their future.

Fairtrade



[Do it Fair: Campaigning for Change in the Tea Industry](#) are asking the UK government to Brew it Fair. Act by signing their petition [Sign | Fairtrade](#)

[Foundation](#) and calling on the government to take stronger action in the tea industry. In addition why not purchase Fairtrade Tea?



Photo credit: © ChristianAid

Since 2017, nearly a million Rohingya refugees fleeing persecution in Myanmar have moved to Cox's Bazar, a coastal city in Bangladesh, creating the largest refugee camp in the world.

Facilitating water, sanitation, and hygiene services in the refugee camps is a core focus of *Commitment for Life's* humanitarian response partner. In Camp 15, the largest and most densely populated camp in Cox's Bazar, the organisation has installed a sewage treatment plant, repaired and installed latrines, wash cubicles and solar-run water points, and provided solid waste management, impacting the lives of nearly 71,360 people.

Being a hilly and densely populated area, Camp 15's demand for water is high. Through Christian Aid, *Commitment for Life* provides the means by which water can be supplied to around 9,500 people. Every day, around 12,000-14,000 litres of treated drinking water is supplied through the solar-run water system to residents.

To manage this water distribution, we follow a 'Community-based distribution approach' to create ownership among the refugees. In each sub-block, user committees are formed, comprising five members (all are women) to manage the water collection points. These committees manage the water distribution schedule, maintain the tap stands and spread awareness messages about waterborne diseases to the community. The success of the waste management plant serves as an example for other camps, demonstrating that sustainable waste management practices not only help to keep the environment clean but also provide economic opportunities for the local community.

Birthdays To Celebrate In May

Sandra Garston
Katrina Peet
Christine Grundy
Josie Martlew
Sophie Mather
Philip Maiden
Ian Dyer
Denise Currie
Martin Ashcroft



We send our best wishes to those who celebrate their birthdays in May.

Flowers For May

(Arranger Glenda Lowe)

3rd Sandra Garston - in memory of Peter Garston
10th Anne Fitzhenry - in thanksgiving
17th Marion Buckley in memory of Mr and Mrs Kirkman
24th Martin, Angela and Adam Ashcroft
31st Margaret, Mark and Paul Ashcroft in memory of Frank



The
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