

## This Month's Worship in Churches Uniting in Central Sutton

### Sunday 1 October

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>SBC</b>	Morning Worship <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
	<b>Trinity</b>	Morning Worship Parade Harvest Thanksgiving <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i>
	<b>St N</b>	Morning Worship Harvest Festival
6.30pm	<b>SBC</b>	<b>CUCS United Service</b>

### Sunday 8 October

9.00am	<b>St N</b>	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am	<b>Trinity</b>	<b>United Morning Worship</b> <i>Celebrating the Reformation</i> <i>Revd Dr David Dickinson</i> <i>Revd Mike Dales</i>
6.30pm	<b>SBC</b>	<b>CUCS United Service</b>

### Sunday 15 October

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

### Sunday 22 October

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

### Sunday 29 October

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

**for help or information please contact**

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mg.dales@blueyonder.co.uk

**Revd Dr David Dickinson** (Trinity)  
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October 2017

Dear friends

This month the Church will be remembering the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation. According to the story, on the 31st of October, 1517, an Augustinian monk called Martin Luther nailed some demands onto the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. This action set off a chain of events which changed the history, not just of the Church, but of Europe and the World. It truly is a momentous thing to remember – something we shall be doing at our united morning service on October 8th.

However, it is also true that the Church is always in a state of reformation and change. Think of the revolutions in music, in thinking about social issues, in finding our place in society, which have all taken place even within our own lifetimes. In fact, if you were to ask me what the Church might look like in twenty years, and how it might think, I would be hard pressed to answer! Reformation and change seems to be part of our church landscape, no matter how much many of us would prefer continuity and stability.

Sutton Baptist Church itself will soon be embarking on a time of reformation and change. Most friends will know by now that on the 10th of September, I announced that I would be retiring at the end of January next year. As I have been a Minister within our LEP for so long, the folk at SBC will be very conscious of the changes which will happen as a result of my leaving.

I would certainly not compare my retirement to the Reformation 500 years ago, but all change can be threatening and challenging. Please do keep the people of SBC in your prayers during the coming months as they begin the process of deciding what form their future will take.

As for me, I have not retired yet! Advent and Christmas lie ahead and there will, I am sure, be many opportunities to meet with you in worship and in service.

*Mike*

Revd Mike Dales



# Devotions



## Martin Luther's Prayer

Behold, Lord,  
An empty vessel that needs to be  
filled.  
My Lord, fill it.

I am weak in faith;  
Strengthen thou me.

I am cold in love;  
Warm me and make me fervent  
That my love may go out to my  
neighbour.

I do not have a strong and firm  
faith;  
At times I doubt and am unable to  
trust thee altogether.

O Lord, help me.  
Strengthen my faith and trust in  
thee.

In thee I have sealed the treasures  
of all I have.

I am poor;  
Thou art rich and didst come to be  
merciful to the poor.

I am a sinner;  
Thou art upright.

With me there is an abundance of  
sin;  
In thee is the fullness of  
righteousness.

Therefore, I will remain with thee of  
whom I can receive  
But to whom I may not give.

Amen

# Regular Events

All members of CUCS are warmly  
welcomed at these activities

**Christian Meditation Groups** are not meeting  
at the moment.

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

**St Nicholas' Mothers' Union** usually meets  
on the **first Wednesday of the month** in St  
Nicholas Community Hall. All are welcome.  
Contact: Janet Little 8715 6843

**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](http://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](http://www.clubtennis.co.uk)

**Coffee and Craft** meets in the Oasis at  
Trinity, 10.00-11.30am usually on the third  
Friday of the month. Meet with others and work  
on your knitting, sewing, paper craft or other  
project. Beginners welcomed!  
Contact: Deborah Wroe: 8642 9064,

**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.**



**Oasis** at Trinity Church is  
open Monday to Friday from  
10am to 2pm for refreshments,  
light lunches and a chance to  
chat.

# News from the Churches

## News from Cécile

From 8 October to 14 November, Revd Cécile Schnyder, our Sutton Team Curate, will be at St Beuno's (in North Wales) making a 30 day retreat.



### St Beuno's Spirituality Centre, St Asaph

The retreat is a compilation of meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices developed by St. Ignatius to help people deepen their relationship with God. For centuries, the retreat was given in solitude and silence to people who stand at cross roads and seek to make a discernment, searching God's will. It will help Cécile to listen to God's voice more deeply and to discern where she is called next.

Cécile will be back in Sutton on Wednesday 15 November. If you have any questions regarding the retreat please ask her. She asks that we pray for her.

### Charity request for help

**Samara's Aid Appeal** provides clothing and medical supplies to refugee camps in Syria and Iraq. They are asking for volunteers to organise **Dignity Bags**, supplying sanitary products to women. If this is something you could help with and would like more information about please contact Arthur Miller the area representative: [arthurmiller430@btinternet.com](mailto:arthurmiller430@btinternet.com)

You can find out more about the charity on their website: [samarasaidappeal.org](http://samarasaidappeal.org)

### In Memoriam

#### Dorothy Davies (1918-2017)

When Dorothy Davies, who died on 14 August, read the lessons in Trinity Church the clarity, performance and intelligence of her readings were much appreciated. At various stages in recent years she served as chair and secretary of the Women's Fellowship Club. Her reminiscences can be heard on Trinity's Oral History archive.



It's not too late to sing with  
Trinity Festival Choir!



It's not too late to join the choir to sing **Philip Ledger's Requiem Thanksgiving for Life** at Trinity Church, Sutton on Remembrance Sunday, **12th November at 6.30pm**. We will also be singing two popular anthems, *Paris Angelicus* by César Franck and John Rutter's setting of *The Lord is my Shepherd*

Rehearsals are on Thursdays 8.00-9.00pm in the Parlour at Trinity.

### Celebrating the Reformation

At our **CUCS United Service** on Sunday 8 October at Trinity at 10.30am we will focus on the 500th Anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg.

Another date for your diaries: our Reformation celebrations will continue on Tuesday 12 December at the annual Trinity Advent Lecture when Rt Revd Christopher Herbert will speak about the art and culture of the Reformation. More details next month!

### Saturday 7 October 7.00pm



We are hoping for a large audience of all ages for the concert on 7 October to raise money to set up **Sutton Cruse Bereavement Support**. This new service, answering a local need, was initiated by Trinity and is now supported by all three CUCS churches and it is hoped to launch it early in 2018. There is still much to be done - premises are needed and volunteers must be trained - but it will be affiliated to Cruse, the national bereavement care organisation and able to tap into their experience and expertise.

So come and enjoy the music of **Signature** an award winning female a cappella group, singing everything from bluesy ballads to classic Barbershop.

**Sutton High School Senior Choir** is an auditioned choir performing a range of musical styles from serious sacred music to lighter arrangements of music theatre and pop songs.

And you will be able to say that you were there for one of the earliest public performances by **Milcah and Rinnah**! This young singing duo has delighted us with their singing during worship at Trinity.

Tickets: £10, child £5, family £25 from each church or from [www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk](http://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk)



## ***In the Orchard, the Swallows: Peter Hobbs (Faber and Faber: 2012)***

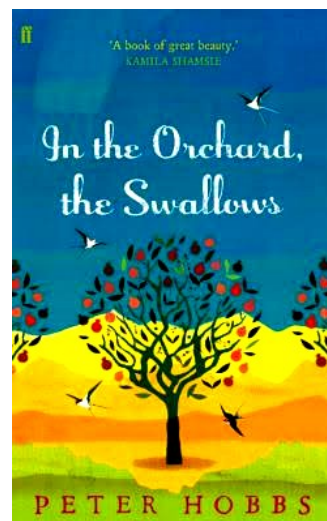
### **A book recommendation by Dave Dickinson**

In *Yet Alive?* I discussed Peter Hobbs's debut novel. By chance last week, I fell upon a later novel of his which had escaped my notice. It was for sale at 40% off recommended retail price in an independent book shop and I couldn't resist snapping it up. How glad I was that I did, for it proved to be an enjoyable short read. So much so that, one recent weekend, I reread it on two consecutive days.

Set in Pakistan, this short novel purports to be an extended letter written in later life as a gift to a childhood sweetheart. Her father had objected so strongly to their innocent love that the narrator suffers atrociously. Their tryst in his father's orchard was followed by the boy's summary imprisonment and appalling treatment at the hands of his inhuman torturers. Left with mental and physical scars, he writes of his enduring love for Saba whose circumstances he no longer knows. She may be happily married to someone else or waiting still, as he waits. Either way, he believes she will still remember the orchard and that the memory will ache within her so much that she will long to soothe it, and she will seek him out.

As I read, I remembered solemn lines from John Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*: "Didst thou ever see a lark in a cage? Such is the soul in the body: this world is like her little turf of grass, and the heaven o'er our heads like her looking-glass, only gives us a miserable knowledge of the small compass of our prison." The novel's narrator, though, reminds us that not all enclosed spaces are prisons. Indeed, the word 'paradise' derives from a Persian word meaning 'walled garden.' Moreover, he is encouraged when he discovers that swallows nest in the prison yard and that they are free to fly far and high.

*In the Orchard, the Swallows* speaks to me of love, hope, beauty and innocence trapped in our scarred, ageing and imperfect bodies, like the butterfly trapped in the caterpillar and pupa. But it also speaks to me of the capacity of human beings to break free and soar like eagles (to use Isaiah's image) or like swallows (to use Hobbs's).



## **News of the Community Sponsorship Scheme**

In July 2016 the government launched the Community Sponsorship Scheme to enable community groups including charities, faith groups, churches and businesses to take on the role of supporting the re-settlement of refugees in the UK. A sponsoring group would be responsible for resettling one refugee family chosen by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The Salvation Army in Merton has already resettled a family.

Sponsors commit to provide housing for the refugee family, as well as helping them to integrate into life in the UK, and access medical and social services. The group will arrange English language tuition and support them towards employment and self-sufficiency. Each group needs to raise at least £9000 to ensure financial stability and must have the approval of the Local Authority.

The **Sutton Roman Catholic Deanery** which consists of eight local parishes has formed a sponsoring group, supported by the Archdiocese of Southwark and **Refugee and Migrant Network Sutton** has pledged its support for the project and will help to draw up the resettlement plan. Sutton College has, in principle, agreed to provide language support. This project needs support — money and household goods and volunteers with relevant skills in interpreting, befriending and administration.

**Come and find out more!**



**The Trustees of Refugee and Migrant Network Sutton  
invite you to their  
Annual General Meeting**

**Wednesday 18 October at 12 midday, Trinity Church Hall**

**Guest Speaker: Jane Kennedy on the Community Sponsorship Scheme**

(from the Resettlement, Asylum Support & Integration Directorate - a joint unit between the Home Office and the departments for International Development and Local Government)

Jackie Mcloughlin MBE will represent the Sutton Roman Catholic Deanery, the sponsoring group

## **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](mailto:olwenmedwards@gmail.com) or by phone: **020 8643 2525**.

Copy date for the November issue is .18 October