

This Month's Worship in Churches Uniting in Central Sutton

Sunday 1 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship <i>Revd Graham Woolgar</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	Music for a Summer Evening

Sunday 8 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Service lead by the Deacons</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Sarah Sewell</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	CUCS United Service

Sunday 15 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship <i>Dean Justor (Salvation Army)</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	CUCS United Service

Sunday 22 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Graham Woolgar</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion Bishop Jonathan
6.30pm	Trinity	CUCS United Service

Sunday 29 July

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship <i>John Perry</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd David Butlin</i>
6.30pm	Trinity	CUCS United Service

for help or information please contact

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July/August 2018

Dear Reader,

I picked up a book in an independent bookshop a few weeks ago which I thought would suit me perfectly. Its title was its initial attraction: *Hope without Optimism*. That its author was one of my favourite critics, Terry Eagleton, sealed the deal. Its first line convinced me I had chosen well: Eagleton claimed to be writing "as one for whom the proverbial glass is not only half empty but almost certain to contain some foul-tasting, potentially lethal liquid." I felt sure reading this book would help me to preach on the most neglected of the three theological virtues, hope. The question it discusses is 'How do we keep hope alive when all around us is falling apart?'

Plenty Coups was the last great chief of the American Crow tribe. In the 1890s, the Crow lost nearly two-thirds of their number because of disease, war with their rival Sioux and Blackfeet and the devastation of buffalo herds, before the survivors were herded onto a reservation. Plenty Coups knew that his people's way of life was on the brink of catastrophic collapse, but he dreamt a divine request that he accept the ruin of his tribe's way of life in the trust that that was the only way his people could struggle through to a good end. One thinks of Job saying to Yahweh, "Even if you kill me, I will have hope in you," and of the lines in John Wesley's hymn, "Though waves and storms go o'er my head, though strength, and health, and friends be gone, though joys be withered all and dead ... on this my steadfast soul relies – Father, thy mercy never dies." St Paul calls this hoping against hope.

Plenty Coups was a baptised Christian, who saw that his commitment to God was sufficient to sustain trust in a future for his people. What Plenty Coups showed, when his people were in free fall, is the nature of authentic hope, which is whatever can be salvaged, without guarantees, from the general dissolution that surrounds us. There is always something residual which will not give way but which will blossom into new life. The glories of life are laid dead in the dust, "and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be."

Revd Dr David Dickinson

Faith • Hope • Love

August Worship in Churches Uniting in Central Sutton



Sunday 5 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship
	Trinity	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Sarah Sewell</i>
6.30pm	ST N	CUCS United Service

Sunday 12 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Graham Woolgar</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Paul Richter</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Sarah Sewell</i> followed by the Inspection of the Gibson Tomb
6.30pm	St N	CUCS United Service

Sunday 19 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Paul Scott Evans
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Mrs Hannah Chun</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Sarah Sewell</i>
6.30pm	St N	CUCS United Service

Sunday 29 August

9.00am	St N	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	SBC	Morning Worship Communion <i>Revd Graham Woolgar</i>
	Trinity	Morning Worship <i>Revd Ernest Yu</i>
	St N	Holy Communion <i>Revd Charles Cotton</i>
6.30pm	St N	CUCS United Service

Regular Events

CUCS is Sutton Baptist Church, St Nicholas and Trinity URC/Methodist who are Churches Uniting in Central Sutton, and who regularly meet together for prayer, worship and shared activities. All members of CUCS are warmly welcomed at these activities

Saturday Prayer Meeting (1st and 3rd Saturdays)
10.00am - 11.00am at Sutton Baptist Church.

Sunday Prayer Meeting after the morning service in the Terrace Room at Trinity.

Meditation Group meets on the last Saturday of the month 11.00am-12 midday at the home of Sylvia Robinson. For more details contact:
Segun Akindele segun.akindele@yahoo.co.uk
020 8395 3243
Rosa Sawyer 020 8643 1374
Sylvia Robinson srobinson968@yahoo.com
020 8642 1391

St Nicholas' Mothers' Union All are welcome
Contact: Emma Cann 020 8641 6530

Women in Touch (WIT) meets fortnightly on a Monday at 10.30am at different venues, to enjoy a variety of activities including coffee, films and outings. It is open to women of any age. For further details of the programme contact: Carole Adams 07711879645 or see: www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk

Trinity Toddler Group meets on Tuesdays in term time in Trinity Hall, 9.00-11.00am.
Contact: Sheila Booth 8715 0514

Bunker, the youth club for CUCS, meets in Trinity Hall on Sunday evenings in term time from 6.30-8.00pm for young people at senior school. A chance to get to know other young people in CUCS and have fun together.
Contact Jane Oliver: 01883 346261.

Badminton Club meets 7.45-10.00pm every Monday in Trinity Hall.

Sutton Churches Tennis Club can be found between 99 and 101 Gander Green Lane, Sutton. All ages and abilities are welcome. See our website at www.clubtennis.co.uk

Art and Fellowship Group meets most weeks on Tuesday at 2.30pm in the Minor Hall at Trinity. Painting, drawing and other media with fellowship and mutual support.

Oasis

at Trinity Church is open Monday to Friday from 9.30 am to 2pm for refreshments, light lunches and a chance to chat.



News from the Churches



Trinity Church Sutton
Sunday 1 July 6.30pm

Trinity Festival Choir

Vivaldi's "Gloria"
Parry's "I was Glad"
Handel's "Zadok the Priest"
Festive Organ Music

Musical Director: Stephen Haylett

Organist: Ian Le Grice

Soprano Soloists: Sarah Botting, Susan Waton

The retiring collection will be in support of Cruse Bereavement Care Sutton

Progress report! Volunteers for CBCS are in training, an administrator has been appointed and premises have been found!

Sponsorship forms for **Nigel Booth** who is running the British 10K on 15 July in aid of CBCS are available in each church

The launch event will be on 25 September and tickets will be available.

Your ECC representatives

Are you aware that Churches Uniting in Central Sutton (CUCS) has an Ecumenical Church Council (ECC) which meets regularly to plan joint services and events? The Lent study groups and lectures are an example and we have already started to think about a joint fundraising activity for Christian Aid Week 2019. Soon we will be having a special meeting to plan the united service at SBC on 14 October and we do hope you will make these united services a priority and not an excuse to stay at home as there is no service in "your" church!

Your ECC representatives report to Deacons' meetings at Trinity and SBC and the Parochial Church Council at St Nicholas.

SBC: Carolyn Graham, Trevor Campbell-Smith

Trinity: Lisa Dawson, Olwen Edwards

St Nicholas: Alistair Cruikshank, Ginny Haizeldon

Treasurer: Richard Cornwell

The clergy of each church are automatically members and we thank Glynis Osborne who has recently retired from the ECC for her commitment over the last few years.

Thank You Bunker!

Trinity Hall was full on Saturday 7 June when our CUCS youth group, Bunker, organised a fundraising quiz night to raise money for IT equipment and internet services for the Syrian family sponsored by the Roman Catholic parishes of Sutton. The internet is essential for them to keep in touch with the Home Office and with family in Syria who live under extreme conditions with constant bombing. Ruth MacLaren and Robert Zsolt have been acting as IT consultants. This project was agreed by the Ecumenical Church Council and we still need to raise more money over the next year.

The quiz raised over £500 with participants from all three of our churches. It was great to see a new generation of Bunker taking charge; setting and asking the questions, organising the raffle and helping Jane Oliver to prepare the excellent supper of lasagne and cheesecake. The standard was just right with a range of questions which we could have a good stab at, though many of us were ashamed that we could not name a single female member of Theresa May's current Cabinet!



If you are in Senior School or currently in Year 6 why don't you give Bunker a try? You are invited to the Summer BBQ at the Olivers' after the morning service on 1 July. Transport each way is provided. Contact: **Jane Oliver** 07910 315237

Sunday Afternoon Outing 8 July

Join us for a 7 mile ramble in the Surrey countryside visiting the attractive village of Woldingham.

Meet at the back of Trinity Church at 12.15. Bring a picnic lunch and comfortable shoes for walking. If you need or can offer a lift contact John and Deborah Wroe on 020 8642 9064



Women in Touch (WIT) by Carole Adams

Every two weeks, on a Monday morning, a group of ladies from our CUCS partnership churches, get together. The aim of the meeting is friendship, sharing, laughter and, at times, putting the world to rights!

The group has been running for many years and in a former time was known as the Growing Group. It was started by a group of ladies who were widowed or living alone and decided to meet for companionship and friendship—but now all women are invited to join. Initially it followed the format of most women's meetings, with a formal programme of speakers and different shared activities held in the John Clifford Hall, part of Sutton Baptist Church.

It has now evolved into a group with a more social feel; we simply enjoy each other's company. Going out for coffee, or lunch or garden visits, for example to RHS Wisley, are a regular part of our programme. However, we do at times meet in the Hall and try to vary what we do to include those things which all can enjoy. No one person sets the programme, all have a say in what they would like to do.

A popular item is music. Some sessions adopt a *Desert Island Discs* format while other times we just bring our favourite tunes to sing along to if so minded. Dancing is not unheard of either! Another favourite activity which has been introduced is the showing of contemporary films. Many of our group do not get out to the cinema and so it is a treat to see what the film world has on offer.

A recent exciting addition to the programme has been some 'make and do' sessions with children from the Cooperative Nursery, which occupies our other church rooms. The children enjoy engaging with us oldies and we enjoy their eager minds and smiles. Our next session will involve decorating cakes which they will have made.

If you would like to know more please don't hesitate to call Carole Adams on 07711879645.



Devotions

When I say I am a Christian is a poem by **Carol Wimmer**, submitted by Margaret Rowbotham, who read it in another church magazine. Permission to reproduce it has been given by the author who says in her email to the editor:

"I hope the family of faith that gathers together in Central Sutton will appreciate the sentiment. Peace."

When I say "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I've been saved!"
I'm whispering "I get lost!"
That's why I chose this way.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And pray for strength to carry on.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I don't think I know it all.
I submit to my confusion
Asking humbly to be taught.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartache
Which is why I seek God's name.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I don't speak with human pride
I'm confessing that I stumble
Needing God to be my guide.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting that I've failed
And cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect.
My flaws are all too visible,
But God believes I'm worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I do not wish to judge.
I have no authority.....
I only know I'm loved.

From the Editor I would be delighted to receive comments and suggestions on the future of *Unite!* Contact me by my new email: olwenmedwards@gmail.com or by phone: **020 8643 2525**. Copy date for the **September** issue is **15 August**. Links to the electronic version of *Unite!* can be found on each church's website. **Note that there will not be an edition in August.**