

The Heartland Bulletin

Issue 29 - 28th April 2019



What is resurrection?

Life after death.

A seed sprouting.

Recovery from an illness.

Refusing to let our fears entomb us.

Gathering together, sharing our gifts, our treasure, ourselves, for the good of all.

Loving extravagantly as if there was no tomorrow.

Getting excited by the good news of Jesus, even when those around us don't believe us.

Bringing hope to people in despair

We can raise people back to life by building a community of compassion, so that people who may be lonely feel surrounded by love.
by supporting a neighbour who might be struggling
lending a shoulder to those who mourn
feeding someone who is hungry

It is dying to self, to be raised back up to be one with God
to continue the work of loving people that Jesus started.

This bulletin has been collated by Gill Elliott of Trinity URC St Albans. If you have news or notices that you wish to be included in the next Bulletin, please email gilldotelliott@gmail.com, or ask your Heartland representative to do so on your behalf.

Chiswell Green during Lent



Above: Easter Egg themed Second Saturday where we made all sorts of egg themed crafts and sent everyone home with a small Easter basket full of eggs, with a meaningful chocolate Easter story leaflet for the children.

Below - Walk of Witness leaving St Stephen's Church. It was our turn to start off the Good Friday Walk of Witness in South St Albans this Year and we were delighted to welcome some 70 walkers to coffee and Hot Cross buns in our hall afterwards.



Holy Week Walk which included members of **Homewood Road, Trinity and Chiswell Green.**





Homewood Road's beautifully decorated Easter Cross

We congratulate Homewood Road's Children & Families worker Sarah Green and family on the arrival of Rufus on the 12th of April. Whilst she is on maternity leave, Faye Whitbread is her replacement.



At **Edward Street**, the Worship Group led the services on both Mothering Sunday and Easter Day. The photo shows flowers waiting to be given out during the Mothering Sunday Service.

Members of the congregation donated Real Easter Eggs so that they could be given to the local food bank. In this way we can support children in our community even though we have no children worshipping with us.

On Maundy Thursday, **Edward Street** held an Agape meal, at which the story of the last supper was explored in poem and readings, a Middle Eastern based supper and communion were shared with one another. The evening ended with the reading of the Gethsemane story from Mark's gospel and some music. They were joined by friends from partner churches in the Cluster for this evening.



Easter Sunday flowers at **Chiswell Green**



Harpenden's pet service was much enjoyed!

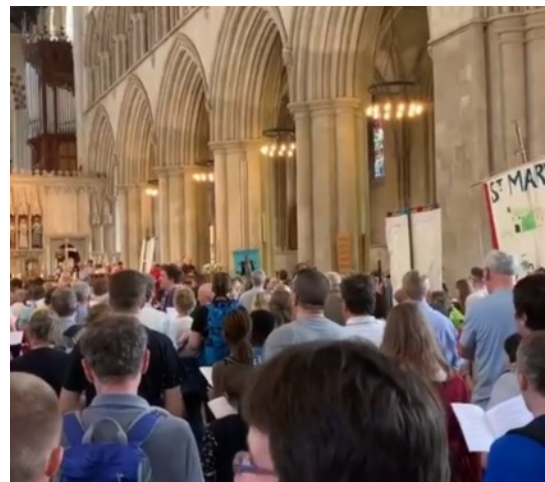


Harpenden's Easter Cross



Panshanger held a Good Friday Walk of Witness.

On Easter Monday, the young people took part in the annual pilgrimage to St Albans Abbey.



On Maundy Thursday we, at **Bricket Wood URC**, invited our friends from Chiswell Green URC and St. Luke's, Bricket Wood, to join us for a simple supper, followed by the Tenebrae Service, led by Rev. John Hardaker, of readings, prayers, sung worship and quiet reflection, in the gathering darkness. - a moving preparation for Good Friday and Easter Day to come."



As you almost certainly know, Bricket Wood URC is amalgamating with Chiswell Green URC with the final service on the Bricket Wood site being held on Sunday 13th October. After that date the church buildings will have to be cleared.

We would love to find good homes for the many items of furniture and kitchen equipment which we have accumulated - for example, the church chairs, the church hall chairs, several tables of different shapes and sizes, cups and saucers, and cutlery. We also run a book swap and we would be delighted if another church could take it over. We could supply the books, the shelving, the book trolley and a free standing notice board.

If your church might be interested in any of these items, or you would like to ask about any other items which we probably have, but I haven't mentioned, either email me on judyanddavehare@gmail.com or ring me on 01923 676015. Thank you.

Over the next three months three prayer events will happen in the St Albans Cluster.

- Homewood Road Tuesday 14th May 7.30 pm
- Trinity Thursday June 6th 7.30 pm
- Chiswell Green Monday 1st July 7.30 pm

These gatherings are intended for all the churches in the Cluster so please put all the dates in your diary and come along when you can. We will have a variety of prayer activities and we hope you will come along and try them out and perhaps learn something new to add to your prayer life. It may be that one activity appeals to you and you stick with it or maybe you will try half a dozen of the activities over the 90 minutes. We will include refreshments and you can pop in and out if you need to get away early or come late.

God is doing something here in the St Albans Cluster, we are seeing green shoots pop up here and there and I sense many of us are encouraged. The best way to know what God is doing is to ask and then we are able to join in with where the Spirit is at work. Prayer is where we can do some asking, seeking and knocking. My hope is that these prayer events will help us in this process. It is important that we see the connections between our prayers, both collectively and personally and our Mission across the Cluster.

John Hardaker.

Do you like **CAKE?**

Do you like ***gardens and gardening?***

Please come and join Trinity at Nick & Janet's house for conversation, tea and cake and an opportunity to bring and buy plants, *all in aid of* **Christian Aid!**

What's not to like?

Please email gilldotelliott@gmail.com
for the address

Monday 6th May from 3 p.m.



**HEARTLAND
LOCAL AREA
GROUP**

**Aspiring
to more?**

Join our Training for Learning and Serving Local Introductory Training Experience (TSLITE) Study group to enlarge your faith and understanding through shared study.

Who: Whether you want to become an accredited URC lay preacher, support and enhance your existing area of service or simply want to explore your faith just out of personal interest, TSLITE has much to offer.

What: A five session - one study day course, '**Getting to grips with the Bible**', which aims to provide helpful and practical approaches to understanding the Bible.

When: Tuesday evenings 7.30 – 9.30pm, 21st May, 11th June, 25th June, 9th July, 23rd July and one Saturday Study Day (Venue, date and time to be confirmed)

Where: Harpenden United Reformed Church
<http://www.harpendenchurch.com/>

How: To find out more about this course and to book a place contact Anna Barrett
Email: poppyana57@hotmail.com Phone 07805306258

For more information about TLS in general visit <https://urc.org.uk/more-about-tls-lite.html>

PICNIC

In the meadow by the river at Wheathampstead
access via the Public Car Park in Meads Lane
From 1.00 pm onwards

DUCK RACE

at 2.00 pm to support Christian Aid



In the event of inclement weather the Picnic will be cancelled but the Duck Race will go ahead at 2.00 pm

More details from Jenny Roberts
Trinity St Albans URC
01727 861514/07808 363555

**ST. KATHERINE'S CHURCH,
DUNSTABLE**



INVITES YOU TO A

MUSICAL EVENING

WITH

THE U3A CHOIR

ON

**SATURDAY 11TH MAY
AT 7-00P.M.**

**TICKETS £5.00 EACH (INCLUDING
REFRESHMENTS)**

TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS PLEASE RING
ANN ON 01582 690641 OR CAROL ON
01582 601186

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE 'LIFT' FUND.

Prayers for the Heartland Group of churches		
Date	Church	Prayer focus
5 th May	Luton St Ninian's	Health and wellbeing of the congregation.
12 th May	Luton Wigmore Church	Continuing contact with user groups and making the best use of the building
19 th May	Panshanger	Young people and outreach
26 th May	Homewood Road	Faye, the new youth and children's worker, and other mission projects

Activity Dates for the Heartland Group of churches		
Date	location	Event
6 th May 3 p.m.	Please email gilldotelliott@gmail.com for the address of Janet & Nick's house	Garden Party in aid of Christian Aid
9 th May 7.20 - 9 p.m.	Trinity	Poetry Lecture on R.S.Thomas by the Revd John Reardon
12 th May 12 - 1.15 p.m.	Trinity	Sustainability Soup Lunch in aid of Christian Aid
14 th May 7.30 - 9 p.m.	Homewood Road	Prayer event
21 st May 7.30 p.m.	Harpenden	TLS Lite
5 th June 7.30 - 9 p.m.	Trinity	Prayer event
9 th June 2 p.m.	Trinity (Wheathampstead Meadow)	Picnic and Duck Race
11 th June 7.30 p.m.	Harpenden	TLS Lite course
13 th June	Chiswell Green	Links Meeting
13 th June 7.30 p.m.	Trinity	Poetry Lecture on Emily Dickinson by the Revd John Reardon
25 th June 7.30 p.m.	Harpenden	TLS Lite course
1 st July 7.30 - 9 p.m.	Chiswell Green	Prayer event
7 th July 1 - 4 p.m.	Chiswell Green	Heartland Barbeque
9 th July 7.30 p.m.	Harpenden	TLS Lite course
13 th July 1 - 12.30	Trinity	Messy Church Training
23 rd July 7.30 p.m.	Harpenden	TLS Lite course
8 th August 7.30 p.m.	Wigmore Church	Links Meeting
1 st September (Afternoon)	Dunstable Tree Cathedral	Picnic and service